

Comment	Commenter	Edit to Vol II Made	Response
KERN-TULE RIVER WATERSHED			
Doyle Springs Planning Unit			
Endnote: Any transfer of PG&E land at Doyle Springs to the Doyle Springs Association should guarantee public access to the Wishon trailhead and trail.	Friends of the River	No	Comment noted.
Supporting Analysis for Recommendations 'Conduct Surveys of lands outside the FERC boundary to identify biological resources.' 'Develop a wildlife and habitat management plan for the Doyle Springs parcel.' 'Develop a fuels management plan for the Doyle Springs parcel.' While I am supportive of both Wildlife Habitat planning and Fuels Management planning for the Doyle Springs Association property, I believe any such planning should be done only with the knowledge and support of the Associations' Board of Directors.	James P. Maddox	No	Comment noted. The potential measures to develop plans would address only the PG&E lands, not Doyle Springs Association property. However, development of management plans and surveying would almost certainly include notifying and working with adjacent landowners, such as the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) and Doyle Springs Association. 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.

Kern-Tule River Watershed

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<p>Supporting Analysis for Recommendations 'Investigate potential for use of the flat, open area on the east side of the river on a day use and river access site.' The apple orchard mentioned in the text of the Supporting Analysis is on property currently owned by Doyle Springs Association. That area, along with its adjacent riparian habitat is some of the most productive wildlife habitat within the Doyle Springs inholdings, due to the diversity it provides. It presently is a relatively undisturbed habitat and one of the few areas in the vicinity of Doyles, where deer and bear use consistently can be demonstrated. If it were to be developed into a Day Use area, its wildlife values would be substantially diminished. In addition to wildlife habitat impacts upon the Apple Orchard lands, another major concern that would accompany Day Use in the Apple Orchard area is the fuel loading that presently exists along the northwest-facing slope of the Tule River, opposite the Doyle Spring cabins. If the Apple Orchard were to be an ignition point, fire could overtake the Doyle Springs development almost instantly. There is no access to the area northeast of the Apple Orchard, except by foot. Doyle Springs would be would be extremely fortunate if such a fire were to be extinguished prior to causing major structural losses.</p>	<p>James P. Maddox</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>The potential measure that recommends investigating the potential for public day use of the orchard area is intended to be focused only on the open area within the PG&E parcel, nearest to the existing storage sheds and Wishon Cabin, and is not intended to focus on lands owned by the Doyle Springs Association. The potential measure recognizes the lack of day use facilities in the area, and the possible synergy with the campground located a short distance downstream. Potential and known constraints, including fire risk and other safety issues, are acknowledged in the Supporting Analysis for Recommendations, and would be expected to be assessed in the recommended investigation.</p>

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<p>Supporting Analysis for Recommendations Potential Measure: 'Develop a fire management and response plan, incorporating evaluation of the potential for construction of a fire break with the Sequoia National Forest and protections needed in response to proposed new recreation uses.' Essentially, the Doyle Springs Association property lies at the end of a very long cul-de-sac. While cabin owners annually devote significant energy to reducing fire fuels around their cabin sites, those efforts would be in vain if an accidental ignition were to take place either at the Camp Wishon public facilities downhill from Doyle Springs, or any nearby day use activity site. Space is only defensible if firefighters can reach it. If a downhill ignition were to crown and rapidly burn uphill through the Doyles property, the fire would almost certainly have catastrophic results. Such a fire could easily overwhelm the fire suppression efforts provided by Camp Wishon fire crews and Doyle Springs emergency forces. If a fire of that magnitude were to occur, the results would very likely be destruction of all or nearly all the Doyle cabins and could very easily result in serious loss of life to the Doyle inhabitants, as well. Until a fuel break is in place to protect Doyle Springs from such a conflagration, the U.S. Forest Service should not even entertain the thought of increasing public use of the Camp Wishon area or any other area within the South Fork of the Middle Fork of the Tule River watershed.</p>	<p>James P. Maddox</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>Comment noted. The Stewardship Council makes no recommendations regarding use of U.S. Forest Service (USFS) lands. As stated above, potential and known constraints, including fire risk and other safety issues, are acknowledged in the Supporting Analysis for Recommendations and would be expected to be assessed in the recommended investigation.</p>