

SHADY REST MOTORIZED STAGING AREA PLANNING
Inyo National Forest, Mammoth Ranger District
2/11/2011 Draft Summary Meeting Notes

SITING CONSIDERATIONS

- Consider resource constraints in siting and design.
- Reduce or eliminate potential impacts from Basalt Canyon geothermal well/ pipeline development to existing and future, winter and summer uses.
 - Consider recreation user safety with regard to ORMAT's facilities (i.e. above ground pipes or other infrastructure may pose a hazard to snowmobilers, quad riders, motorcycles, xc skiers, walkers etc.).
 - Consider provision of "safe" crossings on plowed roads for cross country skiers and snowmobilers.
- Reduce and minimize existing and potential future user conflicts.
 - Consider separate staging areas for non-motorized and motorized use to reduce potential for conflict.
 - Consider separate staging areas for winter and summer use to facilitate reducing the different seasonal potential for conflict/impacts.
 - Consider safety needs near the park and in the parking lot during the summer, specifically for pedestrians and children.
- Consider opportunities for convenient access for snowmobilers to in town amenities (i.e. close to Highway 203 or other major roadway, fueling, etc.)
 - Consider snowmobile utilization of the tunnel under Highway 203 to access the RV Park.
 - Consider historic staging area.
- Consider impacts to bikers and runners in staging area siting.
- Consider noise impacts in staging area siting.
- Consider access and staging design in terms of how it may impact tourism.
- Factor in the quality of the user experience in staging area siting and design.
- Review 2001 Shady Rest Winter Park Master Plan and consider utilizing the recommendations contained in that plan as a starting point for this siting & design process.
- Consider locating a snowmobile and quad staging area north of ORMAT's proposed pipeline areas to reduce potential safety hazards for users who may encounter ORMAT facilities.

DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

- Consider the need to maintain the diversity of uses that are currently taking place in the Shady Rest area.
- Consider additional Services or Opportunities
 - Consider providing enhanced or additional services, such as concession space and showers or lockers.
 - Consider providing a fueling station near the staging area, particularly if the staging area is farther away.
 - Consider opportunities for motor-homes with trailers or with capacity to carry OSV/OHVs.
 - Consider allowing overnight use of staging/area.
 - Consider opportunities for space where snowmobiles or other off road vehicles can be safely secured/locked overnight at staging area.
 - Do not add additional use and impact to areas that are already overused.
- Consider the Shady Rest staging area as part of a larger system of staging areas.
- Consider the practices, facilities, access and management of other places that are considered to provide the “best” experience.

DESIGN ELEMENTS

- Ensure facilities (old and new) are financially sustainable in terms of maintenance and replacement, particularly with regard to plowing.
- Provide adequate and ample turnaround space for large vehicles and vehicles pulling trailers.
- Provide built-in loading/unloading ramps for long and short trucks and trailers (summer and winter use)
- Maintain access for grooming equipment and OSV patrol operations
- Provide signage and maps illustrating different trails and where different users can and can't go.
- Provide restrooms year round restrooms.
- Maintain use free-of-charge.
- Provide safety information for users on what they should do when they encounter other users (e.g. cross country skiers vs. snowmobilers, dog walkers vs. cross country skiers, etc.)
- Where possible, do not add additional use and impact to areas that are already overused.

**INTERESTS THAT MAY NOT BE DIRECTLY RELATED TO MOTORIZED
STAGING AREA SITING AND DESIGN OR WILL BE DECIDED IN A
DIFFERENT PROCESS**

OTHER NON-MOTORIZED INTERESTS

- Consider the priority of this project in context of other needs and priorities.
- Provide a groomed area for cross country skiers where they can also take their dogs off leash.
- Clean up after dogs.
- Maintain non-motorized access near the Ranger Station.
- Consider providing year-round use of Shady Rest Park (i.e. winter play area, restrooms, staging, ice rink, etc) as discussed Shady Rest Winter Park Master Plan.
- Consider providing separate trails or areas for dirt bike or motorcycle riders to reduce impacts to non-motorized trails. Mitigate trail damage.

OTHER MOTORIZED INTERESTS

- Continue to discuss re-opening the rest area on 395 with Caltrans. This was previously a popular staging area.
- Provide single-track trails for motorcycles/dirt bikes.
- Consider opening the motocross track for public use in summer.

OTHER INTERESTS

- Create an inventory of all current uses and distinguish between what may be legal and what may not be. Also inventory what the impacts or perceived impacts are of the existing use.
- Consider burying all of ORMAT pipelines