



July 21, 2019

Placer County Board of Supervisors
3091 County Center Drive
Auburn, CA 95603
sherring@placer.ca.gov

Subject: Proposed Squaw Valley-Alpine Meadows Base-to-Base Gondola Project Final EIS/R

Dear Members of the Placer County Board of Supervisors:

The Friends of the West Shore (FOWS) and Sierra Club, Tahoe Area Group (SCTAG) appreciate this opportunity to provide comments on the Final Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (FEIS/R) for the Proposed Squaw Valley-Alpine Meadows Base-to-Base Gondola Project. FOWS and SCTAG are pleased that the applicant's Proposed Alternative (2), which would have constructed the gondola within the federally-designated Granite Chief Wilderness Area (GCWA), was not selected by the Forest Supervisor nor recommended by Placer County staff. We believe protection of our federal wilderness areas is of utmost importance to present and future generations.

FOWS and SCTAG appreciate the additional information provided in the FEIS/R in response to many of our comments on the DEIS/R. However, although Alternative 4, as recommended by Placer County staff, places the gondola alignment farther to the east from the GCWA, we remain concerned with the potential impacts on transportation, visual resources, soils, vegetation, and the Sierra Nevada Yellow-Legged Frog (SNYLF). In our comments to the Placer County Planning Commission (included on pages 273-281 of the staff report), we have included additional measures that we believe would reduce these impacts.

We ask that you do not recommend approval unless and until the recommended additional measures are incorporated into the project.

Please feel free to contact Jennifer Quashnick at jqtahoe@sbcglobal.net or Laurel Ames at amesl@sbcglobal.net if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Judith Tornese,
President
Friends of the West Shore

Laurel Ames,
Conservation Chair
Sierra Club, Tahoe Area Group