



RESOLUTION NO.

OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF EL DORADO Resolution In Support of National Wild & Scenic River Protection For the Upper Truckee River and Tributaries

WHEREAS, the Upper Truckee River is the largest tributary to Lake Tahoe and contributes clean, cold water to North America's largest alpine lake; and,

WHEREAS, most of the Upper Truckee River and its tributaries drain public lands managed for open space, recreation, and fish and wildlife habitat by the U.S. Forest Service; and,

WHEREAS, the U.S. Forest Service recommended in 1998 a seven mile segment of the Upper Truckee River upstream of the Upper Truckee Road for protection as a Wild River in the National Wild & Scenic Rivers System in recognition of the river's remarkable scenic, recreational, fish and wildlife, and historic values; and,

WHEREAS, access to the Upper Truckee River and its tributaries is provided by segments of the Pacific Crest Trail, Tahoe Rim Trail, and Hawley Grade National Recreation Trail, and, up to 20,000 people annually visit the Upper Truckee River and its tributaries for non-motorized backcountry recreation, including hiking, backpacking, mountain bike riding, horseback riding, cross country skiing, fishing, hunting, viewing wildflowers and wildlife, and simply enjoying the spectacular scenery; and,

WHEREAS, the scenic values of the Upper Truckee River and tributaries include dramatic backdrops of snow-covered peaks, massive volcanic rock formations, broad wildflower spangled meadows, meandering streams, and small cascades; and,

WHEREAS, the Upper Truckee River and its tributaries support the greatest number of migratory and resident fish populations of any Lake Tahoe tributary, including the only trout native to the Lake Tahoe Basin, the threatened Lahontan cutthroat trout, which have been reintroduced to the Upper Truckee River, and which now support a recreational catch and release fishery; and,

WHEREAS, the Upper Truckee River and its tributaries provide critical summer range for mule deer and habitat for several sensitive, threatened and endangered wildlife species, including peregrine falcon, goshawk, willow fly-catcher, and pileated woodpecker; and,

WHEREAS, the Meiss cabin and barn next to the Upper Truckee River are eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places as one of the few remaining examples of backcountry buildings constructed in the late 1800's to support local cattle grazing, and the cabin has been used as a cross country ski hut; and,

WHEREAS, protecting the Upper Truckee River and its tributaries as a Wild River in the National Wild & Scenic Rivers System will protect the outstandingly remarkable scenic, recreation, fish and wildlife, and historical values of the stream segments and ensure that all the current non-motorized backcountry uses of this area will continue in perpetuity; and,

WHEREAS, protecting the Upper Truckee River and its tributaries as a Wild River in the National Wild & Scenic Rivers System will enhance eco-tourism opportunities and the local tourist and recreation-based economy.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors of the County of El Dorado does herewith supports protecting approximately 32 miles of the Upper Truckee River, Big Meadow Creek, Dixon Canyon, and various unnamed tributaries, as well as Meiss, Round, Dardanelles, Showers, and Four Lakes, all located on public lands within the Meiss roadless area, as a Wild River in the National Wild & Scenic Rivers System; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Supervisors urges the U.S. Forest Service to recommend Wild River designation of the Upper Truckee River and its tributaries in the Lake Tahoe Basin Forest Plan Revision.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of El Dorado at a regular meeting of said Board, held the 11th day of October, 2011, by the following vote of said Board:

Attest:
Suzanne Allen de Sanchez
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

Ayes:
Noes:
Absent:

By: _____
Deputy Clerk

_____ Chair, Board of Supervisors

I CERTIFY THAT:
THE FOREGOING INSTRUMENT IS A CORRECT COPY OF THE ORIGINAL ON FILE IN THIS OFFICE.

Attest: Suzanne Allen de Sanchez, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the County of El Dorado, State of California.

By: _____
Deputy Clerk

Date: _____