Ruth Coleman, Director



DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION GOLD FIELDS DISTRICT 7755 Folsom-Auburn Road Folsom, CA 95630 Telephone: (916) 988-0205 Facsimile: (916) 989-3206

September 30, 2010

Kathy Dombrowski Loomis Basin Horseman's Association PO Box 2326 Loomis, California 95650

Dear Ms. Dombrowski:

I am in receipt of your letter dated August 24, 2010 and photos (CD) sent to me on behalf of the Loomis Basin Horseman's Association. In your letter you express your concerns regarding an unauthorized bike trail that has been built on state park lands known as the Hoffman property at Folsom Lake State Recreation Area. Thank you for the work you have done to document the trails issues that are present in this area of the park.

As you are aware, the construction of illegal, unauthorized trails in this particular area of the park is an ongoing issue and one that does not lend itself to an easy solution. I do not say that as a means of excusing the behavior or ignoring the problem. The problems you have identified in your letter and photos are of great concern to State Parks.

Unfortunately these are very difficult times for State Parks. Due to budget cuts and other factors the Gold Fields District is carrying several vacancies within both the permanent ranger and maintenance staff. In addition, in October we will be reducing the seasonal park aid staff significantly. Availability of staff is further complicated by the need to allow for scheduled vacations, training and the need to reduce large overtime balances accumulated during the busy spring and summer. As a result of these things it is difficult to provide the type of coverage needed to prevent this type of vandalism from occurring given the challenges of operating, patrolling and maintaining a 20,000 acre park.

Having said the above, we will find the time and staff to address your concerns, similar to what we have done in the past when receiving these sorts of complaints. I ask for your patience in this matter, as the tasks associated with dealing with this problem -- performing maintenance in this area, removing the jumps, preventing unauthorized trail use and focused ranger patrols -- will have to be prioritized into existing work plans and schedules. Any assistance that could be provided by volunteer groups would be greatly

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appreciated and would likely result in the problem being addressed sooner rather than later.

Thank you again for bringing these issues to my attention. Should you have additional questions, I can be reached at (916) 988-0205 or by email at tjack@parks.ca.gov

Regards,

Ted Jackson

Folsom Sector Superintendent

California State Parks

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cc: U. S. Fish & Wildlife - Office of Law Enforcement

Attn: Marilee Brown, Special Agent 2800 Cottage Way, Room W-2928

Sacramento, CA 95825

Jim Holmes, Supervisor District 3, Placer County

Kirk Uhler, Supervisor District 4, Placer County

Ted Gaines, Assemblyman, 4th Assembly District

Scott Nakaji, District Superintendent, Gold Fields District

Jaede Miloslavich