



Trail Host Summer Pilot Program Report

Dates: July 3, 2020 – September 7, 2020

Location: Mammoth Lakes Trail System

Overview: The Summer Trail Host Pilot Program began in early July when many COVID restrictions were removed. An influx of visitors came to Mammoth Lakes for outdoor recreation and social distancing. Trail Hosts hiked and biked throughout all MLTS trails and pathways interacting with users and collecting data. Overall users were happy to see the engagement and encouraged the continued presence. Host interacted with many first-time visitors and first-time outdoor recreationists. The need for Trail Hosts was prevalent and the program grew with the addition of five hired Trail Hosts and the opportunity for community volunteers. Host and volunteer time focused on weekend hours and the Lakes Basin area when visitor numbers were the highest.

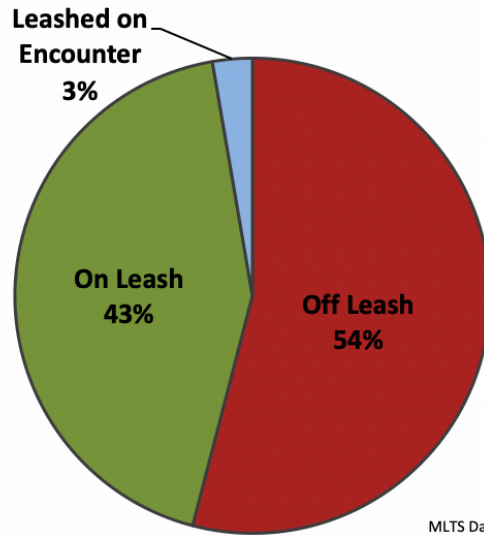
Funding: Trail Host Fiscal Year 20/21 is funded through Measure R, approved by the MTC at \$10,000.00. With the large number of visitors coming to the area Mammoth Lakes Tourism invested \$14,000.00 to the Program. An additional \$8,000.00 from People for Bikes and Mammoth Mountain is also available. An estimate of spending from July 1st – September 7th totaled: \$17,788.88. Below is a breakdown of spending. Again, this is an estimate of costs not from the official Town of Mammoth Lakes Caselle Budget Report.

	Hours	Cost
Project Management	46.25	\$1,668.04
Staff Meetings	15.75	\$575.45
Program/document Updates	4.25	\$210.93
Graphics	1.5	\$74.45
Field Hosting	437.25	\$14,174.63
GIS Map Software	-	\$300.00
Materials (vest, patches, printing, first aid supplies etc.)	-	\$500.00
	Total:	\$17,788.88

Staff/Volunteers: MLTS Trail Hosts are contracted with Mammoth Lakes Trails and Public Access. Staff worked in the field hosting for over 430 hours. Volunteers came from the Mammoth Lakes community and were recruited through email, social media and word of mouth. There were 10 volunteers totaling 81 hours of work.

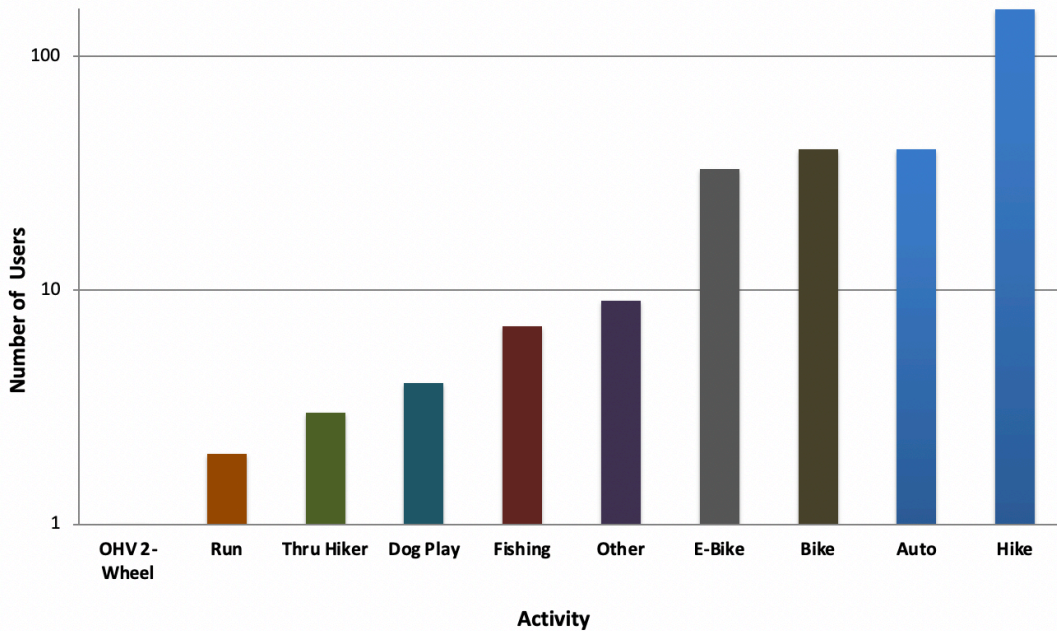
Data Collection: Data Collection is a key component to the host program. Unfortunately, there were a few limitations in collecting *all* interactions and observations. Limitations included; not having time between engagements to complete report, not all hosts having access to the platform for all shifts, no volunteer interaction data was captured. As much information as possible was collected on interactions with the public, waste issues, parking problems, observations and other issues in the field. An [interactive map](#) shows data collected and photos. (please note this map includes data collected during the winter 2019/2020 season). Below are graphs on dog leash use, encountered user types and a sample of notes collected by hosts.

Trail Host Pilot - Dog Leash Summer 2020 Report



MLTS Data Collection Trail Host Engagement, Mammoth Lakes, CA from 07/03/20 - 09/07/20

Trail Host Pilot - Encountered User Types Summer 2020 Report



MLTS Data Collection Trail Host Engagement, Mammoth Lakes, CA from 07/03/20 - 09/07/20

Sample Host Notes:

"Asked them to leash dogs. Friendly. Locals."

"Inquired about the CO2 levels."

"asked about less busy areas"

"asked "where should we hike?"

"2 cars trying to park on Lakes Basin path! I suggested they park across the road alongside Panorama Dome. Picture car taken on path!"

"Informed 3 autos they were not allowed, they moved cars without a problem."

"Inquired on how to go about camping."

"Inquiries about all the MTB trails."

"Inquired about conditions of Horseshoe Loop and of it was suitable for a 6 yr old."

"Bikers at crossing we're almost ran off the road by an angry driver. We then biked over later to the auto to suggest slowing down. He was not happy, said he had the right away."

"Several groups have bikes, biked because they couldn't find parking earlier. No bike racks to put bikes at trail entry."

"Informed E-bikers they were not allowed on Horseshoe Lake loop."

"Inquired if fishing was free for a 14yr old and if they could fish on Horseshoe."

"Inquired about how to get to Lk Mamie, confused on direction."

"Inquired if they could take paddle boards on Lake George."

"Locals happy to see trail hosts. Thank-you!"

"Thru-Hikers inquired about the levels of stream water compared to last year. Answered."

"Bag of dog feces near sign that says, "Please clean up after your dog."

"Very busy trailhead. lots of cars. No packing available."

"Parking overcrowded, multiple areas with cars between trees and over curb rails in undesignated areas.."

"Several logs have been moved along the parking area to dither accommodate over parking.."

"Man stopped outside of restrooms -they were locked, he released himself next to restroom."

"Trolley driver (9:19am drop) -5 people on trolley without masks."

"Visitors complaining they had to walk far distance to get to trails."

"Trolley is having a difficult time squeezing along back side of Lk Mary."

"Restroom line and parking in woods."