NEWS

Oak savanna object of redesign

SANTA CLARITA, Calif. -A Santa Clarita developer will redesign a golf course for the second time to preserve an oak savanna. The plans call for an 18-hole course and1,880 housing units to be built on 800 acres in portions of a Significant Ecological Area near Magic Mountain.

The developers wanted to cut 148 oak trees to make way for nine holes of golf and some housing.

Hawaiian agency charged with golf policy

State report says gov't must be more restrictive

The Hawaiian Legislature has charged the Office of State Planning with creating new golf course policy recommendations, the result of recommendations from a state-funded report.

Most of the recommendations would make it somewhat harder to create new golf courses. There are 68 golf course in Hawaii, 13 of them on the Big Island, with 95 more proposed for Hawaii, 31 of them on the Big Island.

The city and county of Honolulu have been charging impact fees, development taxes and community benefit assessments, all special fees

Golf course developers now must supply an environmental impact statement, but the state report says the government needs to be more restrictive, saying there should be no new golf courses in conservation districts and only very limited golf development on agricultural land.

A final report will include criteria for establishing areas of development.

One new golf course proposal, part of a development, has become part of the solution.

A semi-municipal golf course at the Keauhou Kona Resort at Kealakehe will include a leach field for a \$42 million sewage treatment plant.

Effluent from the plant is to be used to irrigate the course. The plant is under contract to provide a million gallons of effluent daily.

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Harry Eckhoff dies at 88

JUPITER, Fla. - Col. Harry C. Eckhoff, whose career with the National Golf Foundation spanned 31 years, died Dec. 25 at his home in Lake Park, Fla., after a prolonged illness. He was 88.

He is survived by his wife, Jo, and two sisters, Violet Eckhoff and Dorothy Owen, both of Kansas City, Mo.

"Other than Herb and Joe Graffis, who founded the NGF back in 1936, I can't think of anyone who has had more influence on the foundation than did Harry Eckhoff," said Joseph Beditz, NGF president and chief executive officer. "Harry was a walking encyclopedia of golf course development information and a great communicator, which was of tremendous value and help to all of us who had the good fortune of working with him. He also touched their lives of hundreds upon hundreds of NGF members who sought him out over the years for his special expertise ... and I know the news of his passing has saddened them as well."

Col. Eckhoff retired from NGF in 1988. He joined the foundation in 1957, following successful careers as a band leader, teacher, writer, and a colonel in the U.S. Air Force.

He served in many capacities, beginning as a field man and East Coast director, then two years as executive director before moving onto director of information services, and finally to director of golf facility development in 1976. In this capacity, he oversaw the vast library of information the NGF has on golf course development.

A prolific writer and editor, he was responsible for creation of Planning and Building a Golf Course and the Golf Operations Handbook, two works that remain the cornerstones of NGF's library of publications.

The NGF established the Harry C. Eckhoff Award in 1979, to recognize excellence in local and regional golf journalism.

Wetlands

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are now abiding by the 1987 wetlands manual - have proposed maintaining the current regulatory definitions of wetlands. But they propose adding a new section to their regulations that would describe the identifying characteristics of wetlands by incorporating the central components of the proposed manual. In addition, the Army proposes to amend the Cod of Federal Regulations to include the entire federal manual when it is finalized.

Proposed revisions to the manual were first published last Aug. 14. A 60-day public comment period was later extended until Dec. 14 and again to Jan. 21.

The newest proposal contains criteria for determining the presence of hydrology, vegetation and hydric soils - all of which determine if an area is a wetland.

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