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Media Release – For Immediate Release

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Carson Valley Trails Association Breaks Ground on Genoa Foothill Trail Project

The Carson Valley Trails Association (CVTA) and Trailscope, a professional trail design and construction company, have broken ground on the Genoa Foothill Trail Project. This new, non-motorized trail system will be open to hikers, mountain bikers and equestrians, providing approximately 16 miles of trail traversing Sierra and Genoa Canyons in the Genoa area. Most of the trail system will be built with a small dozer and mini-excavator, increasing construction productivity and producing a more sustainable trail surface requiring less long-term maintenance. The beginning trail sections near Genoa will be built by hand to provide volunteer trails training opportunities throughout 2011. The anticipated completion and opening date is next spring, 2012.

“We are excited to be breaking ground on the Genoa Foothill Trail Project,” said Bill Hay, CVTA president. “We’ve been planning this project for a number of years. This new trail system is a huge step toward accomplishing CVTA’s vision of communities connected to nature through trails.”

The Genoa Loop Trail, approximately 8 miles long, will provide trail users with a moderate 3 to 4 hour hiking experience with spectacular views of the Carson Valley and Pine Nut Mountains. Climbing about 1000 feet above Genoa, this loop will lead to Genoa and Sierra Canyons, around ridges and across creeks. The lower 1.25 miles of the loop will follow Jacks Valley Road and connecting streets in Genoa to complete the loop. Users will have the option to park in several Genoa area locations and along Foothill Road when hiking the loop, then visit and relax at Genoa’s local businesses and attractions.

The Sierra Canyon Trail will travel up the north side of Sierra Canyon and connect to the Tahoe Rim Trail west of Genoa Peak. This trail, about 14 miles round-trip, will climb 3500 feet through a mix of chaparral, mahogany and Jeffrey pine, with rock outcroppings, talus slopes and extraordinary views.

Funding for the Genoa Foothill Trail Project has been provided by ongoing fundraising, numerous volunteer donations and a matching grant from the State of Nevada, Division of State Lands, Conservation and Resource Protection Grant Program. CVTA is required to provide approximately \$240,000 in matching cash and in-kind funds. CVTA, Douglas County and the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, Carson Ranger District of the U.S. Forest Service, Department of Agriculture have developed this project to continue to provide trail opportunities in the Carson Valley consistent with the Douglas County Comprehensive Trails Plan (2003) and the Toiyabe National Forest Land Management Plan (1986). Douglas County Board of Commissioners Chairman Michael Olson said, “We are so fortunate to have CVTA and its donors working to better our community and implement our Trails Plan, even when local government funding is not available. I applaud their efforts.”

CVTA invites anyone interested in learning about trail building and helping with the construction of this trail system to participate in trail building work days. Dates for upcoming trail building days are posted on the CVTA website home page under “Mark Your Calendar”. To be contacted regularly about upcoming trail building days, send an e-mail to info@carsonvalleytrails.org. Weekly trail building days are scheduled at various Genoa area locations from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Volunteers should bring lunch and water, wear long pants, long-sleeved shirt, sturdy shoes, work gloves and sunglasses for eye protection. CVTA will provide tools and hard hats.

CVTA is planning a kick-off celebration and Trail Building Day on Sunday, June 5 at the Eagle Ridge Trailhead, located 1.8 miles north of Genoa off of Jacks Valley Road on Adams Ranch Road. CVTA will host an information booth from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Visitors will have the opportunity to learn more about the Genoa Foothill Trail Project and pick up a copy of CVTA’s new Local Trails Guide map. Trail building volunteers will meet at the Eagle Ridge Trailhead at 9 a.m. Volunteers should bring lunch and water, wear long pants, long-sleeved shirt, sturdy shoes, work gloves and sunglasses. Tools and hard hats will be provided.

The Carson Valley Trails Association (CVTA) is a nonprofit, volunteer based organization working with partners to provide access to public lands through a recreational trail system for present and future generations to enjoy. More information about CVTA is available online at <http://www.carsonvalleytrails.org>. More information about Trailscape is available online at <http://www.trailscape.net/>.

Attached photos:

SWECO dozer (photo by Bill Hay):

100_1440 (photo by Jeremy Vlcan): Need caption!

Genoa Connector View 4 (photo by Jeremy Vlcan): View of Genoa Lakes from future Genoa Foothill Trail location