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TAXPAYERS ASSOCIATION OF EL DORADO COUNTY
Post Office Box 13 Placerville, California 95667

Founded in 1958

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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
EL DORADO COUNTY

TO: Rusty Dupray, Chairman
El Dorado County Board of Supervisors

FROM: Ellen Day, President *Ellen Day*
Taxpayers Association of El Dorado County

DATE: August 25, 2008

REGARDING: Item 32, Fish and Wildlife, Dept. of Fish and Game & Item 34, Carriage Hill Property

The Taxpayers Association strongly recommends that no more properties be allowed to go to "environmental preserves" until there is an MOU, which clearly defines the responsibilities of U.S. Fish and Wildlife, the California Department of Fish and Game and those of El Dorado County regarding the administration, associated costs, usage and maintenance, and the justified rational need for such acquisitions.

In addition, there should be recognition of the vast amount of El Dorado County lands that are already under ownership and/or control of the Bureau of Land Management, the U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife, and the California Department of Fish and Game. An agreement of "how much is enough" is a question that must be answered before spending more money that removes tax revenues El Dorado County Government.

Regarding Item 34, in their July 21, 2008 letter the Taxpayers Association stated their objection to the Carriage Hill property acquisition by the American River Conservancy.

It is most important to repeat, *"the stated price is considered to be way in excess of its market value, which further amplifies that the use El Dorado County rare plant mitigation money is not justified. The appraisal itself admits, "It is an extraordinary assumption that the market value is a hypothetical condition in that the tentative map and zoning change have not been completed". Clearly, this appraisal does not justify the stated appraisal price of \$3,320,000."*

Should acquisition of this property go forward, the price must be significantly reduced to a reasonable value; and an agreement should be in place effectuating the connection between Wild Chaparral and Palmer Drive.

- CC:** Helen Baumann, Supervisor District 2
Jack Sweeney, Supervisor District 3
Ron Briggs, Supervisor District 4
Norma Santiago, Supervisor District 5
Mike Raffety, Mountain Democrat
Cathy Locke, Sacramento Bee
Tahoe Tribune
Village Life