

#31



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1 message

mail@changemail.org <mail@changemail.org>
To: edc.cob@edcgov.us

Fri, Sep 22, 2017 at 4:30 PM

LATE DISTRIBUTION
DATE 9/25/2017
BOS 9/26/2017

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edc.cob@edcgov.us: Public Comment on RMP Update for BOS Mtg. 9/26
Petition by Suzanne Robinson · 100 supporters



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RECENT SUPPORTERS



Adam Poe
Long Beach, CA · Sep 22, 2017

The river means everything to me and my community. It brings people together on a weekly basis, and it brings people from all over California to Eldorado county. I want to know I have a say in what happens to the river because I feel like it is a part of who I am. Don't alienate the people who bring money into the county by eliminating public review. Thanks!



Becky Van Horsen
Moab, UT · Sep 22, 2017

Allowing groups like Healing Waters to provide professional whitewater rafting trips to people with HIV/AIDS is essential to the outdoor community's continued effort to open wild places to all people regardless of race, gender, ability, or socio-economic status. Please allow additional time for Healing Water and others affected by this change to plead their case.



Madeline Cohn

Willits, CA · Sep 22, 2017

This is a great program that helps so many people!!!



Donna Boyd

Mt. Shasta, CA, AL · Sep 22, 2017

I work with a group of folks who run the Klamath with folks who have all levels of disabilities, physical and developmental. These river trips are invaluable to them, and to us--the volunteers. Please defer the vote until we can add language to protect the trips Healing Waters, and all groups like theirs, provide to our more fragile populations



Katie Phillips

redway, CA · Sep 22, 2017

the river heals!

[View all 100 supporters](#)

CHANGE.ORG FOR DECISION MAKERS

On Change.org, decision makers like you connect directly with people around the world to resolve issues. Respond to let the people petitioning you know you're listening, say whether you agree with their call to action, or ask them for more information. [Learn more.](#)

This notification was sent to edc.cob@edcgov.us, the address listed as the decision maker contact by the petition starter. If this is incorrect, please [post a response](#) to let the petition starter know.

Change.org · 548 Market St #29993, San Francisco, CA 94104-5401, USA



EDC COB <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

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1 message

mail@changemail.org <mail@changemail.org>
To: edc.cob@edcgov.us

Sat, Sep 23, 2017 at 8:01 PM

change.org New signatures

County of El Dorado, Board of Supervisors – This petition addressed to you on Change.org has new activity. See progress and respond to the campaign's supporters.

edc.cob@edcgov.us: Public Comment on RMP Update for BOS Mtg. 9/26

Petition by Suzanne Robinson · 100 supporters



**100 more people signed
in the last 2 days**

[View petition activity](#)

RECENT SUPPORTERS



Jen Thomson
Kentfield, CA · Sep 23, 2017

Because...freedom!



Leif Wauters
Te Aroha, NZ · Sep 23, 2017

This vital organisation (and others) need access to the American River. Please make this a greater priority in your considerations.

**Jeff Phillips**

Santa Barbara, CA · Sep 23, 2017

ETC raft guide

**Peter Hottenstein**

Mill Valley, CA · Sep 23, 2017

Healing waters is excellent at serving a population that deserves access to river and the healing joy it brings to all. Please consider the positive impact HW has on its participants and volunteers when drafting new rules/regulations. The river and all its wonders should be available to us all. From an ETC raft guide, Peter Hottenstein

**Joshua Coz**

Oakland, CA · Sep 23, 2017

Connection to others and a sense of community are literally the difference between healthy, happy people and crisis. At it's core, that's what is at stake for the people effected, here.

[View all 100 supporters](#)**CHANGE.ORG FOR DECISION MAKERS**

On Change.org, decision makers like you connect directly with people around the world to resolve issues. Respond to let the people petitioning you know you're listening, say whether you agree with their call to action, or ask them for more information. [Learn more.](#)

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Change.org · 548 Market St #29993, San Francisco, CA 94104-5401, USA



EDC COB <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

Proposal to eliminate RMAC (please don't!)

1 message

Marion Franck <marionf2@gmail.com>
To: edc.cob@edcgov.us

Sun, Sep 24, 2017 at 4:49 PM

Dear Board of Supervisors,

This Tuesday, Sept. 26, 2017, you will be discussing the proposal to eliminate the River Management Advisory Committee (RMAC) that advises you regarding management of the river corridor in El Dorado County (Agenda item 17-1034).

I'm frankly amazed that the Board of Supervisors is considering eliminating RMAC. The RMAC committee has an excellent make up, with members from several key communities that care intensely about the South Fork of the American River. I am represented both by the landowner representative, since I am a land owner, and by the private boater representative, because I'm a whitewater kayaker. I am grateful to the people who have represented river interests over the years and I think RMAC is a good system: the people who know the river best follow its course (pun intended). They use their expertise to help make the river safe and environmentally healthy, as well as a good source of revenue for the county thanks to rafting, camping businesses and others. It takes a lot of expertise to make this all work.

Please don't make any sudden, unwarranted changes. Let's have appropriate stakeholder meetings first. That's always the best way to do things in order to get local people comfortable with future plans. I'm sorry I can't attend your meeting in person, but I hope you will hear my concern.

Marion Franck

5225 Petersen Ln

Lotus, CA 95651



EDC COB <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

September 26 B.O.S Agenda item 17-1034

1 message

Tiffani Shiro <tiffanishiro@gmail.com>

Sun, Sep 24, 2017 at 5:31 PM

To: bosfour@edcgov.us

Bcc: edc.cob@edcgov.us

Dear Michael Ranalli and Board of Supervisors,

I am a home owner in El Dorado County adjacent to the S. Fork of the American River. I was a whitewater guide for over 20 years, worked the kayak patrol for El Dorado County, and currently teach in Placerville. I am writing to let you know that it is very important to me that the RMAC River Management system stay in place for our community and all of El Dorado County.

This committee is formed by people who know the needs of our community and county. Please leave the RMAC committee in place as it has been the guidance needed for our river community and county for many years.

Sincerely,

Tiffani Shiro

P.O. Box 493

Coloma, CA 95613



EDC COB <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

Need to Continue The River Management Advisory Committee

1 message

steve menicucci <stevemenicucci@hotmail.com>
To: "edc.cob@edcgov.us" <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

Sun, Sep 24, 2017 at 8:04 PM

Dear El Dorado County Board of Supervisors

Management of the South Fork American is a success story of joint public-private stewardship. This is why I was very disappointed to learn that you are considering adopting the River Management plan which would dissolve the River Management Advisory Committee (RMAC) without any public workshops or hearings.

The RMAC has been essential to successful management, and if there are changes needed than those should be addressed and resolved with a vigorous public process. Please extend your timeline for adoption of this plan to allow for public participation.

Sincerely,

Steve Menicucci

To: Board of Supervisors
Re: Item 17-1034 Board of Supervisors; Public Comment on River Management Plan Update
From: Karen Mulvany
Date: September 25, 2017

The South Fork of the American (SFA) is the most popular whitewater run in California. Yet unlike virtually all other popular whitewater runs, the SFA runs largely through private lands. The combination of public use and private interests, plus the commercial use of the river, sets this complex environmental, recreational, and economic ecosystem up for conflict. River Management is complicated.

Since 2002, after the County was sued for the second time over river management, the duty and power to recommend River Management Plan (RMP) updates to the Board and Planning Commission has been formally assigned to the River Management Advisory Committee, or RMAC, per the Board of Supervisors Resolution 065-2002¹. The RMAC consists of 7 unpaid volunteers: 2 at-large members, and 5 members representing local businesses, residents, non-commercial boaters, outfitters, and State Parks.

I am a private boater and a riverfront property owner that has been kayaking the South Fork of the American since the early 90's. Professionally, I have worked as a Wall Street analyst, consultant to public turnaround companies, and Executive VP of a public company responsible for strategic planning and M&A. These experiences inform my comments below.

1. Why do RMAC river management powers and duties exist?
 - a. The Court found in its 1995 Bernard v. El Dorado County decision that the county had erred in making river permitting a ministerial, rather than a discretionary, process.
 - b. After exhaustively reviewing 15 alternatives to satisfy the court order, the BOS determined that the RMAC Alternative best fulfilled the discretionary process requirement established by the court, and directed staff to complete a revised Draft EIR for a new River Management Plan (RMP) based solely on the RMAC Alternative².
 - c. The EIR for the standing River Management Plan is based upon the RMAC's role in river management, in recognition of the broad and diversified expertise of the committee.
 - d. In its memo to the BOS, Staff asserts that it is now "recommending the removal of all RMAC references in the RMP as RMAC is a Board appointed advisory committee, not a directive of the River Management Plan."³
 - e. Please consider whether staff's position acknowledges the meaning of the historical facts.

¹ See:

<https://docs.google.com/viewer?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.edcgov.us%2FGovernment%2Femd%2FRivers%2Fdocuments%2FResolution%2520065-2002.pdf>

² See sections 1.2 – 1.4 of the standing 2001 RMP at

<https://www.edcgov.us/government/emd/rivers/river%20mgmt%20plan/documents/Sec01-RMP-Final-1204.PDF>

³ See Staff's RMP Update Memo to RMP at <https://eldorado.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=5438171&GUID=D8EDBCBD-9FE1-454E-AE15-E68477DCFA94>

2. What are RMAC's legal power to recommend River Management Plan updates to the Planning Commission and The Board of Supervisors?
 - a. Board Resolution 065-2002, dated March 12, 2002, vests RMAC with the power to recommend updates and amendments to the River Management Plan.
 - b. Note that the 2002 BOS Resolution delivers no power to Parks or any administrative staff to overrule RMAC recommendations for the RMP, or to separately submit staff recommended changes to the RMP for consideration by the Planning Commission or Board of Supervisors.

3. In compliance with the RMP, RMAC has attempted to submit RMP updates:
 - a. In 2013, RMAC submitted to the Planning Commission an RMP update focusing on institutional permitting. RMAC had held numerous public input meetings on this update at zero county or River Trust Fund (RTF) cost, and had itself drafted the plan update, relying on committee expertise rather than consultants.
 - i. RMAC's low cost approach recognized funding limitations. The River Trust Fund pays for river management expenses, and is funded almost entirely by commercial outfitter fees.
 - ii. The stated goal cited in recent Annual River Reports was to maintain River Trust Fund balances at a year end level of approximately \$150,000-200,000, or about one year's worth of river program expenditures, while continuing to spend substantially all income on standing river programs. The financial commentary in the Annual Reports made it clear that there were no extra funds in the River Trust Fund to cover extraordinary expenses for consultants.
 - b. On 3/28/2013, the Planning Commission directed Parks to proceed with RMAC's recommended RMP update with a CEQA initial Study and appropriate CEQA document and return to the Commission⁴.
 - c. However, Parks staff did not proceed with the Planning Commission directive. Instead, staff signed a \$61,000+ contract to hire a consultant to update the RMP in July of 2014. Staff did not issue an RFP for this contract, nor did it advise RMAC of its decision to use River Trust Funds to pay this consultant for an RMP update.
 - i. This particular consultant had worked on the 2001 RMP update and had ultimately run up bills exceeding \$500,000. As the River Trust Fund balance was insufficient to pay this amount, the county loaned the RTF the needed funds, and river management activities and expenditures were curtailed for years while the debt was paid down.
 - ii. Because the RMAC did not know that consulting expenses would be charged against the River Trust Fund, it did not know that standing river management programs would be jeopardized by the Parks decision to hire this consultant.
 - d. Staff's initial recommendation was to eliminate the RMAC and pursue turning river management over to State or Federal entities:
 - i. At the first public input meeting after the consultant update was published in February 2016, dozens of people attended and spoke, uniformly objecting to the consultant's proposed elimination of the RMAC. (An audio recording of this meeting has been separately submitted.)
 - ii. After determining that there was no State or Federal interest in assuming the County's role in river management, staff has more recently recommended that RMAC continue as an Ad-Hoc committee, minus its role in the River Management Plan.

⁴ See: https://www.edcgov.us/government/planning/pcagendas/2013/documents/03-28-2013_minutes.pdf

1. This recommendation does not acknowledge the historical reasons for choosing the RMAC Alternative among RMP options and for empowering RMAC in the first place.
2. After unveiling its proposal to eliminate RMAC in February 2016, Staff has never returned back to the river community to explain its new vision for RMAC.
 - Staff has declined to collaborate with RMAC on the RMP update. In every public meeting RMAC held to review recommended changes to the RMP, staff did not attend or walked out in the first few minutes. Yet it is RMAC's duty to recommend RMP changes. This has been hard to understand.
 - All the river community knows is that RMAC is being eliminated from the RMP, and staff plans to next tackle the Board Resolution that is the foundation of RMAC's powers and duties.

4. In Conclusion:

- a. No other county in California has a South Fork of the American River. It is the most popular whitewater destination in California, if not the Western United States. Unlike every other park resource that EDC Parks manages as an expense center, the river is a significant contributor to the county economy. It requires a combination of commercial, whitewater recreational, business, real estate, environmental and community expertise to appropriately manage this complex yet uniquely valuable resource.
- b. The county has been sued twice over river management. Since the RMAC was formed, the county has not been sued. This is not evidence that conflicts have disappeared, but it is evidence that RMAC has worked.
 - i. Staff's current recommendations to eliminate the institutional user category at the end of 3 years⁵, coupled with the demand that any not-for-profit organization must also refrain from setting up river trips using email, website, social media or face a requirement to obtain commercial permits⁶, are outdated and risky. The County should avoid any action that could end up being perceived as a repeat effort to kick yet another class of boaters off the river.

5. Recommendations:

⁵ "The Institutional User Group management elements of the RMP will be phased out in the third year after the adoption of this RMP. All non-accredited organizations that currently possess Institutional Group status are encouraged by the County to obtain Commercial River Use Permits, if they wish to continue to use the RMP area of the South Fork of the American River for their activities."

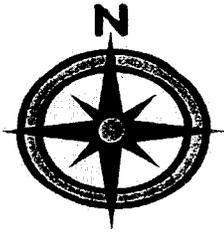
⁶ Staff's RMP stipulates that the use of email, social media or websites that notify members of a river trip will also cause any organization (including paddling clubs) to be deemed commercial. See 17-0659 2B 33 of 101 of staff's most recent RMP update at: <https://eldorado.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=5336533&GUID=999A06D2-BE24-42BA-9642-A2BDCC320367>

"6.1.1.6 As noted, public advertising qualifies a use as commercial. Public advertising, includes, for example, newspaper ads, Internet banners, radio, television air time, newsletters, bulletin board announcements, web site or online social postings, flyers, posters or e-mails."

And section 6.1.1.7 continues on to state:

"Use by nonprofit organizations is commercial and subject to a permit requirement when any of the preceding criteria is present. The nonprofit status of any group or organization, alone, does not determine that an event is noncommercial. "

- a. Please consider the alternative approach outlined in the RMAC letter at <https://eldorado.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=5438172&GUID=8DBF448F-932A-48D3-AE65-48F4D1A8CD20>.
 - b. The RMAC letter outlines a non-controversial, low cost approach. It recommends that the BOS pursue the 2013 RMAC plan update, which centered on an Institutional permit and was approved by RMAC, and then the Planning Commission for CEQA review. This approach would sidestep any controversy over how that was handled, and moves forward with a positive, collaborative process centered on community input, in full compliance with Board Resolution 065-2002, also enabling the existing EIR to also stand intact.
 - c. The RMAC letter also recommends that the River Trust Fund be allowed to accept other sources of funds which are currently not allowed -- such as donations, grants, etc.
 - d. Some of staff's changes to the RMP are definitely worthwhile. We don't need to lose the work that has been done in the draft RMPs; this can be implemented via an adaptive management process recommended by staff's consultant and used by State Parks and BLM.
6. I truly hope that these issues can be resolved with collaborative goodwill, moving forward with a series of community meetings to iron out all the remaining difficulties in the RMP. That would be the best outcome for everyone.



Compass2Truth

Citizens for Constitutional Liberty

P.O. Box 598
Coloma, CA 95613

September 22, 2017

To: Dist. #1 Supervisor John Hidahl
Dist. #2 Supervisor Shiva Frentzen
Dist. #3 Supervisor Brian Veerkamp
Dist. #4 Supervisor Michael Ranalli
Dist. #5 Supervisor Sue Novasel

CC: Sheriff John D'Agostini
CAO Don Ashton

RE: 9/26/17 BOS Agenda Item #31 – RMP Update/RMAC

My love for Class 5 whitewater rafting and rural living drew me to Coloma as the ideal place to retire. I have owned my home upon historic Mt. Murphy overlooking Troublemaker Rapids since 1998. It did not take long to discover that Coloma was *not* the bucolic, serene river community that real estate agents had advertised it to be. Approximately 8 months after settling in here, my neighbors informed me of the very contentious River Management Advisory Committee (RMAC) meetings held monthly in the dimly lit and often crowded Marshall Gold Discovery State Park museum.

When I received a phone call from friends encouraging me to attend my first RMAC meeting and get actively involved in mitigating the issues, I witnessed for myself just how out of control the RMAC representatives and the rafting enterprises actually were: *it was mob rule*. The primary cause of contention was the lack of code and law enforcement, particularly outdoor amplified events at the business establishments that were in violation of SUPs intruding into the peace and privacy of river residents within the 6-mile Quiet Zone of the S. Fork American River. Most of the events involved unmonitored crowds of tourists, drugs and/or alcohol. Other concerns were focused on public safety issues that comprise a large segment of the RMP: arson fires, emergency road egress, trespassing, vandalism, and increasing crime in our rural community. (See Exhibit A)

Of even greater concern were threats made against local women by members of the rafting community who were retaliating for reporting the disturbances of the peace to law enforcement. It did not take long to learn that law enforcement had always been reticent to enforce the rights of residents to live in peace and safety as mandated by the River Management Plan (RMP). American River Resort and the Coloma Resort were particularly known for violating their Special Use Permits (SUPs). The campground owners knew that law enforcement would not issue citations or document frequent citizen complaints and petitions for SUP revocations. Bully tactics and harassment became the modus operandi of the extreme left-wing environmental groups, American River Conservancy, and campground/rafting businesses known as the "River Mafia Mob."

Noise pollution and associated crime have been environmental concerns for decades affecting the quality of life of local residents. Consequently in September 2003 a grass roots group of concerned citizens, the Community Clamor Committee (CCC), was formed to identify the worst noise "hot spots" along the river. Dave Martinez, owner of the American River Resort, acted as chairman. I was the only person who stepped up to serve as

scribe for the chaotic group. Meetings were held at the Sierra Nevada House in the bar. I submitted all minutes of the CCC to the RMAC representatives to be incorporated into the RMP annual update. It was significant that the Coloma Resort, one of the worst offenders, refused to participate in any of the CCC meetings.

Residents were angry over lack of code/law enforcement and that their rights to live in peace and safety were not being addressed. When the CCC meetings became just as much out of control as RMAC, I requested law enforcement get actively involved as mandated by the RMP to ensure the peace and safety of participants was maintained. The rafters clearly resented my request for involvement by Under Sheriff Fred Kollar who later appointed Sergeant Jim Brown to represent EDSO at CCC meetings. At one of the last meetings there were only a handful of participants, including SNH owner Howard Penn, Sergeant Brown, Dave Martinez and myself. It was evident that EDSO involvement caused attendance to drop off significantly. Eventually the Committee disbanded in 2004 due to lack of participation and community relations deteriorated to "business as usual."

Around the time CCC disbanded, neighbors provided me with correspondence and petitions for SUP revocations previously submitted to EDC Planning Department. I was informed that the county had a history of being unresponsive to the letters and SUP petitions, so I personally gathered signatures on a new petition and delivered it to Planning. When the county was again unresponsive, I called and was informed the petition had been "lost" so it was requested that I fax another copy to Planning. When no response was forthcoming from the county once again, I requested a meeting be held in my home with a Mt. Murphy neighbor, District #4 Supervisor Ron Briggs, and Jim Wassner from Code Enforcement.

During the audio recorded meeting in my home about code/law enforcement, Supervisor Briggs encouraged me to apply as non-commercial rafting representative for RMAC, so he forwarded me a copy of the county application. Knowing that the other reps would oppose my ample qualifications and appointment to RMAC, Briggs stated, "*No matter what they say, you are appointed to RMAC by my authority to replace Hilde Schweitzer.*" (See Exhibit B)

Apparently word leaked out to RMAC and the Coloma Lotus community about my appointment as the non-commercial rafter. Friends called and forwarded me correspondence that the River Mafia Mob was planning a slander-libel campaign to discredit me and persuade Ron Briggs to rescind my appointment to RMAC. At the next BOS meeting Theresa Simsiman submitted false and libelous information to the BOS and distributed it throughout the Coloma Lotus community. Her ruse worked, and despite two 4-year term limitations, the BOS illicitly reappointed Hilde Schweitzer to serve for a third term on RMAC. Rather significantly I'd never met Ms. Simsiman until she showed up for the very first time at the following monthly RMAC meeting.

Whoever controls the water controls the people. It became glaringly evident that the American River Conservancy (ARC) was hand-picking their representatives to RMAC who would serve their special interests. In violation of the Brown Act and the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act, RMAC was conducting serial meetings held at the Nature Conservancy, the American River Conservancy and at Camp Lotus. The ARC and CA State Parks, working in conjunction with BLM, was the topic of a special meeting arranged by my well respected friend that took place in the office of Supervisor Ron Briggs on July 16, 2009. Supervisor Briggs was made keenly aware of the ethics violations, his personal liability and the legal repercussions that would eventually make him the focus of a Grand Jury investigation. (See Exhibit C)

2009 was the same year that COMPAS (now Compass2Truth) was formed with the assistance of consultants and other like-minded groups who audio recorded and video recorded several RMAC meetings. (See Exhibit D)

RMAC representatives were routinely censoring me by shouting, "Don't let her talk! Talk over her!" Tim Lasko, Martin Harris, Steve Lyles and others were deliberately creating a hostile environment, and depriving me of my right to participate in "their" meetings. During one RMAC meeting, Dr. Dale Smith laid down the

law on the table with a copy of the Brown Act. RMAC representative Dave Martinez angrily stormed out of the room declaring he was headed to County Counsel. Mr. Martinez then submitted his resignation from RMAC.

During another meeting, Dr. Smith challenged the illicit behavior of RMAC chairman, Martin Harris. He too stormed out of the room and submitted his resignation from RMAC shortly thereafter.

In yet another RMAC meeting, Dr. Smith found it necessary to address the threatening behavior of Robert Palacios. This is a legal matter substantiated with a notarized Affidavit of Fact that involves RMAC, Officer Misconduct complaints, notification to the entire Board of Supervisors, and was the subject of two meetings Dr. Smith and I had with the publisher of the Mountain Democrat, Richard Esposito. District Attorney Vern Pierson, County Counsel, former MGDG Superintendent Jeremy McReynolds, and the Grand Jury received binders containing the notarized factual evidence. (See Exhibit E)

The point of the matter is that RMAC always has been, and continues to be out of control and should be disbanded.

During the 19 years I've lived in Coloma NONE of the representatives appointed to RMAC have ever addressed the concerns of river residents. It is apparent that the public's input has been reduced to irrelevancy by how the RMAC votes unanimously, and/or rubber-stamps Consent items, thereby demonstrating that meetings are little more than dog and pony shows with predetermined outcomes designed to falsely give the public an impression of government transparency and accountability. Their own interests, and that of American River Conservancy, have always been the focus to the exclusion of the residents. They are NOT volunteers; they are appointees by the BOS. As such, all past and present RMAC representatives routinely violate the public trust and their Principle Agent Oaths of Office by discriminately depriving members of the public the right to testify. RMAC has no authority whatsoever to act outside the scope of their authority or to violate the Brown Act and can be held personally liable. Note the following:

§54954.3 Public's right to testify at meetings. (c) The legislative body of a local agency shall not prohibit public criticism of the policies, procedures, programs, or services of the agency, or of the acts or omissions of the legislative body. Nothing in this subdivision shall confer any privilege or protection for expression beyond that otherwise provided by law. **Care must be given to avoid violating the speech rights of speakers by suppressing opinions relevant to the business of the body.**

As such, members of the public have broad constitutional rights to comment on any subject relating to the business of the governmental body. Any attempt to restrict the content of such speech must be narrowly tailored to effectuate a compelling state interest. Specifically, the courts found that policies that prohibited members of the public from criticizing school district employees were unconstitutional. (*Leventhal v. Vista Unified School Dist.* (1997) 973 F. Supp. 951; *Baca v. Moreno Valley Unified School Dist.* (1996) 936 F. Supp. 719.) **These decisions found that prohibiting critical comments was a form of viewpoint discrimination and that such a prohibition promoted discussion artificially geared toward praising (and maintaining) the status quo, thereby foreclosing meaningful public dialog.**

It is well documented and a matter of public record that EDC employees Vickie Sanders, Noah Rucker-Triplett, and Roger Trout have submitted fraudulent data and made recommendations to the BOS and the Planning Commission. In so doing they have violated their Constitutional Oaths of Office and the public's trust. Just one such example follows regarding a comment made by Planning Commissioner Gary Miller concerning Roger Trout's 3-Strikes policy. ***A policy that doesn't exist cannot be enforced.*** The subject was RMAC Chairman Adam Anderson's hearing for the Villa Florentina SUP revocation:

"I don't really need to explain to you what I did...I don't need to justify myself to you. You get what I give you!...I suggest you make a complaint to the BOS & have me removed. That would break my heart!...There isn't a 3 strikes policy! I know there's no such policy!... One of the unique things about being a Chairman is you don't get to tell me what I can do!...Sounds like you are threatening to take me to court...County Council was right there. I assure you, that if I was in violation of the Brown Act he would have said something."

Another example was Clerk to the Board, Jim Mitrison's, 3/24/17 reply to another constituent's CPRA requesting Mr. Trout's 3-Strikes policy, *"There are no records responsive to your request. I phoned the Planning Department to learn more and was informed the reference to "1,2,3" was made by an applicant and restated by Mr. Trout regarding steps taken to address a use permit issue. You may want to contact Mr. Trout for additional information."*

In regard to Adam Anderson's Planning Commission hearing, Roger Trout made it a point to publicly comment that the RMP was "not relevant." To the contrary, it was brought to my attention that Adam Anderson is good friends with Nate Rangel and is using his position as RMAC chairman to further his own business interests. Furthermore, Mr. Anderson and his RMAC and Chamber of Commerce associates have a bad habit of dishonesty. Residency is a basic qualification as the business SUP, but Adam doesn't live anywhere near Coloma. He has demonstrated that he possesses absolutely no practical knowledge of the Brown Act or Roberts Rules of Order and has been operating "ultra vires" or outside the law. **(See Exhibit F)**

Additionally the Planning Commissioners failed to provide a public recommendation about the status of his SUP revocation. This is information the public has a right to know, but it's still unresolved. Minutes from the last RMAC meeting indicated, *"Member Anderson remarked chances are he will be closing down his business Villa Florentina due to the pressure from the neighbors and trouble complying with the County noise ordinance. He therefore would be resigning from RMAC at the end of the year since he would then no longer be a business owner in the Coloma-Lotus area."* The question is, why has the Planning Commission, Roger Trout and the Board of Supervisors failed to take remedial action by revoking Anderson's SUP and immediately remove him from RMAC?

In email correspondence with staff of the Sacramento Business Journal it appears writer Mark Anderson is a relative of RMAC chairman, Adam Anderson. Mark Anderson was not present at either of the Planning Commission hearings for the Villa Florentina SUP revocation. When I inquired about his source of information for his articles, he replied, *"I talked with Adam Anderson and Roger Trout."* **(See Exhibit G)**

Yet another example of RMAC operating outside of the law was the May 26, 2016 Special Meeting requested by Nate Rangel scheduled to be held at 6:00 PM in the Marshall Gold Discovery Park Museum. The only topic of this special meeting was the RMP Update. By 6:30, there were only three people in the room, including myself and one other member of the public. After waiting for a half hour, RMAC Representative Marilyn Tahl announced that she had no idea where everyone was. When it was apparent no meeting was going to take place, I exited the building. I was bid farewell by Chairman Nate Rangel seated outside the Museum casually talking to another individual.

Although the RMAC meeting was never officially cancelled, the next day the meeting minutes appeared on the EDC Legistar calendar indicating that the RMAC meeting commenced immediately at 6:30 PM *after I had left the premises*. The stall tactics apparently were a strategic attempt to get me to leave so they could conduct the meeting without me. It is significant that the previously posted minutes have disappeared from the government website, the audio is "unavailable" and cannot be played. "Technical difficulties" appear to be a convenient frequent problem, especially when there are matters concerning government transparency and compliance with the law.

It is the duty of every Citizen to demand that government employees specifically perform pursuant to the constitutional mandates contained within their oaths, thereby uphold and protect the rights of the people, as opposed to upholding and promoting the profits of a rapacious, destructive association that perniciously violates the rights of the people as its apparent routine custom, practice and policy. Such aberrant behavior was clearly demonstrated during the September 14, 2015 RMAC meeting when Nate Rangel, Tim Lasko and Adam Anderson accused me of using profanity, when in fact, I was seated quietly in the audience. Supervisor Ranalli and Roger Trout were also in the audience as were four other witnesses whom I requested attend as the River Mafia Mob routinely vitiated my good name and reputation.

Compass2Truth has brought to the attention of the BOS on numerous occasions that county staff is habitually submitting erroneous data and/or falsified RMAC minutes. Yet you have failed to take remedial action and denied the public due process. Consequently, decisions made by the Supervisors that are based on deliberately falsified information will ultimately adversely affect all EDC tax payers, thus, undermining the public trust in local government. *Depriving the public of honest services is a federal crime.* Any enterprise undertaken by any public official who tends to weaken public confidence and undermines the sense of security for individual rights is against public policy. Fraud, in its elementary common-law sense of deceit, is the simplest and clearest definition of that word.

Deputy CAO Laura Schwartz remarked in a memorandum to the BOS, “Over the past several months, the majority of RMAC members have stepped down from the Committee resulting in not enough members to reach quorum. Several meetings have been cancelled at the request of RMAC due to a lack of a quorum or no issues to discuss.” It is a fact that RMAC members have NOT stepped down, but in actuality have been engaging the rafting community in serial meetings held at the Nature Conservancy, American River Conservancy and at Camp Lotus. Serial meetings are specifically prohibited by the Brown Act.

Furthermore, audio recorded meetings with Vickie Sanders and consultant Steve Peterson regarding personnel issues involving Noah Rucker and discussed at length the predetermined decision to disband RMAC before turning control of the RMP over to CA State Parks and Bureau of Land Management. Public Record Act requests indicate that Supervisor Ranalli was supportive of stalling the RMP Updates until such time as the transition was complete. Additionally a CPRA submitted to CA State Parks accidentally revealed a highly confidential contract with American River Conservancy and CA State Parks impacting private and public land along the entire American River Scenic corridor from downtown Sacramento to Lake Tahoe. As soon as CSP realized the contract had been sent to me in error, I was immediately contacted by counsel.

Meanwhile the public has been falsely led to believe that their input was valued and meaningful, when the decisions had all been made surreptitiously behind closed doors. ***The reality is the RMP and RMAC exists for the sole interests of American River Conservancy, CA State Parks and BLM.***

It is not good stewardship to allow RMAC to operate under mob rule, nor is it “Good Governance” by any stretch of the imagination. Begin by fixing the problem of government accountability, fiduciary responsibility, and transparency. Starting with code and law enforcement, hold their feet to the fire, thus ensuring compliance with the RMP and the Supreme Law of the Land.

Sincerely,



Melody Lane
Founder – Compass2Truth

Attached Exhibits A - G

7/5/14 @ 12:09 PM - Phone message from Jim XXXXX

Hi Melody, Jim XXXXX...I just thought I'd report to you I drove by your gate to see if you're at home but you're not there so I thought I'd leave a message. I called the Sheriff on the Resort last night for the noise and then for the fireworks and I called over at the Faieta's as well and told them I didn't think they wanted felons shooting off fireworks in their Park and that the Sheriff had been called and that they should go down there and take charge. And uh, Mariel called their manager and the manager told them it was all over at the American River Resort across the river. I called Mariel back and told her to get a manager that wasn't full of shit. She had lied and that it was back in their Ropes area. So anyway, we had an interesting night last night and the Sheriff did come out and he inspected, I mean the deputy came out and inspected and searched for fireworks. I don't know what the outcome was, but we had an interesting evening on the 4th. Thanks much. Talk to ya soon. Bye bye.

7/5/14 @ 4:10 PM - I called Jim XXXXX. Jim said he dialed 911 and they called EDSO. Jim played the long string of fireworks going off for the deputy while on the phone so they could hear what was going on. Jim thought the deputy's name started with a "D". Jim reported that while the deputy was at the resort the person on the loudspeaker got everyone's attention stating, "Let's let everyone know what good neighbors we are!!!" Jim threatened to call the Faieta's every time they made a racket even if it was at 3 AM. He'd go over there himself with a gun to prove his point. I told him to document all incidents with EDSO; dealing directly with the Faieta's was a waste of time. Jim was adamant about being "nice" to the Faieta's and he'd deal with it his way.

At approximately 4:50 PM on 7/5/14 I called Dispatch to get a case file number on XXXXX's call. Dispatch said there was no case file assigned, just a CFS # 742014-284. Was informed you must request a Citizen's Arrest for a case file number to be assigned. Dispatch operator claimed fireworks was a misdemeanor, not a felony. Most people won't file a Citizen's Arrest because it's just too "messy" to deal with. Informed her that we're trying to do our part as Citizen's Watch but we need EDSO to do their job and enforce the law.

Exhibit A

To: Theresa Simsiman
Sent: Thursday, January 22, 2009 9:15 PM
Subject: *Private Boater RMAC Update*

Hi Private Boaters,

Just wanted to send out the good news – I received a call today from Terry Gherardi assistant to Supervisor Ron Briggs. She wanted to assure me that Ron **has no intention of getting rid of the non-commercial boater position**. The appointment of Melody Lane as the non-comm boater was a mistake/misunderstanding on their part. Ron has received some private boater applications and in light of this recent dust up is proceeding with caution regarding selection – Terry was not in a position to share these applicants in Ron's absence but I do know that Hilde Schweitzer is one of them. (If I get anymore info I'll let you know) As for Melody it is my understanding that she may get placed as an added member to RMAC.

I would like to thank all those who emailed or called in their concern – as I understand it from Terry they got a lot of "knocks on their door". May want to now send them a note of appreciation too:

bosfour@co.el-dorado.ca.us

530-621-6513

One final note, I would like to thank & give recognition to Norwood Scott of American Whitewater for having our backs on such an important issue of representation. If you haven't renewed your membership – may want to do so now – AW is doing it's job.

Again, feel free to share with other private boaters!

Theresa Simsiman

Exhibit B

Melody Lane

From: "Melody Lane" <melodylane@calis.com>
To: "Theresa Simsiman" <jericah@earthlink.net>; "Ron Briggs" <bosfour@co.el-dorado.ca.us>
Cc: "Norma Santiago" <bosfive@co.el-dorado.ca.us>; "Rusty Dupray" <bosone@co.el-dorado.ca.us>;
"Jack Sweeney" <bosthree@co.el-dorado.ca.us>; "Helen Baumann" <bostwo@co.el-dorado.ca.us>; "Ron Briggs" <bosfour@co.el-dorado.ca.us>; "Bryan Golmitz" <golmitzb@edso.org>; "Fred Kollar" <KollarM@edso.org>; "Jeff Neves" <nevesj@edso.org>; "Noah Rucker-Triplett" <noah.rucker-triplett@edcgov.us>; <hilde@amriver.us>; "Roger Trout" <rtrout@co.el-dorado.ca.us>
Sent: Friday, January 23, 2009 9:45 AM
Subject: Private Boater RMAC Update

Theresa,

I've been actively serving my community as a dedicated civil servant for the 10+ years I've lived here. However I don't recall that I've ever had the occasion to personally meet you.

First of all, I would caution you about the legal ramifications of generating slanderous and totally false statements involving my good name and reputation. I am intolerant of rumors and gossip that are defamatory in nature, particularly by individuals whom do not have a personal relationship with me. Not only does this reflect poorly upon you as the unofficial spokesperson for RMAC, but it is clearly indicative of the problems that have undermined our community like an infectious cancer.

Permit me to set the records straight. Not only am I a private boater, Class V rafter, and former kayak Instructor for well over 20 years, but I am also a landowner/resident representing the voices of many other concerned citizens who desperately need to be represented in our district.

My active involvement with RMAC and interaction with government leaders has been ongoing for years. May I remind you that the RMAC position is an appointment made by the BOS. It is not a publicly elected position or a popularity contest as you've made it out to be. Supervisor Briggs was cognizant of the opposition and controversy it might generate. The appointment to RMAC was made when Ron personally called me, and in his case, a rare occasion indeed. He also assured me of his confidence in my ability as a professional to appropriately handle whatever might be thrown at me. I accepted the challenge as well as the honor to serve on RMAC.

Please cease and desist henceforth from generating broadcasts involving my name that are false and defamatory. I would also urge you to give serious consideration to rectifying the damage you've created by refocusing on the original purposes of RMAC and supporting our community.

Regards,

Melody Lane
Above Trouble
Coloma, CA

River Management Advisory Committee Meeting July 16, 2009

- I. RMAC Board Appointments ←
 - A. Business Rep – Dave Martinez
 - B. Outfitter – Steve Liles
 - C. Non-Commercial Boater – Hilde Schweitzer
 - D. Landowner/Resident – Martin Harris
 - * → E. Parks and Recreation – Noah Rucker-Triplett - *EWIRON. MGT.*
 - F. Member at Large – Marilyn Tahl + *TIM LASKO*
CA STATE PARKS - BILL DEITCHMAN & ERIC CARTER

- II. RMAC Responsibilities
 - A. River Management Plan
 - B. Development Services - Planning
 - C. Code Enforcement
 - D. Law Enforcement
 - E. CA State Parks - GDPA
 - F. CLVCA – Harry Mercado - *Parks & Trails - COLOMA.COM*
 - G. LAFCO
 - i. BLM
 - ii. American River Conservancy - *LAND ACQUISITIONS ≥ PARKS*

- III. Public Information Act
 - A. Meeting notices
 - B. Monthly minutes

*Advocate out on people?
who do you serve?*

NON SEQUITUR by Wiley Miller

HOW THE ONES
AT THE TOP
STAY AT THE TOP

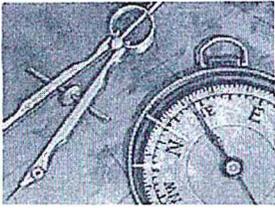


EXHIBIT C

Wiley Miller 8-24

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COMPAS

Citizens Organized to Monitor Protect And Serve

NEWS RELEASE

Contact • Melody Lane • 530-642-1670 • melodylane@calis.com

Coloma, CA November 12, 2009 - *COMPAS*, a new citizens association has been formed in El Dorado County to do just what the name says - *Citizens Organized to Monitor Protect and Serve*. This very compelling mandate is the cornerstone of the newly formed group which dovetails perfectly with the Preamble of the CA Brown Act:

"The people, in delegating authority, do not give their public servants the right to decide what is good for the people to know and what is not good for them to know. The people do not yield their sovereignty to the bodies that serve them. The people insist on remaining informed to retain control over the legislative bodies they have created."

COMPAS is comprised of concerned citizens, residents and dedicated volunteers. We believe that this statement and the hundreds of other legal requisites of the Ralph M. Brown Act and The Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act pertain to the River Management Advisory Committee (RMAC), the State Department of Parks & Recreation, Marshall Gold Discovery Historic State Park, and other affiliated organizations in El Dorado County that work closely with government agencies.

The mission of *COMPAS* is to sustain the high quality of life in El Dorado County, to educate residents and visitors while providing focused direction and assuring protection from the effects of unmonitored management and a general degradation of the wonders and benefits of this historic county.

The goal of *COMPAS* is to preserve the environmental and historic heritage of El Dorado County for present and future generations. Included in this goal is the method of accountability of funds used to maintain the historic environment that makes the western slope of El Dorado County a safe and desirable area for residents and tourists alike. This objective includes citing informed suggestions for more desirable methods of operation in addition to accountability for historic artifacts, natural resources and designated funds.

Long standing controversies associated with the El Dorado County River Management Plan and the Marshall Gold Discovery Park have captured the attention of Governor Schwarzenegger and other legislators in

EXHIBIT D

Sacramento. However few citizens fully comprehend the complexity of the controlling powers or how to effectively navigate these shark infested political waters. In a CA non-profit benefits corporation the anonymity of group members is protected from intimidation or retaliation for exposing illegal operations and/or abusive manipulation by all agencies and their affiliates.

A serious crisis of public safety and fiscal accountability lurks at the “world wide renowned Marshall Gold Discovery Park.” The El Dorado County Board of Supervisors and CA State Parks Director Ruth Coleman have continually turned blind eyes & deaf ears to concerned residents calls for action. *COMPAS* is calling for **investigation and action into these violations**, for which there are both Civil Remedies and Criminal Sanctions. We pledge to get this information properly disseminated to the general public, State & National government offices, watchdog organizations and the media. Consultants view this as significant breakthrough in undetected and/or underreported accounts of dreadfully serious malfeasance at the site where the 1849 California Gold Rush had its beginning.

COMPAS now has the tools and first-hand knowledge to expose many of the problems that for years have plagued this historic American River region. They may be partially summed up as: mislaid records, thousands of missing \$\$\$, lost artifacts, lack of code & law enforcement, private property encroachments, 5 recent arson fires, unethical business conduct, censorship and many serious public safety issues that have been swept under the rug of government bureaucracy. *COMPAS* provides the concerned citizens of El Dorado County a powerful venue to navigate conflicts and ensure that local and State government officials will no longer ignore those citizens in favor of special interest groups.

Since 1998 *COMPAS* President, Melody Lane has resided adjacent to the 500-acre Marshall Gold Discovery Historic State Park. She is Past President of the Bay Area Chapter of Executive Women International, has worked for El Dorado County Human Services as well as for the Executive Staff at Sacramento City Hall, and served as the 2001 President of the Gold Discovery Park Association. Her judicious record-keeping and deep concern for the area assures validity in forthcoming reports and materials *COMPAS* will bring forward. Additionally her wide experience involves several art organizations, an essential financial support to the area. She is currently the Public Relations/Membership Director for the International Association of Pastel Artists. Her home is ideally situated upon the historic Mt. Murphy overlooking the South Fork of the American River where the panoramic views have provided inspiration to artists of all mediums from throughout the world.

Melody is available for interviews of all kinds. **530-642-1670 • melodylane@calis.com** Photo included.



Alfa Omega Associates

Management Consulting • Public Relations • Publicity
Specializing in Environmental Organizational Management

P.O. Box 7171 • Auburn, CA 95604-7171
Tel/Fax: 530-888-1523 • Cell: 530-308-2689
E-mail: drdalesmith@aoaconsult.net
Dr. Dale Smith, H.H.D., General Manager

March 19, 2010

PRIORITY MAIL DELIVERY
CONFIRMATION

Mr. Robert Palacios
P.O. Box 545
Coloma, CA 95613

Mr. Palacios,

After seeing you once before at an RMAC meeting and hearing your odious recorded outbursts against Melody Lane, under such circumstances, your request of Ms. Lane certainly will not be fulfilled. I have advised her NOT to send anything to you from *COMPAS* or have any contact whatsoever with you.

Because of the past, it would not be prudent for you to speak to Ms. Lane at any time by any means or for any reason.

If you want to find out about *COMPAS*, you can read the newspapers or make your request to me and I will consider it.

Any kind of harassment of Ms. Lane by you at any time or location would be especially irresponsible. To be sure, not only is *AOA* watching and listening very carefully but also other organizations which monitor the actions of public agencies have been apprised of this unacceptable state of affairs in a number of departments in El Dorado County.

Sincerely yours,

Dr. Dale Smith

Cc: Bill Deichtman, RMAC Chair & Employee, Marshall Gold
Discovery Historic State Park
Greg Stanton, El Dorado County, Environmental Management
Noah Rucker-Triplett, El Dorado County River Recreation
Bill Salata, Public Safety & Enforcement – CA State Parks
Melody Lane, President, *COMPAS*
Area media and other interested parties

EXHIBIT E

<http://www.laketahoenews.net/2017/08/opinion-edc-wasting-money-river-committee/>

<http://www.mtdemocrat.com/opinion/the-balancing-act-disbanding-river-management-advisory-committee/>

Opinion: EDC wasting money on river committee

PUBLISHED: AUGUST 23, 2017

By Larry Weitzman

In case you are wondering, RMAC is the acronym for the River Management Advisory Committee, a committee set up in the early 1980s by the Board of Supervisors to help advise them on river and nearby land use issues. It is composed of more than five members who have a vested interest in the river: an outfitter, a commercial rafter, a resident land owner, two members of State Parks, a business representative, a private boater, and two members at large.

Meetings are attended by a few people. At the one I attended on Aug. 14 about 10 interested people were there, mostly from the rafting community.

Adam Anderson is the chair and business representative. His connection is ownership of the Villa Florentino, which is under scrutiny regarding its special use permit because of complaints. A hearing is scheduled shortly in front of the Planning Commission. Anderson lives somewhere in Placerville, away from the river. I can't tell you the names of the four other members in attendance. Also in attendance were our very competent Deputy Chief Administrative Officer Laura Schwartz and Vickie Sanders of Parks and Recreation.

The committee meets about 11 times a year, which creates a huge problem for taxpayers. But first I must describe the meeting I attended which lasted nearly two and a half hours. My time watching Looney Tunes was better spent, it was so unproductive (maybe it was a live action Looney Tunes). Not only did not one panel member understand their charge, they didn't even understand their own agenda which consisted of three items. The first one was the approval of the prior meeting's erroneous minutes and the approval of the agenda for that night.

I also attended the prior meeting at the Marshall Gold Discovery Park Museum, which seemed to operate ultra vires. They were mostly concerned about the county's recommendation that RMAC be disbanded.

After listening to Schwartz's description of the nonfunctioning RMAC, many times not fielding a quorum, not understanding their duty or "job," not understanding their purpose, and certainly not understanding the Brown Act or how to conduct a meeting, it didn't take a rocket scientist to see the writing on the wall.

After two and a half hours, the meeting was done and nothing was accomplished but to set another meeting and perhaps another special meeting before the regularly scheduled meeting. The only thing I learned from the RMAC meeting was government dysfunction at its worst. But there is more.

Attending this meeting were two very highly paid EDC employees. In fact, their total annual cost to EDC including salary and all benefits as reported by Transparent California exceeds \$400,000. That's an hourly cost of more than \$200 an hour combined. I am not begrudging the fact that they are paid a lot of money. I am sure they work hard; I know Schwartz does. What I am pointing out is the fact that each of these meetings cost the taxpayer a lot of money.

You can be sure, with prep time, travel time, post mortem time after the meeting and actual meeting time, this meeting cost you and me at least \$1,000 or more for each one of these county dysfunctions. And they do this 11 times a year and have done so for years. You can do the math, but this RMAC thing is no free ride.

And now there is an outcry that the CAO staff, and Parks and Rec staff has recommended that RMAC be disbanded. Why did it take this long? To add some gasoline to the fire, RMAC has been nothing more than to protect the interests of the commercial rafting industry, the concessionaires along the river and other related enterprises. Have they solved any problems? No. The noise, crime, vandalism, and pollution are as big as ever. Have they ever told the board that it's many times out of control? Of course not. But they do tell the board what a boon they are to the county. Yeah, sure. So is Walmart, Big O Tires and every other business in the county, especially the hotels and motels. We get a special 10 percent tax off that tourist industry.

Let's determine what the "industry" really costs the county, sheriff, emergency response, environmental management, code enforcement, and SUP violations. We need to know the whole nine yards and then the causation needs to pay their way. Not the taxpayers. Disbanding RMAC is a great start. That alone will save the county over \$10,000 a year, more money that can be used for potholes and senior legal. Now let's get an accounting of and for everything.

Larry Weitzman is a resident of Rescue.

EXHIBIT F

Some neighbors complain the weddings are too loud, especially amplified music from DJs at wedding parties. Those complaints have led to the use permit hearing Thursday before the county's planning commission.

The inn is located in a grove of 450 olive trees, and has permits to hold up to 20 special events with a maximum of 189 guests from April through October. The events can occur between 9 a.m. and 9:30 p.m.

Sometimes the DJs have played the last song until 9:34 p.m. or 9:38 p.m. One neighbor has documented the violations.

The wedding business is integral to booking the three guest rooms on the property, Anderson said. It also has provided work for local caterers, florists, wineries and others in the area, he said.

The river valley is filled with campgrounds, other lodgings and Airbnb rentals, Anderson said. "The park has events. The resorts have events. People assume it is me."

Agritourism has boosted the economies of some rural areas of the Sacramento region, but it has created conflicts. Those have included legal disputes in Yolo County between rural wedding venues and farmers. And in El Dorado County's Apple Hill, rural residents have complained of traffic gridlock in the height of the fall harvest season.

→ Mark Anderson Staff Writer *Sacramento Business Journal* ←

El Dorado County will revoke or revise the events permit for a high-end luxury bed and breakfast inn, which could shut the operation down.

Villa Florentina in Coloma faces the potential revocation of its permit because of neighbors' noise complaints. The planning commission decided Thursday that the operation should have its events permit revoked or modified.

Villa Florentina in Coloma.

VILLA FLORENTINA

That action will be taken at a later meeting that has not yet been scheduled.

Villa Florentina is permitted to have 20 events per year, and it has no problem booking all of those dates for outdoor weddings, said Adam Anderson, owner of the venue.

The villa is a 4,000-square-foot house on a nearly 3.6-acre property that includes an olive orchard overlooking the American River. The inn itself has only three rooms, and if the operation cannot have events, it's not worth running the bed and breakfast, Anderson said.

Anderson said he makes a point of using local wedding planners, caterers and vendors, and he sees the no-event rule as a no-win situation.

"There isn't enough money in just the rooms," he said. "We'll see what the county comes back with."

Events at the inn have been found to violate the county's sound ordinance, and a neighbor has complained repeatedly about the venue's noise.

"We can't control people clapping, whistling or hooting," Anderson said. "We can't tell people they can't make the sounds of happiness."

El Dorado County has been at the forefront of developing rural tourism in the Sacramento region. The seasonal agricultural attraction Apple Hill, which has drawn tourists since the early 1960s, is in El Dorado County. The county also has promoted a wine trail at its 60 rural wineries, and is home to many Christmas tree farms.

Villa Florentina is in the heart of the Coloma tourist area, where rafting companies, camping resorts and other bed and breakfast inns are clustered around the Marshall Gold Discovery State Historic Park on the South Fork of the American River.

The inn is at 6673 Carvers Road on the northeast side of the river from where James Marshall found gold in the tailrace of Sutter's Mill in 1848.

EXHIBIT 9

Agritourism has boosted the economies of some rural areas of the Sacramento region, but it has also created conflicts. Those have included legal disputes in Yolo County between rural wedding venues and farmers. In El Dorado County's Apple Hill, rural residents have complained of traffic gridlock in the height of the fall harvest season.

Mark Anderson covers agriculture, banking and finance, restaurants and hospitality for the Sacramento Business Journal.

<https://www.bizjournals.com/sacramento/news/2017/03/20/neighbors-want-to-shut-rural-coloma-wedding-venue.html>

Neighbors want to shut rural Coloma wedding venue for noise complaints

Mar 20, 2017, 3:07pm PDT

INDUSTRIES & TAGS



Mark Anderson Staff Writer *Sacramento Business Journal*

RELATED CONTENT

El Dorado County will hold a hearing Thursday to potentially revoke the permit of a Coloma bed and breakfast inn because neighbors complain its weddings are too loud.

Villa Florentina is in the heart of the Coloma tourist area, where rafting companies, camping resorts and other bed and breakfast inns are clustered around the Marshall Gold Discovery State Historic Park on the South Fork of the American River.

The Villa Florentine in Coloma faces the potential revocation of its permit because of... [more](#)

COURTESY OF VILLA FLORENTINE

The inn is at 6673 Carvers Road on the northeast side of the river from where James Marshall found gold in the tailrace of Sutter's Mill in 1848.

Villa Florentina got a permit to operate as an outdoor venue for weddings in 2011. Two years ago, [Adam Anderson](#) bought the property and began operations.



EDC COB <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

Petition Results: Public Comment on RMP Update for BOS Mtg. 9/26

1 message

Suzanne Robinson <suzanne@hwaters.org>

Mon, Sep 25, 2017 at 11:16 AM

To: edc.cob@edcgov.us, bosone@edcgov.us, bostwo@edcgov.us, bosthree@edcgov.us, bosfour@edcgov.us, bosfive@edcgov.us

Dear El Dorado County Board of Supervisors,

I am sharing current results of a petition (circulated by Healing Waters through Change.org). In only a few days we have collected at the time of this note **757 signatures asking that "the County defer the vote on the RMP** scheduled for the September 26, 2017 Board of Supervisors Meeting, giving Healing Waters and the other Institutional Groups time to continue discussions with the County and align around a plan that works for their organizations to be able to serve their clients by creating life changing experiences for them on the South Fork of the American River." Below are also comments or reasons given by some of those who have signed. Please see the below link to view the petition

<http://chn.ge/2xhRpkf>

Sign this petition

757 supporters

243 needed to reach 1,000

Reasons for Signing

Marilyn Freedberg, Davis, CA

6 days ago

We should always help and promote those who are helping others to experience our wonderful rivers. Especially for those who otherwise couldn't, and who need it the most.

Stephanie Goodyear

12 hrs ago

I know first had the importance of keeping rafting opportunities available to our most vulnerable and underserved populations

John ross

16 hrs ago

I am signing because I had the good fortune to work commercially as a whitewater guide and manager on the American River. The concept of limiting access to the soothing, calming, empowering and healing ability of this California river saddens me. This river has the incredible potential to produce much more than just hydroelectric

power. It gives people the chance to get a glimpse of Mother Natures amazing force and the awe it inspires should be shared broadly.

Lisa Curnett

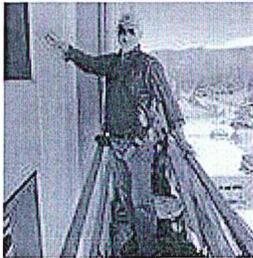
17 hrs ago

I'm healthy & lucky enough to boat on the BEAUTIFUL American River & wish the same opportunity for the less fortunate!

Patricia Gates

22 hrs ago

Because Allison walks the walk and I support her work and advocacy on this issue!



Robert Mault

1 day ago

Defer to the kindness in your hearts, postpone the RMP vote!



elissa berrol

1 day ago

I believe everyone should have access to the outdoors and to the healing benefits that rafting on rivers promotes. I was a guide for 20 years taking people with disabilities white water rafting and saw first hand the positive and often transformative including act these river trips had on to ur... [Read more](#)



Jen Thomson

2 days ago

Because...freedom!



Leif Wauters

2 days ago

This vital organisation (and others) need access to the American River. Please make this a greater priority in your considerations.

Jeff Phillips

2 days ago

ETC raft guide



Peter Hottenstein

2 days ago

Healing waters is excellent at serving a population that deserves access to river and the healing joy it brings to all. Please consider the positive impact HW has on its participants and volunteers when drafting new rules/regulations.

The river and all its wonders should be available to us all...

Joshua Coz

2 days ago

Connection to others and a sense of community are literally the difference between healthy, happy people and crisis. At it's core, that's what is at stake for the people effected, here.



Andrew Elkins

2 days ago

Healing waters holds a special place in my heart. They do such amazing, good work in the community.



Hope Gelber

2 days ago

I want this program to continue!



Jennifer Romero

2 days ago

I am signing this because I believe that we need programs that as a society promote the enrichment of lives. A diagnosis doesn't define who a person is or mean they can't enjoy life.

<https://assets.change.org/photos/9/hi/ph/rsHiPHxVBmYeypl-128x128-noPad.jpg?1469576906>

Linda Spadoni

2 days ago

Deferring the vote to give more time for consideration on this issue seems like a fairly simple and compassionate action.



David Thompson

2 days ago

Rafting is a fun way for team building and shows that everyone in the raft is dependent on everyone else in the raft. Much as life. It is that our life affects the lives of others in unexpected ways both good and bad. Water is both beautiful & Deadly. Recovering from an addiction is a Beautiful thing and a relapse can be a deadly thing which, affects all of those around them. It is important to offer every opportunity to those who are putting for the effort of recovery from these deadly addictions. To show them they are not alone in their recovery efforts!



Lisa Mandelstein

2 days ago

The work this group does is very important and life changing for youth at risk, youth in need.

Jacob Dahlin

3 days ago

Equality

kate Larsen

3 days ago

keep the ability to raft these waters, it has helped so many.



Adam Poe

3 days ago

The river means everything to me and my community. It brings people together on a weekly basis, and it brings people from all over California to Eldorado county. I want to know I have a say in what happens to the river because I feel like it is a part of who I am. Don't alienate the people who bring money into the county by eliminating public review. Thanks!

Becky Van Horsen

3 days ago

Allowing groups like Healing Waters to provide professional whitewater rafting trips to people with HIV/AIDS is essential to the outdoor community's continued effort to open wild places to all people regardless of race, gender, ability, or socio-economic status. Please allow additional time... [Read more](#)



Madeline Cohn

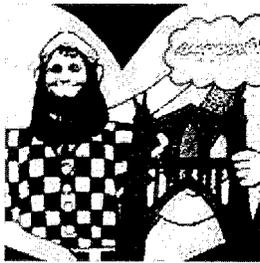
3 days ago

This is a great program that helps so many people!!!

Donna Boyd

3 days ago

I work with a group of folks who run the Klamath with folks who have all levels of disabilities, physical and developmental. These river trips are invaluable to them, and to us--the volunteers. Please defer the vote until we can add language to protect the trips Healing Waters, and all groups like theirs, provide to our more fragile populations



Katie Phillips

3 days ago

the river heals!

Jacqueline DeLu

3 days ago

Rafting is so important an outing for disadvantaged children and young adults whom Sierra Club serves.



Amy Taylor

3 days ago

Rafting with Healing Waters has served and changed so many lives. Please allow this project continue!!!

•



Thomas Sullivan

3 days ago

Keep rafting alive



Cassi Johnson

3 days ago

I love healing waters

Shaleah Nelson

3 days ago

Water is healing

Kevin Jordan

3 days ago

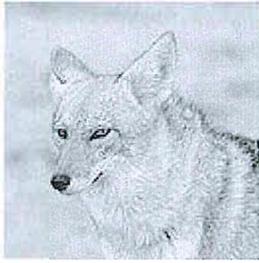
ICO of the Sierra Club has taken my low income, underrepresented students rafting for over 20 years. These students, from Title I schools would never have the chance to experience rafting and the biology and environmental science of a river with out the Sierra Club Volunteers. Please allow this incredible organization to continue.



vincent tamariz

4 days ago

As a physician who volunteered on a healing waters trip I can tell you these are life affirming and meaningful events for individuals. Please help us continue them.

**Kurt Thompson**

4 days ago

The outdoors heals people. It's that simple.

<https://assets.change.org/photos/6/gh/xx/uYGHxXvTbooqsnH-128x128-noPad.jpg?1443243250>

Susie Dodge

4 days ago

Because it's the right thing to do!

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SAMUEL ACKERMAN

4 days ago

I'd hate to see this incredible program impacted by a process blind to its impact on those who take part in it. Incredibly valuable and unique. Please put in the extra time/effort to ensure that it might continue.

**Polina Osipova**

4 days ago

Healing Waters is a wonderful organization that does important work. I've had the good fortune to hear the stories of many Healing Waters volunteers and participants. The RMP should absolutely be able to accommodate such groups. Please postpone making any decisions until you have provided adequate time for Healing Waters to participate in crafting new language.

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Barbara Farkas

4 days ago

Some collaboration needed here. Save our natural elements support the earth's Ecology



Susanne Rigsby

4 days ago

Healing Waters is a life altering program that helps people heal and find sustenance for broken lives and souls.

<https://assets.change.org/photos/0/hz/yz/fNHZYzVtIBHAtTg-128x128-noPad.jpg?1465338227>

Louis Bryan

4 days ago

I support your cause.



Justin Smith

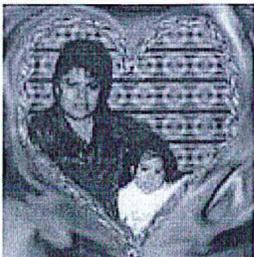
4 days ago

Please let Healing Waters continue their work.

Danny Ray

4 days ago

This organization helped me see life in a different light during some difficult times.



Yesenia Lacayo

4 days ago

This is an amazing program and the people who work here have unique hearts. They help and support a community that is dealing with real life altering situations and need support and love to keep pushing. They give people an experience they may never have an opportunity to enjoy.

William Diehl

4 days ago

Because I care

<https://assets.change.org/photos/5/vy/ng/mLvYnGpBPtbpqDy-128x128-noPad.jpg?1424383338>

Kirk Linn

4 days ago

I have seen the good that Healing Waters has done for my friend Ben and others.

<https://assets.change.org/photos/8/ue/et/wOUEEtDTIzAbtSI-128x128-noPad.jpg?1479998812>

Amy Osborne

4 days ago

I support the amazing work of Healing Waters!

**Maureen OHagan**

4 days ago

It is important that everyone has access to the river!



Nick Aghazarian

4 days ago

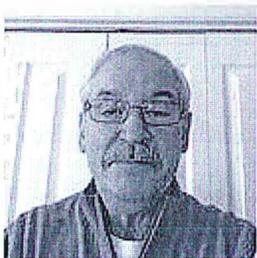
I know there is a way to make this process fairer and better. Please extend the period so public workshops can be held.



Danyal Spadoni

4 days ago

I support my rafting friends!



Dave Meyer

4 days ago

This group which is doing good work needs to maintain their access to this river.

KC Bess

4 days ago

I believe that these types of organizations are important in connecting people together and to the outdoors.

Erick Rozigas

4 days ago

This program is needed.



Heinz Voss

4 days ago

For the past 5 years, the Rafting Trip with Healing Waters has been the HIGHLIGHT OF MY YEAR. Granted, this year I couldn't go, couldn't afford it, THAT'S HOW BAD THE ECONOMY IS - PLEASE SIGN!



Kevin Jones

4 days ago

this kind of access needs to be preserved



Jason Bennett

5 days ago

I have AIDS !!!



Ben Schaeffer

5 days ago

Healing Waters and other non-profit orgs deserve better protections in the RMP because of the communities they serve.



Jim Schwegerl

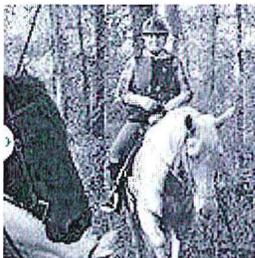
5 days ago

Doing good should take precedent.

Sally Fisher

5 days ago

This program impacts lives. Don't just shut it iut5



nina foss

5 days ago

All for this.

Rico gelera

5 days ago

HW is important. HW has provided community building activities on the water and in nature. HW has provided services to many clients that have limited means to participate in river and camping experiences. HW offers support and provides a crucial service to underserved and at-risk communities. Please do not prevent HW from providing these experiences to people like me, and to so many others that need to reconnect to community and nature. Thank you.

Joseph Krochka

5 days ago

I trained to be a river guide with Healing Waters in 2015. This is an outstanding organization. It has empowered myself and every individual who I have taken down the river greatly, and I cannot underestimate the benefits of its mission. Nonprofit groups like this one have a life-affirming and deeply meaningful impact on both the participants and the volunteers. Please allow for their continued use of this incredible and beautiful resource that we have in the American River.

MARY BRIGHT

5 days ago

Healing Waters is a non profit and as such should not have to follow commercial guidelines. The work they do for the community as such will be diminished or go away all together if they aren't allowed to be on the River with the same conditions in place now.

**Tony Loro**

5 days ago

The changes cut those in need of the river's abilities to heal.

Peter D

5 days ago

I believe the river should be accessible by all groups that use it responsibly.

Nate Spadafore

5 days ago

This program has been beneficial to many people that would never have had the opportunity to be guided by caring and trusted leaders to help them heal from trauma experienced in their lives. This restriction would put further burden and unintended oppression on the vulnerable, and severely limit their ability to be healed by participating in joyful communal experiences they often lack or are denied in society. This program provides the opportunity for these individuals to be presented with challenge and a goal to strive for and accomplish, which without, impedes their ability to be integrated back into the working world. This program's importance cannot be understated and should remain intact for the benefit of those in need of support.

Sincerely,
Nate Spadafore



Connie Patterson

5 days ago

I am signing because the work that this group does is just as important as a physician's care. Activity and being in nature does wonders for the mind, body, and spirit, bringing peace and recovery to a person's well being so they can participate pro-socially in life and their respective communities once again.



Martha Burdick-Mohr

5 days ago

This is a vitally important program, do not let it go by the wayside!



Keira Robalino

5 days ago

The work they do is important, impactful and means something. They should be allowed to continue.



Jay Go

5 days ago

There is a thriving, non-commercial and non profit oriented river community that exists that should always be heard and understood. The current plan is to undermine and expel a group of people because they are not profit oriented. Are kayakers next?

Bruce MACDONALD

5 days ago

I've volunteered and been a recipient of this wonderful group. It's an incredible charity and I fully support what they do.

Lisa Foster

5 days ago

I have guided and volunteered for helping waters for years and support their work in the community strongly.

Debra Bidwell

5 days ago

This is a great cause!



April Parekh

5 days ago

This is for an amazing cause, sad that it is now in jeopardy.



Patricia Maxwell

5 days ago

I am signing because the opportunity to participate in this program is at risk.



Mike Zamora

5 days ago

I'm supporting a friend whom asked me to sign!!



Scott Jacobs

5 days ago

Healing waters and Todd Herrold are very important to me!

Lizz Olson

6 days ago

This is a process which must be slowed and reviewed for the benefit of all.

Annelise Moore

6 days ago

I care about continuing river access for Healing Waters and other organizations who allow people from underserved communities to go boating.



Sarah Baughn

6 days ago

I believe in the work of Healing Waters



Jami Rains

6 days ago

Leave our river alone.

Gordon McKinley

6 days ago

I know this organization and I know what it does and how it helps so many people

Brandon Stanton

6 days ago

I have known so many people who are effected by HIV and others who are in recovery from drug addiction that have benefited greatly from the Healing Waters program including myself. Without this program most of them would not have been able to afford such an experience.

**Katerina du Lac**

6 days ago

Healing Waters provides a life changing experience to both clients and volunteers. For many a weekeknd of camping and whitewater rafting individual forget just for a weekend being HIV+. These individuals would never be able to afford these trips if it wasn't for organizations like Healing Waters and ETC. Healing waters gives a gift of life to many who dont get any other chance to leave the bay area or travel far from home.

The money raised barely pays for scholarships, rafting, gas, fees, camping and such.

**Liz Morris**

6 days ago

The contribution this organization has made to the people it serves is nothing less than a miracle. So much given to so many through the dedication and love from the staff at Healing Waters.



Steven Bauman

6 days ago

Healing Waters serves recovering addicts and alcoholics providing life-changing experiences in nature of reconnection with God and others. I pray that you support and protect the Healing Waters legacy of providing opportunities of communion and fellowship for those less fortunate...

[Read more](#)



Timothy Goynes

6 days ago

I want to save healing waters!



Kenneth Ireland

6 days ago

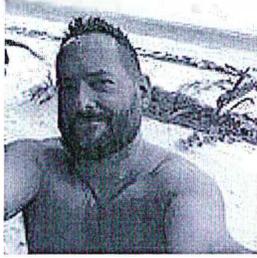
I've been a volunteer for Healing Waters for many years. The program does great work.



Paul Eulalia

6 days ago

Healing Waters changed my life.



Richard Brown

6 days ago

I have benefited immensely from the healing water rafting events and hope they will continue to provide the same opportunities for others.



Marilyn Freedberg

6 days ago

We should always help and promote those who are helping others to experience our wonderful rivers. Especially for those who otherwise couldn't, and who need it the most.



Robb Thurmond

6 days ago

I've seen, first hand, the good that the institutional permittees do.

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34 attachments

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EDC COB <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

South Fork American RMAC plan--Public input and participation needed

1 message

Ann Petersen <akpcpa3@aol.com>

Mon, Sep 25, 2017 at 1:03 PM

To: bosone@edcgov.us, bostwo@edcgov.us, bosthree@edcgov.us, bosfour@edcgov.us, bosfive@edcgov.us, edc.cob@edcgov.us

Dear Board of Supervisors,

Management of the South Fork American is a true success story of public-private stewardship. I have been a kayaker since 1998 and have used the SFA since that time. I even met my husband on the SFA and exchanged our personal vows there. We've spent a lot of time in this area as well as supported a number of the businesses while we've visited. I know how much work and love has gone into creating this special public resource while balancing the needs of surrounding communities and private landowners. It is only with cooperation and collaboration and active engagement by thousands who love the river corridor over many years that any of this succeeds over the long term.

This is why I was very disheartened to learn that you are considering adopting the River Management plan which would dissolve the River Management Advisory Committee (RMAC) without a single public workshop. The RMAC has been essential to successful management, and if there are changes needed than those should be addressed and resolved with a vigorous public process. As you know Cronin Ranch and other BLM projects were made tremendously stronger by the inclusion of public voices-- certainly, those spearheaded by El Dorado County should do no less.

Please extend your timeline for adoption of this plan to allow for and consider input from the public.

Sincerely,
Ann Petersen
Rocklin, CA
916-205-9052



EDC COB <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

Public input and participation for South Fork American RMAC plan

1 message

William Buck <william24buck@gmail.com>

Mon, Sep 25, 2017 at 2:36 PM

To: bosone@edcgov.us, bostwo@edcgov.us, bosthree@edcgov.us, bosfour@edcgov.us, bosfive@edcgov.us, edc.cob@edcgov.us

Dear Board of Supervisors:

Since moving to the Bay Area in 2011, the South Fork American has rapidly become one of my favorite places in California. There is no feeling on earth quite like the excitement of kayaking through the most difficult rapids, or the calm of balancing my boat on a wave while I gaze up the valley, or the crystalline blue of the deepest pools of water. Even though I haven't lived here long I love this river.

I know how much work and love has gone into creating this special public resource while balancing the needs of surrounding communities and private landowners. It is only with cooperation and collaboration and active engagement by thousands who love the river corridor over many years that any of this succeeds over the long term.

This is why I was very disheartened to learn that you are considering adopting the River Management plan which would dissolve the River Management Advisory Committee (RMAC) without a single public workshop. The RMAC has been essential to successful management, and if there are changes needed than those should be addressed and resolved with a vigorous public process. As you know Cronin Ranch and other BLM projects were made tremendously stronger by the inclusion of public voices-- certainly, those spearheaded by El Dorado County should do no less.

Please revise your timeline for adoption of this plan to allow public involvement.

Thank you,

Will Buck

San Francisco, California

District I - John Hidal - bosone@edcgov.us

District II - Shiva Frentzen - bostwo@edcgov.us

District III - Brian Veerkamp - bosthree@edcgov.us

District IV - Michael Ranalli - bosfour@edcgov.us

District V - Sue Novasel - bosfive@edcgov.us

Clerk of the Board - edc.cob@edcgov.us



EDC COB <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

BOS meeting 9/26 - RMP comment

1 message

Sara SK <skpriority@earthlink.net>
To: edc.cob@edcgov.us
Cc: Howard Penn <hpenn@lbcomm.com>

Mon, Sep 25, 2017 at 3:58 PM

To the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, El Dorado County,

I had planned to attend tomorrow's meeting, but the River Management Plan is going to be discussed in the afternoon when I have to be at work.

I am sorry for the late notice. Can you please submit these brief comments:

1. I support the ongoing existence of a multi-member River Management Advisory Committee (RMAC) to address river concerns, that consists of a variety of local representatives from the river corridor of the South Fork American River.
2. I support the expansion of some sort of advisory committee review of broader issues in the larger river corridor, not just on and near the water itself. This could be another advisory committee or an expansion of RMAC. I have submitted comments about that to the Planning Committee with regard to viewshed, sound, lights, traffic, and other river corridor issues.
3. I support the continued existence of institutional permits to the reputable non-profits that help people with disabilities, illnesses, severe low-income, and other challenges access the healing beauty of our river corridor at a low rate that they can afford.
4. I believe we need more County staff patrolling the rivers, educating people about river safety and etiquette issues, and enforcing civil behavior.

Thank you,
Sara Schwartz Kendall