



Truckee River running through East Sparks and UNR Farms

MAJOR COALITION PLAN CONCEPT ELEMENTS

The Coalition Concept Plan recognizes that traditional approaches to flood control may have failed in the past because they often don't respect a river's natural tendencies or take into account the natural processes and habitats surrounding the river. This plan combines unique elements that allow the Truckee River to be a river, not just a flood channel.

The Coalition's Concept Plan contains four major elements: Structural, Restoration and River Parkway, Mitigation, and Flood Management.

Structural: The overall proposal is to flood a smaller area of the Truckee Meadows, reducing the need for floodwalls and levees. Some urban areas such as the southern part of Sparks, the Reno/Tahoe International Airport, downtown Reno, and the lowest lying residential areas (for example, Pebble Beach and Eastside subdivision areas) will need flood solutions. Those floodwalls will be as low as possible, designed to fit the location and will maintain access to the river where appropriate. Some buildings can also be flood-proofed to act as floodwalls. Other structural elements include:

- Meandering river that can flood onto curved, terraced riverbanks
- New causeways and overflow channels to move flood waters past existing bridges
- Removing or replacing dams or diversions in the river
- Design that allows for creation of fish-friendly, dam-free white water parks in downtown Reno
- Minimize levees or flood barriers in residential areas, except for especially low areas
- New interior drainage systems

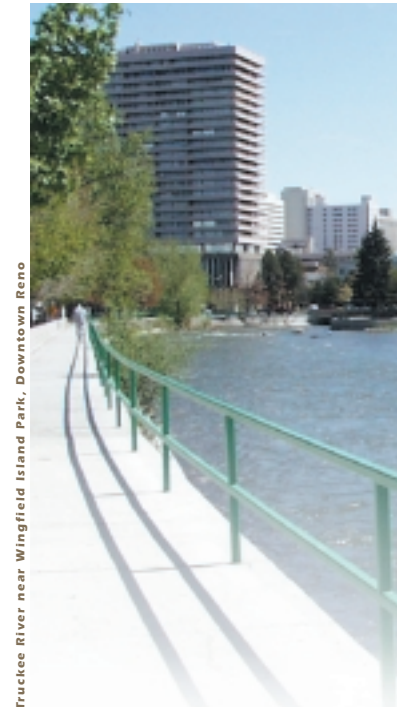
Restoration and River Parkway: The primary objective is to restore a living river and create river parkway areas that provide recreational activities, nurture wildlife and improve water quality. Elements include:

- Natural floodplain areas
- River parkways along the banks
- Natural-looking berms and trails to act as levees
- Recreating natural river meanders
- Removing unnecessary floodwalls and sewer pipes that cross over the river
- Remove riprap where possible and restore river bank areas for riparian vegetation
- Restoring wetlands where possible to improve water quality and habitats

Mitigation: The plan has provisions to mitigate increased flooding down river, including securing flood easements, restoring down river lands as active floodplains, and flood-proofing. In the project area, mitigation actions include managing construction impacts, managing noxious weeds, and protecting archeological resources.

Floodplain Management: There will be a framework to manage the project during and after construction. We need to protect the investment the community is making in flood protection. Integral to the plan is joining the National Flood Insurance Program's Community Rating System, which provides monetary incentives for flood protection activities that can include adopting higher building standards, acquiring open space, and implementing an early warning system. The local sponsors handle floodplain management and are working to increase coordination on these critical issues.

Reno, Sparks, and Washoe County are working together to ensure that—with continued involvement and support from citizens, stakeholders, local technical experts, environmental resource agencies, businesses, industry, and community organizations—we can finalize a plan that protects the Truckee River community from the threat of floods and restores the life of the Truckee River.



Truckee River near Wingfield Island Park, Downtown Reno



TRUCKEE RIVER COMMUNITY COALITION CONCEPT PLAN

KEY TO MAP

This map shows examples and locations of six key features for river and floodplain management. They are explained in more detail on the next page.

- 1 DOWNTOWN RIVER ACCESS
- 2 ELIMINATE BOTTLENECKS
- 3 ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION
- 4 RIVER PARKWAY
- 5 TERRACED RIVERBANKS
- 6 DOWNSTREAM MITIGATION