

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wednesday, November 05, 2008

Contact: Stuart Brown, Community Relations Manager Phone: (760) 934-2712 ext. 1210 E-mail: <u>sbrown@visitmammoth.com</u> Website: www.visitmammoth.com

SPECIAL STUDY TO ENHANCE USERS' EXPERIENCE IN MAMMOTH

Mammoth Lakes, CA - In partnership with the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) and Mammoth Lakes Trails and Public Access (MLTPA), the Town of Mammoth Lakes is conducting a special study for the Sherwin Area as an attachment to the Draft Trail System Master Plan (TSMP).

The Sherwin Area Trails Special Study, or SATSS, will identify options for trail alignments within the study area, options for recreational uses and/or activities and opportunities for public access between the study area and the Town's existing trail system. The options and opportunities will be considered for winter and summer, including motorized and non-motorized uses.

The SATSS study area is defined as the general area south of the Urban Growth Boundary (UGB) between the Hayden Cabin site and the Sherwin Creek Road on the east and Old Mammoth Road on the west, up to Lake Mary Road. The Mammoth Rock Trail will form the southern boundary of the area. A map of the study area is available for viewing online at <u>www.mltpa.org</u>.

"As the agency responsible for management of the area's public lands, we're pleased to have this opportunity to partner with the Town to develop a study that will allow us to identify options for enhancing our users' experience in Mammoth," stated Mike Schlafmann, Deputy District Ranger, USFS Mammoth and Lee Vining District. PAGE 2 - 2 **SPECIAL STUDY TO ENHANCE USERS' EXPERIENCE IN MAMMOTH** Contact: Stuart Brown, Community Relations Manager – (760) 934-2712 ext. 1210

SATSS is being conducted by Alta Planning + Design, the consultants contracted by the Town for production of the TSMP. Alta will use existing data sets from identified key sources plus data and public input collected throughout the Concept and Master Planning (CAMP) process to develop an existing conditions inventory and map, provide an opportunities and constraints analysis, and develop and produce an alternatives map showing options for public access, trails and summer and winter recreational activities within the study area as part of the SATSS draft report.

It is anticipated the draft SATSS report will be delivered by mid-December, 2008 for public comments and review by the project partners. Community engagement will be encouraged through public outreach efforts coordinated by the Town, USFS and MLTPA. Alta will receive and review the public comments and integrate into the completion of the final SATSS report.

The SATSS contract is being managed by Steve Speidel, Principal Planner, for the Town of Mammoth Lakes. Funding for the project is being coordinated between the Town and USFS. Updates of the study will be posted as they are delivered at <u>www.visitmammoth.com</u> and <u>www.mltpa.org</u>. For more information on SATSS please contact Mr. Speidel at (760) 934-8989 ext. 286 or <u>sspeidel@ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us</u>.

--END--

Keep up to date with recreational enhancements and Town news by subscribing to *Stu's News*. The weekly newsletter is your direct source for community news, information and events. Subscribe online at www.visitmammoth.com/stusnews or call (760) 934-2712 ext. 1210.