AGENDA
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF MONO
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

MEETING LOCATION Board Chambers, 2nd Fl., County Courthouse, 278 Main St., Bridgeport, CA 93517

Special Meeting
August 23, 2016

TELECONFERENCE LOCATIONS: 1) Mammoth Lakes CAO Conference Room, 3rd Floor Sierra Center Mall, 452 Old Mammoth Road, Mammoth Lakes, California, 93546. Board Members may participate from a teleconference location. Note: Members of the public may attend the open-session portion of the meeting from a teleconference location, and may address the board during any one of the opportunities provided on the agenda under Opportunity for the Public to Address the Board.
NOTE: In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Clerk of the Board at (760) 932-5534. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the County to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting (See 42 USCS 12132, 28CFR 35.130).

Full agenda packets are available for the public to review in the Office of the Clerk of the Board (Annex I - 74 North School Street, Bridgeport, CA 93517), and in the County Offices located in Minaret Mall, 2nd Floor (437 Old Mammoth Road, Mammoth Lakes CA 93546). Any writing distributed less than 72 hours prior to the meeting will be available for public inspection in the Office of the Clerk of the Board (Annex I - 74 North School Street, Bridgeport, CA 93517). **ON THE WEB**: You can view the upcoming agenda at www.monocounty.ca.gov. If you would like to receive an automatic copy of this agenda by email, please send your request to Bob Musil, Clerk of the Board: bmusil@mono.ca.gov.

10:00 AM   Call meeting to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

1   **OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD**

on items of public interest that are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board. (Speakers may be limited in speaking time dependent upon the press of business and number of persons wishing to address the Board.)

2.   **AGENDA ITEMS**

A.   **Comment Letter on the Inyo National Forest Plan Revision & Draft Environmental Impact Statement**

Departments: Community Development

One hour (5 minute presentation, 55 minute discussion)

Recommended Action: 1. Review and discuss revised letter incorporating comments and direction from August 16 board meeting; 2. Provide direction to staff regarding revisions to and finalization of letter; and 3. Approve and authorize the Chair to sign final letter, as updated by Board direction and discussion, for submittal by the August 25 deadline.

Fiscal Impact: None.

B. **Support Letter for June Mountain Prop 1 Grant Request**

Departments: Board of Supervisors

10 minutes (5 minute presentation; 5 minute discussion)

(Tim Alpers) - Sierra Nevada Conservancy – Sierra Nevada Watershed Improvement Program Support Letter for June Mountain/California Trout, Inc. (CalTrout) application for Proposition 1 grant funding.

Recommended Action: Approve Board of Supervisors' signatures on letter for support on June Mountain/California Trout, Inc.'s application for Proposition 1 grant funding.

Fiscal Impact: If grant is approved, it will result in $1 million in grant funds from CalTrout and Sierra Nevada Conservancy to remove fire fuels from June Mountain Ski Area.

ADJOURN

OFFICE OF THE CLERK
OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA REQUEST

🖶 **Print**

MEETING DATE	August 23, 2016	**DEPARTMENT**	
ADDITIONAL DEPARTMENTS			
TIME REQUIRED	One hour (5 minute presentation, 55 minute discussion)	**PERSONS APPEARING BEFORE THE BOARD**	Wendy Sugimura
SUBJECT	Comment Letter on the Inyo National Forest Plan Revision & Draft Environmental Impact Statement		

AGENDA DESCRIPTION:

(A brief general description of what the Board will hear, discuss, consider, or act upon)

At its August 16 meeting, the Board gave direction for revisions and edits to a draft comment letter prepared by staff. Further board direction and public input is required before the letter can be finalized.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

1. Review and discuss revised letter incorporating comments and direction from August 16 board meeting; 2. Provide direction to staff regarding revisions to and finalization of letter; and 3. Approve and authorize the Chair to sign final letter, as updated by Board direction and discussion, for submittal by the August 25 deadline.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None.

CONTACT NAME: Wendy Sugimura

PHONE/EMAIL: 924-1814 / wsugimura@mono.ca.gov

SUBMIT THE ORIGINAL DOCUMENT WITH ATTACHMENTS TO THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
PRIOR TO 5:00 P.M. ON THE FRIDAY 32 DAYS PRECEDING THE BOARD MEETING

SEND COPIES TO:

MINUTE ORDER REQUESTED:

☐ YES ☑ NO

ATTACHMENTS:

Click to download
🗋 Draft Letter
🗋 Attachment #2

History

Time	Who	Approval
8/22/2016 9:28 AM	County Administrative Office	Yes
8/22/2016 7:41 AM	County Counsel	Yes
8/22/2016 8:55 AM	Finance	Yes

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF MONO

P.O. BOX 715, BRIDGEPORT, CALIFORNIA 93517
(760) 932-5538 • FAX (760) 932-5531
Bob Musil, Clerk of the Board

August 23, 2016

Mr. Ed Armenta
Inyo National Forest Supervisor
351 Pacu Lane, Suite 200
Bishop, CA 93514

Submitted via web-site comment form and email

RE: COMMENTS ON THE INYO NATIONAL FOREST DRAFT PLAN AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Dear Mr. Armenta:

The Mono County Board of Supervisors appreciates the opportunity to comment on the proposed Draft Inyo National Forest Plan (Draft Plan) and Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). As approximately 65% of lands in Mono County are managed by the Inyo National Forest (INF), the well-being of the County and its residents are inextricably connected to and directly affected by forest management.

While we are submitting preliminary comments at this time, **Mono County is also requesting an extension of the comment deadline by 45 days to October 9, 2016.** As a rural, local government with limited resources, sufficient review of the diverse issues and potential impacts to the county are difficult to complete within 90 days. In particular, the Recreation Opportunity Spectrum deserves more analysis and discussion. The Board heard from many passionate voices on this critical and complex subject, and it's clear that more work is needed to provide the needed input.

Mono County's comments are consistent with the County's General Plan, in particular the Land Use Element and Conservation/Open Space Element, and also the County's Strategic Plan, which is incorporated by reference. Key excerpts from the General Plan are included in the body of this comment letter, and in Attachment 1. In particular, Attachment 1 contains policies specific to local communities that are important to forest management and should influence the Draft Plan. The Strategic Plan interfaces with the Draft Plan particularly in the areas of environmental sustainability and strengthening the economic base. These complex issues cross jurisdictional lines across the landscape, demonstrating that the Forest and County have a critical and vital relationship.

Mono County generally supports Alternative B with modifications, which are further detailed in this letter by topic. The County is particularly interested in partnerships and stewardship of the land, and particularly concerned about wildfire risks and management across the landscape.

In addition, Mono County understands the Draft Plan was written within the context of existing and anticipated future funding. While the County recognizes the practical nature of this constraint, we urge the INF to plan for and manage to the greater vision of the forest. Mono County, as a stakeholder and partner, commits to advocating for funding at the federal level to help ensure success of the Plan.

FIRE MANAGEMENT AND SMOKE
The potential dire impacts of local and regional wildfires to Mono County communities, residents, economy, and general well-being clearly raises fire and smoke management to a high level of concern. Mono County supports the balanced approach to fire management and smoke identified in Alternative B. In particular, the County supports the management of smoke for visual/scenic and health/safety impacts, the focus of fuel reduction treatments around communities and key travel corridors, and the need to mitigate wildfire risk and re-establish the resiliency of fire-adapted systems to avoid catastrophic events. In addition, the County requests the following management direction additions:

- Support of biomass utilization efforts to sustainably utilize woody material and debris resulting from activities associated with reducing catastrophic wildfire risk (including defensible space treatments), improving forest habitat and resilience, treating forest pests, and restoring meadow structure and function. Biomass utilization can provide some economic return for these restoration activities, increasing the economic viability of the projects and further leveraging limited resources.
- Support collaborative efforts with other federal, state, and local fire districts given fire does not recognize political boundaries, while maintaining jurisdictional and funding responsibilities.
- In recognition of the massive smoke impacts that fires on the west side can cause, the INF Plan should include strong and actionable language to work with agencies on the west side on smoke management. The Sierra and Sequoia National Forest plans should also contain language to manage smoke and the impacts to downwind areas in their strategies. Like fire, smoke does not recognize jurisdictional boundaries and a dedicated, cooperative effort across the entire Sierra Nevada mountain range is needed to ensure Eastern Sierra communities do not bear an unnecessary or unreasonable impact.
- Local smoke-producing activities should be evaluated in the context of cross-Sierran transport. In other words, local activities should be curtailed or mechanical methods should be used if ambient air quality is poor due to smoke transport from other areas.

Lastly, Mono County is highly concerned about the management of fuel loading and fire suppression activities in wilderness and other protected areas. Where conditions are outside the range of natural variation, an aggressive and proactive approach should be enabled to restore ecological resiliency. If these areas are not managed proactively, the probability increases for an atypical catastrophic fire that will result in the loss of the characteristics and qualities that make them eligible for special protection in the first place. The risk also increases for the spread of fire from the wildland to populated areas, and will be compounded if fire suppression tactics are limited. Providing for mechanized fuel reduction treatments and forest health management, and fire suppression activities, therefore seems warranted in protected areas and should be recognized in the Draft Plan.

ECOLOGICAL INTEGRITY
The County recognizes the complexity of managing for different species with various levels of sensitivity and habitat requirements, and jurisdictional overlap with other agencies that can create complex management layers. In addition, we rely upon the technical expertise of the US Forest Service to understand the ecological detail necessary to craft adequate management direction, standards and guidelines. However, we have heard, and echo, public concern that the Draft Plan

appears to focus primarily on descriptions of the structure and function of ecological zones and/or dominant vegetation types, and that more specific standards, guidelines, and management direction may be needed at the species scale.

The DEIS lists the plan components addressing the identified potential threats to at-risk terrestrial wildlife species, aquatic species, and plants in Tables 83, 90 and 99. These plan components appear very broad and are difficult to locate in the DEIS, which could result in inadequate application of protection measures simply because the Draft Plan is fragmented and difficult to use. A clearer relationship in the Draft Plan between specific at-risk species and their associated management direction, more specific plan components for specific species, and cross-referencing DEIS information in the Draft Plan could be helpful.

In addition, the County offers the following general comments:
- Mono County has a specific interest in maintaining healthy and viable populations of at-risk species to reduce the potential for Endangered Species Act (ESA) listings. We rely on the technical expertise of the USFS, and specifically the INF, to ensure management direction is sufficiently robust to retain healthy and viable populations.
- Habitat connectivity for wide-ranging forest species (bear, deer, fisher) and sagebrush obligate species (sage-grouse and other sagebrush dependent species) is analyzed in the DEIS (p. 205-207), however the relationship to plan components and management direction to maintain or improve connectivity should be made clearer.
- Resiliency in the face of climate change is a concern, from at-risk species conservation, to forest health and fire regimes, to water availability and the health of aquatic systems that support our communities and recreational economy. Again, we rely on the technical expertise of the USFS and INF to ensure management direction is sufficiently robust in the context of climate change.
- We appreciate and support the additional focus on the Bi-State Distinct Population Segment of Greater Sage-Grouse, and encourage continued collaboration with the Bi-State partners and management consistency with the Bi-State Action Plan. In this spirit, we urge the INF to review sage-grouse components directly with the Bi-State Technical Advisory Committee (TAC).
- Invasive species have increasingly been coming to the attention of the Mono County Board of Supervisors. The Draft Plan appears to address preventing the spread of invasive species, but specific direction and management for treating and eradicating established (whether current or future) invasive species appears to be lacking. Again, we rely on the technical expertise of the USFS and INF to ensure management direction sufficiently addresses removal of invasive species.

SUSTAINABLE RECREATION AND DESIGNATED AREAS
Sustainable recreation and designated areas generated a significant amount of discussion, particularly focused on partnerships, recreation uses, and Recreation Places.

On partnerships, Mono County would like to highlight our readiness and willingness to work together and collaborate on sustainable recreation opportunities, and commend the INF for including partnership language. **To enable our partnership, we would like to see the creation of a Partnership Coordinator position as soon as possible.** To provide further commitment to partnerships, Mono County would like to see measurable objectives included in the Draft Plan (i.e.., in Chapter 3, Plan Objectives). Such objectives would also encourage implementation and accountability, and enable the celebration of successes.

The emphasis on partnerships is critical and necessary to increase recreation opportunities and directly engage the public in forest stewardship. Partnerships, however, should remain in an appropriate role and context to augment, but not replace, professional services. The Forest continues to have an obligation to maintain staffing levels and infrastructure systems to ensure professional management.

The County recognizes that professional management and services require sufficient funding, which the INF has not had in recent years. The County has heard, in particular, about the great need for additional field personnel to provide enforcement and education, provide a point of engagement for community initiatives, and the need for physical infrastructure improvements and maintenance such as bathrooms, roads (e.g., road to Reds Meadow), and other visitor facilities. The County stands ready to advocate for the needed funding for the INF as a partner, and expects in turn that the Forest will respond in kind with commitments to professional forest management.

On recreation uses, the Board discussion clearly identified that the issues at hand are more complex than the typical dichotomy of motorized versus non-motorized users, and that there's a need to recognize other activities such as mountain biking. The Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS) likely deals with these concerns in a variety of ways, however the County has not had sufficient time to fully understand the implications of the ROS across the different alternatives to our recreation economy or our communities. Sorting through these varied scenarios and their relationships to the communities, landscape, and users is an extensive effort, and is the basis for the County's request for an extension to the comment period.

The INF and County would both be well served to thoroughly vet ROS alternatives with communities, perhaps through specific outreach to the County's Regional Planning Advisory Committees, and define the relationship of the ROS tool to requests for recreation activity inventories, which have been requested by the Town of Mammoth Lakes and Mammoth Lakes Recreation. These are key discussions in setting the landscape for recreation opportunities and activities into the future and should not be treated superficially as it has to date.

At this time, the only input the County can offer on the sustainable recreation discussion, in addition to the above, are the following points:

- Space and opportunity should be sufficiently provided for all recreational users.
- Mono County supports many of the points provided by the Eastern Sierra Recreation Collaborative (see Attachment #2), which was a citizen effort to compile public input. (*Note to Board: the most recent version of this document is attached.*)
- The County defines "sustainable" recreation as set forth in "Connecting People with America's Great Outdoors: A Framework for Sustainable Recreation" (June 25, 2010)[1] and requests the INF Plan use the same definition. This USFS document is a valuable resource, and the relationship between these policies and the INF Plan should be clear and direct.
- Enforcement and education should be addressed with stronger language and commitments.
- Minimizing impacts to resources, which also includes Native American sites, artifacts, and uses, is also critical, and requires that recreation opportunities be appropriate to the landscape. Enforcement and education is key to protecting these resources.
- The impacts of dispersed recreation on Native American activities, sites, and uses should be recognized and managed. Horseshoe Meadows, Parker Bench, and Pizona Meadow areas are particular areas of concern.
- The emphasis on sustainable recreation should include extending the recreation season into the spring and fall, or the shoulder seasons. This extension would positively affect the local economy, as well as provide opportunities to disperse recreation over a longer timeframe and therefore reduce the impacts. An example of extending the season would be to keep campgrounds open longer, and base closure on weather conditions (as practical) rather than a calendar date.

Recreation Places are another component that would benefit from additional review and public vetting. In the spirit of "place-based planning" strategies, the names, geographic boundaries, and descriptions of these Recreation Places should resonate with the local communities and other stakeholders. In particular, "Mammoth Escarpment Place" should be

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[1] http://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/stelprdb5346549.pdf

replaced with a name that references the Mammoth Lakes Basin, as this is the geographic feature that most residents and visitors recognize. Upper and Lower Rock Creek are currently lumped into the "Bishop to Convict Creek" Recreation Place, but are of particular importance to southern Mono County and should have its own place name and geographic boundaries.

Within the Recreation Places, key locations receive more intense visitation which results in increased impacts to resources and the visitor experience. Special management direction specific to the challenges faced at each location is needed, such as sanitary and visitor service facilities, parking and traffic management, increased enforcement and education, additional signage, etc. The County's understanding is that the INF has special management designations that are not included in the Draft Plan because these designations were identified as not needing to be changed. However, these management designations are needed in the plan itself to provide clear policy direction. Please clarify what these special management designations are, if and how they apply, and to which areas. As an example, current Restricted Use Areas in and adjacent to Mono County that should have special management include (Upper) Rock Creek, McGee Creek, Convict Lake, Mammoth Lakes, Reds Meadow Valley, June Lake Loop, Lee Vining Canyon, Lundy Canyon, and the Ancient Bristlecone Pine Forest.

(*Note to Board: Further research revealed that all INF lands are included in one of the Recreation Places. Therefore, the concern about the potential for lands outside of Recreation Places to be not be managed adequately was excluded.*)

Finally, Mono County provides the following comments on other recreation issues:
- The Mono County Regional Transportation Plan highlights the Lee Vining Canyon Scenic Byway as an interpretive opportunity. The County would like to see interpretive displays and opportunities provided along this stunning and highly traveled route.
- Film permit language currently appears in only some of the Recreation Places descriptions and is unclear about the types of productions that would be allowed. Commercial film productions are important to Mono County's economy and generally take place in the front country in already impacted locations with existing infrastructure such as roads, staging areas, etc. The productions are also very responsive to required conditions that ensure minimal impact to the surrounding landscape. The County requests that the Draft Plan language be clarified to allow the same geographic and permitting opportunities for film productions as exist today, and remove the location-specific references in the Recreation Places descriptions.
- Mono County requests the inclusion of language reflecting the Ski Area Recreational Opportunity Enhancement Act of 2011. "The new directives will help usher in a wider spectrum of developed recreation opportunities that will encourage more people to enjoy the national forests," said US Forest Service Chief Tom Tidwell about these policy guidelines in a 2014 press release. "This change will allow ski areas to offer expanded recreation choices that will benefit local communities and recreationalists." This opportunity is particularly important to the community of June Lake.
- Mono County has heard concerns about the emerging issue of drone use on public land, and it should be addressed in the Draft Plan.

WILDERNESS and WILD & SCENIC RIVERS
Mono County generally supports the addition of wilderness areas in the county for a variety of reasons, from increasing opportunities for quiet recreation and solitude, to consistency with the County's "Wild by Nature" slogan, to addressing climate change impacts and species conservation.

Several key areas are of particular interest to the County, although we have two concerns which need to be addressed. The first concern is the exact location of boundary lines. Final boundaries of any proposed wilderness areas in Mono County should be determined based on public input, particularly about appropriate recreation opportunities, management of

other activities such as grazing and fuel reduction treatments, and ecological integrity. Secondly, the County is very concerned about the ability to manage fuel loading and wildfire suppression activities in these areas. Given conditions may be outside the range of natural variation, a more proactive and/or active approach may be needed to ensure resiliency in order to prevent the loss of the characteristics and qualities that make them eligible for special protection, as well as preventing the spread of fire to more populated landscapes. Providing for mechanized fuel reduction treatments and forest health management, and fire suppression activities, therefore seems warranted in even in protected areas.

Mono County requests the following areas, most of which were included in Alternative C in some form and therefore meet wilderness criteria, be added to the final Plan as recommended wilderness. Specific boundaries should be identified at a later date as noted above, however general maps of these areas are attached[2] to provide a geographic reference (see Attachment 3).

- Dexter Canyon: As proposed in Alternative C; see DEIS Appendix B, pages 34-36 for an evaluation of wilderness characteristics. Please note the attached map contains an area in the southwest that is not included in Alternative C, but includes geological, ecological, and recreational features that justify wilderness eligibility according to the Sierra Club. As stated previously, adjustments such as these to determine the final boundary should be the product of additional public outreach.
- Glass Mountains: A larger area (~34,500 acres) is proposed in Alternative C; the County supports a reduced area for wilderness of ~17,000 acres, similar to the areas submitted by the Sierra Club and Friends of the Inyo (see Attachment #3), to avoid recreation conflicts and potential conflicts due to management of Bi-State sage-grouse habitat. This more limited area was included in the DEIS Appendix B evaluation (pages 30-33).
- Ansel Adams Wilderness Addition – Northeast: As proposed in Alternative C, with the exclusion of Walker Lake; see DEIS Appendix B, pages 69-71. Walker Lake contains existing private property and recreation facilities, and therefore should not be included in the recommended wilderness. The Sierra Club has also suggested that an unauthorized route in Bohler Canyon should be excluded; this type of adjustment should be the product of additional public outreach.
- Adobe Hills: As proposed in Alternative C; see DEIS Appendix B, pages 104-105.
- South Huntoon Creek: This area is missing from Table 118 in the DEIS Volume I (p. 517), which appears to be an error as it is included in Table B-3 of DEIS Appendix B (p. 234). This error should be corrected. The Board would like to South Huntoon Creek included in recommended wilderness as proposed in Alternative C, based on the evaluation of wilderness characteristics in DEIS Appendix B (p. 105-106).
- Huntoon Creek: As proposed in Alternative C; see DEIS Appendix B, pages 107-108.
- Pizona-Truman Meadows: Mono County is commenting only on the portion of this polygon within California. The Nevada portion is excluded from our comments. While the County is generally supportive of including this area in recommended wilderness as proposed in Alternative C, concerns about access and use by Native Americans in order to protect their heritage should be addressed. We request the INF conduct specific outreach to tribes on this parcel prior as part of the public outreach process to determine boundaries. See DEIS Appendix B, pages 101-102 for and evaluation of wilderness characteristics.

Regardless of labels, the County would like to see these areas managed to retain the characteristics and qualities that make them eligible for wilderness protection in the first place.

Regarding Wild & Scenic River (WSR) eligibility, Mono County supports the segments identified within the county in Alternative B, and proposes the addition of several other segments. To simplify, the County is listing all the waters we support for Wild & Scenic River eligibility, even if they are already in the Draft Plan and/or have been deemed eligible, and we are not specifying the type of eligibility (wild, scenic or recreational). The Board would like to convey concern, again, that the management of Wild & Scenic Rivers should allow for necessary treatments, which may be mechanical, to manage fuel loading and fire suppression activities.

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[2] Maps provided courtesy of the Sierra Club.

Mono County supports inclusion of the following waters on the Wild & Scenic River eligibility list and includes the applicable Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORVs):[3]

- Rush Creek: The upper segment from the headwaters to the inlet were found to be eligible under the wild classification (2015 Draft WSR Eligibility findings), and should be included as such in the Draft Plan. The segment from the outlet of Silver Lake to the inlet of Grant Lake should be considered eligible, as it is both scenic and a very popular recreational fishing area. ORVs include scenic and recreational. The segment from the bottom of the Mono Gate One Return Ditch to Mono Lake should be considered eligible as it has been significantly restored due to management actions directed at protecting its geological, ecological, cultural, scenic and other natural resources. Over 15 years of State Water Board-ordered restoration has transformed this reach from a barren creek into a vibrant, recovering riparian system. Recreational activities include fishing, photography, hiking and birding. Geologic features; wildlife habitat, especially for sensitive/endangered bird species; Native American history and resources; and general outstanding scenery justify the eligibility of this reach of stream. ORVs include scenic, recreational, geological, wildlife, cultural and other values, and hydrologic transitions from diversions to restoration. Finally, the INF should consult with the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (DWP) on identifying segments flowing through DWP property as eligible.

- Lee Vining Creek: Four segments were identified as eligible in the 2015 Draft WSR Eligibility findings and should be included as such in the Draft Plan; the County suggests the segment from the DWP diversion pond to Mono Lake also be included. This stretch of water has undergone significant State Water Board-ordered restoration and habitat recovery, improving migratory wildlife habitat connectivity and critical riparian corridors. This segment also includes Lee Vining Creek Trail, and natural and political history interpretive features, and connects key recreation destinations. ORVs include scenic, recreational, wildlife, and hydrologic transitions from diversions to restoration.

- Parker Creek: The Headwaters to Ansel Adams Wilderness boundary was determined to be eligible in the 2015 Draft WSR Eligibility findings. The County suggests including the segment from the Ansel Adams Wilderness boundary to Rush Creek as this reach is no longer diverted, is now free-flowing in perpetuity, and provides important spawning habitat for self-sustaining trout populations. ORVs include scenic, fish and other values, and hydrologic diversion history to the current free-flowing, restored system. In addition, the INF should consult with the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (DWP) on identifying segments flowing through DWP property as eligible.

- Walker Creek: Two segments were identified as eligible in the 2015 Draft WSR Eligibility findings and should be included as such in the Draft Plan; the County suggests the segment from below Walker Lake to Rush Creek also be included. This segment is no longer diverted, is now free-flowing in perpetuity, and provides important spawning habitat for self-sustaining trout populations. ORVs include scenic, fish and other values, and hydrology diversion history to current free-flowing, restored system. In addition, the INF should consult with the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (DWP) on identifying segments flowing through DWP property as eligible.

- Mill Creek: The County suggests including the segment from below the Conway Ranch diversion to Mono Lake as an eligible WSR. This segment is noted for its scenic vistas of the Sierra crest, canyon walls, and Mono Lake, and is popular for fishing, birding, hiking and photography. A portion of this segment is within the Mono Basin National Forest Scenic Act and is therefore subject to management actions directed at protecting its geological, ecological, cultural, scenic and other natural resources. Geological features, riparian songbird and waterfowl populations and habitat, and migratory connectivity habitat justify the eligibility of this stream reach. ORVs include scenic, recreational, geological, and wildlife.

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[3] Information on various stream segments was provided by the Mono Lake Committee comment letter dated February 1, 2016. This letter was submitted in an earlier comment period, and contains additional detail.

OTHER

Local Communities

The local communities of Mono County are tied forest lands not just for tourism and recreation, but for the basic needs that ensure community viability. From fire to water to fuelwood and more, the health of these small communities are intimately tied to the management, character and health of the National Forest. As such, the INF's willingness and capacity to meaningfully engage with local communities is of critical importance. The Forest Plan should specifically acknowledge this important relationship with communities, and include concrete strategies for working with these communities both for public benefit purposes and to foster stewardship by the communities.

As a specific example, the Plan should include increased education and enforcement in areas near communities. Illegal or inappropriate activities in nearby forest lands have the potential to significantly impact local communities. A very clear example is an illegal campfire that burns out of control and becomes a wildfire threatening a nearby community, such as recently occurred in Lower Rock Creek.

Energy

Mono County would like to see standards and guidelines for potential energy corridors, including requirements for compatibility with scenic integrity objectives and ecological integrity within the limits of other laws. The Conservation-Open Space Element of the Mono County General Plan specifically opposes commercial-scale energy generation with adverse impacts on public lands, as follows:[4]

> ***Policy 11.A.3.*** *Oppose commercial-scale (e.g., >3MW) solar and wind energy projects in Mono County on non-county public lands to protect visual, recreational, and wildlife habitat and biological resources, and the noise environment, and ensure projects on private lands protect these resources.*
>
> > ***Action 11.A.3.a.*** *Where pre-empted by state law or other jurisdictional authority, work with applicable agencies to avoid, minimize, and mitigate impacts to the environmental, visual, recreational, wildlife habitat and noise environment within the county.*
> >
> > ***Action 11.A.3.b.*** *Ensure (or for non-county public lands advocate) for no adverse project impacts to the visual, recreational, and noise environment in Mono County.*
> >
> > ***Action 11.A.3.b.*** *Ensure (or for non-county public lands advocate) for no adverse project impacts to biological resources and wildlife habitat in Mono County, including sage grouse habitat and wind energy development impacts to migratory birds.*

Appendix B: Proposed and Possible Actions

Appendix B of the Draft Plan contains a level of detail that more directly affects stakeholders and local communities, but these can be modified at an administrative level. Mono County requests that the INF conduct outreach with local communities prior to any changes, and as needed, when these actions affect local communities as applied to specific projects.

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[4] The Conservation-Open Space Element of the Mono County General Plan is available at
http://monocounty.ca.gov/sites/default/files/fileattachments/planning_division/page/812/conservation-os_final_12.08.15.pdf.

<u>Landownership Adjustments</u>

In 2010-2012, the INF participated with Mono County in an interagency planning effort called the "Eastern Sierra Landownership Adjustment Project" (formerly referenced as the Land Tenure project, and currently an appendix to the 2015 General Plan).[5] A policy recommendation in the final document for the INF reads as follows:

> *4.2.1 General LRMP Recommendations: Add a policy to the Land and Resource Management Plan (LRMP) committing to early engagement of the communities in landownership adjustment efforts. The communities are very concerned about being informed and able to provide input to influence the process. (p. 68)*

The County would appreciate incorporation of this language, both to accommodate community concern and validate the interagency cooperation of the planning effort.

<u>Timber</u>

Mono County is concerned that timber be managed in an environmentally and economically sound manner. Given the low market value of tree species in the INF, lack of mills within a reasonable transport distance, and slower growth rate of trees compared to the western slopes, opportunities for sawlog harvesting and transport appears extremely limited, if not completely inviable.

Therefore, based on the low economic productivity and potential of the timber market, Mono County requests the INF manage to for a healthy, multi-age forest with the appropriate mosaics of successional stages and dominant species types across the landscape, rather than economic gain through timber harvesting.

CONCLUSION

Mono County appreciates the complexity of the Draft Plan and the effort it has taken to reach this point. We appreciate the outreach the INF has conducted by hosting workshops and attending meetings in Mono County, and look forward to continued cooperation and increased partnerships in support of Forest Plan success.

If you have any questions regarding these comments, please contact Wendy Sugimura in the Community Development Department at 760.924.1814 or wsugimura@mono.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Fred Stump
Chair

Attachments:
1. Mono County General Plan citations *(Note to Board: this attachment is not yet included. It shall consist only of policies that have already been adopted, and will be attached prior to transmitting the letter.)*
2. Eastern Sierra Recreation Collaborative Comments (August 17, 2016)
3. Maps of recommended wilderness additions

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[5] The Eastern Sierra Landownership Adjustment Project Final Report (January 2012) is available at http://monocounty.ca.gov/sites/default/files/fileattachments/planning_division/page/812/landownership_adjustment_project_final.pdf.

Eastern Sierra Recreation Collaborative: "Citizen Suggested Desired Conditions"

During the summer months of 2016, the Eastern Sierra Recreation Collaborative (ESRC) convened and facilitated 5 public meetings in Gateway Communities of the Eastern Sierra. The effort was focused on identifying and further developing Desired Conditions in support of Sustainable Recreation as part of the revision process of the Inyo National Forest's Land Management Plan, and was funded by a generous grant from the National Forest Foundation. The pages that follow document the Citizen Suggested Desired Conditions supporting Sustainable Recreation for the Inyo National Forest's Land Management Plan, and are organized into the following five Emphasis Areas:

<div align="center">

Volunteers/ Interpretation/ Partnerships/ Stewardship

Digital Connection

Responsive Use Permits

Citizens Access/ Trails

Recreation/ Iconic Places

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Desired Conditions as Defined by the US Forest Service:

"**Desired conditions** describe the aspirations or visions of what the plan area (or portions thereof) should look like in the future and drive the development of the other plan components. Desired conditions essentially set forth the desired landscape of the future and the other plan components give guidance on how to get there."

Draft Revised Land Management Plan for the Inyo National Forest - Page 12 (PDF Page 16)

"**A desired condition** is a description of specific social, economic, and/or ecological characteristics of the plan area, or a portion of the plan area, toward which management of the land and resources should be directed. A desired condition description is specific enough to allow progress toward achievement to be determined but does not include a completion date."

Draft Revised Land Management Plan for the Inyo National Forest - Page 13 (PDF Page 17)

ESRC Citizen Suggested Desired Conditions Supporting Sustainable Recreation:
Organized by ESRC Emphasis Areas, Focal Points, and Including Management Approaches

Emphasis Areas	Desired Conditions in Existing INF Plan by Emphasis Area	ESRC Citizen Suggested Plan Revisions by Emphasis Area and Subgroupings

Volunteers/ Interpretation/ Partnerships/ Stewardship (VIPS)
 	
Subgroupings:
 	
(A) Partnerships – General
 	
(B) Partnership Coordinator
 	
(C) Partnerships – Local Government
 	
(D) Volunteers
 	
(E) Interpretive/ Signage/ Education
 	
(F) Stewardship
	➢ Develop memoranda of agreements or other protocols between the forest and local governments as appropriate to guide coordination processes and reflect local perspectives and interests (==PDF Pg. 93== – Local Communities – LOC-FW-GOAL 01)
	
	➢ Maintain and expand contracting and partnership opportunities with local governments, businesses and organizations. Develop partnerships that leverage different sources of funding to support opportunities to contribute to the economic and social sustainability of local communities. (==PDF Pg. 94== – Volunteers/Interpretation/Partnerships/Stewardship – VIPS-FW-GOAL 03)
	
	➢ The forest should designate a partnership coordinator who will define an easily understood process for becoming a partner as well as expectations for both the forest and the partner. (==PDF Pg. 151==– Appendix C: A Renewed Partnership Focus for the Inyo National Forest – Partnership Culture)
		NOTE: Inyo National Forest is referenced throughout the Citizen Suggested Plan Revision comments as INF
		
		(A) Partnerships – General
		Desired Conditions:
		  The INF collaborates with a variety of partners to provide stewardship and interpretive services that enhance responsible recreation and habitat health
		
		Management Approach:
		  INF to provide a clear, concise process for partnership development and Implementation and a succinct and easy to understand and readily available summary of the types of agreements, contracts and mechanisms they will use to work with future partners
		  Explore, facilitate and implement local adopt-a-trail programs and INF consider hiring coordinator to manage an adopt-a-trail program
		  INF to develop an annual work plan to share with partners
		  The INF has developed economic partnerships to help fill the gaps in funding for the provision of recreation opportunities
		  INF to consult user groups regarding maintenance of roads and trails
		  Create a "Recreation Users Council" made up of reps of the various user groups to monitor/ mitigate and resolve any user conflicts on trails (possible future role for ESRC)
		  Partner with groups like ES 4WD club to sign and maintain roads and develop information on trips for users less familiar with the area
		
		Potential Standards:
		  Winter recreation/ snowplay areas built and maintained with local partners
		  New sustainable mountain bike trails built and maintained by local organizations
		  Sponsor for cleaning of trails and trailheads
		  Include people with disabilities both physical and other disabilities by including volunteer to assist a partnership
		  Local organizations manage/ maintain INF campgrounds; local NGO's have assumed the role of campground hosts and work closely with INF to provide interpretive programs to the public

Emphasis Areas	Desired Conditions in Existing INF Plan by Emphasis Area	ESRC Citizen Suggested Plan Revisions by Emphasis Area and Subgroupings
	➤ Install and maintain appropriate multilingual information boards, interpretive panels and regulatory signs at developed sites and dispersed areas within sites of sensitive resources. (PDF Pg. 157 – Appendix D: Management Strategies for Resolving Recreation Resource Conflicts)	**(B) Partnership Coordinator** Desired Conditions: Through a Partnership Coordinator and a Volunteer Coordinator the INF has increased volunteer program activities and partner contributions to enhance INF stewardship and monitoring Management Approach: Identify/ employ a forest staff person to develop external partners to support trails maintenance & construction of new trails Hire a Partnership Coordinator to work with various interpretive groups INF should commit to hiring a full time Partnership Coordinator within 2 years of the plan release Potential Standards: Feedback loop from public at kiosks **(C) Partnerships – Local Government** Desired Conditions: Trails program is thriving across the entire forest, wilderness areas, OHV areas, urban interface; utilizing local governments and non-profits for trails and related infrastructure development and maintenance Management Approach: Partner with local governments to establish functioning partnerships that will fund improvements: roads, facilities, campgrounds will benefit local economies and will actually steward the landscape and natural resources. INF to consider a collaborative approach to planning that will include local government planning, policies, and regulations to the degree possible

Emphasis Areas	Desired Conditions in Existing INF Plan by Emphasis Area	ESRC Citizen Suggested Plan Revisions by Emphasis Area and Subgroupings

		Potential Standards:
		  INF to partner with Town of Mammoth Lakes for improved shuttle service to the Lakes Basin and other trail heads
		
		(D) Volunteers
		Desired Conditions:
		  Proactive program to encourage volunteers and coordinate their contribution including but not limited to: research, interpretation, maintenance, planning and improvements. Establish regular community gatherings to recruit volunteers.
		
		Management Approach:
		  Within two years of plan approval, hire a really well informed and impartial Volunteer Coordinator
		  Develop robust volunteer corps for Wilderness Ranger programs and interpretive talks, trail maintenance and enforcement (citizen stewards)
		
		Potential Standards:
		  Signs are not enough; there needs to be human contact/ communications to educate and interact; e.g. trail head hosts – volunteers who interact with the public at trail heads and Volunteer Patrollers to interact with public out on trails
		
		(E) Interpretive/ Signage/ Education
		Desired Conditions:
		  Recreation information, signage and interpretive programs are well-funded abundant and consistent with accurate and up-to-date information
		  The INF provides adequate interpretive signage and information so forest users understand how to recreate legally and responsibly
		
		Management Approach:
		  Formally engage local schools in student led interpretation, creation of interpretive materials, citizen science projects, and monitoring of the forest environment, education and stewardship, understanding ecosystems and conservation projects.

Emphasis Areas	Desired Conditions in Existing INF Plan by Emphasis Area	ESRC Citizen Suggested Plan Revisions by Emphasis Area and Subgroupings

		Potential Standards:
		
		   Increased information available offsite for visitor planning ahead of time to stimulate new experiences which visitors might not consider otherwise including interactive and visual information
		   Signs, tours, and other tools provide information in a variety of languages and for users of multiple abilities
		   Emphasize "how to behave appropriately" regarding sanitation, trash management, camping ethics, in interpretive materials and programs. Consider better utilization of permittees to provide education and information to visitors.
		   Offer interpretation and education based upon natural history and Native American heritage
		
		(F) Stewardship
		Desired Conditions:
		   The INF has state of the art developed recreational facilities that are updated, maintained, and patrolled by forest staff, established partners, and volunteers
		
		Management Approach:
		   Establish annual monitoring of recreation use, impacts, and trends (using combo of staff and trained volunteers with "citizen science" protocols) and integrate an adaptive management program to reflect changes/data collected
		   Redirect budgetary priorities to develop and maintain professional stewardship to increase viable employment and permanent residency
		
		Potential Standards:
		   Professional trail crews maintain and develop trails
		   Well maintained and safe trails provide opportunities and access for multiple user groups
		   INF staff and partners represent the demographic and cultural diversity of California's population

ESRC Citizen Suggested Desired Conditions Supporting Sustainable Recreation:
Organized by ESRC Emphasis Areas, Focal Points, and Including Management Approaches

Emphasis Areas	Desired Conditions in Existing INF Plan S by Emphasis Area	ESRC Citizen Suggested Plan Revisions by Emphasis Area and Subgroupings

Digital Connection
 	
Subgroupings:
 	
(A) Technology
 	
(B) Data
 	
(C) Emergency Services
 	
(D) User Systems
 	
(E) Accessibility
	➤ Work with local governments, businesses, and organizations to collect economic data to track changes for businesses in sectors dependent on forest activities.
	(PDF Pg. 94 – Local Communities – LOC-FW-GOAL 03)
	
	➤ Regularly report potential projects suitable for partnership and volunteer opportunities to the public.
	(PDF Pg. 94 – Volunteers/Interpretation/Partnerships/Stewardship – VIPS-FW-GOAL 02)
	
	➤ To the extent practical, harmonize recreation direction for forest visitors to minimize confusion when crossing administrative boundaries.
	(PDF Pg. 95 – Sustainable Recreation – REC-FW-GOAL 02)
	
	➤ Provide and update interpretive signage, wayside exhibits, publications and programs using a variety of media and methods.
	(PDF Pg. 98 – Potential Management Approaches-Volunteers/Interpretation/Partnerships/Stewardship)
		(A) Technology
		Desired Conditions:
		  INF has the flexibility to use emerging media and technology to connect people with their public lands within and beyond the immediate area
		
		Management Approach:
		  A functional system allows for timely recruitment, hiring, training agency staff
		  Need regulations to identify acceptable recreation drone activities on the national forest
		  Create mechanism for forest users to report current trail conditions, etc. (e.g. email, text, online form…)
		  Modernize a website that is clean, responsive and basically navigable and provides relevant recreation information and maps. Consider developing an app to complement the website and utilize partners to assist with website and app management.
		  INF could make public land available for placement of digital tech equipment and expedite permitting for infrastructure equipment
		
		Potential Standards:
		  Determine how to bridge traditional communication channels (some of us don't use digital tech) with evolving technology to keep all with communication access
		  Use technology solutions to minimize the impact of infrastructure (e.g. signs) on the landscape
		  Use technology and digital connection to provide maps and improve wayfinding
		  Enhance interactive GIS tools for trail stewards; for example integrating map with direct link to trail management objectives
		
		(B) Data
		Desired Conditions:
		  INF conducts regular visitor use and economic studies using traditional and emerging technologies to inform adaptive management of forest and recreation resources
		
		Management Approach:
		  Collect and share data across all agencies (USFS, NPS, FWS, BLM)

➢ Explore partnership opportunities with user groups and seek reliable information sources outside of the agency to improve data collection and data management on recreation use and demand.
(PDF Pg. 148 – App B: Proposed and Possible Actions – Sustainable Recreation)
	INF creates a better process for collecting information about how people use the forest, where they go, what they like to do, and what information they need
	
	Potential Standards:
	   Use of drones for scientific research, surveying, mapping, and monitoring forest
	   Passive technology such as triggered cameras to collect data: user data, wildlife data, etc.; incorporated throughout the forest in a manner that does not detract from wilderness experience
	   Visitors have a clear way to report resource damage, trail problems, trash and other recreation problems to the INF
	
	(C) Emergency Services
	Desired Conditions:
	   INF partners with local agencies to upgrade emergency communication technology for Eastern Sierra communities and visitors
	
	Management Approach:
	   Send avalanche condition reports daily to subscribers via text messages (gathered from ESAC)
	
	Potential Standards:
	   911 connectivity throughout forest with GPS location automatic
	
	(D) User Systems
	Desired Conditions:
	   Consensus what is acceptable and not acceptable in use of technology as effects forest users including noise, privacy, drones, safety, effect on wildlife, etc. and consider developing clear guidelines for such use
	
	Management Approach:
	   Develop mobile app maps utilizing device GPS to guide users on the forest which could include interpretive info in the app; app would be standalone considering lack of cell service; e.g. topo GPS program but narrowed to INF roads and trails
	   Provide digital and online connection to USFS/ INF maps and USGS topo maps

| | | Potential Standards:
  Backcountry permit reservation system that is mobile compatible with online reservation, check in using mobile device at ranger station
  Clear regulations on personal drone use on Forest lands
  It would be nice to have some areas outside where one can get away from EMF waves
  The NVUM is very inadequate – utilize technology to capture current and accurate info
  GPS program usable on the roads and trails to keep us on legal trails
  Use a QR code to allow permitted hikers to download trail info to their smart phones

(E) Accessibility
Desired Conditions:
  Interpretive signage and exhibits that are inclusive and accessible to as many visitors as possible; non-technology, technology, language and accessibility such as braille

Management Approach:
  Develop with partners an app for INF interpretive info and self-guided tours for both adults and children in at least English and Spanish

Potential Standards:
  Availability of GPS on trails with no cell service; this allows for data collection, location for safety and many more opportunities for improvement
  Better coverage of Wi-Fi and map hot spots (notification of where hot spots are located and where coverage is limited) |

ESRC Citizen Suggested Desired Conditions Supporting Sustainable Recreation:
Organized by ESRC Emphasis Areas, Focal Points, and Including Management Approaches

Emphasis Areas	Desired Conditions in Existing INF Plan by Emphasis Area	ESRC Citizen Suggested Plan Revisions by Emphasis Area and Subgroupings

Responsive Use Permits
 	
Subgroupings:
 	
(A) Permit System
 	
(B) User Experience
 	
(C) Stewardship Provisions
 	
(D) Partnership Engagement
	➢ Permitted recreation uses, such as recreation special events or guided activities, are consistent with recreation settings, protect natural and cultural resources and support community goals. (<mark>PDF Pg. 43</mark> – Sustainable Recreation – REC-FW-DC 11)
	
	➢ Coordination of land resource planning efforts with other federal, state, tribal, county and local governments, and adjacent private landowners, promotes compatible relationships between activities and uses on National Forest System lands and adjacent lands of other ownership. (<mark>PDF Pg. 48</mark> – Lands – LAND-FW-DC 02)
	
	➢ Work with local governments, businesses and organizations to assist in permit processes, including providing technical assistance, processing programmatic environmental clearance, and other measures to streamline the time and expense of permitting. (<mark>PDF Pg. 147</mark> – Appendix B: Proposed and Possible Actions – Local Communities)
		(A) Permit System
		Desired Conditions:
		  INF staff accommodates and streamlines an efficient and forward looking permitting process
		
		Management Approach:
		  Approve or reject with rationale all requests for permits and expedite the permit process
		  Ensure/ enforce the ban on commercial promotion/ advertising on public land
		  Keep good databases of issued permits and utilize that information when issuing new permits to streamline the process
		  INF should have ombudsman for resolving forest permit problems
		  INF welcomes and promotes research activities on the forest consistent with resource protection and other goals
		
		Potential Standards:
		  25% of all permit fees are retained at the local level as an incentive to raise funds for local projects
		  Transparency of all permits with clear guidance
		  Use of real time electronic communication for tracking permits
		  Expedited permit process for fastest and most efficient service
		  Place-based consideration for permits; different places may require different type of permit requirements
		
		(B) User Experience
		Desired Conditions:
		  Permit activity locations identify easier-to-permit (i.e. cleared through environmental analysis) areas for permitted activities e.g. events, film, locations, especially near communities/ developed recreation areas

	➢ Issue and supervise permits for new special use activities on the forest including powerlines, special events, large group gatherings, outfitter-guide activities and research. (PDF Pg. 148 – Appendix B: Proposed and Possible Actions – Sustainable Recreation)
	
	➢ Expand partnerships with other federal, state, and local government agencies, as well as associations, non-government organizations, outfitters and guides, local businesses, and other community groups, to leverage information (help serve as messengers to the visiting public) and resources for mutual benefit to enhance and improve forest infrastructure (i.e. roads, trails, campgrounds) (PDF Pg. 151 – Appendix C: Renewed Partnership Focus – Creating a Partnership Culture)
		Management Approach:
		  Streamline Special use Permit (SUP) process for educational, youth, and nonprofit groups and to ensure quality of permittee
		  Streamline wilderness permit application process online and allow download of permit
		  The INF uses the permit process to effectively educate visitors so that they safely and responsibly use the forest
		  Have a live person to help not just an online site to help inform and done correctly
		
		Potential Standards:
		  Automated reminder/ alert system for permittees to ensure timely and complete application/ reporting (and to inform of personnel changes)
		  Consistent, clear, easy-to-find application process (online, in person)
		  Permits are issued for uses that are inclusive rather than restrictive
		  Maybe it is too easy to get a use permit and some shouldn't be able to get them – offer better education when getting use permits
		
		(C) Stewardship Provisions
		Desired Conditions:
		  SUP permitting process helps recreation users clearly understand their responsibility to use the forest responsibly
		
		Management Approach:
		  Prioritize SUP's that address specific desired conditions and management goals as articulated in final management plan
		  When issuing permits for powerlines require burying lines where possible
		
		Potential Standards:
		  Engage SUP holders who use trails to assist in trail maintenance through partnership with the INF
		
		(D) Partnership Engagement
		Desired Conditions:
		  Streamline and facilitate SUP with local businesses/ organizations/ individuals to encourage economic development in local communities

		Management Approach:
		Give preference in use permits to local and non-profit organizations whose missions coincide with forest service mandates; consider developing a promotional approach to acknowledge local NGO's (i.e. CalTrans Adopt-a-Highway)
		Allow approved partnership groups a more streamlined process to obtain permits when doing work for the forest; make it available online
		Potential Standards:
		INF has a diverse group of permittees providing "re-supply" support for hikers and forest users
		Increase the term of outfitter SUPs to allow sustainability for small local business

ESRC Citizen Suggested Desired Conditions Supporting Sustainable Recreation:
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Emphasis Areas	Desired Conditions in Existing INF Plan by Emphasis Area	ESRC Citizen Suggested Plan Revisions by Emphasis Area and Subgroupings
Citizens Access/ Trails **Subgroupings:** (A) New Trails (B) Trail Maintenance (C) Trail Accessibility (D) User Conflicts (E) Specific User Groups	➢ The diverse landscapes of the forest offer a variety of year-round recreation settings for a broad range of nature-based recreation opportunities, derived from assigned recreation opportunity spectrum classes and recreation places management areas. Management focuses on settings that enhance the forest recreation program niche. (PDF Pg. 42 – Sustainable Recreation – REC-FW-DC 01) ➢ Visitors can connect with nature, culture and history through a full range of inclusive and sustainable outdoor recreation opportunities. (PDF Pg. 43 – Sustainable Recreation – REC-FW-DC 04) ➢ Trail opportunities are available in a variety of settings that provide differing levels of challenge and types of experiences. (PDF Pg. 43 – Sustainable Recreation – REC-FW-DC 07) ➢ The trail system provides a variety of motorized and non-motorized recreational opportunities during summer and winter and distributed	**(A) New Trails** Desired Conditions: An individual can hike, ride, ski, bike from Lee Vining to Lone Pine on trails without getting on a paved road Management Approach: Agency willingly develops new trails to support community needs and recreational users as appropriate and ecologically viable Potential Standards: Development of new single track trails Trails are designed and maintained to landscape level standards (not agency boundaries) Apply minimization standards when assessing OSV trail locations **(B) Trail Maintenance** Desired Conditions: Trails, trailheads, and roads leading to trails are well maintained through active partnerships with local governments and NGO's Management Approach: Maintenance needs and work is addressed in a timely manner based on use data and ecological needs INF has funding stream to maintain infrastructure and increase capacity Potential Standards: Trails should be located or relocated to provide access and avoid sensitive environmental areas Improve the trailhead infrastructure in heavy use areas to minimize impacts and user conflicts Allow partners to suggest improvement to enhance the forest experience and accept help from them to implement improvements

	across the forest. Trails access destinations that provide for loop opportunities that also connect to a larger trail system, provide linkage from local communities to the forest and are compatible with other resources. (PDG Pg. 43 – Sustainable Recreation – REC-FW-DC 15)
	
	➢ Work with partners and volunteers to provide recreation opportunities, maintain and enhance recreation settings, collect and manage data on recreation use and demand, and contribute to socioeconomic benefits associated with recreation and tourism. (PDF Pg. 94 – Volunteers/Interpretation/Partnerships/ Stewardship – VIPS-FW-GOAL 04)
		(C) Trail Accessibility
		Desired Conditions:
		  The trail system of the INF links communities and is maintained using local and visitor volunteer resources
		
		Management Approach:
		  Develop public transportation to reduce parking kerfuffles at trailheads and encourage loop hikes
		  Staging/ parking areas developed and maintained with regard to minimizing user conflict and resource impact as well as changing environmental conditions
		  Commit to preserving all current access motorized and not; expand where possible and not harmful; do not restrict routes absent approval by local government to ensure cultural values of local population; examine shrinking roadless areas
		  Provide balanced access to as many areas of the forest as possible
		  Take motorized access maps and overlay them on google earth and google maps; do the same for all trails motorized and non-motorized
		
		Potential Standards:
		  The draft plan makes no mention of aging Americans (the largest segment of American population); new trails are necessary that this group can use; this can be trails that children and aging can enjoy; this is important for our next generation who will live even longer and must stay in shape
		  A network of accessible trails (not just paved) that allow more individuals with mobility constraints to access more of the forest and wilderness areas
		  Sustainable roads and trails of differing difficulty and communicate difficulty to users
		  Trails are clearly signed to indicate permitted and non-permitted uses
		  Keep them accessible and open; too often they are deleted from maps and obliterated or disappear because of lack of maintenance and access; update inventory of roads/trails to show on map
		  Uniform trail signage across the forest matches electronic information (app & web)

		(D) User Conflicts
		Desired Conditions:
		  Trail etiquette taught/ shared/ agreed with basic guidelines developed for use, respect and tolerance between user groups
		
		Management Approach:
		  As the population in the US and the planet increases there will be areas that will be crowded or over-used; the INF might think about limiting when and where people can go, have sign ups or reservations so the forest doesn't become a circus
		
		Potential Standards:
		  Clearer identification of incompatible uses/users to benefit of all groups
		
		(E) Specific User Groups
		Desired Conditions:
		  Active engagement of trail users to determine on-the-ground needs through technology and face-to-face visitor contact
		  Trails user groups work collaboratively to support each other to enhance the trails experience
		
		Management Approach:
		  Engaged local user groups that work in partnership with the agency to develop and maintain trails systems and access points
		  Develop policy regulations for electric bikes with motors
		  Flexibility in rule implementation allowing for new users
		
		Potential Standards:
		  Balance and respect the needs of various users
		  Manage motorized and non-motorized facilities as holistic systems fully integrated
		  The INF needs a better understanding of OHV uses
		  Access to training and education opportunities for volunteers and other interested parties – i.e. Cerro Coso program

ESRC Citizen Suggested Desired Conditions Supporting Sustainable Recreation:
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Recreation/ Iconic Places	ESRC Citizen Suggested Plan Revisions by Emphasis Area and Subgroupings	ESRC Citizen Suggested Plan Revisions by Emphasis Area and Subgroupings
Northern Gateway Communities	There are eleven (11) Recreation Places listed in Chapter 3 – Management Strategy as Recreation Places - that are relevant to the Northern Gateway Communities: 1. Benton-Casa Diablo Place – Pg. 62 2. Coyote Place – Pg. 74 3. Glass Mountain Place – Pg. 74 4. June Lake Loop-Walker/Parker Place – Pg. 76 5. Mammoth Place – Pg. 77 6. Mammoth Escarpment Place – Pg. 77 7. Mono Basin-Lee Vining Place – Pg. 79 8. Owens River Headwaters Place – Pg. 80 9. Pizona Place – Pg. 81 10. Reds Meadow-Fish Creek Place – Pg. 81 11. Upper Owens River Place – Pg. 82 **Existing Plan Desired Conditions:** Developed recreation facilities are rustic in design with less obvious management controls (1) Access is provided that allows for sustainable use along the network of motorized trails (2) Sustained as a natural-appearing remote, backcountry, non-wilderness area with management emphasis on year-round dispersed recreation opportunities. (1,2,3) Management emphasis includes providing dispersed motorized recreation opportunity experiences that support ROS of the place (2,3) Sustained as a natural-appearing, destination landscape with management emphasis on developed recreation opportunities (4) Developed recreation facilities are sustained to support the needs	**Suggested Plan Revisions for 11 Recreation Places in the Northern Gateway Areas** Developed recreational facilities specifically for recreational drone flying to move this out of the general forest (1,4,5,7) Mammoth place (5) – historical resource maintenance, preservation, and interpretation to showcase running history and consolidated Mine Site near Coldwater Rock Creek Canyon should be on the list for special management and may be most like Reds Meadow in terms of how one might consider managing the area Add Hot Creek as a place sustained as a natural appearing landscape with a mix of interpretation and dispersed recreation opportunity Special places not listed: Lee Vining Canyon, riparian corridors – all of them i.e. Lundy Canyon, Parker Lake Drainage, Virginia Creek Drainage, Bohler Canyon, Little Walker, Horse Meadows; keep them remote, quiet, and wilderness (5) Wilderness natural appearing and remote experience in Coyote Place, Glass Mtn Place, San Joaquin Ridge Place, edges of wilderness areas, MBNFSA, Owens River Headwaters Place, Pizona Place, Reds Meadow, Fish Creek Place – to protect wildlife and to have quiet places for hikers Increased natural study areas to include less studied areas e.g. Glass, Excelsior, Boehler Canyon, good opportunities for Citizen Science McGee Creek area should be on the list and managed most like elements for #8 and #9 (based on comments contained in the handout) (4) It seems like June Lake should be managed similarly to Mammoth with both developed and dispersed recreation opportunities for residents and visitors

of changing demographics (4) Access is provided by a network of non-motorized trails and roads to launch from for dispersed recreation opportunities (5) Mammoth Lakes Basin is sustained for family oriented developed recreation as well as technical sports including rock climbing and backcountry skiing (5) Sustained as a natural-appearing, cultural and tourism destination landscape providing the staging area for year-round developed and dispersed recreation opportunities for residents and visitors (5,6) Developed recreation facilities are contemporary in design with vehicular controls and regimentation of users (5,6) Trail system is aligned with the ROS and management actions focus on developed and dispersed recreation opportunities (5,6,11) Area is managed to maintain high scenic integrity for visitors and residents to enjoy (6) Opportunities for research are sustained, with an emphasis on those that support developing adaptive management responses within the place (6,7) Trail system is aligned with the ROS and management actions focus on supporting the dramatic view sheds (7) Sustained as a natural-appearing, destination landscape with management emphasis on continuing to provide visitors with sense of wildness and remote experience (7) Locations of cultural and tribal value are enhanced via management actions to sustain landscape resiliency (7,8,9) Sustained as a remote, backcountry wilderness area with a management emphasis on providing visitors a sense and experience of solitude, wildness and remoteness (8) Trail system is aligned with the ROS and management actions focus on sustaining the wildness character (8) Sustained as a backcountry area with management emphasis on continuing to provide visitors with a sense of remoteness (9)	(#2 and #3 on page 1) Mammoth (5 and 6) vs June (4) – difference in those statements for those areas doesn't make sense Sherwins – develop mountain bike trails to allow exploitation of lakes and ranges in in Sherwins vs limited to hiking only Horseshoe Lake – designate as official dog park Better define recreation place – consider finer details and specific management for high use/ high visitation/ specialized use areas within larger places; hard to know what these places truly contain without accompanying map Through staff and volunteer training make sure that sensitive areas or locations are not publicly promoted for visitation in website postings, social media, or interpretive interaction with the public June Lake Loop Place (#4) needs to include trails – an important component of the INF landscape here Mammoth Lakes Basin (#6) needs more specific management area designation to address high impact visitor experience (#8) redraw OSV boundaries to allow for easier experience over snow access between Mammoth and just west of the 395 Boehler Canyon (#9) – sustained a s a natural study area Monitor visitor use in both high use recreation focus areas (i.e. south Tufa) and sensitive habitats to determine impacts and carrying capacity (#3) Glass Mountains should be considered for Wilderness Designation (#1) Opportunities for historic interpretation could be increased (#4) Preserve the wonderful and historical contributions of 80+ year cabin program; value the participation permittees make to preserve and protect the forest; value the economic impact on the community (#8) Redraw the lines for headwater to exclude "slush pits" that are pumice pits/ trash pits/ landfill from ski area construction; was highest elevation open safe area allowing riding any year regardless of snow levels (#12) Tioga Pass – every other road end e.g. Lundy, Virginia, ML Basin – maintain open facilities to provide continued access in

Sustained as a natural-appearing landscape with pockets of high-quality concentrated recreation and backcountry access (10)

Road system supports delivery and staging to high use trailheads (10)

Sustained as a natural-appearing cultural landscape with dispersed summer and winter recreation and management emphasis balanced between dispersed and developed recreation opportunities (11)

Scenic character is sustained by resilient landscapes that support and enhance the scenery setting. (1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11)

Management actions are aligned with recreation opportunity spectrum (ROS) and the roles, contributions and sense of the place (1,3,4,5,6,7,9,10,11)

Utilities are considered if their location will not limit the achievement of the roles, contributions and sense of place (1,2,3,5,6,7,9,10,11)

Areas of high-use are managed to maintain a quality experience for visitors. (1,4,5,6,10,11)

Areas of dispersed use are managed to maintain the ROS (6,7,8,10,11)

Private inholdings are considered for land exchanges if they promote the roles, contributions and sense of the place (2,6,10,11)

Development is aligned with ROS and scenery management system; managed and adapted to changing demographics, connectivity to adjacent communities and supporting the connection of people to nature (3,4,5,6,7,9,10,11)

Recreation residences do not limit the ROS and do not generate resource impacts (5,6,10,11)

Recreation residence permits are considered for discontinuation if such actions would promote the roles, contributions and sense of the place (4,5,6,10,11)

Special use permits are authorized that align with the ROS and

shoulder seasons

(#4) utilized existing business that are underutilized

Develop inventory of wilderness access opportunities from gateway communities to wilderness experiences efficiently provide appropriate permitting guidance capacity support

Trash in all places, determine sewage issues from over use; we don't have resources for pick up so it accumulates

(#5) Consider mandatory shuttle only to access the Lakes Basin during peak user times (i.e. holidays)

Recognition of watershed/ headwaters status emphasizing low impact recreation opportunities and areas importance to urban areas water connection (#'s 6,7,8,10,11)

Trail system is aligned with the ROS and management actions focus on supporting dramatic watersheds include in #'s 3,11

Sustained backcountry area – in #3, 11

Mammoth Lakes Basin should be its own iconic place – different desired conditions than escarpment

(# 4,5,10) Wilderness gateway – these areas are the entrance for long distance trails and one of the largest unroaded areas in the lower 48 yet are easily accessed by care; they require more management controls

Mammoth triangle – open all restrictions for over snow usage in the Mammoth Triangle - from 395 to San Joaquin Ridge – allows for higher elevation riding during low snow years

Lee Vining Canyon – develop/ promote more alternative winter recreation of x-country skiing and ice climbing

The INF must make new trails a priority to keep all Americans in better shape – trails are an economic necessity to Mono County

(#4) the 82 Recreation Resident Permittees of the June Lake Loop want to see the following line removed: "Recreation Resident Permittees are considered for discontinuation if such actions would promote the roles, contributions, and sense of place"

(#4) needs to be protected as a place of importance in the early days of the eastern Sierra; as such is not changed nor should it; the permit holders who helped develop it continue to be good

achieving desired conditions of the place (4,5,6,7,10,11)

Filming opportunities are authorized that encourage responsible use and stewardship of the land (5,6,7,10,11)

Outfitter and guide services promote the roles, contributions and sense of the place and support meeting the needs of the ROS with the agency and partners (6,7,8,9,10,11)

stewards of the landscape while the private land owners are necessary to the uniqueness of the small jewel

NOTE: Numbers used in public comments align with numbers assigned to Recreation Places listed at the beginning of each section.

Central Gateway Communities		

Central Gateway Communities

There are three (3) Recreation Places listed in Chapter 3 – Management Strategy as Recreation Places - that are relevant to the Central Gateway Communities:
1. Benton-Casa Diablo Place – Pg. 72
2. Bishop to Convict Creek Place – Pg. 73
3. White Mountains Place – Pg. 83

Existing Plan Desired Conditions:

Sustained as a dispersed use type of place; natural-appearing remote, backcountry, non-wilderness area with management emphasis on year-round dispersed recreation opportunities. (1)

Developed recreation facilities are rustic in design with less obvious management controls (1)

Areas of high-use are managed to maintain a quality experience for visitors. (1)

Developed recreation facilities included campgrounds, trailheads, day use sites, group camps, recreation residences and cross-country ski trails. (2)

Developed sites and transportation are managed and adapted to changing demographics, connectivity to adjacent communities and supporting the connection of people to nature. (2)

Rock climbing and other dispersed recreation activity is managed to support the ROS of the place. (2)

A network of non-motorized trails support access to the high elevation vistas. (2)

Suggested Plan Revisions for 3 Recreation Places in the Central Gateway Areas

(#2) Develop a fixed anchor policy for rock climbing in wilderness

(#3) Motorized recreation continues to be an important component of the visitor experience

We will be better off if we keep congress and the President out of our local planning

(#2) There are areas that should be sustained as a remote area to provide visitors with a wild experience (Little Lakes valley, Granite Park, Tamarack Beach, Hilton above South Lake)

(# 1,2,3) Management of the forest's remaining roadless areas maintain their wild undeveloped character

Bishop to Convict Creek Place – it is important to not expand wilderness to sustain the road system that supports existing wilderness

(#1) Casa Diablo Volcanic Area – evolving; radio repeater sites, power transmission lines need to be protected from "wilderness" designation

Include Lower Rock Creek Canyon in list of special places

Coyote Flats – the same way you don't give away your favorite fishing spot or deer hunting spot or it will become crowded and
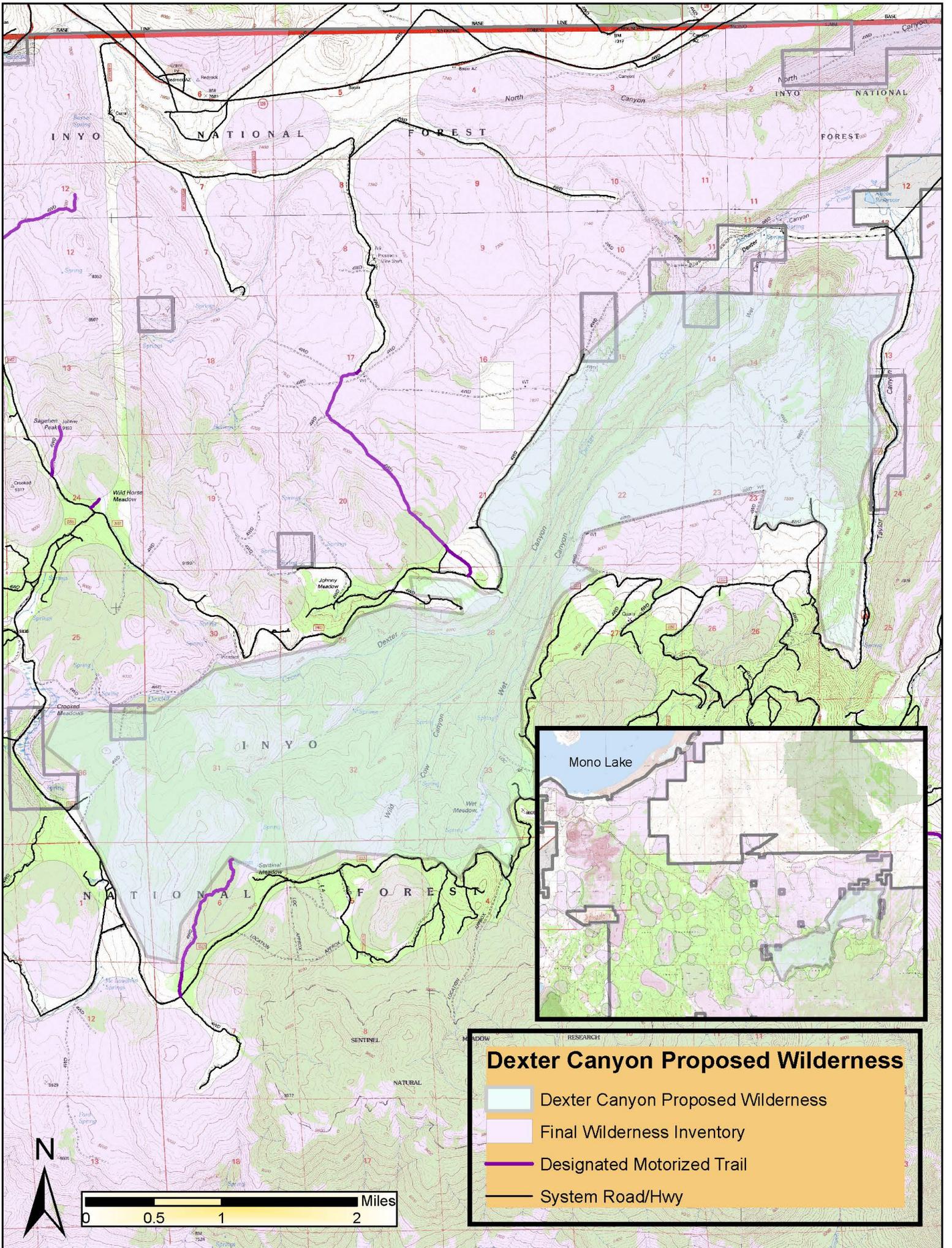
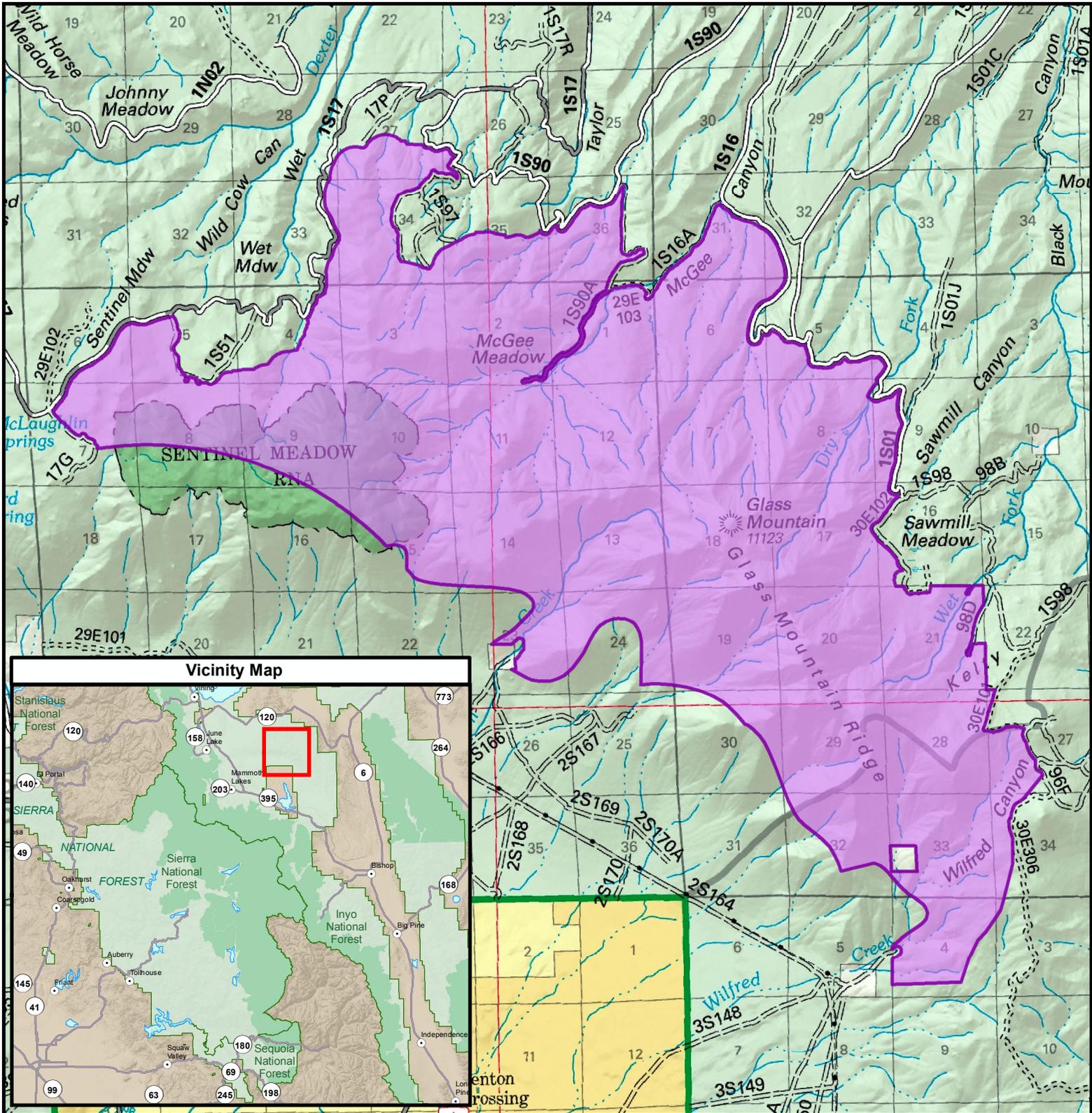|		
	The road system supports delivery and staging to non-motorized trailheads used for overnight use. (2) Private inholdings are considered for land exchanges if they promote the roles, contributions and sense of the place. (2) Sustained as a naturally-evolving, natural-appearing landscape. (2) Sustained as a remote, backcountry area with a management emphasis on continuing to provide visitors with a wildness and remoteness experience. (3) Developed sites and infrastructure are rustic in nature and support the visitor experience (3) Recreation opportunities, including motorized use, hiking and hunting are also sustained (3) Access and overnight accommodation support recreation opportunities in the high elevation country near the south end of the place (3) Opportunities for research are sustained. (3) Scenic character is sustained by resilient landscapes that support and enhance the scenery setting. (1,2,3) Utilities are considered if their location will not limit the achievement of the roles, contributions and sense of place. (1,2,3) Management actions are aligned with recreation opportunity spectrum (ROS) and the roles, contributions and sense of the place. (1,2,3)	over-used; let people explore and discover without direction Minimize the areas impacted by motorized sports (#2) Bishop to Convict – wilderness boundary next to major highway and airport – inappropriate (#2) Sustain the remote backcountry areas with a management emphasis on continuing to provide visitors as wild and remote an experience as possible It is important to keep the Benton-Casa-Diablo place non wilderness (#1,2,3) Development of new recreation facilities is sited so as to protect sensitive, cultural and other fragile areas (#2) Wheeler Ridge – old roads to Pine Creek Mine and Lower Rock Creek trail Harkless Flats, Papoose, Saline, McMurphy Meadows, Coyote , Buttermilk, Warren Bench White Mountains Place – wilderness areas should not be expanded in order to preserve motorized road and trail systems; wild and scenic designation for Cottonwood Creek seems unnecessary in wilderness and should not be repeated **NOTE: Numbers used in public comments align with numbers assigned to Recreation Places listed at the beginning of each section.**
Southern Gateway Communities	There are three (3) Recreation Places listed in Chapter 3 – Management Strategy as Recreation Places - that are relevant to the Southern Gateway Communities: 1. Golden Trout-South Sierra Place – Pg. 75 2. Inyo Mountains Place – Pg. 75 3. Owens Valley Escarpment Place – Pg. 80	**Suggested Plan Revisions for 3 Recreation Places in the Southern Gateway Areas** Onion Valley has no day use area; if you want to get up out of heat you sit at parking area if you don't hike (#1,2,3) The INF has a program of citizen monitors to track

Existing Plan Desired Conditions:

Sustained as a remote, backcountry area. (1)

Scenic character is sustained by resilient landscapes that support and enhance the scenery setting. (1,2)

Trail system is aligned with the ROS and management emphasis is on dispersed recreation to provide visitors with a sense and experience of wildness and remoteness. (1,2)

Access is provided for motorized users along designated routes. (1,2)

Sustained as a remote, backcountry area with a management emphasis on continuing to provide visitors with a wildness and remoteness experience. (2)

Sustained as a natural-appearing landscape with pockets of high-quality concentrated

Outfitter and guide services promote the roles, contributions and sense of the place, and support meeting the needs of the ROS with the agency and partners. (2,3)

Filming opportunities are authorized that encourage responsible use and stewardship of public lands. (2,3)

Recreation with a management emphasis on dispersed recreation experiences. (3)

Scenic character is sustained by resilient landscapes that support and enhance the scenery setting and wilderness characteristics of the place. (3)

Development in the place is aligned with the recreation opportunity spectrum (ROS) and managed and adapted to changing demographics, connectivity to adjacent communities and supporting the connection of people to nature. (3)

Areas of dispersed use are managed to maintain the ROS. (3)

Special use permits are authorized that align with the ROS and achieving the desired conditions of the place. (3)

Trail system is aligned with the ROS and management actions focus on maintaining the remoteness of the place. (3)

The road system supports delivery and staging to non-motorized trailheads used for wilderness day overnight use. (3)

resource conditions, use, trash, etc.

(#3) Horseshoe Meadow campground neglected ; needs better monitoring and management

Need special place – Onion Valley – needs special attention to manage the numbers of people in the summer; could also provide for a place similar to the Whitney Portal site – partnership with a private interest

New places - Sage Flat, Cottonwood Lakes, historic trails SMT

Provide optional shuttle service for Whitney Portal similar to shuttle service to Reds Meadow

(#1,2,3) The INF recreation program provides diverse recreational opportunities while also safeguarding sensitive areas, key watersheds, and remaining roadless areas

New – Mt. Whitney and all 12,000' foot peaks

Dry camping area in upper Mazourka with table, toilets, etc.

Improve trailhead parking with security cams and expanded for overflow

Coordinate with BLM and county on road maintenance

Need more dark sky areas for group camping; Re- open Cedar Flats "Carma" footprint for group camping with priority for astronomy groups; isolated old sites could also be used for RV if slabs are left in place

NOTE: Numbers used in public comments align with numbers assigned to Recreation Places listed at the beginning of each section.

	Utilities are considered if their location will not limit the achievement of the roles, contributions and sense of place. (1,2,3) Management actions are aligned with the ROS and the roles, contributions and sense of the place. (1,2,3)	

Dexter Canyon Proposed Wilderness

- Dexter Canyon Proposed Wilderness
- Final Wilderness Inventory
- Designated Motorized Trail
- System Road/Hwy

Mono Lake

N

0   0.5   1   2   Miles

Vicinity Map

References

Data acquired from a variety of sources of differing accuracy, precision and reliability. Features represented by these data may not represent accurate geographic locations.

Disclaimer

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Potential Recommended Wilderness Boundary

National Forest Land Within Potential Recommended Wilderness Boundary

National Forest Designated Wilderness

National Forest System Lands

Non-National Forest Lands

N

0   0.4   0.8   1.6
⊢──┼──┼──┼──┼──┼──┼──┼──┤
                    Miles

Map Creation Date - 01/12/2016
Pacific Southwest Region - Information Management

Glass Mountains Potential Recommended Wilderness Addition

Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Revision of the Inyo, Sequoia, and Sierra National Forests Land and Resource Management Plans

Approximately 17,433 Acres
Township 1-3 South, Range 29-30 East
Mount Diablo Meridian, Mono County, CA

USDA Forest Service - Pacific Southwest Region
Inyo National Forest

Copies of this map are available for public inspection in the Office of the Regional Forester, Pacific Southwest Region, Vallejo, CA

Vicinity Map

This map is designed for Forest Service planning purposes only. It only represents areas being analyzed and does not convey future recommendations. It does not contain sufficient detail for legal purposes.

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0   0.5   1   2
Miles

Legend

Area analyzed that may be suitable for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System

USFS Designated Wilderness

USFS Lands

Non-USFS Lands

BLM Designated Wilderness

N

Map Creation Date - 5/13/2016
Pacific Southwest Region - Information Management

Ansel Adams Wilderness Addition - Northeast

Derived from Evaluation Polygon 1179

Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Revision of the Inyo, Sequoia, and Sierra National Forest Land Management Plans

Approximately 7,212 Acres
Township 1 North - 2 South, Range 25-26 East
Mount Diablo Meridian, Mono County, CA

USDA Forest Service - Pacific Southwest Region
Inyo National Forest

NATIONAL

INYO NATIONAL FOREST
ADMINISTERED BY BLM

MOUNTAIN

HILLS

ADOBE

NEVADA
CALIFORNIA

Adobe Lake

Adobe Ranch

ADOBE

River Spring Lakes

Vicinity Map

Stanislaus National Forest

Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest

Lee Vining

June Lake

Mammoth Lakes

El Portal

SIERRA

NATIONAL FOREST

Sierra National Forest

Oakhurst
Coarsegold

Auberry

Friant
Tollhouse

Inyo National Forest

Bishop

Big Pine

Sequoia National Forest

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0   0.5   1   2 Miles

Area analyzed that may be suitable for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System

USFS Designated Wilderness

USFS Lands

Non-USFS Lands

BLM Designated Wilderness

N

Map Creation Date - 5/13/2016
Pacific Southwest Region - Information Management
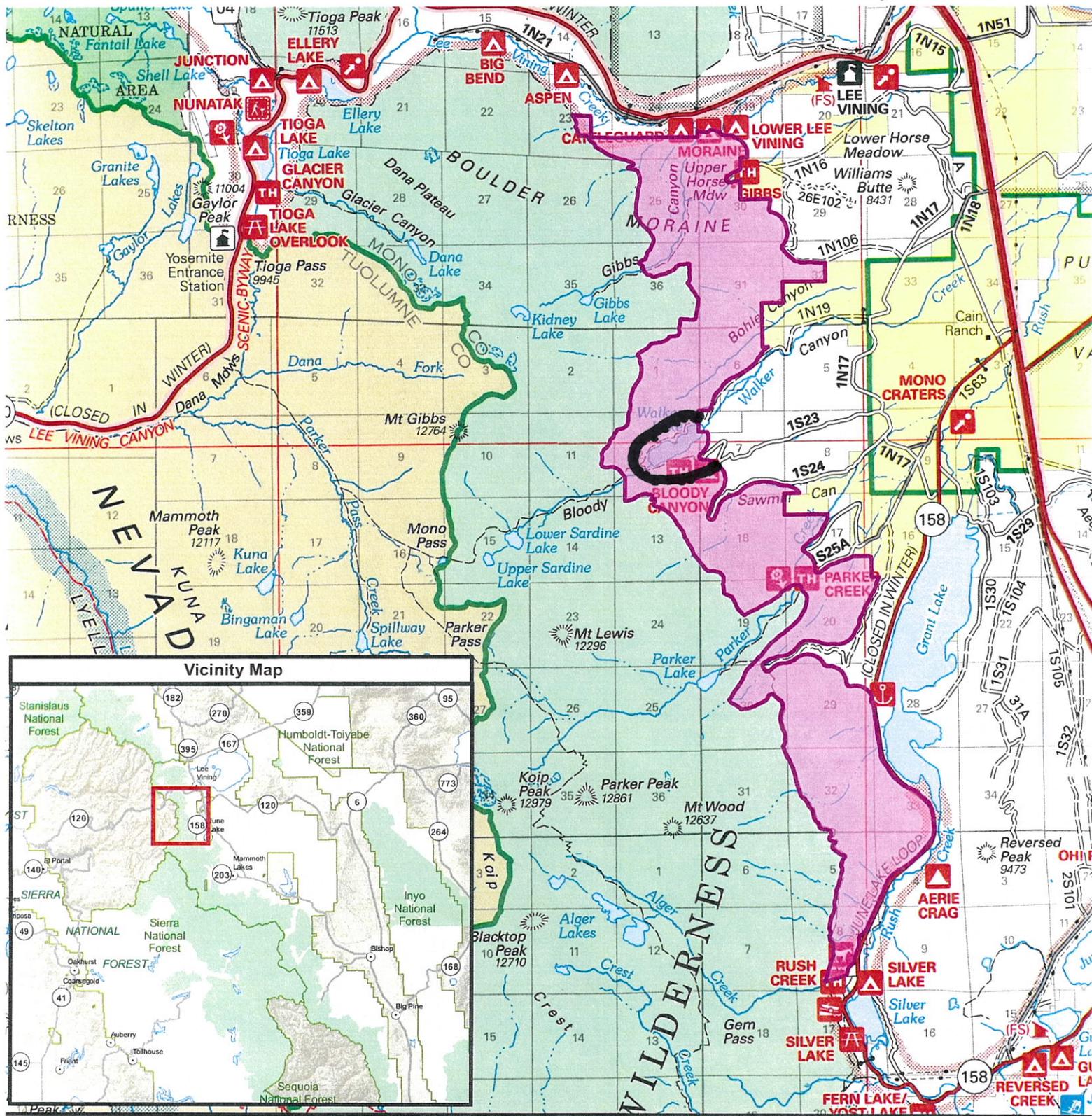
Adobe Hills

Derived from Evaluation Polygon 1355

Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Revision of the Inyo, Sequoia, and Sierra National Forest Land Management Plans

Approximately 10,297 Acres
Township 1-2 North, Range 30-31 East
Mount Diablo Meridian, Mono County, CA

USDA Forest Service - Pacific Southwest Region
Inyo National Forest

INYO NATIONAL FOREST
ADMINISTERED BY BLM

Vicinity Map

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0   0.5   1   2   Miles

N

Area analyzed that may be suitable for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System

USFS Designated Wilderness
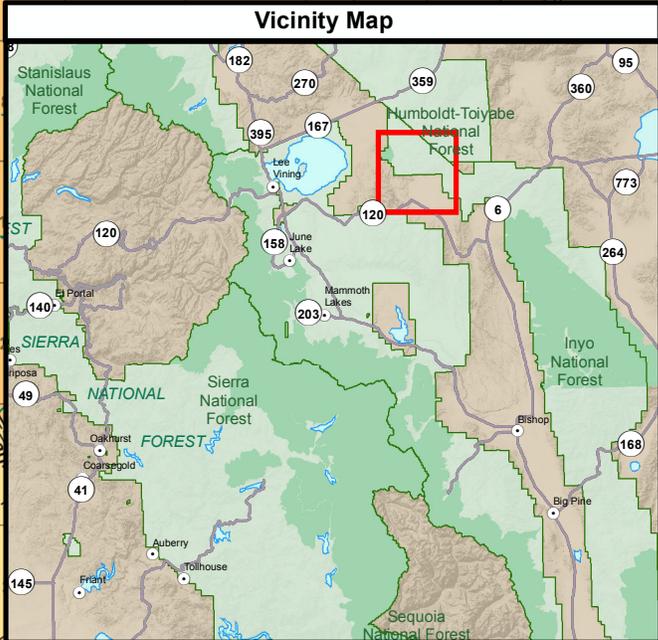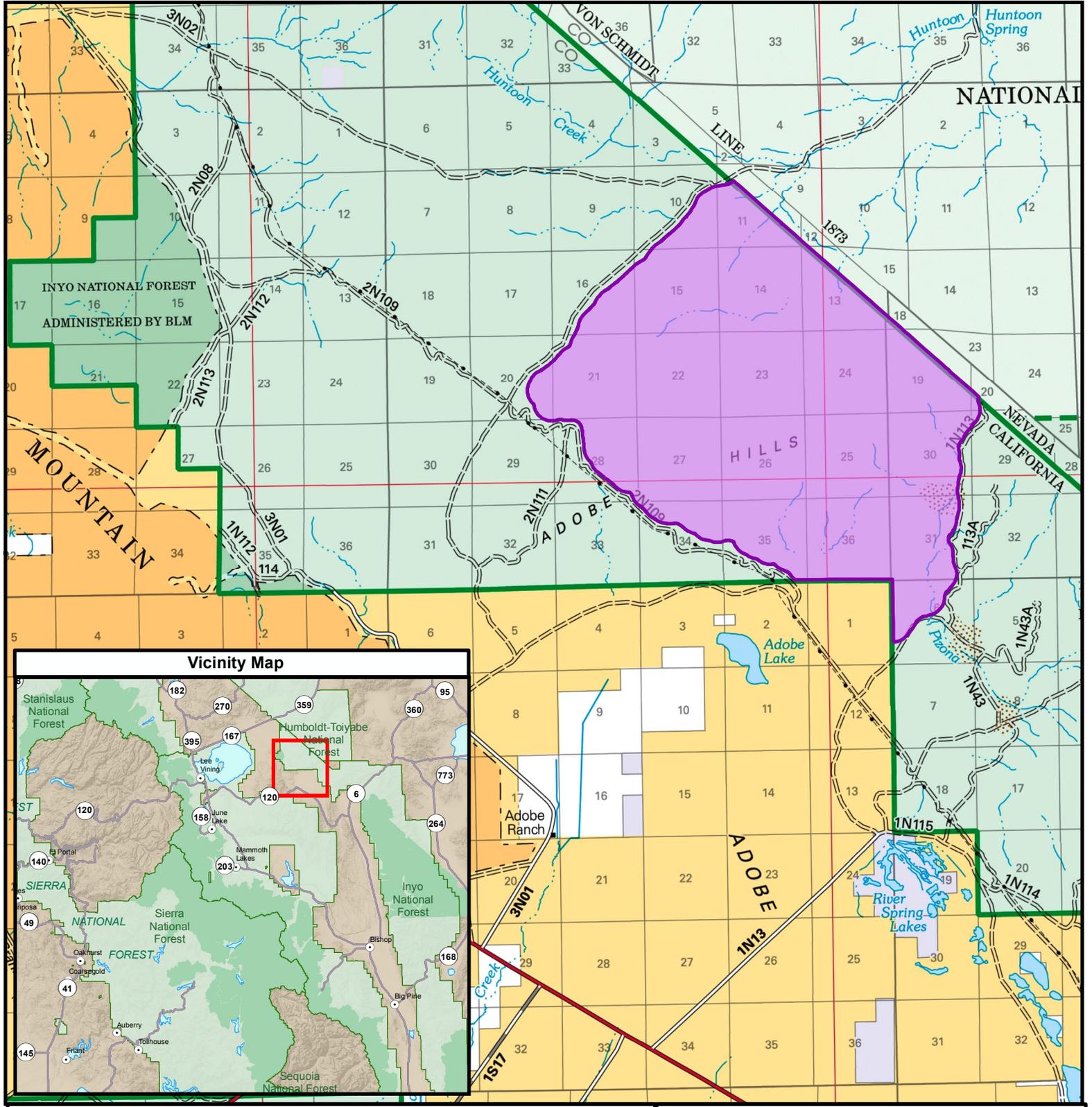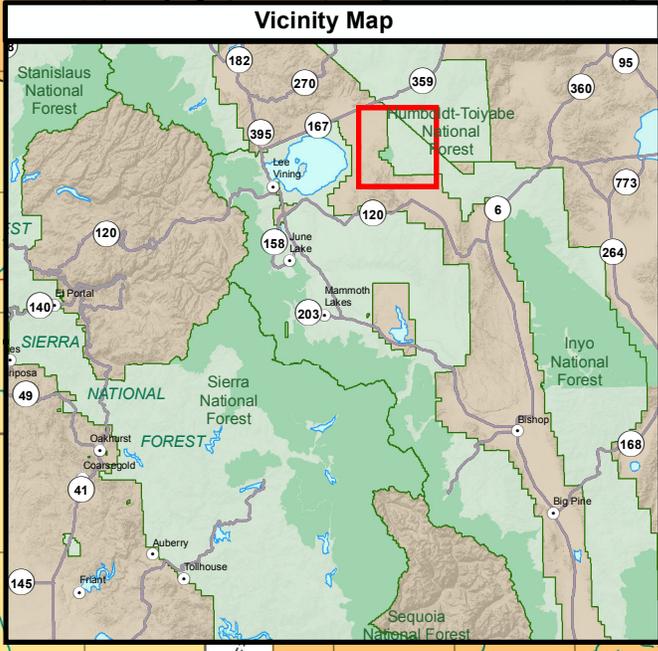
USFS Lands

Non-USFS Lands

BLM Designated Wilderness

South Huntoon Creek

Derived from Evaluation Polygon 1357

Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Revision of the Inyo, Sequoia, and Sierra National Forest Land Management Plans

Approximately 5,805 Acres
Township 2-3 North, Range 29-30 East
Mount Diablo Meridian, Mono County, CA

USDA Forest Service - Pacific Southwest Region
Inyo National Forest

Map Creation Date - 5/13/2016
Pacific Southwest Region - Information Management

Vicinity Map

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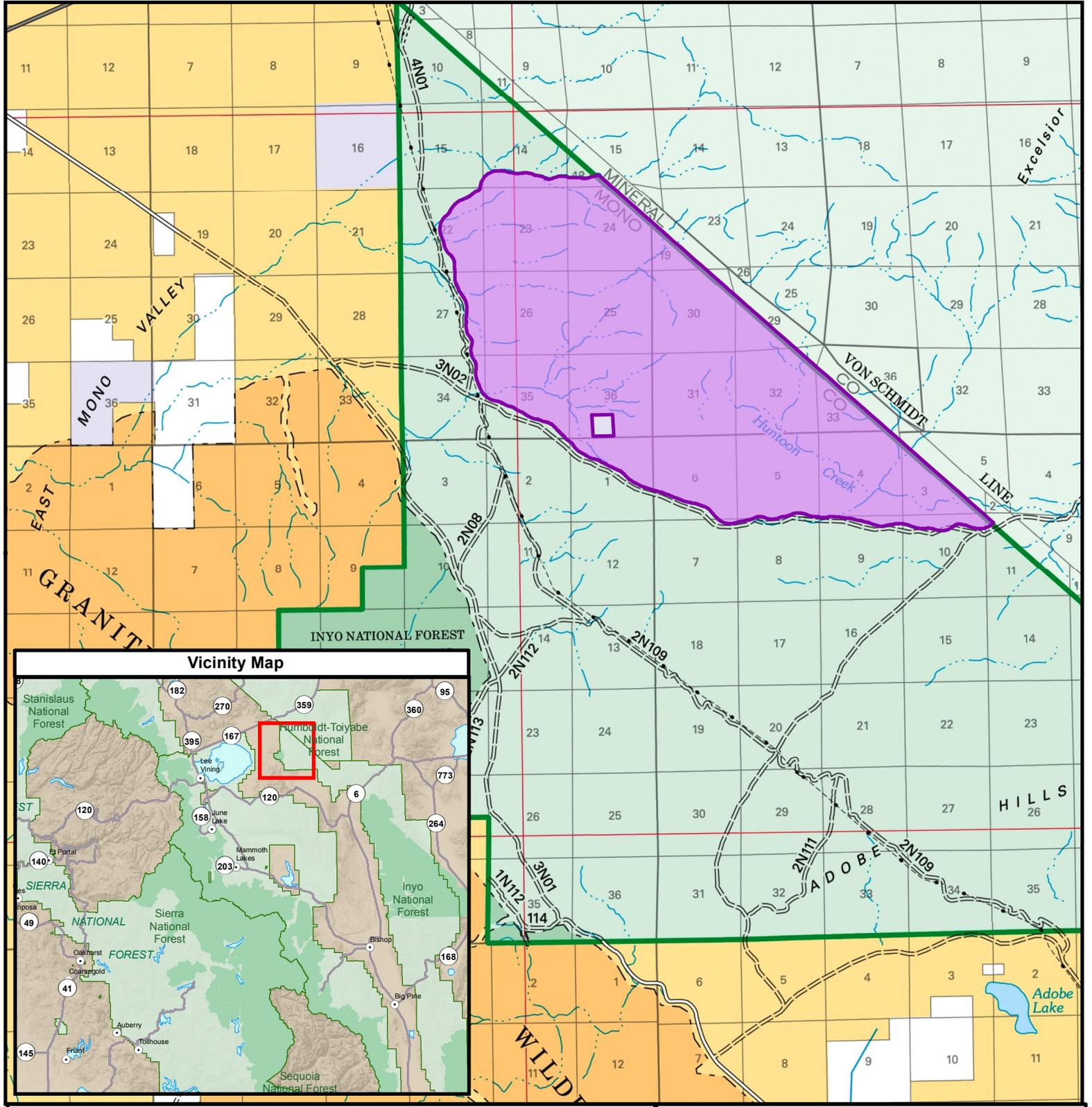
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0   0.5   1   2   Miles

Area analyzed that may be suitable for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System

USFS Designated Wilderness

USFS Lands
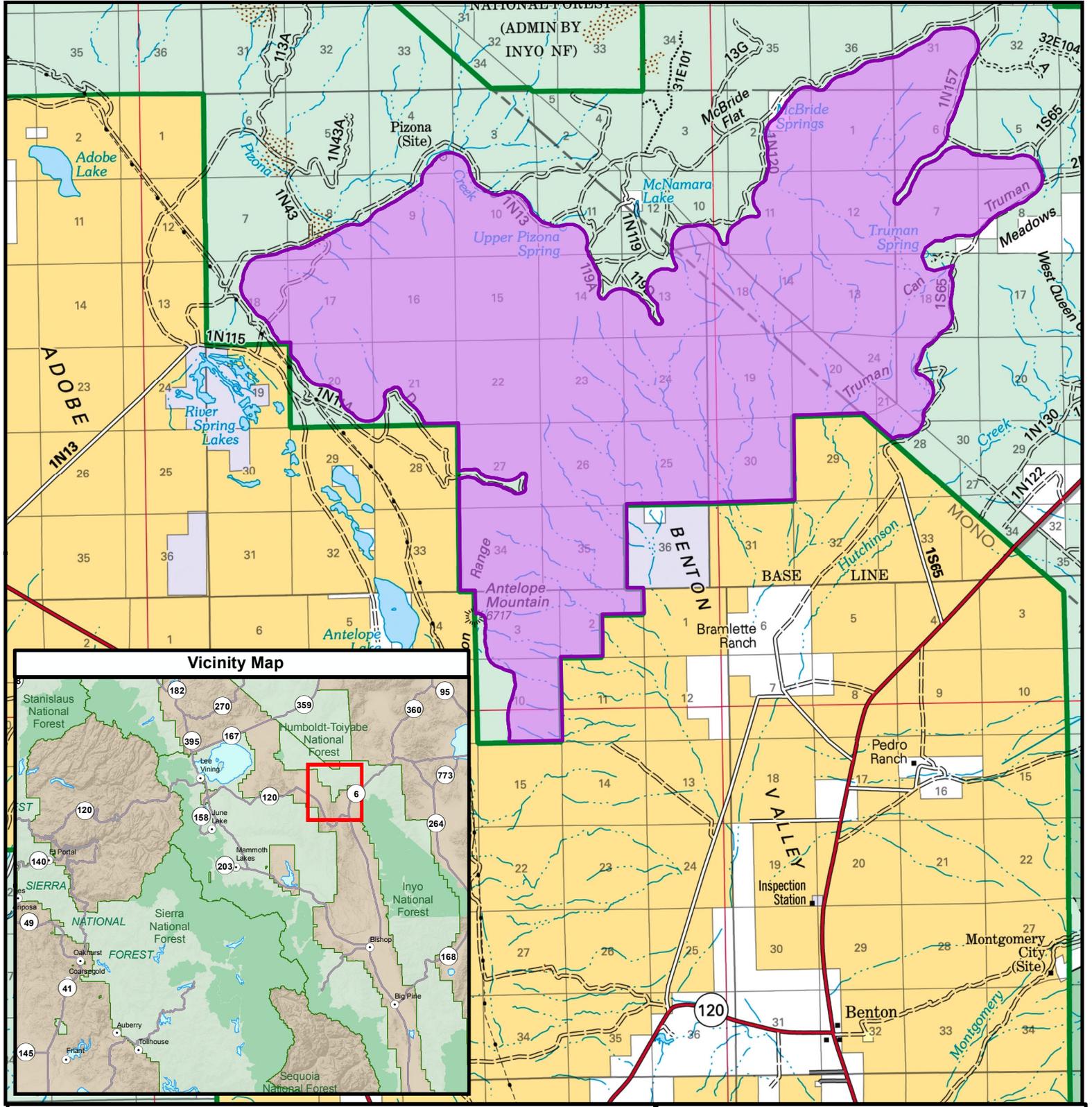
Non-USFS Lands

BLM Designated Wilderness

N

Huntoon Creek

Derived from Evaluation Polygon 1361

Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Revision of the Inyo, Sequoia, and Sierra National Forest Land Management Plans

Approximately 8,855 Acres
Township 2-3 North, Range 29-30 East
Mount Diablo Meridian, Mono County, CA

USDA Forest Service - Pacific Southwest Region
Inyo National Forest

Map Creation Date - 5/13/2016
Pacific Southwest Region - Information Management

INYO NATIONAL FOREST

MONO VALLEY

EAST GRANITE

MINERAL

MONO CO

VON SCHMIDT LINE

Huntoon Creek

ADOBE HILLS

Adobe Lake

WILDE

Stanislaus National Forest

Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest

Lee Vining

June Lake

Mammoth Lakes

El Portal

Mariposa

SIERRA NATIONAL FOREST

Sierra National Forest

Oakhurst

Coarsegold

Auberry

Friant

Tollhouse

Sequoia National Forest

Inyo National Forest

Bishop

Big Pine

182 270 359 360 95 167 395 120 158 203 140 49 41 145 6 264 773 168 114

Vicinity Map

This map is designed for Forest Service planning purposes only. It only represents areas being analyzed and does not convey future recommendations. It does not contain sufficient detail for legal purposes.
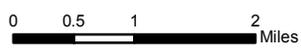
References

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Area analyzed that may be suitable for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System

USFS Designated Wilderness

USFS Lands

Non-USFS Lands

N

0   0.5   1   2 Miles

Map Creation Date - 5/13/2016
Pacific Southwest Region - Information Management

Pizona-Truman Meadows

Derived from Evaluation Polygon 1339

Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Revision of the Inyo, Sequoia, and Sierra National Forest Land Management Plans

Approximately 19,762 Acres
Township 1-2 North, Range 31-32 East
Mount Diablo Meridian, Mono/Mineral Counties, CA/NV

USDA Forest Service - Pacific Southwest Region
Inyo National Forest

OFFICE OF THE CLERK
OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA REQUEST

🖨 **Print**

MEETING DATE	August 23, 2016	**DEPARTMENT**	
ADDITIONAL DEPARTMENTS			
TIME REQUIRED	10 minutes (5 minute presentation; 5 minute discussion)	**PERSONS APPEARING BEFORE THE BOARD**	Tim Alpers
SUBJECT	Support Letter for June Mountain Prop 1 Grant Request		

AGENDA DESCRIPTION:

(A brief general description of what the Board will hear, discuss, consider, or act upon)

Sierra Nevada Conservancy – Sierra Nevada Watershed Improvement Program Support Letter for June Mountain/California Trout, Inc. (CalTrout) application for Proposition 1 grant funding.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Approve Board of Supervisors' signatures on letter for support on June Mountain/California Trout, Inc.'s application for Proposition 1 grant funding.

FISCAL IMPACT:

If grant is approved, it will result in $1 million in grant funds from CalTrout and Sierra Nevada Conservancy to remove fire fuels from June Mountain Ski Area.

CONTACT NAME: Leslie Chapman

PHONE/EMAIL: 7609325414 / lchapman@mono.ca.gov

SUBMIT THE ORIGINAL DOCUMENT WITH ATTACHMENTS TO THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR *PRIOR TO 5:00 P.M. ON THE FRIDAY 32 DAYS PRECEDING THE BOARD MEETING*

SEND COPIES TO:

MINUTE ORDER REQUESTED:

☐ YES ☑ NO

ATTACHMENTS:

Click to download
🗋 June Mountain Grant Support Letter

History

Time	Who	Approval
8/22/2016 5:56 AM	County Administrative Office	Yes
8/22/2016 7:42 AM	County Counsel	Yes
8/22/2016 8:58 AM	Finance	Yes

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF MONO

P.O. BOX 715, BRIDGEPORT, CALIFORNIA 93517
(760) 932-5538 • FAX (760) 932-5531
Bob Musil, Clerk of the Board

August 23, 2016

Re: Sierra Nevada Conservancy – Sierra Nevada Watershed Improvement Program
        Support Letter for June Mountain/California Trout, Inc. (CalTrout) application for Proposition 1
        grant funding.

The Mono County Board of Supervisors wholeheartedly supports June Mountain Ski Area's (JMSA) Whitebark Pine Restoration Project because the dead and dying coniferous trees located within June Mountain Ski Area's boundaries create a significant fire threat to June Lake residents and its water supply.

If a fire broke out in the dead tree area on or around the top of JMSA, it could potentially result in the largest and most destructive fire in eastern Sierra history. The number of dead and dying trees in that area is staggering, and the forest understory is loaded with hot-burning fuel. Given the heat and wind we are experiencing, a fire from that area would quickly spread through the community of June Lake destroying homes and businesses while putting the lives of residents and firefighters at risk.

Also at high risk would be the Hartley Springs area, the Glass Creek drainage and upper Deadman Creek which is the headwaters area of the Owens River. Destruction of our watershed would have a devastating impact on our water supply, specifically the Water Supply Intake which is the town's primary source of domestic water located near the base of June Mountain.

Thank you for your consideration of this important project,

Mono County Board of Supervisors

_____
Fred Stump, Chairman

_____
Tim Alpers, Supervisor

_____
Stacy Corless, Supervisor

_____
Tim Fesko, Supervisor

_____
Larry Johnston, Supervisor