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## BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF MONO

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*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 website comment form and email (r5planrevision@fs.fed.us)*

### **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 meaningful 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 raise 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 reestablish 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 allowed 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 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 they have 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 "Citizen Suggested Desired Conditions" document (see Attachment #2), which was a citizen effort to compile public input.
- The County defines "sustainable" recreation as set forth in "Connecting People with America's Great Outdoors: A Framework for Sustainable Recreation" (June 25, 2010)<sup>1</sup> 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 are 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 time frame 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 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,

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<sup>1</sup> [http://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE\\_DOCUMENTS/stelprdb5346549.pdf](http://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/stelprdb5346549.pdf)

but are of particular importance to southern Mono County and should have their own place names and geographic boundaries as well.

Within the Recreation Places, key locations receive more-intense visitation that 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.

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.
- The County would like to see management direction supporting not only the continued availability of recreation residences, but their use for permanent residents. Policies in the Housing and Land Use Elements of the Mono County General Plan support these recreation residences (see Attachment #1), and identify them as an economic benefit and important for meeting housing needs in the county by providing housing stock.
- 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 that 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 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<sup>2</sup> 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 South Huntoon Creek to be 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 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.

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

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<sup>2</sup> Maps provided courtesy of the Sierra Club.

- Rush Creek:<sup>3</sup> 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. More than 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 (LADWP) on identifying segments flowing through its property as eligible.
- Lee Vining Creek:<sup>3</sup> 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 LADWP 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:<sup>3</sup> 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 LADWP on identifying segments flowing through its property as eligible.
- Walker Creek:<sup>3</sup> 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 LADWP on identifying segments flowing through its property as eligible.
- Mill Creek:<sup>3</sup> The County supports including the segment from below US Highway 395 to Mono Lake on the list of eligible WSRs. However, the County's recommendation is conditioned on the inclusion of language within any eventual legislative designation that such designation shall not impact or impair historic water rights, uses of water, or activities on the Conway or Mattly ranches. This segment is noted for its scenic vistas of the Sierra crest, canyon walls, and Mono Lake, and recreation such as fishing, birding, hiking and photography is increasing. A portion of this segment is within the Mono Basin National Forest Scenic Area 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 bird habitat connectivity justify the eligibility of this stream reach. ORVs include scenic, recreational, geological and wildlife.
- Wilson Creek: The County supports including the segment below the DeChambeau Ranch diversion on the list of eligible WSRs. However, the County's recommendation is conditioned on the inclusion of language within any eventual legislative designation that such designation shall not impact or impair historic water rights, uses of water, or activities on the Conway or Mattly ranches. The County has not conducted an evaluation for WSR eligibility; however, our understanding is that this segment is noted for its scenic vistas of the Sierra crest, canyon walls, and Mono Lake; recreational activities such as birding, hiking and photography; geological features;

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<sup>3</sup> Eligibility information on these 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.

waterfowl habitat and migratory bird habitat connectivity. This segment is within the Mono Basin National Forest Scenic Area and is therefore subject to management actions directed at protecting its geological, ecological, cultural, scenic and other natural resources. ORVs potentially include scenic, recreational, geological and wildlife.

## **OTHER**

### Local Communities

The local communities of Mono County are tied to 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 is 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 critical. 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. The impacts of activities on nearby forest lands have been a concern in every community in Mono County, and especially in the Swall Meadows area.

### 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:<sup>4</sup>

***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.c.*** *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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<sup>4</sup> 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](http://monocounty.ca.gov/sites/default/files/fileattachments/planning_division/page/812/conservation-os_final_12.08.15.pdf).



### Landownership Adjustments

In 2010-12, 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).<sup>5</sup> 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.

### Timber

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 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](mailto:wsugimura@mono.ca.gov).

Sincerely,



Fred Stump  
Chair

### Attachments:

1. Mono County General Plan citations
2. Eastern Sierra Recreation Collaborative: "Citizen Suggested Desired Conditions"
3. Maps of recommended wilderness additions

<sup>5</sup> 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](http://monocounty.ca.gov/sites/default/files/fileattachments/planning_division/page/812/landownership_adjustment_project_final.pdf).

# **Mono County Comments on INF Forest Plan Revision**

## **Attachment #1: General Plan Excerpts**

**Format Note:** *The numbering may not coincide with the adopted and published General Plan available online at <http://monocounty.ca.gov/planning/page/general-plan> due to the auto-formatting function of Microsoft Word. If the specific numbers are needed for policy citations, please contact the Mono County Community Development Department at 760.924.1800.*

### **LAND USE ELEMENT**

#### **COMMUNITY ISSUES/OPPORTUNITIES/CONSTRAINTS**

This section lists select issues, opportunities and constraints that apply to specific community planning areas influenced by the INF. These issues are a sampling of the general countywide issues, opportunities, and constraints contained in the Mono County General Plan.

##### **June Lake**

1. The June Lake Loop's economy has entered a transitional period. Summer use, primarily associated with fishing, currently generates the majority of the community's income, although current and future improvements to the June Mountain Ski Area are expected to bolster the winter economy.
2. Past ski area expansion proposals have considered developing areas south of June Mountain. Due to wilderness designations, these proposals are no longer under consideration. Currently, community interest in expanding the use of June Mountain to the summer season is high.
3. The USFS and the June Mountain Ski Area negotiated a 90-acre land exchange in the Rodeo Grounds area. Subsequent development triggered by this exchange will influence the character of the entire community.
4. In the past, residents and visitors have desired the permanent protection of meadow and wetland areas along parts of SR 158 near Silver Lake and on the backshore of Gull Lake. The protection of riparian habitat along Rush Creek between Silver and Grant lakes and below Grant Lake, as well as along lakeshores, is also preferred.
5. Maintaining healthy forests are critical to the character and beauty of the June Lake Loop. Activities to reduce the risk of catastrophic fire, manage natural cycles of beetle kill, and generally protect forest health are a priority.
6. Recreational amenities and opportunities in June Lake are critical to the health of the community and economy. Improving and publicizing the year-round trail system for hiking, biking, and cross-country skiing is a high priority.
7. The Loop lacks safe, convenient roadside turnouts at selected scenic lookout points.
8. The opportunity exists for the June Lake community to work with the USFS in developing a comprehensive recreation plan. This plan will inventory, coordinate and program the full summer and winter recreational development potential in the June Lake Loop.

##### **Mammoth Vicinity**

1. Preservation of visual resources, especially in the US 395 viewshed, is a key concern. US 395 from the Benton Crossing Road to the intersection with SR 203 is a state-designated scenic highway. The visual

corridor along US 395 has been identified in both the county General Plan and the Inyo National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan as an important viewshed for the traveling public.

2. The Mammoth Mountain Ski Area Base Exchange in progress has the potential to affect/impact unincorporated lands, depending on the lands included in the exchange and the proposed development.

### **Upper Owens**

1. There is considerable concern that water transfer projects from the Upper Owens and/or its watershed will negatively impact the area. There is also concern about the direct and indirect impacts that future ski area base development may have on the area.

### **Long Valley**

1. There is interest in a regional trail network, including a multi-use trail from Long Valley to Mammoth Lakes and around Crowley Lake, and interest in identifying missing links between existing trails within and outside of each community to connect points of interest.
2. Preservation of the scenic corridor, wildlife habitat and visual quality of the area is of utmost importance, and interest in minimizing impacts to these resources is high.

### **Wheeler Crest**

1. The main concern in the Wheeler Crest area is preserving the aesthetic beauty and tranquility of the area while still allowing for development of the many privately owned parcels. The focus of development is to be single-family residential development.
2. The Wheeler Crest area contains vital deer wintering and migration habitat.
3. There is concern about a secondary access route to the Wheeler Crest area for emergency purposes.

### **Paradise**

1. A concern in the Paradise community is preserving the aesthetic beauty and tranquillity of the area while still allowing for development of privately owned parcels. The focus of development is to be single-family residential development.
2. The Paradise area contains vital deer wintering and migration habitat, as well as other species and habitat of concern, such as the Sierra Nevada Bighorn Sheep.
3. Recreation access and management are of concern to the residents.

### **Tri-Valley (Benton/Hammil/Chalfant)**

1. There is a desire to maintain and enhance agricultural uses in the Tri-Valley.
2. Access to public lands that surround the Tri-Valley is a critical component of the rural sense of community.

### **Benton Hot Springs Valley**

1. The landowner is interested in additional, environmentally compatible commercial development to allow for long-term economic sustainability that will be required to preserve the historic structures and maintain habitat and open spaces indefinitely.

## Oasis

1. Oasis, located in the extreme southeastern corner of the county, includes privately owned lands that are used for agriculture, primarily alfalfa production. This area is isolated from the rest of the county by the White Mountains. Access is via SR 168, which runs north through Westgard Pass from Big Pine in Inyo County to connect with SR 266, which connects to routes in Nevada.

## COUNTYWIDE VISION

The following summarizes the vision of the Mono County General Plan:

The environmental and economic integrity of Mono County shall be maintained and enhanced through orderly growth, minimizing land use conflicts, supporting local tourist and agricultural based economies, and protecting the scenic, recreational, cultural, and natural resources of the area. The small-town atmosphere, rural-residential character and associated quality of life will be sustained consistent with community plans. Mono County will collaborate with applicable federal, state and local entities in pursuing this vision through citizen-based planning and efficient, coordinated permit processing.

In addition, Mono County has been developing a strategic plan through the intensive engagement of staff, officials, the public, and other stakeholders. The 2015 Draft Strategic Plan includes the following components:

*Mono County Vision:* Outstanding Community Services, Quality of Life Beyond Compare

*Mission:* To support all our communities by providing superior services while protecting our unique rural environment.

*Values:*

- Community Service: We commit to exceptional service by managing the resources entrusted to us with integrity, trust, respect, and accountability.
- Integrity: We demonstrate our integrity by ensuring our work is performed with consistency, credibility, and confidentiality.
- Excellence: We strive to achieve the highest standards of excellence; continuously learn, develop, and improve; and take pride in our work.
- Collaboration: We commit to responsible communication and respectful partnerships to achieve common goals.
- Innovation: We strive to foster innovation and creative thinking, embrace change and challenge the status quo, listen to all ideas and viewpoints, learn from our successes and mistakes.
- Results Orientation: We strive to set challenging goals, focus on output, assume responsibility, and constructively solve problems.

*Strategic Directions:*

- Promote a strong diverse economy
- Protect natural resources and enhance public access
- Understand and address community needs
- Support healthy people in healthy communities
- Reward innovation
- Effectively use resources
- Workforce wellness
- Strengthen County culture

## COUNTYWIDE LAND USE POLICIES

**GOAL 1. Maintain and enhance the environmental and economic integrity of Mono County while providing for the land use needs of residents and visitors.**

### **Objective 1.A.**

Accommodate future growth in a manner that preserves and protects the area's scenic, agricultural, natural, cultural and recreational resources and that is consistent with the capacities of public facilities and services.

**Policy 1.A.1.** Contain growth in and adjacent to existing community areas

**Action 1.A.1.c.** Provide sufficient land to accommodate the expansion of community areas, including sites for affordable housing.

**Action 1.A.1.d.** Support the exchange of public lands into private ownership for community expansion purposes if consistent with General Plan policies.

**Policy 1.A.4.** Designate most lands outside existing community areas for low intensity uses (e.g., open space, agricultural, resource management). Higher-intensity uses (e.g., industrial, resource extraction, large-scale resort development) may be permitted outside existing community areas if it can be demonstrated that the use cannot be accommodated in existing community areas, that the use is incompatible with existing community uses, or that the use directly relies on the availability of unique on-site resources. Higher-intensity uses shall not adversely impact the area's scenic, recreational, cultural and natural resources.

**Action 1.A.4.c.** Proposals for development on federal lands shall address 1) impacts to nearby communities, including impacts to services and infrastructure, and 2) potential environmental impacts of the project and measures to avoid or mitigate the impact.

**Policy 1.A.8.** Maintain or enhance the integrity of critical wildlife habitat in the county by limiting development in those areas and requiring mitigation in conformance to CEQA and this General Plan. Examples of critical wildlife habitat include, but are not limited to: key winter ranges, holding areas, migration routes, and fawning areas for mule deer; habitat for other big game species; leks, nesting areas and winter and summer range for sage grouse; fisheries and associated habitat; and riparian and wetland habitat.

**Policy 1.A.9.** Regulate resource development projects in a manner that maintains environmental quality.

**Action 1.A.9.e.** Existing mining operations, geothermal operations, and other existing resource-extraction operations, including salable materials operations (e.g., aggregate mining) have been designated Resource Extraction. Once these sites have been exhausted and reclaimed, the land use designation shall be revised to reflect the planned future land use.

**Policy 1.A.13.** Coordinate planning efforts with applicable federal, state, and local agencies.

**Action 1.A.13.a.** The County shall coordinate its planning activities with the planning activities of other public agencies in Mono County; i.e., applicable Special Districts, resource agencies, and the Town of Mammoth Lakes.

**Action 1.B.2.d.** Continue to involve a diverse group of stakeholders through the Regional Planning Advisory Committees and the Collaborative Planning Team in planning processes to ensure that County planning decisions represent community interests.

**Policy 1.B.3.** Monitor GHG emissions and provide for streamlining under CEQA 15183.5.

**Action 1.B.3.a.** Annually monitor progress toward achieving resource efficiency (e.g. GHG emission reduction) targets as part of the annual General Plan review, and provide a report to RPACs, the Planning Commission, and Board of Supervisors for review and consideration.

**GOAL 2. Develop a more diverse and sustainable year-round economy by strengthening select economic sectors and by pursuing business retention, expansion, and attraction in Mono County.**

**Objective 2.A.**

Refine the Mono County Economic Development Strategic Plan in order for the Board of Supervisors to prioritize the strategies and formally adopt the plan.

**Policy 2.A.1.** Integrate the adopted Economic Development Strategic Plan into General Plan policies.

Economic Development Strategies:

1. Make economic development a priority throughout the county;
2. Expand tourism and marketing efforts;
3. Integrate Digital 395 into the local communities;
4. Secure the Highway 395 National Scenic Byway designation;
5. Provide education, training and resources to help retain and expand current businesses, including the establishment of government financing programs and grants to allow small businesses access to low-cost loans;
6. Be a catalyst for business idea sharing and networking;
7. Continue to streamline the County's permitting process and review ways to simplify the approval process;
8. Develop regional food systems over the long term;
9. Develop targeted business attraction;
10. Identify funding sources to support the economic development strategy; and
11. Develop a regional economic development corporation.

**GOAL 3. Foster residents' health and well-being.**

**Objective 3.A.**

Improve the health of all people by incorporating health considerations into decision-making across sectors and policy areas consistent with the Health in All Policies initiative.

**Policy 3.A.1.** Build relationships, work collaboratively with the community, and implement procedures that make health a priority for the community.

**Action 3.A.1.a.** At all levels of decision making and policy development, raise awareness of the connections between General Plan policies and community health, including, but not limited to, the following:

- Land Use Element: Provides for housing needs, protects open space and agricultural lands, contains development within and adjacent to existing communities, identifies communities in need of health services, and promotes healthy food availability.
- Regional Transportation Plan/Circulation Element: provides for all modes of transportation, walkable communities, bicycle routes, transit services, public spaces, and complete streets; emphasizes street design for all users, including an aging population, the disabled, and typical daily activities such as families walking with strollers.
- Conservation/Open Space Element: Protects air quality, establishes resource efficiency policies to reduce energy use and vehicle miles traveled, and protects open space and agricultural lands.
- Housing Element: Meets the County's regional housing needs allocation.
- Safety: Identifies natural hazards to prevent and mitigate unnecessary exposure and risk.

- Resource Efficiency Plan: Incorporated into the Land Use, Circulation, and Conservation/Open Space Elements, this plan sets forth a strategy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, support sustainability, and reduce energy costs for residents and businesses. Potential health co-benefits of this plan include increased physical activity, reduced chronic disease, improved mental health, reduced air pollution, reduced household energy costs, promote healthy homes, among others.

**Policy 3.A.3.** Create convenient and safe opportunities for physical activity for residents of all ages and income levels.

**Action 3.A.3.a.** Create a balanced transportation system that provides for the safety and mobility of pedestrians, bicyclists, and other non-motorized uses through complete street, walkable community, and main street revitalization policies in the Regional Transportation Plan.

**Action 3.A.3.b.** Support General Plan policies to contain growth in and adjacent to existing communities.

**Action 3.A.3.c.** Support safe and attractive programs and places for recreational exercise, such as community facilities, public lands, bicycling routes, and walkable communities.

**Action 3.A.3.d.** Pursue partnerships to provide programming of physical activities.

**GOAL 13. That June Lake ultimately develop into a moderately sized, self-contained, year-round community.**

**Objective 13.A.**

Promote the expansion of the June Lake Loop's privately owned land base to accommodate planned community growth.

**Policy 13.A.1.** Promote, where reasonable and feasible, the use of USFS land exchanges to enlarge the privately owned land base to meet community needs.

**Action 13.A.1.a.** Work with the USFS in identifying suitable lands for exchange or purchase. Lands in the Pine Cliff area should receive priority consideration. This program should respond to the changing needs and desires of the June Lake community.

**Action 13.A.1.b.** Designate potential land exchange areas on the Land Use Maps and require specific plans prior to developing these areas.

**Policy 13.A.2.** Promote land trades that transfer developable, non-sensitive lands into private ownership and that exclude hazardous and environmentally sensitive lands from such transfers. Where feasible, the land exchange process should involve lands in the June Lake Planning Area. Encourage reverse land exchanges that transfer hazardous or environmentally sensitive lands in private ownership to public ownership.

**Action 13.A.2.a.** Work with and support the USFS in the delineation of land exchange boundaries that retain sensitive areas in public ownership and transfer private lands in sensitive areas to public ownership.

**Objective 13.B.**

Promote well-planned and functional community development that retains June Lake's mountain-community character and tourist-oriented economy.

**Policy 13.B.1.** Use specific plans to guide the development of large parcels in undeveloped areas.

**Action 13.B.1.a.** Require the preparation of well-coordinated specific plans for the West Village/Rodeo Grounds prior to further development. Specific plans should also be prepared for undeveloped National Forest lands being exchanged into private ownership. This would include potential exchange lands at Pine Cliff.

**Objective 13.C.**

Contain growth in and adjacent to existing developed areas, and retain open-space buffers around each area.

**Policy 13.C.2.** Discourage development in areas unsuitable for land improvements.

**Action 13.C.2.a.** Identify and prioritize sensitive private lands acceptable for exchange or purchase. Designate these lands on the plan's Land Use Maps.

**Action 13.C.2.b.** If reverse land exchanges or purchase are not possible, allow development under the controls established in the natural habitat protection district.

**Action 13.D.2.b.** Work with the USFS to prioritize potential land exchange areas to reflect changing community needs (see the Landownership Adjustment Project report in the Appendix).

**Objective 13.G.**

Meet the land needs of the commercial/industrial uses.

**Policy 13.G.1.** Designate industrial site(s) of adequate size to accommodate the existing and projected light industrial needs of June Lake.

**Action 13.G.1.c.** Examine the potential for locating limited light industrial areas for the storage and repair of heavy equipment (e.g., snow removal) within the Specific Plan area of West Village/Rodeo Grounds. If the studies indicate that an industrial complex would be incompatible and inconsistent with surrounding land uses, or would have significant environmental impacts, pursue a special use permit or land trade with the USFS to enable locating an industrial area in the Pine Cliff area.

**Action 13.G.1.d.** Allow existing industrial uses to continue on USFS lands in the Pine Cliff area.

**Objective 13.H.**

Balance the development of recreational facilities with the adequate provision of public amenities, employee and visitor housing, infrastructure, and circulation facilities.

**Policy 13.H.1.** Large new recreational developments shall consider indirect impacts as well as direct impacts. Besides the obvious impacts on water, sewer or other facilities, new developments must consider impacts created by increased visitation and employment.

**Action 13.H.1.b.** The County, USFS, other government agencies, and project proponents should coordinate efforts to ensure that the indirect impacts of new development projects are addressed prior to approval.

**Action 13.H.1.c.** Work with the USFS to ensure that activities on National Forest System lands can be supported by the existing community infrastructure and that the benefits of the proposed developments outweigh adverse impacts on the community.

**Action 13.H.1.d.** Specific plans and accompanying EIRs for large development projects should address the cumulative impacts on recreational resources from increased visitation and use, and on community infrastructure including roads, housing, sewer, water, utilities, fire protection, and schools.



**Objective 13.J.**

Through the specific plan process, develop the West Village/Rodeo Grounds into a well-coordinated resort area that provides a balance of resident and visitor housing in close proximity to recreational facilities and other activity centers.

**Action 13.J.2.b.** Explore locating resort and residential development at the base of June Mountain Ski Area through conversations with the community, June Mountain, US Forest Service and other stakeholders, and consider the “Conceptual Plan, June Mountain Ski Base Facilities” (2013).

**Objective 13.K.**

Retain the Down Canyon's single-family residential character while providing for additional commercial development along SR 158 and pockets of higher-density residential uses.

**Policy 13.K.1.** Retain the area's single-family residential character while allowing for pockets of higher-density residential developments in areas that have good automobile access and commercial developments, bordering SR 158.

**Action 13.K.1.a.** Work with the USFS to obtain lands, through the special permit or land trade processes, to construct an equipment-storage yard and additional residential development.

**Policy 14.A.3.** Promote year-round housing types and housing for low- and moderate- income households.

**Action 14.A.3.b.** Where feasible, encourage the USFS to amend its permittee housing policies to accommodate rental housing.

**Goal 15. Provide residents and visitors with a level of community facilities that improves the self-sufficiency of June Lake by reducing the demand on community facilities located in outlying areas.**

**Objective 15.A.**

Promote the development of community facilities that enhance the health, welfare and safety of local residents (e.g., elementary school, healthcare facilities, and child care).

**Policy 15.A.1.** Facilities requiring large land areas, such as school sites, shall be located in designated specific plan areas or on potential National Forest exchange lands.

**Action 15.A.1.a.** Work with the USFS to identify suitable lands for future community facility needs such as, but not limited to, schools, a museum and equipment storage / healthcare sites.

**Objective 17.B.**

Emphasize the visual predominance of the natural environment by minimizing the visual impact of the built environment.

**Action 17.B.2.d.** Work with Caltrans and the USFS to minimize the visual impacts of new roadway projects.

**Policy 18.A.2.** Promote USFS land exchanges and/or purchases by land conservation groups of sensitive areas. Where such exchange or purchase is infeasible, guide development to protect environmentally sensitive areas.

**Action 18.A.2.a.** Use USFS land exchanges to protect environmentally sensitive private lands. Two areas, the Silver Lake Meadow and the hill-slope lands overlooking the June Lake Village, are recommended for land exchange. If trades are not possible, limited compatible development should be allowed. Larger parcels in environmentally sensitive areas would be subject to specific development controls designed to minimize impacts on sensitive areas.

**Action 18.A.2.b.** Work with land conservation groups that specialize in acquiring conservation easements, purchasing environmentally sensitive private lands and holding them as natural preserves, or eventually turning them over into public ownership.

**Action 18.A.2.c.** Work with the USFS to facilitate land exchanges within the June Lake Loop involving federal lands not possessing high habitat or visual resource values. Federal lands traded into private ownership should be located near established, developing or Area Plan-designated community areas. Reverse land exchanges, or trading highly sensitive private lands for less-sensitive National Forest lands, should also receive priority consideration. Due to the limited private land available within the Loop, lands exchanged into federal ownership should be traded for developable lands in the June Lake Loop, if feasible.

**Objective 18.B.**

Protect lands identified in the natural habitat protection district (LUD map reference) and potential high groundwater table areas (MEA reference).

**Policy 18.B.1.** Preserve natural habitat areas by limiting development and curtailing harmful uses on identified wetland areas. Assign top priority to these lands for land exchanges.

**Objective 18.C.**

Promote the development of local water resources to meet future domestic needs in a manner that maintains and protects the natural environment.

**Action 18.C.1.a.** Coordinate efforts with the USFS and June Lake Public Utility District (JLPUD) to develop water supplies in an environmentally sound manner. Oppose water developments that will compromise the integrity of the Loop's recreational and environmental resources.

**Action 18.D.1.e.** The County shall work with the USFS to encourage the June Mountain Ski Area to continue to develop and implement comprehensive erosion-control measures. These measures should be equivalent to or exceed the county Grading Ordinance.

**Objective 18.E.**

Maintain a high level of air quality that protects human health and wildlife, and prevents the degradation of scenic views.

**Policy 18.E.1.** Reduce automobile use by promoting the development of pedestrian-oriented villages that include convenient, centrally located off-street parking; pedestrian walkways; transit service; direct ski access; and bicycle, hiking and cross county trails.

**Action 18.E.1.a.** Promote the development of trails for non-motorized modes of transit (e.g., pedestrians, cross country skiers and bicyclists). These trails should link major lodging and parking facilities with recreational and commercial centers and should be maintained year round. Bond issues, grants or development exactions, among others, could be used to fund construction.

**Action 18.E.1.b.** Work with the June Mountain Ski Area to develop ski-back trails from the ski area to concentrated use areas.

**Policy 19.A.1.** Provide for the recreational needs of permanent and seasonal residents.

**Action 19.A.1.b.** Acquire land for parks and other recreational sites through the USFS land exchange and special use procedures.

**Action 19.A.1.g.** Continue to support the June Lake Trails Committee and Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) in community-based trails planning and development, including further development, refinement and implementation of the 2003 June Lake Trail Plan.

**Objective 20.A.**

Expand and diversify June Lake's tourist base to provide for the year-round needs of multiple user groups, while maintaining the Loop's character and protecting its scenic resources.

**Policy 20.A.1.** The June Lake community should work with the USFS, June Mountain, Mono County Tourism Commission, June Lake Historical Society, June Lake Chamber of Commerce, and others in a joint effort to operate a Visitor Center in the Village or other appropriate location, and promote the June Lake Loop.

**Action 20.A.1.d.** The community should work with the USFS to promote the June Lake Loop at nearby visitor centers, such as the Mono Basin Scenic Visitor Center in Lee Vining and the Mammoth Lakes Welcome Center.

**Policy 20.A.2.** Encourage public recreational use of lakes and creeks that is compatible with the environmental sensitivity of those areas. Consider adjusting public use if increased access causes undue environmental impacts.

**Action 20.A.2.a.** The County should work with the USFS to continue to improve the shoreline and stream-bank access along roadside lakes and streams along the June Lake Loop. Access to water bodies should emphasize foot or non-motorized vehicle trails over direct automobile access. Parking areas should be provided near water bodies, but trails should provide shoreline access. Trails should also link with day-parking facilities, campgrounds and other population centers to reduce the need for automobile use.

**Policy 20.A.3.** Provide a balance of recreational opportunities to ensure full utilization of the Loop's recreational resources, expanded user group participation, and a complementary mix of recreational activities.

**Action 20.A.3.a.** Promote diversified recreational experiences by encouraging activities beyond fishing and hiking, such as backpacking, camping, swimming, picnicking, bicycling, interpretive nature study, outdoor arts, special events and festivals. The County, June Lake community, and the USFS should cooperate in developing these activities.

**Action 20.A.3.b.** Work with the USFS to help identify suitable locations for future drive-in and walk-in campgrounds.

**Policy 20.A.4.** Provide full winter-time utilization of the June Lake Loop by providing adequate downhill skiing capacity, expanded cross country ski touring opportunities, ice skating and ice games, snowplay areas, and snowmobile staging areas.

**Action 20.A.4.a.** Support continued operation of the June Mountain Ski Area and future improvements or expansions, including year-round programming and use such as hiking.

**Action 20.A.4.b.** Promote the development of snowmobiling and cross country ski trails in the June Lake Planning Area. Work with the USFS, Caltrans and the community to develop cross country skiing parking and staging facilities along SR 158 and US 395.

**Action 20.A.4.c.** Work with the USFS and other entities to identify suitable snowplay areas.

**Policy 20.A.6.** Coordinate recreational planning efforts with the USFS, the LADWP, and private landowners in the June Lake Planning Area to most efficiently utilize resources.

**Action 20.A.6.a.** Work with the Inyo National Forest to reflect June Lake Area Plan policies in the Forest Plan update.

**Policy 20.A.7.** Avoid conflicts between recreational activities and other competing uses.

**Action 20.A.7.a.** Work with the USFS, the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, and other private landowners through the USFS' Coordinated Resources Planning Process to help resolve conflicts between grazing and recreational activities.

**Action 20.B.1.c.** Coordinate activities with government agencies and community groups to attract commercial/film companies into the June Lake Loop.

**Policy 20.C.3.** Recreational facilities that can serve numerous user groups or provide alternatives to automobile transportation should be provided, where feasible.

**Action 20.C.3.a.** Support and continue developing a comprehensive trail system plan.

**Action 20.C.3.b.** Pursue a Loop-wide trail system for pedestrians or cyclists in the summer and cross country skiers in the winter to connect the various population centers and, where feasible, improve shoreline access to lakes and streams. Refer to the June Lake Trail Plan for trail standards and guidelines.

**Action 20.C.3.c.** Collaborate with applicable agencies to design the trail system. Representatives could include the USFS, Caltrans, Mono County, Southern California Edison, and the community.

**Action 20.C.3.d.** Pursue various funding options and partnerships to construct and maintain trail projects.

**Action 20.C.3.e.** Ensure trail projects include a maintenance program and funding source.

**Policy 20.F.2.** Avoid timber harvesting and mining on USFS land where scenic and recreational values would be impaired.

**Action 20.F.2.a.** Ensure the Inyo Forest Plan update continues to limit timber harvesting and mining to areas outside the June Lake Loop and designated ski areas.

## **Mammoth Vicinity**

**GOAL 21. Maintain and enhance the scenic, recreational, and environmental integrity of the Mammoth vicinity.**

**Policy 21.A.3.** Restore visually degraded areas when possible.

**Action 21.A.3.a.** Work with agencies and organizations owning or managing existing uses in the US 395 viewshed to mitigate the adverse visual impacts of those uses; e.g., by painting, landscaping, or otherwise screening the use.

**Policy 21.A.4.** Coordinate scenic resource policies in the Mammoth vicinity with USFS and BLM visual policies and objectives.

**Action 21.A.4.a.** Work with the USFS and BLM on development projects on their lands to ensure that potential adverse visual impacts are fully mitigated.

**Objective 21.B.**

Provide for the land use needs of both the incorporated and unincorporated areas.

**Policy 21.B.1.** Contain growth in and adjacent to existing developed areas.

**Action 21.B.1.b.** Support exchange of federal lands into the private sector for community expansion only if it can be demonstrated that there is a need for such expansion, that the community infrastructure can support the expansion, and that potential significant environmental effects can be avoided or mitigated.

**Policy 21.B.4.** Provide additional regional recreational facilities.

**Action 21.B.4.a.** Continue expanding the existing recreational facilities at Whitmore as warranted and feasible.

**Action 21.B.4.b.** Develop additional interpretive sites in the area, such as the proposed geothermal interpretive center, as funding becomes available.

**Objective 21.C.**

Preserve and enhance natural resources in the Mammoth vicinity.

**Policy 21.C.1.** Maintain or enhance the integrity of key wildlife habitat in the area. Examples of key habitat include, but are not limited to: key winter ranges, holding areas, migration routes, and fawning areas for mule deer; leks, and winter and summer range for sage grouse; and waterfowl habitat at Crowley Lake, Laurel Pond, and along the Owens River.

**Policy 21.C.2.** Maintain or enhance the integrity of fisheries in the planning area.

**Policy 21.C.3.** Preserve, maintain and enhance surface and groundwater resources in the planning area.

**Policy 21.C.4.** Regulate geothermal and mining and reclamation activities in the Mammoth vicinity in a manner that retains the scenic, recreational, and environmental integrity of the Mammoth vicinity.

**Action 21.C.4.a.** All geothermal, mining and reclamation activities shall comply with the policies of the county Conservation/Open Space Element and the county Reclamation Ordinance.

**Policy 21.C.5.** Plan for the timely closure of Benton Crossing landfill and the mitigation of wildlife impacts during operation and after closure.

**Action 21.C.5.a.** Work with the appropriate agencies to develop and implement a raven mitigation plan for the landfill to protect sage-grouse populations.

**Upper Owens River**

**GOAL 22. Retain the existing rural character and environmental resources of the Upper Owens Area.**

**Objective 22.A.**

Protect the unique natural setting, ecology, riparian corridor and fishery, wildlife, recreational and agricultural resources of the Upper Owens by limiting the types and intensity of development in the area.

**Policy 22.A.2.** Limit winter residential occupancy to that which is associated with minimum security, maintenance, and occasional visitation.

**Objective 22.B.**

Protect the water resources of the Upper Owens Area.

**Action 22.B.1.b.** Oppose water transfer projects that could affect the Upper Owens Watershed – such as the development of the Dry Creek Wellfield – unless it is demonstrated that there will clearly be no significant adverse effects on the area's water resources.

**Long Valley**

**GOAL 23. Maintain the rural residential character of the Long Valley communities (i.e., Long Valley, McGee Creek, Crowley Lake/Hilton Creek, Aspen Springs, and Sunny Slopes) in a manner that provides for commercial uses to serve community needs, and that protects the area's visual, recreational, and natural resources.**

**Action 23.E.3.b.** Consider feasibility and desirability of a regional trail network, including a multi-use trail from Long Valley to Mammoth Lakes and around Crowley Lake.

**Action 23.E.3.c.** Explore and identify potential missing links between existing trails within and outside each community to connect points of interest.

**Action 23.E.3.g.** Continue to promote multiple use of Whitmore Park/Track in response to regional needs.

**Action 23.E.3.h.** Work with the community to assess potential alignments and funding sources for development of a multi-use path/trail system throughout the area and along County roads.

**Objective 23.F.**

Promote complementary and compatible uses of adjoining BLM, USFS, and LADWP lands.

**Policy 23.F.1.** This systematic, prioritized land ownership adjustment policy discourages the development of isolated and remote private parcels, private parcels subject to public safety hazards, and private parcels indispensable to sound natural resource management; minimizes long-term County and Special District service costs; provides for the enhancement of public safety; encourages acquisition of public lands for public facility and private uses; and is founded on a “willing-seller” basis.

**Action 23.F.1.a.** Private parcels identified for acquisition by public agencies in the Collaborative Planning Team (CPT) Community Issues Final Report (2000) because of their remote, isolated or hazard-prone locations should be considered for trade to public agencies consistent with Mono County land ownership adjustment policies.

**Action 23.F.1.c.** Unless new information becomes available or circumstances change, the following landownership adjustments have been discussed and withdrawn from consideration and action: transfer of Lower Rock Creek Tract and Whiskey Creek Tract into private ownership, relocation of the County Road Shop to the Tom's Place area, and expansion of a light industrial area. Consideration of the privatization of the Southern California Edison (SCE) substation near Tom's Place is dependent upon action by SCE (see Landownership Adjustment Report in the Appendix).

**Action 23.F.1.d.** Where existing commercial facilities are on public land, such as Tom's Place Resort, every effort should be made to encourage the owners of the facilities to acquire the land.

**Action 23.F.1.e.** Where existing clusters of residential buildings are on public lands, such as Pine Glade Tract, every effort should be made to encourage the owners of the buildings to acquire the land, where doing so would be consistent with USFS and BLM policies. Care should be taken to ensure that private parcels are contiguous to one another and do not create isolated enclaves of either public or private land.

**Action 23.F.1.f.** For resource management purposes, consider supporting the acquisition of the isolated parcel to the east of Pine Glade/Sunny Slopes by the USFS or Los Angeles Department of Water and Power.

## **Wheeler Crest**

**GOAL 24. Retain, as nearly as possible, the character and quality of life presently enjoyed in the community.**

**Policy 24.A.5.** Encourage the transfer of privately owned, environmentally sensitive or isolated land within the Wheeler Crest planning area.

**Action 24.A.5.a.** Identify parcels incompatible for private use by virtue of location and/or environmental sensitivity (i.e., avalanche area, deer migration route, etc.).

**Action 24.A.5.b.** Coordinate with the USFS or BLM to exchange public land that is more suitable for private ownership.

**Policy 24.C.5.** That existing National Forest and BLM lands surrounding the community be retained in public ownership or be utilized for community purposes.

**Action 24.C.5.a.** Coordinate all planning and development activities adjacent to public lands with the affected public entity.

**Action 24.C.5.b.** Assist in the preservation of valuable deer habitat by establishing a land bank, or other mechanisms, to retain migration corridors.

**Action 24.C.5.c.** Coordinate with public agencies to preserve and enhance natural stream courses.

**Policy 24.G.1.** Take all feasible steps to reduce the threat to life and property from fire by implementing effective fire-prevention measures.

**Action 24.G.1.a.** Consider requiring expanded fuel breaks and greenbelts between new development and public lands.

**Action 24.G.1.b.** Where feasible, require two access points (built to current standards) for all development projects that are easily accessible to all emergency vehicles.

**Action 24.G.1.j.** Work with applicable agencies to provide a secondary/emergency access route for the Wheeler Crest community.

## **Paradise**

**GOAL 25. Retain the natural, aesthetic, environmental and lifestyle qualities valued by residents as part of a rural community surrounded by healthy wildlands.**

### **Objective 25.A.**

Protect and preserve the essential natural character and continuity of the community's surrounding wildlands for their inherent value and the enjoyment of current and future generations.

**Objective 25.C.**

Provide appropriate infrastructure and requirements to ensure public safety and service capacity.

**Objective 25.D.**

Provide for safe recreational facilities that support the local tourist economy and quality of life.

**Policy 25.D.3.** Support efforts to improve infrastructure for recreationalists that improves the experience, and reduces impacts to the environment and residents, such as public restrooms at trail heads.

**Tri-Valley**

**GOAL 26. Preserve the rural and agricultural character of the Tri-Valley area.**

**Policy 26.D.7.** Projects shall evaluate and consider community-wide planning to promote harmonious and balanced development that protects the rural character of the Tri-Valley.

**Action 26.D.7.a.** Lands released into private ownership should be deed restricted prohibiting water exportation off site.

**Action 26.D.7.b.** New projects should provide public access to public lands through trail easements or dedications. Historical use patterns should be accommodated.

**Objective 26.F.**

Protect Natural Resources, and provide for recreational and open-space uses in the Tri-Valley area.

**Policy 26.F.1.** Utilize the open space provided by federal lands to ensure that the open-space needs of the community are met and to provide buffer space between communities.

**Action 26.F.1.a.** Designate appropriate federal lands as public lands. Public land shall be used for open space or public purposes such as schools, parks, recreational landing strip, etc.

**Policy 26.F.2.** Provide adequate land for the recreational needs of the area.

**Action 26.F.2.a.** Work with government and private property owners to create an equestrian/recreational trail system in the Tri-Valley area that addresses the following:

- a. Trail(s) from Inyo County line to the Nevada border;
- b. Consider expanding trail system into Inyo County; and
- c. Trails should be designed to access public lands east and west of US 6 in as many areas as possible.

**Benton Hot Springs Valley**

**GOAL 27. Preserve the historic, rural and agricultural character of the Benton Hot Springs Valley.**

**Objective 27.A.**

Maintain the character of Benton Hot Springs Valley and provide for compatible land uses.

**Policy 27.A.1.** Preserve and restore historic features of Benton Hot Springs.



**Policy 27.A.2.** Maintain the open space and rural character of Benton Hot Springs meadow.

**Action 27.A.2.a.** Encourage grazing and agricultural uses of Benton Hot Springs meadow and irrigated pasture lands, as opposed to intensive development, in order to preserve open-space values.

**Action 27.A.2.b.** Support conservation practices and activities to enhance and maintain wildlife, livestock, visual, and recreation benefits. If so desired by the landowner, support conservation and visual easements and tax-reduction incentives as affordable means for open-space protection. Determine that farming and ranching activities are appropriate uses and activities within these undeveloped areas.

**Action 27.A.2.e.** Support actions to mitigate flood damage potential within and adjacent to the historic town.

**Policy 27.A.3.** Encourage uses and businesses that support and complement, or do not seriously detract from, Benton Hot Springs' historic, hot springs, agricultural and rural attributes.

## Oasis

**GOAL 28. Protect agricultural and natural resource values in the area.**

### **Objective 28.A.**

Preserve the agricultural lands and natural resource lands in the Oasis area.

## **Mammoth Yosemite Airport Land Use Plan**

*The format of these policies follows the airport land use plan.*

**GOAL. Promote the orderly development of the area surrounding the Mammoth Yosemite Airport (formerly Mammoth June Lake Airport) in order to protect the general welfare of the public, enhance the safety of air navigation and traffic, and maintain the utility and economic viability of the facility.**

**Policy 3.** The ALUC shall restrict the development of all new non-compatible land uses.

**Policy 10.** A buyer notification statement shall be a requirement for the transfer of title of any property located within the airport's planning boundary. This statement should indicate that the buyer is aware of the proximity of an airport, the characteristics of the airport's current and projected activity, and the likelihood of aircraft overflights of the affected property.

**Policy 3.** The ALUC shall review any applicable development proposals and restrict the erection or growth of objects that penetrate the established airport height restriction areas.

## **Bryant Field and Lee Vining Airport Compatibility Policies & Criteria**

**OVERALL GOAL. Provide for the orderly growth of the Bryant Field and Lee Vining airports and the area surrounding the airport in a manner that safeguards the general welfare of inhabitants within the vicinity of the airport and the public in general.**

**SAFETY GOAL: Regulate new development in the Bryant Field and Lee Vining Airport planning boundaries in a manner that minimizes the risks associated with potential aircraft accidents by 1) providing for the safety of people and property on the ground in the case of an aircraft accident near**

**the airport, and 2) enhancing the chances of survival of the occupants of an aircraft involved in an accident beyond the immediate runway environment.**

**Policy 10.** As a condition of approval for any development project or land exchange within the Bryant Field and Lee Vining Airport Safety Zone, applicable aviation easements should be dedicated to the airport. Aviation easements should address the following:

- A. Right-of-flight at any altitude above acquired easement surfaces;
- B. Right to cause noise, vibrations, fumes, dust, and fuel particle emissions;
- C. Right of entry to remove, mark or light any structures or growth above easement surfaces;
- D. Right to prohibit creation of electrical interference, unusual light sources, and other hazards to aircraft flight; and
- E. Right to prevent erection or growth of all objects above acquired easement surfaces.

Aviation easements should extend from the ground elevation of the runways and the defined approach surfaces to 150 feet above that elevation throughout the primary traffic pattern area.

**AIRSPACE PROTECTION GOAL: Avoid the development of land use conditions that, by posing hazards to flight, may increase the risk of an accident occurring. The particular hazards of concern are: 1) airspace obstructions; 2) wildlife hazards, particularly bird strikes; and 3) land use characteristics that pose other potential hazards to flight by creating visual or electronic interference with air navigation.**

**Policy 6.** Prohibit land uses that would attract wildlife hazards, particularly birds. Land uses that may become artificial attractors for birds and wildlife include:

- Sanitary landfills;
- Golf courses with water hazards;
- Drainage detention and retention basins;
- Wetlands created as mitigation measures;
- Landscaping, particularly water features;
- Wildlife refuges; and
- Agriculture, particularly cereal grains.

The FAA recommends that such land uses be kept at least 10,000 feet from any runway used by turbine-powered aircraft.

#### **IV. LAND USE DESIGNATIONS**

##### **Resource Management (RM)**

**INTENT: The “RM” designation is intended to recognize and maintain a wide variety of values in the lands outside existing communities. The RM designation indicates the land may be valuable for uses including but not limited to recreation, surface water conservation, groundwater conservation and recharge, wetlands conservation, habitat protection for special-status species, wildlife habitat, visual resources, cultural resources, geothermal or mineral resources. The land may also need special management consideration due to the presence of natural hazards in the area; e.g., avalanche-prone areas, earthquake faults, flood hazards, or landslide or rockfall hazards.**

The RM designation provides for low-intensity rural uses in a manner that recognizes and maintains the resource values of the parcel.

Land subject to the land use authority of an agency other than the County may be designated RM with a reference to the appropriate plan as follows:

Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest Land & Resource Management Plan – RM/TNF  
Inyo National Forest Land & Resource Management Plan – RM/INF  
Mono Basin National Forest Scenic Area Comprehensive Management Plan – RM/MB  
Bureau of Land Management, Bishop Resource Management Plan – RM/BLM  
California Department of Fish and Game Lands – RM/DFG

## **APPLICABLE SAFETY ELEMENT POLICIES**

**Action 1.A.4.b.** Utilizing the established land ownership adjustment process, facilitate land trades or purchases that result in placing properties subject to major geologic hazards into federal ownership or into the ownership of land conservation organizations

**Policy 3.A.7.** Reduce fuel around developed areas throughout the county to minimize wildland fire hazard risks to people and property.

**Action 3.A.7.b.** Consider amending the CWPP to establish wildfire defense zones around community areas (e.g., fuel breaks, shelter zones, back fire areas, and staging areas to support fire-suppression activities.)

**Policy 3.A.9.** Ensure the existing and future transportation system within Mono County adequately supports fire protection and suppression activities.

**Action 3.A.9.a.** Work with local fire districts, Cal Fire and federal and state land management agencies to prioritize pertinent transportation-related recommendations in the CWPP.

**Policy 4.A.3.** Utilizing the established land ownership adjustment process, facilitate land trades or purchases that result in placing properties, which on the basis of prior studies may be impacted by avalanches, into federal ownership or into the ownership of land conservation groups, for permanent open-space use.

**Action 4.A.3.a.** Survey landowners who own properties which, on the basis of prior studies, may be impacted by avalanches, for interest in land trades or purchases.

**Action 4.A.3.b.** Initiate land trade/purchase discussions between landowners and appropriate federal, state, or county agencies, or land conservation groups.

**Action 4.A.3.c.** Request applicable federal or state agencies to assign high- priority land acquisition status to private lands in areas that, on the basis of prior studies, may be impacted by avalanches.

### **Objective 4.D.**

Work cooperatively with the US Forest Service (USFS) and Caltrans in mitigating local avalanche hazards.

**Policy 4.D.1.** Seek cooperation from the USFS in mitigating avalanche hazards that originate on land managed by the USFS and that threaten private property.

**Action 4.D.1.a.** Continue to promote and encourage local and/or regional USFS offices to:

- a. Support and expand the backcountry avalanche forecasting program to include threatened community areas;

- b. Structurally mitigate (i.e., environmentally sensitive supporting structures, deflecting berms, retarding mounds, catching dams, snow fences, etc.) avalanche hazards threatening community areas; and
- c. Initiate land exchanges with willing property owners in avalanche hazard areas.

**Objective 5.D.**

Provide for safe ingress and egress of emergency vehicles/equipment and evacuation of populations

**Policy 5.D.1.** Assess and pursue primary and secondary access improvements for all community areas for emergency purposes.

**Action 5.D.1.e.** Work with federal land management agencies to ensure adequate access to high-hazard wildland areas, particularly adjacent to communities, for fire suppression activities and public evacuation.

## **Mono Basin Regional Planning Advisory Committee**

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August 22, 2016  
Mono County Supervisors  
PO Box 715  
Bridgeport, CA 93517

Dear Supervisors:

Subject: Mono Basin RPAC comments on the draft Inyo Forest Plan

The Mono Basin Regional Advisory Committee would like to provide comments to help shape the development of Mono County's comments on the draft Inyo Forest Plan. As a gateway community to Yosemite National Park and visitor destination for Mono Lake, the community of Lee Vining has a vested interest in the outcome of the Inyo Forest planning process. Many of our visitors and residents recreate on forest lands and so the long-term health and viability of recreational opportunities is important to our economic sustainability.

To assist the County in developing comments to the Inyo National Forest we would like to share specific sections of the Mono Basin Community Plan: *Visioning to Action* (May 9, 2012). The plan is the result of a two-year visioning process and consensus-based final plan that guides planning efforts in the Mono Basin. See <http://www.monocounty.ca.gov/rpac-mono-basin/page/mono-basin-community-plan> for complete text.

### **Comments from the Mono Basin Community Plan: *Visioning to Action***

#### Mono Basin Vision:

Recreation opportunities and access that highlight our exceptional outdoor venues. We value responsible recreation use and access to protect and enjoy our natural environment.

A healthy natural environment with clean air and water, scenic grandeur, dark night skies, pristine wilderness and open space. We protect and cherish the natural character of the land by minimizing the intrusiveness of structures, protecting our natural assets, and being environmentally responsible. (p. 13)

Issues/Opportunities/Constraints section: 7. Federal resource management agencies and LADWP own and manage much of the land in the Mono Basin. Residents expressed conflicting sentiments about protecting the natural environment and sensitive habitats versus the ability to use, access and enjoy the land without overly restrictive regulations and/or fees. The challenge is to work with other agencies and within regulations to ensure the ability to use and enjoy the land while protecting its health. (p. 15)

Goal 1. Maintain the spectacular natural values of the Mono Basin and rural, small-town character of communities by managing growth, ensuring high-quality aesthetics, and providing for community development needs to enhance the quality of life for residents.

Objective A section – Provide for the orderly growth of Lee Vining in a manner that retains the small-town character by directing future development to occur in and adjacent to Lee Vining.

Policy 2: Where infill and rehabilitation is not viable, obtain lands adjacent to the existing community for the orderly expansion of Lee Vining.

*Action 2.1:* Work with appropriate agencies to provide for developable lands adjacent to Lee Vining. The Landownership Adjustment Project Final Report should be referenced for opportunities, policies, and procedures. (p. 17)

Objective C section – Encourage building types and architectural design compatible with the scenic and natural attributes of the Mono Basin.

Policy 6: Recognize that the Mono Basin National Forest Scenic Area Comprehensive Management Plan contains separate Scenic Area Guidelines that may impact development, and encourage developers within this area to consult with the Inyo National Forest in the planning phase. (p. 19)

Objective D section - Maintain, protect and enhance the natural, historical and recreational attributes of the Mono Basin.

Policy 1: Coordinate with public agencies and other land-management organizations, such as the BLM, USFS, LADWP, CDFG, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, to understand local policies and engage locals in the management of their lands.

*Action 1.1:* Request resource agencies present information to and work with the Mono Basin RPAC and the community as public resource management issues arise. (p. 19)

Policy 3: Support recreational activities and the ability to use and enjoy the land while also protecting the natural environment.

*Action 3.1:* Identify recreation activity and access priorities, and work toward implementation. (p. 20)

*Action 3.2:* Coordinate with land management and transportation agencies such as BLM, Caltrans, ESTA, YARTS, USFS, and LADWP to ensure adequate access and responsible use. (p.20)

*Action 3.3:* Ensure new development does not impede, and preferentially enhances, existing recreation access and activities. (p. 20)

Goal 2: Grow a sustainable local economy with diverse job opportunities that offers year-round employment and wages that reflect the cost of living in the area.

Objective B section – Enhance and support the existing tourism-related economy.

Policy 2: Capitalize on local and nearby attractions such as Yosemite National Park, Bodie State Historic Park, Mono Basin Scenic Area, and the Tufa State Reserve by promoting Lee Vining as a centralized recreation hub.

*Action 2.2:* Support local recreational uses and visitor accommodations, such as existing campgrounds, hotels/motels, and RV parks. (p. 25)

*Action 2.3:* Collaborate with other agencies to provide 24-hour, year-round visitor sanitation facilities; e.g., public restrooms and sanitation facilities at popular recreation staging areas. (p. 25)

Policy 4: Diversify and promote recreation opportunities during the shoulder seasons and winter.

*Action 4.1:* Identify and implement potential shoulder season and winter opportunities, such as ice climbing. (p. 26)

*Action 4.2:* Work with applicable entities to increase access and activities. (p. 26)

## **Conclusion**

The Mono Basin Regional Planning Advisory Committee is grateful for the opportunity to share relevant components of our Mono Basin Community Plan to help inform your comments on the draft Inyo Forest Plan. Please notify us for additional opportunities to assist in the development of the plan or if you need additional information.

Sincerely,

Paul McFarland  
Chair, Mono Basin RPAC

## **HOUSING ELEMENT**

### **a. PROVISION OF ADEQUATE SITES**

**Goal Plan for adequate sites and facilities to support future housing needs.**

**Policy 1 Facilitate the provision of housing in unincorporated communities to meet local housing demand.**

**Policy 2 Ensure that adequate infrastructure exists or will be provided to support future housing development.**

**Policy 3 Identify potential housing sites, including seasonal housing units on public lands, agency employee housing (USFS, BLM, Caltrans, LADWP and Mono County), and under-utilized sites.**

**Policy 4 Seek adequate sites for housing in Mono County and the Eastern Sierra through coordination with other public agencies (i.e., Town of Mammoth Lakes, Inyo County, USFS, BLM, Caltrans, LADWP, DFG, State Parks and Marine Corps), private concerns, nonprofit entities and tribal governments.**

**Program 1:1 Through the CPT Land Tenure Subcommittee, maintain the Land Tenure master plan and Pursue land exchanges of existing seasonal housing units on public lands into private ownership so those units may become available for local year-round housing**

**Program 1:2 Inventory existing and/or potential agency housing areas (Mono County, Town of Mammoth Lakes, Southern Mono Hospital District, Mammoth Unified School District, USFS, BLM, Caltrans, LADWP, etc.) and work with agencies to assess where additional housing might be made available.**

**Program 1:3 Work with public agencies (USFS, BLM, Caltrans, LADWP, etc.) to consolidate services and land uses (e.g., road shops) in order to free up land for housing, particularly affordable housing. Consistent with land use policies, encourage agencies to locate their housing within or adjacent to existing communities to facilitate sustainable community growth. Work to incorporate such policies into agency planning documents.**

**Program 1:5 Study the possibility of acquiring/exchanging public lands surrounding existing community areas for community expansion purposes and/or related infrastructure development, particularly in those areas designated in the Land Use Element for community expansion. Based on the results of these studies, take necessary actions to promote the exchange of lands and encourage the development of a variety of housing types, including multifamily for lower-income households in the acquisition/exchange of public lands.**

## **b. HOUSING FOR LOW AND MODERATE INCOMES**

**Goal**            **Consistent with state requirements, pursue creative, economical and sustainable ways to house low- and moderate-income groups.**

**Policy 3**        Increase the housing stock to provide for affordable/employee housing units by promoting the use of existing recreational second-home units for permanent residents.

## **CONSERVATION/OPEN SPACE ELEMENT**

The County's Conservation/Open Space Element relates to a great deal of the INF Forest Plan and should be referenced in its entirety (see [http://monocounty.ca.gov/sites/default/files/fileattachments/planning\\_division/page/812/conservation-os\\_final\\_12.08.15.pdf](http://monocounty.ca.gov/sites/default/files/fileattachments/planning_division/page/812/conservation-os_final_12.08.15.pdf)). However, in the interest of brevity, only policies directly referencing the USFS are included here.

## **II. ISSUES/OPPORTUNITIES/CONSTRAINTS**

### **OPEN SPACE**

1. Approximately 94% of the land in Mono County is publicly owned; approximately 88% of the public land is federally owned. Public lands in the county are managed by the US Forest Service (USFS), the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), the State Lands Commission, and the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP). Much of the federal land is managed as open space by the Humboldt-Toiyabe and Inyo national forests and the BLM in order to provide outdoor recreation opportunities, grazing opportunities, and to protect the natural resources. The County has no planning authority on those lands. Much of the land owned by the LADWP also remains open space in order to protect watershed values. LADWP lands are used for grazing and outdoor recreation. The County has planning authority on those lands except for activities directly relating to LADWP's public utility purpose.
2. Since such a great percentage of the land in the county remains open space and since the County has no direct authority over much of that land, one of Mono County's main concerns about open space is coordinating County policies with the land use policies of the agencies managing the public lands. The County is also concerned about the impacts of federal open space policies on county resources.

### **BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES**

1. A number of agencies are involved in wildlife resource management in the county, including the USFS, BLM, CDFW, and the US Fish and Wildlife Service. Each of these agencies has jurisdiction over certain aspects of the protection and enhancement of wildlife habitat and local wildlife populations. The County must work with these agencies and other agencies that are responsible for other areas of resource management, such as the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board, and the US Army Corps of Engineers.

### **OUTDOOR RECREATION**

1. Natural resource-based outdoor recreation is and will continue to be the foundation of Mono County's economy. Maintaining the high quality of local recreation facilities and opportunities is a major goal requiring the preservation and enhancement of high-quality natural resources. Recreation issues involve providing community recreation facilities for residents; providing sufficient recreation facilities outside community areas for both residents and visitors; providing connections and trail links between communities and various recreation areas; using existing recreation areas and facilities more efficiently; and ensuring



that the type of recreation use, where it is located, and when it is developed corresponds to the County's ability to support it with visitor accommodations and services.

Since much of the recreation in the county takes place on federal lands, it is the federal land management agencies (USFS and BLM) that develop policies and facilities for the recreational use of that land. The County needs to participate in federal policy development and coordinate with those policies in order to avoid duplication of services and to maximize recreational opportunities in the county.

## **CULTURAL RESOURCES**

1. As is true for all of the county's resources, most of the cultural resources in the county are found on public lands. There are extensive federal and state laws governing the protection of cultural resources, both archaeological and historical. The USFS and the BLM have policies governing their implementation of these laws. The federal land management agencies also have inventories of cultural resources on their property.
2. There are several museums in the county, numerous historic sites, and numerous archaeological sites. The Native American groups in the area are active in cultural resources preservation, as are the museums, the USFS, and the BLM. There is an opportunity to coordinate these efforts.

## **III. POLICIES**

### **OPEN SPACE**

**Policy 1.A.6.** Coordinate policies in the county General Plan with policies in the USFS's Land and Resource Management Plans for the Inyo and Humboldt-Toiyabe national forests and the BLM's Resource Management Plan in order to coordinate open-space programs.

## **BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES**

### **Objective 2.A.**

Maintain and restore botanical, aquatic and wildlife habitats in Mono County.

**Action 2.A.3.e.** Projects within key sage grouse habitat shall not be permitted unless a finding is made that potential impacts have been avoided or mitigated to a level of non-significance or a statement of overriding considerations is approved. Potential mitigation measures may include:

- Including other measures developed in consultation with key Bi-State sage grouse partners (e.g., USFWS, CDFW, BLM, USFS), including considerations to mitigate impacts to reduced connectivity and fragmentation.

## **WATER RESOURCES AND WATER QUALITY**

**GOAL 3. Ensure the availability of adequate surface and groundwater resources to meet existing and future domestic, agricultural, recreational, and natural resource needs in Mono County.**

### **Objective 3.B.**

Identify and secure adequate water for future local domestic needs while maintaining natural resources.

**Policy 3.B.1.** Assist and encourage the communities of Mono County and local special districts to secure additional water rights within local water basins as necessary for the orderly growth of local communities.

**Policy 3.B.3.** Encourage the USFS and the BLM to assist local communities in securing the water resources necessary to accommodate community demands, particularly those demands that directly and indirectly result from increased activities on adjacent federal lands.

**Action 3.B.3.a.** Review and comment on development proposals on federal lands and require full environmental review on out-of-drainage transfers.

### **Objective 3.F.**

Promote the restoration and maintenance of Mono Lake, tributary streams, and downstream areas of the aqueduct system in Mono County, including Grant Lake, the Upper Owens River, Crowley Lake, and the Owens River Gorge.

**Action 3.F.1.c.** Ensure that any comprehensive water management plan developed as per Policy 1, above, is consistent with the USFS's existing Comprehensive Management Plan for the Mono Basin National Forest Scenic Area.

## **MINERAL RESOURCES**

**Policy 7.C.3.** Surface mining operations located on federal lands shall conform to applicable provisions of SMARA.

**Action 7.C.3.b.** Pursue methods, such as a MOU or Joint Powers Agreement, to address the administration and coordination of surface mining activities on lands administered through the USFS.

## **ENERGY RESOURCES & RESOURCE EFFICIENCY**

### **Objective 10.B.**

Water diversions for hydroelectric power generation shall not occur on any stream that already has more than 20% of its length that is not contained in a wilderness area affected by water diversions or in a watershed that already has more than 25% of its average annual inflow diverted.

**Policy 10.B.1.** Mono County shall cooperate with the CDFW, State Water Resources Control Board, the BLM, the USFS, and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, in assessing impacts to streams from existing and proposed hydroelectric power generation, diversion for consumptive use, or other uses.

### **Objective 10.C.**

Water diversions for hydroelectric power generation shall not be permitted to occur on any stream when credible scientific evidence indicates potential significant impacts to habitat for sensitive, listed or candidate threatened or endangered species; important spawning areas or other fishery values; key recreational resources; or viability for hydrologic research purposes, unless a statement of overriding considerations is made through the EIR process.

**Policy 10.C.1.** Mono County shall cooperate with the CDFW, US Fish and Wildlife Service, the BLM, and the USFS in assessing potentially sensitive surface water resources.

## **GOAL 14. Minimize the visual, environmental, and public health and safety impacts of electrical transmission lines and fluid conveyance pipelines.**

### **Objective 14.A.**

Electrical transmission and distribution lines and fluid conveyance pipelines shall meet the utility needs of the public and be designed to minimize disruption of aesthetic quality. See also Chapter 11 of the Land Use Element.

**Action 14.A.1.e.** Cooperate with the USFS and BLM in planning the use of utility corridors.

## **VISUAL RESOURCES**

**Policy 20.D.2.** Provide roadside improvements for designated county and state scenic highways. (Also see RTP policies.)

**Action 20.D.2.d.** Encourage the USFS, the BLM, and Caltrans to provide funding for roadside improvements.

## **CULTURAL RESOURCES**

### **Objective 22.D.**

Interpret and make accessible to the public cultural resources in Mono County where feasible and appropriate.

**Action 22.D.1.b.** Utilize handouts developed by the USFS, the BLM, and the State Department of Parks on the restrictions on gathering artifacts or damaging cultural properties and the penalties involved in violations, and shall make these handouts available at existing visitor facilities.

### **Objective 22.E.**

Promote Mono County's cultural resources, when feasible and appropriate.

**Action 22.E.1.b.** Encourage the USFS, the BLM, local Chambers of Commerce, and the Town of Mammoth Lakes to include cultural resources and activities in promotional materials.

#### **PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY & AIR QUALITY**

**Policy 23.A.2.** Support improved regional forest management to reduce local impacts to visual resources and public health due to smoke from forest fires.

**Action 23.A.2.a.** Support and encourage forest health projects on the western slope to reduce the likelihood of catastrophic fires that will transport smoke to the Eastern Sierra.

**Policy 23.A.10.** Restrict OHV use in order to minimize air quality impacts.

**Action 23.A.10.a.** Consider coordinating OHV use on private lands and County roads with the OHV use established by the USFS and BLM for public lands.



## 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:

### **Volunteers/ Interpretation/ Partnerships/ Stewardship**

#### **Digital Connection**

#### **Responsive Use Permits**

#### **Citizens Access/ Trails**

#### **Recreation/ Iconic Places**

### **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 Forest Plan Revision Efforts Funded in part by the National Forest Foundation**

*Founded by Congress in 1991, the National Forest Foundation works to conserve, restore and enhance America's 193-million-acre National Forest System. Through community-based strategies and public-private partnerships, the NFF helps enhance wildlife habitat, revitalizes wildfire-damaged landscapes, restores watersheds, and improves recreational resources for the benefit of all Americans.*

**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                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
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| <p><b>Volunteers/<br/>Interpretation/<br/>Partnerships/<br/>Stewardship<br/>(VIPS)</b></p> <p><b>Subgroupings:</b></p> <p>(A) Partnerships – General</p> <p>(B) Partnership Coordinator</p> <p>(C) Partnerships – Local Government</p> <p>(D) Volunteers</p> <p>(E) Interpretive/ Signage/ Education</p> <p>(F) Stewardship</p> | <p>➤ 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<br/>(PDF Pg. 93 – Local Communities – LOC-FW-GOAL 01)</p> <p>➤ 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.<br/>(PDF Pg. 94 – Volunteers/Interpretation/Partnerships/ Stewardship – VIPS-FW-GOAL 03)</p> <p>➤ 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.<br/>(PDF Pg. 151– Appendix C: A Renewed Partnership Focus for the Inyo National Forest – Partnership Culture)</p> | <p><b>NOTE: Inyo National Forest is referenced throughout the Citizen Suggested Plan Revision comments as INF</b></p> <p><b>(A) Partnerships – General</b><br/><u>Desired Conditions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The INF collaborates with a variety of partners to provide stewardship and interpretive services that enhance responsible recreation and habitat health</li> </ul> <p><u>Management Approach:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 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</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Explore, facilitate and implement local adopt-a-trail programs and INF consider hiring coordinator to manage an adopt-a-trail program</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> INF to develop an annual work plan to share with partners</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The INF has developed economic partnerships to help fill the gaps in funding for the provision of recreation opportunities</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> INF to consult user groups regarding maintenance of roads and trails</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 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)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Partner with groups like ES 4WD club to sign and maintain roads and develop information on trips for users less familiar with the area</li> </ul> <p><u>Potential Standards:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Winter recreation/ snowplay areas built and maintained with local partners</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> New sustainable mountain bike trails built and maintained by local organizations</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor for cleaning of trails and trailheads</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Include people with disabilities both physical and other disabilities by including volunteer to assist a partnership</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 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</li> </ul> |

**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                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
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|                | <p>➤ Install and maintain appropriate multilingual information boards, interpretive panels and regulatory signs at developed sites and dispersed areas within sites of sensitive resources.<br/>(PDF Pg. 157 – Appendix D: Management Strategies for Resolving Recreation Resource Conflicts)</p> | <p><b>(B) Partnership Coordinator</b><br/><u>Desired Conditions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Through a Partnership Coordinator and a Volunteer Coordinator the INF has increased volunteer program activities and partner contributions to enhance INF stewardship and monitoring</li> </ul> <p><u>Management Approach:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Identify/ employ a forest staff person to develop external partners to support trails maintenance &amp; construction of new trails</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Hire a Partnership Coordinator to work with various interpretive groups</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> INF should commit to hiring a full time Partnership Coordinator within 2 years of the plan release</li> </ul> <p><u>Potential Standards:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Feedback loop from public at kiosks</li> </ul> <p><b>(C) Partnerships – Local Government</b><br/><u>Desired Conditions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 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</li> </ul> <p><u>Management Approach:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 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.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> INF to consider a collaborative approach to planning that will include local government planning, policies, and regulations to the degree possible</li> </ul> |

**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                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
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|                |                                                          | <p><u>Potential Standards:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> INF to partner with Town of Mammoth Lakes for improved shuttle service to the Lakes Basin and other trail heads</li> </ul> <p><b>(D) Volunteers</b></p> <p><u>Desired Conditions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 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.</li> </ul> <p><u>Management Approach:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Within two years of plan approval, hire a really well informed and impartial Volunteer Coordinator</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Develop robust volunteer corps for Wilderness Ranger programs and interpretive talks, trail maintenance and enforcement (citizen stewards)</li> </ul> <p><u>Potential Standards:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 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</li> </ul> <p><b>(E) Interpretive/ Signage/ Education</b></p> <p><u>Desired Conditions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Recreation information, signage and interpretive programs are well-funded abundant and consistent with accurate and up-to-date information</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The INF provides adequate interpretive signage and information so forest users understand how to recreate legally and responsibly</li> </ul> <p><u>Management Approach:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 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.</li> </ul> |

**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                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
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|                |                                                          | <p><u>Potential Standards:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 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</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Signs, tours, and other tools provide information in a variety of languages and for users of multiple abilities</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 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.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Offer interpretation and education based upon natural history and Native American heritage</li> </ul> <p><b>(F) Stewardship</b></p> <p><u>Desired Conditions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The INF has state of the art developed recreational facilities that are updated, maintained, and patrolled by forest staff, established partners, and volunteers</li> </ul> <p><u>Management Approach:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 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</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Redirect budgetary priorities to develop and maintain professional stewardship to increase viable employment and permanent residency</li> </ul> <p><u>Potential Standards:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Professional trail crews maintain and develop trails</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Well maintained and safe trails provide opportunities and access for multiple user groups</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> INF staff and partners represent the demographic and cultural diversity of California’s population</li> </ul> |



**ESRC Citizen Suggested Desired Conditions Supporting Sustainable Recreation:  
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| Emphasis Areas                                                                                                                                                                    | Desired Conditions in Existing INF Plan S by Emphasis Area                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | ESRC Citizen Suggested Plan Revisions by Emphasis Area and Subgroupings                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
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| <p><b>Digital Connection</b></p> <p><b>Subgroupings:</b></p> <p>(A) Technology</p> <p>(B) Data</p> <p>(C) Emergency Services</p> <p>(D) User Systems</p> <p>(E) Accessibility</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Work with local governments, businesses, and organizations to collect economic data to track changes for businesses in sectors dependent on forest activities.<br/>(PDF Pg. 94 – Local Communities – LOC-FW-GOAL 03)</li> <li>➤ Regularly report potential projects suitable for partnership and volunteer opportunities to the public.<br/>(PDF Pg. 94 – Volunteers/Interpretation/Partnerships/Stewardship – VIPS-FW-GOAL 02)</li> <li>➤ To the extent practical, harmonize recreation direction for forest visitors to minimize confusion when crossing administrative boundaries.<br/>(PDF Pg. 95 – Sustainable Recreation – REC-FW-GOAL 02)</li> <li>➤ Provide and update interpretive signage, wayside exhibits, publications and programs using a variety of media and methods.<br/>(PDF Pg. 98 – Potential Management Approaches- Volunteers/Interpretation/Partnerships/Stewardship)</li> </ul> | <p><b>(A) Technology</b></p> <p><u>Desired Conditions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> INF has the flexibility to use emerging media and technology to connect people with their public lands within and beyond the immediate area</li> </ul> <p><u>Management Approach:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> A functional system allows for timely recruitment, hiring, training agency staff</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Need regulations to identify acceptable recreation drone activities on the national forest</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Create mechanism for forest users to report current trail conditions, etc. (e.g. email, text, online form...)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 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.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> INF could make public land available for placement of digital tech equipment and expedite permitting for infrastructure equipment</li> </ul> <p><u>Potential Standards:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Determine how to bridge traditional communication channels (some of us don't use digital tech) with evolving technology to keep all with communication access</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Use technology solutions to minimize the impact of infrastructure (e.g. signs) on the landscape</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Use technology and digital connection to provide maps and improve wayfinding</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Enhance interactive GIS tools for trail stewards; for example integrating map with direct link to trail management objectives</li> </ul> <p><b>(B) Data</b></p> <p><u>Desired Conditions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> INF conducts regular visitor use and economic studies using traditional and emerging technologies to inform adaptive management of forest and recreation resources</li> </ul> <p><u>Management Approach:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Collect and share data across all agencies (USFS, NPS, FWS, BLM)</li> </ul> |

**ESRC Citizen Suggested Desired Conditions Supporting Sustainable Recreation:  
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|  | <p>➤ 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.<br/>(PDF Pg. 148 – App B: Proposed and Possible Actions – Sustainable Recreation)</p> | <p><input type="checkbox"/> 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</p> <p><u>Potential Standards:</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Use of drones for scientific research, surveying, mapping, and monitoring forest</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 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</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Visitors have a clear way to report resource damage, trail problems, trash and other recreation problems to the INF</p> <p><b>(C) Emergency Services</b><br/><u>Desired Conditions:</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> INF partners with local agencies to upgrade emergency communication technology for Eastern Sierra communities and visitors</p> <p><u>Management Approach:</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Send avalanche condition reports daily to subscribers via text messages (gathered from ESAC)</p> <p><u>Potential Standards:</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 911 connectivity throughout forest with GPS location automatic</p> <p><b>(D) User Systems</b><br/><u>Desired Conditions:</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 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</p> <p><u>Management Approach:</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 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</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Provide digital and online connection to USFS/ INF maps and USGS topo maps</p> |
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**ESRC Citizen Suggested Desired Conditions Supporting Sustainable Recreation:  
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|  |  | <p><u>Potential Standards:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Backcountry permit reservation system that is mobile compatible with online reservation, check in using mobile device at ranger station</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Clear regulations on personal drone use on Forest lands</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> It would be nice to have some areas outside where one can get away from EMF waves</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The NVUM is very inadequate – utilize technology to capture current and accurate info</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> GPS program usable on the roads and trails to keep us on legal trails</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Use a QR code to allow permitted hikers to download trail info to their smart phones</li> </ul> <p><b>(E) Accessibility</b></p> <p><u>Desired Conditions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Interpretive signage and exhibits that are inclusive and accessible to as many visitors as possible; non-technology, technology, language and accessibility such as braille</li> </ul> <p><u>Management Approach:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Develop with partners an app for INF interpretive info and self-guided tours for both adults and children in at least English and Spanish</li> </ul> <p><u>Potential Standards:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Availability of GPS on trails with no cell service; this allows for data collection, location for safety and many more opportunities for improvement</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Better coverage of Wi-Fi and map hot spots (notification of where hot spots are located and where coverage is limited)</li> </ul> |
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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                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
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| <p><b>Responsive Use Permits</b></p> <p><b>Subgroupings:</b></p> <p>(A) Permit System</p> <p>(B) User Experience</p> <p>(C) Stewardship Provisions</p> <p>(D) Partnership Engagement</p> | <p>➤ 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. (PDF Pg. 43 – Sustainable Recreation – REC-FW-DC 11)</p> <p>➤ 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. (PDF Pg. 48 – Lands – LAND-FW-DC 02)</p> <p>➤ 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. (PDF Pg. 147 – Appendix B: Proposed and Possible Actions – Local Communities)</p> | <p><b>(A) Permit System</b></p> <p><u>Desired Conditions:</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> INF staff accommodates and streamlines an efficient and forward looking permitting process</p> <p><u>Management Approach:</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Approve or reject with rationale all requests for permits and expedite the permit process</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Ensure/ enforce the ban on commercial promotion/ advertising on public land</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Keep good databases of issued permits and utilize that information when issuing new permits to streamline the process</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> INF should have ombudsman for resolving forest permit problems</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> INF welcomes and promotes research activities on the forest consistent with resource protection and other goals</p> <p><u>Potential Standards:</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 25% of all permit fees are retained at the local level as an incentive to raise funds for local projects</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Transparency of all permits with clear guidance</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Use of real time electronic communication for tracking permits</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Expedited permit process for fastest and most efficient service</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Place-based consideration for permits; different places may require different type of permit requirements</p> <p><b>(B) User Experience</b></p> <p><u>Desired Conditions:</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 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</p> |

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|  | <p>➤ Issue and supervise permits for new special use activities on the forest including powerlines, special events, large group gatherings, outfitter-guide activities and research.<br/>(PDF Pg. 148 – Appendix B: Proposed and Possible Actions – Sustainable Recreation)</p> <p>➤ 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)<br/>(PDF Pg. 151 – Appendix C: Renewed Partnership Focus – Creating a Partnership Culture)</p> | <p><u>Management Approach:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Streamline Special use Permit (SUP) process for educational, youth, and nonprofit groups and to ensure quality of permittee</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Streamline wilderness permit application process online and allow download of permit</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The INF uses the permit process to effectively educate visitors so that they safely and responsibly use the forest</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Have a live person to help not just an online site to help inform and done correctly</li> </ul> <p><u>Potential Standards:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Automated reminder/ alert system for permittees to ensure timely and complete application/ reporting (and to inform of personnel changes)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Consistent, clear, easy-to-find application process (online, in person)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Permits are issued for uses that are inclusive rather than restrictive</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 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</li> </ul> <p><b>(C) Stewardship Provisions</b></p> <p><u>Desired Conditions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> SUP permitting process helps recreation users clearly understand their responsibility to use the forest responsibly</li> </ul> <p><u>Management Approach:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Prioritize SUP's that address specific desired conditions and management goals as articulated in final management plan</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> When issuing permits for powerlines require burying lines where possible</li> </ul> <p><u>Potential Standards:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Engage SUP holders who use trails to assist in trail maintenance through partnership with the INF</li> </ul> <p><b>(D) Partnership Engagement</b></p> <p><u>Desired Conditions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Streamline and facilitate SUP with local businesses/ organizations/ individuals to encourage economic development in local communities</li> </ul> |
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|  |  | <p><u>Management Approach:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 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)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Allow approved partnership groups a more streamlined process to obtain permits when doing work for the forest; make it available online</li> </ul> <p><u>Potential Standards:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> INF has a diverse group of permittees providing "re-supply" support for hikers and forest users</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Increase the term of outfitter SUPs to allow sustainability for small local business</li> </ul> |
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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                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
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| <p><b>Citizens Access/<br/>Trails</b></p> <p><b>Subgroupings:</b></p> <p>(A) New Trails</p> <p>(B) Trail Maintenance</p> <p>(C) Trail Accessibility</p> <p>(D) User Conflicts</p> <p>(E) Specific User Groups</p> | <p>➤ 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.<br/>(PDF Pg. 42 – Sustainable Recreation – REC-FW-DC 01)</p> <p>➤ Visitors can connect with nature, culture and history through a full range of inclusive and sustainable outdoor recreation opportunities.<br/>(PDF Pg. 43 – Sustainable Recreation – REC-FW-DC 04)</p> <p>➤ Trail opportunities are available in a variety of settings that provide differing levels of challenge and types of experiences.<br/>(PDF Pg. 43 – Sustainable Recreation – REC-FW-DC 07)</p> <p>➤ The trail system provides a variety of motorized and non-motorized recreational opportunities during summer and winter and distributed</p> | <p><b>(A) New Trails</b><br/><u>Desired Conditions:</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> An individual can hike, ride, ski, bike from Lee Vining to Lone Pine on trails without getting on a paved road</p> <p><u>Management Approach:</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Agency willingly develops new trails to support community needs and recreational users as appropriate and ecologically viable</p> <p><u>Potential Standards:</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Development of new single track trails</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Trails are designed and maintained to landscape level standards (not agency boundaries)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Apply minimization standards when assessing OSV trail locations</p> <p><b>(B) Trail Maintenance</b><br/><u>Desired Conditions:</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Trails, trailheads, and roads leading to trails are well maintained through active partnerships with local governments and NGO’s</p> <p><u>Management Approach:</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Maintenance needs and work is addressed in a timely manner based on use data and ecological needs</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> INF has funding stream to maintain infrastructure and increase capacity</p> <p><u>Potential Standards:</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Trails should be located or relocated to provide access and avoid sensitive environmental areas</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Improve the trailhead infrastructure in heavy use areas to minimize impacts and user conflicts</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Allow partners to suggest improvement to enhance the forest experience and accept help from them to implement improvements</p> |

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

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|  | <p>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)</p> <p>➤ 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)</p> | <p><b>(C) Trail Accessibility</b><br/><u>Desired Conditions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The trail system of the INF links communities and is maintained using local and visitor volunteer resources</li> </ul> <p><u>Management Approach:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Develop public transportation to reduce parking kerfuffles at trailheads and encourage loop hikes</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Staging/ parking areas developed and maintained with regard to minimizing user conflict and resource impact as well as changing environmental conditions</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 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</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Provide balanced access to as many areas of the forest as possible</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Take motorized access maps and overlay them on google earth and google maps; do the same for all trails motorized and non-motorized</li> </ul> <p><u>Potential Standards:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 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</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> A network of accessible trails (not just paved) that allow more individuals with mobility constraints to access more of the forest and wilderness areas</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Sustainable roads and trails of differing difficulty and communicate difficulty to users</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Trails are clearly signed to indicate permitted and non-permitted uses</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 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</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Uniform trail signage across the forest matches electronic information (app &amp; web)</li> </ul> |
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**ESRC Citizen Suggested Desired Conditions Supporting Sustainable Recreation:  
Organized by ESRC Emphasis Areas, Focal Points, and Including Management Approaches**

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|  |  | <p><b>(D) User Conflicts</b><br/> <u>Desired Conditions:</u><br/> <input type="checkbox"/> Trail etiquette taught/ shared/ agreed with basic guidelines developed for use, respect and tolerance between user groups</p> <p><u>Management Approach:</u><br/> <input type="checkbox"/> 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</p> <p><u>Potential Standards:</u><br/> <input type="checkbox"/> Clearer identification of incompatible uses/users to benefit of all groups</p> <p><b>(E) Specific User Groups</b><br/> <u>Desired Conditions:</u><br/> <input type="checkbox"/> Active engagement of trail users to determine on-the-ground needs through technology and face-to-face visitor contact<br/> <input type="checkbox"/> Trails user groups work collaboratively to support each other to enhance the trails experience</p> <p><u>Management Approach:</u><br/> <input type="checkbox"/> Engaged local user groups that work in partnership with the agency to develop and maintain trails systems and access points<br/> <input type="checkbox"/> Develop policy regulations for electric bikes with motors<br/> <input type="checkbox"/> Flexibility in rule implementation allowing for new users</p> <p><u>Potential Standards:</u><br/> <input type="checkbox"/> Balance and respect the needs of various users<br/> <input type="checkbox"/> Manage motorized and non-motorized facilities as holistic systems fully integrated<br/> <input type="checkbox"/> The INF needs a better understanding of OHV uses<br/> <input type="checkbox"/> Access to training and education opportunities for volunteers and other interested parties – i.e. Cerro Coso program</p> |
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**ESRC Citizen Suggested Desired Conditions Supporting Sustainable Recreation:  
Organized by ESRC Emphasis Areas, Focal Points, and Including Management Approaches**

| Recreation/<br>Iconic Places               | ESRC Citizen Suggested Plan Revisions by Emphasis Area and Subgroupings                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | ESRC Citizen Suggested Plan Revisions by Emphasis Area and Subgroupings                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
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| <p><b>Northern Gateway Communities</b></p> | <p>There are eleven (11) Recreation Places listed in Chapter 3 – Management Strategy as Recreation Places - that are relevant to the Northern Gateway Communities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Benton-Casa Diablo Place – Pg. 62</li> <li>2. Coyote Place – Pg. 74</li> <li>3. Glass Mountain Place – Pg. 74</li> <li>4. June Lake Loop-Walker/Parker Place – Pg. 76</li> <li>5. Mammoth Place – Pg. 77</li> <li>6. Mammoth Escarpment Place – Pg. 77</li> <li>7. Mono Basin-Lee Vining Place – Pg. 79</li> <li>8. Owens River Headwaters Place – Pg. 80</li> <li>9. Pizona Place – Pg. 81</li> <li>10. Reds Meadow-Fish Creek Place – Pg. 81</li> <li>11. Upper Owens River Place – Pg. 82</li> </ol> <p><b>Existing Plan Desired Conditions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Developed recreation facilities are rustic in design with less obvious management controls (1)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Access is provided that allows for sustainable use along the network of motorized trails (2)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Sustained as a natural-appearing remote, backcountry, non-wilderness area with management emphasis on year-round dispersed recreation opportunities. (1,2,3)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Management emphasis includes providing dispersed motorized recreation opportunity experiences that support ROS of the place (2,3)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Sustained as a natural-appearing, destination landscape with management emphasis on developed recreation opportunities (4)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Developed recreation facilities are sustained to support the needs</li> </ul> | <p><b><u>Suggested Plan Revisions for 11 Recreation Places in the Northern Gateway Areas</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Developed recreational facilities specifically for recreational drone flying to move this out of the general forest (1,4,5,7)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Mammoth place (5) – historical resource maintenance, preservation, and interpretation to showcase running history and consolidated Mine Site near Coldwater</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 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</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Add Hot Creek as a place sustained as a natural appearing landscape with a mix of interpretation and dispersed recreation opportunity</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 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</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> (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</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Increased natural study areas to include less studied areas e.g. Glass, Excelsior, Boehler Canyon, good opportunities for Citizen Science</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> McGee Creek area should be on the list and managed most like elements for #8 and #9 (based on comments contained in the handout)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> (4) It seems like June Lake should be managed similarly to Mammoth with both developed and dispersed recreation opportunities for residents and visitors</li> </ul> |

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

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|  | <p>of changing demographics (4)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Access is provided by a network of non-motorized trails and roads to launch from for dispersed recreation opportunities (5)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Mammoth Lakes Basin is sustained for family oriented developed recreation as well as technical sports including rock climbing and backcountry skiing (5)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 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)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Developed recreation facilities are contemporary in design with vehicular controls and regimentation of users (5,6)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Trail system is aligned with the ROS and management actions focus on developed and dispersed recreation opportunities (5,6,11)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Area is managed to maintain high scenic integrity for visitors and residents to enjoy (6)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Opportunities for research are sustained, with an emphasis on those that support developing adaptive management responses within the place (6,7)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Trail system is aligned with the ROS and management actions focus on supporting the dramatic view sheds (7)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Sustained as a natural-appearing, destination landscape with management emphasis on continuing to provide visitors with sense of wildness and remote experience (7)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Locations of cultural and tribal value are enhanced via management actions to sustain landscape resiliency (7,8,9)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Sustained as a remote, backcountry wilderness area with a management emphasis on providing visitors a sense and experience of solitude, wildness and remoteness (8)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Trail system is aligned with the ROS and management actions focus on sustaining the wildness character (8)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Sustained as a backcountry area with management emphasis on continuing to provide visitors with a sense of remoteness (9)</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> (#2 and #3 on page 1) Mammoth (5 and 6) vs June (4) – difference in those statements for those areas doesn’t make sense</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Sherwins – develop mountain bike trails to allow exploitation of lakes and ranges in in Sherwins vs limited to hiking only</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Horseshoe Lake – designate as official dog park</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 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</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 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</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> June Lake Loop Place (#4) needs to include trails – an important component of the INF landscape here</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Mammoth Lakes Basin (#6) needs more specific management area designation to address high impact visitor experience</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> (#8) redraw OSV boundaries to allow for easier experience over snow access between Mammoth and just west of the 395</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Boehler Canyon (#9) – sustained as a natural study area</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Monitor visitor use in both high use recreation focus areas (i.e. south Tufa) and sensitive habitats to determine impacts and carrying capacity</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> (#3) Glass Mountains should be considered for Wilderness Designation</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> (#1) Opportunities for historic interpretation could be increased</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> (#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</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> (#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</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> (#12) Tioga Pass – every other road end e.g. Lundy, Virginia, ML Basin – maintain open facilities to provide continued access in</li> </ul> |
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**ESRC Citizen Suggested Desired Conditions Supporting Sustainable Recreation:  
Organized by ESRC Emphasis Areas, Focal Points, and Including Management Approaches**

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Sustained as a natural-appearing landscape with pockets of high-quality concentrated recreation and backcountry access (10)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Road system supports delivery and staging to high use trailheads (10)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Sustained as a natural-appearing cultural landscape with dispersed summer and winter recreation and management emphasis balanced between dispersed and developed recreation opportunities (11)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 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)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 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)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 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)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Areas of high-use are managed to maintain a quality experience for visitors. (1,4,5,6,10,11)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Areas of dispersed use are managed to maintain the ROS (6,7,8,10,11)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Private inholdings are considered for land exchanges if they promote the roles, contributions and sense of the place (2,6,10,11)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 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)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Recreation residences do not limit the ROS and do not generate resource impacts (5,6,10,11)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 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)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Special use permits are authorized that align with the ROS and</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>shoulder seasons</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> (#4) utilized existing business that are underutilized</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Develop inventory of wilderness access opportunities from gateway communities to wilderness experiences efficiently provide appropriate permitting guidance capacity support</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Trash in all places, determine sewage issues from over use; we don't have resources for pick up so it accumulates</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> (#5) Consider mandatory shuttle only to access the Lakes Basin during peak user times (i.e. holidays)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Recognition of watershed/ headwaters status emphasizing low impact recreation opportunities and areas importance to urban areas water connection (#'s 6,7,8,10,11)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Trail system is aligned with the ROS and management actions focus on supporting dramatic watersheds include in #'s 3,11</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Sustained backcountry area – in #3, 11</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Mammoth Lakes Basin should be its own iconic place – different desired conditions than escarpment</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> (# 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</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 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</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Lee Vining Canyon – develop/ promote more alternative winter recreation of x-country skiing and ice climbing</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The INF must make new trails a priority to keep all Americans in better shape – trails are an economic necessity to Mono County</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> (#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”</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> (#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</li> </ul> |
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**ESRC Citizen Suggested Desired Conditions Supporting Sustainable Recreation:  
Organized by ESRC Emphasis Areas, Focal Points, and Including Management Approaches**

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|                                           | <p>achieving desired conditions of the place (4,5,6,7,10,11)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Filming opportunities are authorized that encourage responsible use and stewardship of the land (5,6,7,10,11)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 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)</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | <p>stewards of the landscape while the private land owners are necessary to the uniqueness of the small jewel</p> <p><b><u>NOTE: Numbers used in public comments align with numbers assigned to Recreation Places listed at the beginning of each section.</u></b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <p><b>Central Gateway Communities</b></p> | <p>There are three (3) Recreation Places listed in Chapter 3 – Management Strategy as Recreation Places - that are relevant to the Central Gateway Communities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Benton-Casa Diablo Place – Pg. 72</li> <li>2. Bishop to Convict Creek Place – Pg. 73</li> <li>3. White Mountains Place – Pg. 83</li> </ol> <p><b>Existing Plan Desired Conditions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 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)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Developed recreation facilities are rustic in design with less obvious management controls (1)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Areas of high-use are managed to maintain a quality experience for visitors. (1)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Developed recreation facilities included campgrounds, trailheads, day use sites, group camps, recreation residences and cross-country ski trails. (2)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Developed sites and transportation are managed and adapted to changing demographics, connectivity to adjacent communities and supporting the connection of people to nature. (2)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Rock climbing and other dispersed recreation activity is managed to support the ROS of the place. (2)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> A network of non-motorized trails support access to the high elevation vistas. (2)</li> </ul> | <p><b><u>Suggested Plan Revisions for 3 Recreation Places in the Central Gateway Areas</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> (#2) Develop a fixed anchor policy for rock climbing in wilderness</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> (#3) Motorized recreation continues to be an important component of the visitor experience</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> We will be better off if we keep congress and the President out of our local planning</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> (#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)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> (# 1,2,3) Management of the forest’s remaining roadless areas maintain their wild undeveloped character</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Bishop to Convict Creek Place – it is important to not expand wilderness to sustain the road system that supports existing wilderness</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> (#1) Casa Diablo Volcanic Area – evolving; radio repeater sites, power transmission lines need to be protected from “wilderness” designation</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Include Lower Rock Creek Canyon in list of special places</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Coyote Flats – the same way you don’t give away your favorite fishing spot or deer hunting spot or it will become crowded and</li> </ul> |

**ESRC Citizen Suggested Desired Conditions Supporting Sustainable Recreation:  
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|                                            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/>The road system supports delivery and staging to non-motorized trailheads used for overnight use. (2)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/>Private inholdings are considered for land exchanges if they promote the roles, contributions and sense of the place. (2)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/>Sustained as a naturally-evolving, natural-appearing landscape. (2)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/>Sustained as a remote, backcountry area with a management emphasis on continuing to provide visitors with a wildness and remoteness experience. (3)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/>Developed sites and infrastructure are rustic in nature and support the visitor experience (3)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/>Recreation opportunities, including motorized use, hiking and hunting are also sustained (3)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/>Access and overnight accommodation support recreation opportunities in the high elevation country near the south end of the place (3)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/>Opportunities for research are sustained. (3)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/>Scenic character is sustained by resilient landscapes that support and enhance the scenery setting. (1,2,3)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/>Utilities are considered if their location will not limit the achievement of the roles, contributions and sense of place. (1,2,3)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/>Management actions are aligned with recreation opportunity spectrum (ROS) and the roles, contributions and sense of the place. (1,2,3)</li> </ul> | <p>over-used; let people explore and discover without direction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/>Minimize the areas impacted by motorized sports</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/>(#2) Bishop to Convict – wilderness boundary next to major highway and airport – inappropriate</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/>(#2) Sustain the remote backcountry areas with a management emphasis on continuing to provide visitors as wild and remote an experience as possible</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/>It is important to keep the Benton-Casa-Diablo place non wilderness</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/>(#1,2,3) Development of new recreation facilities is sited so as to protect sensitive, cultural and other fragile areas</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/>(#2) Wheeler Ridge – old roads to Pine Creek Mine and Lower Rock Creek trail</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/>Harkless Flats, Papoose, Saline, McMurphy Meadows, Coyote , Buttermilk, Warren Bench</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/>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</li> </ul> <p><b><u>NOTE: Numbers used in public comments align with numbers assigned to Recreation Places listed at the beginning of each section.</u></b></p> |
| <p><b>Southern Gateway Communities</b></p> | <p>There are three (3) Recreation Places listed in Chapter 3 – Management Strategy as Recreation Places - that are relevant to the Southern Gateway Communities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Golden Trout-South Sierra Place – Pg. 75</li> <li>2. Inyo Mountains Place – Pg. 75</li> <li>3. Owens Valley Escarpment Place – Pg. 80</li> </ol>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | <p><b><u>Suggested Plan Revisions for 3 Recreation Places in the Southern Gateway Areas</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/>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</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/>(#1,2,3) The INF has a program of citizen monitors to track</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |

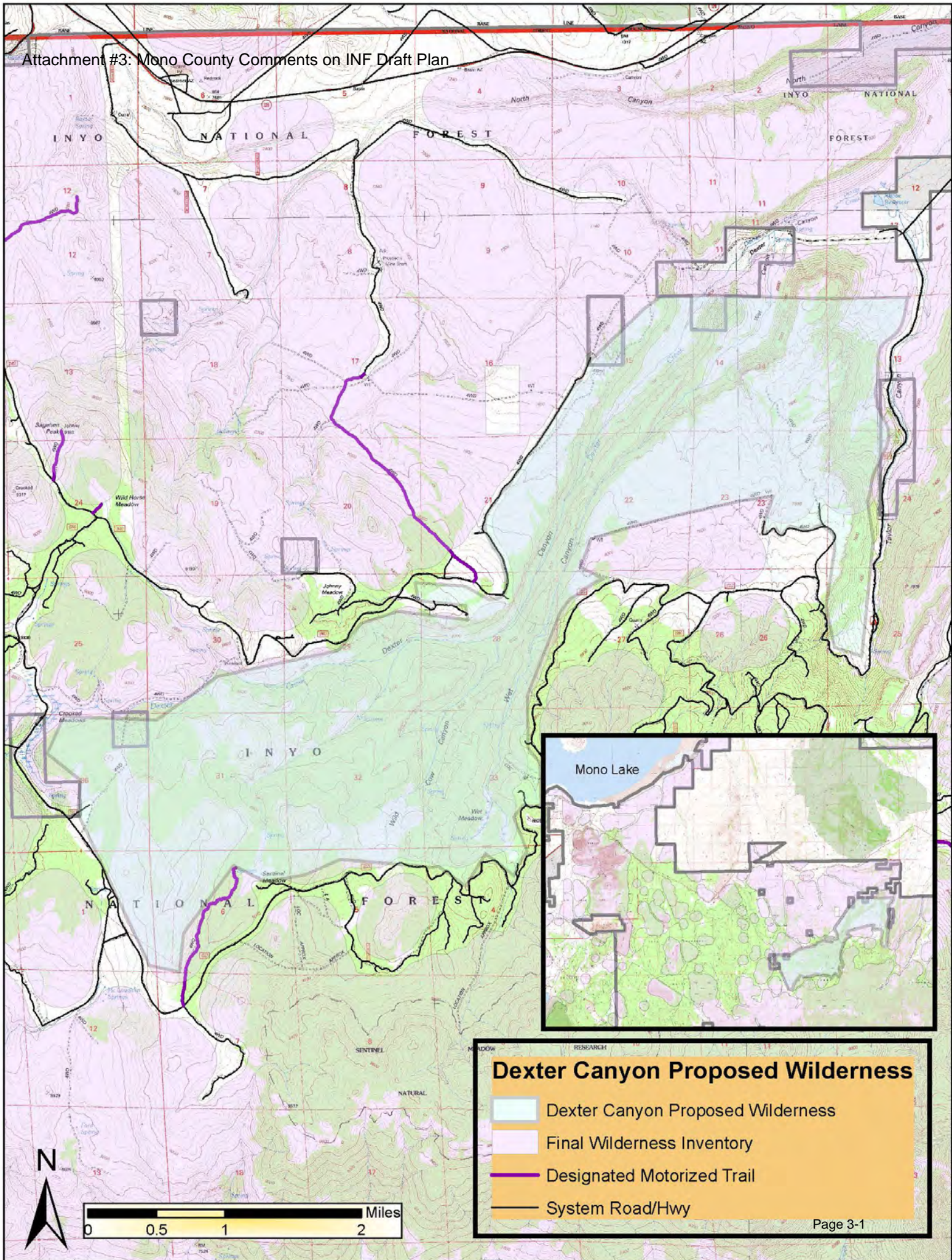
**ESRC Citizen Suggested Desired Conditions Supporting Sustainable Recreation:  
Organized by ESRC Emphasis Areas, Focal Points, and Including Management Approaches**

|  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|--|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  | <p><b>Existing Plan Desired Conditions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Sustained as a remote, backcountry area. (1)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Scenic character is sustained by resilient landscapes that support and enhance the scenery setting. (1,2)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 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)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Access is provided for motorized users along designated routes. (1,2)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Sustained as a remote, backcountry area with a management emphasis on continuing to provide visitors with a wildness and remoteness experience. (2)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Sustained as a natural-appearing landscape with pockets of high-quality concentrated</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 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)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Filming opportunities are authorized that encourage responsible use and stewardship of public lands. (2,3)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Recreation with a management emphasis on dispersed recreation experiences. (3)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Scenic character is sustained by resilient landscapes that support and enhance the scenery setting and wilderness characteristics of the place. (3)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 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)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Areas of dispersed use are managed to maintain the ROS. (3)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Special use permits are authorized that align with the ROS and achieving the desired conditions of the place. (3)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Trail system is aligned with the ROS and management actions focus on maintaining the remoteness of the place. (3)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The road system supports delivery and staging to non-motorized trailheads used for wilderness day overnight use. (3)</li> </ul> | <p>resource conditions, use, trash, etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> (#3) Horseshoe Meadow campground neglected ; needs better monitoring and management</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 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</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> New places - Sage Flat, Cottonwood Lakes, historic trails</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> SMT</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Provide optional shuttle service for Whitney Portal similar to shuttle service to Reds Meadow</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> (#1,2,3) The INF recreation program provides diverse recreational opportunities while also safeguarding sensitive areas, key watersheds, and remaining roadless areas</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> New – Mt. Whitney and all 12,000’ foot peaks</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Dry camping area in upper Mazourka with table, toilets, etc.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Improve trailhead parking with security cams and expanded for overflow</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Coordinate with BLM and county on road maintenance</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 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</li> </ul> <p><b><u>NOTE: Numbers used in public comments align with numbers assigned to Recreation Places listed at the beginning of each section.</u></b></p> |
|--|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

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

|  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |  |
|--|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> Utilities are considered if their location will not limit the achievement of the roles, contributions and sense of place. (1,2,3)</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Management actions are aligned with the ROS and the roles, contributions and sense of the place. (1,2,3)</li></ul> |  |
|--|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|

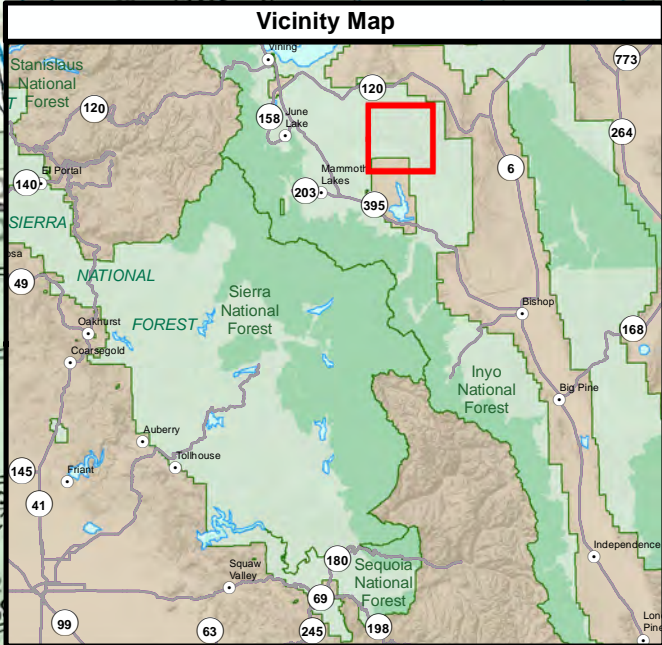
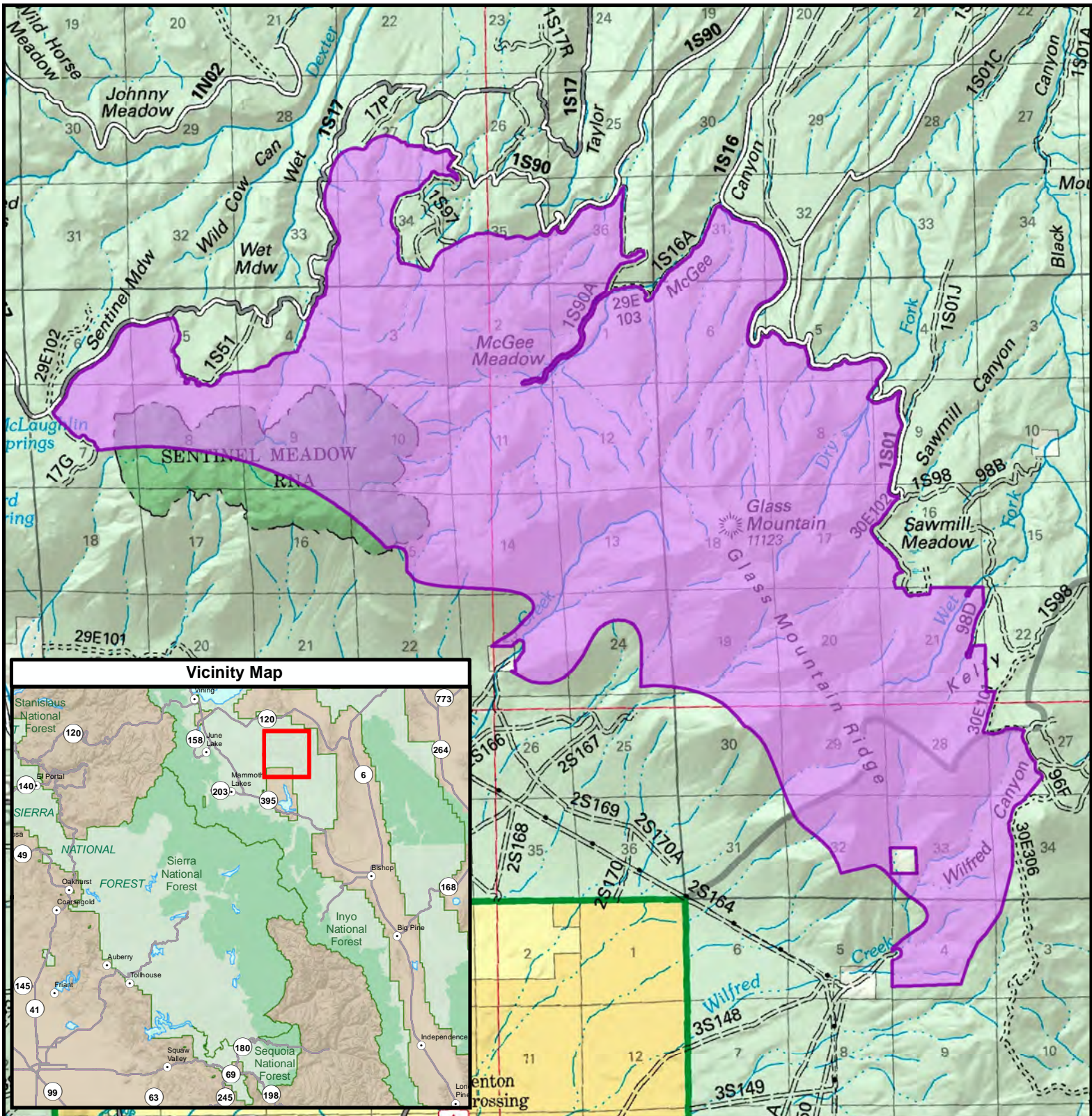




**Dexter Canyon Proposed Wilderness**

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










**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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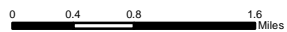
-  Potential Recommended Wilderness Boundary
-  National Forest Land Within Potential Recommended Wilderness Boundary
-  National Forest Designated Wilderness
-  National Forest System Lands
-  Non-National Forest Lands

**Glass Mountains Potential Recommended Wilderness Addition**

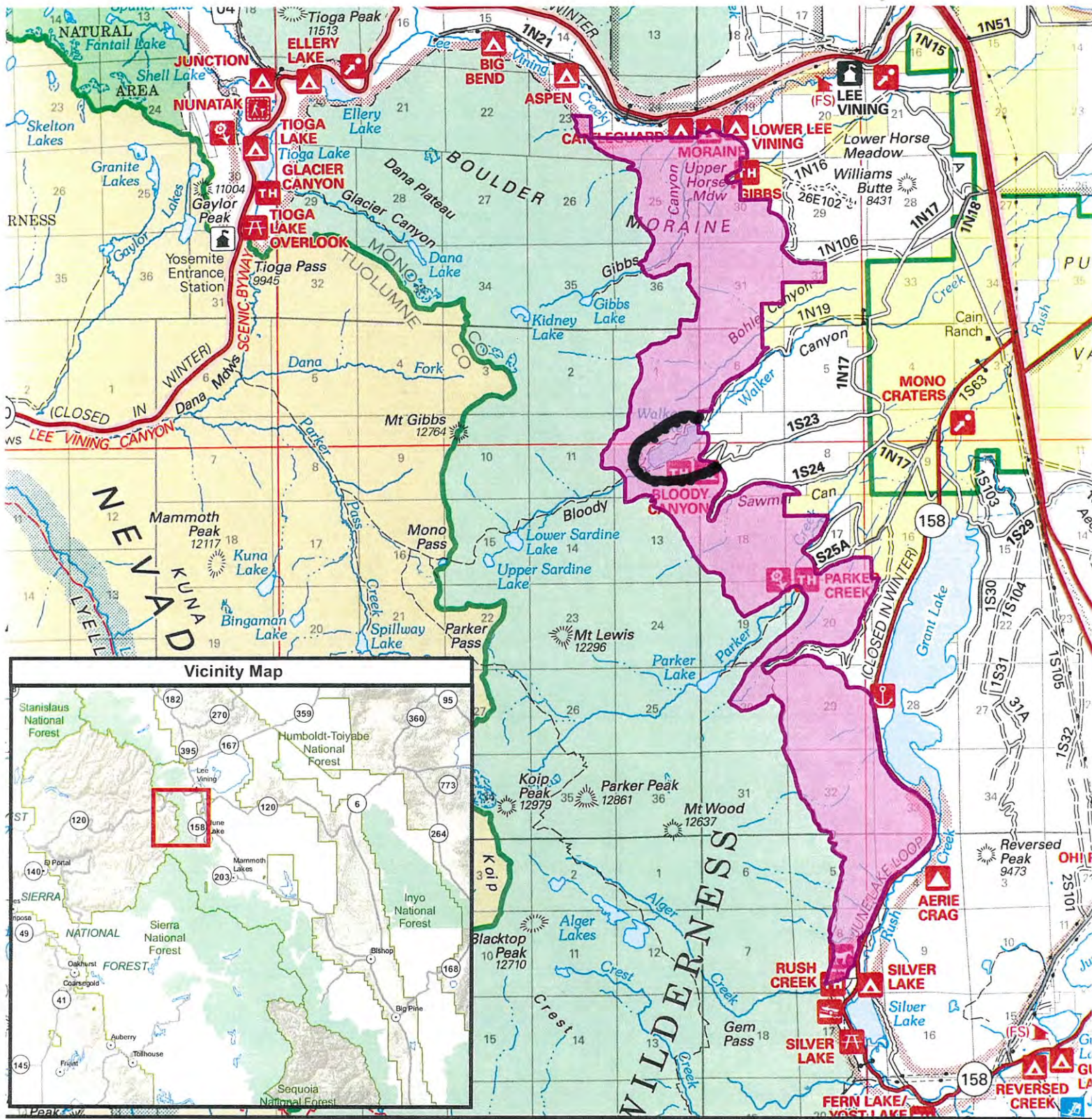
Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Revision of the Inyo, Sequoia, and Sierra National Forests Land and Resource Management Plans

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







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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- 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



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

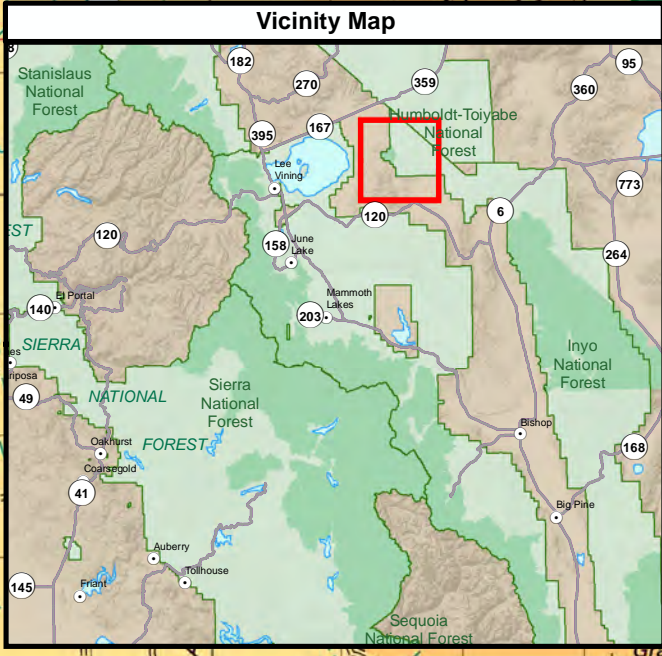
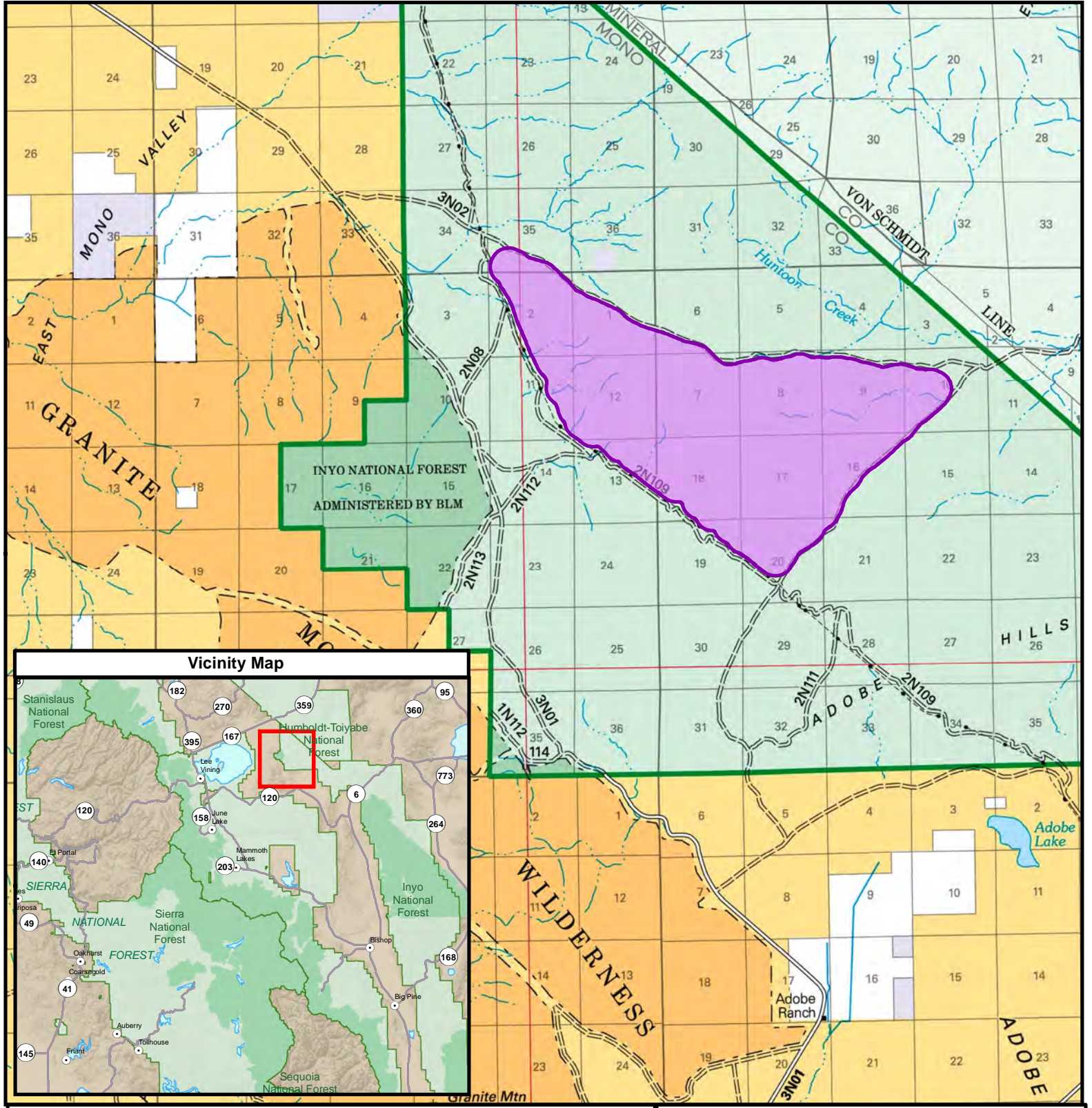
Approximately 7,212 Acres  
Township 1 North - 2 South, Range 25-26 East  
Mount Diablo Meridian, Mono County, CA

USDA Forest Service - Pacific Southwest Region  
Inyo National Forest









**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.**

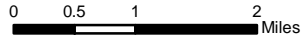
**References**

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

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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
- BLM Designated Wilderness



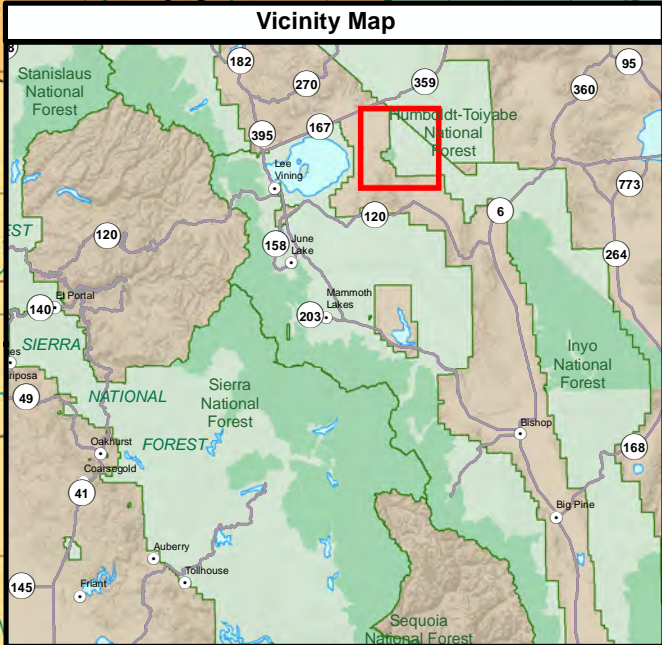
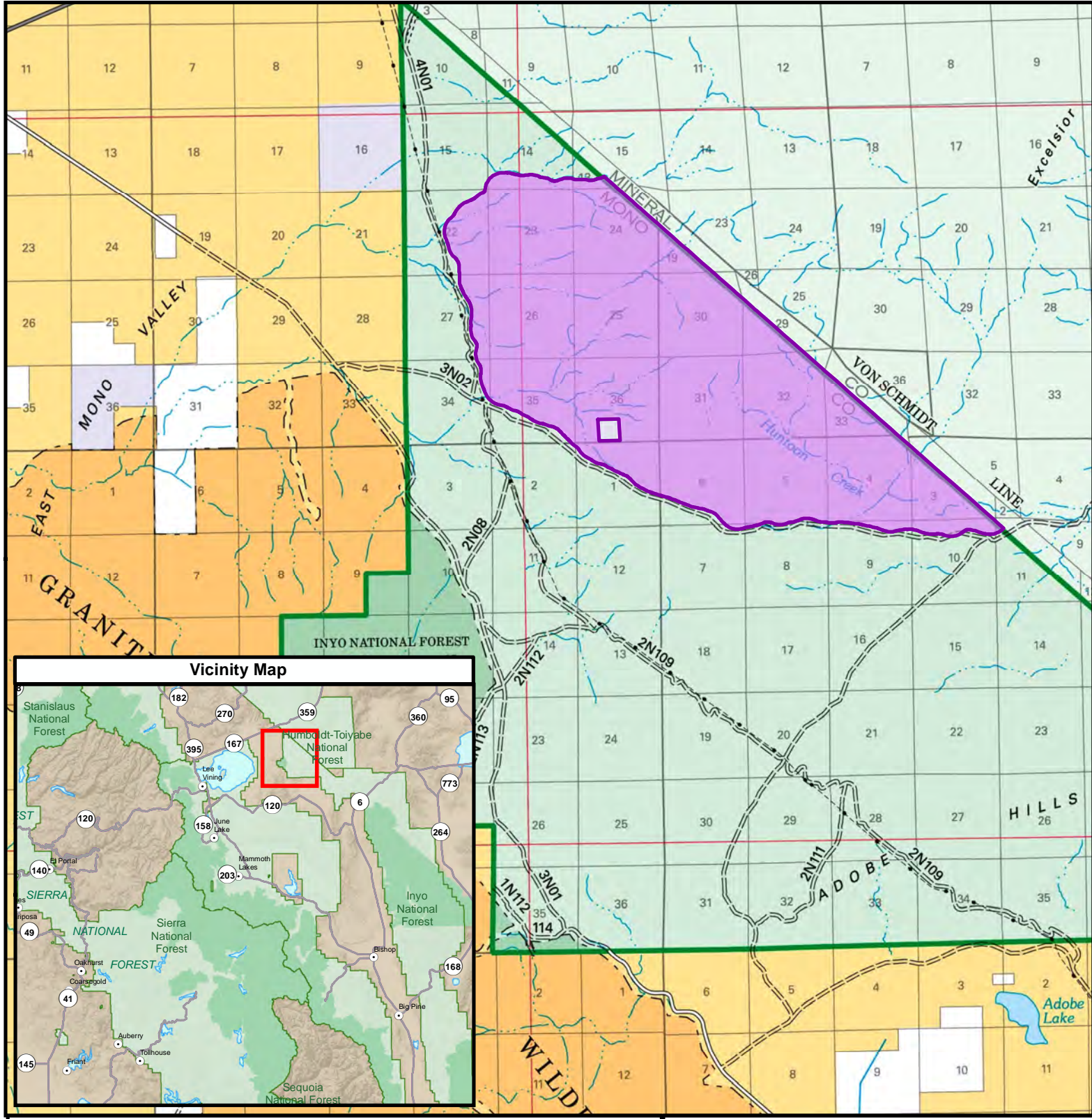
**South Huntoon Creek**

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





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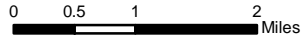
**References**

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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
- BLM Designated Wilderness



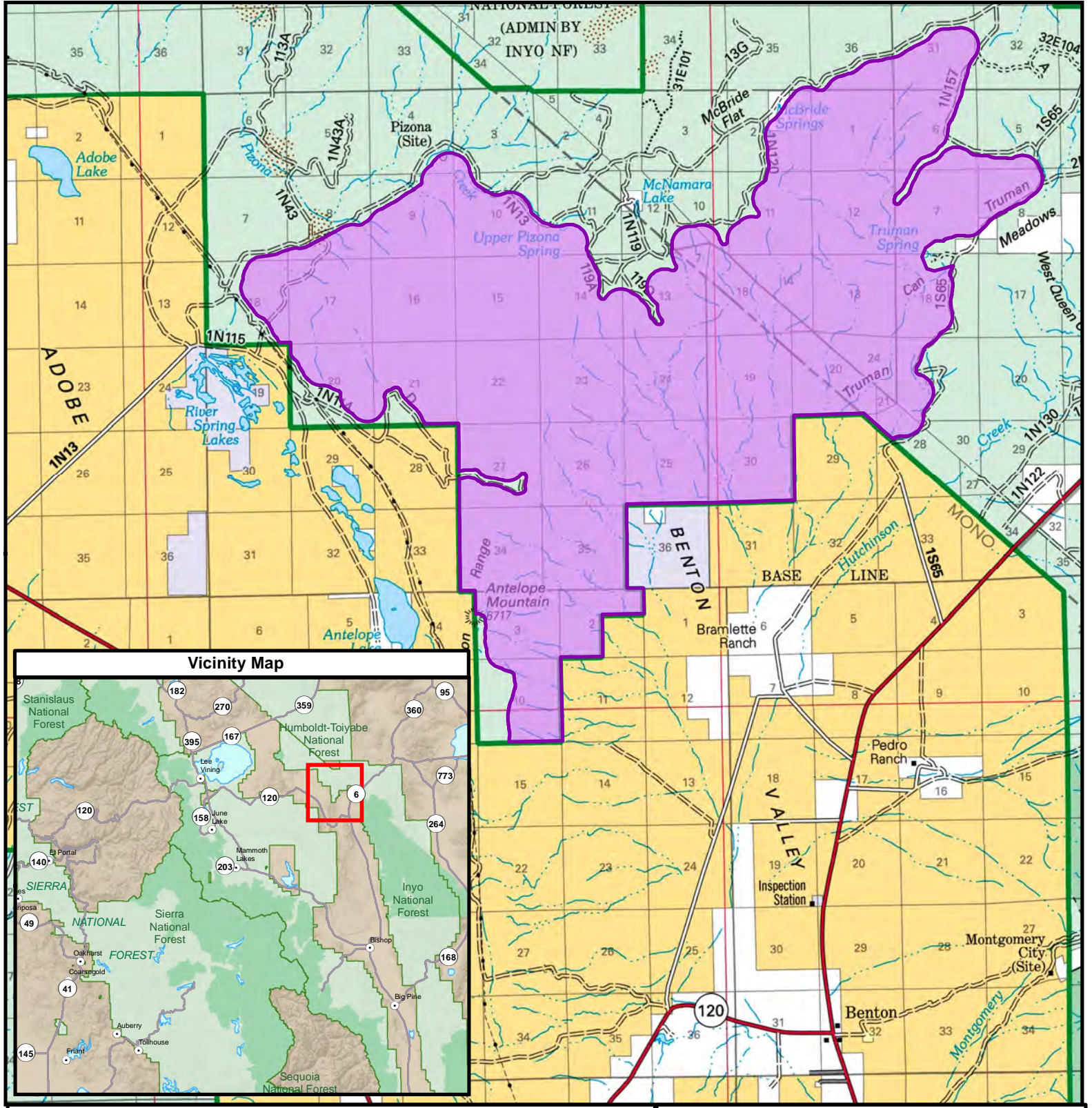
**Huntoon Creek**

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





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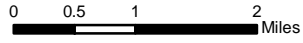
**References**

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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- Area analyzed that may be suitable for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System
- USFS Designated Wilderness
- USFS Lands
- Non-USFS Lands



**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

[Go back to main project page](#)

## **Inyo, Sequoia and Sierra National Forests Land Management Plans Revision #3375**

**Thank you for Your Comment.**

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Your comment has been received by our system on 8/25/2016  
Your letter ID is **3375-1632-31648**. Please save or print this page for your records.

Regards,  
The Inyo, Sequoia and Sierra National Forests Land Management Plans Revision Team