



U.S. Forest Service
Pacific Southwest Region



July 2017

Sustainable Recreation

Inyo National Forest

Overview

The changes we made to the Inyo's draft land management plan for sustainable recreation respond to the many comments we received from the public. We heard considerable agreement that the previous recreation plan direction was insufficient, difficult to understand, and unclear as to what effect the direction would have on resources and uses.

Some public comments suggested a zoned approach to manage high-use recreation areas. Taking the concept of a recreation zone a step further, we combined the concept of "places," which were management areas with little direction from the draft plan, with a clearer application of the recreation opportunity spectrum (ROS). The result is a three-zoned management approach that spans a continuum of areas from more concentrated recreation to remote, less-concentrated, low-density recreation. This approach will allow us to focus management where it is most intensely needed, as well as manage recreation differently from one place to another. We will manage across landscapes for sustainable, balanced, multiple uses rather than specific areas for specific uses. The recreation plan direction takes many of the "management approaches" outlined in the draft plan (Appendix B) and builds them into plan guidelines. These recreation plan components are responsive to the public comments we received on the draft plans and to the planning rule (219.10 (b) (i)) which directs forest plans to provide for sustainable recreation; including settings, opportunities, access and scenic character.

Highlights of the updated sustainable recreation plan direction include:

- Plan components based on suggestions from the public.
- Better explanation of how we will use ROS as a guide for recreation opportunities and experiences.
- Clearer and more cohesive plan direction for sustainable recreation.
- Consideration of other recreation uses, such as rock climbing.
- Addresses high-use areas where recreation will be managed more intensively.
- Establishes areas for low-density recreation that can accommodate motorized, mechanized and primitive transportation activities to support resource conservation.
- Better integration of settings, recreation management and resource management.

Visit our [website](#) for more information, frequently asked questions, updated plan components and maps.