EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

**Entiat Sustainable Recreation Strategy**

Over the last decade, the Entiat Ranger District and surrounding region has experienced numerous severe wildfires. These fires have damaged infrastructure, led to recreation site closures, and resulted in long-term consequences. Along with fire, the Forest Service faces increased visitation and reduced budgets. To plan for the future, the District partnered with Western Washington University faculty to develop the Entiat Sustainable Recreation Strategy. The completed strategy incorporates social, ecological, fiscal sustainability principles as well as emphasizing resilient planning. Through public input and field data collection, WWU researchers developed a list of goals and recommendations to guide future investment in district recreation infrastructure.

**SUSTAINABILITY & RESILIENCE**

For recreation facilities to be available for current and future users, all four aspects of sustainability and resilience must be considered. Managing recreation in a fire-adapted region necessitates prioritizing recreation opportunities to establish which opportunities and assets should be maintained and which should be decommissioned. The purpose of this strategy is to provide recommendations for sustainable and resilient recreation management based on public input and field data.

**STRATEGY PURPOSE**

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**PROJECT TIMELINE**

Western Washington University researchers collect data on trail conditions during summer 2019 and 2020.
Strategy Goals

01 **Provide.** Provide recreation opportunities that are accessible to current and future visitors.

02 **Create.** Create a resilient natural, cultural & scenic environment that supports recreation for future generations.

03 **Partner.** Partner with public and private groups to ensure safe and quality recreation opportunities that consider changing visitor interests.

04 **Implement.** Implement shared stewardship to ensure sustainable decisions, sound investments, and accountability in all recreation planning.

05 **Communicate.** Communicate with the public and partners effectively to support long-term relationships and decision making.

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**PRIORITY RECOMMENDATIONS BY GEOGRAPHIC ZONE**

- **Upper Valley, Wilderness:** Repair Larch Lakes trail to reestablish loop with Entiat River trail.
- **Upper Valley:** Reestablish loop trails with improvements to Duncan Hill trail.
- **Middle Valley:** Support accessibility with improvements to the Silver Falls Barrier-Free trail.
- **Lower Valley:** Reconstruct Lower Mad River trail with new bridges and erosion-control measures.

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**LEARN MORE**

To see the full list of recommendations visit the project website www.fs.usda.gov/main/okawen/home