ORDER NO. 19-16-01
USDA FOREST SERVICE
LAKE TAHOE BASIN MANAGEMENT UNIT
UTR REACH 5 RESTORATION PROJECT CLOSURE AREA

Pursuant to 16 USC 551 and 36 CFR 261.50(a), and to provide for public safety, the following act is prohibited within the Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit. This Order is effective from June 27, 2016 through October 14, 2016.

> Going into or being upon National Forest System lands within the UTR Reach 5 Restoration Project Closure Area, as described in Exhibit A and shown on the attached map. 36 CFR 261.53(e).

Pursuant to 36 CFR 261.50(e), the following persons are exempt from this Order:

1. Persons with a permit from the Forest Service, specifically authorizing the otherwise prohibited act or omission.

2. Any Federal, State or local officer or member of an organized rescue or firefighting force in the performance of an official duty.

3. Persons with a special use permit or contract from the Forest Service authorizing work within the UTR Reach 5 Restoration Project Closure Area and their employees, sub-contractors, or agents are exempt from the prohibitions listed above to the extent authorized by the special use permit or contract.

This prohibition is in addition to the general prohibitions in 36 CFR Part 261, Subpart A.

A violation of this prohibition is punishable by a fine of not more than $5,000 for an individual or $10,000 for an organization, or imprisonment for not more than six months, or both. 16 USC 551 and 18 USC 3559, 3571 and 3581.

Done at South Lake Tahoe, California, this 31st day of May, 2016.

JEFF MARSOLAIS
Forest Supervisor,
Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit

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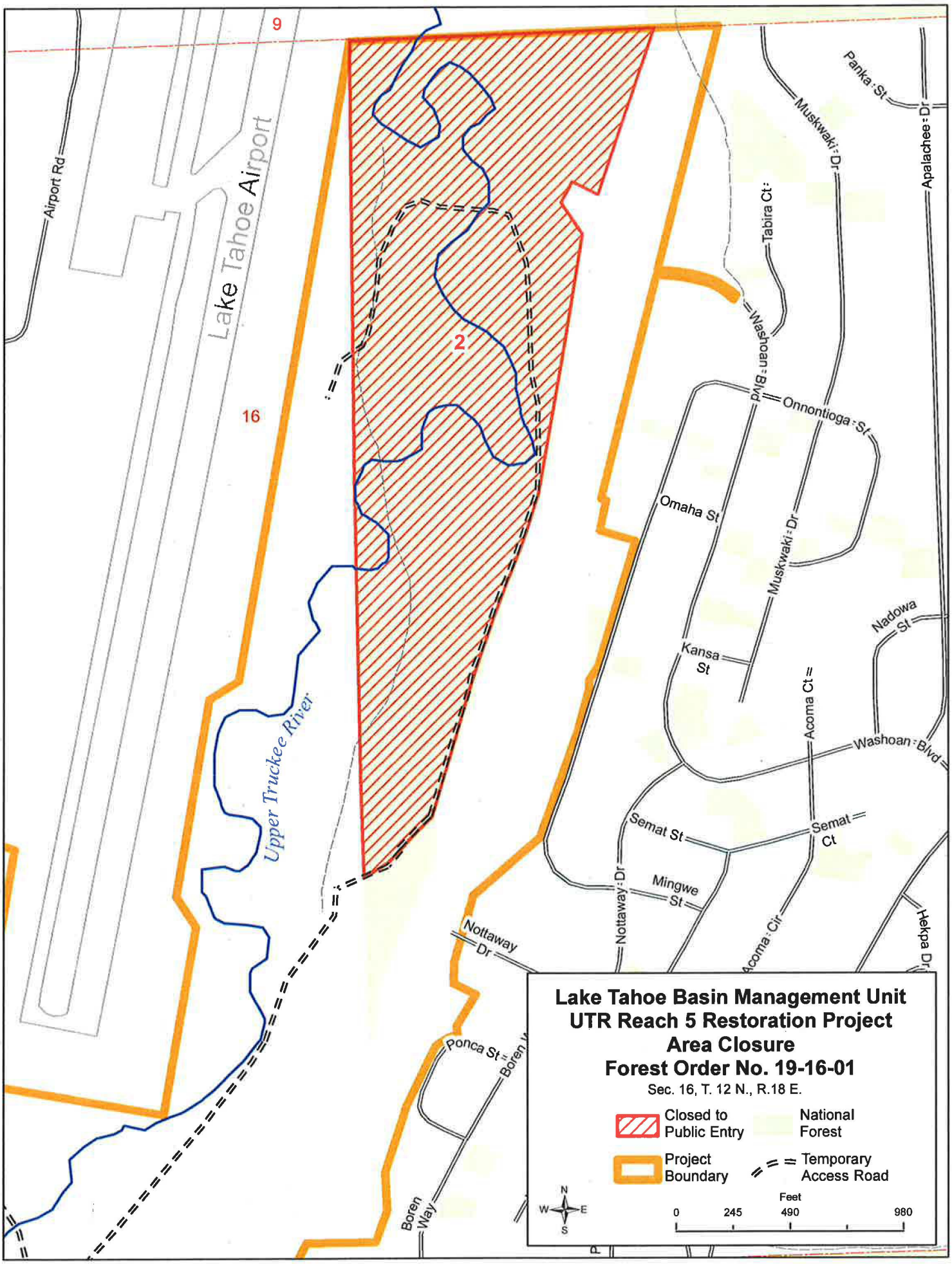
UTR REACH 5 RESTORATION PROJECT CLOSURE AREA
Exhibit A

UTR Reach 5 Restoration Project Closure Area – The boundary of the UTR Reach 5 Restoration Project Closure Area 1 begins at a point 470 feet due west from the northern end of Muskwaki Drive on the boundary of the lake Tahoe Basin management Unit, then continues 1,300 feet due west along the northern forest boundary, then continues 3,600 feet due south, then continues 400 feet northeast to its intersection with the forest boundary, then continues 3,750 feet northeasterly along the eastern edge of the forest boundary, back to the starting point.


9
16
2
Lake Tahoe Airport
Airport Rd
Upper Truckee River
Panka St
Apalachee Dr
Muskwaki Dr
Tabira Ct
Washoan Blvd
Onnontioga St
Omaha St
Kansa St
Nadowa St
Acoma Ct
Washoan Blvd
Semat St
Semat Ct
Mingwe St
Nottaway Dr
Acoma Cir
Hekpa Dr
Ponca St
Boren Way
Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit
UTR Reach 5 Restoration Project
Area Closure
Forest Order No. 19-16-01
Sec. 16, T. 12 N., R.18 E.
Closed to Public Entry
National Forest
Project Boundary
Temporary Access Road
N
W
E
S
Feet
0
245
490
980

USDA United States Department of Agriculture | Forest Service | Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit | 35 College Drive
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150
530-543-2600
TDD: 530-543-0956

File Code: 1010
Date: May 31, 2016

Regional Forester

A Forest Order is being issued for the Upper Truckee River Reach 5 Restoration Project due to concerns for public safety.

Heavy equipment operations will occur during normal daylight hours on weekdays throughout the closure period between June 27th and October 14th in 2016. Outside of these active construction periods, there will be large open excavations throughout the project area that will continue to pose a threat to public safety if open access was available to the area.

The decision to close the project area was made during the CEQA/NEPA analysis and decision. The following excerpts from the Decision Notice/Finding of No Significant Impact (March 2012) and the Environmental Assessment (February 2012) demonstrate the level of analysis and findings relevant to issuing this Forest Order.

UTR DN/FONSI – page 8

The Selected Alternative involves construction activities and will post signs warning public users of project activities such as vehicles entering and exiting the project area from Highway 50, vegetation cutting, and heavy equipment usage. Access to the project area will be restricted during periods of construction. The use of any mechanized equipment will require a hazardous material spill plan and procedures to minimize any spills adjacent to water.

UTR – Final EA, page 45; project design features

Public Safety and Recreation
The construction sites would be closed to the public during construction activity, from approximately June through October 15 each year of active construction. All trails in the Project Area are user-created, and are not part of any trail system. Access to some user-created trail segments would be lost once the new channel alignment is constructed and re-activated. Design features to reduce impacts to recreation and public safety include:
REC-1 Postings and public notices would be issued in advance of construction and posted at public access points and trails including the main north-south trail and the Elks Club parking area (trailhead and boating access to the river) to inform the public of the construction activities and restricted areas.
REC-2 Construction fencing would be placed around the construction and staging area perimeters to deter users from continued use of trails leading into the construction area during implementation.

UTR – Final EA, Page 188; effects to recreation

3.11.3.1 Access to Meadow and River Recreation
Construction of the new channel would take place from mid-summer to fall when flows are low, and would not limit river use. Rafters and kayakers would experience some temporary closures and perhaps sites that would need to be portaged at the location of the temporary crossings/bridges. Land access would be closed where it enters the construction area for safety reasons. During construction, access to some existing trails would be limited at certain times. Recreation users would be provided informational signage at the Elks Club area, and other access points into the Project Area (REC-1). This signage would include information about construction activities and timelines, with a map showing the areas where access will be limited during construction. Several existing user-created trails along the UTR would be fenced off during construction, and river-based recreation, such as fishing and boating activities, through Reaches 5 and 6, would be affected (REC-2). However, this impact would be temporary and would be limited in extent because recreational users would still have the opportunity to walk or bike to the river through the meadow outside of the active construction areas. Rafters and kayakers would still be allowed to float down the river, but may have to portage around some road crossings. Access would be maintained for trail users in some areas for both hiking and mountain biking (REC-3).

Boating on the river through the Project Area would be affected at the locations where in-channel work is being performed. Restrictions would occur during construction of channel tie-ins (in-channel work lasting several days) when the new channel is connected with the old channel in the final year of construction for both Reaches 5 and 6. This step in the construction phasing would be done late in the summer or early fall when the water level is low and less conducive to river boating. Boaters would be allowed to portage around these construction sections.

As a result of the analysis and decision made in the Decision Notice/Finding of No Significant Impact (March 2012) and the Environmental Assessment (February 2012), I have decided to issue the UTR Reach 5 Restoration Project Closure Order, Forest Order No. 19-16-01, effective June 27, 2016 through October 14, 2016.

JEFF MARSOLAIS
Forest Supervisor