



Map Exercise - Gateway Communities Meetings June Lake - October 30, 2014 and Big Pine – October 28, 2014

Participant Input for Management and Maintenance of INF Recreation Access

How to Read the Input on the Following Pages

After an opening presentation by the Inyo National Forest Public Affairs Specialist and facilitated dialogue about the meaning and importance of “Recreation” on the national forest, participants at the June Lake (October 30) and Big Pine (October 28) Gateway Communities workshop were invited to gather around map tables. Each map table provided a “snapshot” visual map of recreation access points and symbols associated with each Gateway Community.

Participants were asked to review each map and consider their own experience of the recreation areas indicated by access points and symbols on the map. They were invited to offer comments and suggestions reflecting their views of the “*management and maintenance*” of these recreation areas.

Input was recorded on post it notes and attached to flip charts color coded to provide three ways of offering comments based upon the following three questions:

- ✓ What is working and should be continued? (KEEP)
- ✓ What is missing or needs improvement? (IMPROVE)
- ✓ What needs to stop or change? (CHANGE)

After all input was completed participants were each provided with 5 blue color dots. They were invited to review all comments posted on each of the Gateway Community flip charts and choose their “Top 5” by placing one color dot next to the five ideas that were of greatest importance. The color dots can be seen in the photo at right and also captured in the report pages following.

Some individuals observed at each meeting that their comments properly applied to more than one area or indeed all areas of the Inyo National Forest. The word “universal” was used by several participants and can be found on the pages following.

In some instances comments were offered based upon something missing or needing greater clarity on the map. For this purpose, individuals noted the comment on a post it and also marked on the map directly by using a number or letter code. All post it notes retrieved with these number codes are included on pages following with the number preserved in parentheses at the beginning of the comment.

Gateway communities are presented north to south along the 395 corridor including Lee Vining, June Lake, Mammoth Lakes, Crowley/Tom’s Place, Bishop, Big Pine, Independence, Lone Pine, and Olancho. Note: Bishop was addressed at both meetings to reflect its central location in the corridor.





Lee Vining		
KEEP	IMPROVE	CHANGE
Keep OHV use east of 395	Improve accessibility (disabled access)	Add fishing at Corning Ranch ●
Protect Scenic and Ecological and Recreational Values as Scenic Area per mgmt plan ●●●●●●	Maintain high quality sage grouse habitat in the Mono basin ●●	Throughout: modify Rus maps to reflect winter recreation opportunity so “primitive” areas are accessible in winter too
Maintain scenic area designation and congressional intent/legislation for MBSA	Improve lower LV campgrounds to enhance camper experience and protect riparian habitat	Throughout: re-classify backcountry skiing under the XC ski family/logo so that the logos work
Personal firewood cutting ●●	Expand quiet cross country ski opportunities nas 395	Need enormous underground parking lot with LV access to YNP via lite rail!!
(1) High quality campgrounds in LV Canyon	Improve trail signs at Saddlebag lake area ●	(A3) Go North abandon jurisdictional boundaries
Spring skiing access up Tioga Road ●	Improve partnerships and their ability to work on forest	Note South Tufa fee area on highway 395 signage ●
Keep open riding areas for OHV-OSV not restricted to trails ●●	Ice climbing for winter visitation-economic development	Add swimming at Navy Beach (x) and Dock (y)
Keep Saddlebag as non-wilderness ●	(2) Mountain Bike trail to Man Lundy Mine	Open one road along Rush Creek to Mono Lake ●
	(1) Mountain Bike route around Saddlebag Lake	Open both Rush Creek road to Mono Lake ●●
	Better education to public on L-N-T ●●●	OHV damage in Mono Craters ●
	Improve trail to climbing area for emergency situations (Tioga Cliff)	Add stand up paddling canoeing kayaking at Navy Beach and Dock



	(A2) Mono craters XC skiing (@120 closure) ●●	Add hiking at Black Point
	(A1) In Lundy: skiing, climbing, fall colors!	Open all closed roads to Mono Lake ●●
	Communication needs to be languages besides English; Many visitors do not speak/read English well ●●●	Activity viewing arbor in glyphs and other cultural representation one place (of many) Lundy Canyon ●
	(A1) Add wild lands south of Lee Vining canyon to national wilderness system	Horse Meadows add to wilderness preservation system
	Stewardship opportunities for visitors and residents	Boehler Canyon should be roadless ●
	Better stream protection for aquatic species and birds	Add rock climbing and skiing at Lundy Canyon
	All Wilderness- Manage and monitor wilderness areas with wilderness rangers ●●●	Add continuous hiking trail LV Cyn for 395 to ice climbing area above Poole Plant
	Enhance Rush Creek habitat for Willow Flycatcher and other riparian species	Administrative designation special mgmt area to protect roadless quality highlight education/ interpretive on Geology of Mono Craters ●
		Lite Rail from LV to YNP ●
		Add alpine skiing Tioga Pass
		Add fishing, canoe, alpine skiing, kayak, SUP at Saddlebag
June Lake		
KEEP	IMPROVE	CHANGE
(SP) Keep Snow Play!	Don't use log for barricades – people remove and/or	Opportunities for new system trails for residents






	burn them at places like grant Lake – use rocks	and visitors
Groomed trails for cross country ●●●●	Improve accessibility (universal)	Build mountain bike trail network in June Mountain permit area ●●
(K) Keep and expand cross country ski trails at Obsidian Dome ●	Bighorn sheep wildlife viewing – Bighorn management area – winter habitat	Paved multi-use trail connecting June Lake Junction to June Lake Beach and village along June Lake
Dispersed camping on Deadman Creek	Limit motorized impact open areas ●	Add reverse Pk trail to trail system
Keep OHV use east of 395	Add mountain biking trails	(XC) Make groomed XC ski along 158 in winter
Personal Firewood cutting	Packers should remove horse poop from trails ●	Many mountain bike routes – best of map
Non-motorized winter rec at Obsidian area (skiing)	More public announcement for good behavior in NF such as Smokey bear Campaign ●	Improve Portal kiosk signage to include natural and cultural history info (universal comment)
No new wilderness ●	Improve management of dispersed camping (fire, trash, etc.)	(SP) designate official snow play areas such as near Obsidian dome
Free swimming at June Beach	Review relationships between rec residence permitters and the Forest Service. Give some recognition to permitters for their support of the INF	Create OHV OSV access (back to town) ●●●
Keep cross country ski grooming at Deadman	Expand quiet cross country ski opportunities ●●	Add community trail connecting down canyon to village (June lake)
(9) Swimming access to all lakes around loop	Restroom facilities at June Lake Beach ●●	Connect Gull Lake trail down canyon to and around Silver lake to create cross country running experience
	Better protections for Lee	Snow play areas in various



	Vining Creek	areas such as Tioga Road, 108, and June Lake loop closure gates
	Designated protections for Excelsior east of Mono Lake	Complete and develop trail from Silver Lake to Grant Lake for cross country running experience
	Separation of uses especially noise from solitude	Return Aerie Crag day use site to public use (ditch concession)
	Need parking infrastructure at Parker Lake trailhead	Work with the June Lake trails committee to make existing “non legal” trails that connect the community to USFS trails Legal (i.e. legitimized)
	Standardize Road #'s on roads to maps	Need areas in winter to access wilderness style experience – e.g. non-motorized
	Improve protections for species that use riparian and meadow habitats	More separation of motorized and self-powered – more separation of hikers and bicycles
	(68) trail improvement on north side of June Lake to walk from JL beach to town	Maintain and adopt unofficial trails in June lake loop area including Snow Pond area
	More L-N-T education to public ●	Phase out 2 stroke engines
	Rest rooms at Silver Lake and rush Creek need maintaining	Winter use of mountain bikes on groomed trails ●
	Retention of existing small dirt roads linking	Restroom at Grant Lake (maybe each end)



	motorcycles ride distances	
	Reduce equestrian impact on Rush Creek trail – trail is degraded, many fires, at times unsafe to hikers – general statement would be to control amount of pack station horse traffic to better maintain trails	(B) Re-open Yost trail to Mtn Bike trail alternate days or 1 designated day
	Improve maintenance of historic resources like DeChambeau ranch	Legalize dog beach area on June Lake (where dogs go now unofficially)
	More restroom facilities, trash pick-up, water for campers and RV'ers 	Add cross country skiing opportunities in June Lake loop area 
		(8) Back country skiing
		Add canoe, kayak, SUP to June, Grant, and Silver
		Trail connecting June Lake Village to down canyon
		Add historic Deadman Creek to Yost – back into system
		(FB1) Fat biking aka snow biking allowed as OSV
		Improve wilderness ranger presence 



Mammoth Lakes		
KEEP	IMPROVE	CHANGE
Keep Minaret summit access open to all users! (ie. snowmobiles)	Education with campfire programs or use of auditorium – beautiful auditorium no use?? ●	Separate XC skiers and snow? Mobility areas on Minaret Vista
Tours & Interpretation	Repair trails and bridges (w/community stewards)	Improve welcoming diverse signage
Personal firewood Cutting	Improve restroom access in lakes basin ●	Allow concerts, special events, festivals at Shady Rest Park ● ●
Separate Bike & Hike Trails on Mammoth Mt. Trail	Improve interpretive and signage at Minerat Vista	Need more group event and wedding venues (i.e. 150 plus people) ●
Keep dispersed camping ●	Winter access	Budget more money for Forest service
Keep cross country ski trails and blue diamonds	Repair trails and bridges with community stewardship as appropriate	Open Tunnel for OHV winter to RV park and industrial park would leave all trailers home ● ●
Community Steward Programs ●	East of Crowley Lake sage grouse viewing, PJ, and sage brush habitat restoration ● ● ●	Separate horse trails from hiking trails limit number of horses on trails to prevent damage
Areas for x-c only & areas that are not restricted (better to dogsled in unrestricted)	Improve work with permitted outfitters to monitor and manage	More programs for children
Community Steward programs	Improve decaying infrastructure improve visitor experience	Leave no trace signage for disposing of dog poop
Protect streams and wetlands and wilderness ● ●	Forest Service collaboration with community groups	(10) Add resource protection for Ansel Adams wilderness



	If facilities such as restrooms are offered figure out how to maintain that for quality experience and minimize wildlife impact	Allow for more motorized access and wheeled access (Snowmobile, dirt bike, mountain bike) on the Inyo trailheads – stop closing roads
	(14) Improve access to climbing area - does the trail go through private property -can the area be accessed during emergencies	Open Hot Creek ● ● ● ●
	Improve winter snow use of trail system	San Joaquin Ridge should be roadless ● ●
	Maximize use of existing facilities regardless of season; grandfathered entities should be used and enhanced	Add more mountain biking trails (purpose built) anywhere in Mammoth so people can bike there ● ● ●
	Add more hiking trails ●	Improve wilderness ranger presence ● ● ● ● ●
	More trail loops - use the towns free buses and signage to encourage hiking loops	Obsidian dome Inyo craters maintain Blue Diamond Routes for X Country skiers and snowshoers need clear signs
	Build the washed out bridge above Convict Lake ● ●	Open back up original OHV parking (already paved and has restrooms – no money spent) ● ●
	Improve and add cross country ski and hiking trails	Integrated non-motorized trails system ●
	(3) Improved signage / info around Shady Rest soft surface trails (uses, MTB interpretive) ●	Change forest attitude regarding motorized recreation



	Signage indicating if its popular with a specific user group is OHV so snow skiers know they may smell 2 stroke futures	Lakes Basin Historic District
	Improve multi-modal connections between and within the gateway communities and public lands ● ●	(C) Need more single track motorcycles – re-open any closed single track in this area – connectors for town motorized OHV specific Mtn to Scenic loop
	Restoration of streams science based standards to maintain ecologically healthy landscapes ●	
	Keep working on signage like cross country skiing	
	Lakes based more LNT signage fisherman related leave no trace	
	Add mountain biking trails ●	
	Continue to assess OHV use	



Crowley/ Tom's Place

KEEP	IMPROVE	CHANGE
Winter recreation area	Communication – improve signage @ Hilton Creek Trail Head	Add cultural sites (ranches, mines, Native American) to activity legend (universal) ● ●
No new wilderness	(5) Improve or add signage @ Glass Mtn rec area for Summit trail	(1) This is mountain bike not OHV route
Ski touring up rock creek	(1) Add Glass Mountain AIN & Dexter Canyon to wilderness system ●	Advertise and sign roads and trails that can support anticipated user
Keep all uses open in Glass Mountains ● ● ●	Monitoring activities in INF not limited to USFS to ensure destructive activities are mitigated	(14) Add protection dn resource staff at Little Lakes Valley - JMW
(11) Improve and keep bathrooms at McGee trailhead	Parking access along roadway	Add Back country skiing up McGee
(A) Keep as an OHV (and Mtn Bike) Trail – also label it on map with a symbol ●	Stewardship of infrastructure to maintain access (washed out bridges trails etc.) ●	Throughout N. Inyo need non-motorized winter rec areas down in the sage bush valleys with majestic mountain vistas
Protect habitat between SN Bighorn, Mt. Morgan N, McGee	More protection for habitat and remote recreation on Glass Mtn	Add and enhance the current INF system roads and trails – do not diminish ●
Keep Disturage (SP?) Camping (universal) ●	Improve land management for sage grouse in Crowley Lake Basin	Volunteer- stewardship and interpretation
Diverse recreation opportunities (universal)	Improve accessibility (disabled access) ●	Establish “smokey bear” collaboration for trash and waste removal
	Restore riparian areas to improve habitat ● ● ● ● ●	Alternate use on trails and roads for enhanced trail maintenance



	Add mountain biking trails ●	Improve signage forest wide ● ● ●
	(11) Pave or resurface McGee Creek access road	Many mountain bike routes east of map
	(14) Improve road conditions @ French Camp Campground	Resolve user conflicts through community means capacity ● ● ●
	(D) Create a mountain bike single track trail system (park) on land between Sand Canyon and Tom's Place	Improve Wilderness Ranger presence in the Hoover, Ansel Adams, and John Muir ● ● ● ●
	(14) Improve parking or add spaces at Mosquito flat trailhead	



Bishop – June Lake Session

KEEP	IMPROVE	CHANGE
(2) Keep allowed bolting in climbing areas for safety	Improve protection of streams and meadows ● ●	Administrative recreation area managed for multiple use, add facilities Coyote Flat
Wide variety of activity options and infrastructure levels	(A1) Add wilderness protection for SW lobe of Coyote Plateau	Add a regional mountain bike trail linking Bridgeport to Olancha
Manage roadless areas as non-motorized and backcountry areas	Add Mountain Bike Trails	(5) Add parking to Mosquito Flat trailhead ●
Keep personal woodcutting	Improved Accessibility (Disabled Access)	(4) Mountain biking in this area
	(A1) Add wilderness protection south end of White Mountain wilderness ● ● ●	Regional Mountain Bike Trails – all Mono/ Inyo ●
	(A7) Add wilderness protection for Birch Creek roadless area ●	(9) Provide water at Grandview Campground ●
	(5) Improve campground loop access road @ French Campground	Provide cultural resources and provide interpreter for culture enjoyment at Tablelands
	Improve L-N-T education (Mandatory video before issuance of wilderness permit)	
	(2) Pave road to North Lake from Main highway	
	Backcountry ski and touring access up North and South lake	
	General – Improve access to recycling on/in forest service land	



	General – add symbol for geothermal features or hot spring	
	More public service announcements of good forest behavior (e.g. where to go to restroom, don't go off trail, pick up trash) ●	
	Slow down on adding more wilderness ● ●	



Map Exercise - Gateway Communities Meeting at Big Pine - October 28, 2014
Participant Input for Management and Maintenance of INF Recreation Access









- ✓ What is Working and Should be Continued? (KEEP)
- ✓ What is Missing or Needs Improvement? (IMPROVE)
- ✓ What Needs to Stop or Change? (CHANGE)

Bishop – Big Pine Session		
KEEP	IMPROVE	CHANGE
	(1) Klondike, hunting, birding, boating ●	Common information systems across all jurisdictions ●●●●
	Hiking (should be on map) ●	Region wide info distribution using cont. technology
	(2) Information Kiosk and road difficulty signage Silver Canyon	(CM) Chipmunk Canyon has springs, birds, and mining relics, hiking
	(3) Indicate the open OHV areas (Poleta?) ●	Public transportation facilitate access to public camps
	Damaged streams weed restoration to support fishing and habitat ●	Provide experience and difficulty signage in advance
	(Q) Lower Rock Creek Trail reduce potentially dangerous interactions between fast downhill bikers and fisher persons along the trail (fast bikes and slow people) ●	












Big Pine		
KEEP	IMPROVE	CHANGE
(2-B) Klondike lake bird watching	(1-B) Tinnemahn reservoir bird watching increased access to	Loss of infrastructure trails, campground, roads, bridges, trail signs ●●●
(3-B) Baker Creek Canyon wildlife and bird watching access is fine as is	Management of congestion during periods of peak use at trailhead – ongoing ●	All routes in this area are used by Mountain bikes ●●●
(39) Wildflower viewing and bird watching ●	(1-C) Harkless primitive flat camping - signage Continued roads monitoring and closures ●	(40) South fork Big Pine CK Bridge needs replacement ●
Wildlife viewing and bird watching	(7) Hiking ●	Jeep roads are just shown as trails on map ●
(35) Great birding wildlife viewing	Many routes marked as trails are system roads e.g. Coyote Flat	
Wildlife and wildflower viewing ●	(4-B) Tollhouse SP bird watching improve vegetation and springs	
(38) Birding, wildlife, running, bicycling pets	(37) Birding and wildlife viewing ●●●●	
	Identify and restore damaged streams (fishing & H2O quality) ●●	
	Establish safe designated public shooting areas ●	
	(8) All of Owens river used by boats (kayak)	
	Running trails	
	Any USFS trailhead has access mountaineering and climbing ●●	
	(36) Tinnemaha Overlook – improved signage and interpretive	



Independence		
KEEP	IMPROVE	CHANGE
(2) Fishing 	(4) Hiking and OHV on map	(1) This trail is used for mountain biking
Mazourka peak as a radio site 	(6) Flower photography (show on map)	(5) All trails and roads in this area use by mountain bikes
Mazourka Canyon gold panning 	Management of congestion (parking, etc.) during peak use time at trailhead	Deterioration of trails and campgrounds 
	Establish training of volunteers throughout region and across all activities	Open Jeep trails on North side of Mazourka Peak 
	Backcountry from gateway communities 	Jeep roads are shown as trails on maps 
	Establish reliable protocols for closing of public roads across all agencies 	



Lone Pine		
KEEP	IMPROVE	CHANGE
(3) Good recreational focus in Whitney Portal	(1) Highlight Alabama Hills 	Integrated new Alabama Hills designation 
	(52) Enhanced information sharing @ IAVC cross jurisdictional	(2) Common Information Across AK jurisdiction 
	(2) Enhance Cottonwood Creek access	Guiding through partnership with USFS
	Establish better standards to protect streams and meadows 	Partnership Naros to substantial and MRAN SOMRTIIR (SP?) 
	(4) Add hang-gliding and paragliding 	Leverage capacity of partners and permitters 
	(5) Add OHV/Trail accesses 	(50) Better connection to Owens Lake activities and INF experience
	(51) expand interpretive experiences @ IAVC	
	(6) Road biking	
	(7) Add winter biking recreation 	
	(8) Establish common nomenclature and graphic systems for recreation information	



Olancha		
KEEP	IMPROVE	CHANGE
(7) Geology field trip ● ● centennial flats centennial canyon not on map yet	(1) Enhance OHV/ Equestrian access from Olancha to public lands	(50) Add ski/snowshoeing access
(8) Astronomy field trip add to map	Incorporation of adurmun trails access all jurisdictions	Regional mapping common naming convention ●
(6) Wildlife viewing add to map	Improve protection of high mountain meadows ● ● ● ● ● ●	
(2) Improve/ add photography in all areas (3) Improve/add wildflower viewing	(4) Enhance connections Olancha to Sage Flat	
	(5) Integration of Inyo County multi-modal planning into Forest Planning ●	
	(9) Add Kennedy Meadows access ●	
	(8) Highlife open OHV area - the dunes	
	(7) Common information Naming Convention ● ●	