

MEMORANDUM
OFFICE OF THE
COUNTY EXECUTIVE
COUNTY OF PLACER

TO: Honorable Members of the Board of Supervisors

FROM: Thomas M. Miller, County Executive Officer
By: Jennifer Merchant, Principal Management Analyst

DATE: May 27, 2008

SUBJECT: Approve a Resolution designating the dates of July 4, 5, and 6, 2008 and July 3, 4, and 5, 2009 as summer holiday periods when alcohol will be banned on the Truckee River, pursuant to Ordinance No. 5507-B, and SB 1159.

ACTION REQUESTED: Approve a Resolution designating specified dates during the 2008 and 2009 summer holiday periods when alcohol will be banned on the Truckee River, pursuant to Ordinance No. 5507-B, and SB 1159.

BACKGROUND: On April 14, 2008, your board approved Ordinance No. 5507, which prohibits possession of open alcoholic containers for a distance of three feet on both sides of the Truckee River, from the outfall of Lake Tahoe, upstream of the Highway 89 Bridge in Tahoe City to the upstream edge of the Alpine Meadows Road Bridge during designated summer holiday periods. The action was taken as a companion to state legislation being sought to authorize a proposed ban on the navigable waterway portion of the Truckee River. The state legislation is still pending in the Senate as of the date this memo was written, but this Resolution would make that statute effective, should it be enacted.

Based on raft count data collected from the County's River Monitor, as well as consultation with law enforcement, the summer holiday periods designated in the Resolution include July 4, 5 and 6, 2008 and July 3, 4, and 5, 2009. Staff will work with affected departments and community stakeholders to monitor effectiveness.

FISCAL IMPACT: There is no cost in approving this Resolution. Related costs associated with law enforcement efforts in enforcing the proposed ban, are not expected to be greater than existing. There will be a nominal cost to produce and install required notification signage.

RECOMMENDATION: Approve a Resolution designating dates during the 2008 and 2009 summer holiday periods when Ordinance No. 5507-B, and **SB 1159, should it be passed by the legislature**, banning alcohol on the Truckee River, will be effective.

Attachments: Resolution

**Before the Board of Supervisors
County of Placer, State of California**

In the matter of: A RESOLUTION Approving July 4, 5, and 6, 2008 and July 3, 4, and 5, 2009 as summer holiday periods when alcohol will be banned on the Truckee River pursuant to Ordinance No. 5507-B, and SB 1159, should it be passed by the legislature.

Resol. No: _____

Ord. No: _____

First Reading: _____

The following Resolution was duly passed by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Placer at a regular meeting held on, by the following vote on roll call:

Ayes:

Noes:

Absent:

Signed and approved by me after its passage.

Chairman, Board of Supervisors

Attest:
Clerk of said Board

WHEREAS, for decades, the Truckee River has played a central role in the summer recreation experience at North Lake Tahoe; and

WHEREAS, the Truckee River is a navigable waterway within the state of California that draws thousands of rafters during the summer months; and

WHEREAS, alcohol-related misconduct and associated public health, safety and environmental degradation issues on the Truckee River over the Fourth of July holiday period have significantly increased; and

WHEREAS, the Truckee River is growing as a significant epicenter for various alcohol-related incidents during certain summer holiday periods; and

WHEREAS, the number of rafts floating the Truckee River, on the 4th of July, doubled from 2006 to 2007 and the associated problems have increased to unprecedented proportions; and

WHEREAS, the Placer County Board of Supervisors on February 5, 2008 unanimously approved a Resolution requesting a state statute to ban alcohol during designated periods approved by the Placer County Board of Supervisors on the Truckee River (from the outfall of Lake Tahoe upstream of the Highway 89 Bridge in Tahoe City to the upstream edge of the Alpine Meadows Road Bridge) to assist in resolving alcohol-related misconduct and related public health, safety and environmental degradation issues; and

WHEREAS, as of the date of writing of this Resolution, the requested legislation (SB 1159) has been passed by the State Assembly and is currently in front of the Senate for approval; and

WHEREAS, the Placer County Board of Supervisors has also approved Ordinance No. 5507-B, adding Section 9.08.030 to Article 9.08 of the Placer County Code, prohibiting possession of open alcoholic containers for a distance of three feet on both sides Truckee River (from the outfall of Lake Tahoe upstream of the Highway 89 Bridge in Tahoe City to the upstream edge of the Alpine Meadows Road Bridge) including all islands, outcroppings and bridges, during designated summer holiday periods; and

WHEREAS, the limited summer holiday-period alcohol ban is supported by the Placer County Sheriff, USDA Forest Service, Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit, North Lake Tahoe Chamber of Commerce, Tahoe City Public Utility District, Tahoe City Downtown Association, and various businesses that operate on and around the Truckee River,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF PLACER that Section 9.08.030 of the Placer County Code, and SB 1159, which would add Section 25608.10 to the California Business and Professions Code, if enacted by the State legislature, shall be in effect and enforceable July 4, 5 and 6, 2008, and July 3, 4, and 5, 2009.

