

From: Robyn Orloff <robyn.orloff@icloud.com>

Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2022 12:56 PM

To: Public Comment <PublicComment@carson.org>

Subject: For the OSAC meeting 2/28/22: Headlight Open Area Pictorial

This message originated outside of Carson City's email system. Use caution if this message contains attachments, links, or requests for information.

This is the Open Cross Country Riding area that was 'expanded' in late Summer, 2021: 30% beyond the boundary drawn on the Interim Map (dated 7/20/20, released Fall 2020).

I am writing this to express my concern re its inclusion in the Project.

This area, as I see it through my eyes, still has intact soil and vegetation, on its wash banks/slopes/shoulders. The wash itself is only 1-3' wide.

The entire environment is now 'open' for cross country riding by ALL OHVs (dirt bikes to Crawlers) up/down/across the wash and its environs.

Will this contribute to more erosion/sedimentation? Affect the wildlife habitat along its route? "Sustainable" or a "Sacrifice"? "Sacrifice" is NOT a word used in any of the documents or Grant Apps attached to this project — or included in presentation to OSAC.

Armchair Tour from the Cable Road, down to the where the wash heads west to Golden Eagle Lane (and the 4 track trail continues north).

Photos taken during different conditions — so you can see it dry and wet. As an ephemeral stream, it hosts water after precipitation events — especially

Summer thunderstorms and Winter storms (when not drought limited : > (())). I invite you all (some of you again) to join me on a boots on the ground tour.

Looking west from Cable Road.....



...and going downstream, when water runs here it flows over the waterfall in photos below





Another view of this fall: you can see Cable road above it, in middle of photo.



Flow over this waterfall — weeks after a storm it still has flow.





Any importance for invertebrates?

Water continues to flow down wash. Remember, this is all open riding allowed/invited — across all of the terrain seen in these photos.



White signs here show boundary of the Open Area — riding is invited below the signs, down these slopes, through this vegetation.

As yet, not too impacted. Just a matter of time. Looking south. Staging area “Crystal Hill” and Carson Valley in the distance.



Below: Where another wash from the north side of Headlight, comes into the main wash, over this waterfall.



Another view of south slope, looking downstream. Remember that this area is designated for cross country riding. ALL OHVs are permitted/invited to ride both sides of the wash and IN the wash, within the signed boundary. Remember, some of the vehicles are 65" to 6'+ wide. The wash here is 1-3' wide — so the wash/banks/slopes will be degraded, right?
See dirt bike tracks in foreground.



Same lower Headlight Open Area: Cross country riding of ALL OHVs, allowed below these signs — and connecting these signs — side sloping, or up/down fall line riding. There is vegetation above the granite on the left (north) side of the wash — up to the north perimeter road boundary. Note again how narrow the natural course of the wash is: light granite color vs the darker color of slope/bank soil.





View of the north side of the Open Area, looking downstream. Cross country riding allowed over/through all terrain features:
intact vegetation and soil, and the wash.



Continuing downstream. Note vehicle tracks. Any vegetation on the banks/slopes has been destroyed.



Note tracks. Note vegetation on left side. That will be ridden over, surely, in time.



Fall line trail from north boundary (see sign) down into the wash. Note destruction of vegetation and degradation of soil biotic crust.



Intact soil (biotic?), being destroyed here. Doesn't this hold the Hill together?



Vegetation on shoulder between north perimeter road Open Area Boundary, and wash (below right, not seen in photo)



Riding allowed to right of these signs.



Evidence of destruction of vegetation in this area.



Another view of the shoulder above the wash, looking upstream -- towards Golden Eagle Rock. Fall line down into the wash.

This whole area is within the Open cross country riding area. Intact vegetation and soil have been designated for certain impact/destruction.

As the vegetation is trampled and pulled out, and soil degraded (rutted and disturbed by tire tracks) — won't this cause more erosion/sedimentation?



Another view of the fall line down into the wash.



Won't the above area look like the below area, in time? This (below) is also in the Headlight Open Area, but upstream to just below the Cable Road, north of the main wash.



Back to the Lower Headlight Open Area: note impacts of riding on both sides of the wash, destruction of soil and vegetation.

Invited permitted up/down/across the wash floor and banks/slopes/shoulder.



Now out of the Open Cross Country Area. Lower Death Wall wash joins the Lower Headlight wash at the bottom of the Open Area.

The wash continues west, as a designated Double Track Trail. Another designated Double Track Trail crosses it here.







Heading west in this double track (4 wheel) trail. Narrower than the vehicle? What damage will be caused?



Damage from 4 wheeled vehicles in a 'trail' that is narrower than the vehicle.

Wildlife habitat being decimated. BTW, there is a trail parallel to this wash, up on its shoulder, already wide enough for a 6' vehicle.

Not a designated trail on the map. Why invite riders into a wash? Especially with another option already available? Sustainable trail design?









Further west downstream, in same wash. Widened by water/sedimentation flow. Road crossing is a designated single track to the left (south) — which is really a double track road. Road to the right (north) is the one that goes up to the shoulder to parallel the wash going upstream — not a designated trail. Designated trail is straight ahead west — continuing IN the wash.



Here, wash heads left west to Golden Eagle Road. Road continues north. No hay bales here until January.



Wash course going into vegetation, on way to Golden Eagle Lane.



And flowing out to Golden Eagle Lane





Do you think that inviting riding in this wash INCREASED erosion process and resultant sedimentation flow, “pollutant” in the Clear Creek watershed (which is the entire SW slope of Prison Hill!) — which communicates with the Carson River Watershed. Is this important?

NOTE: the GOAL of this project was to repair/rehabilitate past natural resource destruction and fall line trails, mitigate erosion. Build a sustainable trail system.

Promote responsible riding. Protect the flora/fauna/wildlife habitat — again, per all the NOHVCC and RecConnect documents and Grant apps and presentations to OSAC.

Doesn't designation of this Open Area invite damage and erosion?

Another interesting feature along Headlight Open Area (esp below Cable Road, along the north perimeter road):

"Pothole or ephemeral pond: Depressions eroded into bedrock of various rock formations. They are typically smaller than most tinajas, ephemeral, usually on an isolated, flat surface (i.e., not within a drainage), and don't support as many aquatic invertebrates or riparian vegetation."

Also great water bowls for the pups! — and wildlife?



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Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2022 12:58 PM

To: Public Comment <PublicComment@carson.org>

Subject: For the OSAC meeting 2/28/22: Headlight Open Area Pictorial

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Submitted by: Robyn Orloff
Carson City, NV

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From: Robyn Orloff <robyn.orloff@icloud.com>

Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2022 3:01 PM

To: Public Comment <PublicComment@carson.org>

Subject: For OSAC meeting 2/28/22: Double Waterfall Rock Crawler Trail and middle Gunslinger

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Submitted by: Robyn Orloff
Carson City, NV

Below are some photos of the "Double Waterfall" Wheeler Trail (Extreme) i.e. Rock Crawler Trail.

Double Waterfall is a major drainage on this slope (per RCI study).

It connects the two Open Areas (Headlight and Ghost) — **which BTW are already easily directly accessed on existing designated trails.**

Why do the Crawlers need to grind up this narrow wash — when they have this other alternative to access Headlight and Ghost Open Areas?

It is puzzling/disturbing to me as to why we are allowing vehicles with a 6' track, up this wash.

Impact?— to the course of the wash, and soil and vegetation along banks and slope.

More erosion/sedimentation as the banks and slopes are broken down and wash widened?

Visual impacts, changes in the topography, effect on adjacent wildlife transit and habitat? Is this 'sustainable'? Desirable?

Aren't water environs important to protect in our arid desert environment?

Is this respectful of the natural resources of this Open Space property? Or a sacrifice?

Is this a balance of the protection of our natural resources with protection of the recreational resource? Which one is winning?

Don't the Crawlers have ample opportunities, without the inclusion of this short wash? Bear in mind there are 5 other washes on this slope,

also designated as Crawler Routes — PLUS all the MANY Crawler opportunities in the 23 acre Off the Trail Open Area.

Segue into: when will the West Basin (Rock Crawler and Open Areas) Power Point Study — and Report — be presented to the OSAC and Public?

"A Targeted Geomorphological Review". I was told it would be this meeting or April.

I don't see it on either Agenda? I am perplexed as to why 'the intent of this report is to support and assist in developing management

practices and strategies moving forward' (page 1 of the January draft) — when the impacts are being invited and occurring in this area right now.

Will there be no address of the current plan in these washes and Open Areas?

Also, I find it perplexing, that (IMHO from my read, as a layperson), that the conclusions of the final Report

seemed to differ/ be less assertive re degradation of resources --- than yielded in the actual scientific professional study and conclusions, as

expressed in the Power Point.

And, I ask why the City hired a firm to do this study, whose staff were on the OSAC for years — and did not feel a study was necessary when asked by the

public, repeatedly, from 2019 until study finally contracted in 2021? Bias? Conflict? The Power Point was done by a staff person who was NOT on the Committee,

but I was led to understand that the final report was a 'staff effort'. And the person hired to do the SWPPP and report — and monitoring studies — was an OSAC member when erosion issues were questioned by the Public — but not addressed.

Below are photos of Double Waterfall:
During/after precipitation, water from above slope converges along the north side of Ghost, and flows down over this rock feature aptly named "Double Waterfall".







This photo shows residual vegetation along this wash.



Slope and bank already impacted here - note tire tracks across slope on right, and up into another wash that is "Out of Bounds".









Designated double track road traverses the wash.



Evidence of trampled vegetation on floor/banks of the wash





