



# County of El Dorado

*Chief Administrative Office*

*Parks Division*

*330 Fair Lane  
Placerville, CA 95667-4197*

*Don Ashton, MPA  
Chief Administrative Officer*

*Phone (530) 621-5360  
Fax (530) 642-0301*

DATE: May 9, 2017  
TO: Board of Supervisors  
FROM: Laura Schwartz, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer  
RE: River Management Advisory Committee

## Background

In 2001, the Board adopted Resolution number 065-2002 establishing the River Management Advisory Committee (RMAC). The committee consists of seven members appointed by majority vote of the Board of Supervisors. The RMAC was formed to provide a forum for the discussion of river use issues, ideas or conflicts among persons or groups with an interest in the South Fork of the American River. The committee is advisory to the Board of Supervisors.

El Dorado County Chief Administrative Office, Parks Division entered into a contract with Environmental Stewardship and Planning on July 28, 2014. The purpose of this contract was to prepare a redlined revision of the River Management Plan (RMP). This plan has not been updated since 2001 and since that time the County has fifteen years of data to support the recommendations made in the redlined version. One of the recommendations from the consultant was specifically related to the River Management Advisory Committee (RMAC). The recommendation was as follows:

### **5. Dissolve the RMAC.**

The most significant change that we propose is to dissolve the RMAC. This committee has done some very good and dedicated work since its inception in 1984, but has evolved into more of a community-focused, rather than River-focused organization. Because of the lack of substantive issues that require deliberation and the wide-ranging interests of the RMAC, we recommend that this committee be dissolved and that the County encourage interested participants to form an ad-hoc committee. This committee could be supported by the County in same manner as the Rubicon Oversight Committee that has successfully conducted ad-hoc meetings for over 10 years.

The draft Redlined Version of the RMP was posted to the County website on February 10, 2016 for public comments. On February 18, 2016 a public meeting was held at the Coloma Grange with the consultant present to answer any questions. The recommendation for the dissolution of RMAC had the most comments from the public as they were not in support of this recommendation.

Staff concurs with the recommendation of the consultant. RMAC was formed by Resolution of the Board and not by the RMP; therefore all references to RMAC have been removed from the plan. The reporting structure and recommendations are addressed in the revised plan.

Timeline

The timeline for the Redlined Version of the RMP has changed many times. The public comment period was extended from March 18, 2016 to April 15, 2016. RMAC then requested that they have a separate deadline as they wanted to review the public comments before they made their comments. RMAC’s comment period was extended to May 26, 2016. It was requested that the deadline be extended again. It was extended to June 14, 2016, giving RMAC an opportunity to discuss at their June 13, 2016 meeting.

Comments were received during the busy river season and staff did not review the comments until the river season was complete. Staff compiled the draft plan and sent the Administrative Draft to County departments for comment on January 13, 2017. Staff received comments from Roger Trout of the Community Development Agency and Jim Byers of the Sheriff’s Department. Staff met with County Counsel on April 18, 2017. Their comments were addressed and incorporated into the draft.

This is the proposed schedule to complete this project.

Planning Commission Workshop	June 24, 2017
Planning Commission Project Description & Initial Study Approval	July 2017
Board of Supervisors-Project Description & Initial Study Approval	July 2017
CEQA Document Prepared	August 2017
30 Public Comment Period for CEQA Document	September 2017
Prepare Final Document	October 2017
Planning Commission Approval	November 2017
Board of Supervisors Approval	November 2017

Issue and Recommendation

Until the new River Management Plan is approved and adopted, RMAC is still an advisory committee to the Board of Supervisors and the Planning Commission. Over the past several months, the majority of RMAC members have stepped down from the Committee resulting in not enough members to reach to quorum. Several meetings have been cancelled at the request of

RMAC due to a lack of a quorum or no issues to discuss. Per the resolution, the County posted notices of vacancies and received applications to fill the vacancies.

The Chief Administrative Office recommends that the Board consider filling the vacancies, noting that RMAC may be dissolved by the end of the year.