

## 2. SUMMARY - Programmatic Effects Of Implementation

### A. BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF PROCESS

The purpose of the Recreation Facility Analysis process is to display the tasks needed over the next 5 years to bring the Forest's recreation infrastructure into alignment with the resources available to operate and maintain it to standard. Many of our facilities were built 30-50 years ago and have reached the end of their useful life without significant deferred maintenance investment. Other facilities receive no or little use, and no longer serve the demand that existed 30-50 years ago. The fundamental premise of the program of work is to create an inventory which is sufficiently sustainable and flexible to be adapted annually to any changes in available resources. The program of work has been developed to meet the following objectives:

- Operate and maintain sites to standard within available revenue stream.
- Reduce deferred maintenance by 20% over the 5 year life of the program of work.
- Focus available resources on sites which conform most closely to the Forest Recreation Program Niche.
- Maintain and enhance customer satisfaction with available sites.

The RFA process defines the proposed actions for management of forest recreation sites in order to meet the desired future condition that aligns with the Forest Plan. For purposes of the analysis and planning for future proposed actions, four categories (A-D) of proposed management are used. These categories are:

- 1) Category A: sites that are under some type of operational or contractual agreement whose terms are longer than the 5-year period of the RFA.
- 2) Category B: sites that meet the unit niche; are environmentally sustainable within the capability and capacity of the natural resources; are supported by and provide support to local communities; and have a sustainable management cost-benefit ratio.
- 3) Category C: sites that do not meet all of the above criteria, but with a combination of mitigation, additional resources, or other type of action could be made to qualify for Category B status.
- 4) Category D: sites that do not meet all of the (Category B) criteria; or fall sufficiently short in one or more of the criterion so as to render the capability of meeting it unsustainable.

Sites were evaluated and ranked based on conformance to the forest niche and amount of recreation use (35%), financial efficiency (35%), and environmental and community sustainability (30%).

Some sites were identified as non-discretionary based primarily on existing agreements such as concession permits.

## B. FOREST RECREATION NICHE

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### **Recharge, Refresh – A Lasting Legacy**

**From its origin, the Uinta National Forest has provided life sustaining water and life enhancing scenery for valley communities. The steep rugged mountains and shaded narrow canyons frame both the urban communities and the open rolling settings of the forest interior. Daily and week-end use recharges local residents. Corridors lead visitors to refreshing water destinations and spectacular vistas of the forest and beyond. These deeply rooted connections between people and place are preserved and stay relevant for future generations.**

#### **Settings, Special Places, and Values**

**Forest-wide:** Settings on the Uinta National Forest range from steep, rugged mountains and coniferous forests, to wildflower meadows and open rolling foothills. These diverse landscapes provide quality habitat for both people and wildlife. Visitors can find accessible solitude, challenge, freedom, refuge, adventure, and discovery. Special places such as Mount Timpanogos, Strawberry Reservoir, American Fork Canyon, and Mt Nebo have, and continue to, connect people to the Forest.

**Neighborhood Canyons** – Penetrating the front, these close-by, cool, and shaded canyons are used for daily recharge. These unroaded settings provide quick access to natural settings and a convenient escape from city life and valley heat.

**Strawberry Reservoir** – This high elevation reservoir is a destination due to its famous cut-throat trout fishery. Infrastructure surrounds the reservoir and accommodates concentrations of use.

**Scenic Passage**– Close and popular scenic routes such as Alpine Loop, Nebo Loop and Provo Canyon access mountain memories and lead to key destinations. Facilities provide comfortable settings in which visitors congregate, socialize, and relax. These corridors are used by families for evening drives and a picnic and on week-ends for longer stays. Scenic vistas and relief from valley heat is a primary incentive for use by residents.

**Freedom** – Large expanses of open rolling terrain and forested settings offer choice and freedom. These areas interface with some of the more rural communities and compliment traditional life-styles.

**Rugged Remote** – Steep rugged mountains and Wilderness offer solitude, challenge, adventure and stark contrast from urban settings and valley heat.

#### **Opportunities/Activities/Experiences**

**Forest-wide:** Day use occurs across the Forest and is part of local resident's daily life. Primary day-use activities include: hiking, fishing, and driving for pleasure. World renowned climbing is sought by local as well as national and international visitors. Week-end camping often occurs in large groups, near water and under shade. Dispersed camping occurs at sites used for generations and is often associated with the fall deer hunt, and other traditional family events. Winter play follows the snow. Environmental Education is a key program within the forest and within communities, to launch a desire to discover, as well as reinforce an appreciation, for this amazing place.

**Neighborhood Canyons** – This is the place for daily exercise routines and evening escapes. Hiking, mtn biking, jogging and walking the dog are common. Fishing and equestrian use also occur.

**Strawberry Reservoir**– Fishing (both summer and winter), camping and snowmobiling are the primary activities.

**Scenic Passage**–Driving for pleasure, bicycling, camping, picnicking, and world-class climbing (summer and winter) occur here. Use is both daily and on week-ends. Some routes become groomed trails in the winter. Developed facilities along these routes allow visitors to access trails, relax, and learn about the forest.

**Freedom**– Primitive camping – largely by groups, hiking, driving for pleasure, and hunting are the primary activities. Motorized use including winter snowmobiling and OHV riding on designated routes is geared for local use. Equestrian use also occurs.

**Rugged Remote** –Hiking and climbing are the primary activities. The scenery is often captured

#### **Primary Visitors**

Local - 75% of the use is from local residents within approximately a mile radius of the Forest boundary.

Family Ties & International Visitors - Remaining use is from across the country, likely with family ties. International visitors target destinations, especially relating to climbing and mountain biking.

<b>UINTA NF NICHE BRIDGE for DEVELOPED RECREATION PROGRAM</b> <b>NICHE EMPHASIS:</b> Local daily and week-end use, water and scenery-based destinations, relief from heat and city life. Daily use by local residents with extended family (large groups) use on week-ends. I&E is a common thread in all developments.											
SETTING NAME		<u>Neighborhood Canyons</u>		<u>Strawberry Reservoir</u>		<u>Scenic Passage</u>		<u>Freedom</u>		<u>Rugged Remote</u>	
<b>SETTING DESCRIPTION</b> Paraphrase from niche setting description		Penetrating the Wasatch front, are close-by, cool, and shaded canyons		High elevation reservoir - a destination due to its cut-throat trout		Concentrated use corridors leading to the forest interior and key destinations		Large expanses of open rolling terrain and forested settings offering choice and freedom		Steep rugged mountains and Wilderness offer solitude, challenge	
<b>SITE FUNCTION/THEME</b> How sites are designed/managed to best meet the niche		Define access and daily use by locals & coordinate w/city county facil's. I&E		Accommodate concentr. use, protect the resource, provide daily & o/n use of res, & access to Freedom		Facil's along routes to permit day use, o/n use, viewing, I&E & access to rest of forest		Low key facil's permitting dispersed use, resource protection		Facil's to protect the resource, give safety message & provide access to trails	
<b>KEY ACTIVITIES</b> in support of the niche for the coming decade		Non-motor trail use - hiking, jogging, walking the dog, mtn biking. Fishing, climbing		Camping, fishing, picnicking, I&E, snowmobiling		Scenic driving, camping, picnicking, learning (I&E), climbing, snow play, hiking to other settings		Dispersed overnight, OHV use, snowmobiling, hunting, family & groups		Non-motorized trail use, climbing, adventure in nearby WZ	
<b>INFRASTRUCTURE</b>	<b>SITE TYPE/ DEVELOPMENT SCALE</b> Needed to provide key activities  Sites will typically be the lowest dev scale possible to maintain visitor experience & protect the resource	<b>Site Type</b> THs Interp. Sites	<b>Dev Scale</b> 2,3,4 3-4	<b>Site Type</b> CG's Group CGs Picnic Areas Boat Launch Sno Park Interp. Sites Fishing Sites	<b>Dev Scale</b> 3-4 3-4 3-4 3-4 3-4 3-4	<b>Site Type</b> TH/Snowpark Picnic Areas Group Picnic CGs Group CGs Scenic OL Interp. Sites	<b>Dev Scale</b> 3-4 3-4 3-4 3-4 3-4 3-4	<b>Site Type</b> TH/Snowpark CGs Group CGs Interp. Sites	<b>Dev Scale</b> 1, 2, 3 1, 2, 3 1, 2, 3 1, 2, 3	<b>Site Type</b> THs	<b>Dev Scale</b> 1, 2
	<b>SITE CAPACITY</b> Low <50 Medium = 50-150 High >150	Low		CG's – Med, High Group CGs - High Sno Park – Med-High Boat – Med, High Fishing Site – Low-Med		THs – Low- Med CG – Med-High Group CGs – High Picnic A. – Med - Hi Other Types – Low - Med		Group CG – Med, High All Other -Low		Low	

**\*\* - Development Scale** The classification of the scale of development of recreation sites. Scale ranges from 0, “No Site Modification” to 5, “Extensive Site Modification”. Development scales are defined by levels of site modifications, type of construction materials used, management controls, design style, development density, and services.

(See APPENDIX A).

### C. CRITICAL MONETARY FACTORS

This matrix displays asset and expense information for the Forest Recreation Sites program before and after 5-year Program of Work development.

UINTA National Forest				
A.	CRITICAL MONETARY FACTOR	BASELINE CONDITION (Benchmark Data)	Program of Work CHANGED CONDITION (does not include CATEGORY C or CATEGORY D sites)	Program of Work PERCENT CHANGE (does not include CATEGORY C or CATEGORY D sites)
OPERATIONAL ASSETS	APPROPRIATED FUNDS AVAILABLE	\$ 185,320	\$ 185,320	0%
	FEE RECEIPTS AVAILABLE	\$ 101,217	\$ 121,419	20%
	OTHER FUNDS AVAILABLE	\$ -	\$ -	0%
EXPENSES	OPERATING COSTS	\$ 283,449	\$ 227,531	-20%
	ANNUAL MAINTENANCE COSTS	\$ 178,590	\$ 58,339	-67%
	DEFERRED MAINTENANCE COSTS*	\$ 3,662,915	\$ 1,840,692	-50%

\*-Deferred Maintenance included for all sites except CATEGORY D

**Deferred Maintenance.** "Maintenance that was not performed when it should have been or when it was scheduled and which, therefore, was put off or delayed for a future period."

When allowed to accumulate without limits or consideration of useful life, deferred maintenance leads to deterioration of performance, increased costs to repair, and decrease in asset value.

## D. INVENTORY

The Inventory Matrix displays the recreation site inventory characteristics before and after 5-year Program of Work development. It displays by site type and display other recreation site program characteristics including capacity, number of sites with drinking water and waste water systems, and the annual maintenance cost for drinking and waste water systems and buildings.

UINTA National Forest					
B.	INVENTORY CHARACTERISTICS	BASILINE CONDITION (Benchmark Data)	PROGRAM OF WORK - CHANGED CONDITION CATEGORY A & B Sites	PROGRAM OF WORK - CHANGED CONDITION CATEGORY C Sites	PROGRAM OF WORK - CHANGED CONDITION CATEGORY D Sites
TIER SITE TYPE CATEGORY	CAMPGROUND DEV SCALE 2	4	4	0	0
	CAMPGROUND DEV SCALE 3	10	10	0	0
	CAMPGROUND DEV SCALE 4-5	19	19	0	0
	PICNIC SITE DEV SCALE 2-3	2	2	0	0
	PICNIC SITE DEV SCALE 4-5	6	6	0	0
	TRAILHEAD	28	28	0	0
	BOATING/ SWIM SITES/ FISHING SITES	18	18	0	0
	INTERP MAJOR/VC	2	2	0	0
	GROUP CAMPGROUND/ GROUP PICNIC	7	7	0	0
	CABINS/LOOK-OUTS	0	0	0	0
	INTERP MINOR/ OBSERVATION/ INFO SITES	13	12	0	1
	HORSE CAMP	0	0	0	0
	INFO SITE ADMIN	0	0	0	0
	OTHER 1	2	2	0	0
	OTHER 2	6	6	0	0
OTHER CHARACTERISTICS	CAPACITY (PAOT)**	26,563	26,375	0	28
	CAPACITY (PAOT-DAYS)**	5,786,040	5,535,093	0	10,220
	# SITES w/ DRINKING WATER SYSTEM \$	32	32	0	0
	# SITES w/ WASTEWATER SYSTEM \$	21	21	0	0
	DW SYSTEM ANNUAL MAINT COST	\$ 13,913	\$ 13,913	\$ -	\$ -
	WW SYSTEM ANNUAL MAINT COST	\$ 425	\$ 425	\$ -	\$ -
	BUILDING ANNUAL MAINT COST	\$ 20,626	\$ 20,626	\$ -	\$ -

\*\*Sum of CATEGORY A&B, C and D columns do not equal Baseline column due to capacity changes in CATEGORY A and B sites

## E. RESULTS

The Results Matrix describes the significant programmatic results of the ranking process

UINTA National Forest				
C1.	PROGRAMMATIC RESULTS	BASELINE CONDITION (Benchmark Data)	PROGRAM OF WORK - CHANGED CONDITION (does not include CATEGORY C and D sites)	Program of Work PERCENT CHANGE (does not include CATEGORY C and D sites)
METRICS	AVERAGE NICHE CONFORMANCE SCORE	17.03	17.08	0%
	AVERAGE DEVELOPMENT SCALE	3.27	3.28	0%
	AVERAGE UNDERSERVED POPULATION SCORE	1.66	1.66	0%
	% OF CAPACITY ACCESSIBLE	12.0%	12.1%	1%
	% OF CAPACITY W/ ACCESSIBLE FURNISHINGS ONLY	12.8%	12.9%	1%
	PAOT-DAYS TO REGIONAL REQUIRED STANDARDS	2,421,974	5,535,093	129%
	CAPACITY (PAOT)	26,563	26,375	-1%
	CAPACITY (PAOT-DAYS)	5,786,040	5,535,093	-4%
	ANNUAL O&M COST PER PAOT DAY	\$ 0.12	\$ 0.05	-56%
	ANNUAL NET O&M COST PER VISIT	\$ 1.05	\$ 0.19	-82%

C2.	PROGRAMMATIC RESULTS	BASELINE CONDITION (Benchmark Data)	PROGRAM OF WORK - CHANGED CONDITION (does not include CATEGORY D sites)	Program of Work PERCENT CHANGE (does not include CATEGORY D sites)
	TOTAL DEFERRED MAINTENANCE	\$ 3,662,915	\$ 1,840,692	-50%

Annual O&M Cost per visit and per PAOT day are averages derived from a summation of ALL the 117 analyzed recreation facilities on the Forest; the cost per visit and per PAOT for each site and site type will vary.

PAOT - An acronym for Persons-At-One-Time; a measure of facility or site designed recreation carrying capacity, particularly for developed sites. National conventions include 5 persons per family picnic/camp unit, 3.5 persons per parking lot stall at a trailhead or visitor center, 1.5 persons per motorcycle parking stall and 40 persons per tour bus parking stall.

O&M - Operations and maintenance; includes the activities and resources required to annually operate and maintain recreation sites at a level of quality which meets their management objectives and customer satisfaction. Costs associated with O&M are generally recurrent, as opposed to capital investment costs that are generally one-time and non-recurrent.

F. PROPOSED MANAGEMENT ACTION SUMMARY

<b>UINTA National Forest Management Option Code Summary</b>		
<b>MANAGEMENT OPTION CODE CATEGORY</b>	<b>OPTION CODE COUNT</b>	<b>PERCENT OF TOTAL</b>
A-DECOMMISSION	1	0.6%
B-CLOSURE	0	0.0%
C-CHANGE SEASON	6	3.8%
D-REMOVE OR ELIMINATE COST SOURCE OR SERVICE SEASON	18	11.5%
E-REDUCE SERVICE REQUENCY	0	0.0%
F-INCREASE/IMPROVE SERVICES	41	26.1%
G-CONSTRUCT A NEW AREA	2	1.3%
H-CHANGE OPERATOR	2	1.3%
I-CHANGE FEES	36	22.9%
J-CHANGE CAPACITY	1	0.6%
K-SITE CONVERSION	4	2.5%
L-REPLACEMENT/REPAIR	3	1.9%
NC-NO CHANGE	43	27.4%

