

OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: April 17, 2017

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: 4E

STAFF: Lyndsey Boyer, Senior Natural Resource Specialist

REQUEST: Staff update on activities, projects and grants throughout other areas managed by the Open Space Division.

GENERAL DISCUSSION:

The following provides a summary on the activities throughout other areas of Carson City.

Ash Canyon

As a result of the floods of January and February 2017, Ash Canyon Road has suffered significant damage from erosion. While nearly the entire road has been impacted by runoff, at approximately mile marker 2.8 the road is almost entirely washed out, presenting significant safety concerns for motorized travel. As a result, the road was closed on 3/16/2017. Currently, the Open Space Division is in the process of installing a gate that would prohibit access to motorized users but allow non-motorized users to continue utilizing the road. This will ensure the safety of the public while we continue to assess damage and coordinate with FEMA for repair of the road. Staff has been in contact with various agencies to ensure all are informed and will issue a press release.



Ash Canyon Road – severe road erosion from January and February 2017 floods



Ash Canyon Road – road damage from January and February 2017 floods

Fuels Reduction

The Open Space Division is currently coordinating the arrival of one band of sheep to reduce the fuel load of cheatgrass and other invasive weeds on the west side of Carson City. This project has been in effect since 2006 and has been shown to effectively reduce the fuel load on not only Carson City property but also Nevada State Lands, U.S. Forest Service and private land parcels. The sheep are projected to start grazing the area around C-Hill on April 11th, and will begin to graze lower areas before moving to higher ground. Due to flood damage and road inaccessibility, the sheep may not be able to graze in all previously grazed sites.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: This agenda item is for informational purposes only. No formal action can be taken at this time.