24.17 CHAPTER 17 - HAZARDOUS MATERIALS AND PUBLIC SAFETY

Section 17.1.7, DEIR/EIS page 17-5, FEIR/EIS page 17-5: Revisions made in response to NTFPD and CalFire comment letters

protection outside the SRAs is the responsibility of local (LRAs) or federal (FRAs) jurisdictions. The Project area, including the entire North Tahoe Fire Protection District (NTFPD) service area, is classified as a SRA, with Calfire having primary responsibility for wildland fire suppression Most of the Project area is in a LRA served by the North Tahoe Fire Protection District (NTFPD). The Mid-Mountain Base area is in a SRA-(Calfire 2007b, NTPFD 2009). The USFS LTBMU provides wildland fire protection on USFS lands adjacent to HMR and in SRA at HMR via a Ceooperative Fire Management Aagreement (CFMA) with Calfire. NTFPD has the primary responsibility for structure fire protection suppression and related other emergency services at the North Base and South Base areas (See Chapter 16 – Public Services). An NTFPD fire station is adjacent to the Project area in Homewood.

The Placer County Fire Safe Alliance works towards improving public outreach on fire prevention and facilitating coordination among State and federal agencies for fuel load reduction, healthy forest ecosystems, and fire safe communities (Placer County Fire Safe Alliance 2009).

Section 17.2.5, DEIR/EIS page 17-11, FEIR/EIS page 17-11: Revisions made in response to NTFPD and CalFire comment letters

17.2.5 State of California – Building Codes in Wildland-Urban Interface

The California Building Standards Commission adopted the Office of the State Fire Marshal's emergency regulations amending the CCR, Title 24, Part 2, known as the 2007 California Building Code (CBC), Chapter 7 (§701A.3.2 New Buildings Located in Any Fire Hazard Severity Zone). Calfire and the Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) mapped fire hazard areas and established building standards to lessen the vulnerability of buildings to wildfire and resist the intrusion of flames and burning embers projected during a wildfire. The WUI Fire Area Building Standards establish minimum standards for materials and material assemblies and provide a reasonable level of exterior wildfire exposure protection for buildings. The new building standards went into effect in 2008. Calfire requests that Placer County and/or the TRPA implement and enforce per County Code applicable SRA Fire Safe Regulations under the most recent version of PRC §4290-§4291 and CBC §701A.3.2 at the time the application is submitted.

Under PRC §4290-4291, Calfire establishes standards for emergency vehicle access and fuel and vegetation conditions in the vicinity of structures. The intent is to reduce fuel loadings in the vicinity of structures to alter the behavior of a wildfire, such as slowing the rate of spread and reducing the intensity, to allow suppression activities and structure protection activities to occur (State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection and California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection 2006). Roadway geometry standards, including roadway width, curve radii, and surfacing, are prescribed to ensure adequate evacuation routes and emergency vehicle access are provided. PRC §4290 states that dead end roadways should be no longer than 1,320 feet in length when serving 1-5 acre parcels, and 2,640 feet when serving 5-20 acre parcels. Turnarounds of at least 60 feet in diameter must be provided at the road terminus.

Impact PS-1, DEIR/EIS page 17-13, FEIR/EIS page 17-13: Revisions made in response to NTFPD and CalFire comment letters

Analysis: Significant Impact; Proposed Project (Alternative 1/11A) and Alternatives 3, 4, 5, and 6

Construction and operation of new residential, commercial and recreational facilities in the Project area in a wildland-urban interface (WUI) setting would increase the exposure of people and structures to the risk of wildfires. Wildfires are a substantial threat to the HMR Project area and vicinity due to location of people and structures in a WUI setting with heavy fuel loads, steep terrain, summer dry conditions, and multiple ignition sources. Calfire classifies the Project area as a Very High Fire Hazard Area (CAL FIRECalfire 2009a).

The Project area, including the NTFPD service area, is classified as SRA with Calfire having primary wildland fire suppression responsibility. Through a CFMA, the USFS conducts wildland fire suppression and fire protection activities. serves most of the Project area located in an LRA; the Mid-Mountain Base area is in an SRA, served by the USFS through an MOU with Calfire. NTFPD serves the Project area as the agency having jurisdiction for all fire department emergencies except for wildland fires. The Proposed Project (Alternative 1/Alternative 1/1A) and Alternatives 3, 4, 5, and 6 include:

- annexing the remaining HMR properties into the NTFPD; and
- the adoption and implementation of a fuel reduction program. The Proposed Project (Alternative 1) and Alternatives 3, 5, and 6 include
- and upgrading the existing snowmaking system to be compatible with wildland fire suppression needs in the Project area.

Specific fuel reduction measures, building designs and materials, and snowmaking water delivery systems have not been designed. Project compliance with applicable building codes (CBC Chapter 7), road access, and wildland fuel management codes (PRC §4290-§4291) are not known. Consequently, the increase in exposure of people and structures to wildfire hazards in a WUI setting in the Project area is considered a significant impact.

Mitigation Measure PS-1, DEIR/EIS page 17-14, FEIR/EIS page 17-14: Revisions made in response to NTFPD and CalFire comment letters

Mitigation: PS-1: NTFPD Design Approval and Annexation.

Prior to issuing Building Permits for the Project, Placer County shall require the Project Applicant to pay appropriate fair share development impact fees for Project review and to maintain existing levels of wildland fire protection service and ensure compliance with existing state and local wildland fire protection standards in the NTFPD service area. The Project Applicant shall be required to post a bond to ensure that appropriate mitigation measures are completed and in place during construction and implemented for project operation. -Development impact fees shall provide for The NTFPD and Calfire shall-review and approve-approval of a Fire Suppression and Management Plan for the Project area, including building materials and designs, fire protection systems in buildings, landscaping, fire flows to hydrants and the snowmaking system, emergency vehicle access routes and turnarounds, and vegetation treatments in the Project area to ensure compliance with the most recent CBC Chapter 7, PRC §4290-§4291, and other applicable state and local codes. At the time the application is submitted Prior to occupancy, the NTFPD shall annex the Project area (subject to a LAFCO process) to provide for an increased level of fire protection. The NTFPD shall enter into mutual aid agreements for wildfire suppression with the USFS LTBMU and Calfire, and coordinate with these agencies on developing and implementing wildland fuel reduction measures as needed in the Project area. NTFPD will have the responsibility and enhanced capability to control fire dangers and respond to emergencies over the entirety of the HMR Project

After

Mitigation: Less than Significant Impact; Proposed Project (Alternative 1/11A) and Alternatives 3, 4, 5, and 6

Implementation of Mitigation Measure PS-1 will increase the level of <u>wildland</u> fire protection capacity available to the Project area to a level equivalent the <u>most current</u> state and local standards for <u>WUIto that in nearby urban</u>_areas. Design approvals will ensure that the Project incorporates measure to reduce the risk of exposure of people and structures to wildfires to a level of less than significant.

HOMEWOOD MOUNTAIN RESORT SKI AREA MASTER PLAN EIR/EIS

Impact PS-C1, DEIR/EIS page 17-19, FEIR/EIS page 17-19: Revisions made in response to NTFPD and CalFire comment letters

Impact: PS-C1: Will the Project have significant cumulative impacts to public safety?

Analysis: Less than Significant Impact; Proposed Project (Alternative 1/1A) and Alternatives 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6

Implementation of Mitigation Measure PS-1 ensures that the Project is built and operated to current state and local standards for construction and occupation of facilities in a WUI setting. As building codes (CBC Chapter 7) and standards for emergency vehicle access, evacuation routes, and vegetation management (PRC §4290-§4291) have become more stringent, building and operating the Project to current state and local standards for WUI settings is expected to reduce wildland fire risks compared to existing conditions. Consequently, the Project is not expected to contribute to a cumulative impact to public safety related to wildland fire hazards.

Other development projects in the Tahoe Basin where older structures would be demolished have a similar potential to result in health hazards related to exposure of persons to asbestos and lead-based paint. –However, as with the Project, an accredited inspector in accordance with EPA and Cal-OSHA standards under Clean Air Act §112 must remove ACMs and lead, and therefore impacts would be expected to be less than significant and no cumulatively considerable contribution is expected. Other projects would have a similar less than significant impact from routine use and transport of hazardous materials commonly used during construction and operation of ski resorts, residential, and commercial uses because they are subject to the same government regulations. These hazardous materials include chlorine, gasoline, asphalt, and diesel. Transportation of hazardous materials on area roadways is regulated by the CHP and Caltrans, and the use of these materials is regulated by the DTSC, as outlined in CCR 22.