

Ground Operations

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY: Version # _____ APP # _____
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1. Project Description

A. Statement of GO Activity

The McKinney-Rubicon trail is the main thoroughfare between the Rubicon Trail (El Dorado County), a world renowned four wheel drive trail, and Lake Tahoe, a popular tourist destination. Keeping this trail open, through ongoing maintenance, provides for one of the most scenic and popular outdoor trail opportunities in the world. For clarity, the Placer County portion of this trail is termed, "McKinney-Rubicon".

Placer County Department of Public Works maintains the Right-of-Way easement for the eastern (east of the Sierra Nevada crest; within the Lake Tahoe Basin) portion of the historic McKinney-Rubicon Trail. This trail has heavy recreational usage during both summer and winter months. Numerous parts of the trail have degraded, and have become a water quality detriment by mobilizing sediment that impacts Lake Tahoe. Placer County is proposing a Ground Operations grant to address these sources of water quality impacts.

Placer County's objectives for the McKinney-Rubicon Trail are to keep the trail open for public use by preserving and enhancing the unique range of experiences and historic character of the Trail. Through execution of this proposed Ground Operations project, Placer County intends to minimize environmental impacts of trail use by implementing physical measures to clearly identify the Trail route, establish better defined boundaries to prevent off-trail vehicle operation, and by providing ongoing erosion control, sedimentation reduction, and water quality improvements for areas across the Trail.

This project will work in conjunction with and encourage user group volunteer efforts to maintain and restore areas of the Trail, and to establish coordination efforts with agencies having jurisdictional authority or regulatory oversight of lands or resources adjacent to or otherwise associated with the McKinney Rubicon Trail.

Note that current water quality improvements and ground operations on the western portion of the Rubicon Trail within El Dorado County have been constructed and funded in part through grants received by the California State Parks OHV program in 2011 and 2012. This project proposal addresses improvements on the eastern portion of the trail, within Placer County and the Lake Tahoe Basin.

This Ground Operations project proposal is divided into seven separate tasks;

Task 1 – Signage Improvements

The entrance/exit from the trail is in a residential neighborhood. There are some older existing signs in the residential neighborhood, at the staging area and in the first 300 feet of the trail. These signs need to be updated for safety (speed limit), coordinated to be pertinent, and updated for relevancy (staging area distances). Placer County will combine efforts with the US Forest Service and El Dorado County to have sign and distance consistency.

Task 2 – Protect Edges of Paved Entrance Road

From the eastern neighborhood entrance, approximately 1 mile of the trail is paved to the USFS staging area. The edge of the AC pavement is raised above the existing grade, and is being damaged. Wide vehicles and reckless vehicles drop wheels off the pavement, thus eroding the edges. The edges of the paved section are not flush with the shoulder areas and the AC has cracked off. Placer County is proposing crushed angular rock compacted in the shoulder and/or areas will be anchored, to prevent further damage and erosion.

Task 3 – Trimming

Tree, brush and limb trimming along the paved portion of the trail needs to be conducted to allow for a better line of sight.

Task 4 – Water Bars

There are 28 water bars within the Placer County section of trail; all the water bars need to be dug out with mechanized equipment to remove the silt built up. For this grant proposal, six water bars assessed as the most impacted, will be cleaned out, repaired and replaced. Crushed rock will be used to define the water crossings. New water bar markers for all 28 water bars will be made and installed and GPS points taken. This will enable better long-term maintenance of the

water bars.

Task 5 – Fill Water Holes

Shaded, low spots on the trail with standing water are reasons vehicles by-pass the main trail and cause damage off-road. There are two large standing water areas on the Placer County portion of the trail that will be filled with crushed rock to discourage trail by-pass.

Task 6 – Re-establish Rolling Dips

There is one major creek crossing that needs to be re-established to prevent erosion from flowing spring runoff. By re-establishing a rolling dip, sediment mobilization and erosion will be limited. This work will require mechanized work and additional crushed, angular rock.

Task 7 – Potato Patch/Bottom Dollar Hole Trail Fix

Dump trailers and volunteers will be used to fix a problematic location known as “Potato Patch”. Boulders and crushed rock, in addition to gabions and trail work will/may be employed to remediate water issues in this location. Rock material and boulders are needed.

B. Relation of Proposed Project to OHV Recreation

The McKinney Rubicon trail is the main thoroughfare between the Rubicon Trail (El Dorado County), a world renowned four wheel drive trail, and Lake Tahoe, a popular tourist destination. Keeping this trail open, through ongoing maintenance, provides for one of the most scenic and popular outdoor trail opportunities in the world. The trail is used by a wide variety of recreational users, including four-wheel drive vehicles, dirt bikes, mountain bikes, ATVs, hikers, campers, and backpackers, in the summertime and snow-mobile users, cross country skiers, and show-shoe users, in the wintertime. The trail traverses through the breathtaking scenery of the Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit and the Tahoe National Forest.

This project is being initiated by Placer County because numerous areas of the trail are in need of maintenance before they have degraded to the point of creating a water quality issue.

The trail is used as a recreational destination in itself, as well as a route to other backcountry recreational areas, including hiking into and out of Desolation Wilderness, and access to many of the numerous high-alpine lakes.

Outdoor enthusiasts camp, fish, and recreate adjacent to these lakes, which include Miller Lake and Lily Lake. Barker Pass and the Rubicon

Trail into El Dorado County can be accessed from the McKinney Rubicon Trail (Placer County section), as well as a number of USFS four-wheel drive

roads. Placer County places no restrictions on trail use, however, due to the sensitive Lake Tahoe Basin environment, the County asks users to prevent soil loss on the trail during the early spring by avoiding use until the road conditions are dry and stabilized. Ongoing maintenance, repair and best management practices, is required, and is consistent with the County's commitment to provide recreational opportunities to the public and to protect the water quality of Lake Tahoe and other alpine water bodies and creeks.

C. Describe the size of the specific Project Area(s) in acres and/or miles

The project area will all be contained within the 40 to 60 foot wide Right-of-Way public easement that Placer County maintains for the Trail. There will not be any work done outside of the ROW on private or Tahoe National Forest land.

Distances sited below describe mile markers on the Trail beginning from the paved portion trailhead in Placer County, heading west.

The size of the project area is broken down by the defined tasks in the project description.

Task 1 - The signage improvements will be made in the adjacent McKinney residential neighborhood and within the first mile section of trail. It is estimated that two signs are needed for the residential neighborhood and 2-4 additional signs are needed for the first one mile of trail.

Task 2 - The area where the AC pavement edges have degraded and cause erosion is limited to the first mile of trail, where there is currently pavement. Shoulder treatment and edge stabilization will occur within this 1-mile linear section.

Task 3 - Tree and shrub trimming will occur throughout the Placer County portion of trail, however, attention will be made to the first mile of paved trail. This is important since keeping the brush trimmed back will improve line-of-sight for traveling vehicles and minimize wheels off-pavement and further edge damage.

Task 4 - Water bar re-building will occur at approximate distances of 1.5 miles, 1.7 miles, 1.8 miles, 2.2 miles and 2.5 miles. The disturbance for each water bar repaired will be approximately 1,600 square feet.

Task 5 - Similar to Task 4, the water hole repair work will be limited to work in the Placer County ROW, approximately 1,600 square feet, between 1.5 and 4.0 miles in.

Task 6 - The rolling dip seasonal creek work will be limited to the Placer County ROW, approximately 2,500 square foot area, and is approximately 2 miles in.

Task 7 - The Potato Patch area is near the Rubicon Springs portion of trail, approximately 6 miles in. Access for equipment and materials will be via Barker Pass.

D. Location and description of OHV opportunities

The McKinney Rubicon trail is the main thoroughfare between the Rubicon Trail (El Dorado County), a world renowned four wheel drive trail, and Lake Tahoe, a popular tourist destination. Keeping this trail open, through ongoing maintenance, provides for one of the most scenic and popular outdoor trail opportunities in the world. The trail is used by a wide variety of recreational users, including four-wheel drive vehicles, dirt bikes, mountain bikes, ATVs, hikers, campers, and backpackers, in the summertime and snow-mobile users, cross country skiers, and snow-shoe users, in the wintertime.

The trail traverses through the breathtaking scenery of the Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit and the Tahoe National Forest. Alpine lakes are scattered throughout the high Sierras and are accessible from the Trail. Outdoor enthusiasts camp, fish, and recreate adjacent to these lakes, which include Miller Lake and Lily Lake. Barker Pass and the Rubicon Trail (El Dorado County) can be accessed from the McKinney Rubicon Trail, as well as a number of USFS four-wheel drive roads. The County places no restrictions on trail use, however, due to the sensitive Lake Tahoe Basin environment, the County asks users to prevent soil loss on the trail during the early spring by avoiding use until the road conditions are dry and stabilized. Ongoing maintenance, repair and best management practices, is required, and is consistent with the County's commitment to provide recreational opportunities to the public and to protect the water quality of Lake Tahoe and other alpine water bodies and creeks.

2. Rerouting Requirements

Rerouting

- (a) Does your project involve rerouting of any roads and trails? Yes No

If response to question (a) is 'Yes', a Project timeline, conceptual drawings and site plans are required (See 'Attachments' tab at the top of the screen)

If response to question (a) is 'No', skip details related to rerouting

Project Cost Estimate

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY: Version # _____ APP # _____			
APPLICANT NAME :	Placer County Department of Public Works		
PROJECT TITLE :	Ground Operations	PROJECT NUMBER (Division use only) :	G12-03-48-G01
PROJECT TYPE :	<input type="checkbox"/> Acquisition <input type="checkbox"/> Development <input type="checkbox"/> Education & Safety <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground Operations <input type="checkbox"/> Law Enforcement <input type="checkbox"/> Planning <input type="checkbox"/> Restoration		
PROJECT DESCRIPTION :	<p>The McKinney-Rubicon trail is the main thoroughfare between the Rubicon Trail (El Dorado County), a world renowned four wheel drive trail, and Lake Tahoe, a popular tourist destination. Keeping this trail open, through ongoing maintenance, provides for one of the most scenic and popular outdoor trail opportunities in the world. For clarity, the Placer County portion of this trail is termed, "McKinney-Rubicon".</p> <p>Placer County Department of Public Works maintains the Right-of-Way easement for the eastern (east of the Sierra Nevada crest; within the Lake Tahoe Basin) portion of the historic McKinney-Rubicon Trail. This trail has heavy recreational usage during both summer and winter months. Numerous parts of the trail have degraded, and have become a water quality detriment by mobilizing sediment that impacts Lake Tahoe. Placer County is proposing a Ground Operations grant to address these sources of water quality impacts.</p> <p>Placer County's objectives for the McKinney-Rubicon Trail are to keep the trail open for public use by preserving and enhancing the unique range of experiences and historic character of the Trail. Through execution of this proposed Ground Operations project, Placer County intends to minimize environmental impacts of trail use by implementing physical measures to clearly identify the Trail route, establish better defined boundaries to prevent off-trail vehicle operation, and by providing ongoing erosion control, sedimentation reduction, and water quality improvements for areas across the Trail. This project will work in conjunction with and encourage user group volunteer efforts to maintain and restore areas of the Trail, and to establish coordination efforts with agencies having jurisdictional authority or regulatory oversight of lands or resources adjacent to or otherwise associated with the McKinney Rubicon Trail.</p> <p>Note that current water quality improvements and ground operations on the western portion of the Rubicon Trail within El Dorado County have been constructed and funded in part through grants received by the California State Parks OHV program in 2011 and 2012. This project proposal addresses improvements on the eastern portion of the trail, within Placer County and the Lake Tahoe Basin.</p> <p>This Ground Operations project proposal is divided into seven separate tasks;</p> <p>Task 1 – Signage Improvements</p> <p>The entrance/exit from the trail is in a residential neighborhood. There are some older existing signs in the residential neighborhood, at the staging area</p>		

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Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Req.	Match	Total
DIRECT EXPENSES						
Program Expenses						
1 Staff						
Heavy Equipment Operator	1500.000	45.000	HRS	67,500.00	0.00	67,500.00
Other-Volunteer Maintenance Crew	4500.000	20.000	HRS	0.00	90,000.00	90,000.00
Other-Senior Engineer (Placer County)	250.000	110.000	HRS	27,500.00	0.00	27,500.00

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2012/2013
 Agency: Placer County Department of Public Works
 Application: Ground Operations

3/7/2013

	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Req.	Match	Total
	Other-Administrative Technician (Placer	80.000	45.000	HRS	3,600.00	0.00	3,600.00
	Maintenance Worker	1500.000	40.000	HRS	60,000.00	0.00	60,000.00
Total for Staff					158,600.00	90,000.00	248,600.00
2	Contracts						
3	Materials / Supplies						
	Other-Angular Crushed Rock (includes tra	2000.000	45.000	YD	90,000.00	0.00	90,000.00
	Other-lumber	500.000	5.000	FT	2,500.00	0.00	2,500.00
	Other-Sign Materials	500.000	1.000	PKG	0.00	500.00	500.00
	Other-Trail Maps & Information	500.000	1.000	PKG	500.00	0.00	500.00
	Other-gravel - shoulder treatment	500.000	20.000	YD	10,000.00	0.00	10,000.00
	Other-boulders/rock	150.000	40.000	YD	6,000.00	0.00	6,000.00
Total for Materials / Supplies					109,000.00	500.00	109,500.00
4	Equipment Use Expenses						
	Other-Volunteer Equipment (Trailers)	550.000	20.000	HRS	0.00	11,000.00	11,000.00
5	Equipment Purchases						
6	Others						
Total Program Expenses					267,600.00	101,500.00	369,100.00
TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES					267,600.00	101,500.00	369,100.00
INDIRECT EXPENSES							
Indirect Costs							
1	Indirect Costs						
	Indirect Costs-Placer County Indirect Co	36400.00 0	1.000	PKG	32,400.00	4,000.00	36,400.00
Total Indirect Costs					32,400.00	4,000.00	36,400.00

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2012/2013
 Agency: Placer County Department of Public Works
 Application: Ground Operations

3/7/2013

	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Req.	Match	Total
TOTAL INDIRECT EXPENSES					32,400.00	4,000.00	36,400.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES					300,000.00	105,500.00	405,500.00

Project Cost Summary for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2012/2013
 Agency: Placer County Department of Public Works
 Application: Ground Operations

3/7/2013

	Category	Grant Req.	Match	Total	Narrative
DIRECT EXPENSES					
Program Expenses					
1	Staff	158,600.00	90,000.00	248,600.00	
2	Contracts	0.00	0.00	0.00	
3	Materials / Supplies	109,000.00	500.00	109,500.00	
4	Equipment Use Expenses	0.00	11,000.00	11,000.00	
5	Equipment Purchases	0.00	0.00	0.00	
6	Others	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Total Program Expenses		267,600.00	101,500.00	369,100.00	
TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES		267,600.00	101,500.00	369,100.00	
INDIRECT EXPENSES					
Indirect Costs					
1	Indirect Costs	32,400.00	4,000.00	36,400.00	Indirect costs are contract administration, invoicing, postage, phone. Placer County's Indirect Cost rates are approved by Federal and State agencies.
Total Indirect Costs		32,400.00	4,000.00	36,400.00	
TOTAL INDIRECT EXPENSES		32,400.00	4,000.00	36,400.00	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		300,000.00	105,500.00	405,500.00	

Evaluation Criteria

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1. Project Cost Estimate - Q 1. (Auto populates from Cost Estimate)

1. As calculated on the Project Cost Estimate, the percentage of the Project costs covered by the Applicant is: 3

(Note: This field will auto-populate once the Cost Estimate and Evaluation Criteria are Validated.) (Please select one from list)

- 76% or more (10 points)
 51% - 75% (5 points)
 26% - 50% (3 points)
 25% (Match minimum) (No points)

2. Failure to Complete - Q 2.

2. Failure to complete the Project would result in: 6

(Check all that apply) - Scoring: Maximum of 8 points (Please select applicable values)

- Loss of OHV Opportunity (6 points)
 Negative impact to cultural sites (2 points)
 Damage to special-status species or other sensitive habitat (2 points)
 Potential trespass (2 points)
 Additional damage to Facilities (1 point)

Explain each statement that was checked:

The Lahontan RWQCB will shut down the trail if water quality is degraded and/or there are obvious mistreatment and errant uses by OHV vehicles. Placer County would receive a Notice of Violation by the RWQCB and a fine. The trail would be closed until repairs and remediation is complete.

3. Sustain OHV Opportunity - Q 3.

3. The Project would sustain OHV Opportunity by: 5

(Check all that apply) (Please select applicable values)

- Maintaining trail or road tread (5 points)
 Installing or repairing erosion control features (3 points)
 Providing traffic control and/or educational signage (3 points)
 Maintaining multi use (ATV, Dirt Bikes, 4x4, etc) (1 point)
 Providing varied levels of riding difficulty (1 point)

Explain each statement that was checked:

Numerous areas of the trail are in need of maintainence before they have degraded to the point of creating a water quality issue. Regualr maintenance needs of the trail have overwhelmed the resources available from Placer County. This is due to the fact that the McKinney-Rubicon Trail is a world-rekknown trail and is highly popular.

4. Public Input - Q 4.

4. The Project was developed with public input prior to the preliminary Application filing deadline. Public input employed the following: 2

(Check all that apply) - Scoring: Maximum of 2 points (Please select applicable values)

- Publicly noticed meeting(s) with the general public to discuss Project (1 point)
 Conference call(s) with interested parties (1 point)

- Meeting(s) with stakeholders (1 point)

Explain each statement that was checked and identify the dates of the meetings or calls:

Placer County maintains relations with the US Forest Service (LTBMU) as well as TNF. We also have been conferring with El Dorado County to coordinate maintenance and improvement efforts. Placer County maintains relations with volunteer groups such as the Friends of the Rubicon and the Rubicon Trail Foundation. In 2013, Placer County will participate in the Rubicon Oversight Committee.

5. Utilization of Partnerships - Q 5.

5. The Project will utilize partnerships to successfully accomplish the Project. The number of partner organizations that will participate in the Project are: 4

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- 4 or more (4 points)
 2 to 3 (2 points)
 1 (1 point)
 None (No points)

List partner organization(s) and explain how each partner(s) will participate in the project:

US Forest Service, Placer County, Friends of the Rubicon, and El Dorado County.

6. Impact to Natural and Cultural Resources - Q 6.

6. The Project will avoid and/or minimize impact to natural and cultural resources by: 7

(Check all that apply) - Scoring: Maximum of 7 points (Please select applicable values)

- Maintaining physical barriers to control OHV use (1 point)
 Protecting water quality (1 point)
 Providing bridges instead of wet crossings where appropriate (1 point)
 Protecting special-status species (1 point)
 Re-routing trails to divert away from riparian/wetlands areas (1 point)
 Providing sanitary facilities (1 point)
 Protecting cultural site(s) (1 point)
 Site design precludes the need for the above measures (7 points)

Explain each statement that was checked:

This project will wholly be in the Placer County road Right-of-Way(ROW). There are no cultural or sensitive species in the roadway.

7. Recycled Materials - Q 7.

7. The Project incorporates recycled materials by utilizing: 1

(Check all that apply) (Please select applicable values)

- Barrier materials which include recycled content or materials obtained onsite (1 point)
 Signs, sign posts or education kiosks which use products with recycled content (1 point)
 Erosion control features which use materials with recycled content (1 point)
 Paper used for trail maps which includes recycled content (1 point)
 Other products with recycled content (Specify) (1 point)

8. Sustainable Technologies - Q 8.

8. The Project makes substantial use of sustainable technologies, meaning at least 50% of the project activities use sustainable technologies, such as: 4

- Alternative fuel vehicles and equipment

- Renewable energy sources (e.g., solar, wind)
- Low volatile organic compound emission materials (e.g., paint, sealants, carpet)
- Low flow plumbing fixtures
- Water efficient landscaping

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

No (No points)

Yes (4 points)

Explain 'Yes' response:

The project proposes (in Tasks 4, 5, and 6) improvements to the trail roadbed that are more water-efficient, and will improve water quality. These improvements will enable water to infiltrate and not runoff or mobilize sediment in runoff.

9. Motorized Access - Q 9.

9. The Project improves and/or maintains facilities that provide motorized access to the following non-motorized recreation opportunities: 6

(Check all that apply) - Scoring: 2 points each, up to a maximum of 6 points (Please select applicable values)

Camping

Birding

Hiking

Equestrian trails

Fishing

Rock Climbing

Other (Specify) [Mountain Biking]