

Project 19

Name: Nature Loop South

Description: one of the oldest TD trails with numerous needed improvements and rehabilitation to various existing trail features. Known as the Nature Loop (consisting of this Project 19 and Project 20, Nature Loop North) this looped hiking trail has a close association with the adjacent riparian environment of Trout Creek and related resources. Heavily used and popular trail loop causing degradation of the environment and user experience (muddy and wet sections of trail) and safety (failing trail tread/edge, failing boardwalk). In contrast to the road-bed character for much of Project 20, this Project 19 portion of the Nature Loop is a true trail with a smaller typical tread width, particularly on the easterly end.

Location: town; centrally located in Tahoe Donner on the south side of Trout Creek, providing a connection between the Northwoods Clubhouse and the Trout Creek Recreation Center. Accessed from the northwest via a 5' wide dirt path and small dirt parking area adjacent to Northwoods Blvd. Accessed from the east by way of an existing crossing of Northwoods Blvd across from the Trout Creek Recreation Center parking lot and a narrow <24" tread width.

Project Type(s): improvement to existing

Trail Type: trail

Topography & Grade: adjacent topography very moderately sloped with a small pocket of steeper slopes directly associated with a select group of proposed improvements (tread repair, realignment and retention). Trail grade mostly flat, but undulating in the lower reach through the steeper slope portion of the trail. Trail falls nearly 1000 vertical feet from the west end (Trout Creek Recreation Center) to the east end (Clubhouse).

Length: 4,701 feet (.89 miles)

Constraints & Resources: many. The Nature Loop circumnavigates a large riparian area associated with Trout Creek, including the cultural resources, wildlife, wetlands and floodplain associated with this waterway. Alternative alignments and available fixes limited to existing footprint due to adjacent slopes, private property and environmental resources. Area of high archeological sensitivity.



Photo 19a – Bridge Replacement at West
End of Project



Photo 19b – Turnpike Improvement
At Westerly End of Project

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Opportunities & Areas of Import: project intends to address and resolve existing areas of impact with a net result of environmental improvement as well as provide a better and safer user experience. Protection of water quality and quantity, wildlife and biological resources, and avoidance of historic resources are key factors. All proposed trail work is proposed within the existing trail footprint, with only minor expansion associated with turnpike construction.

Project Specifics: 1 bridge replacement, 1 boardwalk replacement, 335 linear fee of new and rehabilitation of existing turnpike, 1 rock wall retention and tread stabilization improvement, 1 trail reroute and 225' of trail decommissioning, 4 rolling dips (1 with rock dissipater),

Construction: predominately hand construction, with the exception of small equipment for bridge replacement (access via existing dirt trail from the north) and a mini excavator (3' wide wheelbase) with hydraulic auger for screw pile installation associated with the boardwalk replacement (also accessed from the north). Equipment and material staging area is located within existing adjacent trailhead area (see project mapping).

Typical Details & Specifications: T.D. 1-3 (BMP's), T.D. 4 (Boardwalk), T.D. 6 (Bridge Plan), T.D. 8 (Rolling Dip), T.D. 9 (Rock Dissipater), T.D. 11 (Turnpike), T.D. 12 (Rock Retaining Wall), T.D. 20 (Type II Trails),



Photo 19c – Boardwalk Replacement at Mid-Section of Project



Photo 19d – Tread Repair & Rock Wall Retention At Easterly Portion of Project