

## Wild & Scenic Questions & Answers

*1) How does a Wild & Scenic designation impact grazing, logging, land management in the Upper Truckee River/Meiss area?*

"A limited amount of domestic livestock grazing" is allowed in Wild Rivers, although it may be limited to protect specific outstanding values (such as endangered Lahontan cutthroat trout and water quality). Grazing in the Meiss area has already been limited to protect these values.

"Ongoing" logging is not allowed in Wild Rivers. This would not necessarily prohibit a one time logging proposal, to salvage burned timber for example, but such a one time project would have to be done in a way to protect the river's specific outstanding values (including scenery, recreation, fish, and wildlife).

*DFG had concerns about a designation hampering rotenone use etc for fisheries management is there any way we can guarantee that it won't?*

Rotenone was applied since the river was determined eligible and recommended by the Forest Service -- proof positive that the WSR guidelines would not prevent the Forest Service to permitting such use. More importantly, rotenone was applied to reintroduce endangered Lahontan cutthroat trout, which is a specific outstanding value of the river, which must be protected and enhanced.

Land management in terms in general will be mandated under the law to preserve and enhance the outstanding values identified in the designated areas. In summary, grazing and logging are already limited by existing Forest Service management direction for the Tahoe Basin. A Wild River designation would simply continue to follow these guidelines.

*2) How does a Wild & Scenic designation impact access for camping, OHV, recreational user groups?*

Wild Rivers are "generally inaccessible except by trail." "There are no roads or other provisions for vehicular travel" in Wild Rivers. This applies to motorized vehicles but not mountain bikes.

*How would it impact the mtn bike trails within the 1/4 mile area?*

Unlike federal wilderness regulations, there is no specific prohibition on "mechanical" travel. We know of no Wild River where mountain bikes are prohibited.

*3) Is there a good resource that details the Wild, Scenic, and Recreational guidelines? How does mgmt change under each? Need more detail here.*

The 1982 Federal Guidelines are attached. On pg. 9 is the classification criteria, which is the "menu" (quoted above) to guide activities based on classification. For additional information refer to the Interagency Wild & Scenic Rivers Council Compendium (also attached).

*4) Why would having a Wild & Scenic designation be beneficial?*

A Wild River designation would require development and implementation of a management plan that ensures permanent protection of the river's specific outstanding values. This is a level of management protection not provided by the Forest Plan (or even wilderness designation for that matter). WSR designation also attracts additional funding. For example, state WSR designation of the East Carson River helped the Forest Service secure a mine waste clean up grant.

*5) Do you have any similar Wild & Scenic mgmt plans we can provide as an example?*

Comprehensive River Management Plans for WSRs can be simple (see attached plan for Sespe Creek) or quite complicated (the Merced WSR in Yosemite Park has gone through several iterations and is too big to attach).