

Chili Bar Planning Unit

Open Space

Potential Measure:

- *Apply permanent conservation easements to ensure a higher level of open space protection.*

The Stewardship Council recommends preserving open space through permanent conservation easements. The planning unit would be managed to protect lands in a manner consistent with surrounding public land use. With the exception of the Chili Bar Dam and Powerhouse and related facilities, the planning unit is predominantly open space, and this value would be preserved through conservation easements. Conservation easements would secondarily protect the variety of habitat types found in the narrow band of land surrounding the reservoir and the small eastern parcels. Additionally, conservation easements would preserve viewsheds and the setting for the low level of recreation use that occurs throughout the planning unit.

Fish, Plant, and Wildlife Habitat

Potential Measure:

- *Conduct surveys outside the relicensing study area to identify biological resources and enable their protection.*

Relicensing studies regarding biological resources did not include the entire planning unit. Therefore, the Stewardship Council recommends conducting surveys outside the relicensing study area to identify biological resources and enable their protection.

Potential Measure:

- *Develop a wildlife and habitat management plan for the planning unit.*

The Chili Bar Planning Unit provides habitat for a variety of species, including many special status species. To provide a comprehensive vision for habitat protection and enhancement within the planning unit, the Stewardship Council recommends creating a wildlife and habitat management plan. Results from recommended surveys as well as data from relicensing would be used to identify and develop a comprehensive plan describing goals and objectives for habitat and species, as well as measures needed to enhance and protect habitat for plant and wildlife species. Monitoring of species and/or habitats would also be developed as a component of the plan. Specific actions to promote aquatic habitat would include the maintenance of large woody debris near watercourses and the minimization of sedimentation in streams. The wildlife and habitat management plan should be developed in conjunction with fuels management plans as well as relevant FERC license required plans.

Sustainable Forestry

Potential Measures:

- *Develop a fire management and response plan in coordination with adjacent efforts to ensure fire preparedness.*

- *Develop a fuels management plan in coordination with adjacent landowners to ensure long-term forest health and reduce fuel loading and fire hazard.*

The Stewardship Council recommends developing a fire management and response plan to ensure fire preparedness throughout the planning unit. Fire risk is a concern in the area surrounding Chili Bar Reservoir because there are forested stands in proximity to private development. The development of a fire management and response plan would be coordinated with the Mosquito Fire and Vegetation Management Plan developed by the Fire Safe Council of El Dorado County. This plan was developed for the lands surrounding the eastern linear parcels. Additionally, a fuels management plan would be developed to reduce fire risk and fuels accumulation. The plan would be developed in coordination with adjacent private landowners, USFS, and BLM to ensure consistency in management.

Preservation of Historic Values

Potential Measure:

- *Incorporate cultural resource protection measures in conservation easements to protect any cultural resources found in the future in coordination with Native American entities.*

The Stewardship Council recommends protecting any cultural resources found in the future through permanent conservation easements that include cultural resource protection measures. These measures would describe the process for addressing any cultural materials found during ground-disturbing activities. Development of appropriate cultural resource protection measures would be coordinated with Native American entities.

Outdoor Recreation

None recommended.

Agricultural Uses

None recommended.