

# TAHOE DONNER TRAILS MASTER PLAN, Feb. 2013

94 pp.

[http://www.tahoedonner.com/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2012/03/TRAILS-MASTER-PLAN-2013.FINAL\\_.pdf](http://www.tahoedonner.com/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2012/03/TRAILS-MASTER-PLAN-2013.FINAL_.pdf)

Errors:

p. 4-2 MOUNTAIN BIKERS

Tahoe Donner Bike Works was established in 2011 and includes a bike rental and maintenance shop. **It is located at the Cross Country Ski Center.** Bike (unfinished)

## EQUESTRIANS

Currently, the Equestrian Center owns approximately **20 horses which are available for public trail rides.**

The Equestrian Center uses approximately four to six of the trails on the trail system for group trail rides; boarders and daily use **riders utilize the entire trail system through a daily trail pass available at the Center.**

Equestrian trails have a more demanding set of requirements than hiking trails including a greater line of sight to give the animals a chance to react to objects and other trail users. Horse and rider also constitute the largest sized user on most trail systems. Metal horse shoes create additional pressure on the trail surface.

p. 4-4 4.5 REGIONAL CONNECTIONS

The General Plan Committee has placed a priority on increasing the connectivity of the Tahoe Donner trail system with other trail systems and neighborhoods in the Truckee area. The U.S. Forest Service manages much of the land bordering Tahoe Donner, providing the opportunity for managed access through U.S. Forest Service properties. Many of the connections between the Tahoe Donner trail system and public land are the result of long periods of informal use. Formalizing these connections will keep these trails open and benefit the membership.

p. 5-1 TRAIL STANDARDS

The Plan recommends four trail types, as summarized below, to represent a range of development scale. All trails are multi-use.

- Type 4 Multi-Use. This trail type is a wide double-track trail where users can pass or walk side by side.
- Type 3 Multi-Use. These trails are wide single-track trails with passing pull-outs.
- Type 2 Hiker and Mountain Biker Preferred. This narrow single-track trail type is designed to meet the needs of hikers and mountain bikers. Equestrians would be allowed on these trails.
- Type 2 Equestrian Preferred. This narrow single-track trail type is designed to meet the needs of equestrians. Hikers and mountain bikers would be allowed on these trails.

Vertical Clearance: Vertical clearance should be adequate to allow trail users to pass underneath trees. The recommended space from trail tread to vegetation should be 8 to 12 feet. If more than half of a tree must be pruned for clearance, then it should be removed.

Horizontal Clearance: Along narrow trails, both the U.S. Forest Service and Nevada County trail standards recommend vegetation should be cleared approximately three feet either side of the center.

Tahoe Donner policy prescribes that all trails are multi-use. The proposed user preferred trails would be multi-use, but designed to meet the needs and interests of a particular user group. Two kinds of user preferred trails are proposed: hiker and mountain biker preferred trails and equestrian preferred trails. These trails would be single track with passing spaces provided. Hiker and mountain biker preferred trails are proposed along the eastern Tahoe Donner’s perimeter and in the Homerange and Euer Valley areas. These serve as spur trails connecting with Type 4 and 3 trails. Equestrian preferred trails are proposed in the Homerange area and would connect with the Equestrian Center.

### 6.1.3 Equestrian Loops

Concentrating group ride equestrian use in certain areas could reduce varied trail use encounters and allow Tahoe Donner to monitor and maintain these trails more effectively. The proposed equestrian loops are comprised on Type 2 Equestrian Preferred trails and Type 4 Multi-Use trails (see Figure 6-2). These routes connect with the future Equestrian, Mountain Bike, and Cross Country Ski Center. Group trail rides from the Equestrian Center would be restricted to these loops. Equestrians not part of group rides would be welcome on all system trails.

### p. 6-7 (Flood Plain Exception – Interesting)

Some trails, such as the trail along Alder Creek, would be improved to the extent feasible along their current alignments. The trail along Alder Creek provides an important link and is located in an environmentally sensitive area where it experiences heavy erosion and regular flooding. Recommended improvements include a new bridge across the creek in one of two potential locations. Due to right-of-way limitations, an alternate trail route outside the 100-year floodplain is not available. This Plan recommends significant, regular maintenance if the trail is to remain in its current location.

## p. 6-6 6.2 Improvements to Existing Trails in Tahoe Donner

This Plan recommends improvements to existing trails which would result in trail types and mileages as identified in Table 6-1. Improvements may include rerouting trails, rock raking and regrading trails, vegetation removal to meet recommended horizontal clearances, reconstructing climbing turns or switchbacks, drainage improvements, and/or rerouting of trail segments to meet recommended grades. See Appendix B for a list of recommended improvements to existing Tahoe Donner trails and new system trails.

Table 6-1: Proposed Conversion of Existing Trails

Existing Trail Classification	Total Mileage	Proposed Trail Type					Decommissioned Trail
		4	3	3ADA	2HB	2E	
4	0.04	--	--	0.04	--	--	--
3 or 4	21.69	13.95	0.18	0.45	5.92	0.46	0.73
2 or 3	4.05	--	1.27	1.72	1.06	--	--
2	12.35	--	1.30	0.05	10.60	0.22	0.18
<b>Total</b>	<b>38.13</b>	<b>13.95</b>	<b>2.76</b>	<b>2.25</b>	<b>17.57</b>	<b>0.68</b>	<b>0.91</b>

Note: 0.73 miles of Trail Marker 33-35 is recommended to be decommissioned. The remaining 0.31 miles of this existing Type 3 or 4 trail would be designated Type 2 Hiker and Mountain Biker Preferred.

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