



February 13, 2020

To: El Dorado County Parks and Recreation Commission

Re: Chili Bar Park Property

Dear Commission Members,

During the February 3rd 2020 Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting it was announced that El Dorado County would be considering a contract for a consultant to develop a plan for the Chili Bar Property on Highway 193 adjacent to the bridge over the South Fork American River.

American River Conservancy (ARC, Conservancy) has been involved in management of this site since 1994 as conservation easement holder and as a management partner with El Dorado County since November 15, 2007. As such, ARC would like the opportunity to work closely with the consultant on development of the inventory and plan. We believe that our involvement will help ensure the property can provide the greatest public benefit. This process will also help inform the Conservancy on what its future role could be with the property.

We believe the first step in developing any site plan is to obtain a thorough understanding of what type of infrastructure is present on the property. In order to provide an adequate basis for development of the plan the inventory should, at minimum, include:

- (1) A survey of the property boundary and review of current zoning;
- (2) Location, status, and condition of all septic and other sewerage infrastructure, water systems, water availability, and electrical infrastructure;
- (3) A biological survey to determine the possible presence of designated special status plants and animals;
- (4) A thorough examination of the property for any environmental hazards resulting from past uses, such as hazardous materials and leaks from the septic system;
- (5) Identification of location, status, condition and needed repairs of all structures, including a description of basic repairs or improvements necessary to both protect them from further deterioration and bring them up to current building codes;
- (6) Identification of current flood elevations;
- (7) Identification of all easements, rights of way and any other encumbrances on the property; and
- (8) Consultation with local tribal representatives (i.e. the Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians, El Dorado Miwok) on past Native American uses and possible presence of artifacts on the property.

Thank you for your leadership on this issue. The Conservancy looks forward to working with you on this project and shares your goal of providing the greatest public benefit to the people of El Dorado County.

Scott Vail, President
American River Conservancy

Elena DeLacy, Executive Director
American River Conservancy