

## Geographic Area - ST. JOE

### ACCESS AND RECREATION

Forest-wide Goal 2b: Sustainable Uses, Values, Products and Services – Improve the capability of the Forests to provide desired sustainable levels of uses, values, products and services.

#### ISSUE #3-RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES.

<b>Desired Condition Statement</b>	<p>Promote recreational activities year-round to support local communities.</p> <p>Look at modifying the 14-day camping limit.</p> <p>Create additional dispersed sites that are logically placed. Provide dispersed camping in and around gates.</p> <p>Keep developed sites open in the spring and fall (shoulder seasons). e.g. campgrounds during the hunting season, and Shadowy St. Joe boat ramp during the duck/goose season.</p> <p>Provide more toilets at logical, higher used dispersed sites.</p> <p>Investigate opening restricted roads (seasonally) to motorized vehicles for summer use activities such as firewood gathering, berry picking etc.</p> <p>Provide firewood from activity slash in timber sales</p> <p>Keep the Garnet Dig</p> <p>Emphasize and provide handicap-motorized routes (<b>ATV</b>, and <b>Full Size vehicles</b>). (Yearround including hunting season)</p> <p>Promote the Hiawatha Trail.</p>
<b>Identify Priority Areas or Opportunities</b>	
<b>Describe why this is a priority</b>	

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Forest-wide Goal 4: Access – Ensure access to National Forest System lands through the maintenance and improvement of roads and trails, while managing within the capability of ecosystems.

### ISSUE #1 – MOTORIZED/NON-MOTORIZED AREA ALLOCATION

<b>Desired Condition Statement</b>	<p>Participate with other agencies to establish consistent definitions for ATV's, OHV's and single track vehicles</p> <p>Restrict 4-wheeled vehicles (ATV's and 4x4's) on single track trails</p> <p>FS should maintain system roads regularly rather than waiting for a timber sale.</p> <p><b>Provide access for all recreation users and emphasize specific management areas that are conducive to a particular recreation use.</b></p> <p>Provide and/or maintain areas for intermediate to expert motorcycle use.</p>
<b>Identify Priority Areas</b>	<p>Emphasize non-motorized use in the Mallard Larkin's Pioneer Area and Proposed wilderness area. (allow some motorized use)</p> <p>Maintain Slate Creek and Big Creek drainages for motorized experiences.</p> <p>Manage winter motorized use in critical big game winter areas</p>
<b>Describe why this is a priority</b>	

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**IRAS AND PROPOSED WILDERNESS AREAS**

**Forest-wide Goal 2a: Wild Lands (Wilderness, Wilderness Study, Recommended Wilderness, and Wild Rivers) – Maintain and improve the capability of wild lands to provide for primitive recreation and a wide array of ecological values.**

<p><b>Desired Condition Statement</b></p>	<p><b><u>RESEARCH NATURAL AREAS:</u></b>  <b><u>Therault Lake RNA</u></b> – do not encourage any use that would take away from the RNA</p> <p><b><u>Black Prince Creek RNA Candidate</u></b> – should be investigated and re-evaluated. It is currently not proposed and should be taken off the revision maps as “proposed”</p> <p><b><u>PROPOSED WILDERNESS – MALLARD LARKINS:</u></b></p> <p><b><i>Should the Mallard Larkins Proposed Wilderness be managed non-motorized?</i></b> There was no consensus among workgroup members. Vote: 7 yes’s and 2 no’s.</p> <p>Those who voted no were in favor of all existing motorized trails would remain open and continue so until Congress acts on the area.</p> <p><b><i>Should the Mallard Larkins Proposed Wilderness continue to be classified as proposed wilderness?:</i></b> 5 yes, 3 no.</p> <p><b><u>GRANDMOTHER MOUNTAIN WILDERNESS STUDY AREA:</u></b>          No decision by the workgroup- area is congressionally designated. <b>Emphasize <u>non-motorized</u> us in this area.</b></p> <p><b><u>INVENTORIED ROADLESS AREAS:</u></b>          Work group did not identify any IRS’s that they wanted to see as wilderness.  <b><u>Slate Creek and Big Creek IRA’s;</u></b> emphasize motorized use  <b><u>Nelson and Dunn Peak;</u></b> emphasize no motorized use</p> <p>Remaining IRA’s manage status quo.</p>
<p><b>Identify Priority Areas</b></p>	
<p><b>Describe why this is a priority</b></p>	

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**Forest-wide Goal 4: Access** – Ensure access to National Forest System lands through the maintenance and improvement of roads and trails, while managing within the capability of ecosystems.

### **ISSUE #2 – MOTORIZED-wheeled CROSS COUNTRY travel**

<b>Desired Condition Statement</b>	<p>Discourage motorized- wheeled cross-country travel off existing routes or treads.</p> <p>Improve signing (educational/information): utilize landmarks e.g. Kelly Creek Road vs road #'s.</p> <p>Coordinate signing with adjacent landowners and cooperators – this applies to all ACCESS ISSUES.</p> <p>More emphasis on access management enforcement – this applies to all ACCESS ISSUES</p> <p>Ensure travel plan accuracy (this applies to all ACCESS ISSUES)</p>
<b>Identify Priority Areas</b>	
<b>Describe why this is a priority</b>	

