

INRMP Work Program

July 14, 2008

The Board of Supervisors directed that the INRMP follow the requirements of General Plan Policy 7.4.2.8. The INRMP will only include components required by the El Dorado County General Plan and would not include components necessary to meet the requirements of the Federal or California Endangered Species Acts or the California Natural Community Conservation Planning Act. General Plan Policy 7.4.2.8 requires that the INRMP be developed and implemented within 5 years and include a habitat inventory, habitat protection strategy, mitigation assistance, habitat acquisition, habitat management, monitoring, public participation, and funding components.

Information regarding the Pine Hill rare plant species will be incorporated into the INRMP through attachment of the Pine Hill Preserve Program and Chapter 17.71 Ecological Preserve Overlay.

Information regarding oak woodlands, excepting connectivity, corridors, and habitat issues, will be incorporated into the INRMP through attachment of the adopted Oak Woodland Management Plan.

The Board of Supervisors has directed that the INRMP study plan area shall be limited to the 4000' elevation on the east, and county boundaries on the north, south, and west.

Due to budget constraints, CONSULTANT will complete the starred (*) italicized tasks, with County staff completing the remaining unstarred items.

Task 1. Initial Inventory Mapping - completed and map adopted by the Board of Supervisors on April 1, 2008.

General Plan Policy 7.4.2.8 states that the habitat inventory will map the following important habitats in El Dorado County: 1) Habitats that support special status species; 2) Aquatic environments including streams, rivers, and lakes; 3) Wetland and riparian habitat; 4) Important habitat for migratory deer herds; and 5) Large expanses of native vegetation. The Board directed County staff to prepare an initial inventory map which they adopted on April 1, 2008.

“Habitats that support special status species” was mapped using CNDDDB data for special status species known occurrences, California red legged frog Recovery Plan area, Pine Hill ecological preserve boundary, Pine Hill Preserve boundaries, and Pine Hill Recovery Plan area. Habitats that *support* special status species were not mapped.

The “Aquatic Environments” layer and “Wetland” layer was limited due to the limited hydrology layer available to the County GIS specialist at the time the map was created. Similarly, “riparian” habitat buffers were limited for the same reason, and perennial and intermittent streams could not be differentiated or named. NRCS/RCD or NHD (National Hydrologic Dataset) could be used.

“Important habitat for migratory deer herds” was mapped using CDFG layer for critical winter range, critical summer range, fawning areas, and holding areas. However, the layer is not current; coordination with CDFG/USFWS/USFS is needed.

“Large Expanses of native vegetation,” for the initial inventory mapping was illustrated using the Oak Woodland Management Plan’s Priority Conservation Areas (PCAs) which include contiguous oak woodland of 500 acres or more that coincide with 40 acre or larger parcels. Other habitat types were not included.

Although not occurring in one of the five mandated “important habitats,” valley oak woodland was included in the mapping as a “sensitive habitat,” notated as such in the General Plan EIR. Other “sensitive habitats” which are montane riparian, valley-foothill riparian, aspen, wet meadow, and vernal pools were not included in the mapping.

Deliverables:

- Adopted (Board of Supervisors, 04/01/02008) initial map.

Assumptions:

- Prepared by County staff with available data.

The adopted initial map is located here:

http://www.co.el-dorado.ca.us/planning/genplan/Final_Initial_Composite_040408.pdf

Task 2. Meetings*

The project manager or principal and technical staff, as needed, will attend regularly scheduled and, as needed, specially called meetings with the County Point-of-Contact (POC), County Management Team, Board, Planning Commission, PAWTAC, and Advisory Committee/Stakeholder Committee.

Over the estimated 12 month term of the contract, CONSULTANT will attend up to 30 meetings with an average of up to 2 staff per meeting. These meetings would support efforts under all tasks described in this scope of services. Conference calls lasting more than one hour are considered meetings under this subtask. In person meetings are assumed will be held at the County offices and meeting rooms in Placerville, at Federal or State resource agency offices in Sacramento or Folsom, and at CONSULTANT offices. The County will be responsible for preparing and distributing meeting minutes or summaries.

Deliverables:

- None

Assumptions:

- CONSULTANT will attend up to 30 meetings with an average of up to 2 staff per meeting
- Conference calls lasting more than one hour are considered meetings under this subtask.
- In person meetings are assumed will be held at the County offices and meeting rooms in Placerville, at Federal or State resource agency offices in Sacramento or Folsom, and at CONSULTANT offices.
- Average meeting length will not exceed 3 hours.
- The County will be responsible for preparing and distributing meeting minutes or summaries.
- CONSULTANT assumes that support of this task will not exceed 180 hours of CONSULTANT labor.

Task 3. Identification/Refining of “Important Habitats”*

The initial mapping effort provided a preliminary identification of habitat that could be deemed “important.” CONSULTANT will work with local, state, and federal agencies as directed in General Plan Policy 7.4.2.8, and with County staff to further identify and refine “Important Habitats.”

Subtask 3.1 Coordinate with Federal and State Resource Agencies

The General Plan requires that the INRMP “be developed with and include provisions for...informal consultation with local, state, and federal agencies having jurisdiction over natural resources within the county.” County staff will coordinate with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), Bureau of Land Management (BLM), California Department of Fish and Game (DFG), California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF), and U.S. Forest Service (USFS) to request assistance in the identification of resources over which these agencies have jurisdiction and in the identification of appropriate techniques for the conservation of these resources. Coordination via telephone conversations and email messages are included in this task.

Deliverables:

- None.

Assumptions:

- All meetings with these agencies are included under Task 2.
- County staff will conduct this task.

Subtask 3.2 Inventory and Map Protected Lands

To prepare for developing a Habitat Protection Strategy, County staff will review the regulatory environment as applicable to Important Habitat and define existing regulatory constraints and map existing “Protected Lands,” utilizing existing data.

3.2.1 Publicly owned property or land otherwise undevelopable due to conservation easements or similar constraints

This section of the “Protected Lands” map shall illustrate lands which are publicly owned, lands which are undevelopable due to conservation easements, lands federally or state designated as critical habitat, or similar type constraints.

3.2.2 Property with land use designation, overlay, or other local regulatory constraints

This section of the “Protected Lands” map shall illustrate lands whose standards, while protective, could change at some point in time. These could include Natural Resources or Open Space land use designations, ecological preserve overlays, 30% or greater slopes, riparian and wetland setbacks, etc.

Deliverables:

- Regulatory Constraints/Protected Lands Report formatted as appendix to INRMP document and Regulatory Constraints/Protected Lands Map (Microsoft Word and GIS shapefiles/coverages, to include metadata and projection)

Assumptions:

- County staff will review County, State, and Federal policies that protect lands, as well as GIS layers that the County has that will facilitate this mapping.
- County staff will author this report and map.
- County will obtain input from PAWTAC.
- County assumes that report will not exceed five pages in length.

Subtask 3.3 Conduct a study to identify riparian, connective, and critical corridors (Important Biological Corridors/IBCs)*

General Plan Policy 7.4.2.9 and Implementation Measure CO-N direct that the County will review the IBC overlay which shall apply to lands identified as having high wildlife habitat values because of extent, habitat function, connectivity, and other factors.

This subtask consists of: preparing a land use assessment, to describe projected land use and to assess the potential affects on biological resources; and using that data to conduct a study to identify connective and critical corridors between habitats.

3.3.1 Describe Projected Land Use*

CONSULTANT will review County planning documents and policies (e.g., the General Plan, General Plan EIR, and any specific plans available) and California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection's Fire and Resource Assessment Program (FRAP) studies and coordinate with the County to identify planned and potential future development, infrastructure improvement and maintenance activities, and other types of planned activities that could affect natural habitat and special-status species. CONSULTANT will use the General Plan Land Use Designations GIS data to summarize the areas of potential future development with habitats identified in the Habitat Inventory. CONSULTANT will prepare a summary description of potential future land use in the Planning Area. This report will include a summary of the purpose, location, and extent of disturbance that could be associated with future land use categories; actions that will be implemented to undertake land use changes that could affect biological resources (i.e., impact mechanisms); and the anticipated schedule for growth and development in the Planning Area. Once identified, CONSULTANT will create a GIS data layer of the projected area of disturbance associated with the projected land use. Water and infrastructure projects proposed by other entities (e.g., El Dorado Irrigation District) would be added to the land use assessment if location information on such projects is provided to CONSULTANT in digital GIS format on a timely basis.

3.3.2 Assess Potential Effects on Biological Resources*

CONSULTANT will assess the effects of projected land use under the General Plan on special-status species and natural habitats in the Planning Area. Results of the effects assessment will be used to help guide development of habitat protection and mitigation strategies in the INRMP. The assessment will identify the likely direct, indirect, and cumulative effects of projected land use on biological resources. Wildlife Habitat Relationships (WHR) information will be used to assess the potential affects of projected land use on special-status species. CONSULTANT will use existing information in the GP EIR to the greatest extent possible for this effects assessment. This analysis will describe the effects of land use changes on up to 42 fish and wildlife species and up to 19 plant species and the major natural habitat types in the Planning Area. Where there is existing appropriate GIS data, CONSULTANT will quantify the effects, otherwise the analysis will be qualitative and in narrative form.

Deliverables:

- *CONSULTANT will provide a Draft Land Use and Potential Effects on Biological Resources Assessment Report consisting of a summary description of Projected Land Use and Assessment of Potential Effects on Biological Resources, formatted as an appendix of the INRMP (Microsoft Word format)*
- *County staff will prepare the Final Land Use Assessment Report formatted as an appendix of the INRMP (Microsoft Word format)*

Assumptions:

- County will provide CONSULTANT with the General Plan Land Use Designations GIS data coverage.
- County assumes this task will not exceed ten pages.

3.3.3 Identify connective and critical corridors for the Important Biological Corridor Overlay*

Policy 7.4.2.9 directs that the IBC overlay shall apply to lands identified as having high wildlife habitat values because of extent, habitat function, connectivity, and other factors.

CONSULTANT will identify suitable connections between habitat areas for plants and animals to move through fragmented landscapes, identified through the Land Use Assessment Report. CONSULTANT will coordinate input from USFWS, CDFG, and USFS. The approach should model landscape connectivity and reveal the most crucial linkages between habitats and predict how animals move through them, and identify “pinch-points”, where connectivity is most vulnerable. CONSULTANT should evaluate the Saving and Greenwood study which identified primary corridor areas for wildland oak woodland landscape connectivity. In particular, the CONSULTANT should address viable north-south connecting corridors across Highway 50.

CONSULTANT will prepare a draft Important Biological Corridor Report and Map for review by the Management Team, PAWTAC, and Board. The report and map will be formatted as an appendix of the INRMP. CONSULTANT will prepare a compiled list of comments received from all reviewers.

Following review of the draft report, County staff will prepare the final Important Biological Corridor Report as an appendix of the INRMP.

Deliverables:

- *CONSULTANT will prepare the Draft Important Biological Corridor Report and Map formatted as an appendix of the INRMP (Microsoft Word and GIS shapefiles/coverages, to include metadata and projection and formats)*
- *County staff will prepare the Final Important Biological Corridor Report and Map formatted as an appendix of the INRMP (Microsoft Word and GIS shapefiles/coverages, to include metadata and projection and formats)*

Assumptions:

- County will provide CONSULTANT with the current IBC GIS data coverage and General Plan EIR information, as well as the Saving-Greenwood report.

3.3.4 Refine initial inventory mapping/draft and final habitat inventory report*

The Board has concluded that resource mapping and GIS data acquisition or capture conducted in development of the separate El Dorado County Oak Woodland Management Plan (OWMP) is sufficient for use as the primary component of the habitat GIS database for the INRMP. The OWMP relied primarily on the California Department of Forestry (CDF) Fire and Resources Assessment Program (FRAP) and California Wildlife Habitat Relationship (WHR) GIS data. These are the data that CONSULTANT will use for the INRMP vegetation data. CONSULTANT will acquire from readily available sources additional existing GIS data on ecological resources in the planning area (such as soils, streams, wetlands, watersheds, floodplains, land use). Under this scope of work, CONSULTANT assumes that no additional vegetation, habitat, or land cover GIS data capture will be necessary for development of the INRMP. CONSULTANT will initiate work on the Habitat Inventory using existing GIS data from the OWMP and other available sources. Because the INRMP is a unique process, there is no precedent for habitat mapping standards. CONSULTANT will facilitate discussion with PAWTAC, Agencies, and the Board to define "Important Habitat" and "Large Expanses of Native Vegetation." It is anticipated that the PAWTAC and Board will evaluate the data compiled by CONSULTANT and determine if it meets the INRMP needs as each group interprets the General Plan. Should these groups determine that the data prove less than sufficient for the INRMP, CONSULTANT, at the direction of the Management Team, would develop a scope of work and cost estimate to conduct the data development needed to meet the desired scope and resolution of the inventory. Any new habitat or other resource inventory and GIS data capture by CONSULTANT would be conducted under a separate scope of work at additional cost.

CONSULTANT will prepare a draft Habitat Inventory report to be formatted as an appendix of the INRMP that includes descriptions of:

- habitats that support special-status species;*
- aquatic environments including streams, rivers, and lakes;*
- wetland and riparian habitat;*
- important habitat for migratory deer herds;*
- large expanses of native vegetation; and*
- sensitive habitat (such as valley oak woodland).*

Special-status species are assumed to be those species identified in the 2004 El Dorado General Plan Environmental Impact Report (GP EIR page 5.12-12) as special-status species that occur within the INRMP Planning Area. In the Habitat Inventory, CONSULTANT will describe the habitat requirements of each special-status species in a brief species profile (not more than 1 page each), not including the eight species of gabbro soil plants. The distribution of habitat for each special-status species will be identified based on the existing vegetation mapping and other sources of ecological information such as streams, soils, and land use

data. The California Wildlife Habitat Relationship (WHR) system will be used as applicable to assess wildlife habitat distributions. Information contained in the GP EIR will be used to the maximum extent possible. Several species of the gabbro soil plants occur outside the Pine Hill formation and need species profiles (e.g., Layne's butterweed occurs elsewhere in the county on serpentinic soils).

The ecological value of streams, rivers, and lakes will be briefly described in the draft Habitat Inventory. Locations of streams, rivers, and lakes will be derived from existing data sources, such as the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) digital streams data and CALWATER GIS watershed data, and local NRCS/RCD data. Perennial and intermittent streams will be identified so that regulatory constraints, which differ by type of stream, can be applied in subtask 4.3.

The ecological value of wetland and riparian habitats will be briefly described in the draft Habitat Inventory. Locations of wetland and riparian habitats will be derived from existing data sources, such as the DFG's Central Valley Wetlands and Riparian data set, DFG's Central Valley Vernal Pool Habitat GIS data, and USFWS' National Wetland Inventory. The analysis area will include lands below 4000 feet elevation. Meadows that do not meet the definition of riparian habitat or are not jurisdictional wetlands also need to be included.

Important habitat for migratory deer herds will be briefly described in the draft Habitat Inventory. Locations of deer migration corridors and important foraging habitat will be derived from existing data sources, including DFG data and other available local data such as that from USFS wildlife biologists since migratory species occur inside and outside Federal lands.

Large expanses of native vegetation will be briefly described in the draft Habitat Inventory. Locations of large expanses of native vegetation will be derived from the existing OWMP GIS vegetation data supplemented by other data sources. CONSULTANT will work with PAWTAC and the Board to define "Large Expanses of Native Vegetation."

Sensitive habitat will be briefly described in the draft Habitat Inventory. Locations of sensitive habitat will be derived from CWHR data. Information contained in the GP EIR will be used to the maximum extent possible. If CWHR data is not fine enough to distinguish many sensitive habitat types (such as valley foothill riparian), County staff will search for more refined data on these particular habitat types.

CONSULTANT will provide the draft Habitat Inventory (Microsoft Word and GIS shapefiles/coverages, to include metadata and projection and formats) to the Management Team POC for distribution to PAWTAC and Board for review. The draft Habitat Inventory will be in the form of an appendix of the INRMP. CONSULTANT will provide a standard form for input of comments on the draft

document. CONSULTANT will assemble and collate comments from all standard comment forms into a single list of comments.

CONSULTANT will work with the Management Team and committee to revise the Habitat Inventory based on the comments received. A final Habitat Inventory Report will be prepared following approval of all changes to the draft; the report will be in the form of an appendix for the INRMP.

Subtask 3.3.5 Coordinate with PAWTAC, DFG, and FWS*

General Plan Policy 7.4.2.8 states that the habitat “inventory and mapping effort shall be developed with the assistance of the Plant and Wildlife Technical Advisory Committee, CDFG, and USFWS.” CONSULTANT will coordinate with the PAWTAC, DFG, FWS, and USFS as CONSULTANT develops the Habitat Inventory and DFG and FWS will be provided the opportunity to review the draft Habitat Inventory Report and provide input.

Deliverables:

- *Draft Habitat Inventory Report and Map in form of an appendix of the INRMP (Microsoft Word and GIS shapefiles/coverages, to include metadata and projection and formats)*
- *Final Habitat Inventory Report and Map in form of an appendix of the INRMP (Microsoft Word and GIS shapefiles/coverages, to include metadata and projection and formats)*

Assumptions:

- CONSULTANT assumes that no additional land cover data collection or GIS data capture will be necessary for development of the INRMP. Any new resources mapping and GIS data capture by CONSULTANT would be conducted under a separate scope of work at additional cost.
- CONSULTANT assumes that the County will provide to CONSULTANT electronic files of the April 2004 digital natural color, orthorectified, aerial photography (2-foot pixel) of the western county; similar photography taken in July 2003 of the entire County; and any more recent digital photography of the Planning Area.
- CONSULTANT assumes that the number of special-status fish and wildlife species described in the Habitat Inventory will not exceed the species listed in the GP EIR.
- CONSULTANT assumes that the number of special-status plant species described in the Habitat Inventory will not exceed 19 species (not including the 8 gabbro soil plant species).
- CONSULTANT assumes that all oak woodland habitat inventory and assessment information will be incorporated by reference from the separately completed OWMP.
- CONSULTANT assumes that all gabbro soil Pine Hill rare plant species will be incorporated into the INRMP through attachment of the Pine Hill Preserve Program and Chapter 17.71 Ecological Preserve Overlay

Task 4. Develop INRMP Conservation Strategy/Prioritize*

Under this task, CONSULTANT will develop the various components of the INRMP conservation strategy. General Plan Policy 7.4.2.8 required components for the INRMP are:

- *Habitat Protection Strategy*
- *Mitigation Assistance*
- *Habitat Acquisition*
- *Habitat Management*
- *Monitoring*

Subtask 4.1 Develop Goals and Objectives*

CONSULTANT will work with the Management Team, PAWTAC, and Board to develop biological goals and objectives for habitats and species under the INRMP.

CONSULTANT will prepare a list of draft goals and objectives for review. Following review by the Management Team, PAWTAC, and Board, CONSULTANT will finalize the biological goals and objectives. These goals and objectives will drive the development of all components of the conservation strategy.

Subtask 4.2 Develop Habitat Protection Strategy /Prioritize*

General Plan Policy 7.4.2.8 requires the development of “a strategy for protecting important habitats based on coordinated land acquisitions (see Habitat Acquisition Program, below) and management of acquired land.” The Policy further states that the “goal of the strategy shall be to conserve and restore contiguous blocks of important habitat to offset the effects of increased habitat loss and fragmentation elsewhere in the county.” CONSULTANT will develop a Habitat Protection Strategy as part of the INRMP Conservation Strategy that is integrated with the Habitat Acquisition Program (see Subtask 4.4).

Working with PAWTAC, CONSULTANT will develop principles and guidelines for establishing the INRMP conservation areas (i.e., habitat lands that are identified where willing landowners could be approached to negotiate habitat mitigation and other types of habitat conservation land acquisition under the INRMP). The habitat conservation system design guidelines will provide landscape-level conservation. These habitat conservation system design guidelines will address such parameters as the appropriate size, locations, and landscape position relative to other habitats for the identification of habitat conservation areas. To help establish these guidelines, CONSULTANT will identify species whose key habitat parameters (e.g., minimum patches of potential conserved lands that can serve as functional habitat) encompass the habitat of a much larger number of species. Thus, designing habitat conservation areas that meet the needs of these broad ranging species will also meet the needs of species that use similar habitats. Other parameters for habitat conservation area design will focus on identifying a sufficient extent of specific habitats or habitat components that are exceptionally rare or fragile such as the gabbro soils or vernal pool terrain. In formulating conservation measures, CONSULTANT will look for opportunities to design the potential habitat conservation areas to complement and augment the values provided by existing

preserved lands (e.g., the Pine Hill rare plant preserves, Spivey Pond management area) and sensitive habitat areas (e.g., designated critical habitat for California red-legged frog, deer habitat and migration corridors).

Conservation measures will be developed to conserve each of the major natural habitats. These community-level conservation measures will address ecosystem functions necessary to sustain each natural habitat and will also provide for the protection of habitats for the special-status species associated with each of the habitats.

The habitat protection strategy will provide specific conservation measures for addressing the adverse effects of construction of major linear projects (e.g., new 4- and 6-lane roadways) that create barriers to wildlife movement.

The habitat protection strategy will also include other tools that can be utilized to provide for conservation and maintain corridors and connectivity.

The Oak Woodland Management Plan was developed independently and ahead of the INRMP. CONSULTANT will draw relevant landscape-level and oak woodland community-level conservation measures from the Oak Woodland Management Plan and will incorporate them into the proposed habitat protection strategy. CONSULTANT will draw relevant landscape-level conservation measures from the Pine Hill Preserve Program and Chapter 17.71 (Ecological Preserves) and will incorporate them into the proposed habitat protection strategy.

Subtask 4.3 Develop Mitigation Assistance Program*

Policy 7.4.2.8 requires that the INRMP “establish a program to facilitate mitigation of impacts to biological resources resulting from projects approved by the County that are unable to avoid impacts on important habitats.” CONSULTANT will prepare standard mitigation measures applicable to habitats and species that are the focus of the INRMP. As applicable, CONSULTANT will use mitigation approaches from the GP EIR to the greatest extent possible. CONSULTANT will describe an approach to mitigation that will streamline the process of County approval of projects. The description of this program will include such tools as mitigation banks, lists of potential mitigation options, and incentives for developers and landowner to participate in the habitat acquisition and management components of the INRMP. Under this scope of work, CONSULTANT will describe the components of the Mitigation Assistance Program in the INRMP; the actual establishment of such a program is outside of this scope of work.

Mitigation assistance programs for oak woodlands and gabbro soils plants will be incorporated by reference into the INRMP from the separate OWMP and Rare Plant Conservation Plan prepared independently of the INRMP.

Subtask 4.4 Develop Habitat Acquisition Program*

Policy 7.4.2.8 requires the development of a program for identifying habitat acquisition opportunities involving willing sellers in coordination with the Habitat Protection Strategy and the Mitigation Assistance Program. CONSULTANT will define a habitat

acquisition program in the INRMP that allows for land acquisition by ranking or prioritization to meet the goals of the Habitat Protection Strategy and Mitigation Assistance Program.

The Habitat Acquisition Program would include acquisition in fee title or through conservation easement from willing sellers, designed to protect the core habitat values of the land while allowing other uses by the fee owner. The Program will identify opportunities for partnerships between the County and other organizations for habitat acquisition and management. The Program will include a process for evaluating properties for acquisition including the identification of specific features of the property as a means for assessing the relative conservation value of the property. A system for ranking properties for acquisition may be developed. High value wildlife movement corridors will be given specific consideration.

Habitat acquisition programs for oak woodlands and gabbro soils plants will be incorporated by reference into the INRMP from the separate OWMP and Rare Plant Conservation Plan prepared independently of the INRMP.

Subtask 4.5 Develop Habitat Management Program*

Policy 7.4.2.8 requires that “each property or easement acquired through the INRMP should be evaluated to determine whether the biological resources would benefit from restoration or management actions.” CONSULTANT will describe a Habitat Management Program in the INRMP that lists the required contents of preserve-specific habitat management plans. This Program will provide specific guidance for those individuals responsible for the future development and implementation of preserve management plans under the INRMP. Required management plan contents may include: exotic species control, habitat enhancement and restoration, removal of barriers to wildlife movement, enhancement of wildlife movement corridors, control of erosion and sediment deposition, and enhancement or mimicking of natural processes (i.e., fire).

The Habitat Management Program will include a strong adaptive management requirement that addresses processes and procedures for adjusting INRMP implementation based on new information learned through results of effectiveness monitoring conducted under the INRMP and research results by others.

Habitat management programs for oak woodlands and gabbro soils plants will be incorporated by reference into the INRMP from the separate OWMP and Rare Plant Conservation Plan prepared independently of the INRMP.

Subtask 4.6 Develop Monitoring Program*

Policy 7.4.2.8 requires that the INRMP “include a habitat monitoring program that covers all areas under the Ecological Preserve overlay together with all lands acquired as part of the INRMP.” CONSULTANT will describe a Monitoring Program that outlines the requirements for community-wide, habitat-level, and species-level monitoring. The

Monitoring Program will provide guidance for the contents of acquisition-specific monitoring plans. The Monitoring Program will include requirements for measurable performance standards, monitoring protocols and schedules, and regular reporting of results. The Monitoring Program will provide for effects monitoring, implementation monitoring, and effectiveness monitoring. Effects monitoring will be identified for land uses for which there are uncertainties about the type and extent of effects on biological resources. Implementation monitoring would be required to document the implementation of conservation measures and compliance with the Habitat Mitigation Assistance Program. Effectiveness monitoring would be required to determine the response of species and natural habitats to implementation of conservation measures. A key purpose of effectiveness monitoring would be to provide the information necessary to adaptively implement the strategy over the term of the INRMP. Monitoring would be required to specifically inform the Habitat Management Program to allow for adaptive management.

Existing monitoring programs (e.g., at Spivey Pond and the Pine Hill Preserve) would be incorporated into the INRMP, as appropriate, or used to guide the requirements of the INRMP for the same resources.

Subtask 4.7 Prepare Draft and Final Conservation Strategy*

CONSULTANT will prepare a first draft Conservation Strategy Report for review by the Management Team, PAWTAC, and Board. The report will be formatted as a chapter of the INRMP with each of the component sections described in this task:

- *Goals and objectives*
- *Habitat protection strategy*
- *Mitigation assistance program*
- *Habitat acquisition program*
- *Habitat management program*
- *Monitoring program*

CONSULTANT will prepare a compiled list of comments received from all reviewers. Following review of the first draft report, CONSULTANT will prepare a second draft Conservation Strategy Report for review by the same groups. Following review of the second draft report, CONSULTANT will prepare the final Conservation Strategy Report formatted as a chapter of the INRMP.

CONSULTANT will provide the Management Team copies of the report electronically in Microsoft Word format.

Deliverables:

- *First Draft Conservation Strategy Report (Microsoft Word format)*
- *Second Draft Conservation Strategy Report (Microsoft Word format)*
- *Final Conservation Strategy Report (Microsoft Word format).*

Assumptions:

- The number of special-status fish and wildlife species assessed in the conservation strategy will not exceed 42 species.
- The number of special-status plant species assessed in the conservation strategy will not exceed 19 species (not including the 8 Gabbro soil plant species).
- All relevant conservation components of the OWMP and Rare Plant Conservation Plan will be incorporated by reference into the INRMP and no new conservation programs will be developed in the INRMP for these resources.

Subtask 4.8 Develop Regulatory Constraints for Important Habitat (IH) (for Rare, Threatened, and Endangered Species) and IBC*

Policy 7.4.1.6 directs that “All development projects involving discretionary review shall be designed to avoid disturbance or fragmentation of important habitats (for Rare, Threatened, and Endangered Species in Objective 7.4.1) to the extent reasonably feasible. Where avoidance is not possible, the development shall be required to fully mitigate the effects of important habitat loss and fragmentation. Mitigation shall be defined in the INRMP.” Implementation Measure CO-U provides direction as to the implementation of the policy. County staff will author a section of the INRMP which clarifies implementation of mitigation for discretionary development that affects Important Habitat (for RTES), which will be reviewed by PAWTAC, Agencies, and Board of Supervisors.

Policy 7.4.2.9 directs that the IBC overlay shall apply to lands identified as having high wildlife habitat values because of extent, habitat function, connectivity, and other factors. The policy also provides general direction as to regulatory provisions that shall be included. CONSULTANT will work with County staff, PAWTAC, Agencies, and Board of Supervisors to develop the regulatory provisions. County staff will author a section of the INRMP which clarifies implementation of the IBC overlay. County staff will prepare a draft and final IBC overlay ordinance.

Deliverables:

- *Draft IBC Regulatory Provisions in form of a section of the INRMP (Microsoft Word format)*
- *Final IBC Regulatory Provisions in form of a section of the INRMP (Microsoft Word format)*

Assumptions:

- CONSULTANT assumes County staff will author the section of the INRMP which clarifies implementation of mitigation for discretionary development that affects Important Habitat (for RTES).
- CONSULTANT assumes that CONSULTANT will facilitate development of the regulatory provisions of the IBC overlay, and will author a draft and final IBC Regulatory Provisions section of the INRMP.

- CONSULTANT assumes County staff will author a section of the INRMP which clarifies implementation of the IBC overlay.
- CONSULTANT assumes County staff will prepare a draft and final IBC overlay ordinance.

Task 5. Prepare Economic Analysis

Policy 10.1.2.5 of the 2004 General Plan directs staff to prepare and present an analysis of the economic effect and taking implications of a proposed rule or regulation on private property and private property rights. Staff will prepare an economic analysis utilizing scenarios to illustrate the effect of the INRMP on costs to individual homeowners.

Deliverables:

- Economic Analysis in form of an appendix of the INRMP (Microsoft Word format)

Assumptions:

- County staff will prepare an economic analysis similar to the economic analysis prepared for the OWMP.

Task 6. Prepare Draft and Final INRMP

Under this task, CONSULTANT team and County staff will prepare administrative draft and public draft versions of the INRMP.

Subtask 6.1 Prepare Administrative Draft INRMP

Following completion of the various component chapters, County staff will prepare the administrative draft INRMP document. The draft INRMP will include the following chapters:

1. Introduction
 - a. Description of purpose and need
 - b. Geographic scope of study
2. Important Habitat Inventory Summary
 - a. Habitat supporting special-status species
 - b. Aquatic environments including streams, rivers, and lakes
 - c. Wetland and riparian habitat
 - d. Important habitat for migratory deer herds
 - e. Large expanses of native vegetation
 - f. Sensitive Species
3. Important Biological Corridors Summary
4. Policy 7.4.1.6 (Implementation Measure CO-U) for RTES
 - a. Applicability and Exemptions
 - b. Preservation/Restoration Objectives
 - c. Regulatory Provisions

- d. Mitigation Options
- e. Map
- 5. Policy 7.4.2.8
 - a. Applicability and Exemptions
 - b. Preservation/Restoration Objectives
 - c. Regulatory Provisions
 - d. Mitigation Options
 - e. Map
- 6. Mitigation Methodology Summary
- 7. INRMP Habitat Conservation Areas Summary
 - a. Identification of Conservation Areas
 - b. Management of Conservation Areas
 - c. Conservation Easements
 - d. Acquisitions Added to EP Overlay
- 8. Application of the INRMP to the Development Review Process
- 9. Appendices
 - a. Plan Study Area Report (a brief summary by County staff)
 - b. Habitat Inventory and Map*
 - i. Habitat supporting special-status species*
 - ii. Aquatic environments including streams, rivers, and lakes*
 - iii. Wetland and riparian habitat*
 - iv. Important habitat for migratory deer herds*
 - v. Large expanses of native vegetation*
 - vi. Sensitive species*
 - c. Important Biological Corridors and Map*
 - i. Methodology*
 - d. Land Use Assessment*
 - i. Projected land use
 - ii. Potential effects on biological resources*
 - e. Conservation Strategy
 - i. Goals and objectives*
 - ii. Habitat protection strategy*
 - iii. Mitigation assistance program*
 - iv. Habitat acquisition plan*
 - v. Habitat management program*
 - vi. Monitoring program*
 - vii. Oak Woodland Management Plan
 - viii. Rare Plant Conservation Plan
 - f. Economic Analysis
 - g. Appendices (as necessary)

The administrative draft INRMP will be provided for review and comment to the Management Team, who will distribute to PAWTAC and Board. County staff will provide the administrative draft INRMP in Microsoft Word format files.

Subtask 6.2 Prepare Public Draft INRMP*

CONSULTANT will provide standard electronic comment forms for the Management Team, PAWTAC, and Board to provide comments on administrative draft INRMP. CONSULTANT will compile comments received into a single table of comments. CONSULTANT will review comments with the Management Team prior to revising the administrative draft INRMP. Based on comments received on the administrative draft INRMP, CONSULTANT will prepare a screen-check public review draft INRMP. CONSULTANT will provide an electronic Microsoft Word format file of the screen-check draft to the Management Team. The purpose of the screen-check public draft INRMP is to allow for minor edits and corrections before the public draft INRMP is released to the public. It is anticipated that only the Management Team would need to review the screen-check document to ensure it is free of errors.

Following review of the screen-check document, CONSULTANT will prepare the public draft INRMP to be released to the public by the County. CONSULTANT will provide the Management Team with the documents electronically in Microsoft Word format.

Subtask 6.3 Prepare Final INRMP

Under this task County staff will revise the public draft INRMP as necessary to reflect revisions identified during the public comment period on the public draft INRMP and draft Initial Study/Negative Declaration (IS/ND). Public comments on the INRMP will be compiled in conjunction with the compilation of public comment on the IS/ND. Based on public comments received and direction from the Management Team and Board as to how to address those comments, County staff will prepare a screen-check final INRMP. County staff will provide an electronic Microsoft Word format file of the screen-check final to the Management Team. It is anticipated that only the Management Team would need to review the screen-check document to ensure it is free of errors.

Following review of the screen-check document, County staff will prepare the final INRMP to be released to the public by the County with the final IS/ND. County staff will provide the Management Team with these documents electronically in Microsoft Word format. The County will post the final INRMP on its web page.

Deliverables:

- County staff will prepare Administrative draft INRMP (Microsoft Word format)
- *CONSULTANT will prepare Screen-check public review draft INRMP (Microsoft Word format)*
- *CONSULTANT will prepare Public review draft INRMP (Microsoft Word format)*
- Screen-check final INRMP (Microsoft Word format)
- County staff will prepare Final INRMP (Microsoft Word format)

Assumptions:

- Screen-check documents will receive only review for minor errors and will not require substantial changes in or additions to content. If substantial changes or

additions are requested to screen-check documents, such changes would be conducted under a new scope of work at additional cost.

- This scope of work does not include receipt of or response to public comments on the draft INRMP or preparation of the final INRMP.
- Provisions of the separately prepared OWMP and Rare Plant Conservation Plan will be incorporated by reference into the INRMP to address the conservation of oak woodland and gabbro soil plants.

Task 7 CEQA Compliance

CONSULTANT will provide CEQA compliance support to the County on the INRMP in the form of an Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND).

Task 7 Prepare Draft and Final IS/MND*

CONSULTANT will provide compliance documentation to address the County's obligations under the CEQA by preparing a joint Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) addressing state specifications under CEQA and the CEQA Guidelines. The County's project under CEQA is the development and implementation of the INRMP. The IS/MND on the INRMP will address the project and will not revisit the issues already addressed in the General Plan Environmental Impact Report (EIR). Relevant information on setting, impact analysis, and mitigation from the General Plan EIR will be incorporated by reference into the INRMP IS/MND.

Subtask 7.1 Prepare Initial Study (IS)*

CONSULTANT will prepare an Initial Study (IS) incorporating required components defined by CEQA Guidelines Section 15063(d). CONSULTANT will use the checklist approach for the IS. The IS will evaluate only those specific actions resulting from the proposed INRMP that would affect environmental resources in the Planning Area. This approach is consistent with the guidance provided by the CEQA Guidelines Section 15125(d), identifying that the proposed actions of a regional plan be compared to the existing setting at the time the environmental analysis is commenced.

The scope of analysis will be crafted by completing an Environmental Checklist, as recommended in CEQA Guidelines Appendix G. The IS Environmental Checklist will follow accepted El Dorado County format, and will be revised as appropriate in consultation with County staff to include significance criteria for each resource topic based on County guidance. The IS will provide a summary of the proposed project, and preliminary analyses justifying project impacts as potentially significant, less than significant with mitigation, less than significant, or no impact. CONSULTANT assumes the Draft IS will be provided electronically to the County for review. Following review of the Draft IS, CONSULTANT will prepare the Final IS and provide to the County in electronic format. The Final IS will be posted on the County's website by the County.

Subtask 7.2 Prepare Administrative Draft and Public Draft MND*

CONSULTANT will prepare the Draft MND for review by the public. The MND will include a brief description of the project and location, identification of the project proponent, proposed finding of no significant effect, and a description of the mitigation

measures included in the project description to avoid significant impacts. Additionally, as required by CEQA Guidelines Section 15371, the IS will be included in the MND to justify the findings. CONSULTANT will prepare an administrative draft of the MND prior to the public review Draft MND. CONSULTANT assumes the administrative draft would be provided electronically to the County for review. Following review of the administrative draft, CONSULTANT will prepare the Draft MND for public distribution. CONSULTANT will provide to the County the MND as an electronic file. The County will be responsible for posting the Draft MND on the County's website and for distribution of the MND.

The MND will include analysis of the following resources topics that are applicable to the INRMP as a project based on the results of the Initial Study. Potential resource topics are: Land Use, Public Services, Transportation and Circulation, Noise, Socioeconomics, Recreation, Aesthetics and Visual Resources, Air Quality, Cultural Resources, Agricultural Resources, Biological Resources, Hydrology and Water Quality; and Geology, Soils, and Hazards.

For environmental resources that are addressed by the MND, each of the resource sections will contain the following information.

- *Environmental Setting.* The environmental setting for each issue area will be described, incorporating by reference information provided in the El Dorado County General Plan EIR.
- *Significance criteria.* The significance criteria and thresholds for significance used in the MND will be consistent with the IS Environmental Checklist. Any significance criteria precedents in previous County environmental documents will be consulted and used as directed by County staff.
- *Impact Assessment.* Impact conclusions from the IS will be provided in the MND.
- *Mitigation Measures.* Mitigation measures will be developed to avoid or mitigate potentially significant environmental impacts. Mitigation measures will be designed to be consistent in form, design, and intent with EIRs previously prepared by the County, and revised as appropriate based on the CONSULTANT Team's experience.

The MND will include an assessment of cumulative impacts for each resource area consistent with CEQA Guidelines Section 15333, using the cumulative impacts assessment from the General Plan EIR. The INRMP's contribution to regional cumulative impacts will be emphasized, and mitigation identified where necessary to address a substantial contribution to a significant cumulative impact.

CONSULTANT will prepare a description of the proposed INRMP's potential consistency with relevant County General Plan policies. CONSULTANT staff will confer with County staff to identify the list of relevant policies for discussion.

Subtask 7.3 Prepare Public Notice*

CONSULTANT will prepare a public notice of the availability of the Draft MND incorporating required components defined by CEQA Guidelines Sections 15072 and

15073. *CONSULTANT will provide an electronic file of the draft public notice to the County for review. Following review of the Draft public notice, CONSULTANT will prepare the public notice for the Draft MND. The County will be responsible for posting and distributing the public notice and Draft MND. The County will be responsible for forwarding the public notice to the State Clearinghouse.*

Subtask 7.4 Prepare Final MND*

Following the close of the public comment period on the Public Draft INRMP and Draft MND, the County will gather all public comments and provide to CONSULTANT. Using the public comments and guidance regarding those comments provided by the County, CONSULTANT will prepare an Administrative Final MND for County review. CONSULTANT will provide in electronic format the Administrative Final MND, including recommended responses to comments, to the County for review. CONSULTANT assumes that the Administrative Final MND will include text revisions resulting from response to public comment. A Response to Comments appendix to the Final MND will include letters, e-mail, personal records, and meeting minutes of public comments (all provided by the County to CONSULTANT). Each individual comment will be numbered for reference. The Response to Comments appendix is assumed would be a maximum of 100 pages. CONSULTANT assumes that the conduct of this task would require response to no more than a total of 200 individual, non-redundant public comments in the Response to Comments appendix. Following County review of the Administrative Final MND, CONSULTANT will prepare the Final MND for public distribution by the County. CONSULTANT will provide the County with an electronic file of the Final MND and Response to Comments appendix.

Subtask 7.5 Attend Public Meetings/Hearings*

CONSULTANT will support County staff with up to 2 CONSULTANT staff at the following public meetings:

- *Public meeting on Public Draft MND to take public comment. CONSULTANT will assist the County in undertaking one public hearing during the 20-30 day public review period for the Draft MND. The location and time of the meeting will be determined in consultation with the County.*
- *One public hearing with the Planning Commission; and*
- *One public hearing with the Board of Supervisors.*

Deliverables:

- *Draft Initial Study (Word file and PDF provided electronically);*
- *Final Initial Study (PDF provided electronically)*
- *Administrative Draft MND (Word file and PDF provided electronically).*
- *Draft MND for public review (Word file and PDF provided electronically).*
- *Draft Public Notice (Word file and PDF provided electronically).*
- *Public Notice (Word file and PDF provided electronically).*
- *Administrative Final MND (Word file and PDF provided electronically).*
- *Final MND (estimated maximum of 200 pages with maximum 250-page Response to Comments appendix. (Word file and PDF provided electronically).*

Assumptions:

- County will be responsible for posting (on website and elsewhere) and distribution (to agencies and the public) of all materials provided by CONSULTANT.
- County will be responsible for arranging, funding, and hosting of all public meetings and hearings.
- CONSULTANT assumes that the conduct of this task would require response to no more than a total of 200 individual, non-redundant public comments in the Final MND Response to Comments appendix.

General Assumptions

In addition to assumptions described for each scope task, for all tasks described in the above scope of work, CONSULTANT makes the following general assumptions:

- To develop this Work Plan and cost estimate CONSULTANT has assumed that the Planning Area encompasses the west slope of the county, with county borders to the north, west, and south, and the 4,000' elevation level in the east. All tasks described in this work plan are based on this assumption. Adoption of a Planning Area that encompasses a different area would require modification of the scope and costs of the Work Plan. The resulting price increase or reduction would be dependent on the number and types of habitats and species addressed and the land uses included.
- Comments provided by the County and all participating agencies, panels, and committees will be consolidated and conflicting comments resolved before submittal to CONSULTANT. Comments from all participating entities will be provided to CONSULTANT by the County within 2 weeks of receipt of draft documents.
- For each deliverable listed that includes a review, there will be only a single comment cycle and any additional revisions would be considered to be for the subsequent deliverable (if there is a subsequent deliverable in the scope of the task). In the event of several comment cycles, a contract revision will be requested to increase funding for the additional scope of services.
- CONSULTANT is not responsible for the accuracy or completeness of data and information provided to CONSULTANT by the County or other parties that is used on any aspect of this project.

Changes in Approach to INRMP

The County Board of Supervisors directed CONSULTANT to prepare the INRMP under the assumption that the INRMP development process would follow only the requirements of General Plan Policy 7.4.2.8 and would not be prepared to meet the requirements of the Federal Endangered Species Act (ESA), California ESA, or California Natural Community Conservation Planning Act (NCCPA). Any change by the County to include Federal or California ESA or NCCPA compliance would require substantial re-scoping of CONSULTANT's efforts and additional contract funding would be necessary.

Period of Performance and Schedule

The period of performance of this scope of work is xxx, 2008 to xxx, 2009. A summary of the schedule for the development of the INRMP and EIR by subtask is provided in Reference A. This schedule is based on a number of assumptions about the time required for entities outside of CONSULTANT's control to perform various actions such as meetings dates and document review. This schedule is based on the following assumptions:

- County will provide CONSULTANT with contract and notice to proceed on or prior to xxx, 2008. Should the notice to proceed occur after xxx, 2008, there will be a day-for-day slip in CONSULTANT's responsibility as to schedule.
- The County will respond to all scheduled actions.
- Document review times by the County and all participating entities involved will be no more than 2 weeks.