

COUNTY OF EL DORADO

330 Fair Lane
Placerville, CA 95667
(530) 621-5390
(530) 622-3645 Fax

SUZANNE ALLEN DE SANCHEZ
Clerk of the Board



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September 13, 2011

Michael A. Valdes
Acting Forest Supervisor
Eldorado National Forest
100 Forni Rd
Placerville, California 95667

RE: Francis Cow Camp proposed purchase
USFS Code 5420, dated August 22, 2011

Mr. Valdes,

You are aware of the problems we are having with obtaining an easement on the Rubicon Trail, and you are aware of the historic prescriptive use by the County of El Dorado of the Wentworth Springs Road which crosses over the subject property. We believe and do hereby request that an easement for the existing Wentworth Springs Road in a width of 25 feet on each side of the existing centerline be granted to the County of El Dorado BEFORE the United States takes title to the property.

If you obtain a title report for the property we believe it would show, probably as a standard exception, any rights of the public for use of existing roadways.

Please respond to this letter to advise how we can mutually accomplish the conveyance of the easement.

Respectfully submitted,

Raymond J. Nutting, Chair
El Dorado County Board of Supervisors



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Eldorado National Forest

100 Forni Road
Placerville, CA 95667
(530) 622-5061 (Voice)
(530) 642-5122 (TTY)

File Code: 5420

Date: August 22, 2011

2011 AUG 25 AM 10:30

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
EL DORADO COUNTY

Ray Nutting
Chairman
El Dorado County Board of Supervisors
330 Fair Lane
Placerville, CA 95667

**COPY SENT TO BOARD MEMBERS
FOR THEIR INFORMATION**

DATE 8-25-11

Dear Mr. Nutting:

This letter is to inform you of our intent to acquire lands through the Land and Water Conservation Fund (L&WCF) from Doan Investments, Inc. These lands are located on Rocky Basin Creek, approximately 2 miles west of Loon Lake, within the popular Crystal Basin recreation area of the Eldorado National Forest, northeast of Pollock Pines, CA. This land totals an estimated 166 acres and is located in El Dorado County. I have attached two maps showing the vicinity and this parcel.

This purchase, commonly known as the Francis Cow Camp purchase, is part of a larger Sierra Nevada Checkerboard Initiative. The checkerboard ownership patterns in this area resulted from the transcontinental railroad grants of the 1860s and have significant impacts on resource management. The initiative goals include reducing the impacts of this ownership pattern on recreation, wildlife and watershed values. Under this initiative, Trust for Public Land is raising private funds to help leverage state, federal and other public funds. Various tools, including consolidation of ownership, are planned to achieve the initiative goals.


We anticipate purchasing this parcel (shown on the attached maps) in fiscal year 2011 with LWCF funds. Completion of this purchase will serve to acquire streamfront and watershed property tributary to the Rubicon River, consolidate landownership patterns on the Eldorado National Forest, and also consolidate National Forest ownership along one of the access routes to the Rubicon Trail. Acquiring this parcel will also allow protection and management of the historic Francis Cow Camp site itself and other nearby prehistoric archaeological sites, improve habitat connectivity, and provide more consistent management of wildlife and botanical habitats and watershed resources.

The property is currently undeveloped and unoccupied, although old Wentworth Springs Road (a County-maintained road) traverses the west side of the parcel. Acquisition of this parcel is consistent with the Eldorado National Forest's Land and Resource Management Plan, and will be an important addition to the Forest.



Please contact Janice Gordon, Realty Specialist, at (530) 621-5266 or Charis Parker, Pacific District Resource Officer, at (530) 647-5430 if you have any questions

Sincerely,


MICHAEL A. VALDES
Acting Forest Supervisor

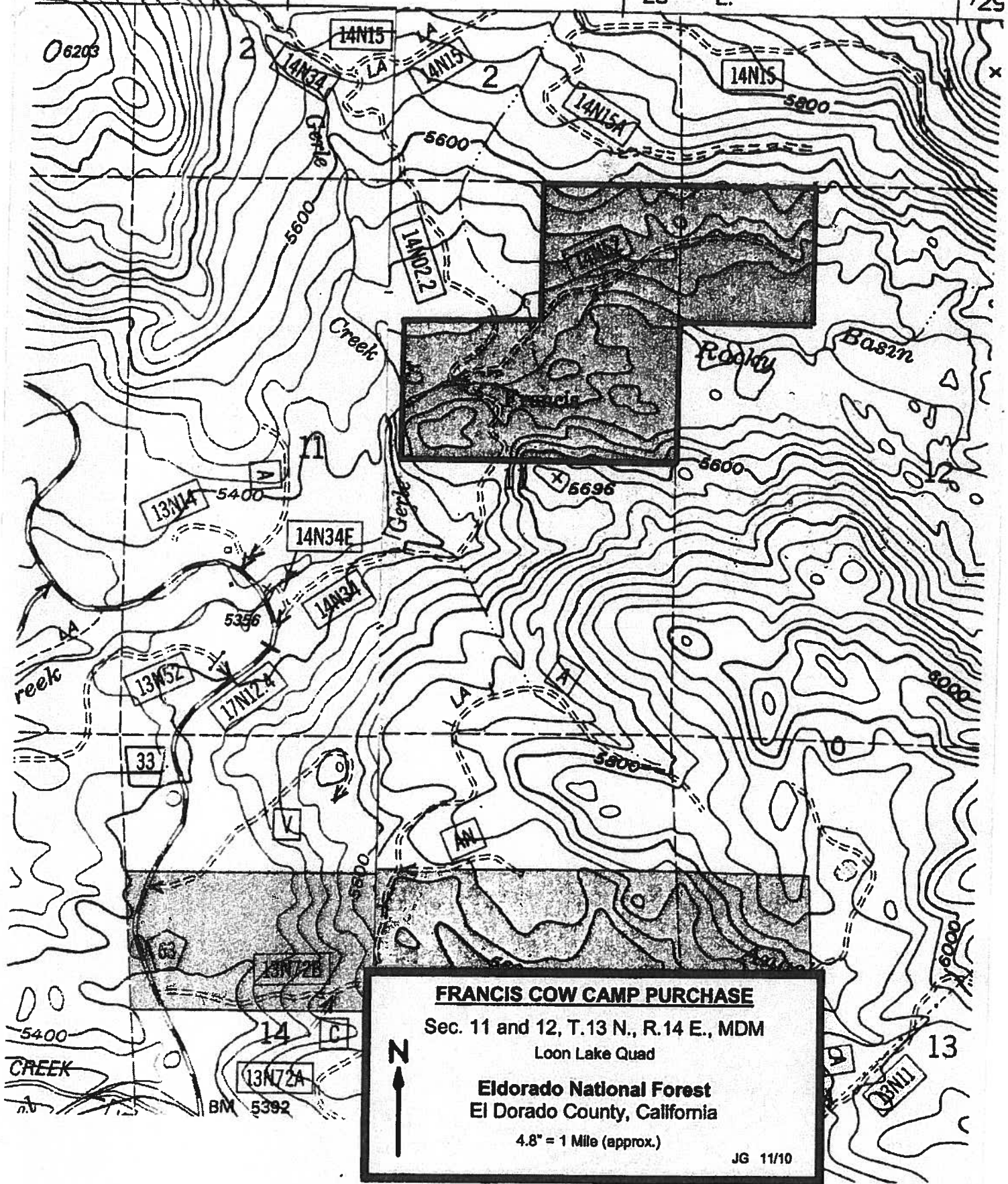
cc: Janice Gordon, Diane Rubiaco

246000 FEET

727 120° 22' 30"

728000 m E.

729



FRANCIS COW CAMP PURCHASE

Sec. 11 and 12, T.13 N., R.14 E., MDM

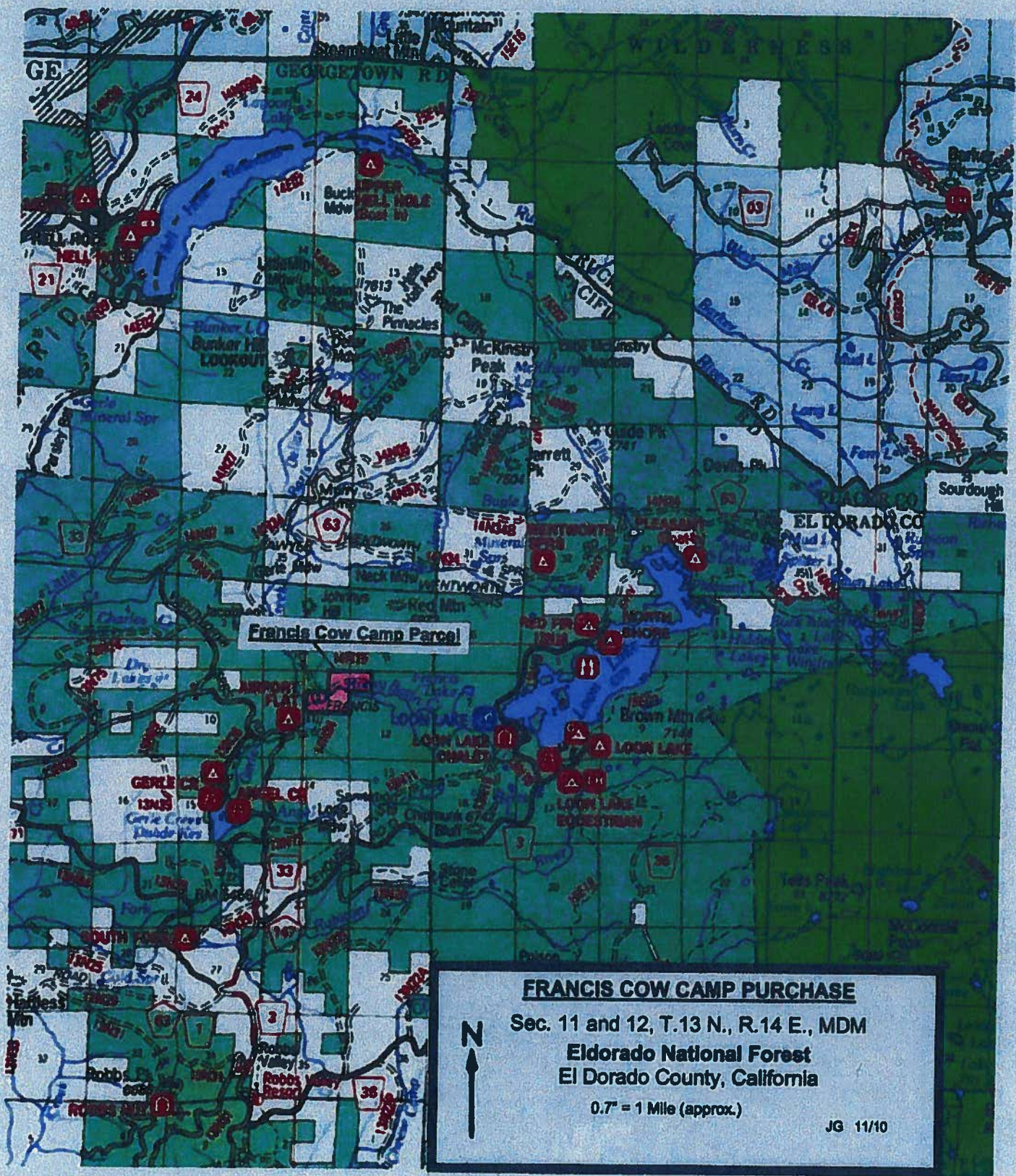
Loon Lake Quad

Eldorado National Forest
El Dorado County, California

4.8" = 1 Mile (approx.)



JG 11/10



Francis Cow Camp Parcel

FRANCIS COW CAMP PURCHASE
 Sec. 11 and 12, T.13 N., R.14 E., MDM
 Eldorado National Forest
 El Dorado County, California
 0.7" = 1 Mile (approx.)
 JG 11/10