



# TULEYOME

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October 26, 2016

Amanda James, District Supervisor  
Bureau of Land Management, Ukiah Office  
[ajames@blm.gov](mailto:ajames@blm.gov)

Re: Walker Ridge: AltaGas Permit Revocation and Specific Management Plan

Dear Ms James,

Tuleyome is pleased to learn that the Bureau of Land Management has revoked the permit for the proposed AltaGas industrial wind development project on Walker Ridge, and that AltaGas is removing all of the facilities installed during the study period. AltaGas is the 5th or 6th wind development company to fail at Walker Ridge. This is primarily because Walker Ridge is an extremely marginal wind resource area.

In contrast, Walker Ridge is an incredibly rich resource area with serpentine soils, rare plants, and sensitive animals, including 3 Areas of Critical Environmental Concern; soaring bald eagles; and many Native American resources. Walker Ridge is also an accessible region for many forms of recreation, including hiking, mountain biking, horse riding, fishing at Indian Valley Reservoir, camping, hunting, off-highway-vehicle use, and more. However, there is no management plan for Walker Ridge, and minimal enforcement of protection measures or other regulations on Walker Ridge.

At this time Tuleyome requests that:

1. A moratorium immediately be placed on any new wind development or geothermal trespass permits at Walker Ridge.
2. A Specific Management Plan be developed for Walker Ridge that withdraws energy development as a use; further protects important resource areas; includes a recreation management plan for the region, and identifies appropriate lands that should be included within the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument (BSM NM). Perhaps this can be accomplished in part in conjunction with the BSM NM Resource Management Plan.

Tuleyome has a conservation easement on Dr. Richard Miller's property, which abuts BLM lands. Tuleyome also holds fee ownership of the 1280-acre Silver Spur Ranch (SSR), which is located ¼-mile south of Indian Valley Reservoir, contains ½ mile of riparian habitat on the North Fork of Cache Creek, and abuts BLM lands on 3 sides. We are currently experiencing illegal off-road-vehicle trespass from BLM properties onto the Silver Spur Ranch; we will be fencing some areas to control this. There are some roads on the SSR, however, that might work well with BLM lands to provide legal loop trails. A Walker Ridge Specific Plan is the best place to comprehensively address this and similar issues.

We look forward to working with you on these issues.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bob Schneider". The letters are cursive and somewhat stylized.

Senior Policy Director

530-304-6215

[bschneider@tuleyome.org](mailto:bschneider@tuleyome.org)

Cc: Este Stifel, District Manager  
Rebecca Wong, Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument  
Don Amador, Blue Ribbon Coalition  
Laurel Harkness, International Mountain Bicycling Association  
Ryan Henson, California Wilderness Coalition