

Environmental Assessment

# Sierra Fire Protection District

Fire Station #36 (formerly #40) Thomas Creek

FEMA-EMW-2009-FC-01357

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**FEMA**

**U.S. Department of Homeland Security**  
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**WASHOE COUNTY  
DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT  
THOMAS CREEK FIRE STATION**

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## SECTION 1 INTRODUCTION

Sierra Fire Protection District (District) has applied to the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for Federal financial assistance to construct the Thomas Creek Fire Station (proposed project) in Washoe County, Nevada. The assistance would be provided to the District as the grantee through the Assistance to the Fire Fighters Grant Program (EMW-2009-FC-01357). The proposal is for the District to build an 8,000 square foot fire station in a specific location to reduce response times to 65% of the District population. The current sixteen minute response time would be cut by 50% to less than eight minutes. The nearest District back up engine is currently twenty minutes away. This project would provide for faster initial response times and reduce the arrival of a back-up engine from twenty to less than eight minutes.

Washoe County Nevada is located along the eastern slopes of the Sierra Nevada Mountains in Western Nevada. The county covers an area of 6,600 square miles in the northwest section of the state bordering California and Oregon, and has a population of over 420,000. The county seat is the City of Reno. Reno is located 448 miles north of Las Vegas. The Sierra Fire Protection District provides fire and paramedic service to a population of 20,000 people living in a 214 square mile extreme fire danger wildland urban interface area along the eastern slope of the Sierra Nevada Mountains in Washoe County, Nevada.

The new station would improve firefighter safety, structural fire and wildland interface response, as well as paramedic and emergency medical service to the most underserved section of the core area of the District. Response from the new station would provide for faster paramedic service, better support to neighboring jurisdictional fire and EMS agencies automatic and mutual aid requests and improve overall community safety.

**SECTION 2**  
**PURPOSE OF AND NEED FOR ACTION**

A new fire station at Thomas Creek is necessary due to a significant increase in residential development, and increased risk of wildland fires. The current facilities are small, outdated non-standards compliant stations and are located in areas that do not allow for effective fire protection.

The core area of the District is currently being served by an, outdated station originally constructed in 1970 to house one or two seasonal firefighters. Fire Station construction has not kept up with area growth and the District is unable to provide effective service to an area that serves as home to over 65% of the District population. The last staffed fire station built in the entire south portion of the county was built in 1982 by our neighboring District. A new station is needed because the initial response times to the area average an unacceptable sixteen minutes. The new station would serve an extreme fire danger area where residential development has grown by over 1000% since that last area fire station was constructed.

To understand the need for this new station, one must understand the history and geography of the District. The Sierra Fire Protection District is a fifty-mile long, 210 square mile area that stretches as a ribbon of land along the eastern slope of the Sierra Nevada Mountains between National Forest land and the City of Reno. The District was originally established, as a rural forest fire protection district, to serve as a fuel buffer between the forest and the City. The primary mission was wildland fire and watershed protection. The District was managed by the Nevada Division of Forestry (NDF). As homes and business were built in the area, the population grew by over one thousand percent. The mission grew from wildland firefighting and watershed management, to include all hazard protection and emergency medical services. When it became obvious the state-managed District was unable to meet service and facility needs and was in severe financial crisis, the State, at the County's request, transferred management and control of the District to Washoe County in 2006.

The Nevada Division of Forestry built three fire stations in the District in the 1970's. Nevada Division of Forestry maintains ownership of one of these stations, the other is on land owned by a local casino and the third is owned by the volunteers. The stations are located about twenty miles apart. The state completed very little station maintenance or repair. When the County assumed control, the stations were in disrepair. In addition, they are poorly located, and cannot provide eight-minute response times to the core population area. Neighboring jurisdictions' fire stations can provide faster response to the outer boundaries of the District while the core area remains underserved. Not only are the three stations poorly located and in need of major upgrades, they are overcrowded. The original stations built to house one or two seasonal firefighters now house four personnel including a firefighter/paramedic.

The new station would improve firefighter safety, structural fire and wildland interface response, as well as emergency medical service to the most underserved section of the core area of the District. Response from the new station would reduce response times by 50%, allow a second engine to arrive within eight minutes, provide faster paramedic service, better support to neighboring jurisdictional fire and EMS agencies automatic and mutual aid requests and improve overall community safety.

The need for a new station, in the proposed location, was made based on response times, area fire danger, desire to meet 1710 NFPA response standards for initial and back-up response, and relocation of staff to improve safety and better serve the central core of the District. The District need for the station specifically related to the need to comply with NFPA 1710 standards regarding initial response of a four-person engine company within eight minutes and the arrival of a second engine within an additional six minutes. This is the same standard used by all the other fire agencies in the area. The proposed new station, with the plan to relocate crews, would enable the District to meet this standard.

### SECTION 3 ALTERNATIVE ANALYSIS

#### ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED AND DISMISSED

FEMA and the District considered and dismissed two alternatives from further study in this document.

1. An alternative site donated by a local developer. The site the developer would have donated is an irregularly shaped site that would not fit the footprint for the current fire station design. In addition the emergency route would go through a school zone for all responses. For these reasons this alternative was rejected.
2. In an effort to generate funds for construction, a local developer was sought out who would build the station and lease it to the District. The District approached area citizens and the developer of a nearby development. However, these plans have been abandoned as the District does not have the funds to pay the lease due to the current economic crisis. For the reasons stated this alternative was rejected.

#### ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

##### ALTERNATIVE 1: No Action

A No Action alternative is required pursuant to NEPA. The No Action Alternative is defined as maintaining the status quo, with no FEMA financial assistance for any alternative. The No Action Alternative is used to evaluate the effect of not providing eligible assistance for the proposal; thus, this alternative provides a benchmark against which other alternatives may be evaluated. For the purpose of this environmental analysis, under the No Action Alternative, it is assumed that the District would be unable to reduce the risk from fire to people and structures in the Districts service area and in neighboring communities because of the lack of Federal financial assistance. Therefore, in the No Action Alternative, no improvements would be made, the District would continue to have initial response times to fire and emergency medical incidents in the core area of the District and home to 65% of the population at sixteen minutes which is twice the recommended NFPA 1710 standards regarding initial response of a four-person engine company within eight minutes and the arrival of a second engine within an additional six minutes.

##### ALTERNATIVE 2: PROPOSED PROJECT

The grantee's proposal (Proposed Project) consists of building an 8,000 square foot fire station in a specific location (APN 049-312-22) to reduce response times to 65% of the District population. The current sixteen minute response time would be cut by 50% to less than eight minutes. The nearest District back up engine is currently twenty minutes away. The new station would make it possible to move two four person engine companies out of two poorly located, obsolete and undersized fire stations, built in the 1970s to house a seasonal firefighter. One of the two engine companies would move into the new station. The second engine company would move into a currently unstaffed fire station. Moving one crew would not provide the necessary reduction in response times, but the relocation of both engine companies would provide for faster initial response times and reduce the arrival of a back-up engine from twenty to less than eight minutes.

The new station would improve firefighter safety, structural fire and wildland interface response, as well as paramedic and emergency medical service to the most underserved section of the core area of the District. Response from the new station would provide for faster paramedic service, better support to neighboring jurisdictional fire and EMS agencies automatic and mutual aid requests and improve overall community safety.

## SECTION 4 AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT, IMPACTS, AND MITIGATION

The analysis presented in this chapter focuses on the resource areas where some level of impact may result from the implementation of the alternatives, including geology and soils, seismicity, water resources, biological resources, historic properties, air quality, noise, traffic, visual resources, recreation and environmental justice. No other resource areas have been identified that would require further evaluation pursuant to NEPA.

### **GEOLOGY AND SOILS**

The project area is located at the western edge of the Central Nevada Basin Range physiographic province, adjacent to the Sierra Nevada physiographic province. The Central Nevada Basin Range physiographic province extends from eastern California to central Utah and from southern Idaho into the state of Sonora in Mexico. The project area is located on the eastern slope of the Mount Rose, in the Carson Mountains between the Sierra Nevada Mountain range and the Great Basin.

The local geologic map indicates native soil beneath the site is composed of Quaternary Donner Lake Outwash (Mt Rose Fan Complex) consisting of “Pediment and thin fan deposits from major streams draining alpine glaciers on Mount Rose; brown to brownish-grey, sandy, muddy, poorly sorted large pebble gravel; cobbles and small boulders common”.

Test pit excavation revealed the site has been graded and leveled with up to approximately 4 to 5-1/2 feet of fill generally consisting of poorly graded gravel with varying amounts of clay, silt, and sand. Up to approximately 15 percent of the total soil mass of the fill is composed of cobbles up to 8 inches diameter and along the northern side of the property; in the test pit TP-04 area, the fill contained boulders up to approximately 2-1/2 feet in diameter.

The native soil beneath the fill is composed of silty sand or gravel with up to approximately 30 percent non-plastic fines, 35 to 55 percent fine to coarse sand, and 15 to 45 percent subangular to subrounded gravel. Cobbles and boulders up to approximately 4-1/2 feet in diameter are common in the native soil, comprising from less than 10 percent up to approximately 80 percent of the total soil mass.

Ground water was not encountered during a previous exploration of the site. The previous exploration extended to a depth of 13' below ground surface.

#### ***1 Alternative 1: No Action***

The No Action Alternative would not affect existing geology or soils

#### ***2 Alternative 2: Proposed Project***

Under the Proposed Project, ground disturbing activities would consist of over-excavating and reworking the soil. This would include removing the existing fill materials so that no more than 12 inches of fill remains. Non-Invasive, Native Landscape vegetation would also be planted for slope stability and overall site aesthetics as required by Washoe County Community Development as part of the building permit and Executive Order 13112 (Invasive Species).

Dust potential at this site would be moderate during dry periods. Temporary (during construction) and permanent (after construction) erosion control would be required for all disturbed areas. The contractor

would prevent dust from being generated during construction in compliance with all applicable city, county, state, and federal regulations.

In order to minimize erosion and downstream impacts to sedimentation from this site, best management practices with respect to storm water discharge would be implemented at this site. If the Proposed project were constructed, shorter response times would be resultant. The shorter response times would minimize the amount and severity of wildfires. For this reason, the Proposed Project may result in indirect impacts to soils in the region by potentially reducing the total area of soil erosion caused by the vulcanization of soils and vegetation stripping from fire.

Therefore, the Proposed Project would result in minor short term direct impacts on the subject site from soil disturbance and dust creation. Washoe County District Health Department requires in the building permit process the minimization of dust and soil erosion by Best Management Practices. The Proposed Project would also result in an indirect long term impact to the soils in the region due to the shorter response times and thereby reducing the severity of wildfires and the resultant dust and soil erosion problems following wildfires.

### SEISMICITY

Much of the Western United States is a region of moderate to intense seismicity related to movement of crustal masses (plate tectonics). By far, the most active regions, outside of Alaska, are in the vicinity of the San Andreas Fault system of western California. Other seismically active areas include the Wasatch Front in Salt Lake City, Utah, which forms the eastern boundary of the Basin and Range physiographic province, and the eastern front of the Sierra Nevada Mountains, which is the western margin of the province. The Reno-Sparks area lies along the eastern base of the Sierra Nevada, within the western extreme of the Basin and Range.

The Truckee Meadows lies within an area with a high potential for strong earthquake shaking. Seismicity within the Reno-Sparks area is considered about average for the western Basin and Range Province (Ryall and Douglas, 1976). It is generally accepted that a maximum credible earthquake in this area would be in the range of magnitude 7 to 7.5 along the frontal fault system of the Eastern Sierra Nevada. The most active segment of this fault system in the Reno area is located at the base of the mountains near Thomas Creek, Whites Creek, and Mt. Rose Highway, some 2 miles southwest of the proposed site.

The published earthquake hazards map (Szecody, 1983) shows numerous Early to Mid-Pleistocene faults within 2 miles of the proposed site, the closest being approximately 400 feet to the west. The Nevada Earthquake Safety Council (NESC, 1998) has developed and adopted the criteria for evaluation of Quaternary age earthquake faults. *Holocene Active Faults* are defined as those with evidence of movement within the past 10,000 years (Holocene time). Those faults with evidence of displacement during the last 130,000 years are termed *Late Quaternary Active Faults*. A *Quaternary Active Fault* is one that has moved within the last 1.6 million years. An *Inactive Fault* is a fault *without recognized activity within Quaternary time* (last 1.6 million years). Holocene Active Faults normally require that occupied structures be set back a minimum of 50 feet (100-foot-wide zone) from the ground surface fault trace. An *Occupied Structure* is considered .... *a building, as defined by the International Building Code, which is expected to have a human occupancy rate of more than 2,000 hours per year.*

The set back from Quaternary Active Faults is left to the judgment of the geologist/engineer, however no *Critical Facility* is permitted to be placed over the trace of a Late Quaternary Active Fault. A *Critical Facility* is defined as "*a building or structure that is considered critical to the function of the community or the project under consideration. Examples include, but are not limited to, hospitals, fire stations, emergency management operations centers and schools*".

**1 Alternative 1: No Action**

The No Action Alternative would not change the current risk of seismic events damaging facilities.

**2 Alternative 2: Proposed Project**

The proposed Project is a Critical Facility. Based on the geologic map, the faults in the vicinity of the project are considered Quaternary Active; however, no fault hazard mitigation or building off sets are considered necessary since no mapped faults are present within 400 feet of the site and no faults were encountered during site exploration.

The Proposed Project would have a minor long term direct impact on the risk of loss or damage from seismicity. This impact could be reduced or mitigated in the structural design of the building according to the International Building Code (section 16). This IBC code is required by the Washoe County Building and Safety Department.

**WATER RESOURCES**

Any water that falls as rain or snow into the Basin and Range Province is diverted for use (e.g., agricultural, domestic, industrial), evaporates, or recharges the local groundwater watershed. None of the streams that originate within the region have outlets to the ocean. The Proposed Project is within the Truckee River watershed, which eventually drains to Pyramid Lake, approximately 40 miles northeast of the city.

**Water Quality and Hydrology**

There are no water courses on the Subject Site for the Proposed Project. There is no standing water or remnants of wetlands on the Site. The Thomas Creek is approximately ½ mile from the Site. The Truckee River is approximately 8 miles from the Site. The only water on the Site is natural rainwater runoff. It is estimated that the Proposed Site would receive an average of 7.5" of rain per year with the largest average monthly precipitation of only 1.06". The Site is not in an area designated by the EPA as being supported by a sole source aquifer. The Site is in an area served by a public water system (Washoe County Water Resources).

**1 Alternative 1: No Action**

The No Action Alternative would result in a long term indirect change to water quality in the region from additional water/soil erosion. Maintaining the existing response times (16 minutes) would therefore be expected to increase the extent and severity of future wildfires. It is estimated that a wildfire doubles in size for every two minutes that it goes unchecked.

Therefore, the No Action Alternative may result in long term indirect impacts to water quality by potentially increasing the total area of soil erosion caused by fire vulcanization of soils and vegetation stripping, and correspondingly increase the amount of sediment and debris that would be eroded into waterways.

**2 Alternative 2: Proposed Project**

Construction activities would disturb existing soil on the subject site (see Geology and Soils Alternative 2). This disturbance would allow water quality from rainwater runoff to be degraded. To minimize potential

impacts to water quality as a result of sedimentation from construction, the contractor will follow Best Management Practices (BMP) such as silt fencing, covering soil stockpiles, watering areas of disturbed soil, staging equipment along existing roads, and keeping equipment properly maintained. The contractor will dispose of excess spoils resulting from drilling, grading or trenching in compliance with all Federal, State, and local regulations. The contractor will be responsible to comply with the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) (Section 402 of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. s 1342 [2008]) requirements for any pollutants that could be discharged into the water system during construction.

The proposed Project would also lower the response times for wildfire suppression and would therefore be expected to minimize the extent and severity of future wildfires. Therefore, the Proposed Project may result in indirect impacts to water quality by potentially reducing the total area of soil erosion caused by fire vulcanization of soils and vegetation stripping, and correspondingly reduce the amount of sediment and debris that would be eroded into waterways.

The Proposed Project must comply with the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 445.244 thru 445.262 inclusive and NAC 445.370 to NAC 445.420 inclusive. Furthermore, the Proposed Project would not contaminate the water quality of WC Water Resources.

Therefore, the Proposed Project would have minor (negative) short term direct (construction related) and minor (positive) long term indirect impacts on water quality and hydrology (operation related).

#### **Executive Order 11988: Floodplain Management**

EO 11988, Floodplain Management, requires Federal agencies to take action to minimize occupancy and modification of floodplains. EO11988 also requires Federal agencies proposing to fund a project sited in a 100-year floodplain consider alternatives to avoid adverse effects and incompatible development in the floodplain. FEMA's regulations implementing EO 11988 are codified in 44 CFR Part 9 [2008].

According to FEMA's March 16, 2009, Floodplain Insurance Map for Washoe County, Nevada, panel 3245G of 3475 the Proposed Project is in a moderate to low risk flood area because the Project area is entirely outside the 100 year floodplain. Specifically, the Proposed Project is in zone "X", designated areas determined to be outside the 0.2% (500 year) annual chance floodplain.

Because Washoe County participates in FEMA's National Flood Insurance Program, the County has promulgated and enforces a floodplain ordinance at least as stringent as the National Flood Insurance Program and its implementing regulations (44C.F.R. Parts 59-77[2008]).

#### ***1 Alternative 1: No Action***

The No Action Alternative would not affect the floodplain in the project vicinity.

## **2 *Alternative 2: Proposed Project***

The Proposed Project would not result in modifications to, occupancy of or otherwise affect the 100 year floodplain. Therefore, the Proposed Project would have no short or long term impact on the 100 year floodplain or be threatened by a 100 year flood.

### **Executive Order 11990: Protection of Wetlands**

EO 11990, Protection of wetlands , requires Federal agencies to take action to minimize the destruction and modification of wetlands by considering both direct and indirect impacts to wetlands. FEMA's regulations implementing EO 11990 are codified in 44 CFR Part 9 [2008]. The National Wetland Inventory maps indicated no evidence of wetlands in the project area or in the vicinity of the project area.

## **1 *Alternative 1: No Action***

The No Action Alternative would have no effect on wetlands.

## **2 *Alternative 2: Proposed Project***

The Proposed Project would require no activities in any wetland area. No construction or long term activities on the project site would potentially adversely affect any wetlands. Therefore, the Proposed Project would have no short or long term impact on any wetlands near the project area.

## **BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES**

The Proposed Project site is mostly devoid of vegetation but does contain sagebrush, cheat grass and other desert shrubs. The northwest corner of the site, at the intersection of Thomas Creek Road and Field Creek Lane, is landscaped with irrigated trees and bushes and cedar bark ground cover, this vegetation is not on the Proposed Site and would not be disturbed. Site drainage appears to occur as infiltration and overland runoff toward the topographic low at the northeast corner of the property.

### **Endangered Species Act**

Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. S 1536 [2008]) requires Federal agencies to determine whether projects that they propose to undertake or fund has a potential to affect species listed or proposed for listing as threatened or endangered or their designated critical habitat. To determine the potential for federally listed endangered, threatened, or proposed species or designated critical habitat to occur in the project area, FEMA and Washoe County contacted the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) (see Appendix) and the Nevada Natural Heritage Program to review the federally listed species for Washoe County. No designated habitat exists in the project area; however, habitat may be available for two types of Myotis, one butterfly and possibly raptors on the project site (see appendix for photos). To evaluate the potential for the project site to provide suitable habitat for these species, two field reconnaissance were conducted looking for listed species with emphasis on the species shown in the appendix. During the site visits, no federally listed species, species proposed for Federal listing, or areas of suitable habitat for these species were observed nor were any previous nests or other indications that the subject site could be used as a habitat for protected, sensitive or migratory birds. The USFWS recommended in their response that "any land clearing or other surface disturbance associated with development of the site be timed to avoid potential destruction of bird nests or young..." (see appendix for

the USFWS letter). The current schedule would not interfere in the nesting of migratory birds and the project site has no discernible habitat characteristics to support such activities (see site photo's in appendix). For all species, the project area is either clearly outside the known geographic or elevation range of the species or does not contain habitat characteristics known to support the species.

**1 *Alternative 1: No Action***

The No Action Alternative would not change or have any effects to the listed, proposed or candidate species.

**2 *Alternative 2: Proposed Project***

The project area lacks suitable habitat for any of the federally protected species, species proposed for Federal listing and therefore the proposed project complies with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1536). The proposed project would have no short or long term impacts on federally protected species, species proposed for Federal listing, or migratory birds.

**General Wildlife and Vegetation**

The proposed project site was visited by Washoe County's Arborist to determine the species present on the subject site. None of the found species are endangered or threatened. The species of vegetation found were as follows:

Sagebrush – *Artemesia tridentata*  
Bitterbrush – *Purshia tridentate*  
Rubber Rabbitbrush – *Chrysothamnus nauseosus*  
Green Rabbitbrush – *Chrysothamnus viscidiflorus*  
4-wing Saltbrush – *Atriplex canescens*  
Great Basin Wildrye – *Leymus cinereus*  
Filaree – *Erodium cicutarium*  
Russian Thistle – *Salsoa iberica*  
Grey Horsebrush – *Tetradymia canescens*  
Crested Wheatgrass – *Agropyron cristatum*  
Palmer Penstomen – *Penstomen palmerii*

The wildlife observed or evidenced on the proposed project site during the site visit was rabbit and possibly deer tracks. There have been reports of deer in the area foraging for food but nothing on the site would indicate that any habitat exists for any other wildlife.

**1 *Alternative 1: No Action***

The No Action Alternative would not change or have any effects to the general wildlife or vegetation on the proposed project site.

**2 *Alternative 2: Proposed Project***

The project area lacks suitable habitat for wildlife or any federally protected species, species proposed for Federal listing of vegetation are present on the proposed project; therefore the proposed project would have no short or long term impacts on federally protected species, species proposed for Federal listing for either wildlife or vegetation.

### **Executive Order 13112: Invasive Species**

EO 13112, Invasive Species, requires Federal agencies to prevent the introduction of invasive species; provide for their control; and minimize the economic, ecological, and human health impacts that invasive species cause. Specifically, EO 13112 requires that Federal agencies not authorize, fund, or implement actions that are likely to introduce or spread invasive species unless the agency has determined that the benefits outweigh the potential harm caused by invasive species and that all feasible and prudent measures to minimize harm have been implemented.

#### ***1 Alternative 1: No Action***

The No Action Alternative would not involve the introduction of invasive species.

#### ***2 Alternative 2: Proposed Project***

The Proposed Project has limited potential to contribute to the spread of invasive species in the project area. The proposed project would be constructed in such a manner that would minimize the available soil for the growth of invasive species. The County would take measures to prevent the introduction of invasive weeds at the construction site, including cleaning all equipment before bringing it onsite and using only certified, weed-free erosion control, landscaping and re-vegetation materials.

Routine maintenance activities could result in the spread of invasive species seed from equipment and vehicles traveling in fire areas with invasive species and releasing the seed around the fire station. However, normal landscape maintenance activities (weeding, etc.) would minimize the propagation of invasive species onto the site.

The Proposed Project is therefore anticipated to result in negligible short-term direct and indirect introduction of invasive species.

### **Historic Properties**

Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) (16 U.S.C. § 470f [2008]) requires Federal agencies to consider the effects of their undertakings on historic properties and to afford the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation a reasonable opportunity to comment on such undertakings prior to the approval of the expenditure of federal funds.

At the request of FEMA and Washoe County (see appendix) the Nevada Department of Cultural Affairs (State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)) conducted a search of the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and the Nevada Cultural Resources Information System (NVCRIS). According to SHPO, “the proposed project has been significantly disturbed and it is unlikely that a significant archeological resource would be identified in the project area. An archaeological inventory is not necessary for the proposed project. The project area has been recently developed and no historic architectural resources are likely to be present in the project area. The SHPO would not recommend a cultural resources inventory for the proposed development”.

The Reno-Sparks Indian Colony, Walker River Paiute Tribe, Paiute-Shoshone Tribe of the Fallon Reservation, Yerington Paiute Tribe of the Yerington Colony, Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California, Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, and the Fort McDermitt Paiute and Shoshone Tribe were all contacted by FEMA with no response (see appendix).

**1 Alternative 1: No Action**

The No Action Alternative would not disturb historic properties.

**2 Alternative 2: Proposed Project**

Based on the results of the record search and the survey, SHPO concurred with FEMA that the Proposed Project would not affect any historic properties.

In the event a discovery of an artifact is made during project activities, the County would cease all activity and notify NDEM and SHPO immediately. The SHPO would be contacted for additional consultation per 36 CFR 800.13.b.3. and NRS 383.150-383.190 by FEMA. NDEM would notify FEMA and ensure that all reasonable measures are taken to avoid or minimize harm to the resource until FEMA completes additional consultation with the SHPO. In the event that human remains are found, the Washoe County coroner/medical examiner would be contacted for their requirements. If the coroner/examiner determines that the human remains are or may be of Native American origin, the discovery would be treated in accordance with Nevada Revised Statute 383.

**Air Quality**

The Clean Air Act of 1970 (42 U.S.C. §§ 7401–7661 [2008]) is a comprehensive Federal law that regulates air emissions from area, stationary, and mobile sources. The act authorized the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to establish National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) to protect public health and the environment. The NAAQS include standards for the following criteria pollutants: nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>), ozone (O<sub>3</sub>), carbon monoxide (CO), sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>), particulate matter less than 10 micrometers in diameter (PM<sub>10</sub>), and particulate matter less than 2.5 micrometers in diameter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>). Areas where the monitored concentration of a pollutant exceeds the NAAQS are classified as being in nonattainment for that pollutant. If the monitored concentration is below the standard, the area is classified as in attainment. After monitoring documents that a nonattainment area meets air quality standards, and if there is a 10-year plan for continuing to meet and maintain such standards, EPA re-designates the area as a maintenance area.

According to Washoe County, the project area is within a maintenance area for the 8-hour O<sub>3</sub> and in an attainment area for all other criteria pollutants. The grantee's proposal is within the jurisdiction of the Washoe County Health District Air Quality Management Division (WCAQMD).

The Washoe County Health District Air Quality Management Division (WCAQMD) has determined that the proposed project is in compliance with the EPA approved State Implementation Plan (SIP) (see appendix B for supporting letter).

**1 Alternative 1: No Action**

The No Action Alternative would not change the existing air quality profile.

**2 Alternative 2: Proposed Project**

The Washoe County Health District Air Quality Management Division (WCAQMD) has determined that the proposed project is in compliance with the EPA approved State Implementation Plan (SIP).

The Proposed Project could lead to secondary impacts to air quality because of increased traffic levels from the emergency vehicles; however, this increased use would occur only during emergencies. The proposed project is not adding any new equipment, only reassigning the existing equipment from other stations; therefore there is no decrease in the Washoe County air quality. There would also be a minimal short term impact from construction dust. This impact will be minimized by the WCAQMD by regulatory permit on the contractor selected for the project. If this alternative were selected, additional firefighting resources

would also be available for wildfire suppression. Therefore, the Proposed Project may indirectly result in wildfires of smaller size or lesser intensity and correspondingly result in a net decrease in emissions of NAAQS criteria pollutants from fires and fire-suppression equipment, particularly for concentrations of PM10 and PM2.5.

To minimize the effects to air quality, the County will ensure the use of well-maintained and properly tuned construction equipment and vehicles, minimize the idling time of construction vehicles, and use dust-control measures, such as watering disturbed areas and covering spoil piles, as necessary.

Therefore, the Proposed Project would result in negligible negative impacts on air quality and overall positive impacts on lowering the impacts from additional wildfire suppression.

### **Noise**

Noise-sensitive receptors are located at land uses associated with indoor and outdoor activities that may be subject to substantial interference from noise. These land uses often include residential dwellings, hotels, hospitals, nursing homes, educational facilities, libraries, and offices. The noise-sensitive land uses in or near the project area include various residential dwellings, the closest of which is approximately 200 feet away.

#### ***1 Alternative 1: No Action***

The No Action Alternative would have no effect on noise levels in the proposed project area.

#### ***2 Alternative 2: Proposed Project***

The Proposed Project would produce noise in the proposed project area. The Sierra Fire Protection District operates fire stations in other residential areas and has a set protocol regarding noise. The adherence to the stated noise protocol would be made mandatory due to the close proximity of residences to the proposed project. Construction activities on the project site would also potentially adversely affect noise levels. These noises could be mitigated through working hour restrictions.

The Proposed Project would have both short and long term impact on noise levels in the areas near the project area. The short term construction noise impacts will be mitigated by posting public notices that would provide advanced notification of construction and also by restricting construction to weekdays between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. and between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. on weekends. The long term operational noise impacts will be mitigated by following the SFPD's noise protocol.

Therefore, the Proposed Project would result in moderate short term and long term direct impacts on noise levels.

### **Traffic**

The Proposed Project site is located on the corner of Arrow Creek Parkway and Thomas Creek Road. Bounding the site on the North side is Field Creek Lane. The proposed traffic pattern would have vehicles entering the fire station from the North on Field Creek and exiting to the South on Arrow Creek Parkway. Arrow Creek Parkway is an arterial, Thomas Creek is a Collector and Field Creek is a residential. The

Regional Transportation Commission allows for the proposed project traffic flow design. There would only be 4 employee vehicles except at shift change where there would be 8 and would access through Arrow Creek. Visitor access would enter and exit from Field Creek.

*1 Alternative 1: No Action*

The No Action Alternative would have no effect on existing traffic.

*2 Alternative 2: Proposed Project*

The Proposed Project would have no long term effect on existing traffic patterns except in emergency situations. The minimal nature of the fire station staffing would minimize the arterial impact to 8 vehicles per day entering and leaving. Impact on Field Creek would be confined to emergency (returning) and visitor traffic which is minimal and sporadic. The short term effect on traffic from construction vehicles and equipment to the proposed project site would only minimally slow traffic along Arrow Creek. Lane restrictions along Arrow Creek and Field Creek are only anticipated when driveway aprons are built and would be temporary. The Contractor would provide advanced notification, signs, flagpersons, and other measures to minimize disruption to motorists traversing the area during construction.

The Proposed Project would have negligible short-term direct and secondary impacts on traffic.

**Visual Resources**

Views from the project area include Mt Rose to the South East. The area is in a developed area and has no significant visual resource other than high desert. There is residential development in all directions.

*1 Alternative 1: No Action*

The No Action Alternative would have no effect on existing visual resources.

*2 Alternative 2: Proposed Project*

The Proposed Project will be designed by a local Architect to be visually appealing and compatible with the existing surroundings.

Because of the developed nature of the area around proposed project, there are no anticipated short or long term impacts from the proposed project.

**Executive Order 12898 Environmental Justice**

EO 12898, Environmental Justice, requires Federal agencies to make achieving environmental justice part of their missions by identifying and addressing disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority and low-income populations that result from their programs, policies, or activities. EO 12898 also tasks Federal agencies with ensuring that public notifications regarding environmental issues are concise, understandable, and readily accessible.

The 2000 U.S. Census does not identify any significant minority or low-income populations living in the area surrounding the proposed project area (U.S. Census 2000) or in the area affected by the relocation of fire crews.

1 **Alternative 1: No Action**

The No Action Alternative would have no disproportionate impact to minority or low income populations.

2 **Alternative 2: Proposed Project**

The socioeconomic impacts of the Proposed Project are beneficial to all residents in the project vicinity. The relocation of fire response teams would not disproportionately impact any minority or low income populations in the region. The impacts of the Proposed Project would affect all residents, visitors, and motorists equally. Thus, the Proposed Project would not result in disproportionately high and adverse effects on minority or low-income populations. As a result, the Proposed Project would comply with EO 12898.

**Cumulative Impacts**

CEQ defines a cumulative impact as “the impact on the environment which results from the incremental impact of the action when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions” (40 C.F.R. § 1508.7). Past, present, and reasonably foreseeable actions were identified based on information obtained from Washoe County, the NDOT and TNF. Past actions in the area include the leveling of the proposed project site and residential development in the areas surrounding the subject site. Due to the current economic climate there is very minimal development planned within ½ mile of the subject site. The adjacent parcels to the West and North are owned by the USFS and total approximately 100 acres. These parcels are zoned for low density residential and could possibly be developed into approximately 100 home sites at that zoning should this property ever be offered for sale and developed as it is currently zoned. The rest of the areas to the South and East are currently developed into residential.

Screening criteria were developed to determine which actions would be considered speculative versus “reasonably foreseeable.” The City, Washoe County, NDEM, and FEMA do not document any reasonably foreseeable future projects in the area. The County’s *Annual Work Program* for Washoe County identifies a planned roadway re-sealing project on both Thomas Creek and Field Creek within the 2010 construction season.

The potential cumulative impacts of each alternative to resource areas are discussed below. If an alternative would have no or negligible direct or indirect impacts to a resource, that alternative is assumed not to contribute to any cumulative impact on that resource and is not discussed further in this section.

Under the No Action Alternative, no activities would occur, and the emergency response times in the area would remain inadequate to protect the community. The continued high response times to respond to fires in the immediate response area could continue to limit the ability of fire responders to suppress fires quickly and therefore continue the current risk of larger, catastrophic wildfires in the area. The implementation of this proposed project would not result in major direct or indirect negative effects to social, cultural, or natural resources (refer to Section 4 text), and the No Action Alternative would therefore not contribute to cumulative impacts on any resources.

The Proposed Project, depending on the timing of the other reasonably foreseeable future actions, the public could experience extended impacts because of overlapping or consecutive construction/implementation periods. When considered with past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions, short-term soil, water resources, wildlife, vegetation, air quality, invasive species, and aesthetic disturbances and/or losses would occur and may be exacerbated. However, because the proposed project is designed to lower the current response times, such impacts would be minimized and all future work would be consistent with Federal policies and procedures.

Therefore, these impacts would be temporary and are considered less than significant. Visitors, motorists and residents could therefore experience increased durations of and slightly more concentrated impacts on

vegetation, noise, air quality (including dust), and aesthetics (as described in the discussion for each resource topic) if the project was implemented immediately. However, when assessed with past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions, these impacts would be temporary and are considered less than significant.

When considered with other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future projects, one alternative provides an increased emergency response time for any fires or emergency needs after an emergency event. The cumulative impacts on geology and soil, water resources, wildlife, vegetation, air quality, visual resources, and recreation as a result of the proposed project would be enhanced as follows; Implementation of the Proposed Project would provide additional fire-suppression activities. The reduced risk of loss from catastrophic wildfire in the area from the proposed project, when considered together with past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions, would cumulatively result in increased protection of property, resources, and life from wildfires. When assessed with past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions, the positive impacts from the proposed project are considered significant in the reduction of fire damaged properties and the quality of life for residents and wildlife.

### **Mitigation Measures**

Mitigation measures have been identified to minimize the impacts of the alternatives on social, cultural, and natural environmental resources. The environmental consequences of the alternatives, as described in the preceding documentation, are projected with the assumption that the applicable mitigation measures are implemented. The grantee may also be required to implement additional mitigation measures based on its compliance with local, State, or other general laws or regulations, as applicable. The following measures would be required as a stipulation for receipt of Federal financial assistance from FEMA.

- \* The County will have the contractor dispose of all excess soil in compliance with all applicable Federal, State, and local regulations.
- \* The County will use silt fences, covering spoil piles, staging equipment along existing roads, and watering areas of exposed soil as necessary to minimize soil loss from surface runoff and wind erosion.
- \* The County will keep construction and maintenance equipment properly maintained.
- \* The County will dispose of excess spoils resulting from drilling, grading, or trenching in compliance with all applicable Federal, State, and local regulations.
- \* The County will comply with NPDES (Section 402 of the Clean Water Act) requirements for any pollutants that could be discharged into the water system during construction.
- \* The County will publish a Final Public Notice in compliance with EO 11990 stating that there are no wetlands on the Proposed Project Site before implementation of the Proposed Project.
- \* The County will comply with the MBTA for all construction-related disturbance and all applicable State or local wildlife and vegetation requirements.
- \* Any disruption of soils and existing vegetation will be reseeded with a native seed mix once construction is complete.

- \* The County will take measures to prevent the introduction of invasive weeds at the construction site, including cleaning all equipment before bringing it onsite and using only certified, weed-free erosion control and re-vegetation materials.
- \* In the event a discovery of an artifact is made during project activities, the County will cease all activity and notify NDEM immediately. NDEM would notify FEMA and ensure that all reasonable measures are taken to avoid or minimize harm to the resource until FEMA completes additional consultation with the SHPO and the tribe.
- \* In the event that human remains are found, the SFPD will contact the Washoe County coroner/medical examiner. If the coroner/examiner determines that the human remains are or may be of Native American origin, the discovery would be treated in accordance with Nevada Revised Statute 383.
- \* The County will complete all required NESHAP notifications and comply with all Federal, State, county, and local regulations regarding the demolition and disposal of materials.
- \* The County will ensure the use of well-maintained and properly tuned construction equipment and vehicles, minimize the idling time of construction vehicles, and use dust-control measures, such as watering disturbed areas and covering spoil piles, as necessary.
- \* The County will post public notices that provide advanced notification of construction onsite and on its website before construction.
- \* All mobile or fixed noise-producing construction equipment that is regulated for noise output by a Federal, State, or local agency will comply with such regulation.
- \* Noise-producing signals, including horns, whistles, alarms, and bells, will be used for safety purposes only.
- \* Construction will be limited to weekdays between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. and between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. on weekends.
- \* Noise levels resulting from construction will comply with local noise ordinances.
- \* The County will provide advanced notification, signs, flagpersons, and other measures to minimize disruption to residents along SR 431 or motorists traversing the area during construction
- \* After construction, the County will re-seed to ensure that any linear scarring or contrast of soil and vegetation color and texture caused by trenching and backfilling would be temporary.
- \* The County will post notices well in advance of temporary closures so that potential visitors could make alternate plans.

### **Irreversible or Irretrievable Commitment of resources**

For the purposes of this document, irreversible commitment of resources is interpreted to mean that once resources are committed, the production or use of those resources would be lost for other purposes throughout the life of the alternative being implemented. An irretrievable commitment of resources defines those resources that are used, consumed, destroyed, or degraded during the life of the alternative that could not be retrieved or replaced during or after the life of the alternative.

The No Action Alternative would not directly require the use of resources. However, ongoing maintenance of the existing facilities, and the risk of loss of social, natural, and cultural resources as a result of catastrophic fire would continue as it currently exists.

The Proposed Project would require the commitment of human and fiscal resources. The additional expenditure of labor required for the proposed project would be limited to the efforts during construction because maintenance is expected to be commensurate with current maintenance activities. Funding for the project would not be available for other uses and would therefore be irretrievable.

Non-renewable and irretrievable fossil fuels and construction materials (e.g., cement, steel, water, and energy) would be required. Labor and materials are also used in the fabrication, preparation, and distribution of construction materials. These materials are generally not retrievable. However, the project would require only a small amount of these materials, the materials are abundant, and use would not result in a measurable impact to the availability of these resources.

The implementation of the Proposed Project would result in the commitment of resources as described above; however, the proposed project would result in a decreased response time for the region, as well as an overall decrease in risk of irreversible and irretrievable resources as a result of catastrophic fire in the region.

### **Short-term uses of the Environment and Maintenance and Enhancement of Long-term Productivity**

Implementation of the Proposed Project would result in short-term uses of and short- and long-term impacts on the environment, as documented in Section 4 text. However, these uses of the environment would be balanced by the decreased response times as well as increased fire-suppression capabilities. The new facility would enhance the long-term productivity of prevention of loss to life and property in the event of a fire in the area.

**SECTION 5**  
**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND AGENCY COORDINATION**

FEMA is the lead Federal agency for conducting the NEPA compliance process for this proposal. The lead Federal agency is responsible for expediting the preparation and review of NEPA documents in a way that is responsive to the needs of County residents while meeting the spirit and intent of NEPA and complying with all NEPA provisions.

FEMA and the County will circulate the Draft EA for a 15-day public comment period. The public will be notified of the availability of the Draft EA through the FEMA website and the publication of a public notice in the *Reno Gazette Journal*. During the public comment period, FEMA will accept written comments on the Draft EA; written comments should be addressed to the:

FEMA Region IX Environmental Office,  
1111 Broadway, Suite 1200,  
Oakland, California 94607

or to:

[fema-rix-ehp-documents@dhs.gov](mailto:fema-rix-ehp-documents@dhs.gov).

At the end of the public comment period, FEMA will review the comments and consider them in the decision-making process before notifying the public of its final determination.

**SECTION 6**  
**LIST OF PREPARERS**

Federal Emergency Management Agency, Region IX

Donna M. Meyer, Deputy Regional Environmental and Historic Preservation Officer

Washoe County Public Works

Michael Del'Ostia, P.E., Project Manager

Gabrielle Enfield, Grants Administrator

Linda Nelson, County Arborist

## **Water Resources:**

### **Water Quality and Hydrology**

**Executive Order 11988:  
Floodplain Management**

**Executive Order 11990:  
Protection of Wetlands**

**ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW: SAFE DRINKING WATER ACT/  
SOLE SOURCE AQUIFERS**

Grantee Sierra Fire Protection District Project Name: Thomas Creek Fire Station

In order to complete the environmental review requirements, we are requesting you review of the project with respect to the threshold for Sole Source Aquifers and Safe Drinking Water Standards.

1. The Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-253) as amended by the safe Drinking Water Amendments of 1977 (P.L. 95-190, 42 U.S.C. 201, 300 et seq., 7401 et seq.) and by further amendments in 1979 (P.L. 97-163) and further amendments in 1986 (P.L. 99-339 6/19/86).
2. Section 1424 of the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-253) as amended, which provides for the protection of aquifers which are a sole or principal source of drinking water, and which if contaminated would create a significant health hazard.

Please check the line below which applies and add any applicable comments in the space provided. Please feel free to attach any additional comments.

- A. The project is not located within an area designated by EPA as being supported by a sole source aquifer, OR,
- A.1 The project need not be referred to EPA for evaluation according EPA Region IX Sole Source Aquifer Memorandum of Understanding of 1990, or EPA has determined that it is not contaminated and does have the potential of being contaminated and the applicable authority has determined that it meets the State drinking water standards.
- B. The environmental threshold for the Sole Source Aquifer criteria is exceeded. Consult with the applicable authority for resolution assistance, or
- B.1 The environmental threshold for the Safe Drinking Water Act is exceeded, the grant recipient must consult the applicable authority for resolution assistance.

SAFE DRINKING WATER ACT/SOLE SOURCE AQUIFERS

Please complete the following review by checking the appropriate line(s). Please feel free to attach any additional comments:

- 1. Will the proposed project be served by a public water system as defined in Nevada-Administrative Code 445?
  - YES - If "yes", go on to question #2
  - NO - If "no", go on to question #3
  - NOT APPLICABLE - If "not applicable" go on to question #3

- 2. Is the public water system in violation of any section of Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 45.244 to 445.262 inclusive and NAC 445.370 to NAC 445.420 inclusive?
  - YES - If "yes", explain and go on to question #3

Explanation:

NO - If "no", go on to question #3

- 3. Could the proposed project contaminate an existing public water system?

- YES - If "yes", go on to question #4
- NO - If "no", go on to question #5

- 4. Contamination could be:

- to sources (springs, wells, reservoirs, etc.)
- by creating an excessive demand on the system
- by causing a cross-connection
- other, explain

- 5. Is the answer "yes" to question #2 or question #3?

- NO - REVIEW COMPLETED
- YES - consult the Nevada State Division of Health, Consumer Health Protection Services for resolution assistance.

Comments:

*[Signature]* Registered  
 Signature Title Engineer  
 Consumer Health Protection Services

Date 6/22/09

Please address reply to:

Gabrielle Enfield  
 Washoe County Manager's Office  
 P.O. Box 11130  
 Reno, NV 89520  
 775-328-2009

**ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW: FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT**

Grantee Sierra Fire Protection District Project Name: Thomas Creek Fire Station

In order to complete the environmental review requirements, we are requesting your review of the project with respect to the threshold for Floodplain management.

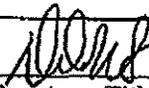
1. Executive Order 11988, Floodplain Management, May 24, 1977 (42 FR 26951 et seq.); particularly Section 2(a).

Please check the line below which applies and add any applicable comments in the space provided. Please feel free to attach any additional comments.

- A. The project does not involve property acquisition, management, construction or improvement within a 100 year floodplain (Zones A or V) identified by FEMA Maps, or
- A.1 Does not involve a "critical action" (e.g., a fire station, emergency facility, facility for mobility impaired persons, elderly housing project, etc.) within a 500 year floodplain (Zone B). If these Maps have not been published, the same finding is necessary and is to be based on data from the City/County engineer or State/ local Flood Control Agency;
- B. The environmental threshold for the Floodplain Management Executive Order is exceeded. Grant recipient must initiate and complete the U.S. water Resources Council 8-step Decision making Process for Floodplain Management.

Comments:

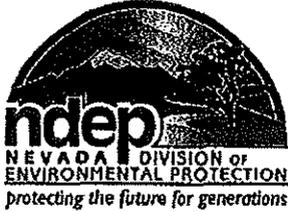
SITE IS IN FLOOD ZONE X

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature, Title

Date 6-25-2009

Please address reply to:

Gabrielle Enfield  
Washoe County Manager's Office  
P.O. Box 11130  
Reno, NV 89520  
775-328-2009



# STATE OF NEVADA

Department of Conservation & Natural Resources

*Jim Gibbons, Governor*

*Allen Blaggl, Director*

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

*Leo M. Drozdoff, P.E., Administrator*

June 25, 2009

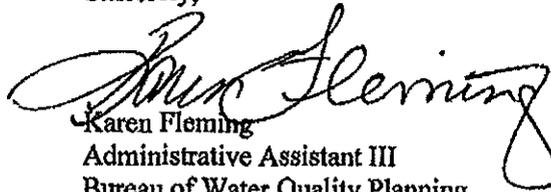
Gabrielle Enfield, MPA  
Washoe County Manager's Office  
P.O. Box 11130  
Reno, NV 89520

Dear Ms. Enfield:

Enclosed, please find the environmental review forms for the CDBG grant program to undertake the following project entitled: Thomas Creek Fire Station

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Glen Gentry at (775) 687-9448.

Sincerely,

  
Karen Fleming  
Administrative Assistant III  
Bureau of Water Quality Planning

kf

Enclosure

**ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW: WETLANDS PROTECTION**

Grantee Sierra Fire Protection District Project Name: Thomas Creek Fire Station

In order to complete the environmental review requirements, we are requesting your review of the project with respect to the threshold for Protection of Wetlands.

1. Executive Order 11988, Floodplain Management, May 24, 1977 (42 FR 26961 et seq.); particularly sections 2 and 5.
2. Executive Order 11990, Protection of Wetlands, May 24, 1977 (42-FR 26961 et seq.); particularly Sections 2 and 5.

Please check either line A or B below and add any applicable comments in the space provided. Please feel free to attach any additional comments.

- A. The project does not involve new construction within or adjacent to a wetland. The project does not affect a wetland identified by any pertinent planning document or by field observation. The delineation of wetlands is based on consultation with U.S. Corps of Engineers, U.S. Fish & Game Service or State Fish & Game.
- B. The environmental threshold for Wetlands Protection is exceeded. Grant recipient must initiate and complete the U.S. Water Resources Council's 8-step process for Floodplain Management. (Projects may be approved if there is no practicable alternative outside the wetland area; however, the activity must comply with permitting requirements under provision of the Clean Water Act).

Comments:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature/Title  
Bureau of Water Quality

Date 6/18/09

Please address reply to:

Gabrielle Enfield  
Washoe County Manager's Office  
P.O. Box 11130  
Reno, NV 89520  
775-328-2009

## **Biological Resources:**

### **Endangered Species Act**

### **Wildlife and Vegetation**

### **Executive Order 13112: Invasive Species**

Leo Drozdoff  
Acting Director

Department of Conservation  
and Natural Resources

JENNIFER E. NEWMARK  
Administrator

JIM GIBBONS  
Governor



Nevada Natural Heritage Program  
Richard H. Bryan Building  
901 S. Stewart Street, suite 5002  
Carson City, Nevada 89701-5245  
U.S.A.

tel: (775) 684-2900  
fax: (775) 684-2909



STATE OF NEVADA  
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
**Nevada Natural Heritage Program**  
<http://heritage.nv.gov>

14 June 2010

Michael Del'Ostia  
Washoe County Public Works  
P.O. Box 11130  
Reno, NV 89520-0027

RE: Data request received 14 June 2010

Dear Mr. Del'Ostia:

We are pleased to provide the information you requested on endangered, threatened, candidate, and/or At Risk plant and animal taxa recorded within or near the SFPD Fire Station # 40/Thomas Creek Fire Station Project area. We searched our database and maps for the following, a two kilometer radius around:

Township 18N Range 19E Section 24

There are no at risk taxa recorded within the given area. However, habitat may be available for: the fringed myotis, *Myotis thysanodes*, a Nevada Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Sensitive Species; the long-eared myotis, *Myotis evotis*; a Nevada BLM Sensitive Species; and the Carson Valley silverspot, *Speyeria nokomis carsonensis*, a Nevada BLM Sensitive Species. We do not have complete data on various raptors that may also occur in the area; for more information contact Chet VanDellen, Nevada Division of Wildlife at (775) 688-1565. Note that all cacti, yuccas, and Christmas trees are protected by Nevada state law (NRS 527.060-.120), including taxa not tracked by this office.

Please note that our data are dependent on the research and observations of many individuals and organizations, and in most cases are not the result of comprehensive or site-specific field surveys. Natural Heritage reports should never be regarded as final statements on the taxa or areas being considered, nor should they be substituted for on-site surveys required for environmental assessments.

Thank you for checking with our program. Please contact us for additional information or further assistance.

Sincerely,

Eric S. Miskow  
Biologist /Data Manager



*Speyeria nokomis carsonensis* (Carson Valley silverspot)



*Speyeria nokomis carsonensis* (Carson Valley silverspot)



*Myotis evotis* (long-eared Myotis)



*Myotis thysanodes* (fringed Myotis)



## United States Department of the Interior



### FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Nevada Fish and Wildlife Office

1340 Financial Blvd., Suite 234

Reno, Nevada 89502

Ph: (775) 861-6300 ~ Fax: (775) 861-6301

July 8, 2009

File No. 2009-SL-0396

Ms. Gabrielle Enfield  
Washoe County Manager's Office  
Post Office Box 11130  
Reno, Nevada 89520

Dear Ms. Enfield:

Subject: Species List Request for Thomas Creek Fire Station Project, Washoe County, Nevada

This responds to your letter received on June 25, 2009, requesting a species list for Thomas Creek Fire Station Project in Washoe County, Nevada. To the best of our knowledge, no listed, proposed, or candidate species occur in the subject project area. This response fulfills the requirements of the Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) to provide a list of species pursuant to section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (Act), as amended, for projects that are authorized, funded, or carried out by a Federal agency.

The Nevada Fish and Wildlife Office no longer provides species of concern lists. Most of these species for which we have concern are also on the sensitive species list for Nevada maintained by the State of Nevada's Natural Heritage Program (Heritage). Instead of maintaining our own list, we are adopting Heritage's sensitive species list and partnering with them to provide distribution data and information on the conservation needs for sensitive species to agencies or project proponents. The mission of Heritage is to continually evaluate the conservation priorities of native plants, animals, and their habitats, particularly those most vulnerable to extinction or in serious decline. Consideration of these sensitive species and exploring management alternatives early in the planning process can provide long-term conservation benefits and avoid future conflicts.

For a list of sensitive species by county, visit Heritage's website at [www.heritage.nv.gov](http://www.heritage.nv.gov). For a specific list of sensitive species that may occur in the project area, you can obtain a data request form from the website or by contacting Heritage at 901 South Stewart Street, Suite 5002, Carson City, Nevada 89701-5245, (775) 684-2900. Please indicate on the form that your

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IN AMERICA 

Ms. Gabrielle Enfield

File No. 2009-SL-0396

request is being obtained as part of your coordination with the Service under the Act. During your project analysis, if you obtain new information or data for any Nevada sensitive species, we request that you provide the information to Heritage at the above address. Furthermore, certain species of fish and wildlife are classified as protected by the State of Nevada (see <http://www.leg.state.nv.us/NAC/NAC-503.html>). Before a person can hunt, take, or possess any parts of wildlife species classified as protected, they must first obtain the appropriate license, permit, or written authorization from the Nevada Department of Wildlife (visit <http://www.ndow.org> or call 775-688-1500).

Based on the Service's conservation responsibilities and management authority for migratory birds under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 (MBTA), as amended (16 U.S.C. 703 *et seq.*), we are concerned about potential impacts the proposed project may have on migratory birds in the area. Given these concerns, we recommend that any land clearing or other surface disturbance associated with proposed actions within the project area be timed to avoid potential destruction of bird nests or young, or birds that breed in the area. Such destruction may be in violation of the MBTA. Under the MBTA, nests with eggs or young of migratory birds may not be harmed, nor may migratory birds be killed. Therefore, we recommend land clearing be conducted outside the avian breeding season. If this is not feasible, we recommend a qualified biologist survey the area prior to land clearing. If nests are located, or if other evidence of nesting (*i.e.*, mated pairs, territorial defense, carrying nesting material, transporting food) is observed, a protective buffer (the size depending on the habitat requirements of the species) should be delineated and the entire area avoided to prevent destruction or disturbance to nests until they are no longer active.

Please reference File No. 2009-SL-0396 in future correspondence concerning this species list. If you have any questions regarding this correspondence or require additional information, please contact me or James Harter at (775) 861-6300.

Sincerely,



*RW*  
Robert D. Williams  
State Supervisor



**FEMA**

March 24, 2010

Mr. Robert D. Williams  
Field Supervisor  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Nevada Fish & Wildlife Office  
1340 Financial Blvd., Suite 234  
Reno, Nevada 89502

RE: FEMA EMW-2009-FC-01357(1)  
Thomas Creek Fire Station

Dear Mr. Williams:

The Department of Homeland Security – Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is considering an American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG SCG) application to the Sierra Fire Protection District (Grantee). The District intends to construct a new fire station at 13500 Thomas Creek Road, Reno, Washoe County (T18Nm R19E, Section 24, MDM) (39° 24' 17.219"N, -119° 47' 24.72"W). The new building would cover a footprint of 8,000 square feet and contain 3 drive-through-bays. The total build-out would cover 2.1 acres of land. The site has been disturbed and trenched for utilities and contains native weeds and grasses. We have reviewed Nevada's Protected Species by County Listing for Washoe County and have determined that the Carson wandering skipper and the Steamboat buckwheat, two endangered species may exist in the project vicinity. The site does not contain any surface water bodies and thus would not impact the Lahontan cutthroat trout or Warner sucker, the only two listed threatened species. In accordance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. §1531 et seq. (1973)), FEMA has made a finding that the Grantee's proposed fire station is not likely to adversely affect the Carson wandering skipper or Steamboat buckwheat. No critical habitat has been identified for either of these species.

We have reviewed a copy of your July 8, 2009 letter to Ms. Gabrielle Enfield, Washoe County Manager's Office, supplied by our Grantee and we note that to the best of your knowledge no listed, proposed, or candidate species occur in the subject project area. In addition, we also note your concerns for potential impacts on migratory birds protected

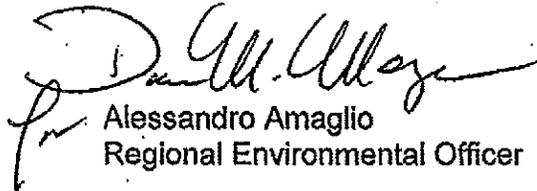
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Mr. Robert D. Williams  
March 24, 2010  
Page 2

under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918. The Grantee, as an individual, is responsible for compliance with the MBTA but FEMA will conditional any grant assistance with your recommendations to time any land clearing and surface disturbances to avoid potential destruction of bird nests and young.

We, therefore, request your concurrence with our determination and anticipate your response within 30 days of receipt of this letter otherwise we will assume concurrence and may provide the assistance. If you need any further information please contact Donna M. Meyer, Deputy Regional Environmental Officer at (510) 627-7728 or [donna.meyer@dhs.gov](mailto:donna.meyer@dhs.gov).

Sincerely,



Alessandro Amaglio  
Regional Environmental Officer

Enclosures

**From:** Marcy\_Haworth@fws.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 19, 2010 3:42 PM  
**To:** Meyer, Donna  
**Subject:** Thomas Creek Fire Station, Reno, Washoe County, Nevada Informal Section 7 Consultation

Hi Donna,

Thank you for taking the time to discuss the subject project with me today. During our telephone conversation, it was decided that FEMA's original may affect, not likely to adversely affect determination for the proposed project was more appropriately a no affect determination. This revised determination was based on there being no known listed, proposed, or candidate species occurring on the property. Based on today's conversation and information provided in your March 24, 2010, letter, we agree that it is unlikely the proposed project will impact any federally-listed, proposed, or candidate species.

Marcy

# **Historic Properties**



**FEMA**

March 24, 2010

Mr. Ronald M. James  
State Historic Preservation Officer and Historian  
Office of Historic Preservation  
100 N. Stewart Street  
Carson City, NV 89701

Re: Sierra Fire Protection District  
EMW-2009-FC-01357(1)

Dear Mr. James:

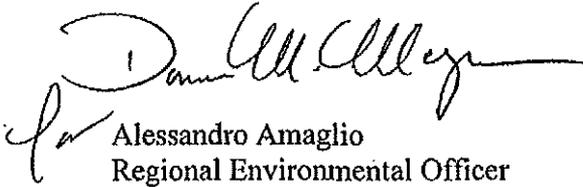
The Department of Homeland Security Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is considering an American Recovery and Reinvestment (ARRA) grant application to provide financial assistance in support of the Sierra Fire Protection District's (Grantee) proposal to construct an 8,000 square foot, one-story, three (3) drive-through bay fire station. The new station would occupy a total of 3.2 acres of Washoe County-owned land and would be located at 13500 Thomas Creek Road, Reno (T18Nm R19E, Section 24 MDM) (39° 24' 17.219"N, -119° 47' 24.72"W). The Grantee's proposal would improve firefighter safety, structural fire and wildland interface response and provide emergency medical service to the most underserved section of the District. FEMA's action of providing a grant supporting the Grantee's need meets the definition of an undertaking in accordance with 36 CFR Part 800.16(y) and therefore requires the completion of Section 106 review in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Title 16 United States Code Section 470f), as amended.

Your office provided a letter to the Grantee's request on July 10, 2009 which indicated that the area had been significantly disturbed and it was unlikely that any significant archaeological properties would be identified in the proposed project's area of potential effect (APE). In addition, the site is surrounded presently by vacant land and newer housing developments so no historic buildings are located within the APE. FEMA has identified the Area of Potential Effect (APE) as the building footprint, asphalt/concrete pavement area for a total area of 2.1 acres of buildable space. FEMA has determined that the Grantee's proposal and FEMA's subsequent undertaking will result in no historic properties affected pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800.4(d)(1).

Mr. Ronald M. James  
March 24, 2010  
Page 2

FEMA requests your concurrence on our finding and have enclosed documentation in accordance with 36 CFR Part 800.11(d). If you should require any additional information about FEMA's request, please do not hesitate to contact Donna M. Meyer, Deputy Regional Environmental and Historic Preservation Officer at (510) 627-7728 or donna.meyer@dhs.gov.

Sincerely,

  
Alessandro Amaglio  
Regional Environmental Officer

Enclosures

## DOCUMENTATION – NO HISTORIC PROPERTIES AFFECTED

**1) A description of the undertaking, specifying the Federal involvement, and its area of potential effects, including photographs, maps, drawings, as necessary;**

The Department of Homeland Security – Federal Emergency Management Agency intends to provide an Assistance to Fire Fighters grant (AF SCG) to the Sierra Fire Protection District to construct a new fire station facility. The site owned by Washoe County is located at 13500 Thomas Creek Road, Reno, Washoe County. The site is undeveloped but highly disturbed. The Grantee's proposal would provide fire protection for a growing community, reduce response times and provide a critical fire protection need. The Area of Potential Effect (APE) has been identified by FEMA as the building footprint and ancillary improvements for a total buildable area of 2.1 acres.

**2) A description of the steps taken to identify historic properties, including, as appropriate, efforts to seek information pursuant to § 800.4(b)**

A search of the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) was performed. No properties were listed for this area of Reno. A letter was sent to seven (7) Native American tribes (Walker River Paiute Tribe of Walker River; Reno-Sparks Indian Colony; Paiute-Shoshone Tribe of Fallon Reservation; Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe of the Pyramid Lake; Fort McDermitt Paiute and Shoshone Tribe) interested in being notified of activities in Washoe County on February 17, 2010. No responses were received.

**3) The basis for determining that no historic properties are present or Affected**

A letter provided by the State of Nevada Department of Cultural Affairs State Historic Preservation Officer dated July 10, 2009 to Gabrielle Enfield, Community Support Administrator for Washoe County Office of the County Manager stipulated that the SHPO concurs with a Washoe County determination that the Grantee's proposed project would not pose an effect on any historic properties.

FEMA will condition the grant assistance that if buried and previously unidentified resources are located during project activities, all work in the vicinity would cease and FEMA and the SHPO would be contacted for additional consultation pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800.13.



JIM GIBBONS  
Governor

MICHAEL E. FISCHER  
Department Director

STATE OF NEVADA  
DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS

State Historic Preservation Office  
100 N. Stewart Street

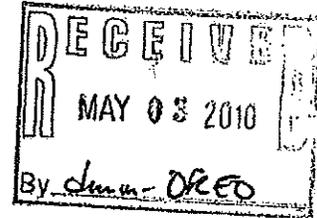
Carson City, Nevada 89701  
(775) 684-3448 • Fax (775) 684-3442

www.nvshpo.org

RONALD M. JAMES  
State Historic Preservation Officer

April 27, 2010

Alessandro Amaglio  
Regional Environmental Officer  
Federal Emergency Management Agency  
U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
1111 Broadway Suite 1200  
Oakland CA 94607-4052



RE: Grant to Construct a Fire Station, Washoe County (EMW-2009-FC-01357) (Undertaking #2010-307).

Dear Mr. Amaglio:

The Nevada State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) reviewed the subject undertaking. The SHPO concurs with the Federal Emergency Management Agency determination that the proposed undertaking will not pose an effect to any historic properties.

If buried and previously unidentified resources are located during project activities, the SHPO recommends that all work in the vicinity cease and this office be contacted for additional consultation per 36 CFR 800.13.b.3. and NRS 383.150-383.190.

If you have any questions concerning this correspondence, please contact me by phone at (775) 684-3443 or by e-mail at [Rebecca.Palmer@nevadaculture.org](mailto:Rebecca.Palmer@nevadaculture.org).

Sincerely,

Rebecca Lynn Palmer  
Review and Compliance Officer, Archaeologist



JIM GIBBONS  
Governor

MICHAEL E. FISCHER  
Department Director

STATE OF NEVADA  
DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS

State Historic Preservation Office  
100 N. Stewart Street

Carson City, Nevada 89701  
(775) 684-3448 • Fax (775) 684-3442

www.nvshpo.org

RONALD M. JAMES  
State Historic Preservation Officer

July 10, 2009

Gabrielle Enfield  
Community Support Administrator  
Washoe County  
Office of the County Manager  
1001 E. 9th Street  
PO Box 11130  
Reno NV 89520-0027

RE: Thomas Creek Fire Station, Sierra Fire Protection District, Washoe County.

Dear Gabrielle Enfield:

The Nevada State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) reviewed the subject undertaking. In order to determine the archaeological sensitivity of the project area, the SHPO consulted the online statewide archaeological inventory (NVCRIS). According to these records, the project area was inventoried for cultural resources and a significant archaeological site was recorded within the boundary of the proposed project. In order to determine if an archaeological inventory would be necessary to identify historic properties that could be affected by the undertaking, the SHPO consulted on the online aerial photo database found at the Washoe County Assessor's website. According to maps of this parcel, the project area has been significantly disturbed and it is unlikely that a significant archaeological resource would be identified in the project area. An archaeological inventory is not necessary for the proposed project. The project area has been recently developed and no historic architectural resources are likely to be present in the project area. The SHPO would not recommend a cultural resources inventory for the proposed development.

The SHPO would concur with a Washoe County determination that the proposed undertaking will not pose an effect on any historic properties.

If buried and previously unidentified resources are located during project activities, the SHPO recommends that all work in the vicinity cease and this office be contacted for additional consultation per 36 CFR 800.13.b.3. and NRS 383.150-383.190.

If you have any questions concerning this correspondence, please contact me by phone at (775) 684-3443 or by e-mail at [Rebecca.Palmer@nevadaculture.org](mailto:Rebecca.Palmer@nevadaculture.org)

Sincerely,

Rebecca Lynn Palmer  
Review and Compliance Officer, Archaeologist



**FEMA**

February 17, 2010

Ms. Genia Williams  
Chairperson  
Walker River Paiute Tribe  
of Walker River  
P.O. Box 220  
Schurz, NV 89427

Re: FEMA EMW-2009-FC-01357(1)  
Thomas Creek Fire Station

Dear Chairperson Williams:

Section 101(d)(6)(B) of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 as amended requires the Department of Homeland Security – Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to consult with any Indian Tribe that may attach religious and cultural significance to historic properties that may be affected by FEMA's undertaking. FEMA is considering an America Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) grant application to the Sierra Fire Protection District. The specific location is identified below:

13500 Thomas Creek Road, Reno, Washoe County. ((T18Nm R19E, Section 24, MDM) (39° 24' 17.219"N, -119° 47' 24.72"W);

The new fire station would occupy 3.2 acres of Washoe County-owned land. The proposed project would involve construction of an 8,000 square foot, one-story, three drive-through bay fire station. The new fire stations would fulfill a critical fire protection need due to increased service demand and would decrease current response times and would reduce the risk from wildfires.

Because potential direct and indirect impacts of the Grantee's proposal may have an effect on historic properties we respectfully request your interest regarding the proposals, any comments regarding historic properties, advise us on the identification and evaluation of

Ms. Genia Williams  
February 17, 2010  
Page 2

any historic properties, including those of traditional religious and cultural importance, articulate your views of the Grantee's proposal and FEMA's Undertaking of providing grant assistance on such historic properties, and to participate in the resolution of any adverse effects.

If you have any questions or require additional information please do not hesitate to contact me at (510) 627-7728, the letterhead address above or [donna.meyer@dhs.gov](mailto:donna.meyer@dhs.gov).

Sincerely,



Donna M. Meyer  
Deputy Environmental and Historic  
Preservation Officer

Enclosure

cc: Sierra Fire Protection District

U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
1111 Broadway, Suite 1200  
Oakland, CA 94607-4052



**FEMA**

February 17, 2010

Mr. Arian Melendez  
Chairman  
Reno-Sparks Indian Colony  
98 Colony Road  
Reno, NV 89502

Re: FEMA EMW-2009-FC-01357(1)  
Thomas Creek Fire Station

Dear Chairman Melendez:

Section 101(d)(6)(B) of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 as amended requires the Department of Homeland Security – Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to consult with any Indian Tribe that may attach religious and cultural significance to historic properties that may be affected by FEMA's undertaking. FEMA is considering an America Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) grant application to the Sierra Fire Protection District. The specific location is identified below:

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Because potential direct and indirect impacts of the Grantee's proposal may have an effect on historic properties we respectfully request your interest regarding the proposals, any comments regarding historic properties, advise us on the identification and evaluation of any historic properties, including those of traditional religious and cultural importance,

[www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov)

Mr. Arian Melendez  
February 17, 2010  
Page 2

articulate your views of the Grantee's proposal and FEMA's Undertaking of providing grant assistance on such historic properties, and to participate in the resolution of any adverse effects.

If you have any questions or require additional information please do not hesitate to contact me at (510) 627-7728, the letterhead address above or [donna.meyer@dhs.gov](mailto:donna.meyer@dhs.gov).

Sincerely,



Donna M. Meyer  
Deputy Environmental and Historic  
Preservation Officer

Enclosure

cc: Sierra Fire Protection District



**FEMA**

February 17, 2010

Mr. Alvin Moyle  
Chairman  
Paiute-Shoshone Tribe of the  
Fallon Reservation  
565 Rio Vista Road  
Fallon, NV 89406

Re: FEMA EMW-2009-FC-01357(1)  
Thomas Creek Fire Station

Dear Chairman Moyle:

Section 101(d)(6)(B) of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 as amended requires the Department of Homeland Security – Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to consult with any Indian Tribe that may attach religious and cultural significance to historic properties that may be affected by FEMA's undertaking. FEMA is considering an America Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) grant application to the Sierra Fire Protection District. The specific location is identified below:

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Mr. Alvin Moyle  
February 17, 2010  
Page 2

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If you have any questions or require additional information please do not hesitate to contact me at (510) 627-7728, the letterhead address above or [donna.meyer@dhs.gov](mailto:donna.meyer@dhs.gov).

Sincerely,



Donna M. Meyer  
Deputy Environmental and Historic  
Preservation Officer

Enclosure

cc: Sierra Fire Protection District



**FEMA**

February 17, 2010

Mr. Vince Conway  
Chairman  
Yerington Paiute Tribe  
of the Yerington Colony  
171 Campbell  
Yerington, NV 89447

Re: FEMA EMW-2009-FC-01357(1)  
Thomas Creek Fire Station

Dear Chairperson Conway:

Section 101(d)(6)(B) of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 as amended requires the Department of Homeland Security -- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to consult with any Indian Tribe that may attach religious and cultural significance to historic properties that may be affected by FEMA's undertaking. FEMA is considering an America Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) grant application to the Sierra Fire Protection District. The specific location is identified below:

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Mr. Vince Conway  
February 17, 2010  
Page 2

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If you have any questions or require additional information please do not hesitate to contact me at (510) 627-7728, the letterhead address above or [donna.meyer@dhs.gov](mailto:donna.meyer@dhs.gov).

Sincerely,



Donna M. Meyer  
Deputy Environmental and Historic  
Preservation Officer

Enclosure

cc: Sierra Fire Protection District



**FEMA**

February 17, 2010

Ms. Wanda Batchelor  
Chairperson  
Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California  
465 Clear Creek  
Carson City, NV 89701

Re: FEMA EMW-2009-FC-01357(1)  
Thomas Creek Fire Station

Dear Chairperson Batchelor:

Section 101(d)(6)(B) of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 as amended requires the Department of Homeland Security – Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to consult with any Indian Tribe that may attach religious and cultural significance to historic properties that may be affected by FEMA's undertaking. FEMA is considering an America Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) grant application to the Sierra Fire Protection District. The specific location is identified below:

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Because potential direct and indirect impacts of the Grantee's proposal may have an effect on historic properties we respectfully request your interest regarding the proposals, any comments regarding historic properties, advise us on the identification and evaluation of any historic properties, including those of traditional religious and cultural importance,

Ms. Wanda Batchelor  
February 17, 2010  
Page 2

articulate your views of the Grantee's proposal and FEMA's Undertaking of providing grant assistance on such historic properties, and to participate in the resolution of any adverse effects.

If you have any questions or require additional information please do not hesitate to contact me at (510) 627-7728, the letterhead address above or [donna.meyer@dhs.gov](mailto:donna.meyer@dhs.gov).

Sincerely,



Donna M. Meyer  
Deputy Environmental and Historic  
Preservation Officer

Enclosure

cc: Sierra Fire Protection District



**FEMA**

February 17, 2010

Mr. Mervin Wright  
Chairman  
Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe  
of the Pyramid Lake  
P.O. Box 256  
Nixon, NV 89424

Re: FEMA EMW-2009-FC-01357(1)  
Thomas Creek Fire Station

Dear Chairman Wright:

Section 101(d)(6)(B) of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 as amended requires the Department of Homeland Security – Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to consult with any Indian Tribe that may attach religious and cultural significance to historic properties that may be affected by FEMA's undertaking. FEMA is considering an America Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) grant application to the Sierra Fire Protection District. The specific location is identified below:

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Because potential direct and indirect impacts of the Grantee's proposal may have an effect on historic properties we respectfully request your interest regarding the proposals, any comments regarding historic properties, advise us on the identification and evaluation of

Mr. Mervin Wright  
February 17, 2010  
Page 2

any historic properties, including those of traditional religious and cultural importance, articulate your views of the Grantee's proposal and FEMA's Undertaking of providing grant assistance on such historic properties, and to participate in the resolution of any adverse effects.

If you have any questions or require additional information please do not hesitate to contact me at (510) 627-7728, the letterhead address above or [donna.meyer@dhs.gov](mailto:donna.meyer@dhs.gov).

Sincerely,



Donna M. Meyer  
Deputy Environmental and Historic  
Preservation Officer

Enclosure

cc: Sierra Fire Protection District



**FEMA**

February 17, 2010

Ms. Karen Crutcher  
Chairperson  
Fort McDermitt Paiute and Shoshone Tribe  
P.O. Box 457  
McDermitt, NV 89421

Re: FEMA EMW-2009-FC-01357(1)  
Thomas Creek Fire Station

Dear Chairperson Crutcher:

Section 101(d)(6)(B) of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 as amended requires the Department of Homeland Security – Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to consult with any Indian Tribe that may attach religious and cultural significance to historic properties that may be affected by FEMA's undertaking. FEMA is considering an America Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) grant application to the Sierra Fire Protection District. The specific location is identified below:

13500 Thomas Creek Road, Reno, Washoe County. ((T18Nm R19E, Section 24, MDM) (39° 24' 17.219"N, -119° 47' 24.72"W);

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Because potential direct and indirect impacts of the Grantee's proposal may have an effect on historic properties we respectfully request your interest regarding the proposals, any comments regarding historic properties, advise us on the identification and evaluation of any historic properties, including those of traditional religious and cultural importance,

Ms. Karen Crutcher  
February 17, 2010  
Page 2

articulate your views of the Grantee's proposal and FEMA's Undertaking of providing grant assistance on such historic properties, and to participate in the resolution of any adverse effects.

If you have any questions or require additional information please do not hesitate to contact me at (510) 627-7728, the letterhead address above or [donna.meyer@dhs.gov](mailto:donna.meyer@dhs.gov).

Sincerely,



Donna M. Meyer  
Deputy Environmental and Historic  
Preservation Officer

Enclosure

cc: Sierra Fire Protection District

# **Air Quality**

**ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW: AIR QUALITY ACT**

Grantee Sierra Fire Protection District Project Name: Thomas Creek Fire Station

In order to complete the environmental review requirements, we are requesting your review of the project with respect to the threshold for Air Quality.

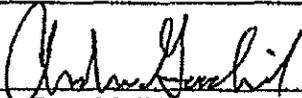
1. The Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401 et seq.) as amended; particularly Section 176 (c) and (d) (42 U.S.C. 7506 (c) and (d)).

Please check either line A or B below and add any applicable comments in the space provided. Please feel free to attach any additional comments.

A. The project conforms with the EPA-approved State Implementation Plan (SIP), per contact with the State Air Quality Management District or Board.

B. The environmental threshold for Air Quality is exceeded. The project is not in conformance with the Clean Air Act. Negotiate suitable mitigation measures with the Air Quality Management District or Board.

Comments:



Andrew Goodrich, Director  
Air Quality Management Division

Date June 18, 2009

Please address reply to:

Gabrielle Enfield  
Washoe County Manager's Office  
P.O. Box 11130  
Reno, NV 89520  
775-328-2009

**Miscellaneous Reviews:**

**Farmland Protection Act**

**Toxic Chemicals and  
Radioactive Materials**

**ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW: FARMLAND PROTECTION ACT**

Grantee Sierra Fire Protection District Project Name: Thomas Creek Fire Station

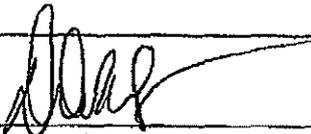
In order to complete the environmental review requirements, we are requesting you review of the project with respect to the threshold for Farmland Protection.

1. The Farmland Protection Policy Act of 1981 (P.L. 97-98, 7 U.S.C. 4201 and 4202).

Please check either line A or B below and add any applicable comments in the space provided. Please feel free to attach any additional comments.

- A. The project site does not include prime or unique farmland, OR other farmland of statewide or local importance as identified by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service (SCS); OR project site includes prime farmland but is located in an area committed to urban uses.
- B. The project exceeds the environmental threshold for farmland protection. Request evaluation of land type from SCS using Form AD 1006, and consider the resultant rating in the project decision, and potential mitigation measures (including measures to protect adverse effect on adjacent farmlands). The grant recipient must consult with the local Soil Conservation Service (SCS) field office to identify minimal protection.

Comments:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature, Director

Date 8-25-2009

Please address reply to:

Gabrielle Enfield  
Washoe County Manager's Office  
P.O. Box 11130  
Reno, NV 89520  
775-328-2009

**ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW: STANDARDS FOR  
TOXIC CHEMICALS AND RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS**

Grantee: Sierra Fire Protection District Project Name: Thomas Creek Fire Station

In order to complete the environmental review requirements, we are requesting your review of the project with respect to the threshold for Toxic Chemicals and Radioactive Materials.

Please check either line A or B below and add any applicable comments in the space provided. Please feel free to attach any additional comments.

A. The project does not involve new development for habitation; OR the project involves new development for habitation, but is not located within one mile of an NPL ("Superfund") site, within 2,000 feet of a CERCLIS site, nor is adjacent to any other known or suspected sites contaminated with toxic chemicals or radioactive materials, unless a federal, state or local authoritative source determines it does not pose a health hazard.

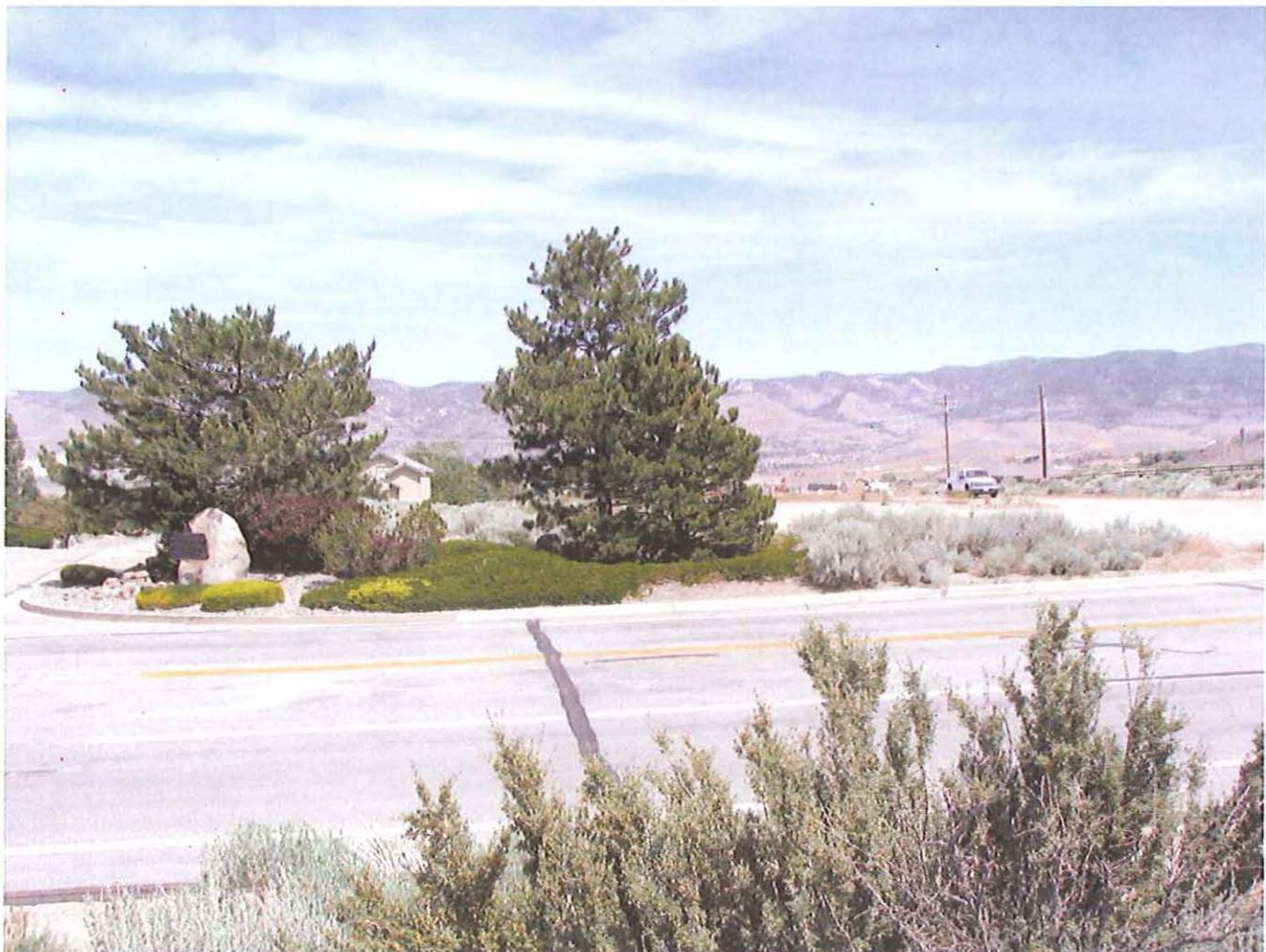
B. The project exceeds the above standards in A. Grantees are advised not to use funds for activities supporting new development for habitation when a project site is affected by toxic chemicals or radioactive materials. Documentation includes contact with appropriate federal, state, or local oversight agencies. The grant recipient must establish Acceptable Separation Distance (ASD) or other mitigation measures.

Comments:

M. M. Greene, Fire Chief Sierra Fire Protection District  
Signature/Title Date

2/5/84

# Site Photographs

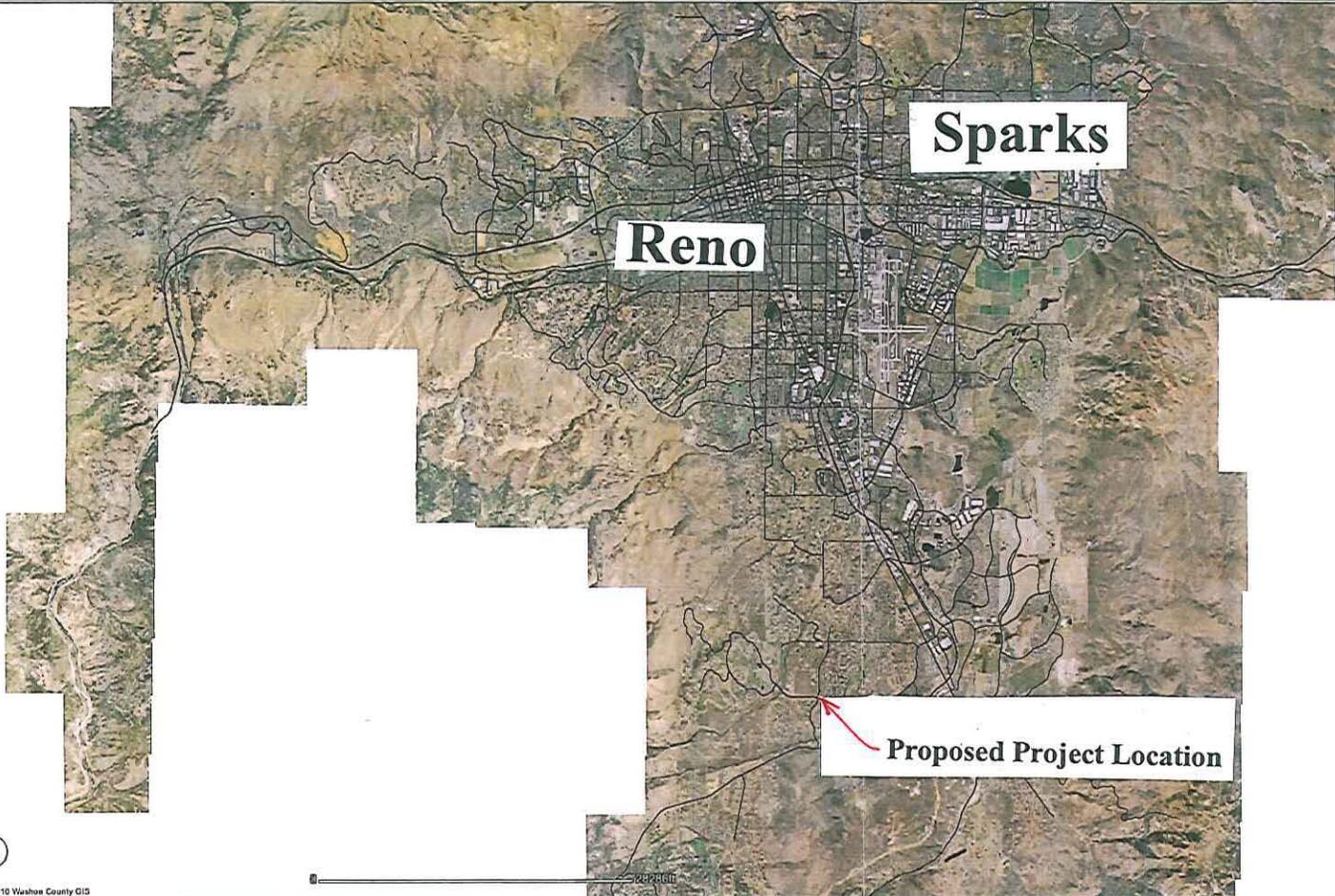






# Site Maps and Layouts

### Vicinity Map



Major Roads  
2008 1/2FT Aerial  
Photographs

**Sparks**

**Reno**

**Proposed Project Location**



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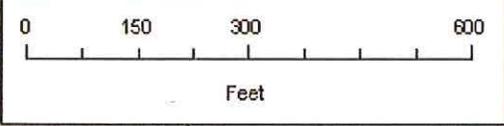


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1001 East Ninth St. Reno, Nv 89511

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New Fire Station  
Sierra Fire Protection District



Washoe County GIS Program  
Technology Services Dept./GIS Division  
1001 E. 9th St.,  
REno, NV 89512



### SFPD Station #40 (Thomas Creek Firestation) Proposed Layout



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**Figures  
and  
Architectural Renderings**

**S M I T H**

*an architecture*

**DESIGN**

*group*

**GROUP**

130 COUNTY CLUB DRIVE, NO. 17  
MCNEELYVILLE, NEVADA 89451

TEL. 775.851.7158  
FAX 775.851.7191

[www.smithgroup.com](http://www.smithgroup.com)

**PRELIMINARY**  
NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

**PARKING NOTES**

- 1 ACCESSIBLE PARKING SPACES
- 3 PUBLIC PARKING SPACES
- 10 EMPLOYEE PARKING SPACES
- 14 TOTAL PARKING SPACES

**PROJECT**

SIERRA FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
THOMAS CREEK FIRE STATION NO. 40  
13500 THOMAS CREEK ROAD  
RENO, NEVADA 89511  
APN 049-31-222 WASHOE COUNTY

**REVISIONS**

DATE OF ISSUE: 15, June 2009  
ISSUED PROJECT NO.: 090220  
DRAWN BY: JMC  
CHECKED BY: JMC  
SCALE: 1" = 20' 0"  
PROJECT NO.: 090220

**SHEET CONTENTS**

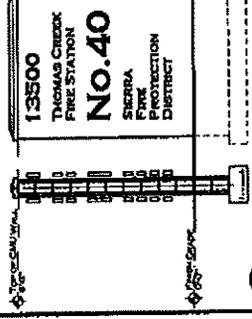
PROPOSED SITE PLAN

SHEET NUMBER

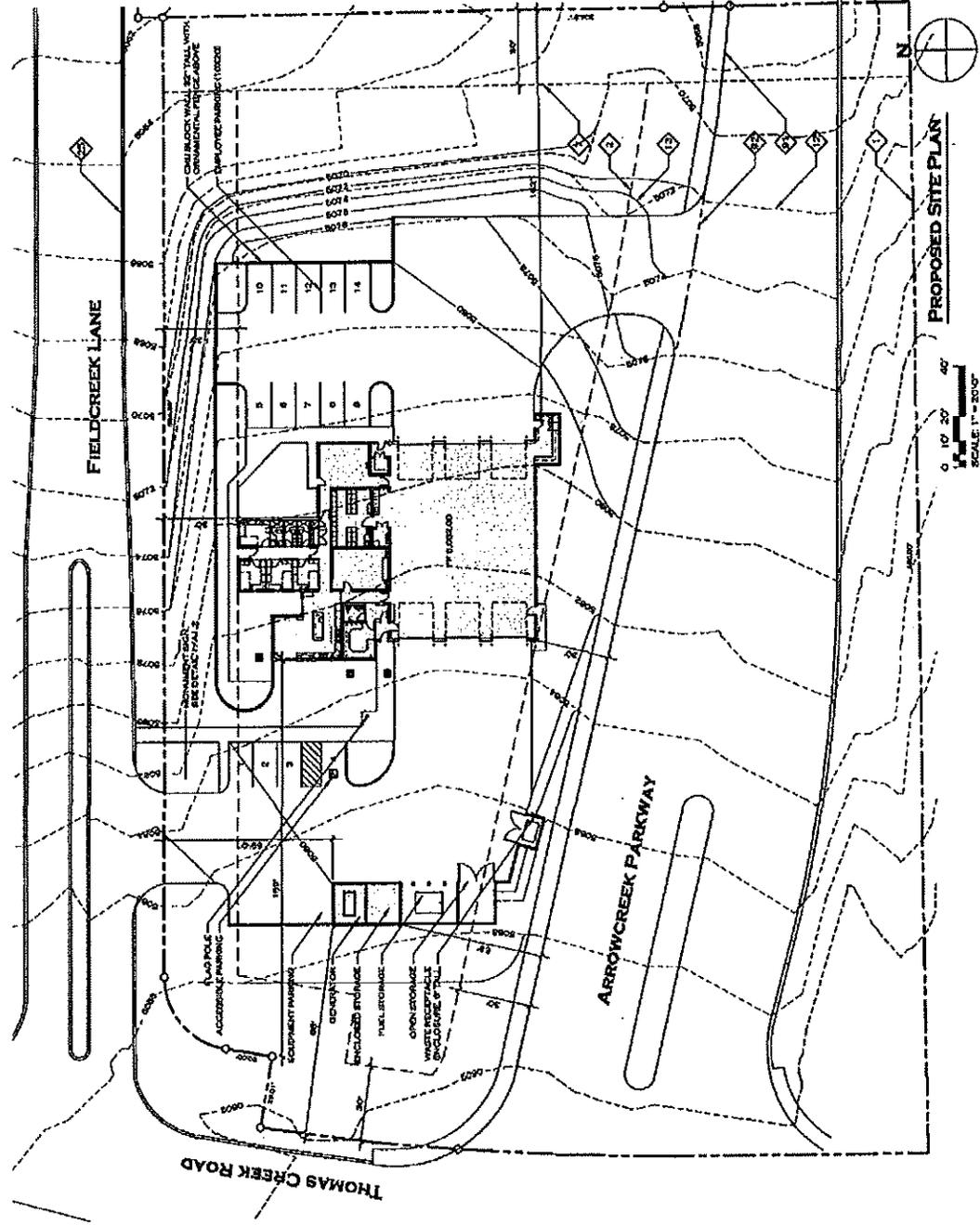
**A1.2**

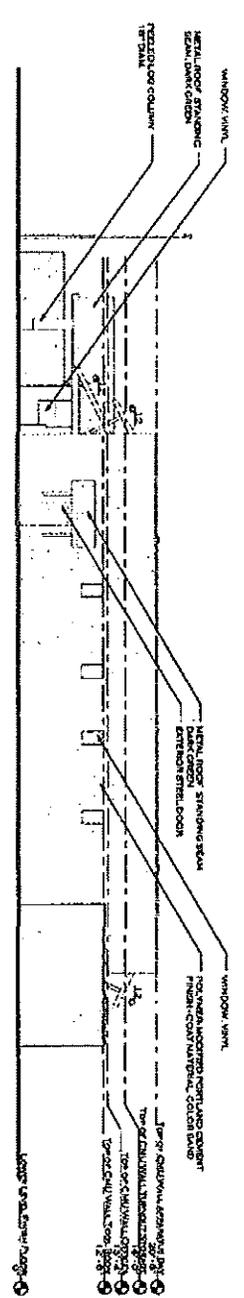
**REFERENCE NOTES**

- 1. PROPERTY LINE
- 2. BUILDING STRUCTURE LINE
- 7. EASEMENT LINE
- 11. CENTERLINE OF HIGHWAY
- 12. CENTERLINE OF DRIVEWAY
- 13. CENTERLINE OF DRIVEWAY
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- 90. CENTERLINE OF DRIVEWAY

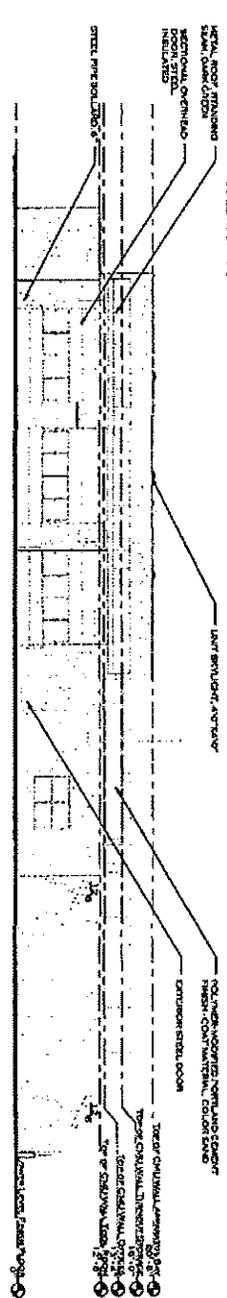


1 MONUMENT SIGN  
SCALE: 1/2" = 10'

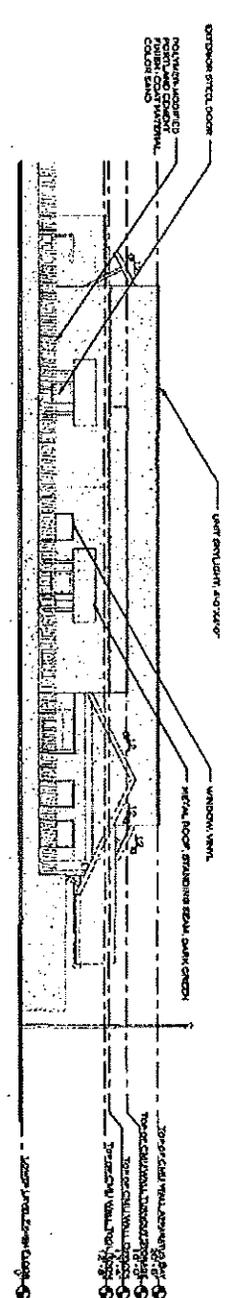




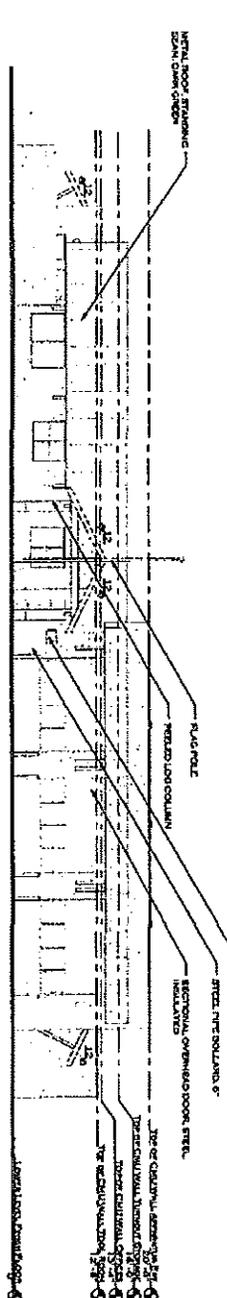
**SOUTH ELEVATION**  
SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"



**EAST ELEVATION**  
SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"



**NORTH ELEVATION**  
SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"



**WEST ELEVATION**  
SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"

**S M I T H**  
and  
**DESIGN**  
GROUP  
120 COUNTY QUAIL DRIVE, NO. 17  
RENO, NEVADA 89501  
TEL. 775-851-1258  
FAX 775-851-1011  
www.smithdesign.com

**PRELIMINARY**  
NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

**PROJECT**  
A PROPOSED FIRE STATION FOR  
SIERRA FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
THOMAS CREEK FIRE STATION NO. 40  
13500 THOMAS CREEK ROAD  
RENO, NEVADA 89511  
APN 049-31-222 WASHOE COUNTY

**SHEET CONTENTS**  
OTHER ELEVATIONS

**A3.1**  
SHEET NUMBER

