

Comment	Commenter	Edit to Vol II Made	Response
FEATHER RIVER WATERSHED			
Humbug Valley Planning Unit			
<p>[Condensed from letter] I would like to hereby express my concerns over Humbug Valley, Plumas Co, and also give some sort of outline of my personal wishes for the Humbug Valley future.</p> <p>I would love to see this beautiful Valley be back in the hands of the "Mountain Maidu", so we could preserve what is left of the Maidu archaeological sites that remain here as proof of the many Maidu Villages that were here long ago for thousands of years. If our Mountain Maidu could be lucky enough to end up with Humbug, we plan to conduct an educational program for Plumas County youth and others.</p> <p>An all summer camp-out when school is out filled with many activities, to keep children learning to preserve the history, while having found the power of respect of Mother Nature needs priority in today's teaching. My choice of a perfect outdoor workshop is Humbug Valley, which is one of last unspoiled places that is full of historic significance. A perfect place for a nature trail. Ecology can be taught in different segments of the Valley. Botany education can be taught here. The Valley needs to belong once again to our Maidu people, as we belong to this Valley, especially the younger Maidu generation.</p>	Beverly Oogle	No	<p>Comment noted. The Stewardship Council is developing an explicit set of criteria that will be used to determine which potential donees are qualified to participate in the disposition process. Qualified donees will be determined during the early stages of developing the Disposition Packages (Volume IIIs). There will be opportunities for the public and stakeholders to engage with the Stewardship Council and other stakeholders on this topic as well as other topics related to the disposition and future management and stewardship of the lands. The Stewardship Council will provide public notice and encourage participation in meetings, workshops, and other appropriate methods of participation in the planning process. The Stewardship Council has recommended a potential measure to develop a cultural resources management plan to protect cultural resources throughout the planning unit. The Stewardship Council has also suggested developing an interpretation and education plan. The Supporting Analysis for Recommendations states that a suggested element of this plan is "developing educational programs with local schools, groups (4-H, Boy Scouts, etc.), and Native American entities.</p>
<p>[Condensed from letter] The burial ground in Humbug needs to be maintained and respected, also the yearly memorial I started 10 years ago is presently a traditional event, I'd like to see carry on in the future.</p>	Beverly Oogle	No	<p>The Stewardship Council has recommended a potential measure to develop a cultural resources management plan to protect cultural resources throughout the planning unit, which would also include traditional use areas.</p>

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<p>[Condensed from letter] There is a very sacred Maidu worshipping spot in Humbug, that is ancient, called the "Big Springs" the tranquil of a vision I hold strong in my memory is of my Maidu grandmother and her Maidu friends that use to go to the springs for worship, and at the end of that day, they would leave so happy with laughter, and like a fresh appearance, we could have this again. Forest Service owns the Big Springs bordering PG&E land, it seems they never seem to care enough to try and stop the destruction their cattle are ruining the trail to the springs, knocking down the fence along the meadows edge, where the cattle get out on PG&E land also. People camp and have fires there, where there are no fire rings or camp sites. Due to this public behavior, I pray Humbug will not experience another forest fire.</p>	<p>Beverly Oogle</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Comment noted. Text has been added to the Supporting Analysis for Recommendations and main Volume II documents stating that special efforts will be undertaken to consult with spiritual religious leaders of the tribes when developing a plan that affects religious or sacred places.</p> <p>The Stewardship Council has recommended a potential measure to develop a cultural resources management plan to protect cultural resources throughout the planning unit, which would also include traditional use areas. When developing a plan that affects religious or sacred places, special effort will be undertaken to consult with spiritual religious leaders of the tribes. Additionally, the Stewardship Council has recommended a potential measure to develop a fuels management plan to reduce fire hazards, and a recreation management plan to formalize increasing uses and protect valuable recreation, habitat, and cultural values from being impacted.</p>

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<p>[Condensed from letter] I look forward to seeing a traditional bear dance yearly on the banks of Yellow Creek like it once was many years ago (what a perfect place). This beautiful Valley so rich in Native American history needs to be off limits to all OHVs and motorcycles before much more destruction is done to scar this historical Valley.</p> <p>I would love to see a sweat lodge in this rather remote area for our troubled people. Our Maidu folks can gain more help with their problems by fasting and serene surroundings of nature. My prayers are that Humbug Valley will once again belong to the Maidu people in whole. Let us be stewards over that small part of PG&E land.</p> <p>We could plant the banks of Yellow Creek with native trees to shade the water, so the trout could survive better. There is so much to be done there, to return the area to a place like it used to be.</p> <p>We would need support of various agencies, some of my personal Forest Service friends thought my ideas were great and strongly support my views. But I also realize Forest Service wants the Valley also. If they do get the Valley perhaps they could work a deal with the Maidu people to partner a cultural program. We need desperately to preserve Humbug Valley when the final decision is made as to whom gets Humbug Valley, I would hope my comments are thoroughly given consideration.</p>	Beverly Oogle	No	<p>Comment noted. The Stewardship Council is developing an explicit set of criteria that will be used to determine which potential donees are qualified to participate in the disposition process. Qualified donees will be determined during the early stages of developing the Disposition Packages (Volume IIIs). There will be opportunities for the public and stakeholders to engage with the Stewardship Council and other stakeholders on this topic as well as other topics related to the disposition and future management and stewardship of the lands. The Stewardship Council will provide public notice and encourage participation in meetings, workshops, and other appropriate methods of participation in the planning process. The Stewardship Council has recommended a potential measure to develop a cultural resources management plan to protect cultural resources throughout the planning unit. Additionally, the Stewardship Council has recommended a potential measure to develop a recreation management plan to formalize increasing uses and protect valuable recreation, habitat, and cultural values from being impacted. The Supporting Analysis for Recommendations states that "management of unauthorized off-highway vehicle (OHV) and snowmobile use would also be addressed in the dispersed recreation use management component of the plan." Additionally, the Stewardship Council has developed a potential measure to assess and restore hydrologic function of the meadow to improve riparian zones and overall ecological conditions along with developing a wildlife and habitat management plan, which would both enhance riparian habitat. Conservation easements, and overall objectives for management plans, will be developed as part of the disposition process and will be included in the Disposition Packages (Volume IIIs). Specifics of management plans will likely be developed post transaction.</p>

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<p>The plan needs more detail about how the interaction between the Rock Creek - Cresta ERC and the Stewardship Council will be coordinated. The ERC would like to move forward with studies and ultimately restoration measures in Humbug Valley, but needs to avoid duplication of effort. The logistical and regulatory road map is unclear. CSPA also suggests that, because resources and interests are already mobilized to take positive action in this venue, Humbug Valley be given top priority for disposition.</p>	<p>California Sportfishing Protection Alliance</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>Comment noted. The Stewardship Council receives regular updates regarding the work of the Rock Creek-Cresta Project Ecological Resources Committee (ERC). With regards to disposition of Humbug Valley, there will be opportunities for the public and stakeholders to engage with the Stewardship Council and other stakeholders on this topic as well as other topics related to the disposition and future management and stewardship of the lands. The Stewardship Council will provide public notice and encourage participation in meetings, workshops, and other appropriate methods of participation in the planning process. The Stewardship Council has selected four planning units to move forward as "Pilot Projects" in disposition. The schedule for the remaining 43 planning units has not yet been set.</p>
<p>The LCP recommends assessing the potential use of cattle grazing to maintain meadow habitat. Such an assessment must take into account the severe ecological damage and downcutting of the stream which resulted from past grazing and the definite possibility of further damage. The meadow maintenance goals would have to be limited and extremely specific. The cattle would have to be kept away from streambanks and out of other sensitive areas. The effects of grazing would have to be intensively monitored and the cattle removed before overgrazing occurred. Altogether, the necessary constraints on grazing would be so strict that the use of grazing may not be worth pursuing.</p>	<p>John K Moore, Sierra Club</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>Comment noted. The Stewardship Council recognizes that reinstating grazing in the valley would need careful consideration. As stated in the Supporting Analysis for Recommendations: "The valley may retain potential for cattle grazing or other agricultural uses in the future, but any renewed grazing (e.g., for meadow maintenance) would need to be carefully managed and monitored to protect the unique and sensitive resource values present, including cultural sites. Because of resource concerns, the Stewardship Council does not propose re-establishing the grazing leases that ended in 2001. In the future, however, carefully managed and controlled grazing may have value as a tool for future meadow management. Any use of grazing would require a baseline conditions report and careful evaluation. Measures to protect the fragile ecosystem would require re-establishment of fencing to exclude cattle from riparian areas, springs, and cultural resource areas and development of cattle fords where creek crossing is necessary."</p>

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<p>The open space easement must prohibit all buildings in the meadow. The viewshed is stated to be so impressive that non-functional fences should be removed to improve it - all the more reason to exclude all buildings. The easement should provide rights-of-way along the stream and in the rest of the property, except where public access should be excluded to prevent damage to ecological or cultural resources.</p>	<p>John K Moore, Sierra Club</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>Comment noted. The Stewardship Council has not recommended the construction of any buildings in Humbug Valley. Conservation easements will be developed as part of the disposition process and will be included in the Disposition Packages (Volume IIIs). The easements will describe all prohibited uses to maintain open space values, including the level of uses allowed, and rights-of-way. There will be opportunities for the public and stakeholders to engage with the Stewardship Council and other stakeholders on this topic as well as other topics related to the disposition and future management and stewardship of the lands. The Stewardship Council will provide public notice and encourage participation in meetings, workshops, and other appropriate methods of participation in the planning process.</p>
<p>Yellow Creek, a Wild Trout Stream, flows through this beautiful broad meadow. Both the stream and the meadow have been severely damaged by past grazing, and continued restoration and careful future management will be required. Continued restoration and enhancement of the meadow and stream in conjunction with the Ecological Resource Committee and participating agencies should be the primary goal of future management.</p>	<p>John K Moore, Sierra Club</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>Comment noted. The Stewardship Council recognizes the damage done to the valley and the restoration that is needed. The Stewardship Council has recommended a potential measure to develop a wildlife and habitat management plan in coordination with the Ecological Resources Committee (ERC) as well as assessing and restoring hydrologic function of the meadow to improve riparian zones and overall ecological conditions.</p>

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<p>Sustainable Forestry All forestry activities in Plumas County by PG&E, the Stewardship Council as well as successors should specifically mandate coordination with the community specific prescriptions in the Plumas County Community Wildfire Protection Plan, adopted by the State Fire Marshall, the Board of Supervisors and the Plumas County Fire Safe Council (on private land), as well as the Herger Feinstein Quincy Library Group Act on National Forest lands and other future county fire and forestry policies. Objectives should stress collaboration with these efforts. These existing documents should be gathered by the Council and specifically included in the appendices. (FR-34). PG&E is currently (actively promoting carbon offset opportunities for its ratepayers. PG&E also controls and manages a substantial land base in "timbered acres" (V.1, Appendix 6-2). The 51,700 acres statewide (including 5,350 acres in Plumas County) could be managed in ways designed to enhance carbon sequestration and "additionality". This would assist the implementation of AB 32 (global warming response) for both the state and the ratepayers.</p>	John Sheehan	Yes	<p>Due to the breadth and scope of the LCP, and the geography it encompasses, there are a significant number of important reference documents. To keep the LCP as manageable a document as possible, reference document citations are listed in the Sources section of the Supporting Analysis for Recommendations, but are not included in hard copy within the LCP. Text has been added to the Supporting Analysis for Recommendations and main Volume II documents to include coordination of development of the forest and fuels management plans with relevant county plans. Coordination with U.S. Forest Service (USFS) management prescriptions and practices is currently included as part of the potential measures, and would provide the coordination suggested related to the Herger Feinstein Quincy Library Group Act. As per the Settlement Agreement and Stipulation, PG&E must protect the Watershed Lands with perpetual conservation easements, or some equivalent legal mechanism, to preserve and enhance six Beneficial Public Values (BPVs), including sustainable forestry. Details regarding how forest resources would be managed in the future, including timber management and forest prescriptions, would be developed as part of the recommended forest management plan for this planning unit. Conservation easements, and overall objectives for management plans, will be developed as part of the disposition process and will be included in the Disposition Packages (Volume IIIs). Specifics of management plans will likely be developed post transaction.</p>
<p>The Humbug Valley Planning Unit recommendations call for several benchmark studies but not an overall data management & monitoring plan. Unless this is covered in the variety of management plans indicated in this chapter, it should be a standalone recommendation. Data is essential to make informed decisions about the valley's hydrological condition as well as its flora & fauna. Is the PG&E GIS-based monitoring program a proper basis for this?</p>	Leslie Larson	No	<p>Management of data will be the responsibility of the donees. Responsibilities for and methods of monitoring (including frequency and timing) will be established as part of the disposition process. Please see Volume I section 2.3.9 for more information on monitoring.</p>

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<p>While the open space requirement is laudable, there is a road running through the center of the valley. Lack of fencing or other barriers since 2001 has already lead to irresponsible motorists and off road vehicle owners using the meadow for their personal fun, damaging the meadow and "open space" views, among other things. The goal of open space and meadow preservation may be in conflict with the road itself – especially as population & land pressures increase over time. If there is no fencing and no personnel to monitor the road on an ongoing basis, the Council's open space & preservation recommendations may be in jeopardy. Why is the road through the valley not addressed among the recommendations for this planning unit? There are likely several viable strategies for handling this issue but shouldn't it be highlighted in the BVEs so that it does get addressed? It could be costly – either financially or environmentally....</p>	<p>Leslie Larson</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>Comment noted. As per the Settlement Agreement and Stipulation, PG&E must protect the Watershed Lands with perpetual conservation easements, or some equivalent legal mechanism, that preserve and enhance six Beneficial Public Values (BPVs) including open space and outdoor recreation by the general public. Therefore, there are no proposals to remove the road. However, the Stewardship Council has recommended a potential measure to develop a recreation management plan to formalize increasing uses and protect valuable recreation, habitat, and cultural values from being impacted. Management of unauthorized off-highway vehicle (OHV) use would be addressed in the dispersed recreation use management component of this plan.</p>

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