

stream shallower, which warms water temperature. It also decreases aquatic food sources by limiting benthic macroinvertebrate habitat<sup>14</sup>. Li found seven major human-induced sources contributing to greater sediment loading of the stream: 1) bank erosion from a llama ranch downstream of Rock Springs Road, 2) stream-scour behind bank boulders upstream of King Road, 3) bank degradation along equestrian trails, 4) removal of vegetation through application of herbicides downstream of Loomis Regional Park, 5) degradation due to cattle upstream of Sierra College Boulevard, 6) off-road vehicle use, 7) development in Rocklin and Roseville without adequate use of BMPs. Most of these problems can be relatively quickly corrected, so it is unknown if these particular issues are still of concern in 2003; however, recent studies have indicated significant amounts of sediment are still present in the channel<sup>15</sup>.

Habitat conditions for aquatic species in Linda and Cirby creeks have been classified as suboptimal; however, it was also noted that egg incubation and hatching has occurred successfully<sup>16</sup>. Water temperature was one of the limiting factors for salmonids during the warm seasons. Non-salmonid fish species identified on these creeks included Sacramento sucker, bluegill/green sunfish hybrid, hitch, Sacramento pikeminnow, mosquitofish and to a lesser extent spotted bass, largemouth bass, golden shiner, and black bullhead.

### 3.10 Recreation Resources

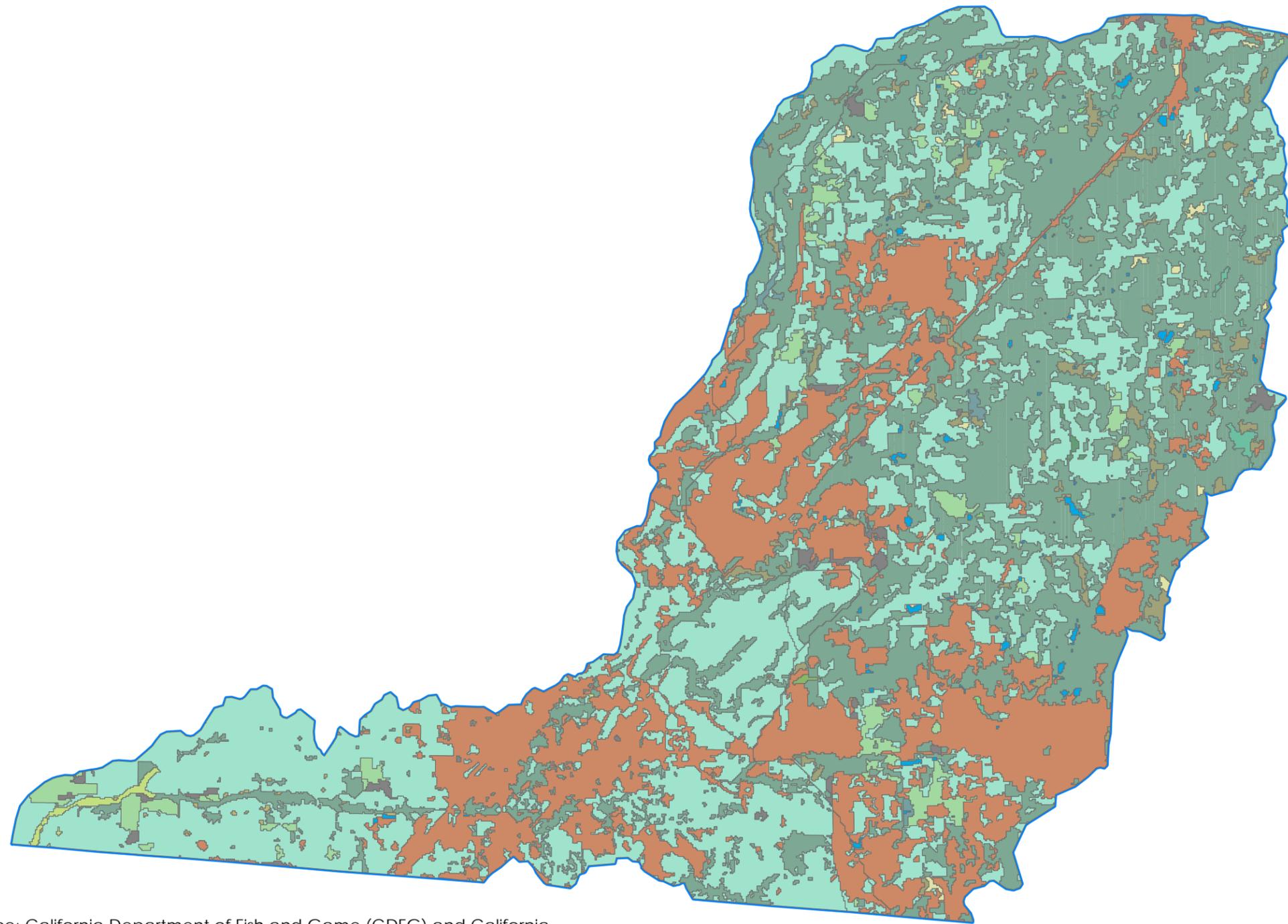
Recreational sites within the Dry Creek watershed include a number of public uses, including parks, golf courses, open space/greenbelt, streams and lakes, schools, recreational clubs and businesses, and wetlands/vernal pools, for their educational opportunities (see Figure 3-13). Schools, parks and open space are of primary importance in developing a plan for the Dry Creek Greenway, since these land uses are areas where people can access the Greenway as well as being major destinations for alternative modes of transportation such as bicycling. Children bicycling or walking between home, schools and parks should have a route that is separate from the road network as much as possible to improve safety, quality of experience and environmental education.

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<sup>14</sup> Ibid.

<sup>15</sup> HDR, 2003.

<sup>16</sup> Garcia and Associates, 2002.

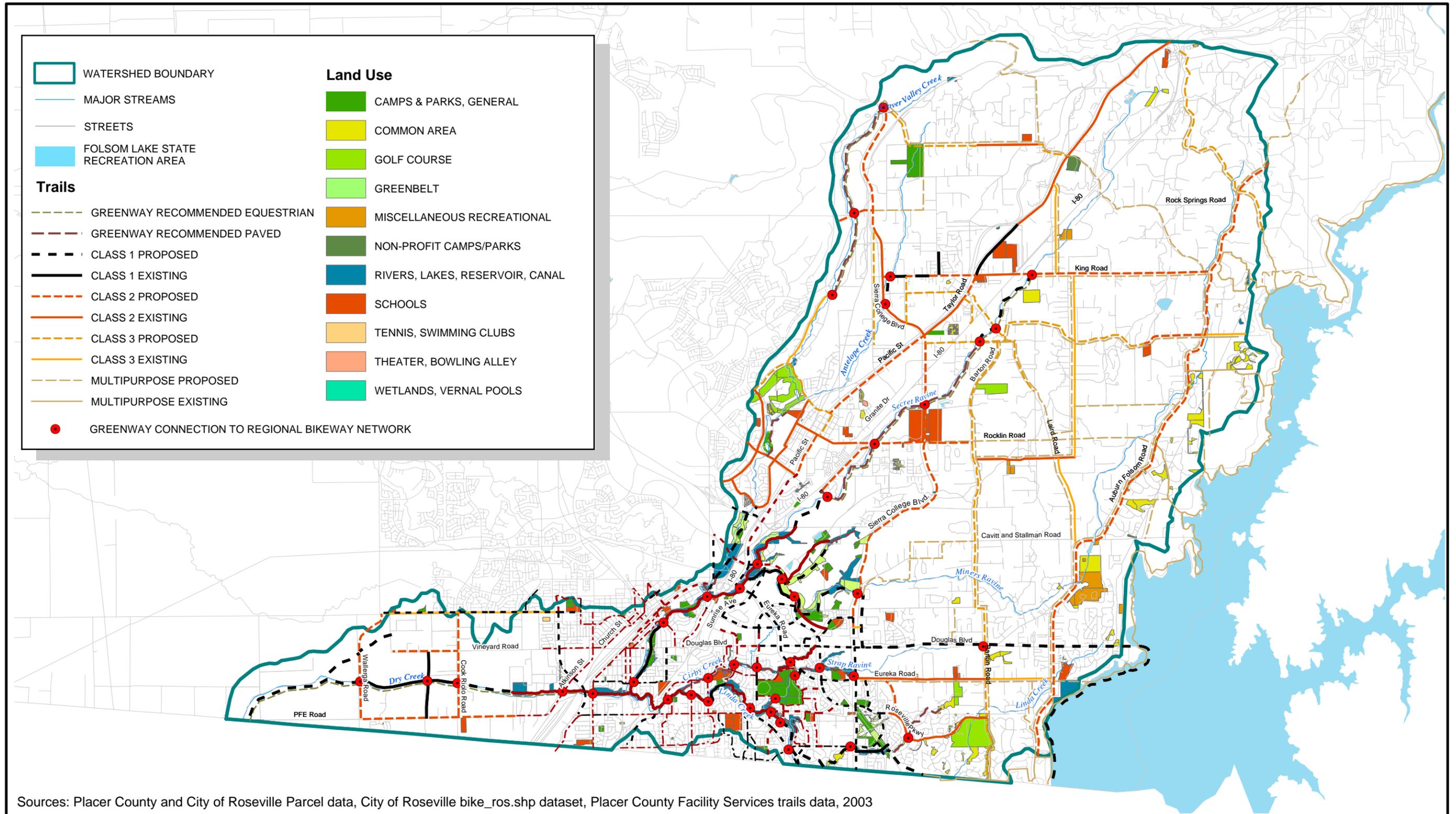


Source: California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) and California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF/FRAP) westveg dataset, 2001

## VEGETATION







# RECREATION RESOURCES

## DRY CREEK GREENWAY REGIONAL VISION

## FIGURE 3-13

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Recreational areas within the watershed include Sabre City, Westwood, Rusch Community, Cresthaven, Cirby Creek, Mark White, Eastwood, Garbolino, Saugstad, Kaseburg, Weber, Ferretti, Royer, Woodbridge, Lincoln Estates, Sierra Gardens, Madera, Sculpture, Crestmont, Edgecliff Court, Maidu, Willard Dietrich, Ray E. Lockridge, Olympus, Hillsborough, Treelake, Miners Ravine Nature Preserve, Sterling Point, Sierra Meadows, Woodside, Sunset East, Johnson Springview, Quarry, Clover Valley, Sunrise Loomis, Griffith Quarry, Loomis Regional, Granite Bay Regional Park (planned) and Traylor Ranch.

Elementary School Districts include Center Joint School District, Dry Creek Joint School District, Roseville City School District, Eureka Union School District, Rocklin School District, Loomis Union School District, Penryn School District, Newcastle School District and Auburn School District. High School Districts include Center Joint High School District, Roseville Joint Union School District, Del Oro High School District and Placer Union High School District. Sierra College is also located within the watershed, at the intersection of Sierra College Boulevard and Rocklin Road, and is a major educational and recreational contributor.

While golf courses are not primary destinations for alternative modes of transportation, this land use forms large tracts of open space within the watershed. They are mentioned here because public courses could be staging areas for accessing the greenway, as they are often adjacent to existing streams. They may also function as habitat for birds and small animals in such cases. Golf Courses in the watershed include Indian Creek Country Club, Sunset Whitney Country Club, Granite Bay Country Club, Morgan Creek and Roseville Rolling Greens Golf Course.

The Folsom Lake State Recreation Area (FLSRA), though outside of the watershed, forms a critical element in the Dry Creek watershed recreation component. The large number of people using the FLSRA may access the Greenway through the Baldwin Lake or Douglas Boulevard connections. Similarly, recreating people in the Sacramento County planned Dry Creek Parkway may access the Greenway through the Dry Creek connection at the Placer-Sacramento county line. Maidu Park is a large tract of continuous open space adjacent to Linda Creek at Strap Ravine and is also a major recreational destination. Indian Stone Corral in Orangevale is adjacent to the Baldwin Lake connection and could also function as a staging area for the Greenway.

### **3.11 Existing and Anticipated Floodplain Conditions**

The 100 year floodplain in the Dry Creek watershed varies in condition, from intact riparian zones protected from development by regulations, to impacted and encroached-upon areas where development has occurred prior to adoption of regulations restricting development in the floodplain. Current regulations in Roseville restrict development in the 100 year floodplain. Development in infill areas is prohibited in the floodway zone, but may be permitted in the floodway fringe (as defined by the Nolte Future Floodplain Information). Development in the remainder of Roseville is prohibited within the future floodplain (floodway and floodway fringe) except as evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Placer County regulations prohibit development in the 100 year floodplain, unless insufficient area exists outside of the floodplain on a specific property for the zoned development to occur. In the case of the latter, regulations specify actions that must be taken to minimize the impact of the development on the flow of floodwaters. Loomis also restricts development in the 100 year floodplain as mapped by FEMA for build-out conditions. Rocklin has a similar policy.

Figure 3-14 maps the FEMA 100 year and 500 year floodplain. In the upper watershed, particularly in the Horseshoe Bar/Penryn area, floodplains are narrow or insignificant. As the tributaries converge, flooding becomes a more serious issue. Roseville has historically been heavily impacted by floods. In the Roseville area, the floodplain varies from less than 200 feet at the Roseville Parkway bridge over Secret Ravine to greater than 1600 feet downstream of the Dry Creek-Linda Creek confluence. The latter is one of the few areas that exhibit a 500 year floodplain that is significantly larger than the 100 year.

A 1992 report by the Placer County Flood Control and Water Conservation District and the Sacramento County Water Agency<sup>17</sup> examined the potential impact of flooding in the Dry Creek watershed and recommended possible solutions. It found that substantial flood damage will occur during a 100 year flood under the existing conditions. It projected an increase in peak flood flows of 10 to 20 percent as a result of development in the basin. It also found that under current and anticipated future conditions, 70% of the bridges and culverts in the watershed are inadequate to accommodate a 100 year flood, and 52% are insufficient for a 25 year event. Based upon their research, Placer County concluded that local on-site detention basins cannot completely mitigate the cumulative impacts of future development in the watershed, and that regional detention basins could be significant in reducing existing flooding problems and mitigating future impacts. They also recommended against significant clearing of vegetation, as this would increase the level of flooding in the region. The report further recommended construction of a number of regional detention basins. None of these basins have been constructed as of Summer 2003, and a number of the more promising sites have been deemed unfeasible due to neighborhood opposition and/or other issues.

The Placer County study was followed in 2000 by an additional regional detention study by Montgomery Watson. The 2000 report<sup>18</sup> supported the 1992 conclusions that the on-site detention requirements for new development were insufficient to account for the increase in peak flood flows due to that development. The 2000 report recommends five sites for regional detention, in addition to those recommended in the 1992 report: Miners Ravine upstream of Auburn Folsom Road, Miners Ravine upstream of Moss Lane, Dry Creek at Saugstad Park, Linda Creek between Oak Ridge and Rocky Ridge Drive, and Dry Creek west of Cook Riolo Road. Additionally, it was found that increasing local detention requirements to reduce runoff to 70% of existing conditions was sufficient to maintain regional flooding at current (2000) levels. The Recommendation of the 2000 report was to take one of two possible actions: 1) adopt regulations for new development to reduce runoff to 70% of current state, or 2) construct regional detention facilities at the Dry Creek/Saugstad Parks site and the Linda Creek site noted above, as well as on Strap Ravine at McLaren Drive in Maidu Park. This latter site was identified in the 1992 study as a potential regional detention site and is currently under further study by Placer County Flood Control and Water Conservation District. The new development regulations were not adopted.

An August 2003 report by the Placer County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (PCFCWCD) recommended two sites on Secret Ravine for floodplain restoration<sup>19</sup>. Site 1 is located approximately 75 feet upstream of the Sierra College Boulevard crossing and extends 1400 feet upstream. Site 2 starts approximately 500 feet upstream of the Roseville/Rocklin City limits and encompasses 30 acres. Restoration goals for these

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<sup>17</sup> PCFCWCD and SCWA, 1992.

<sup>18</sup> Montgomery Watson, 2000.

<sup>19</sup> HDR Engineering, 2003.

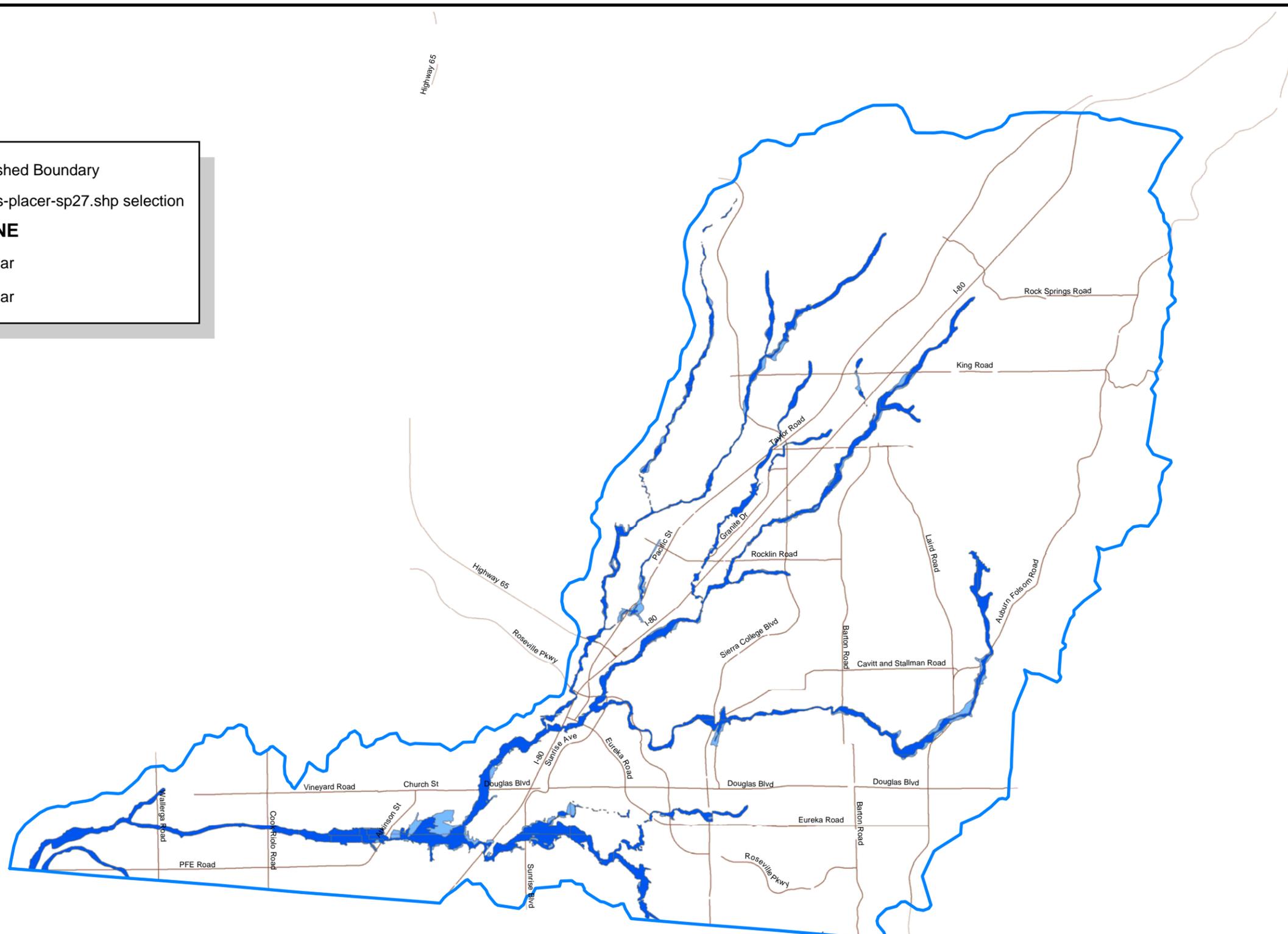
projects include improving the creek's access to the floodplain through channel widening and floodplain terracing, increasing the sinuosity of the channel, reduction of bank erosion sources, removal of invasive plants and revegetation with native riparian species, potential addition of in-stream structures, restoration of side-channels or backwater areas and limited recreational improvements.

Additionally, PCFCWCD is currently conducting an alternative regional detention site analysis to identify updated/viable regional detention sites within the watershed.

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Watershed Boundary  
 Streets-placer-sp27.shp selection  
**FLOOD ZONE**  
 100 year  
 500 year



Source: Federal Emergency Management Agency, 1997

### FEMA FLOOD PLAINS



**DRY CREEK GREENWAY REGIONAL VISION**

**FIGURE 3-14**

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### 3.12 Key Positive Corridor Attributes

Several opportunities exist in the watershed that support the implementation of the Greenway. A partial list includes designated open space along creeks, parks within or adjacent to the Greenway, public land near the creek corridors, the proximity of Sierra College to Secret Ravine, valuable riparian vegetation, extent of floodplains and existing and proposed bikeways within the corridor. Land along the major creeks that is currently designated open space supports the Greenway Plan because trails can often be located in these areas without requiring purchase of land or easements. The exception to this is designated open space that is held by private organizations such as HOAs that permit access to residents of that HOA. However, even these common space lands preserve the open space from development, and thus preserve habitat values. They also may function as private connector routes to Greenway trails for local residents.

Parks within or adjacent to the Greenway are positive attributes. They function as staging areas providing access to Greenway trails, picnic and recreational areas for trail users to gather, relax and play, restroom areas, and focal points for larger trail events. Parks adjacent to creeks are located on publicly-owned land within the Greenway which is also available for trails. Similarly, land other than parks that is already in public ownership such as the public/quasi-public land use designation provides additional potential routes for trails.

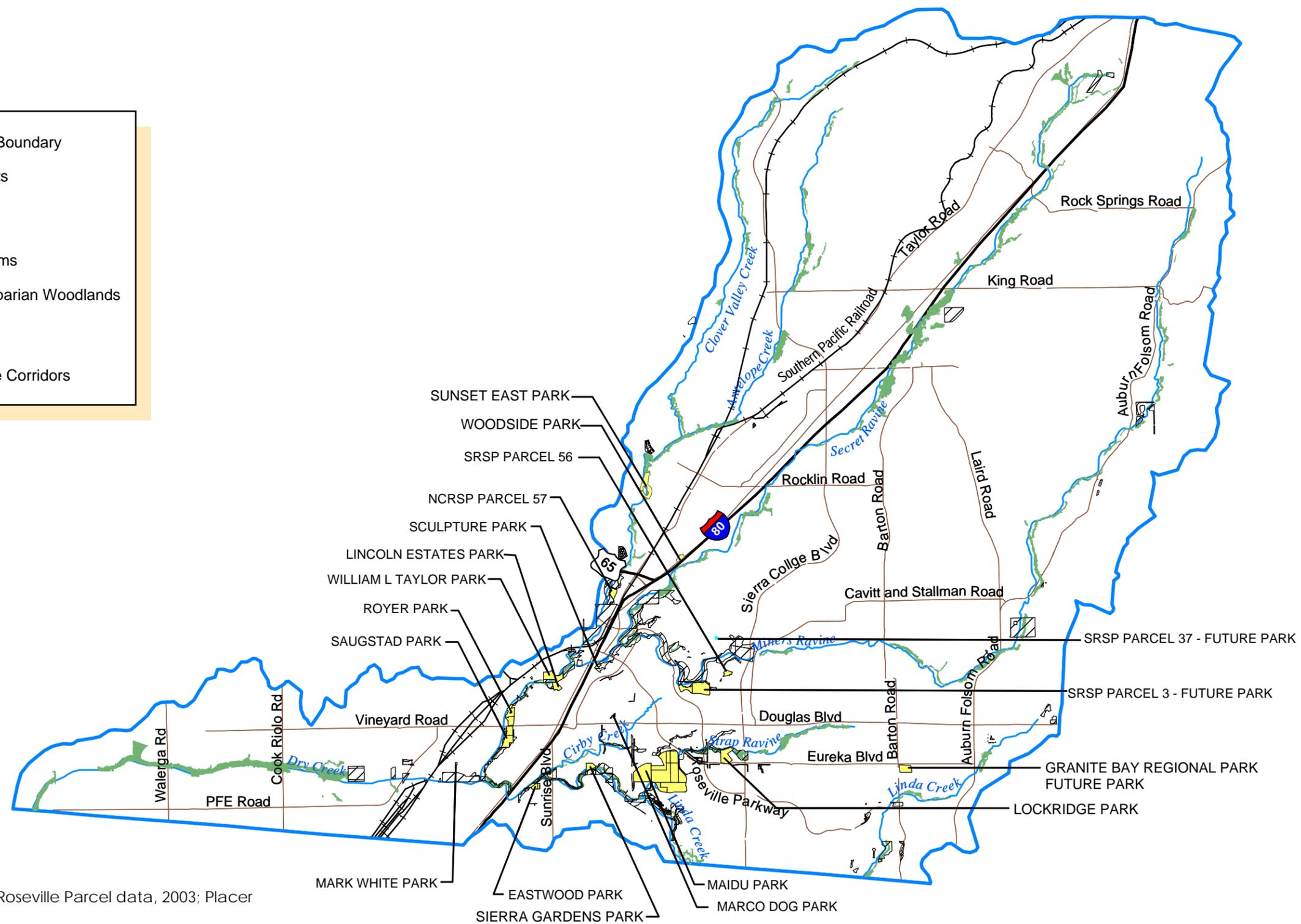
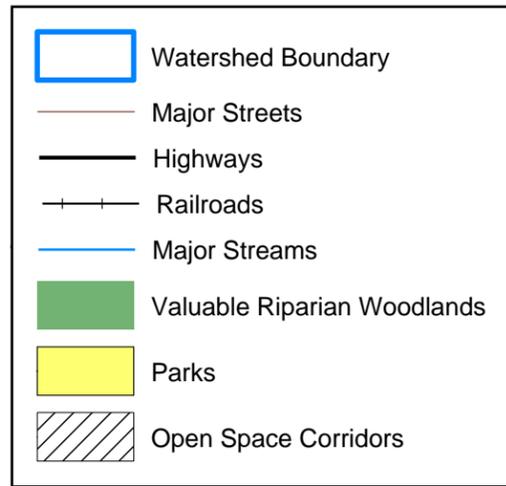
Sierra College is a positive corridor factor because of the potential involvement with Secret Ravine of students and faculty in environmental programs. The college has programs in biological sciences, earth sciences, environmental horticulture, forestry, geography, and geology, all of which could benefit from the use of the open space along the Ravine as an outdoor lab. Involvement of students at the college in creek programs may also help to build public advocacy for the creek. Sierra College can additionally function as a staging area for potential trails in that area. Elementary and High Schools are also positive factors when in proximity to the Greenway for similar reasons. Environmental programs in public and private schools often utilize natural open space for outdoor classrooms.

Valuable riparian vegetation and the 100 year floodplain are protected from development by existing City and County regulations, and because of this, they provide natural open space corridors for trails and wildlife and aquatic species habitat. Additionally, mature, intact riparian vegetation provides an aesthetically pleasing environment for urban residents seeking a respite from the city.

Finally, existing bikeways and those proposed in the City of Roseville's Bikeway Master Plan and Placer County's Regional Bikeway Plan support Greenway objectives for recreational trails where they follow the stream corridors. Several segments of Class I bikeways have already been built in Roseville along Dry Creek, Miners Ravine and Linda Creek, and where they don't exist currently, major sections are planned along Dry Creek from the Placer-Sacramento County line to the confluence of Secret and Miners Ravines, along Cirby Creek from its confluence with Dry Creek to Linda Creek, along Linda Creek from Cirby Creek to the powerline corridor east of Sierra College Boulevard, along Secret Ravine from its confluence with Miners Ravine to China Garden Road, and along Miners Ravine from its confluence with Secret Ravine to the Sierra College Boulevard crossing. Figure 3-15 maps some of these positive corridor attributes.

In addition to the physical positive corridor attributes, positive social attributes support the Greenway through public backing and stewardship. Some of the social factors that support the Greenway concept include the desire to

- recreate in natural surroundings,
- use alternative forms of transportation,
- protect streams in a natural, unchannelized forms,
- experience natural settings and wildlife,
- preserve and protect wildlife and fish,
- preserve settings for environmental education,
- create a regional amenity that will attract visitors,
- preserve sufficient flood capacity to minimize damage from storms,
- protect water quality in the streams.



Sources: Placer County and City of Roseville Parcel data, 2003; Placer Legacy westrip dataset, 1999

## POSITIVE CORRIDOR ATTRIBUTES

