

Auburn State Recreation Area/Auburn Dam Project Lands
General Plan/Interim Resource Management Plan

Alternate Options to Address the Key Issues

Below are some preliminary options and ideas for management actions to address the key issues identified thus far in the planning process. The key issues and management action options are presented by management zone. These ideas and options to address the key issues have come from a variety of sources including comments from the public, stakeholder focus group meetings, public workshops and agency staff and managers.

Draft Criteria for Evaluating Options to Address Key issues

The preliminary options to address the key issues provide a variety of ideas for these issues. State Parks and Reclamation are not endorsing any of these ideas at this point in the planning process. Eventually the agencies will develop a range of alternatives for the environmental documents to be prepared and ultimately select a proposed action or preferred alternative. Below are some of the criteria and considerations the agencies will use in making these decisions.

- Consistent with Reclamation and State Parks law, policy and regulations?
- Cost of actions, are appropriate funding sources available to support construction, operation and maintenance?
- Consistent with Reclamation management emphasis: resource protection, public health and safety, contain cost of operations, does not conflict with potential future Auburn Dam project.
- Consistent with State Parks management emphasis and core programs: natural and cultural resource protection, outdoor recreation, public safety, facilities, education and interpretation.
- Identified need, either through public input, survey, recreation trend studies or other means.

Mammoth Bar Management Zone

Key Issue #1 - OHV Use and Motocross Track

- a. Eliminate OHV use within Auburn SRA.
- b. Eliminate the track and continue the OHV use of trails within Mammoth Bar management zone.
- c. Keep track in current location and continue current system of alternating days of use between OHV and non-motorized use.
- d. Relocate track within existing river bar area - reverse parking and track, moving track further away from river.
- e. Relocate track outside the immediate river corridor to another location within the Mammoth Bar management zone (e.g. Castle Rock area). Eliminate OHV trails along the river, and create and additional trails within the upland portion of the management zone.

(Reclamation has indicated they may not be supportive of developing a new track facility in an alternate location.)

- f. Keep current facilities and eliminate the current alternating use system and allow OHV use 7 days per week.

Key Issue #2 – Trail Use at Mammoth Bar (OHV, Mountain Bike and other uses)

- a. Maintain the current situation of alternate days of use (OHV use is limited to Sunday, Monday and Thursday from April 1-September 30 and Sunday, Monday Thursday and Friday from October 1 through March 31).
- b. Create more one way trails.
- c. Provide separate trails for OHV's and mountain bikes and other trail uses.
- d. Open more trails within Mammoth Bar to mountain bike use and develop additional specialty trails for mountain bikes use: technical trails, skills trails, free ride trails.

Key Issue #3 – Other Uses for Mammoth Bar.

- a. Develop campground and/or day use picnic facilities at Mammoth Bar.
- b. Make improvements to river access facilities at Mammoth Bar, including portage trail around Murderer's Bar Rapid.

Lake Clementine Management Zone

Key Issue #1 – Boating Use Conflicts on Lake Clementine

- a. Continue current use: 40 mph speed limit on 2/3 of Lake, 5mph on 1/3 of Lake, counter-clockwise water ski pattern, 58 boat slips and trailer boat access limited to 25 boat launches.
- b. Reduce the number of motorized boats allowed on the lake at one time. Develop a reservation system for motorized use.
- c. Implement a speed limit for motorized boats to either slow (10mph) or no wake (5mph).
- d. Implement a system of alternate use days, non-motorized (or electric trolling motors only) and motorized use days.
- e. Permit only non-motorized use or electric trolling motors on Lake Clementine, eliminate gas and high speed motorized boat use.

Key Issue #2 - Concession Services at Lower Lake Clementine

- a. Maintain the current concession services which primarily serve motorized boat use which includes boat slips and gas for sale. Changes would be made to the existing concession to bring it into compliance with Reclamation regulations, exclusive use of the area would be terminated.
- b. Change the concession to serve non-motorized or low speed boating uses such as canoe/kayak and small boat rentals.

- c. Provide food services including beverages, ice, snacks.
- d. Eliminate concessions at Lower Lake Clementine.

Key Issue #3 - Roads and Access to Upper Lake Clementine

- a. Maintain current situation (dirt road, open only seasonally – generally from the end of May through October).
- b. Pave the road into Upper Lake Clementine and provide year round access.
- c. Make non-paving improvements to the Upper Lake Clementine Road and provide public access earlier in season.

Confluence Management Zone

Key Issue #1 - Parking Capacity, Circulation and Congestion

- a. Maintain current situation, informal parking along roadway.
- b. Make improvements to the existing roadside parking in the confluence area, including: paved and striped diagonal parking along the roadside, better signage, cross walks short-term parking drop off/pick up areas.
- c. Expand parking in the area by providing vehicle access and parking at the flat along the Middle Fork below the old Quarry site.
- d. Expand parking in the area by creating trailhead parking on either side of the new Foresthill Bridge.
- e. Encourage the public to park outside ASRA and develop shuttle services and/or public transportation to the Confluence area.

Key Issue #2 - Rock Climbing

- a. Status quo, rock climbing not permitted.
- b. Allow rock climbing throughout the SRA, with few restrictions.
- c. Allow rock climbing throughout the SRA. Prohibit the placement of bolts and permanent anchors, allow removable protection only.
- d. Allow rock climbing only in specific identified areas. Allow the placement of bolts in the Quarry area and prohibit the placement of bolts and other permanent protection elsewhere.

Key Issue #3 - Mountain Quarries Mine

- a. Maintain the current situation, keep quarry mine closed to any public use.
- b. If the mine is found to be safe for public use, provide guided interpretive tours of the mine.

Lower North Fork/Dam Management Zone

Key Issue #1 - Access and Parking

- a. Provide concession opportunities for shuttle services.
- b. Maintain the currently planned river access facilities: an entrance station at the top of Maidu, 50-car parking lot, and drop-off/pick-up turn-around at the Dam Site and Oregon Bar.
- c. Expand parking facilities and access.

Key Issue #2 - River Recreation Concession Options

- a. Do not provide any concession opportunities.
- b. Allow limited concessions, permitting only those for instruction or guided trips. Limit daily starts and group size.
- c. Allow various types of concessions including on-site rental of rafts or inflatable kayaks with few restrictions on numbers or types of use.

Key Issue #3 - Auburn to Cool Trail Crossing Options

- a. Don't provide a new trail crossing.
- a. Develop a new multi-use trail from the Auburn Staging Area to one of the existing bridges (No Hands or Highway 49) then back up to the Olmstead Loop near Cool.
- b. Construct a new permanent trail bridge at a location below the Auburn Dam site. Provide appropriate trail connections.
- c. Provide a seasonal bridge to cross the North Fork near the existing Auburn to Cool Trail Crossing. Season of use would likely be mid-June to October due to high river flows in winter and spring.

North Fork Management Zone

Key Issue #1 – Character and Level of Development in the North Fork Canyon

- a. Maintain status quo with limited number of existing and currently planned facilities including primitive camping at Mineral Bar, river access sites and few trails.
- b. Develop additional trails within the North Fork Management Zone, including trails along the river corridor.

Knickerbocker Flat Management Zone

Key Issue #1 – Recreation Use and Management at Knickerbocker Flat

- a. Maintain status quo by managing area primarily for trail use. This would include improving existing trails and providing improved trailhead facilities.
- b. Manage the area for trail uses, but also provide camping and/or picnic facilities within the Knickerbocker management zone.

Unit-wide Issues

Trails (under all options a specific trail management plan will be developed for Auburn SRA)

Key Issue #1 - Trail Access/Equity of Access

- a. Maintain the current balance of allowed use and access to trails.
- b. Construct additional multi-use trails.
- c. Convert some existing (and suitable) restricted use trails to multi-use. This may require some improvements to these trails.
- d. Implement a system of alternating days of use for equestrians and mountain bikes on selected existing limited use trails.
- e. Construct additional limited use trails (mountain bike/pedestrian, equestrian/pedestrians or pedestrian only).
- f. Develop more trails for physically challenged and families.

Key Issue #2 - New Trail Options and Ideas

- a. Develop a trail that links the Olmstead Loop to the Peninsula area of Folsom Lake SRA.
- b. Develop multi-use trails that provide trail connections for all users across the North Fork Canyon from Auburn to Cool (for example a new multi-use trail along the Mtn. Quarries RR grade).
- c. Develop additional multi-use trails in the upper portions of the Middle Fork Canyon.
- d. Develop mountain bike skills trails.

Key Issue #3 - Trail conflicts

- a. Develop separate trails for different user groups.
- b. Develop or convert existing trails into one-way trails.
- c. Develop a system of alternate days of use (equestrians and mountain bikes) on some existing and new trails.
- d. Increase public education on trail etiquette – provide better signage and updated trail map.
- e. On multi-use trails utilize a narrow and curvilinear design in order to slow down bicyclists
- f. Design wider multi-use trails with ample room for different types of users to pass one another.

Key Issue #4 - Trail Maintenance

- a. Explore possibility of State Parks hiring a trail coordinator with external funding.
- a. Implement day use fees at some trailheads to provide additional funding for trail maintenance.
- b. Implement seasonal or precipitation closures of trails (e.g. - close trails after 1” of rain within 48 hrs).

- c. Re-align and reconstruct improperly designed and aligned trails to eliminate erosion problems.
- d. Keep some trails rough and primitive.

Viewshed and the Protection of Scenic Resources

Key Issue #1 – Impact from Development of In-holdings and Adjacent Lands

- a. State Parks and Reclamation get more active in County/City development process to avoid and minimize external impacts to the ASRA viewshed.
- b. State Parks to develop a strategic plan and priorities for limited acquisition of in-holdings/adjacent properties in order to protect the viewshed and other resources within the SRA. These acquisitions would be part of the State Recreation Area, but not part of the Auburn Dam Project lands or require any federal responsibility.
- c. State Parks to work with various land trusts and conservancies to pursue limited purchase or conservation easements of key in-holdings and adjacent properties.

Recreation Mineral Collection – Dredging and Sluicing

Key Issue #1 – Reduce or Eliminate Impacts of Dredging and Sluicing

- a. Continue current management which allows dredging and sluicing on both Forks of the River with some restrictions, including season of use and areas where the activity is prohibited. DFG issues dredging permits. Further restrictions may be imposed to minimize impacts.
- b. Eliminate dredging and sluicing in ASRA to make the area consistent with California State Park policy and practices elsewhere in the State Park System. Only gold panning and rock hounding would be permitted.