AMERICAN RIVER CONSERVANCY
Preserving Rivers and Land for Life

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

American River Conservancy Explores the Texas Hill Land Conservation Opportunity

PLACERVILLE, Calif. — American River Conservancy (ARC) and El Dorado Irrigation District (EID) have entered a preliminary, non-binding agreement to evaluate conservation opportunities on the approximately 1,000-acre Texas Hill site. The agreement allows both organizations to explore conservation concepts, conduct due diligence, pursue grant funding, and engage the public.

EID originally acquired Texas Hill intending to build a water supply reservoir, but recent planning analysis determined a reservoir there is not a feasible or cost-effective way to meet the District's future water supply needs.

A Rare Opportunity Close to Home

Texas Hill is a rare find: roughly 1,000 acres of undeveloped land with swaths of oak, pine, and grasslands, as well as Weber Creek running through the bottom of it. Opportunities to conserve a property of this size, so close to so many communities, do not come along often, and once land like this is lost to other uses, it cannot be replaced. Protecting Texas Hill presents a multitude of possibilities to benefit current and future generations.

ARC's Executive Director, Elena DeLacy, explains, "Our vision for this rare opportunity is a multi-use open space preserve that balances habitat protection with community benefit, recreation, and wildfire risk reduction. Its future should be shaped by the public. No decisions have been made, and community input will guide every step. Your ideas, your concerns, and your voice matter. A project of this scale will also take all of us. Making it a reality will depend on the support of the community."

Next Steps and How to Get Involved

Acting now enables ARC to pursue Statewide Park Program funding ahead of its December 17 application deadline. If funding is secured, ARC and EID would negotiate a separate Purchase and Sale Agreement, which would return to the EID Board with any related California Environmental Quality Act documentation. The extent of public access will be informed by community feedback.

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The public is encouraged to provide feedback by completing ARC's Texas Hill Land Conservation Opportunity Survey and attending a community meeting, as follows:

- 10/20 – 6:00 to 7:30pm at El Dorado High School Library
- 10/21 – 6:00 to 7:30pm at Union Mine High School Library
- 10/29 – 4:00 to 5:30pm at The Bookery (backyard)
- 11/5 – 12:00 to 1:30pm at EDC Library - Placerville Branch
- 11/18 – 2:00 to 3:30pm at EDC Library - Placerville Branch

For more information about the Texas Hill conservation opportunity, visit ARConservancy.org/texas-hill.

About American River Conservancy (ARC)
ARC is a non-profit environmental organization that preserves healthy ecosystems in the upper American River and upper Cosumnes River watersheds through land conservation, stewardship, and education. Based in Coloma, California, since 1989, ARC has completed more than 90 conservation projects and contributed over 42 miles of trails, while safeguarding over 31,000 acres of native fisheries, endangered species habitat, agricultural lands, cultural resources, and recreational landscapes. ARC offers public hikes, hands-on workshops, community events, and environmental education programs for people of all ages. Support ARC by volunteering, donating, and discovering more at ARConservancy.org.

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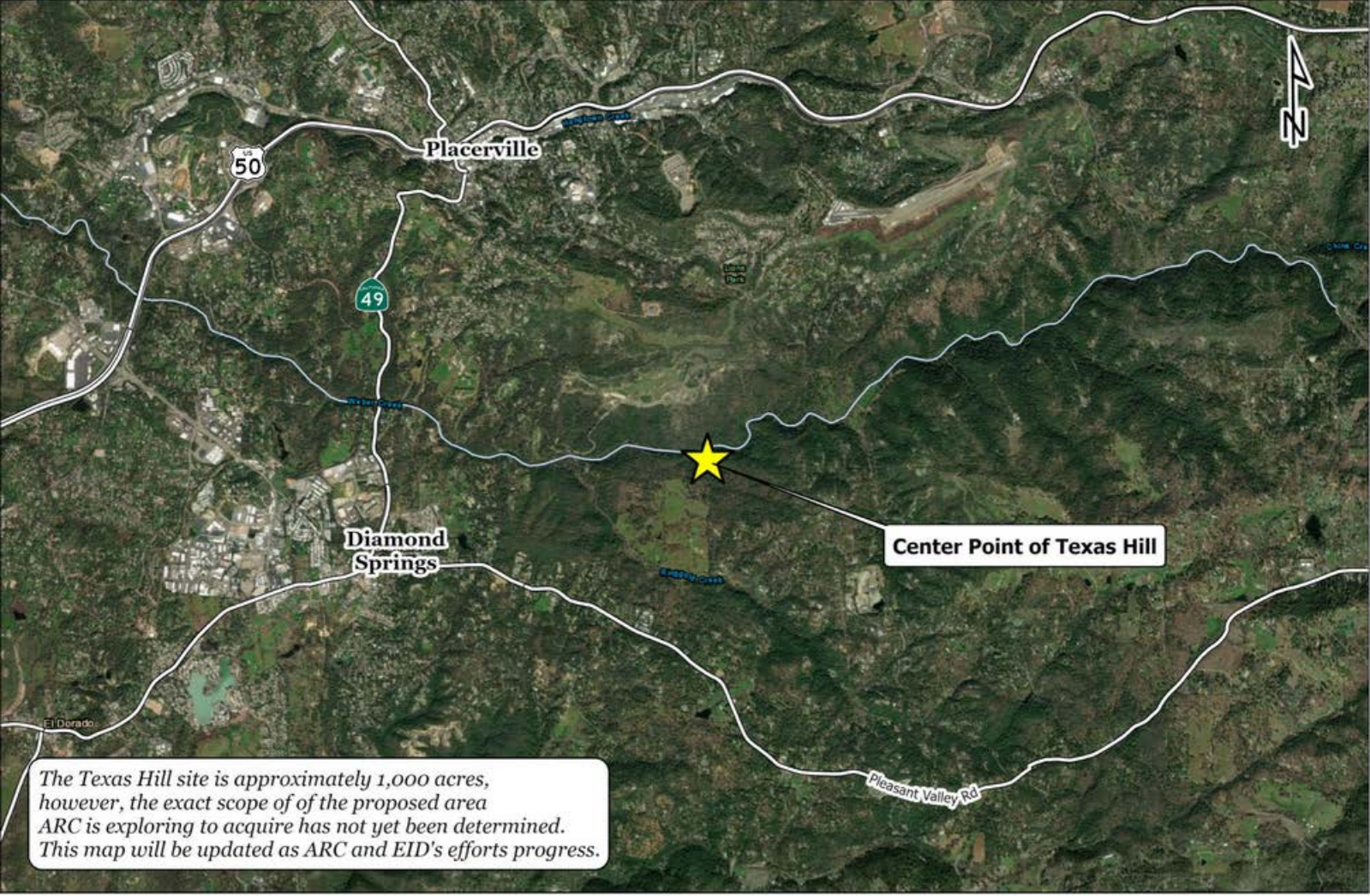

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Texas Hill

Land Conservation Opportunity

0 0.5 1 Miles

Data Sources: ESRI, El Dorado Co. GIS
Map is approximate only. Use for reference purposes.
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