

American Fork Canyon

Alpine Loop Recreation Area



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest Service
Intermountain
Region

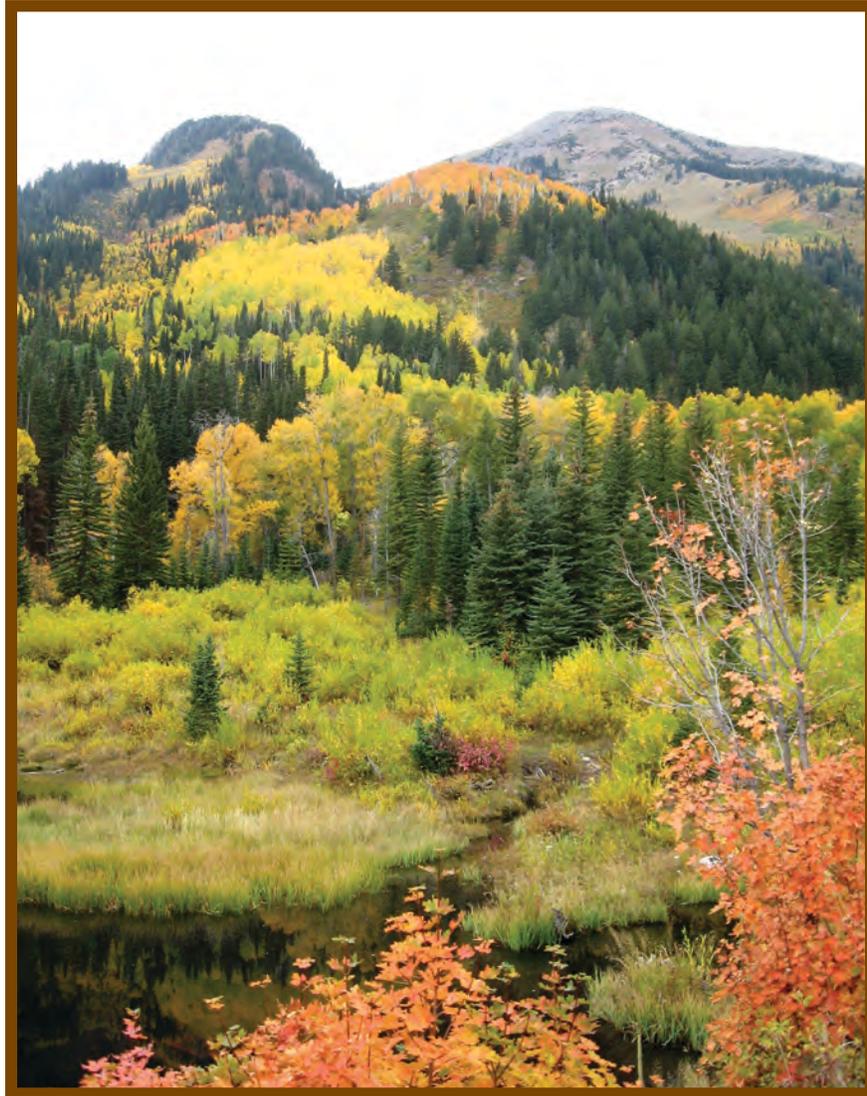
June 2010



Interpretive Plan



Uinta-Wasatch-Cache *National Forest*



The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Contributors:

- § Cheryl Butler-Volunteer Coordinator, Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest
- § Karissa DeCarlo-Interpretive Specialist, Timpanogos Cave National Monument
- § Melissa Dunlevy-Developed Recreation Manager, Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest
- § Dave Hatch-Landscape Architect, Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest
- § Joe McFarlane-Trails and Wilderness Manager, Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest
- § Charles Rosier-Recreation Fee Manager, Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest
- § Carol Ryan-Visitor Services, Interpretation, Conservation Ed Coordinator, USDA Forest Service Intermountain Region
- § Reid Shelley, Fire Prevention FMO
- § Mellisa Slaugh-SCEP, Interpretive Plan Coordination, Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest
- § Charmaine Thompson-Forest Archaeologist, Manti-Lasal National Forest
- § Larry Velarde-Recreation Staff Officer, Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest
- § Chris Hartman-Landscape Architect, USDA Forest Service Intermountain Region
- § Linda Hecker-Project Manager, Center for Design and Interpretation Rocky Mountain Region
- § Alexandra Botello-Interpretive Planner, Center for Design and Interpretation Rocky Mountain Region
- § Donna Sullenger-Visual Information Specialist, Center for Design and Interpretation Rocky Mountain Region

Approved by:

Sylvia Clark, Pleasant Grove District Ranger Date

Marcus Staley, CDI Manager Date





Prepared By:
U.S.D.A. Forest Service
Rocky Mountain Region,
Center for Design and
Interpretation

Table of Contents

Executive Summary	iv	
INTRODUCTION	1	
<i>Background</i>	<i>1</i>	
<i>Purpose and Need.....</i>	<i>1</i>	
<i>Planning Assumptions.....</i>	<i>2</i>	
PLANNING HISTORY AND GUIDING DOCUMENTS.....	3	
<i>Existing Policy and Direction.....</i>	<i>3</i>	
<i>Audience.....</i>	<i>5</i>	
<i>Trends.....</i>	<i>7</i>	
INTERPRETIVE STRATEGIES.....	9	
<i>Definition of Interpretation</i>	<i>9</i>	
<i>Purpose for Interpretation.....</i>	<i>9</i>	
<i>Interpretive Goals and Objectives</i>	<i>9</i>	
<i>Significant Interpretive Resources.....</i>	<i>10</i>	
INTERPRETIVE THEMES AND STORYLINES	11	
<i>Interpretive Theme Statement</i>	<i>11</i>	
<i>Themes for American Fork Canyon - Alpine Loop Recreation Area.....</i>	<i>11</i>	
<i>Central Theme.....</i>	<i>11</i>	
INTERPRETIVE INVENTORY & RECOMMENDATIONS	15	
<i>Site Inventory</i>	<i>15</i>	
<i>Kiosk Design Elements</i>	<i>48</i>	
<i>Color Palette.....</i>	<i>48</i>	
<i>Other Interpretive Media</i>	<i>50</i>	
PERSONAL INTERPRETIVE AND CONSERVATION EDUCATION PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS	53	
<i>Potential Opportunities.....</i>	<i>53</i>	
MARKETING RECOMMENDATIONS	57	
EVALUATION AND MONITORING STRATEGIES	59	
<i>Unobtrusive Methods.....</i>	<i>59</i>	
<i>Obstructive Methods.....</i>	<i>60</i>	
<i>Specific Examples of Exhibit Evaluation Methods.....</i>	<i>60</i>	
<i>Program Evaluation.....</i>	<i>60</i>	
<i>Summary.....</i>	<i>60</i>	
COST ESTIMATES	61	
CRITERIA FOR ESTABLISHING PRIORITIES.....	62	
APPENDICES	63	



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2009, the Pleasant Grove Ranger District determined the need to develop an Interpretive Plan for the American Fork Canyon - Alpine Loop Recreation Area. The canyon has been used historically for its resources; providing the raw materials of timber, minerals, forage, and water, for export and for growing communities in the valley below. The canyon has served as the “backyard” for many, as well as a place to seek refuge from daily demands of life and the summer heat. The canyon has provided the backdrop for not only making a living, but as a place where family traditions have developed and continue today.

Upon evaluation of the corridor, access to more information and consistency of information was identified as essential. Meeting the basic needs of the visitor by answering questions of: Where am I? What can I be doing here? What do I need to do to be prepared? helps the visitor to be comfortable and more receptive to seeing and hearing the stories of the canyon. The district identified the following goals:

- § Provide orientation and information on recreational opportunities in the canyon.
- § Forge emotional and intellectual connections between area visitors and the natural and cultural history of this area.
- § Provide a means to understand the role of people, past and present, with the landscapes of this area.
- § Build partnerships.
- § Foster partnerships and strengthen the ties to local communities and build constituencies.
- § Maintain professional and consistent appearance on structures, signs, and publications.

This plan is designed as a tool; not only will it provide a thematic approach, feel, and look to the canyon, it will help set priorities for the annual program of work.

This plan was developed through a team effort involving District and Forest staff, Intermountain Region specialists, and interpretive planners and designers from the Rocky Mountain Region, Center for Design and Interpretation. The Pleasant Grove Ranger District will be responsible for implementation of this plan.



INTRODUCTION

The American Fork Canyon – Alpine Loop Recreation Area Interpretive Plan will guide the development and implementation of interpretive exhibits and services. This plan establishes interpretive goals, objectives, themes, exhibits and program recommendations, and design guidelines for interpretive efforts within the Canyon. Future development of interpretive media will be consistent with this plan and evaluated against the goals and objectives presented in this document. The recommendations and priority projects in this plan will be implemented through the District's annual work planning objectives, capital investment process and through various grant funding.

Background

The American Fork Canyon-Alpine Loop Recreation Area is a favorite outdoor recreation destination. It serves as a “backyard” for residents living in nearby communities and has become a family tradition for many after generations of use.

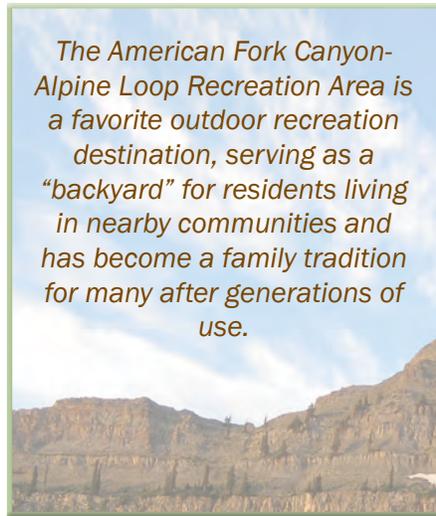
The Canyon and its resources have been utilized and helped shape the history and character of the region. Use from explorers and settlers dates back to the late 1800's with various activities including: logging camps and sawmills, mining gold, silver, lead and other minerals, producing irrigation water and later generation of hydro power, grazing livestock herds, building roads and trails further into the canyon, and as a place for recreation. Extraction of these resources provided a living for many of the early residents. Today, the area is mostly enjoyed for its recreational values.

American Fork Canyon offers several unique opportunities including Timpanogos Cave National Monument (TCNM) and two designated wilderness areas. TCNM allows visitors to explore the underground beauty and mystery of living caves. Both Lone Peak and Mt. Timpanogos Wilderness Areas allow visitors to

escape civilization and reconnect with nature. Due to their close proximity to the urban Wasatch Front, these Wilderness areas are often used for day trips or weekend overnight excursions. Local residents return again and again to the canyon, sometimes sharing it with out of town visiting family and friends.

The canyon provides for year round recreational experiences. Summer is the most popular time to be out hiking, biking, camping, fishing, climbing, riding all terrain vehicles, viewing scenery, and/or driving for pleasure being the most popular activities. Fall brings the hunters and those seeking dramatic leaf colors changes while winter snows draws skiers, snowshoers and snowmobile riders. (Spring starts in May and June and even later in higher elevations). Meadows full of wildflowers attract many hikers and photographers to these alpine environments.

The American Fork Canyon-Alpine Loop Recreation Area is a favorite outdoor recreation destination, serving as a “backyard” for residents living in nearby communities and has become a family tradition for many after generations of use.



Purpose and Need

Part of the Forest Service mission is to help people understand, appreciate, and use their national forests in

ways that support the conservation of our natural and cultural heritage. Interpretation is one management tool to achieve this mission. The purpose of this Interpretive Plan for the American Fork Canyon – Alpine Loop Recreation Area, is to provide interpretive themes, objectives and goals, make recommendations for design guidelines, interpretive media, and criteria for determining priority projects.

Currently, there are a handful of sites within the American Fork Canyon – Alpine Loop



Recreation Area where interpretation is a primary component of the site.

- § Granite Flat campground focuses on the CCC camp that once occupied that site as well as the contributions from this group of men.
- § Cascade Springs has been designed with three loops of interpretive walks highlighting the springs and various resources of the area.
- § Interpretive sites at Dutchman Flat and Pacific Mine, tells the story of mining and reclamation.
- § Graveyard Flat.
- § Tyng’s Grave, mining history related to George Tyng.
- § Campfire programs are offered during the summer season at Granite Flat, Timpanogos Cave, and Mutual Dell Camp. Both the Forest Service and Park Service give presentations as requested and available.
- § Brochures: Timpanogos Reflections, Forestwide Visitor Guide, updated and printed annually.

Most sites in the American Fork Canyon-Alpine Loop Recreation Area currently do not offer a uniform appearance. Visitors to this area desire more information on what there is “to do” (diversity of recreation opportunities), information about safety concerns, and environmental stewardship ethics and practices.



Resource damage, South Fork Little Deer Creek Trail

The information and orientation components provided are neither detailed nor adequate enough for many visitors. Most places are lacking entirely of basic orientation and information. Visitors are not given enough information or at the right locations to know what they are supposed to do.

Planning Assumptions

This plan is based on a number of assumptions about the current and anticipated future use and management of the American Fork Canyon – Alpine Loop Recreation Area. This plan is designed as a management tool to help implement current agency policy in a consistent and coordinated way. Significant changes in visitor uses, or agency policy may require modifications to the plan. The following assumptions serve as a foundation for this plan:

- § Interpretive media and services will focus on providing quality interpretive opportunities, meeting identified demand, reducing resource impacts and user conflicts.
- § The District will continue working cooperatively with partners, non-profits, and local communities to enhance the overall visitor experience.
- § Design consistency in media and facilities will strengthen the professional image of the agency while enhancing the visitor experience.
- § Information, orientation, and interpretation will serve to help educate the visitors about the Forest Service, American Fork Canyon (its resources and history) and instill in them a sense of stewardship towards the resource.
- § Use trends indicate that the number of visitors has not fluctuated much over the past 5 years. It is anticipated that visitation will remain fairly constant or increase slightly as population trends continue to grow in this region.



PLANNING HISTORY AND GUIDING DOCUMENTS

This plan ties to existing policy and direction set forth in previous national, regional and forest planning efforts.

Existing Policy and Direction

National Mission

The mission of the USDA Forest Service is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the nation's forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations. This mission includes advocating a conservation ethic in promoting the health, productivity, diversity, and beauty of our public lands.

USDA Forest Service Interpretive Services Strategy (2003)

Interpretive Services assist in protecting resources, managing capacity, and maintaining local economies through sustainable tourism. As interpretive service providers "We create intellectual and emotional connections between people and their natural and cultural heritage, thereby instilling respect and appreciation for America's public lands and fostering their protection and stewardship through time."

Region 4 Interpretation and Conservation Education Strategic Plan (Draft 2009)

The Intermountain Region is developing a strategic plan with the intent to focus interpretive and conservation education efforts where "... the public will value National Forest resources, and work with the forest service to assure wise management and future sustainability." Key topics proposed include water and watersheds, management and stewardship, and people and the land.

Uinta National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (2003)

The Introduction and Coordination section of the forest plan states that "The goal of the Interpretive Services program on the Uinta National Forest is to enhance the visitors understanding, appreciation, and protection of their national forests through interpretive activities." (pg 1-9) Acknowledgement of various ongoing interpretive and signing projects is also given.

<http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/uwc/projects/uinta/planning/index.shtml>

Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forests Volunteer Interpretation Conservation Education Strategy (VICE) (draft 2009)

The VICE Strategy (complete strategy is located in Appendix D) describes the issues, key messages, and themes of the combined Forests volunteer, interpretive, and conservation education programs. It also identifies goals and objectives for the Forest-wide team charged with maximizing program efficiency. Among the themes that have been identified are:

- § The Forest provides a sanctuary for physical, mental, and spiritual renewal
- § Communities have been and will continue to be connected to the land and were instrumental in the creation of the Forest
- § Visitors are encouraged to recreate responsibly by respecting others and the land
- § Water on the Forest supports healthy living for both humans and wildlife



Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest Recreation Strategy 2010 -- draft

The following Niche Statement was taken out of the Draft Forest Recreation Strategy. Forest Niche Statement: The Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest (UWC) is where civilization meets the 'Wild'. Metropolitan areas and communities bordering the forest make up some of the fastest growing areas in the Intermountain West. Quick, convenient access is available to Forest visitors year round, making the UWC an intensely used destination spanning backyard to backcountry. Forest lands have sustained local communities for thousands of years. Corridors and travel-ways lead visitors to natural settings and spectacular vistas with fresh water and clean air. The "greatest snow on earth" draws people from around the world. The Forest recognizes the importance of its role in the need to find balance and maintain relevance, while providing sustainable recreation for a growing diverse population.

This Niche also identifies the Forests Settings and Special Places: The spectacular scenery, world class skiing, clean water, fresh air, abundant wildlife, and year-round recreation contribute to the quality of life to surrounding communities and an easy to escape from everyday stress. Settings range from steep, rugged mountains and coniferous forests, to wildflower meadows and open rolling foothills. The unique signatures of diverse human groups can still be found by visitors on the Forest today. The closeness of the contrast between city and wild lands is enjoyed by millions as a dramatic backdrop and as a playground for those venturing into the Forest. Contained inside mountain-lined basins, much of the land area is small and intimate.



Mount Timpanogos, Lone Peak, and Cascade Springs Area Assessment (2002)

Currently, mining, grazing, and timber harvest are secondary in the assessment area to recreation. Recreation providers for this area include the Forest Service, Timpanogos Cave National Monument, Mutual Dell, Sundance, Aspen Grove Camp, and outfitter and guide operations. This assessment found that economic benefits to communities surrounding the area are almost entirely derived from recreation. As such, "the overall scenic beauty, healthy plant and animal communities, and range of quality recreation experiences offered by the area provide the basis for this economy." Certainly, without these resources there would be no recreation demand or economic benefit.



Audience

Existing Audience Data

National Visitor Use Monitoring Survey (NVUM)

In 2007, the Uinta National Forest surveyed visitors using the NVUM system. This system is designed to evaluate data at the forest level and higher so no site specific or district specific information is available.

The NVUM survey found that most people who visit the Uinta National Forest have come to recreate. It showed that more men than women visit the Forest, (62%, with an even greater amount of men utilizing the Wilderness areas on the forest), and 27% of the visitors were under the age of 16. This last figure suggests there are many families who recreate on the Uinta National Forest. Ninety-five percent of respondents identified themselves as white; with Hispanic and American Indian races making up the remaining 5%.

Most respondents live along the Wasatch Front, primarily in Utah and Salt Lake Counties. They repeatedly come back to the Forest throughout the year to recreate. Nearby states generated most of the non-resident visitors, with Idaho, Arizona, and California ranked as the top three states where visitors reside. Nearly 80% of the respondents report being very satisfied with their visit, with only 1% responding that they were very dissatisfied with their visit.

Forestwide, respondents listed the following activities as what they pursued while on their visit.

- § viewing natural features
- § viewing wildlife
- § relaxing
- § driving for pleasure
- § hiking and walking

Individuals who participate in winter activities, off highway vehicle use and other motorized use appear underrepresented in the NVUM survey. Since the NVUM is voluntary, it is possible that visitors who participate in winter

or motorized recreation were less likely to agree to take the time to stop, be interviewed, and complete the survey.

Forestwide data are inconclusive in regards to how visitors view interpretive signage on the forest. Responses ranged from “Keep up the Good Work”, to “Not Enough Information”, to “Possible Overkill”.

Recreation Facility Analysis (2007)

This analysis found that 75% of visitors to the forest are from local residents living near the forest boundary. Often, out of area visitors have family ties to the area.

Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP)

According to the 2009 Utah SCORP, over 70% of the state is in public ownership. This includes about 15% in National Forest lands and nearly 4% in National Parks Service lands. The American Fork Canyon - Alpine Loop Recreation Area lies within the Mountainland Association of Governments (AOG) planning district. Much of the statistical information for this document is collected by AOG districts. This geographic area includes Summit, Wasatch, and Utah counties.

Population of this area is continuing to grow. It is noted that in general, the population is getting older. By 2030, this AOG district is projected to support 23% of the state's population. Respondents to the SCORP survey in this region had the following characteristics; over half had bachelor or masters degrees, 90% identified themselves as Caucasian, and the median age of respondents was between 53-58 years of age. The 2000 Census data showed the median age in Utah was 27 years old. Researchers believe this discrepancy is as a result of more young people replacing land-based phones with cellular phones. Telephone surveys, such as this one, rely on land-based phones and phone lists.



Across the state, the most popular outdoor activities included walking or running, picnicking, swimming, mountain biking, camping, hunting, and fishing. While many of these activities can take place within city and county parks, the survey demonstrates that outdoor recreation is important to many people. The fourth most popular activity in this district is wildlife and bird watching. Public lands such as American Fork Canyon, provides the backdrop for these recreation activities. Of note for public land managers, while citizens surveyed expressed high desire for camping opportunities, their satisfaction with existing opportunities was of low satisfaction.

Timpanogos Cave National Monument (TCNM)

Managed by the USDI National Park Service, TCNM offers cave tours of three caverns. Helictites and anthodites are just some of the amazing and colorful formations to see. Visitors must hike a steep but well maintained trail to the cave entrance and then can be rewarded with incredible views of American Fork Canyon before their journey underground.

From 2004-2008 the average number of visitors to TCNM was over 112,000 people a year. The busiest months are July and August. The monument has a limited capacity for parking and limits the number of people that can be in the caves at one time. During the busy months people do get turned away. The park service staff does refer those visitors to other areas within the American Fork Canyon.

The Pleasant Grove Ranger District has a progressive relationship with TCNM. A portion of the fees collected are allocated to the National Monument. Staffing is shared between the Park Service and Forest which provide interpreters for programs at Cascade Springs, Granite Flat Campground, and Mutual Dell Camp.

Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (FLREA)

The FLREA legislation of 1997 enabled the Forest Service to collect and retain fees in designated areas for special uses and developed sites. As a FLREA area, fees are collected and returned to this area for repairs, improvements, and programming within the American Fork - Alpine Loop Recreation Area. The development of this plan is supported through FLREA funds and is the first step to identifying information and interpretive needs and priorities in the canyon.

Since FLREA, a vehicle pass has been required of people who visit the American Fork Canyon - Alpine Loop Recreation Area. There are a variety of passes that can be purchased from 3-day, 10-day, to an annual pass. Passes are valid for both American Fork Canyon-Alpine Loop Recreation Area and the Mirror Lake Highway. Visitation has slowly grown in the area to an estimated one million (254,974 vehicles X 2.5 people per vehicle average) visitors in 2000 and 257,973 vehicles counted in 2009. The type of passes purchased has changed; now more 7-day and interagency passes are sold, with fewer 3-day passes purchased. Revenue generated from these passes has nearly doubled since 2000 primarily due to a price increase implemented in May 2008.

Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT)

UDOT has shown a slow decrease in the annual average daily traffic (AADT) from traffic counter number 602 stationed near Aspen Grove. In 2000, the AADT recorded 1,104 vehicles while in 2008 there were less, 885. It is not known why the numbers reflect a decline in visitation; district staffs have not observed any noticeable decline. The counter at Aspen Grove is sometimes in disrepair leaving the possibility that numbers may not be entirely reliable.

Summary

Use trends indicate only a slight increase in visitation. Visitors will continue to place a high value on outdoor recreation opportunities; viewing scenery, visiting the caves, hiking, climbing, biking, riding horses, driving in outdoor setting - both on more developed roads to 4-wheel opportunities, and skiing.



The American Fork Canyon will continue to receive a majority of its visitation from local residents. These residents come again and again thus providing a base of people that love this area. They may be more likely to volunteer their talents to support management of the area.

Summer months, especially weekends, will continue to be the most congested times to visit the area. Marketing for weekday and shoulder seasons visitation may better distribute use.

More and more people are reached by non-traditional ways such as; social networks, websites, and twittering. The Forest Service can expand methods to get information out to people in order to reach their audience.

Trends

Visitor Experience

The Canyon's resources lend themselves to four categories of visitor use. For purposes of this plan we will define them as:

- § Recreationalists – Generally these individuals are in the canyon for a specific recreational experience. Based on their activity they self-select their site. Visitor seeking the Timpanogos Cave experience, equestrians tend to go to Wilderness, while motorcycle riders use the Mill Canyon system of trails. These individuals know what they want but may not know where they can participate in their activity. They are more interested in site specific information, orientation, ethics, regulations and stewardship information.
- § Tourists – are more general in their pursuits. Driving for pleasure, visiting the TCNM caves, picnicking at the lake, exploring Cascade Springs, and enjoying the views at Pine Hollow Trailhead. These are individuals who tend to be more interested in the natural and cultural interpretive opportunities and information/ orientation as it relates to the entire area, may have an hour or a day to spend in the canyon.

- § Special Interest – Primarily this captures special uses such as weddings, family reunions, or an annual Mt. Timpanogos hike.
- § Educational – This category has the greatest potential for growth and development utilizing the Power House, Cascade Springs and the Theater in the Pines sites. Opportunities to partner with local school districts; non- profit interpretive associations and other educational organizations, makes this an exciting prospect.

This plan will further develop recommendation and strategies for meeting these different categories. Additionally, it can facilitate the process through the development of facilities, interpretive media, personal services and design. Since the primary use within the canyon is recreation this plan will further break it down to site selection.





INTERPRETIVE STRATEGIES

Definition of Interpretation

Interpretation is a communication process that forges emotional and intellectual connections between the interest of the audience and the meaning inherent in the resource. (National Association of Interpretation)

Interpretive learning typically happens during leisure time and at the choosing of the participant. Interpretive programs are usually conducted on-site. While there is often an element of entertainment to interpretation, the focus is on understanding and appreciation. Interpretation should be thematic, organized, relevant, and enjoyable.

Purpose for Interpretation

The overall purpose of interpretation is:

- § To assist the visitor in developing a keener awareness, appreciation and understanding of what they are viewing or experiencing.
- § To accomplish management goals; to encourage thoughtful use and to minimize human impact.
- § To encourage visitor understanding of the Forest Service mission, goals and objectives.

Interpretive Goals and Objectives

Interpretive Goals are general statements of direction for all interpretive services. Included are goals specific to the visitor and agency. These goals describe what the District can provide for the visitor to help develop public understanding, appreciation, and support for resource management.



The following goals are established to:

- § Provide orientation and information on the recreational opportunities within the American Fork Canyon – Alpine Loop Recreation Area and facilitate a safe, enjoyable and minimal impact of the resources to the area.
- § Forge emotional and intellectual connections for visitors with regards to the culture and natural history of the area and foster a stewardship ethic towards the resources.
- § Enhance the understanding of the role of humans in past and present ecosystems and provide a context for understanding contemporary landscapes and different perspectives on natural resource management.
- § Foster partnerships that strengthen ties to the communities, build constituencies, and helps manage the recreational experiences such as the development of Youth Corps and Friend Groups.
- § Build capacity for personal services through partnerships.
- § Maintain a professional appearance on all publications relating to the area including websites, signs, maps, and printed material by integrating consistent design guidelines, the same palette of colors, fonts, and logos. Utilize the *Intermountain Design Guidelines for Recreation-related Exhibitory and Print Media* (2009) to maintain a consistent appearance of sites within the region. Located in Appendix C of this document.

Interpretive objectives are measurable and help managers determine if they are successful in accomplishing the goals of the plan. These help guide the development of the interpretive plan and program and will be used in evaluating the final product upon completion and accomplishments. The objectives are what the Pleasant Grove Ranger District wants visitors to know, feel, and do while visiting the area.

The Interpretive Objectives are:

- § The majority of visitors will treat the area with respect and stewardship; and develop a healthy land use ethic; negative resource impacts will decrease.
- § ICE Strategy – topic 3 *“Visitors are encouraged to recreate responsibly by respecting others and the land. Forest lands are a place for recreation and inspiration and require respect and wise use/stewardship to ensure protection for future generations.”*
- § The majority of visitors will feel that their experience was memorable and rewarding because they received information that helped them develop realistic expectations and trip itinerary that met their personal interest and skill level.
- § Information is available at a variety of locations (offices, websites, on-site).
- § The majority of visitors will understand that the National Forest is managed for multiple use and sustainability with strong ties to local communities.
- § ICE Strategy, topic 1. *“The UWC NF was designated to protect western watersheds where dynamic ecosystems rely on the presence or absence of water. Watersheds are important for providing clean water to communities along the Wasatch Front.”*

- § The majority of visitors will realize there are multiple opportunities to connect with the agency and engage in service projects within the Canyon.
- § The majority of visitors will acknowledge and respect different users groups within the Canyon and will work together to ensure all users have a safe and enjoyable experience.

Significant Interpretive Resources

*When Somewhere
Becomes Anywhere
It becomes Nowhere*

Significant interpretive resources can be both tangible and intangible and may include resources that are places and things. The American Fork Canyon - Alpine Loop Recreation Area interpretive resources include natural, cultural, human connections, and recreational assets. Combined with the mission of the Forest Service, these resources help to focus management actions and operations on the stewardship and enjoyment of those attributes that most directly contribute to the importance of place. These significant resources are the foundation to creating a sense of place.



INTERPRETIVE THEMES AND STORYLINES

Interpretive Theme Statement

From the interpretive goals, objectives and statements of significance, interpretive themes for American Fork Canyon – Alpine Loop Recreation Area are established. These themes capture the essence and importance of the ideas, concepts and features that emerged from the review of all the natural and cultural resources.

A central *theme* helps tie together the information and ideas that are presented to visitors. The theme is the principle message about the topic that we want to get across to our audiences. Themes are the plot to the movie, the moral to the story. They answer the question “So What?” or “What’s the big deal?” They can be expressed in complete sentences, as opposed to topics that are general categories of ideas. The theme provides the foundation for all presentation, no matter what media is used.

Sub-Themes

Sub-themes further develop individual aspects that are embedded in the meaning of the central theme. Sub-themes provide the opportunity to refine the specifics of a given topic.

Storylines

The central theme and sub-themes combine to further describe the core ideas in overarching stories. The combination of the three, take a topic from broad to narrow in its focus. *Story* is the communication tool most effective for facilitating an exploration of resource meanings. Societies depend on the power of story to explore, clarify, and share ideas, meanings, beliefs, and values that collectively constitute culture. Story is at the heart of human interaction and, consequently, at the heart of interpretation. A set is complete when it provides opportunities for people to explore and relate to *all* of the statements of significance.



Themes for American Fork Canyon – Alpine Loop Recreation Area

Central Theme

People have historically used the bounty of the natural resources of the American Fork Canyon – Alpine Loop Recreation Area to meet their needs; timber for houses; minerals for industry, grazing sheep and cows; and as an escape from summer heat. Today people use the area for year round recreation activities, enjoy the vast, natural scenery, as well as seek opportunities for solitude. Your stewardship choices today will determine how we all use the American Fork Canyon - Alpine Loop Recreation Area tomorrow and into the future.

Subtheme: Stewardship practices are vital to manage for a healthy forest and place of renewal for the human spirit. (VICE Topic 3 – People and the Land)

Storylines

- § Although the American Fork Canyon–Alpine Loop Recreation Area is a land of great beauty and benefit, it comes with great responsibility in order to be sustained into the future.
- § There are opportunities for being involved in the management of your National Forests. Become a volunteer.
- § National Forest lands are a place for recreation and inspiration and requires respect and wise use/stewardship to ensure protection for future generations. (VICE Strategy 2009)
- § Human behavior on public lands affects the sustainability of the landscape for future generations. Protection of our resources requires that our visitors practice the principals of “Leave No Trace” and “Tread Lightly!” (VICE Strategy 2009)
- § Not only do people need to respect the natural resources of the area, they need to respect other visitors and do their part to minimize social conflicts.

Subtheme: Natural Resources of the American Fork Canyon – Alpine Loop Recreation Area were critical in establishing the communities in the valley. These resources continue to provide goods and services to residents and visitors. (VICE Topic 1, Forest Watersheds)

Storylines

- § Timber resources of the area were important for building and heating newly formed communities in the valley.
- § The Forest continues to provide valuable forage for wildlife.
- § Silver and lead ore mining were an important component of a developing economy.
- § Recreation in the canyon is nothing new. Early on, residents would escape from the summer heat of the valley below. Dancing, camping, and picnicking were favorite activities.
- § With an average of 13 inches of water annually, Utah is a desert. Caring for forest watersheds and using these resources wisely continues to be important.
- § In this arid environment, there are plants and animals that flourish.
- § Cascade Springs is a unique feature fed by mountain precipitation turned ground water. Once the ground water hits an impermeable layer of rock the water is forced up to the surface, creating a spring.
- § Mining reclamation; reducing sedimentation, erosion, and improving water quality have repaired and changed much of the landscape of the canyon.



Subtheme: Heritage Resources are treasured for the information they provide to understanding our past.

Storylines

- § Cultural resources within the area are visible today and provide a picture of the rich heritage that helped to develop the character of its people, this land, and the valley below.
- § The mining and timber industries were supported by other services including those necessary for building transportation routes, construction of living and working quarters, and those providing food from farms and ranches in the valley.
- § Grazing – historically for sheep and cows.
- § Pre-historic and historic people have used this area, Native Americans (Ute Paiutes), Father Escalante, Mountain Men, recent and past use Fremont people.

Subtheme: The diversity of recreation settings offer varied opportunities for year round enjoyment of public lands.

Storylines

- § Today the canyon continues to provide opportunities for many recreational pursuits, including hiking, hunting, camping, motorized recreation, sightseeing, mountain biking, rock climbing, riding horses, viewing wildlife, as well as winter recreation such as snowmobiling, snowshoeing, skiing, or as a nature setting for spending time with family and friends.
- § Some recreation opportunities vary seasonally with different messages more appropriate at different times of the year.
- § The area provides a sanctuary for physical, mental, and spiritual renewal (VICE Strategy, topic 3)

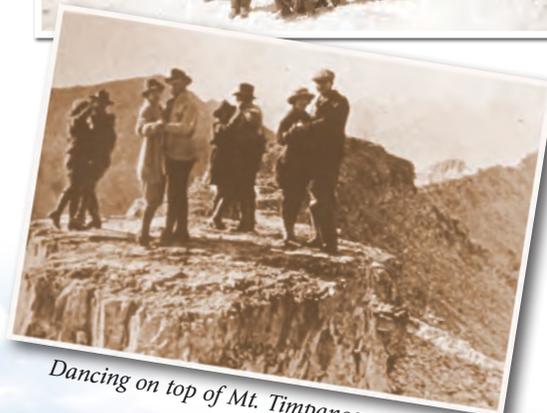


Subtheme: Wilderness areas provide a place where nature can dominate.

Storylines

- § The Lone Peak and Mt. Timpanogos Wilderness areas are irreplaceable resources set aside to preserve ecological diversity and as a untrammled place where man is a visitor. They provide an opportunity for visitors to quickly access Wilderness, and search out opportunities for physical challenge, solitude, and reflection.
- § Given their proximity to the Wasatch Front, the Lone Peak and Mt. Timpanogos Wildernesses are often experienced as day trip destinations for the nearby urban population.
- § Unique issues for the management of these wilderness areas include the potential to “love it to death” and reduce solitude. Mt. Timpanogos peak has only two main trails that led to the top of the mountain. Every year many visitors climb, an annual ritual, to the top of Mt. Timpanogos.

Children on top of Mt. Timpanogos, 1939



Dancing on top of Mt. Timpanogos, circa 1930s





Inventory Sites

1 Bonneville Shoreline TH	19 Deer Creek Overlook
2 Proposed Interagency Office	20 Elk Camp TH
3 FS Information Station	21 Cascade Springs Upper Parking Lot
4 Upper AF Hydro Plant	22 Cascade Springs Main Parking & Overlk
5 Timpanogos Cave NM	23 Cascade Springs Interpretive Trail
6 Dance Hall Cave Pullout	24 Tibble Fork TH
7 Tank Canyon TH	25 Granite Flat CG
8 Sawmill Picnic Area	26 Horse Transfer TH
9 Little Mill CG	27 Silver Lake Flat TH
10 South Fork GS	28 Lower Mill Canyon TH
11 Pine Hollow TH	29 Holman Flat TH
12 Timpooneke GS	30 Pacific Mine Point of Interest
13 Timpooneke TH	31 Dutchman Flat Dispersed Camping
14 Salamander TH	32 Graveyard Flat Point of Interest
15 Summit TH	
16 Mt. Timpanogos CG	
17 Theatre-in-the-Pines	
18 Mill Canyon TH	

LEGEND

	Alpine Scenic Highway
	Roads
	National Forest
	Wilderness
	Private Lands
	Forest Boundary
	No Campfire Zone
	Hiking Trail
	Horseback Trail
	Mountain Bike Trail
	Dispersed Camping
	Campground
	Trailhead
	Viewing Area
	Picnic Area
	Information Station
	Point of Interest

INTERPRETIVE INVENTORY & RECOMMENDATIONS

Effective interpretation includes telling your story at the location where it happened. It should be told in a place where visitors can look around and see what you are trying to convey in your messaging. The following site inventory provides a basis for locations where identified themes and storylines can be interpreted within the American Fork Canyon - Alpine Loop Recreation Area.

Site Inventory

Site Name: 1. Location of Proposed New Interagency Office
(Pleasant Grove RD & Timpanogos Cave National Monument)

Location: State Route 92

Type: Orientation, Information, Interpretation

Existing Condition: Currently this parcel of land is owned by the Forest Service and sits near the mouth of American Fork Canyon on Highway 92. Plans are being developed to build a new interagency office for the Pleasant Grove Ranger District and National Park Service (Timpanogos Caves National Monument).

Recommendation: Incorporate adequate visitor information space within building. Take advantage of stunning view of canyon by positioning public spaces, such as the lobby, to have picture view of American Fork Canyon. Plan to have space in lobby to accommodate public information for both agencies, interpretative displays, sales area, public restrooms, and any administrative work that must occur in this area.

Outside office building, provide kiosk with orientation and information available for self-serve and after hour visitors. Consider a self serve fee tube for people wishing to purchase passes. Provide a separate space for temporary messages. Depending on site design, and site function, may be able to incorporate small interpretive trail. Include display for Timpanogos Caves National Monument.

Interpretive Theme: Introduction to overall theme.

- § People have historically used the American Fork Canyon – Alpine Loop Recreation Area to meet their needs; timber for houses; minerals for industry, grazing for a hungry and growing nation; and as an escape from summer heat. Today people use the area for year round recreation activities as well as seek opportunities for solitude. Our stewardship choices today will determine how you use the American Fork Canyon - Alpine Loop Recreation Area tomorrow and into the future.



Site Name: 2. Trailhead for Bonneville Shoreline Trail

Location: State Route 92

Type: Orientation, Information, Interpretation

Existing Condition: Currently this parcel of land is owned by the Highland City. There is a large parking area, restroom, and plans are for further development, including a trailhead for the Bonneville Shoreline Trail. It is just below the canyon entrance. Timpanogos Cave National Monument has expressed interest in developing a trail connecting this site to the Upper American Fork Hydroelectric Plant.

Recommendation: If this trailhead is developed, this would be a good location for orientation (map), information (safety messages), and interpretation (overall theme of the canyon) information.

Interpretive Theme: Human behavior on public lands affects the sustainability of the landscape for future generations. Protection of our resources requires that our visitors practice the principals of “Leave No Trace” and “Tread Lightly!” (VICE Strategy 2009)



Site Name: 3. Forest Service Fee Booth, American Fork Canyon Information Station

Location: State Route 92. Mouth of American Fork Canyon, Highway 92

Type: Orientation and Information

Existing Condition: Fee Booth at the mouth of American Fork Canyon is staffed year round. Employees hand out *Reflections* newsletter, applicable trail brochures seasonal programs or relevant closures. There are plans to construct a new fee booth (in 2011) just up the road (less than ¼ mile) at a larger pullout.

Recommendations: Install kiosk that meets self serve and after hours orientation and information needs. Include space in the site design to accommodate 2-3 vehicles to pull off and temporarily park as visitors get information.

Interpretive Theme: n/a



Site Name: 4. Upper American Fork Hydroelectric Plant

Location: State Route 92

Type: Interpretation

Existing Condition: The Power Plant is the first stop along Highway 92. Forest Service staff is working with Timpanogos Cave National Monument to connect their interpretive trail (.5 miles) to this site.

Recommendations: This site would work best for special events or environmental education presentations with local school groups, on a reservation by reservation basis. Forest Service or National Park Service personnel can present to groups or host small workshops here.

Facility—would need some improvement. Acquire (retired) hydroelectric equipment to interpret and provide seating arrangements for groups (simple benches would be adequate). Facility would need to include restroom amenities. Opportunity exists to develop a short, accessible walking trail near the building may need railing (especially on river side) with interpretation (signs or a brochure) that highlights hydroelectric power production and could continue trail to the Bonneville Shoreline Trail site.

If utilizing this site for school group education, review programs and try to align curriculum with Utah Department of Education Standards to ensure that a needed component of school curricula can be met. (www.utahschools.gov/curr/main/default.htm) If demand for these programs exceeds capacity, you can target a certain age group and focus programming to that age.

Interpretive Theme: With an average of 13 inches of water annually, Utah is a desert. Caring for forest watersheds and using these resources wisely continue to be important.

- § **Storyline:** hydroelectric power, forest watersheds providing for irrigation of the valley below, keeping drinking water clean and healthy. Special topic may be arranged with teachers if both parties are agreeable on themes.



Site Name: 5. Timpanogos Cave National Monument

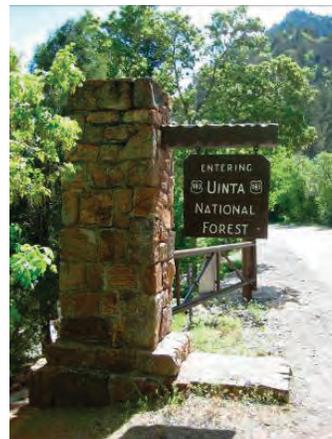
Location: State Route 92

Type: Information, Orientation, and Interpretation

Existing Condition: The monument is managed by the National Park Service; there are exterior interpretive signs, visitor center, and administrative buildings. Public hours for the cave are generally May through October, depends on when the trail to cave is cleared of snow and ice conditions. The Pleasant Grove RD has a good working relationship with the park staff, sharing resources and improving interpretive programming to the public. The agencies work together to produce the Reflections newsletter which highlights what is happening in the American Fork Canyon – Alpine Loop Recreation Area and is handed out at the fee booths throughout the year. <http://www.nps.gov/tica/index.htm>

Recommendations: Continue partnership and work together on mutually beneficial projects.

Interpretive Theme: n/a (provided by the TCNM)



Site Name: 6. Dance Hall Cave Pullout

Location: State Route 92

Type: Interpretive

Existing Condition: Small pullout on road that could be further developed. The cave is not accessible nor would you want to encourage people to climb to it.

Recommendations: Determine feasibility of developing wayside interpretive pullout off road; include a small, accessible trail (approximately 1/8 mile) on North side of road that leads to interpretive wayside exhibit with panels that tell about the Dance Hall Cave which can be viewed across the road. The account of long ago summertime dances and live music in this cave is a colorful and interesting story.

Interpretive Theme: Cultural resources within the area are visible today and provide a picture of the rich heritage that helped to develop the character of its people, this land, and the valley below.



Site Name: 7. Tank Canyon Trailhead

Location: State Route 92

Type: Orientation, Information

Existing Condition: This trailhead serves primarily rock climbers. Planned development in the near future will include toilet and improved parking, along with 2 walking bridges over the American Fork River to the climbing rock area. Once improvements are made it is likely that this stop will be used more frequently by travelers, not only rock climbers, stopping for the amenities.

Recommendations: Replace bulletin board with one that meets design standards in interpretive plan. Provide one sign panel that addresses general orientation of the canyon (map), and one that addresses climber’s etiquette and Wilderness ethics.

Interpretive Themes: Forest lands are a place for recreation and inspiration and requires respect and wise use/stewardship to ensure protection for future generations. (VICE Strategy 2009)

Human behavior on public lands affects the sustainability of the landscape for future generations. Protection of our resources requires that our visitors practice the principals of “Leave No Trace” and “Tread Lightly!”



Site Name: 8. Sawmill Picnic Site

Location: State Route 92

Type: Orientation, Information, Interpretation

Existing Condition: Newly renovated site and in very good condition. Bulletin board is not offering pertinent information. Name is different at site than on map. This site provides access to a groomed x-country ski trail – between Sawmill Picnic Area and Little Mill Campground, approximately 1 mile.

Recommendations: Correct map name at next printing.

Replace bulletin board with one that meets design standards in interpretive plan. Provide one sign panel that addresses general orientation of the canyon (map), and two *Know Before You Go* informational sign. Depending on winter use at this site, a winter *Know Before You Go* and orientation map panel may be appropriate.

Develop interpretive trail between the picnic area and campground.
Storylines - would focus primarily on flora and plant identification.

Interpretive Theme: Natural Resources of the American Fork Canyon – Alpine Loop Recreation Area were critical in establishing the communities in the valley. These resources continue to provide goods and services to residents and visitors.



Site Name: 9. Little Mill Campground

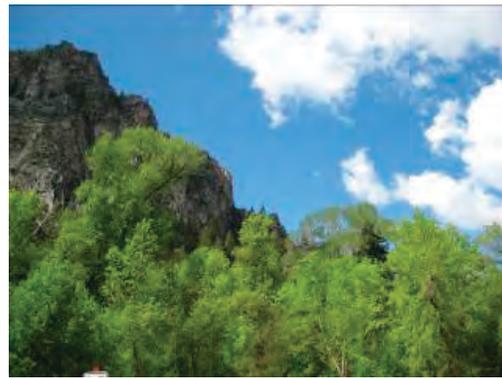
Location: State Route 92

Type: Orientation, Information, Interpretive

Existing Condition: This 34 unit campground also has a distinct group area. Current bulletin boards are the only ones observed with this type design style. Group pavillion was installed in 2010.

Recommendations: Replace bulletin board to match design standards. Install orientation and information. Develop interpretive messages on the historic logging industry for the new pavillion area. Develop interpretive trail between picnic area and campground along the now closed to motorized use service road.

Interpretive Theme: Historic Logging Industry. Cultural resources within the area are visible today and provide a picture of the rich heritage that helped to develop the character of its people, this land, and the valley below.



Site Name: 10. South Fork Guard Station

Location: State Route 92 – Alpine Loop Road

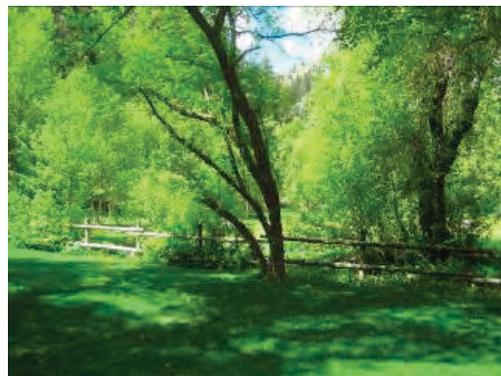
Type: n/a

Existing Condition: Administrative facility. This is a CCC era guard station with crews that continue to live and work here. Occasionally it is staffed year-round. More typically, housing and office space are occupied seasonally. Some buildings are on the National Historic Register.

Recommendations: Do not mix administrative with recreation users and the general public. Make sure you use an entrance sign that states this as an administrative site with no public amenities.

For buildings with historic significance, work with State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) to determine eligibility to National Register. For those that qualify, post plaques on the buildings.

Interpretive Theme: n/a



Site Name: 11. Pine Hollow Trailhead

Location: State Route 92--Alpine Loop Road

Type: Orientation, Information

Existing Condition: This trailhead is used often during winter months by snowmobile users and snowshoers and to a lesser degree by cross-country skiers. Facility is in good condition and some orientation is provided. A fee area sign is here. Beautiful views of Mt. Timpanogos. There is a gate just above Trailhead that is closed during the winter months.

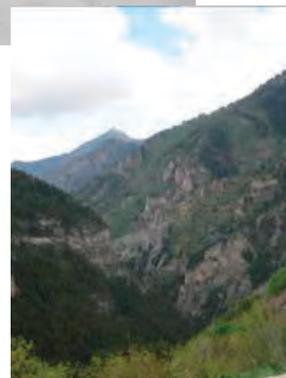
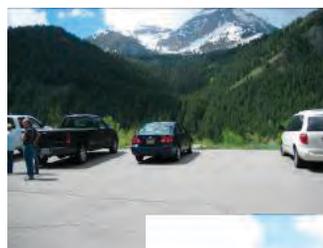
In 2010 toilets are scheduled to be relocated and replaced and new kiosk installed.

Recommendations: Replace bulletin board to match design standards, include winter safety message on one sign (avalanche awareness and preparedness, sharing trails/roads with other users – may be switched between winter and summer seasons). Orientation map, one information panel, replaceable (summer and winter), fee area sign.

Develop trail (approximately 1/8 mile) to a view area, provide bench, view area overlook, behind tree area looking across and down the canyon.

Avalanche beakon sign is placed here during winter months. The sign provides information for individuals to tests their beekens. Current beacon sign measures 48” w, 29” h.

Interpretive Theme: Human behavior on public lands affects the sustainability of the landscape for future generations. Protection of our resources requires that our visitors practice the principals of “Leave No Trace” and “Tread Lightly!” (VICE Strategy 2009)



Site Name: 12. Timpooneke Guard Station

Location: Forest road 056

Type: n/a

Existing Condition: Working guard station for Wilderness ranger.

Recommendations: Do not mix administrative with recreation users and the general public. Make sure you use an entrance sign that states this as an administrative site with no public amenities.

If conditions change where no longer in administrative use, consider cabin rental program and interpretation on the history of the area, CCC construction, and early Forest Management.

For buildings with historic significance, work with State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) to determine eligibility to National Register. For those that qualify, post plaques.

Interpretive Theme: n/a



1940



Site Name: 13. Timpooneke Trailhead

Location: FR 056, Alpine Scenic Highway

Type: Orientation, Information, Interpretation

Existing Condition: This is one of the major trailheads to access the Mt. Timpanogos Wilderness. There is a large parking lot, toilet, bulletin board, fee information and fee tube, and a plaque acknowledging Forest Service Ranger Vivian West. Since this Forest is close to urban area, many of the trails (even into Wilderness) are used for day-use hikes. Hikers are often unprepared for high elevation mountain weather conditions.

Recommendations: Re-evaluate site and site design – watch traffic flow of both wilderness and non-wilderness uses. Replace bulletin board to match design standards. Provide orientation and information panels. Include preparedness message about what you need to have/ wear to hike these trails and stewardship principles. Develop interpretive sign about the Mt. Timpanogos Wilderness.

Interpretive Theme: The Lone Peak and Mount Timpanogos Wilderness areas are irreplaceable resources set aside to preserve ecological diversity and as a untrammled place where man is a visitor. They provide an opportunity for visitors to quickly access wilderness, and search out opportunities for physical challenge, solitude, and reflection.

The area provides a sanctuary for physical, mental, and spiritual renewal (VICE Strategy, topic 3)



Site Name: 14. Salamander Flat TH

Location: State Route 92, Alpine Loop Road

Type: Orientation and Information

Existing Condition: This large dispersed camp site is a junction for three trails. There is a bulletin board with generic information. Proposed projects include site hardening, adding fire rings, hitching posts, some type of design to separate those camping from day use hiking. There is a need more site planning before kiosk placement can be determined.

Recommendations: Replace bulletin board to match design standards. Provide orientation map, know before you go, focus on shared use, and lots of equestrian use.

Interpretive Themes: Human behavior on public lands affects the sustainability of the landscape for future generations. Protection of our resources requires that our visitors practice the principals of “Leave No Trace” and “Tread Lightly!” (VICE Strategy 2009)

Not only do people need to respect the natural resources of the area, they need to respect other visitors and do their part to minimize social conflicts.



Site Name: 15. Summit Trailhead

Mile Post: State Route 92, Alpine Loop Road

Type: Orientation, Information



Existing Condition: Facility is in very good condition. Located at the summit of State Route 92 has expansive views of the canyon looking west. Sign board doesn't match any others in the canyon. There are four trails that meet at this site. Current information board is in the center of the parking lot, while next to restroom and more obvious, it may be in a location where safety and traffic are issues.

Views are beautiful, there is one of Lone Peak and Mt. Timpanogos, and one looking northwest down the American Fork Canyon. This is a nice spot to stop and enjoy the colors of fall leaves.

Recommendations: Replace bulletin board to match design standards. Provide orientation and information panels. Provide information on user ethics and stewardship (appropriate use, sharing trails). Three to four panels, the fourth one being the Fee Area sign.

Interpretive sign could tell the history of Alpine Road Building.

Interpretive Themes: The majority of visitors will treat the area with respect and stewardship; and develop a healthy land use ethic; negative resource impacts will decrease.

- § ICE Strategy – topic 3 “Visitors are encouraged to recreate responsibly by respecting others and the land. Forest lands are a place for recreation and inspiration and require respect and wise use/stewardship to ensure protection for future generations.”

Cultural resources within the area are visible today and provide a picture of the rich heritage that helped to develop the character of its people, this land, and the valley below.

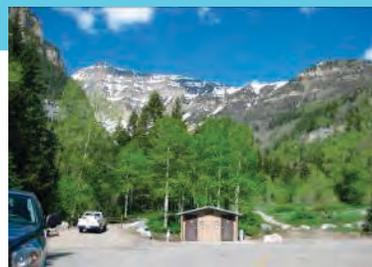
Not only do people need to respect the natural resources of the area, they need to respect other visitors and do their part to minimize social conflicts. There are many people who share the area trails and use this site – emphasize uses such as road bike etiquette, motorcycle riders, mt bikers, hikers, equestrians, and those driving for scenery.



Site Name: 16. Mt. Timpanogos Trailhead

Location: State Route 92, Alpine Loop Road

Type: Orientation, information, interpretation



Existing Condition: Large Trailhead with access to Mt. Timpanogos Wilderness. Popular Trailhead for day hike to top of Mt. Timpanogos. Since the early 1900's there has been a tradition of large (organized) groups hiking to top. Some hikers are unprepared for trail / weather conditions. Motorized use is allowed on a portion of trail #055, Lame Horse Trail creating the potential for conflict with non-motorized users. This trailhead gets crowded, especially on weekends. There is no defined area to set up gear for the trip. A number of trails take off from this site, and it is confusing to locate trails, especially when it is crowded. This is one site in a complex of sites with campground, amphitheater, picnic area, and near fee booth and Aspen Grove (private organizational camp). Bulletin boards in the same area do not match each other.

Recommendations: Need a site evaluation and redesign of site. Not only desirable to manage parking area but desirable to lead visitors to central location with trails clearly defined. Evaluate the possibility of everyone taking off on the same trail and then it splitting a little ways down the trail to go off in the different directions. CON-is that there could be a bit more congestion and shared use initially / PRO—site flow and less confusion from parking lot. Evaluate separating the motorized trail from the non-motorized trails. Bulletin boards need to match design standards. Some visitors will typically stay closer to the parking area. Include preparedness message about what you need to have/wear to hike these trails and stewardship principles. Consider adding a short loop interpretive trail close to parking area for those just stopping for the view. CON—might possibly draw more people to this already congested area.



Fee sign, orientation, information, avalanche beacon panels needed at this site. Directional signs needed in parking lot area.

Interpretive Themes: The Lone Peak and Mt. Timpanogos Wilderness areas are irreplaceable resources set aside to preserve ecological diversity and as a untrammled place where man is a visitor. They provide an opportunity for visitors to quickly access wilderness, and search out opportunities for physical challenge, solitude, and reflection.

Visitors to the area need information on the diversity of recreation opportunities, and awareness of safety concerns and environmental stewardship ethics.

Story is of historic use of trail and area and building of trail to top of Mt. Timpanogos.

Forest lands are a place for recreation and inspiration and requires respect and wise use/stewardship to ensure protection for future generations.
(VICE Strategy 2009)



Site Name: 17. Theater in the Pines Amphitheater and Picnic Area

Location: State Route 92, Alpine Loop Road

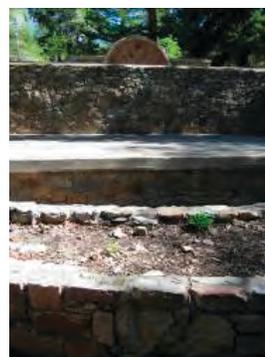
Type: Interpretation

Existing Condition: Located adjacent to trailhead and the privately owned Aspen Grove Family Camp, this site is currently under renovation. Once updated, consider adding the theater to the reservation system once completed in 2011. This facility shows the quality craftsmanship of CCC era construction.

Recommendations: Develop a series of small, low profile mount, interpretive panels to be located along the wall of the original fountain area (currently filled in with dirt – just below the stage). Signs would not block view to stage or protrude out as to impede traffic. Consider adding larger interpretive panels (1-2) to outside entrance (this would be beneficial for people that are walking along the perimeter of the theater whether an activity is taking place or not, and provide stand alone information on the construction and design of the amphitheater) Keep style of art/graphics in keeping with CCC era feel for this site. Panel mounts should blend in with this CCC site.

Interpretive Themes: Cultural resources within the area are visible today and provide a picture of the rich heritage that helped to develop the character of its people, this land, and the valley below. Restoration of cultural resources tells how we value preserving the past. As appropriate, display National Historic Register plaques. (History of CCC, BYU role).

Recreation in the canyon is nothing new. Early on, residents would escape from the summer heat of the valley below. Dancing, camping, and picnicking were favorite activities.



Site Name: 18. Mill Canyon Trailhead

Location: Forest Road 180

Type: Orientation

Existing Condition: This is a primary trailhead for the Mill Canyon system of trails. This trailhead allows dispersed camping. Primary uses here include- horse use, motorcycle use, mt. bike, and some hiking. Spring fed horse trough. No toilet or potable water. Trails and roads intersect and take off in many directions making for confusion and it being easy to get lost.

Recommendations: Replace bulletin boards to match design standards. Include info on stewardship and dispersed camping ethics. Re-evaluate site design, determine if there are ways to make less confusing, direct traffic, and provide for better orientation in the right places.

Provide orientation (and possibly information) here.

Interpretive Theme: Human behavior on public lands affects the sustainability of the landscape for future generations. Protection of our resources requires that our visitors practice the principals of “Leave No Trace” and “Tread Lightly!” (VICE Strategy 2009)



Site Name: 19. Deer Creek Overlook

Location: Forest Road 114

Type: Orientation, Information

Existing Condition: Large pullout, one bulletin board, sweeping vistas of South Fork Deer Creek drainage, South Fork Ridge, Timpanogos, and the Wasatch Mountain State Park. Portal sign installed.

Recommendations: Remove bulletin board, replace relevant information with 1-3 low profile mount signs (landscape layout) so as not to block any views. Orientation with panoramic profile with geographic names (peaks, creeks, etc) of what you can see. Include a sign with general orientation (map) and interpretive panel.

Interpretive Themes: There are two possible themes from which to choose.

- § The Forest continues to provide valuable forage for wildlife.
- § With an average of 13 inches of water annually, Utah is a desert.
 - § *In this arid environment, there are plants and animals that flourish.*



Site Name: 20. Elk Camp Trailhead

Location: Forest Road 114

Type: Orientation, information

Existing Condition: Popular mountain biker and motorcycle rider Trailhead. The lower flat pullout area typically serves more day users while the upper flat is more popular for dispersed camping.

Recommendations: Replace bulletin boards to match design standards. Include information on stewardship, hunter safety, sharing trails, and dispersed camping ethics.

Dispersed Camping Area

Upper flat bulletin messages focus more on Leave No Trace (dispersed) camping and hunter safety.

Trailhead

Lower flat bulletin messages focus more on stewardship and how to best share the trails. The placement of orientation map should be at lower flat only.

Interpretive Theme: n/a



Site Name: 21. Cascade Springs, Upper Parking Lot

Location: Forest Road 114

Type: Orientation, Information

Existing Condition: Upper Parking Lot of Cascade Springs access to interpretive trail, springs, and falls. Facilities include toilet, bulletin board, and large parking area. There is currently no shade and site can be uncomfortably hot in the summer.

Plans are underway to build picnic sites (6-8 individual sites) here. The District would like to consider moving host site to this spot.

The upper portion of the trail, out of parking area, is ADA accessible.

Recommendations: Evaluate site plan to provide for picnic sites and a host site. Be sure to plan for shade (both with structures, and if feasible, with plantings). Continue to develop accessible route on the upper trail and to at least portions of the Springs Loop. Add more, relevant, interpretive panel stories on the upper trail that joins in with Spring Loop.

Provide orientation of area, where it is in relation to canyon, this site and a enticing message of what visitors can expect along the trail... a “come discover for yourself” type message.

Interpretive Theme:

Cascade Springs, is a unique feature fed by mountain precipitation turned ground water. Once the ground water hits an impermeable layer of rock the water is forced up to the surface, creating a spring.



Site Name: 22. Cascade Springs, Main Parking Lot and Overlook

Location: Forest Road 114

Type: Orientation, Information, Interpretation

Existing Condition: Parking lot has two restrooms, covered overlook, and leads visitors to a paved boardwalk and trail leading to spring feature.

Entrance sign is in a distinctive style but now looks outdated. The yurt is currently locked, but may be available for information and interpretation.

The overlook covered deck is a good spot for people to get the story. Some won't walk any further than this. The vegetation is over grown, blocking the views of the springs and mountain scenery.

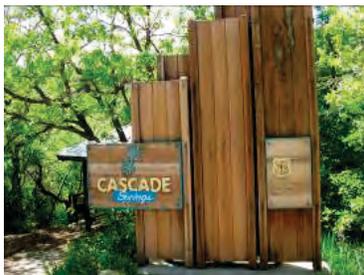
Little take away theme, much information provided but no consistent theme, rather just a smattering of topics.

Recommendations: Refer to Appendix A.

Interpretive Themes: Cascade Springs, is a unique feature fed by mountain precipitation turned ground water. Once the ground water hits an impermeable layer of rock the water is forced up to the surface, creating a spring.

In this arid environment, there are plants and animals that flourish.

With an average of 13 inches of water annually, Utah is a desert. Caring for the forest watersheds and using these resources wisely continues to be important.



Site Name: 23. Cascade Springs Interpretive Trail

Location: Takes off from both sites 21 (Upper Parking Lot), and 22 (Main Parking Lot)

Type: Interpretive

Existing Condition: There are 3 bridges over portions of the springs, one of which is known for its “wedding” photo backdrop appeal.

Some interpretive signs are placed in locations where their topic does not fit. For example, the sagebrush identification sign is in a location where there is no longer any sagebrush.

Metal engraved signs seem to hold up well, there is little evidence of vandalism.

Small sign with map does not provide enough information to let people know where they are or what to expect.

Recommendations: Refer to Appendix A.

Interpretive Theme:

Cascade Springs, is a unique feature fed by mountain precipitation turned ground water. Once the ground water hits an impermeable layer of rock the water is forced up to the surface, creating a spring.



Site Name: 24. Tibble Fork Trailhead

Location: State Route 114

Type: Orientation, Information, interpretation

Existing Condition: This is a popular site, with weekend use particularly heavy. The site is used year round. Winter use is typically more snowmobilers however, skiers and showshoers also start their trek from this trailhead. (Summer brings those going fishing, hiking, and as a staging spot for motorized activities, to those just wishing to hang out with friends). The potential for user conflict is great. District staff believes that this is one of the busiest trailheads, yet has the greatest percentage of users that don't have a plan or are not prepared for conditions. Site plans from RO should include site improvements, boardwalk to access both sides of the lake, better parking designs for easier traffic flow. Site is plowed in winter. (New design will have to accommodate for snow berms).

Existing 2 unit restroom is not adequate for use levels.

Popular sledding hill/ snow play area (but not very safe for that activity and the Forest Service does not want to promote this use)

Bulletin board is by restroom and fee sign is nearby.

Recommendations: Need to provide common gathering place to put in bulletin board. 3 panel kiosk site, plus interchangeable panels to switch during winter months. The goal of these panels is to help reduce congestion and user conflicts at Tibble Fork.

This site needs a new site plan, redesign flow of traffic to deal with impacts on the resources. Warming Hut would get a lot of use but may be difficult to maintain, consider incorporating in new site design. Add another toilet.

Visitors at Tibble Fork do not know that there are opportunities to participate in non-motorized activities just down FR 010. Place directional signs near the intersection of Forest Roads 085 and 010 that provide direction. (Horse Transfer Station TH __ miles / arrow symbol, Granite Flat CG __ miles / arrow, Silver Lake Trailhead __ miles / arrow, Lone Peak Wilderness access / arrow, and Lower Mill Canyon TH __ miles / arrow)

Utilize trail and boardwalk for interpretive messaging. Possibly incorporate the mining theme here, especially if you can see or visualize mining activity here.

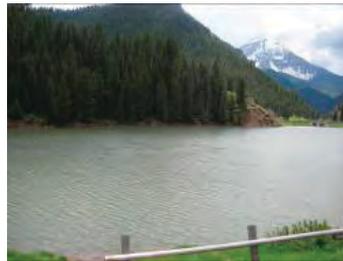
Make sure information board display where activities are appropriate as well as provide stewardship, ethics, and safety messages



Interpretive Themes: Although the American Fork Canyon-Alpine Loop Recreation Area is a land of great beauty and benefit, it comes with great responsibility in order to be sustained into the future.

Human behavior on public lands affects the sustainability of the landscape for future generations. Protection of our resources requires that our visitors practice the principals of “Leave No Trace” and “Tread Lightly!” (VICE Strategy 2009).

Not only do people need to respect the natural resources of the area, they need to respect other visitors and do their part to minimize social conflicts.



Site Name: 25. Granite Flat Campground

Location: Forest Road 010

Type: None

Existing Condition: Large developed campground. Hosts on site, 1/2 of the campsites are on reservation system. There is a group picnic area, baseball diamond, and 3 group campsites. There are a number of individual campsites. A series of interpretive panels on CCC camp and contributions are woven in the campground & are in good condition.

Recommendations: Why is the first sign telling people what they can't do? Why are bikes, skateboards, and roller skates not allowed? This currently says "no fun on your forests".

Offer Good Host training. Remove the "no fun" sign.

Interpretation is complete, professional, and thematic to the site. If messages were slated to be updated in the future, look at replacements that match design standards to the rest of the canyon as recommended in this plan, maintain the CCC storylines.

Develop a theme or graphic element that can be used on all interpretive panels that have historical storylines, a separate element could represent all panels that have a natural environment theme, etc.

Interpretive Theme: CCC consistency if providing additional stories in future.



Site Name: 26. Horse Transfer Station Trailhead

Location: Forest Road 010, just before you reach the Granite Flat Campground

Type: Orientation, Information, Interpretation

Existing Condition: This trailhead is designed for equestrian and other stock users. ATV's are using site as an overflow parking lot from Tibble Fork. This site is in poor condition and needs maintenance. Not all horse and other stock users may know where this site is or that it has facilities for them.

Recommendations: Replace bulletin board to match design standards. Provide better information at fee booth and at Tibble Fork on this site, provide directional signs at Tibble Fork and intersection to help reduce stock trailers at Tibble Fork.

Consider signing and design elements that better direct use at this trailhead for equestrians and discourage ATV traffic. Try to separate user groups (start with signing and education to change behaviors, incorporate law enforcement if).

Provide orientation and information at this site.

Interpretive Themes: Forest lands are a place for recreation and inspiration and requires respect and wise use/stewardship to ensure protection for future generations. (VICE Strategy 2009)

Not only do people need to respect the natural resources of the area, they need to respect other visitors and do their part to minimize social conflicts.

The Lone Peak and Mt. Timpanogos Wilderness areas are irreplaceable resources set aside to preserve ecological diversity and as a untrammled place where man is a visitor. They provide an opportunity for visitors to quickly access Wilderness, and search out opportunities for physical challenge, solitude, and reflection.



Site Name: 27. Silver Lake Flat

Location: Forest Road 008

Type: Orientation, information, interpretation

Existing Condition: Popular area where multiple recreation uses occur. At the dam, there is a closure on dispersed camping and campfires within ½ mile perimeter of reservoir. Fishing and non-motorized boating are allowed. There is receding water line. It is difficult to establish boundaries lines for motorized use. A trail provides access to Silver Lake and Lone Peak Wilderness.

This is a major trailhead for the Lone Peak Wilderness. The road to Silver Lake is groomed in winter for snowmobile use which presents an opportunity for conflict of motorized use slipping into Wilderness. It is difficult for people to know where the Wilderness boundary is.

Motorized use in the summer season is also popular. The access road is narrow, mostly one lane.

Recommendations: Replace bulletin boards to match design standards

Explore opportunities are there to sign wilderness boundary, especially for snowmobilers. Is there a physical tree line? How can people know where they are? Can there be a general distance from edge of lake to delineate wilderness? There are minimal signs currently in place. At minimum, there is a need to provide orientation, a good map, that shows where the Wilderness boundary and campfire closures are located.

Interpretive Themes: The Lone Peak and Mt. Timpanogos Wilderness areas are irreplaceable resources set aside to preserve ecological diversity and as a untrammled place where man is a visitor. They provide an opportunity for visitors to quickly access wilderness, and search out opportunities for physical challenge, solitude, and reflection.

The area provides a sanctuary for physical, mental, and spiritual renewal (VICE Strategy, topic 3)

Some recreation opportunities vary seasonally with different messages more appropriate at different times of the year.

Natural Resources of the American Fork Canyon – Alpine Loop Recreation Area were critical in establishing the communities in the valley. These resources continue to provide goods and services to residents and visitors. (VICE Topic 1, Forest Watersheds)

- § Tell the story of the history of the dams and how/why they were built at Silver Lake.



Site Name: 28. Lower Mill Canyon Trailhead

Location: Forest Road 085

Type: Orientation, information

Existing Condition: Trailhead construction is scheduled has occurred in 2009-2010, with development of a hardened parking area, kiosk, and installation of a bridge that accesses the (motorized) trail system. No dispersed camping will be allowed. This site may also serve as overflow from Tibble Fork. The kiosk installed followed design specifications in this document.

Recommendations: Include messages on “Things to Do and See”, Orientation Map, “Know Before You Go” panels. This may also be a starting point for an audio tour which would tell the historic story of the North Fork.

Interpretive Themes: Although the American Fork Canyon – Alpine Loop Recreation Area is a land of great beauty and benefit, it comes with great responsibility in order to be sustained into the future.

Human behavior on public lands affects the sustainability of the landscape for future generations. Protection of our resources requires that our visitors practice the principals of “Leave No Trace” and “Tread Lightly!” (VICE Strategy 2009)

Not only do people need to respect the natural resources of the area, they need to respect other visitors and do their part to minimize social conflicts.



Site Name: 29. Holman Flat Trailhead

Location: Forest Road 085

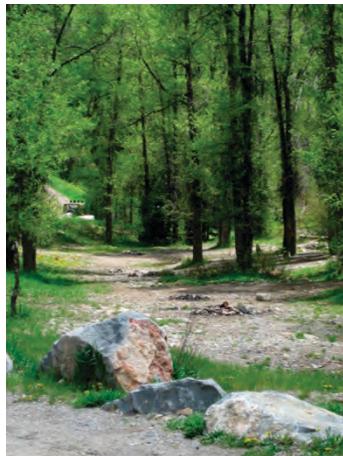
Type: Orientation, information

Existing Condition: Hardened area for trailhead and dispersed camping sites. Site commonly used as a brief stop for restroom. Not heavily used as a Trailhead, more for dispersed camping and hunting season camping. Future efforts call for site hardening.

Recommendations: Display information on a bulletin board that match design standards. Show where the appropriate places for motorized use are, emphasize dispersed camping stewardship and ethics. There is an opportunity to address water quality and water resource management practices, orientation map with area trails.

Interpretive Themes: Human behavior on public lands affects the sustainability of the landscape for future generations. Protection of our resources requires that our visitors practice the principals of “Leave No Trace” and “Tread Lightly!” (VICE Strategy 2009)

With an average of 13 inches of water annually, Utah is a desert. Caring for forest watersheds and using these resources wisely continue to be important.



Site Name: 30. Pacific Mine Reclamation Area

Location: Forest Road 007

Type: Interpretive

Existing Condition: Located on private property belonging to Snowbird, there are building remnants and interpretive panels that can be viewed at this site. Part of the interpretive deck, which is 3-4 years old, is falling down. Signs address reclamation efforts and mining.

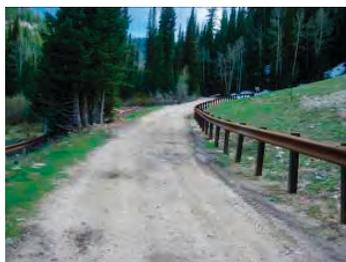
Recommendations: Determine if this site is available for reconstruction of interpretive panels? If it is, do enough buildings and mining industry remnants link together for an interpretive trail or a Geocache treasure hunt? Is there cell phone coverage here for podcast downloads? Can Forest Service partner with landowner at this site? This is a good site to try alternate media for interpretation, such as podcasts, video casts, or auto tours of the mining district.

Improve access on roads – maintained to level 2. Can interpretive deck, and route to it, be made accessible?

The site relates to Dutchman Flat as they disposed of mining tailings here,

Interpretive Themes: Cultural resources within the area are visible today and provide a picture of the rich heritage that helped to develop the character of its people, this land, and the valley below. (Mining history and reclamation topics.)

Mining reclamation process; reducing sedimentation and erosion, and improving water quality continues to change the landscape of the canyon.



Site Name: 31. Dutchman Flat

Location: Forest Road 085

Type: Orientation, information

Existing Condition: This is a large dispersed site, with many illegal routes departing from the area. It accesses Forest Lake and is fenced around the perimeter to contain unauthorized route creation. There is one bulletin board. This site is a popular staging area for 4X4 recreation users. There is history of nearby Miller Hill mining district, a bible camp, and Forest Service Guard Station—however there are no physical remnants. Pending further review, this area may be a good site to interpret mining reclamation, or a possible location for geocache treasure hunt.

Forest Road 085 is used yearround. Popular in the summer for scenic driving and ohv use, it is also groomed for snowmobiles in the winter.

Recommendations: Replace bulletin boards to match design standards. Gear messages to stewardship and user ethics, emphasizing “Tread Lightly!” for motorized users, safety and preparedness.

Interpretive Themes: Silver and lead ore mining were an important component of a developing economy.

Mining reclamation; reducing sedimentation, erosion, and improving water quality have repaired and changed much of the landscape of the canyon.

Human behavior on public lands affects the sustainability of the landscape for future generations. Protection of our resources requires that our visitors practice the principals of “Leave No Trace” and “Tread Lightly!” (VICE Strategy 2009)



Site Name: 32. Graveyard Flat

Location: Forest Road 085

Type: Interpretation

Existing Condition: Summer of 2010, scheduled to build a fence around the graveyard and have some interpretation about the area. Currently, nothing defines the graveyard area.

Recommendations: Define area (physically or with map) of the graveyard area. There is the potential to develop a walking trail around the area, talk about the community of Forest City, and the diphtheria epidemic that claimed lives during the 1872. Use a low profile mount interpretive panel that can be located by the graveyard site.

Interpretive Themes: Silver and lead ore mining were an important component of a developing economy

Cultural resources within the area are visible today and provide a picture of the rich heritage that helped to develop the character of its people, this land, and the valley below.

Graveyard Flat



Forest City



Kiosk Design Elements

Basic kiosk structures, from single to triple panel, less site identification banner follows:

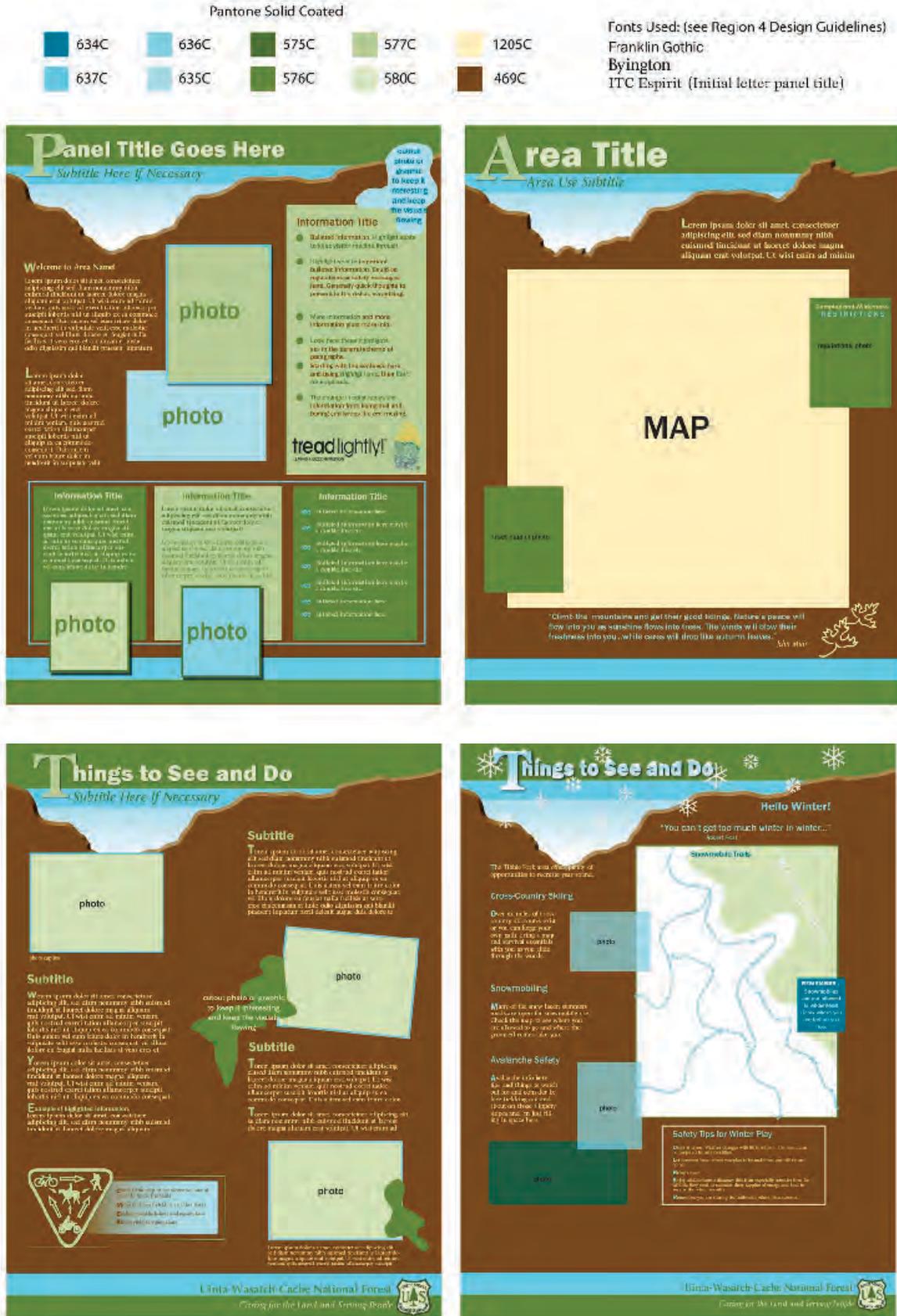
Dimensions are attached in Appendix B.



Color Palette

The color palette follows options in the Intermountain region Design Guidelines for Recreation-related Exhibitory and Print Media, page 5 (Appendix C). These colors represent the environment in which interpretive media will be placed.

Figure X: Examples of colors, shapes, and graphic placement in kiosk panel templates.



Other Interpretive Media

Electronic Media

Know Before You Go – providing critical information to potential users prior to their arrival is essential in aligning their expectations with the resources and current conditions. It also helps the visitor to properly prepare for their visit making it safer and more enjoyable. The most effective way to reach visitors prior to their arrival is through electronic media. Using a matrix of electronic media will help ensure visitors have access to the latest, most accurate information available.

Website: Investing in your website to make it an effective trip planning tool for the visitor is one of the “biggest bangs for the bucks”. Provide additional upgrades such as increased search capacity, live webcams throughout the canyon at favorite sites, and links to partners and related sites. Offer web based maps that people can print off on 8 ½ X 11 size paper. Keep the site updated with closures, upgrades, safety information, and add a section called “The Ranger’s Recommendations or Hot Tip from the Ranger” which provides information on various things such as fall colors, blooming wildflowers, favorite picnic spot, etc. Offer web based maps that people can print off on 8 ½ X 11 size paper.

Social Networking: Work with a local Interpretive Association and various user groups (clubs, friends groups, etc) to develop profiles and networks on Face Book, Twitter and YouTube. The TCNM has a video on YouTube and may be able to provide a link for forest information from their website. <http://www.utahvalley.org/things-to-do/default.aspx?detailID=122> .

Podcasts/ video casts: Excellent way to get more detailed information out about a site, especially with updates on conditions, closures,

etc... Visitors could download on site where cell phone coverage is available. If podcasts were linked on forest website, those researching ahead of their trip could download information from home, or at a public computer set up in the new interagency office.

Audio Tours: The cultural history of the site lends itself to self-guided tours. Visitors could download the tours prior to leaving home and enjoy them on site.

Geocaching: There may be areas in the canyon that lend itself to the geocache group of people. This is a “hide and seek” type of game where people log on to a site, get GPS coordinates and find a treasure with trinkets in the forest. These can be small caches, with interpretive messages designed by the FS. Geocaches are best located in an area where district staff can monitor and restock the souvenir messages easily. The mining reclamation area would be one area that may be appropriate for this type of media. More information can be found at <http://www.geocaching.com/> .

Links

REI Outdoor Recreation Information Center (ORIC): REI has been in partnership with the Forest Service for years providing one-stop-shopping for outdoor recreation information at their stores, one is located in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Area Universities: University of Utah, Brigham Young University, and Utah State University and other area community colleges – Outdoor Recreation Center are outlets and can provide information to students regarding opportunities throughout the state. You can target students for volunteerism, or to learn more about ethics and stewardship.

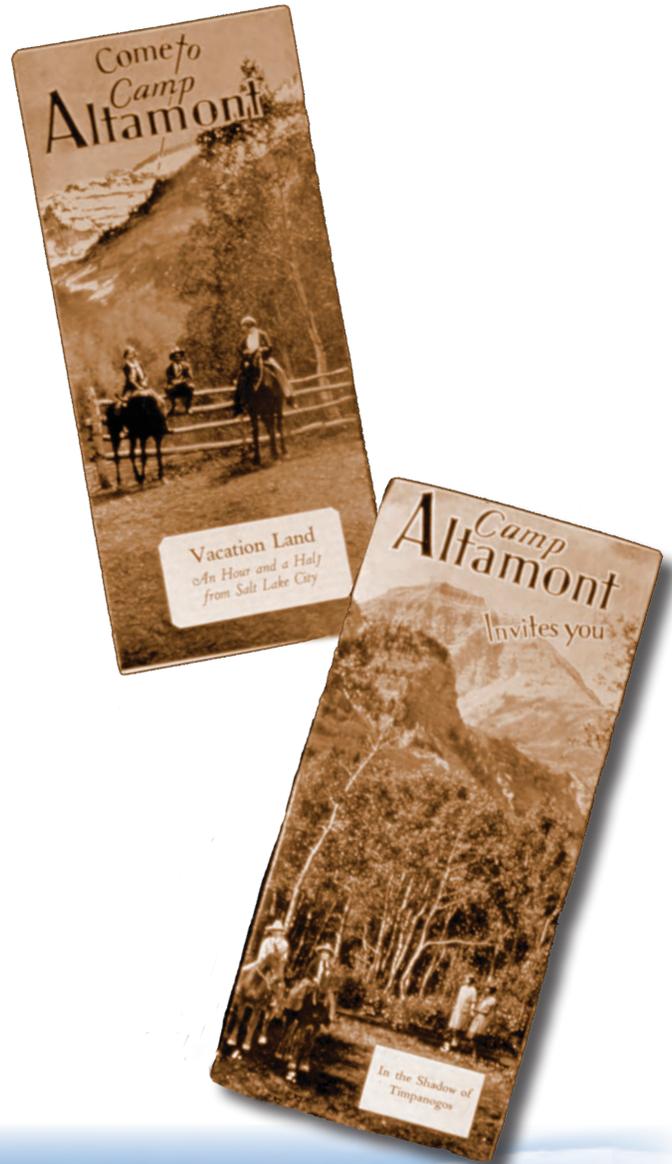
www.RECREATION.gov: Provides a host of information regarding recreation on federal public lands.

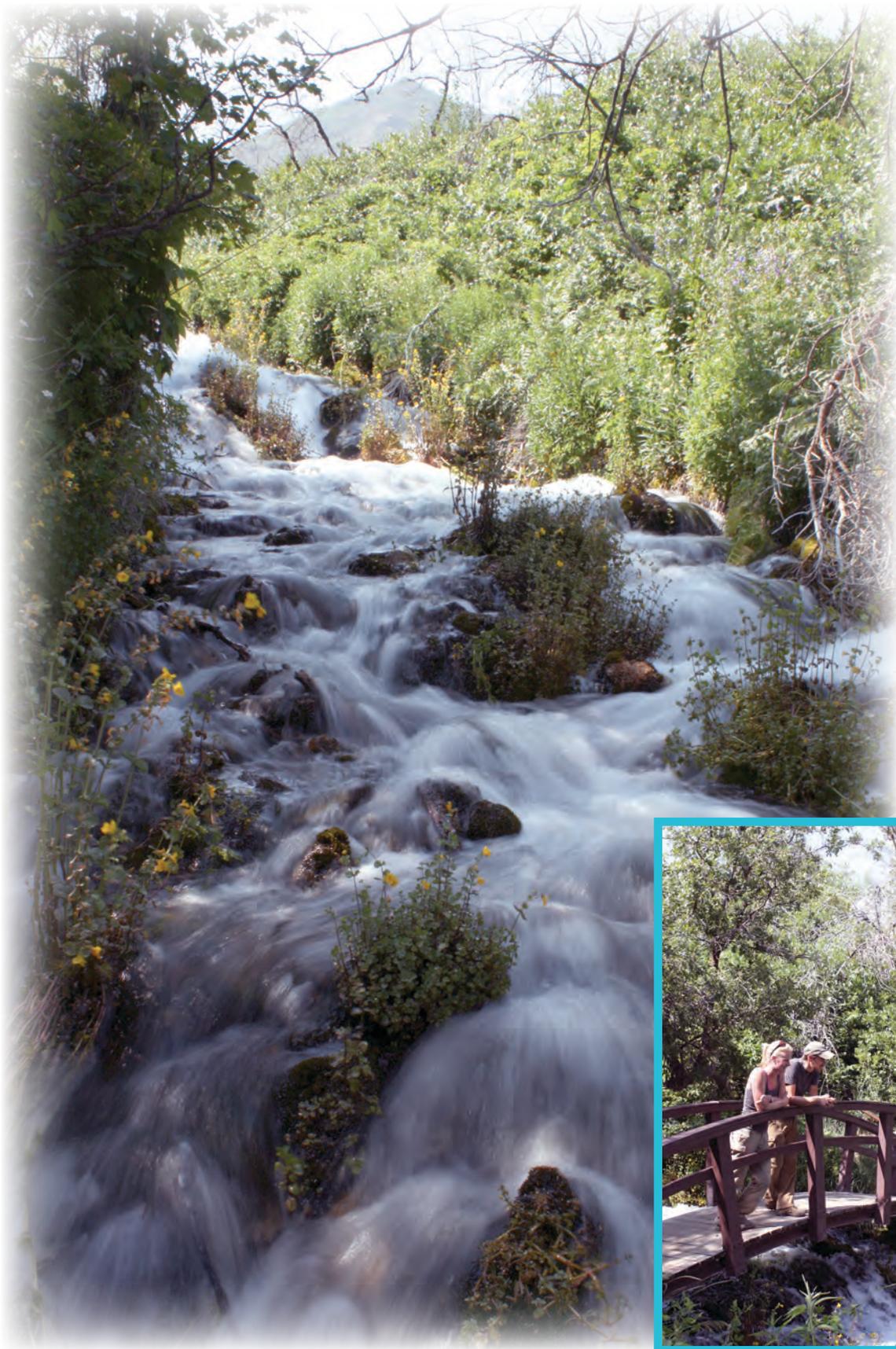


Publications

Junior Ranger Booklet and Program – are extremely popular with kids and parents the world over. These booklets focus on the natural and cultural history of a site and they promote conservation, stewardship and ethics in youth. The booklet is just the introduction to the program. Since many of the kids are local there is an opportunity to build community with both the kids and parents. Once kids have completed the booklet and become an “official” Junior Ranger for the American Fork Canyon – Alpine Loop Recreation Area, they are now eligible to participate in special Junior Ranger events and outings. There are also opportunities to work with local business to give Junior Rangers discounts on goods and services, to promote healthy outdoor lifestyles.

OHV hang tags- working with local OHV dealers develop hang-tags that provide user ethics and share the trail information. Work with local OHV clubs to promote these same messages and build community support.





PERSONAL INTERPRETIVE AND CONSERVATION EDUCATION PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS

“The kind of knowledge needed to be an Interpreter is not only natural science alone, not history or archaeology alone, or photography or art or edible plants or dulcimer playing or land use planning. The knowledge base in interpretation is communication - communication theory, communication research, communication methods, audience analysis, visitor observation, message effectiveness, and most of all how to create and build an effective message, in short, to tell a story.”

-Dr Mike Freed

Stories are best told by storytellers, first person, and in the setting in which the story takes place. Investing in personal services is considered the highest quality of interpretive service available. Nothing else compares with having a knowledgeable guide, who can facilitate a visitor in their discovery of a resource. For purposes of this plan the definition between interpretive and environmental education are as follow:

- § Interpretation: Informal learning opportunities with non-captive audience
- § Conservation Education: Formal curriculum based learning opportunities with captive audiences

Potential Opportunities

American Fork Canyon - Alpine Loop Recreation Area has several sites and storylines that lend them to personal service programming. They are Granite Flat Campground, Cascade Springs, Theatre in the Pines, Upper American Fork Hydroelectric Plant, and Mutual Dell Organizational Camp. Other sites may be added.

Opportunities exist to work with partners to develop programs for these site targeting weekend visitors, school group, Elder Hostels and other special interest groups.

The Timpanogos Cave National Monument (TCNM) has been instrumental in providing existing interpretive programming in the canyon.

Types of Programing:

Informal Roving by Uniformed Interpreters

- roving is an informal way to interact with the visitor. It provides an opportunity for the Interpreter to develop a rapport with the visitor by engaging them in conversation, while walking throughout the site, with the goal of making visitor contacts, assisting visitors with information and orientation needs and casually interject agency messaging regarding safety and ethics.

Guided Walks and Talks - these are the classic ranger lead programs that the National Park Service is famous for. The evening campfire talks around a fire and the hands-on learning opportunities that Interpreters have in their “bag of tricks”. The Theatre in the Pines is the perfect setting for morning “coffee with the Ranger” and evening campfire talks. Cascade Springs and Powerhouse provide ample opportunities for guided walks.

- § **Junior Ranger Program** - Designed especially for kids to provide them with hands- on opportunities to discover the resources.
- § **Project Wild; Project Wet; Project Learning Tree** - Utilize existing conservation education curriculum and materials. Specialized training for each is required. Participants receive their books during the training. These programs have been around for several decades and meet standards of excellence established by North American Association for Environmental Education (NAAEE). Recommend training permanent staff to be facilitators of these training to reduce the cost of training staff.

- § **Living History Programs** – There is something magical about a having a guild from the past come to tell you what it was like back in the day. History comes alive and engages the mind and the sense in communication the story. Opportunities exist with regards to the mining history, logging history, and the CCC era of construction.
- § **Special Events and Festivals** – Everyone loves a party and a party with a message and a cause are even better. Working with partners the District may be able to participate in national and local events and festivals such as: National Trails Day; National Fishing Week; Share the Trail Day; Public Lands Day; International Migratory Bird Festival; and the list goes on and on. Selection for participating in events should be based on appropriateness to the resource; availability of partners; and local interest.

Program Planning

Preliminary program plans serve to justify the purpose and intent of programs, determine how they will be accomplished and identify specific concerns to be considered for each program. This portion of planning does not address themes, goals and objectives of each interpretive program, instead it establishes management objectives, and how interpretation will be accomplished, and specific decisions that may be required by a seasonal supervisor. Write programs and their objectives down and keep in file for future use. The sample form in Appendix E provides additional information on how to do program planning.

Current Personnel Services (Interpretive and Conservation Education - ICE)

Campfire programs have occurred with the help and expertise of TCNM staff at Mutual Dell Organizational Camp, Granite Flat Campground, Cascade Springs, and Theater in the Pines. Need to evaluate the programs offered and annually review topics that are

presented. Tie topics into the canyon themes or a current day event that you want educate / communicate to the public. Continue to work with TCNM, your staff, and campground hosts on interpretive programs.

Conducting an Interpretive Program with Limited Staff and Dollars

Interpretive programs should strive to be partially self-sustaining. This will help ensure the survival of the program during lean budget years. The more revenue streams you can bring into a program the more likely it is to survive. When determining if you should charge a fee for services and for how much – consider the following – what is the value added? Basic services should be free such as roving, some walk and talks. When the program “kicks it up a notch” then a fee could be charged, such as working with the Interpretive Association to develop a seminar program, offering half day, full day and/or weekend seminars on various subjects. (The Interpretive Association may have to acquire a special use permit for this type of programming.)

Events and Festivals depending on what they are can be free, however, if there is something extra- special being offered then a fee should be charged. Such as National Fishing Week – offer a fishing clinic with a Fishing expert.

Due to the Forest Service’s internal regulations with money it is much simpler to run all revenues through a non-profit partner such as an Interpretive Association. It is also easier for them to go after grants, corporate sponsors and bank the funds.

Interpretive Resource Manual / Handbook

A critical element for a successful program is the Interpretive Resources Manual. This manual lays the foundation for conduction and evaluation all public contact activities. The manual sets forth high quality standards for the interpreter’s performance, establishes standard operating procedures, and provides for consistency in communication resource information and agency philosophy, mission and messages.



Contents of the manual should include:

- § Source material references for content development
- § Standard operation procedures for visitor services, interpretive programs, and medical emergencies typically encountered
- § Job Hazard Analysis (6700-7) for staff
- § Interpretive Techniques and Communication Skills
- § Natural History and Conservation of Unita -Wasatch-Cache National Forest
- § US Forest Service Mission and Management Practices
- § Examples and references
- § Sample Program Plan (Located in Appendix E)
- § Individual Service Plans for Interpretive Programs (Located in Appendix E)
- § Evaluation Forms (Located in Appendix E)
- § Helpful Hints for Media Design (Located in Appendix F)

The manual is not intended to limit creativity; rather its purpose is to ensure consistent, high quality visitor services, accurate resource information and agency messages. New staff will have a framework upon which to build and individualize their interpretive programs while maintaining accuracy and consistency in message, information and resource information.

Training

All public contact staff should receive training prior to providing information and interpretive services to visitors. Those in need of training include: seasonal interpreters, front-liners, volunteers and anyone who may be in contact with visitors on site. Training all staff together will enhance working relationships, communications (between other staff and the public) and improving overall service to the public. The following items need to be covered to ensure consistency in interpretive themes and professionalism:

- § Interpretive Techniques and Communication Skills
- § Natural History and Conservation of the Forest

- § US Forest Service History, Mission and Management Practices
- § Heritage – It’s About Time! A National Strategy

An investment should be made in the training of the Lead Interpreter who will run the program and be the on-site supervisor. One such training should be certification as an Interpretive Guide Trainer through the National Association for Interpretation. Once the Lead is certified they can provide training to staff and have them certified as Interpretive Guides. This national certification can be use to advertize the programming and leveraged during grant submittals to illustrate the quality of the programming.

Staff meetings conducted regularly throughout the summer provide additional opportunities to increase staff skills in a variety of environmental education. They provide a forum for staff to share interpretive techniques, successes, failures and experiences.

The Interpretive Resources Manual should be made available to all interpretive staff. They will know what is expected of their performance and provide accurate and consistent information and interpretive services to the public.

Evaluation and monitoring must be conducted regularly to ensure the high quality visitor services indicative of the Forest Service. This can be accomplished through:

- § Communication performance standards to all seasonal interpreters
- § Periodic audition and review of all public contact programs
- § Mid-season and final evaluations of performance for all seasonals

Summary

A seasonal public contact program is not a luxury offered only if budget allows, rather it needs to be viewed as an essential means to achieve the goals of this Interpretive Plan.





MARKETING RECOMMENDATIONS

The following marketing recommendations are proposed to fully implement the interpretive plan. Visitors need to know about the many opportunities available. They also need to know enough information so they can self-select for the types of experiences they want at the skill level that matches their capabilities.

- § Forest website and social media site are critical in reaching visitors prior to their visits. These should be given high priority in developing and maintaining for effectiveness and usefulness.
- § Work with REI and other outdoor vendors to provide trip planning information at the “Dream Phase” of the visitor. This is the point at which the visitor thinks they might want to visit your site and they begin collecting information on it.
- § Work with local interpretive association, friends groups and other organizations and clubs like Audubon, OHV, hiking, equestrian, fishing clubs to develop a sense of community between visitors, foster stewardship of the resources and instill ethical land use.
- § Develop design standards for media and facilities to create a visual oneness and enhance the sense of place.
- § Provide adequate way-showing signage to help the visitor with their orientation to the site.
- § Develop sell products through the interpretive association that foster greater learning of the resources, create a sense of ownership (and identity) and provide souvenir value. Items might include logos of iconic places within the Canyon, hiking stick pendants, coffee mugs, magnets, tee shirts, ball caps, trail guides, etc...

- § Work with local tourism boards and Chamber of Commerce to promote tourism packages that help to stimulate local economies and provide good value for the visitor.



Marketing Recommendations



EVALUATION AND MONITORING STRATEGIES

While evaluation of any program is a critical factor to its ongoing success, it is often the most over looked component. Evaluation of exhibits, programs or any interpretive/educational endeavor provides a venue for restructuring effective program planning and opportunity for growth. The methods suggested below provide several alternatives for evaluation and can be adapted to use the diverse projects and programs.

The important thing to keep in mind when choosing different data collection methods is that of the assessment of behavior, mood, or response to environmental conditions should be as unobtrusive as possible. The following are some methods employed by an environmental psychologists study and record visitors responses to stimuli.

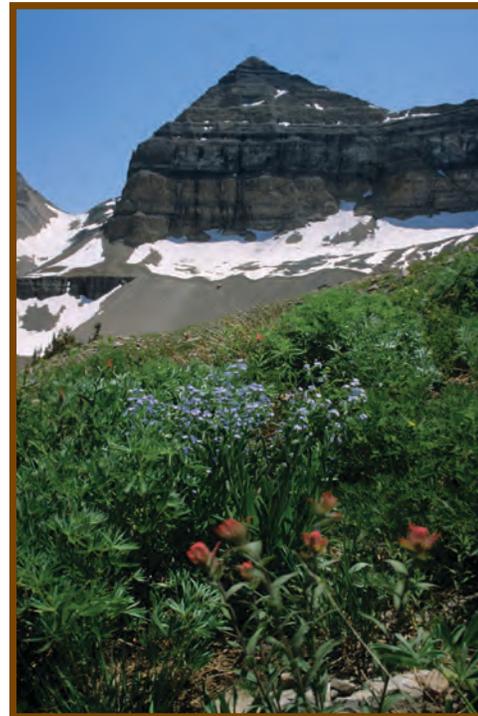
Unobtrusive Methods

The goal is to apply measurement techniques that address the questions you are asking, while disturbing the setting as little as possible, allowing you to study real people in real environments. The disadvantage of using this technique is that it may entail an invasion of privacy and a lack of informed consent on the visitor's part.

- § **Observational Techniques** – The best way to do this is to watch others and report their behavior and interactions in the setting by using recorded narratives, video cameras, photography, or written notes. The advantage to this method is the recorded results can be reviewed at a later date when more time is available to log the data. Spreadsheets can be developed to log the number of occurrences of certain behaviors and what provoked them (whether positive or negative).
- § **Behavior Mapping** - This technique requires you to accurately record visitors action in a particular place at a specific time. The area is defined a and a coded form is filled out stating what happened and where. Different variables can include the time of day, age groups observed, backgrounds of visitors, utilization of equipment and

facilities, etc. This technique can be used to predict the success or failure of new facilities.

- § **Accretion** – This data collection method measures the physical evidence removed or left behind at a specific location It can be a mapping of trails formed by visitors when no trails are present (for future planning of trail locations), it can be recycling drop-off stations (or brochure recycling), trash or litter left behind, nose and hand prints on glass exhibits, or numerous other physical remnants of visitors.



Obstructive Methods

The most obvious and sometimes accurate way of measuring visitors moods, thoughts, attitudes and behavior is to directly ask what they are thinking, how they feel, and what they would like to see or feel at a specific location.

- § Self-report measures – This method involves interviews in-site or mail back questionnaires given to visitors as they leave the site.
- § Questionnaires – The advantage to this method is that if given to the visitors upon leaving the site, it can be mailed back anonymously, or filled out at the end of the visit and dropped anonymously at a collection spot. It can also be given to a large group at one time, with little skill needed to perform that data collection. The disadvantage is that an interviewer is not available to answer questions once the questionnaire has left the site, and visitors may interpret the questions inaccurately. In addition, it is possible for the same person to complete more than one survey this altering the survey results.
- § Interviews – This can be given to a few people at a time since it is an individual process. The interviewer may need some level of skill in interpreting the visitors response and in answering their questions.
- § Cognitive Mapping – The exercise can be fun and challenging. The visitor is asked to draw a map in one minute showing the site they just visited. This is done in a red pencil. Then they are given another color pencil to continue the map for another minute, and so on. Once five minutes is up, they are done. The map shows the importance of certain areas to them, and lists them in order of value.



Specific Examples of Exhibit Evaluation Methods

Exhibits and brochures may be evaluated in the planning stage, or after completion by using one or a combination of the following methods.

- § Observe exhibit readers noting amount of time spent at exhibit
- § Evaluate exhibit with panel of outsiders not associated with interpretation of subject matter
- § Evaluate exhibit based upon interaction with various sensory, ability and cognitive levels (see Evaluation Form 2 in Appendix E)
- § Observe and record visitor interested at exhibit sites by fingerprints, footprints, and cigarette butts. Look for results of depreciate behavior and increase or decreases in vandalism/graffiti, etc.
- § Solicit visitors comments with questionnaire they fill out

Program Evaluation

Program evaluation is conducted during the interpretive program. The manager reviews how well the interpreter meets the goals and objectives of the Forest Service and the topic being interpreted. See Appendix H for a Program Evaluation Form.

Summary

In summary, evaluation and monitoring is critical to the ongoing success of the interpretive program and media used. This evaluation and monitoring should be conducted on a regular schedule and can be as intense or general as desire. Frontliners can gather data on a seasonal basis. Supervisors can monitor programs on a monthly basis. Media can be evaluated on an annual basis by field going personnel. Most importantly, changes to programs, topics, and media used should improve or change if indicated from the data collected.



COST ESTIMATES

- § Panel costs are based on 1/2" thick high pressure laminate material.
- § Low Profile Hopewell-style frames, for interpretive signs at 36" w X 24" h, will be used in locations where there is not a kiosk structure.
- § Structure estimates, frames for upright kiosks, are based on contracting work and include installation.
- § Estimates do not include contract administrative costs or the cost of removal of any outdated signs and structures.
- § Kiosk signs are based on 36" w X 48" h size pricing. Materials for kiosks, if installed by forest staff, have been estimated between \$1500-2000, 1 ½ day labor of 4 people and a backhoe.

Type	Design	Fabrication	Frame Style / Cost		Installation
1 low profile panel	\$2500	\$500	Hopewell	\$550	By forest staff
1 Kiosk Panel	\$2500 per unique panel	\$500	Single kiosk	\$5,000	Included in contract for fabrication and frame style.
2 Panel	\$2500 per unique panel	\$1,000	Double kiosk	\$10,000	
3 Panel	\$2500 per unique panel	\$1,500	Triple kiosk	\$15,000	
Video Podcast (5 min)	\$6000				Based on 1 story at 1 location. Includes audio and video production, editing, and encoding, resulting in both a DVD and data DVD. Does not include any travel costs of the production company.
Audio Podcast (5 min)	\$900 With script provided by FS				Includes professional recording, editing, and encoding, resulting in both an audio and data CD.
Auto CD Tour	\$20,000 for 6,000 CDs; Future reproduction of CDs will be approx \$2/ each				Estimate based on Roadside Heritage program on California's Hwy. 395. Includes professional script writing, editing, recording, and production of CDs (interviews provided to company)
GPS Tour	\$1,000 - \$2,250 per year				Costs vary based on the number of locations, data storage capacity needed, and the amount of updating and maintenance required of the production company.
Geocache	\$200-500 or higher				Costs vary based on how many sites used for cache, and cache boxes and messages selected.

CRITERIA FOR ESTABLISHING PRIORITIES

Criteria are not necessarily in order of importance. The District can break down by type of project (i.e. planning, facility development, interpretive media), message addressed (i.e. orientation, information, interpretive), and can assign a high, medium or low value to any of the criteria below to further determine priorities.

- § Project or program reaches optimal number of people (size of the audience)
- § Project or program reaches target audience
- § Project or program is cost effective and has an appropriate lifespan
- § Project or program can be maintained
- § Project or program has partner/volunteer commitment (time and/or money)
- § Project or program addresses critical health and/or safety issues
- § Project or program provides recreation opportunities that are more accessible for those with disabilities
- § Project or program information is vital to users understanding and wise use and stewardship / minimizing user conflicts of site or area
- § Project or program addresses a resource protection issue(s)
- § Project or program is related to identified theme(s) and storylines in plan
- § Project or program has necessary environmental clearance (NEPA)



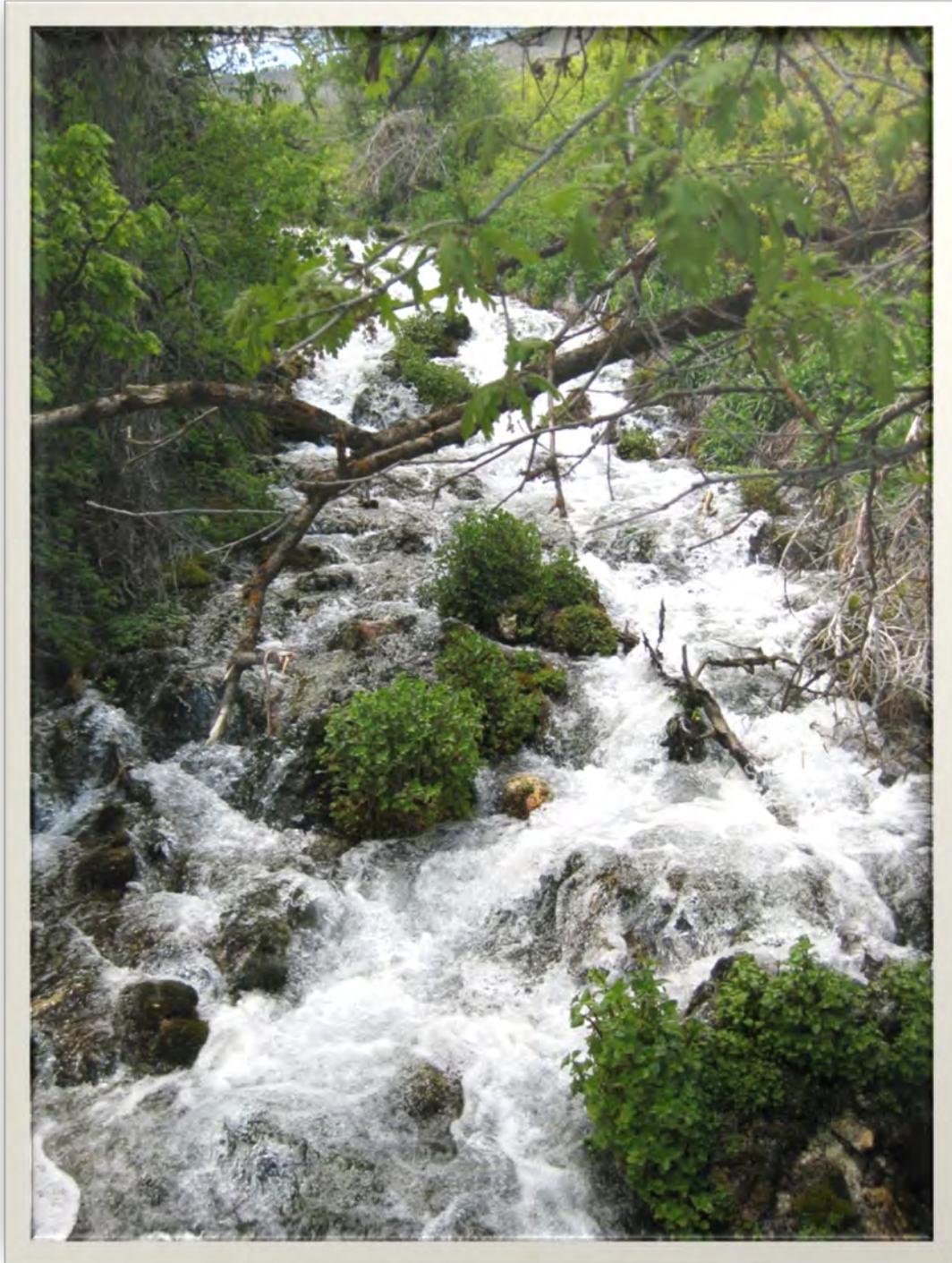
APPENDICES

- A. Cascade Springs Inventory and Observations**
- B. Construction Specifications for Kiosk Structure**
- C. R4 Design Guidelines for Recreation-related Exhibitory and Print Media**
- D. R4 Draft Interpretation and Conservation Education Strategic Plan**
- E. Uinta Wasatche Cache NF - Volunteer Interpretive and Conservation Education Strategy**
- F. Interpretive Samples, Forms, and Evaluations**
- G. Hints for Media Design**

Cascade Springs

Pleasant Grove Ranger District

Interpretive Inventory and Observations



Introduction

Cascade Springs is located off the Alpine Loop Road along Cascade Springs Scenic Drive, Forest Road 114, at elevation range from 6100-6400 feet. Among the rolling sage and grass hillside, Cascade Springs feels like an oasis with its year-round waterfalls, pools, and lush vegetation.

It is estimated that more than 7 million gallons of water flows through, over and under, Cascade Springs each day. Both snow and precipitation that does not end up in the streams and is not used by plants slowly infiltrates the ground. Once it reaches impermeable rock under the springs it is forced back up and seeps through a thin layer of glacial deposits. The calcium carbonate created from water moving through these deposits near the surface changes water chemistry and forms travertine terraces, a type of limestone. These terraces are constantly changing. The water eventually makes its way into the Provo River and drinking water systems for valley residents below.

The springs more than signify life. They provide for life, attract a wide variety of wildlife and provide habitat for moisture loving plants. They also provide a respite to visitors who seek a break from urban environments finding renewal in the nature. This is a premiere spot for interpretation.

Cascade Springs offer a remarkable place to interpret **geology, water flow, water cycles, watersheds, and the habitat** of this area. A series of three interconnecting loop trails, portions are accessible, interpretive signs and some summer ranger presentations currently highlight this area.

This document, *Cascade Springs Inventory and Observations*, is not a substitute or replacement for a comprehensive interpretive plan for Cascade Springs. Rather, it is a starting point for planning efforts. This site warrants further interpretive development, and a plan for this area is the first step towards updating and creating a memorable destination.

Observations



Main Parking Area

Is the **fee station** in the best location? The fee station should be one of the first things people see but it is currently located in a sliver of grass and has no defined parking for those who stop to pay the fee. It appears as if people stopping to pay could impede traffic flow in this area.



The **main sign** is dated and should be redesigned and replaced; a smaller version of the replacement should be used at the upper parking lot.



The **yurt** doesn't seem to serve enough purpose, nor match the built environment. Currently it has some generic posters located inside it. Recommend that it be removed or relocated. Future interpretive programs should be presented somewhere else on site—such as at the overlook or along the trail.



Vegetation needs to be cleared where it is obstructing primary views – i.e. at the covered pavilion overlook –open up to see the mountains, and the springs.



Picnicking - Consider adding 1-3 picnic tables, tucked among the trees between the yurt and overlook with access from the sidewalk by parking area.



Sign material – The existing metal material is durable; however it has no color and is flat. The metal signs with photographs are more interesting. If the site will be getting a complete update, I would recommend using a sign material where colors can be used as this will be

very beneficial in any flora/fauna identification topics/storylines. Do not use white as a background color as it has a lot of glare and is uncomfortable for people to read.

Themes - Currently, there is no clear overall theme for interpretation in Cascade Springs. Many topics are addressed on the various signs but they don't seem to be tied together nor memorable. Interpretive themes and storylines for this site would be determined through the development of an interpretive plan. One approach for themes is to have each segment of the trail have its own theme using only storylines along that segment of trail that relate to that theme.

An example of a theme for Cascade Springs might be:

The unique environment of Cascade Springs hosts a sanctuary of geologic, hydrologic, and biological processes in the midst of a dry upland and mountain brush ecology.

Examples of subthemes that could be used on individual trail segments could include:

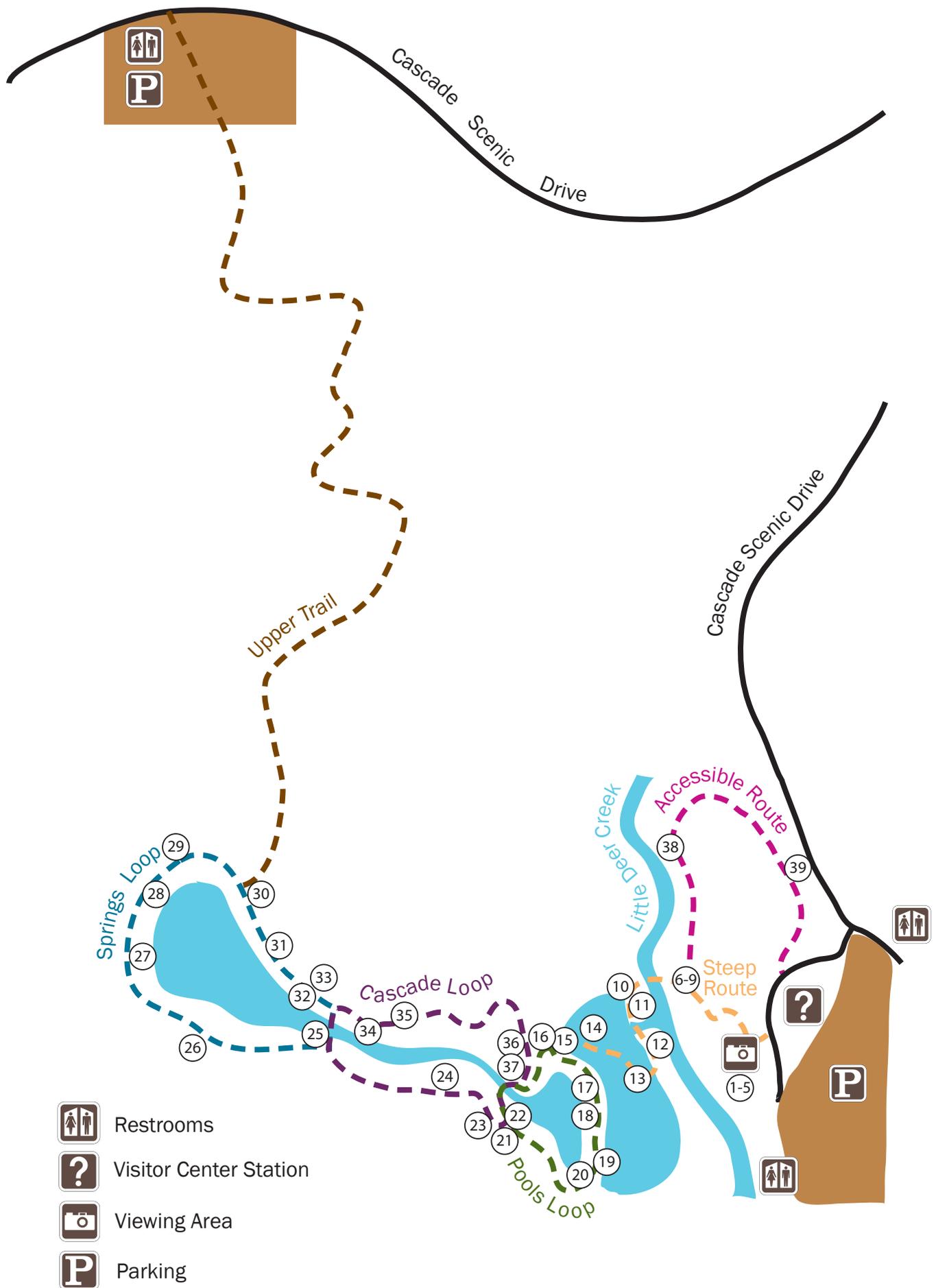
- Discover the geology of Cascade Springs from the inside out.
- Water flows and hydrologic cycles can be seen right before your eyes.
- Watersheds are important for the health of plants and animals and people. Your forest manages this land for the water falls that filters down to your faucet.
- Cascade Springs provides a buffet of year round water and food sources to many wildlife species.

Sign Placement - A number of signs are placed where you can't see anything relating to the sign...for example the sagebrush sign has no sagebrush by it. Either move sign to a location with a sagebrush plant that would be fitting for the theme of the area or remove and do not use.

There is an opportunity to add messages on

- Role of fire in this ecosystem type
- Invasive species
- "Leave No Trace" – help to explain why people are requested to stay on the designated trails

Cascade Springs



Inventory

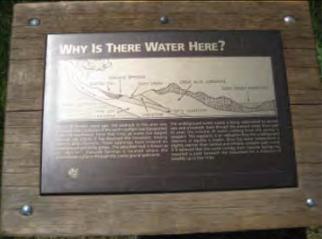
	Sign Number	Topic	Loop
	1	Welcome to Cascade Springs	Gazebo Viewing Area
	2	Enjoy a Walk	Gazebo Viewing Area
	3	Cascade Mt / Mt Timpanogos / Mill Canyon	Gazebo Viewing Area
	4	Water and Our Environment	Gazebo Viewing Area
	5	Main Trail (steep)	Gazebo Viewing Area
	6	Unique Environmental Area	Pools Loop Access

	Sign Number	Topic	Loop
	7	Return To Parking	Accessible Loop
	8	Do You Know These Animals?	Pools Loop Access
	9	Springs-Pools-Loop	Pools Loop Access
	10	Box elder	Pools Loop Access
	11	Sinkhole	Pools Loop Access
	12	Monkshood	Pools Loop Access
	13	Yellow Columbine	Pools Loop Access

	Sign Number	Topic	Loop
	14	Cattail	Pools Loop Access
	15	Scoulers Willow	Pools Loop Access
	16	Cascade Springs Trail System	Pools Loop
	17	Cascade Springs Geologically Active	Pools Loop
	18	Monkeyflower	Pools Loop
	19	The Cascade Springs Fish Story	Pools Loop

	Sign Number	Topic	Loop
	20	Watercress	Pools Loop
	21	Limited Accessibility Beyond the Point	Pools Loop
	22	Stinging Nettle	Pools Loop
	23	Cascade Springs Trail System	Cascade Loop
	24	Gamble Oak	Pools Loop
	25	Cascade Trail System	Springs Loop

	Sign Number	Topic	Loop
	26	Creeping Oregon Grape	Springs Loop
	27	Which Plants Are Here to Stay	Springs Loop
	28	Quaking Aspen	Springs Loop
	29	Cassin's Finch	Springs Loop
	30	Communities, Ecotones, & Adaptations	Springs Loop
	31	American Dipper	Springs Loop

	Sign Number	Topic	Loop
	32	Why Is Water Here	Springs Loop
	33	The Moving Force of Water	Springs Loop
	34	River Birch	Cascade Loop
	35	Big Sagebrush	Upper Access Trail
	36	Big Tooth Maple	Pools Loop
	37	Cascade Springs Water	Pools Loop

	Sign Number	Topic	Loop
	38	Steller's Jay	Access to main parking
	39	Accessible – End of Boardwalk	Access to main parking

AMERICAN FORK RECREATION AREA KIOSK DESIGN

UINTA-WASATCH-CACHE NATIONAL FOREST PLEASANT GROVE, UTAH
AMERICAN FORK RECREATION

LIST OF DRAWINGS

<i>SHT.</i>	<i>DWG.</i>	<i>SHEET TITLE</i>
1	1	COVER SHEET
2	2	SHORT SINGLE KIOSK WITHOUT ROOF
3	3	SINGLE KIOSK WITHOUT ROOF
4	4	SHORT DOUBLE KIOSK WITHOUT ROOF
5	5	DOUBLE KIOSK WITHOUT ROOF
6	6	ROOF DETAILS AND MATERIALS LISTS
7	7	ROOF AND LAYOUT DETAILS

RECOMMENDED

DISTRICT RANGER

DATE

FOREST ENGINEER

DATE

APPROVED

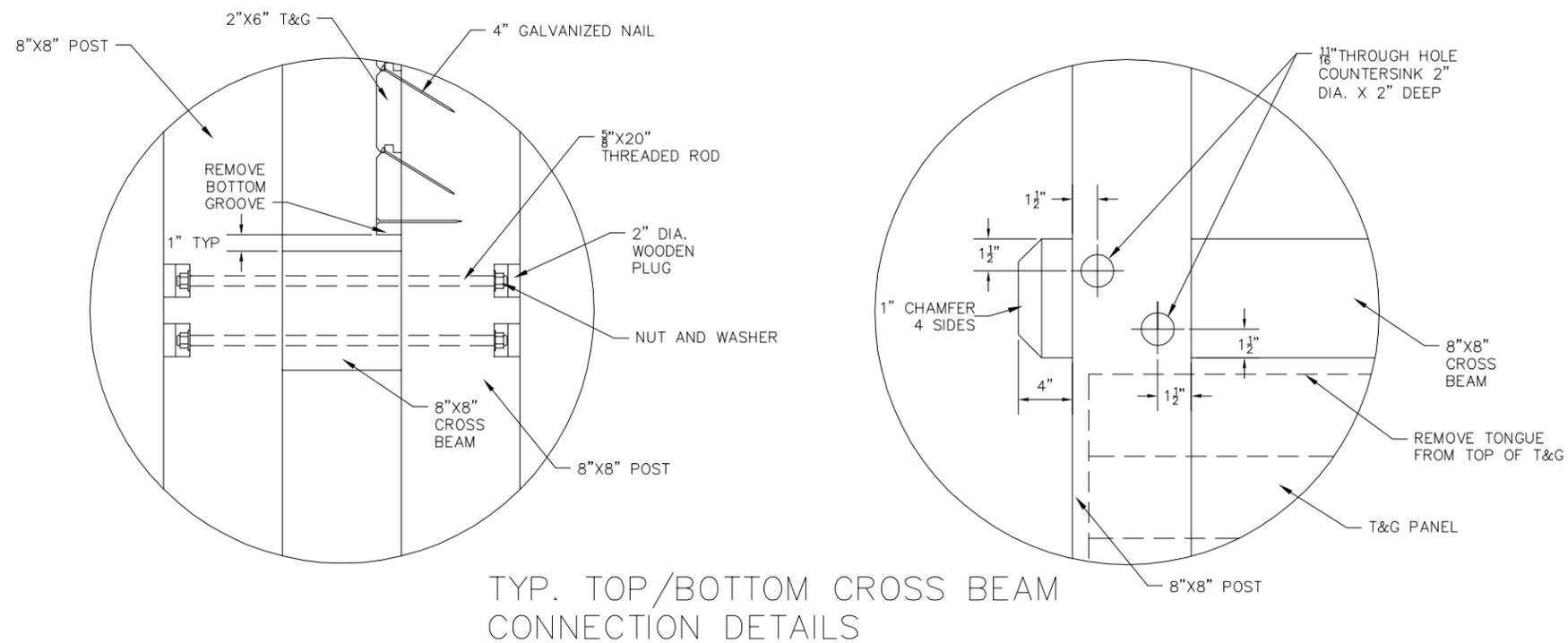
FOREST SUPERVISOR

DATE

DIRECTOR, REGION 4 ENGINEERING

DATE

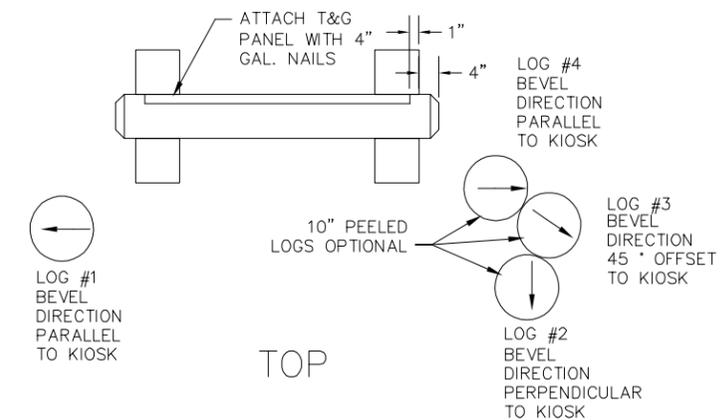
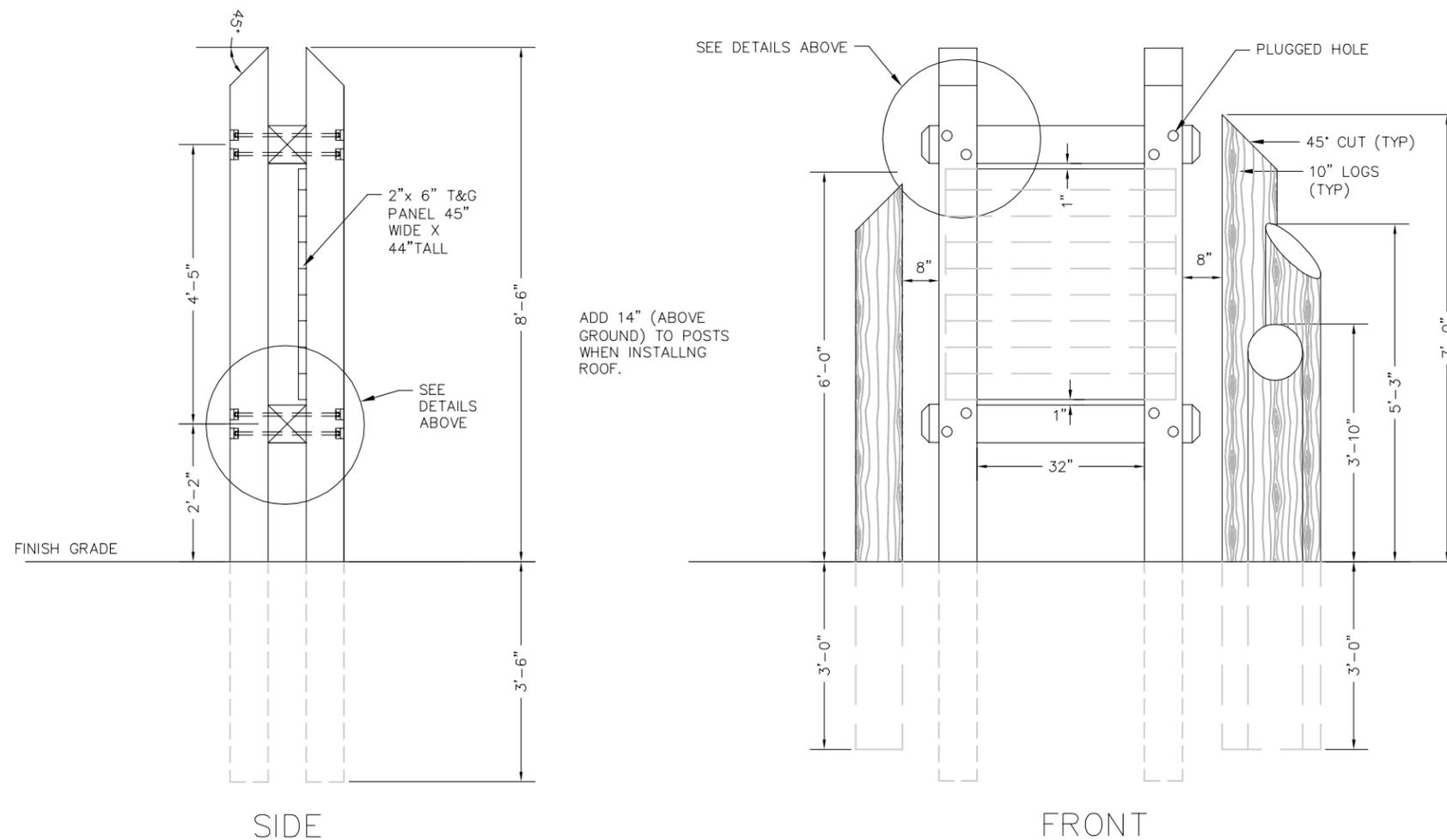
K:\e\facilities\projects\current\uwc_kiosk\95% review\2_short_single.dwg, 9/23/2009 7:40:08 AM, AcroPlot.pc3



MATERIALS LIST WITHOUT ROOF		
ITEM	QUANTITY	SIZE
8"x8" POST*	4	12'-0"
8"x8" CROSS BEAM	2	4'-7"
2"x 6" T&G	9	3'-9"
5/8" THREADED ROD	8	1'-8"
5/8" NUTS AND WASHERS	16 EACH	N.A.
WOODEN PLUGS	16	1" X 2" DIA. WOOD DOWEL
GALVANIZED NAILS	36	0'-4"

OPTIONAL PEELED LOGS - INSTALL WHEN DIRECTED		
LOG #	QUANTITY	SIZE
LOG #1	1	10" DIA X 9'-0"
LOG #2	1	10" DIA X 6'-10"
LOG #3	1	10" DIA X 8'-3"
LOG #4	1	10" DIA X 10'-0"

* IF ROOF IS INSTALLED INCREASE POSTS TO 13'-2"



GENERAL NOTES:

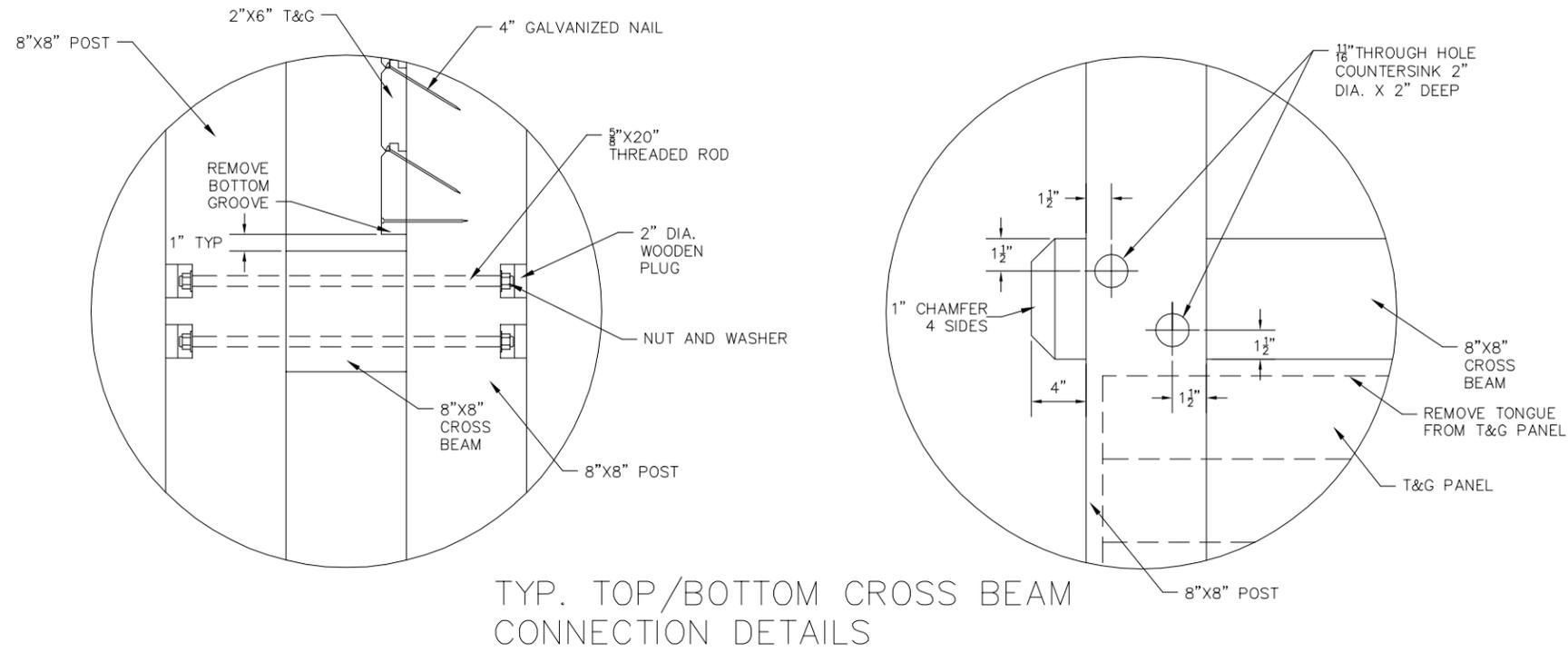
1. PAINT ALL SURFACES WITH TWO COATS OF APPROVED DARK BROWN SOLID STAIN.
2. BACKFILL WITH NATIVE SOIL AND TAMP FIRMLY IN SIX INCH LIFTS.
3. GLUE WOODEN PLUGS WITH APPROVED ADHESIVE.
4. CLEAN UP AREA AND REMOVE DEBRIS AFTER INSTALLATION.
5. PLACEMENT OF INTERPRETIVE MATERIAL AS DIRECTED BY OTHERS.
6. GRADE 2% MAX IN FRONT FOR 4 FT. MIN.



DESIGN	BY: C. HARTMAN
DRAWING	CHECK: C. HARTMAN
APPROVED	DIRECTOR, ENGINEERING
DATE	

AMERICAN FORK KIOSK
 SHORT SINGLE KIOSK WITHOUT ROOF

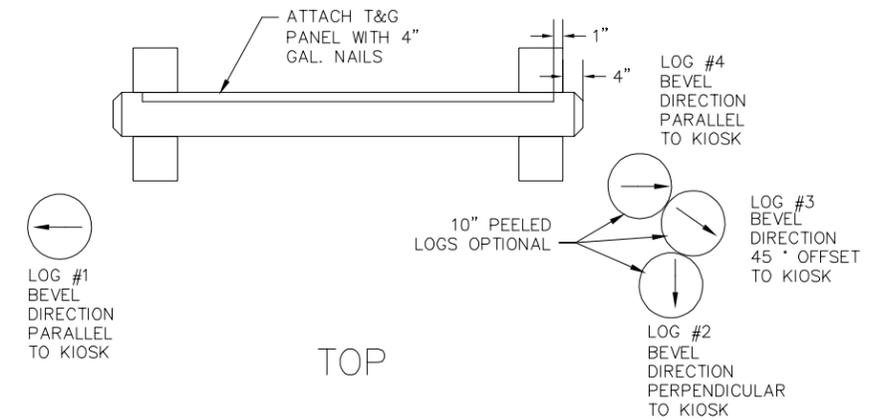
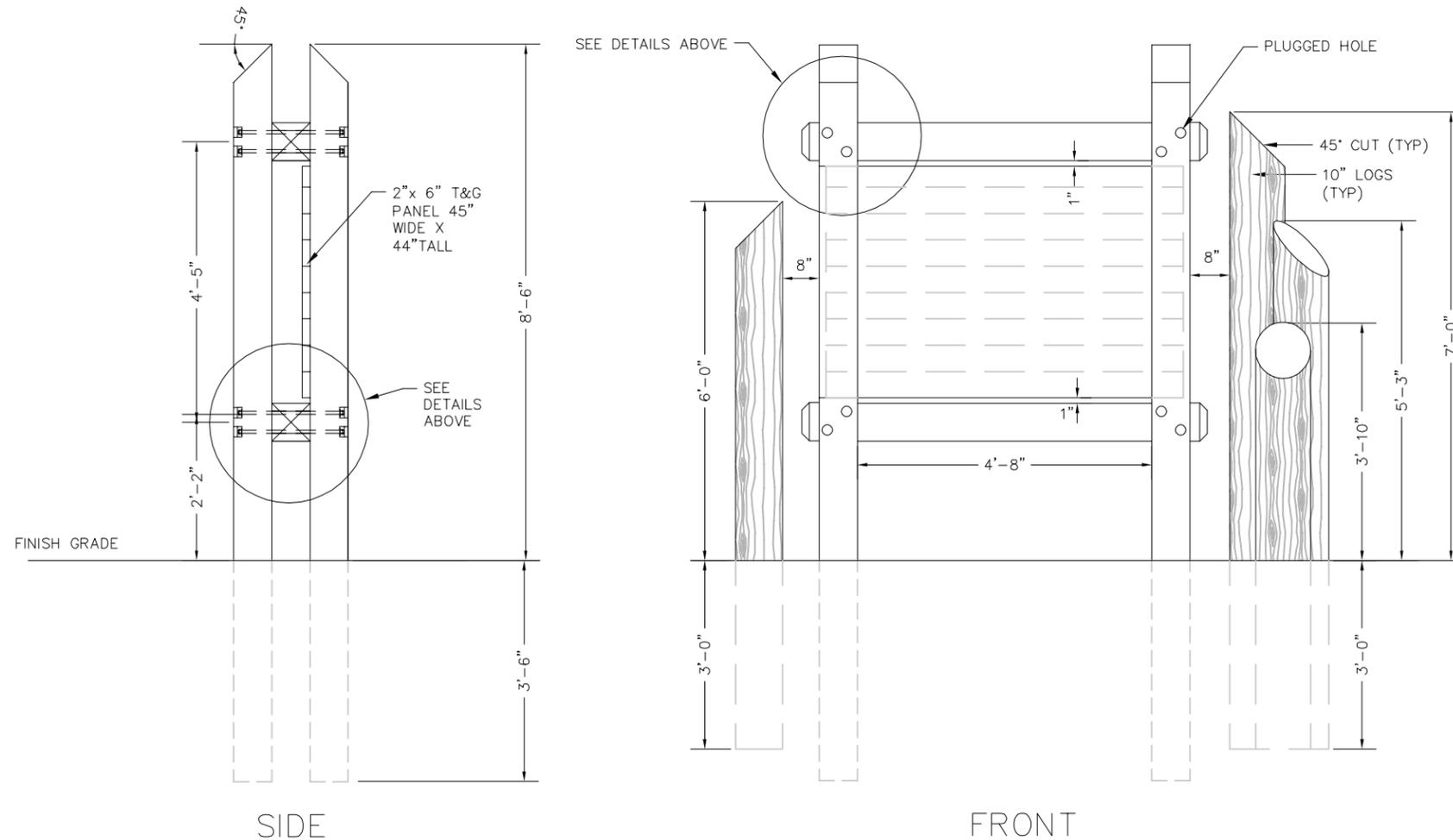
K:\facilities\projects\current\uwc_kiosk\95% review\3_single.dwg, 9/23/2009 7:40:17 AM, AcroPlot.pc3



MATERIALS LIST WITHOUT ROOF		
ITEM	QUANTITY	SIZE
8"x8" POST*	4	12'-0"
8"x8" CROSS BEAM	2	6'-7"
2"x 6" T&G	9	5'-9"
5/8" THREADED ROD	8	1'-8"
5/8" NUTS AND WASHERS	16 EACH	N.A.
WOODEN PLUGS	16	1" X 2" DIA. WOOD DOWEL
GALVANIZED NAILS	36	0'-4"

OPTIONAL PEELED LOGS - INSTALL WHEN DIRECTED		
LOG #	QUANTITY	SIZE
LOG #1	1	10" DIA X 9'-0"
LOG #2	1	10" DIA X 6'-10"
LOG #3	1	10" DIA X 8'-3"
LOG #4	1	10" DIA X 10'-0"

* IF ROOF IS INSTALLED INCREASE POSTS TO 13'-2"



GENERAL NOTES:

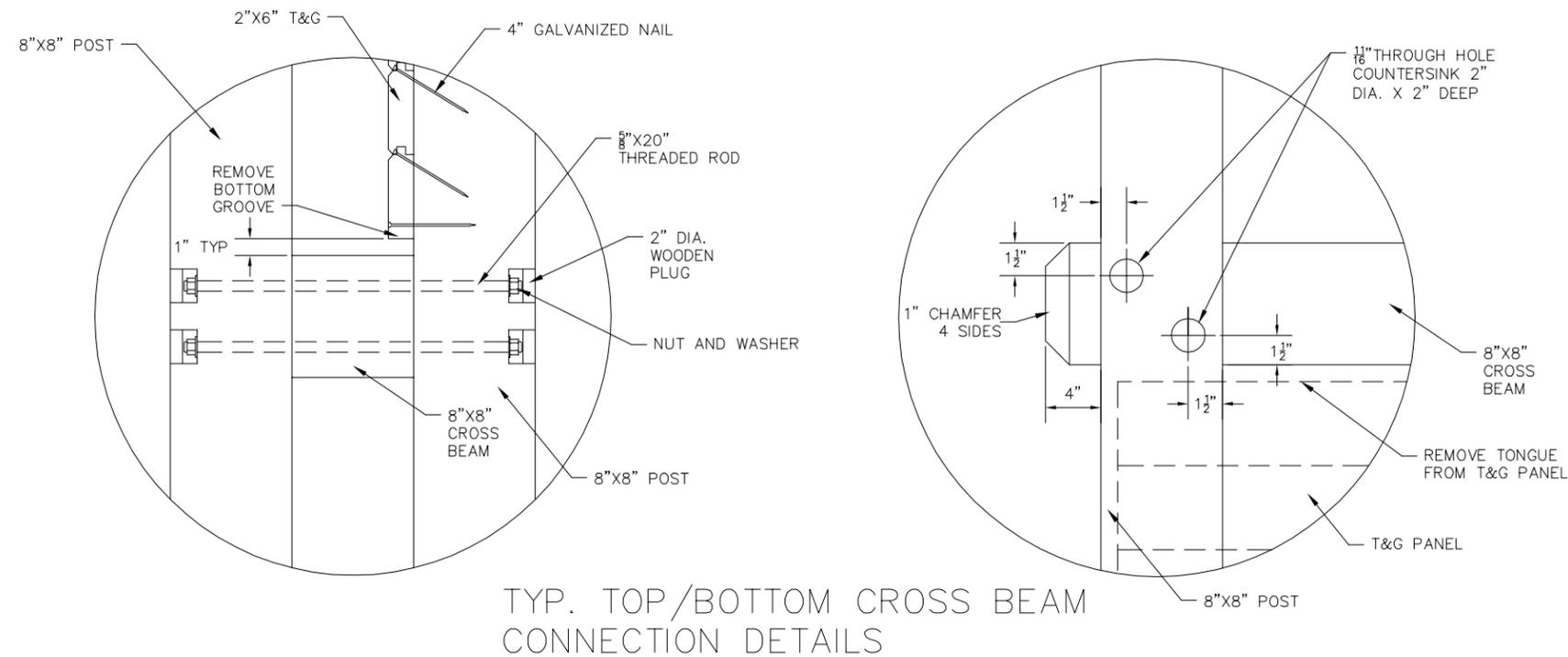
1. PAINT ALL SURFACES WITH TWO COATS OF APPROVED DARK BROWN SOLID STAIN.
2. BACKFILL WITH NATIVE SOIL AND TAMP FIRMLY IN SIX INCH LIFTS.
3. GLUE WOODEN PLUGS WITH APPROVED ADHESIVE.
4. CLEAN UP AREA AND REMOVE DEBRIS AFTER INSTALLATION.
5. PLACEMENT OF INTERPRETIVE MATERIAL AS DIRECTED BY OTHERS.
6. GRADE 2% MAX IN FRONT FOR 4 FT. MIN.



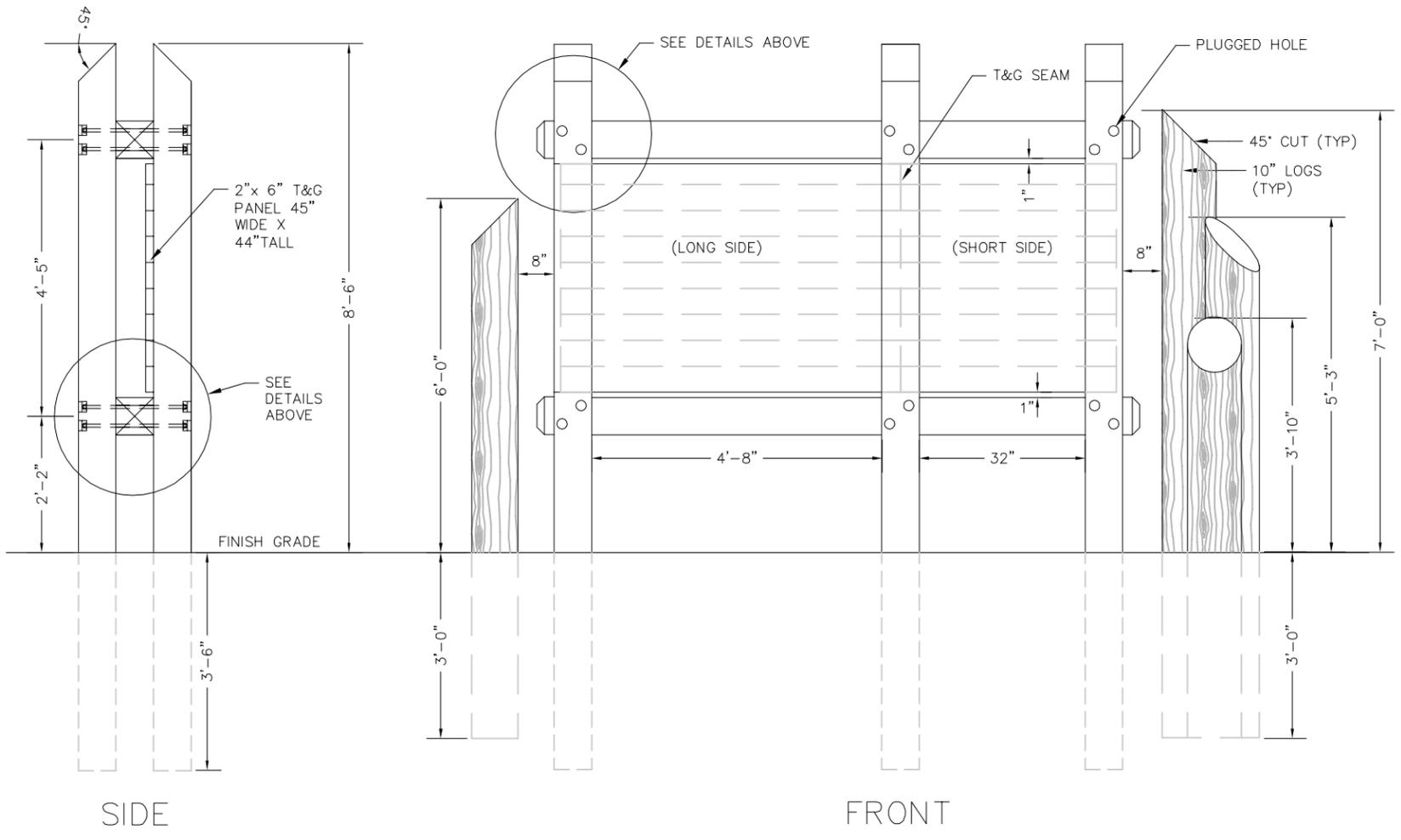
DESIGN	BY: C. HARTMAN
DRAWING	CHECK: C. HARTMAN
APPROVED	DIRECTOR, ENGINEERING
DATE	

AMERICAN FORK KIOSK	
SINGLE KIOSK WITHOUT ROOF	
PROJECT No.	DRAWING
	3
SHEET	
3	7

K:\e\facilities\projects\current\uwc_kiosk\95% review\4_short_double.dwg, 9/23/2009 7:40:25 AM, AcroPlot.pc3



TYP. TOP/BOTTOM CROSS BEAM CONNECTION DETAILS



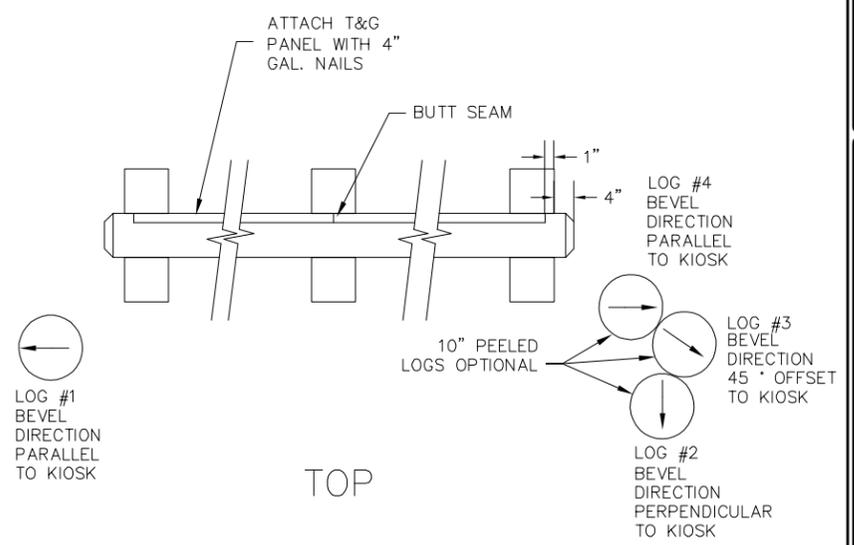
MATERIALS LIST WITHOUT ROOF

ITEM	QUANTITY	SIZE
8" X 8" POST	4	12'-0"
8" X 8" CROSS BEAM	2	9'-10 1/2"
2" X 6" T&G (SHORT SIDE)	9	3'-6 1/4"
2" X 6" T&G (LONG SIDE)	9	5'-6 1/4"
5/8" THREADED ROAD	12	1'-8"
5/8" NUTS AND WASHERS	24 EACH	N.A.
WOODEN PLUGS	24	1" X 2" DIA. WOOD DOWEL
GALVANIZED NAILS	72	0'-4"

OPTIONAL PEELED LOGS - INSTALL WHEN DIRECTED

LOG #1	1	10" DIA X 9'-0"
LOG #2	1	10" DIA X 6'-10"
LOG #3	1	10" DIA X 8'-3"
LOG #4	1	10" DIA X 10'-0"

* IF ROOF IS INSTALLED, INCREASE POST LENGTH TO 13'-2"



- GENERAL NOTES:
1. PAINT ALL SURFACES WITH TWO COATS OF APPROVED DARK BROWN SOLID STAIN.
 2. BACKFILL WITH NATIVE SOIL AND TAMP FIRMLY IN SIX INCH LIFTS.
 3. GLUE WOODEN PLUGS WITH APPROVED ADHESIVE.
 4. CLEAN UP AREA AND REMOVE DEBRIS AFTER INSTALLATION.
 5. PLACEMENT OF INTERPRETIVE MATERIAL AS DIRECTED BY OTHERS.
 6. GRADE 2% MAX IN FRONT FOR 4 FT. MIN.

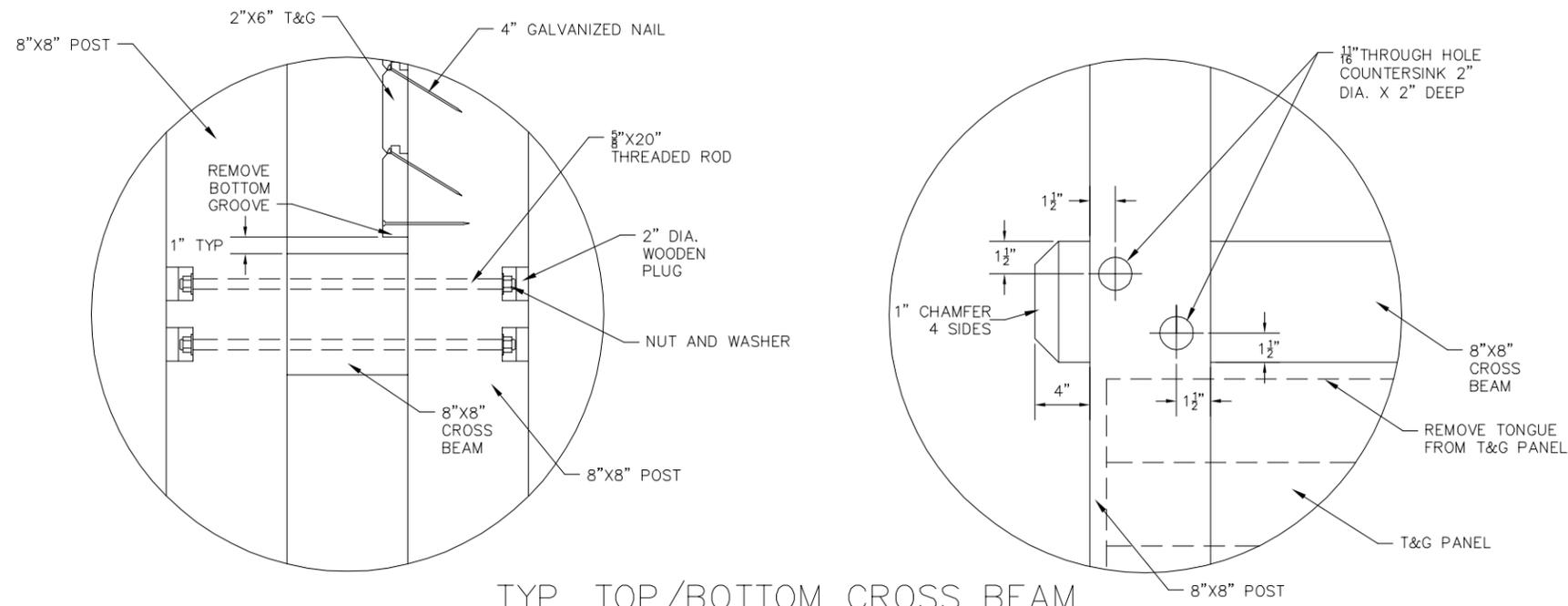
U. S. Department of Agriculture
FOREST SERVICE
 Intermountain Region 4 Engineering
 JUNTA WASATCH CACHE NATIONAL FOREST

BY: C. HARTMAN
 CHECK: C. HARTMAN
 DESIGN DRAWING
 APPROVED: DIRECTOR, ENGINEERING DATE

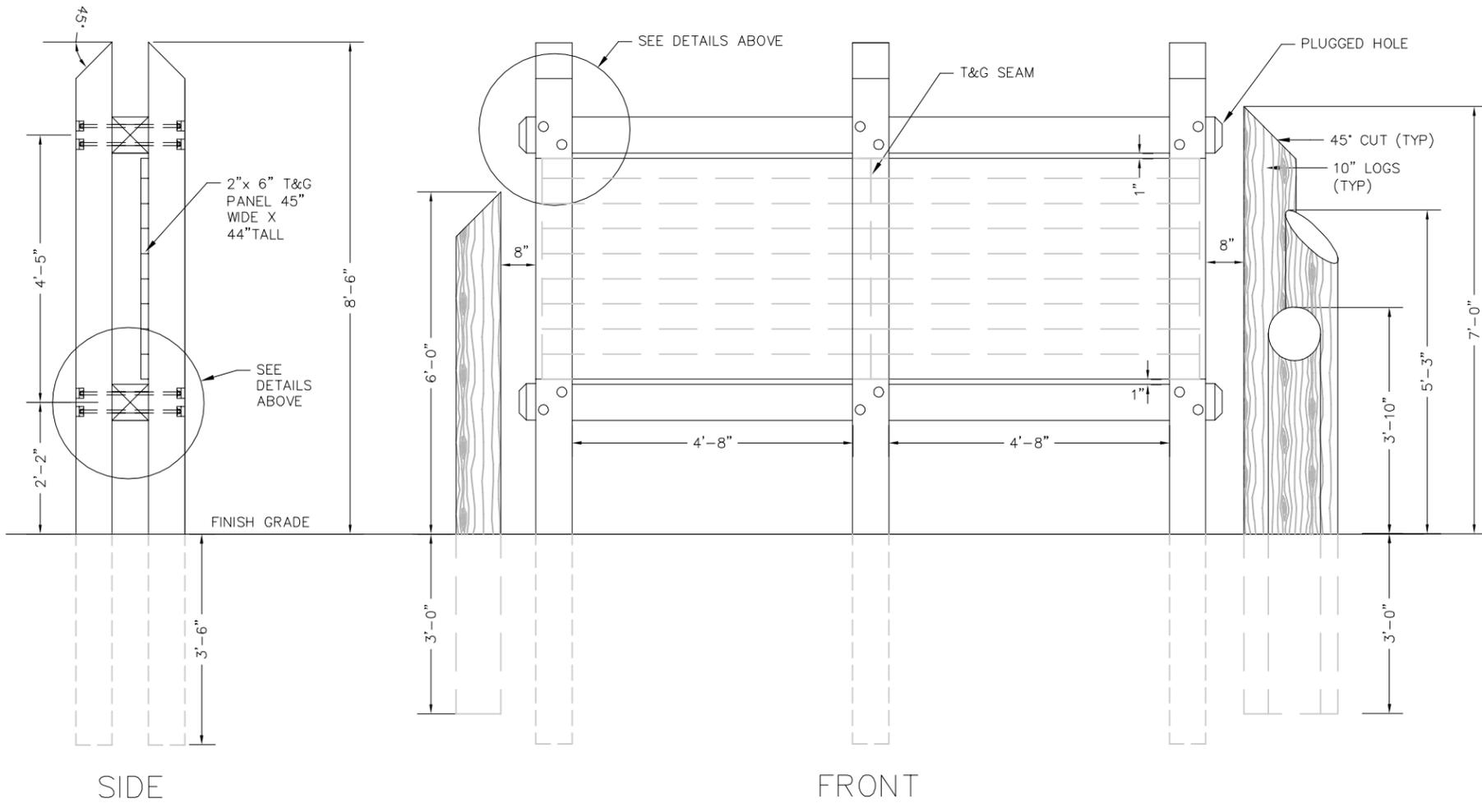
AMERICAN FORK KIOSK
 SHORT DOUBLE KIOSK WITHOUT ROOF

PROJECT No. DRAWING SHEET
 4 P 6

K:\e\facilities\projects\current\uwc_kiosk\95% review\5_double.dwg, 9/23/2009 7:40:33 AM, AcroPlot.pc3



TYP. TOP/BOTTOM CROSS BEAM CONNECTION DETAILS



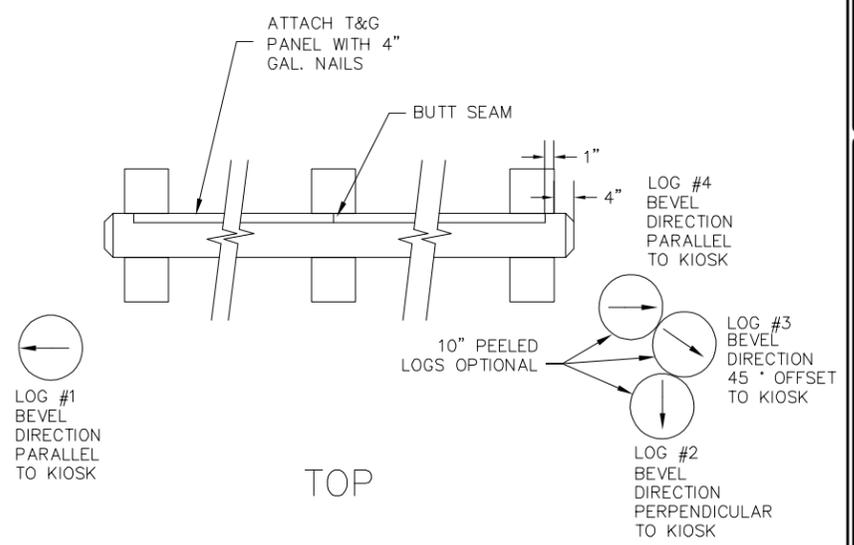
MATERIALS LIST WITHOUT ROOF

ITEM	QUANTITY	SIZE
8"x8" POST*	4	12'-0"
8"x8" CROSS BEAM	2	11'=10 1/2"
2"x 6" T&G	18	5'-11 1/2"
5/8" THREADED ROD	8	1'-8"
5/8" NUTS AND WASHERS	16 EACH	N.A.
WOODEN PLUGS	16	1" X 2" DIA. WOOD DOWEL
GALVANIZED NAILS	36	0'-4"

OPTIONAL PEELLED LOGS - INSTALL WHEN DIRECTED

LOG #	QUANTITY	SIZE
LOG #1	1	10" DIA X 9'-0"
LOG #2	1	10" DIA X 6'-10"
LOG #3	1	10" DIA X 8'-3"
LOG #4	1	10" DIA X 10'-0"

* IF ROOF IS INSTALLED INCREASE POSTS TO 13'-2"



- GENERAL NOTES:
1. PAINT ALL SURFACES WITH TWO COATS OF APPROVED DARK BROWN SOLID STAIN.
 2. BACKFILL WITH NATIVE SOIL AND TAMP FIRMLY IN SIX INCH LIFTS.
 3. GLUE WOODEN PLUGS WITH APPROVED ADHESIVE.
 4. CLEAN UP AREA AND REMOVE DEBRIS AFTER INSTALLATION.
 5. PLACEMENT OF INTERPRETIVE MATERIAL AS DIRECTED BY OTHERS.
 6. GRADE 2% MAX IN FRONT FOR 4 FT. MIN.

U. S. Department of Agriculture
FOREST SERVICE
 Intermountain Region 4 Engineering
 JUNTA WASATCH CACHE NATIONAL FOREST

DESIGN BY: C. HARTMAN
 CHECKED BY: C. HARTMAN
 DRAWING BY: C. HARTMAN
 APPROVED BY: DIRECTOR, ENGINEERING

DATE

AMERICAN FORK KIOSK

DOUBLE KIOSK WITHOUT ROOF

PROJECT No. DRAWING **5** SHEET **5** OF **6**

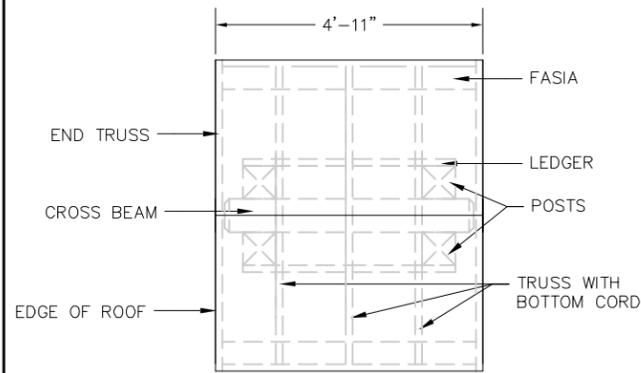
K:\facilities\projects\current\uwcc_kiosk\95% review\6_7_roof.dwg, 9/23/2009 7:40:42 AM, AcroPlot.pc3

MATERIALS LIST - ROOF ONLY		
ITEM	QUANTITY	SIZE
LEDGER	2	2"x6"x3'-11"
FASIA	2	2"x6"x4'-8"
TOP CORD	6	2"x6"x44½"
TOP CORD FOR END TRUSS	4	2"x6"x46"
BOTTOM CORD	3	2"x6"x48"
¾" EXT. PLYWOOD	2	4'-0" X 4'-11"
TP45	8	4" X 5"
TP47	12	4" X 7"
H14	6	
ROOFING FELT	40 SQ. FT.	30#
ROOF MATERIAL	40 SQ. FT.	
NAILS		10d (3")

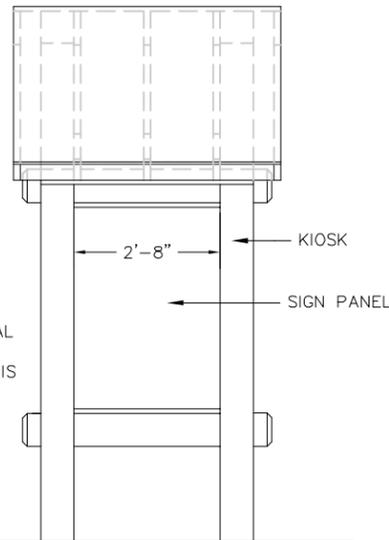
MATERIALS LIST - ROOF ONLY		
ITEM	QUANTITY	SIZE
LEDGER	2	2"x6"x4'-11"
FASIA	2	2"x6"x5'-8"
TOP CORD	8	2"x6"x44½"
TOP CORD FOR END TRUSS	4	2"x6"x46"
BOTTOM CORD	4	2"x6"x48"
¾" EXT. PLYWOOD	2	4'-0" X 5'-11"
TP45	10	4" X 5"
TP47	16	4" X 7"
H14	8	
ROOFING FELT	48 SQ. FT.	30#
ROOF MATERIAL	48 SQ. FT.	
NAILS		10d (3")

MATERIALS LIST - ROOF ONLY		
ITEM	QUANTITY	SIZE
LEDGER	2	2"x6"x9'-2½"
FASIA	2	2"x6"x9'-11½"
TOP CORD	14	2"x6"x44½"
TOP CORD FOR END TRUSS	4	2"x6"x46"
BOTTOM CORD	7	2"x6"x48"
¾" EXT. PLYWOOD	2	4'-0" X 10'-2½"
TP45	16	4" X 5"
TP47	28	4" X 7"
H14	14	
ROOFING FELT	82 SQ. FT.	30#
ROOF MATERIAL	82 SQ. FT.	
NAILS		10d (3")

MATERIALS LIST - ROOF ONLY		
ITEM	QUANTITY	SIZE
LEDGER	2	2"x6"x11'-2½"
FASIA	2	2"x6"x11'-9½"
TOP CORD	16	2"x6"x44½"
TOP CORD FOR END TRUSS	4	2"x6"x46"
BOTTOM CORD	8	2"x6"x48"
¾" EXT. PLYWOOD	2	4'-0" X 12'-2½"
TP45	18	4" X 5"
TP47	36	4" X 7"
H14	16	
ROOFING FELT	100 SQ. FT.	30#
ROOF MATERIAL	100 SQ. FT.	
NAILS		10d (3")

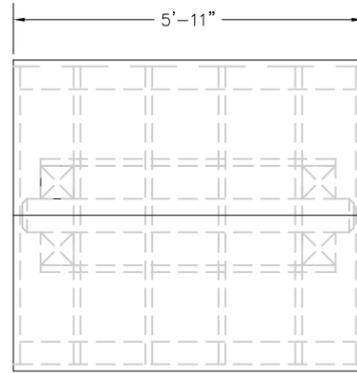


PLAN VIEW
ALL NOTES TYPICAL

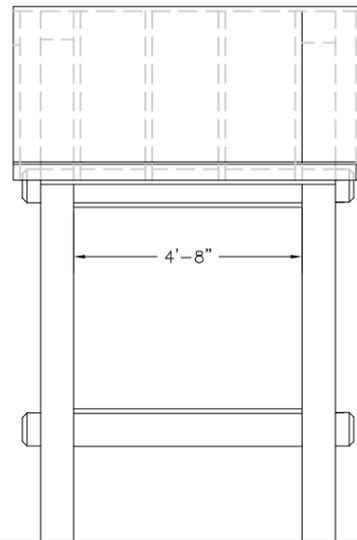


FRONT ELEVATION
SHORT SINGLE

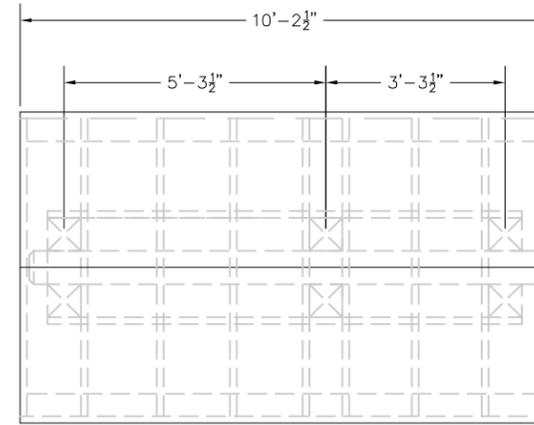
FOR DETAILS ON KIOSK AND PANEL, SEE SHEETS 1-4 ADD 14" (112" TOTAL ABOVE GROUND) TO POSTS WHEN ROOF IS INSTALLED.



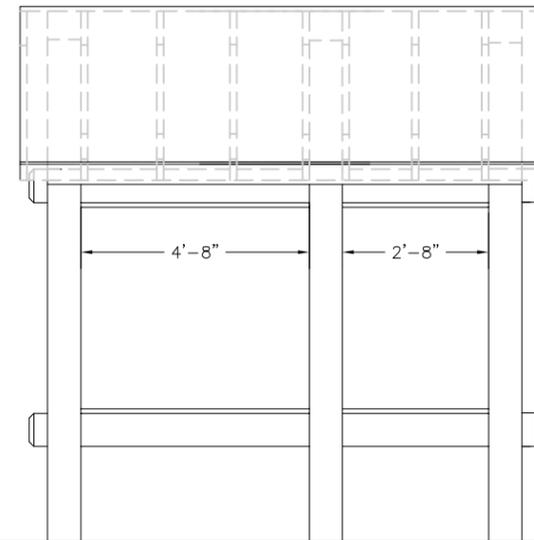
PLAN VIEW



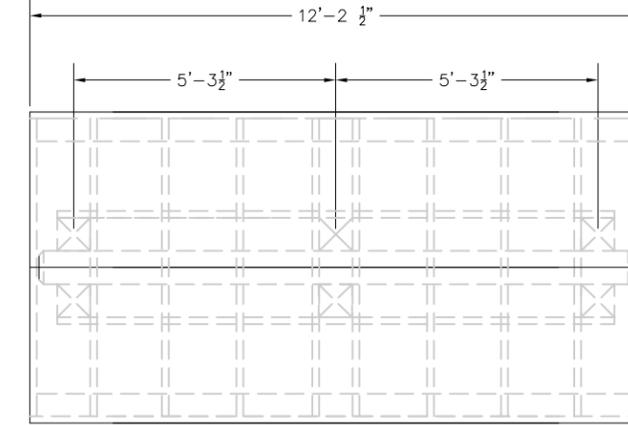
FRONT ELEVATION
SINGLE



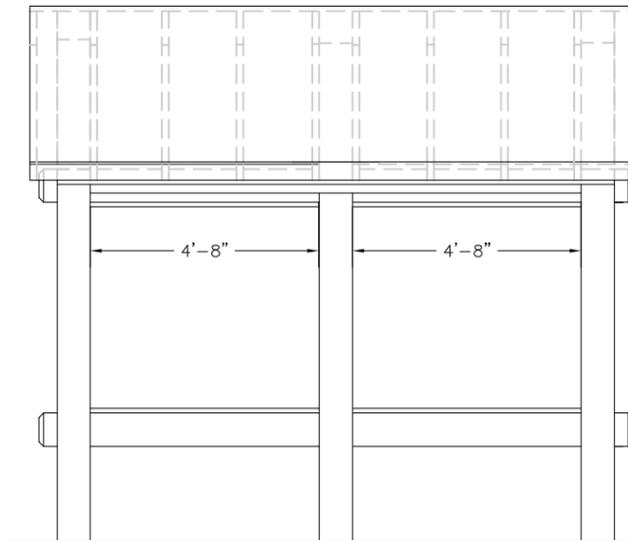
PLAN VIEW



FRONT ELEVATION
SHORT DOUBLE



PLAN VIEW



FRONT ELEVATION
DOUBLE

U. S. Department of Agriculture
FOREST SERVICE
Intermountain Region 4 Engineering
JUNTA WASATCH CACHE NATIONAL FOREST



BY: C. HARTMAN
CHECK: C. HARTMAN
DESIGN: C. HARTMAN
DRAWING: C. HARTMAN

DATE: _____
APPROVED: _____
DIRECTOR, ENGINEERING

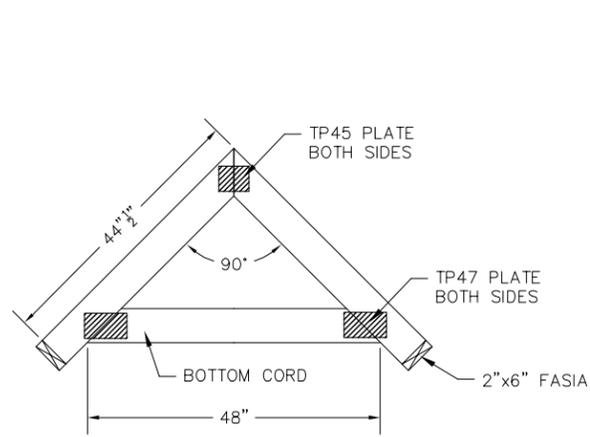
AMERICAN FORK KIOSK

ROOF DETAILS AND MATERIALS LISTS

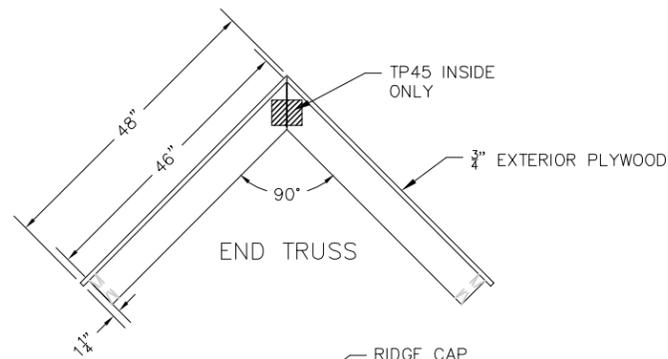
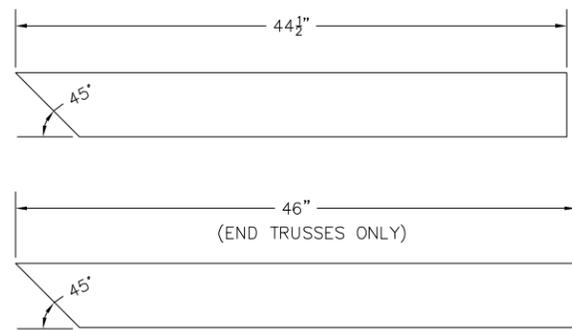
PROJECT No. _____
DRAWING **6**

SHEET **6** P **7**

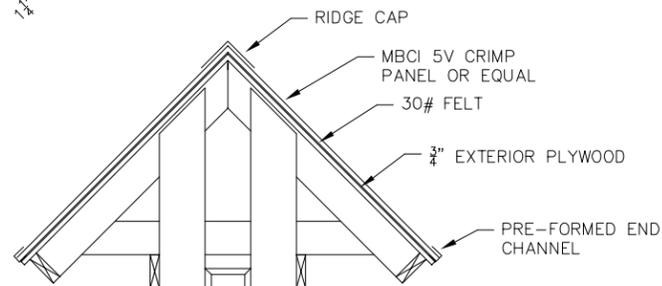
K:\facilities\projects\current\uwk_kiosk\95% review\6_7_roof.dwg, 9/23/2009 7:40:48 AM, AcroPlot.pc3



TRUSS WITH BOTTOM CORD

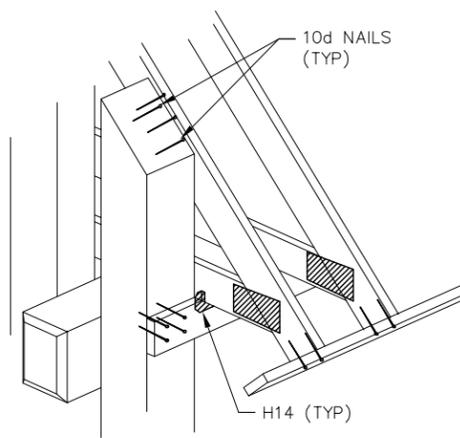


END TRUSS

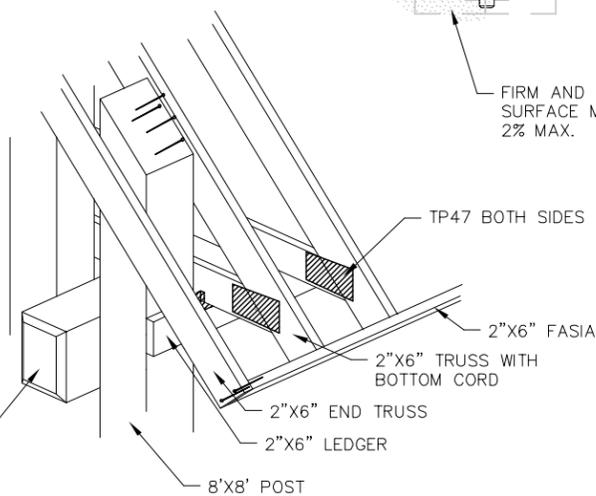


SIDE VIEW WITHOUT END TRUSS

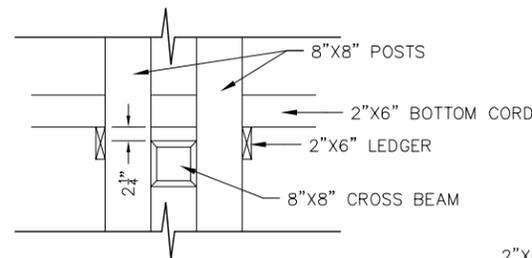
FOR DETAILS ON KIOSK AND PANEL, SEE SHEETS 1-4
ADD 14" (112" TOTAL ABOVE GROUND) TO POSTS WHEN ROOF IS INSTALLED.



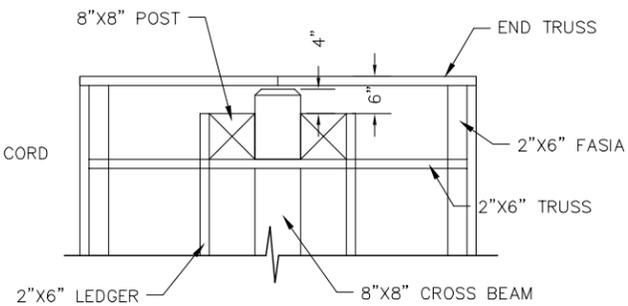
DETAIL WITHOUT END TRUSS



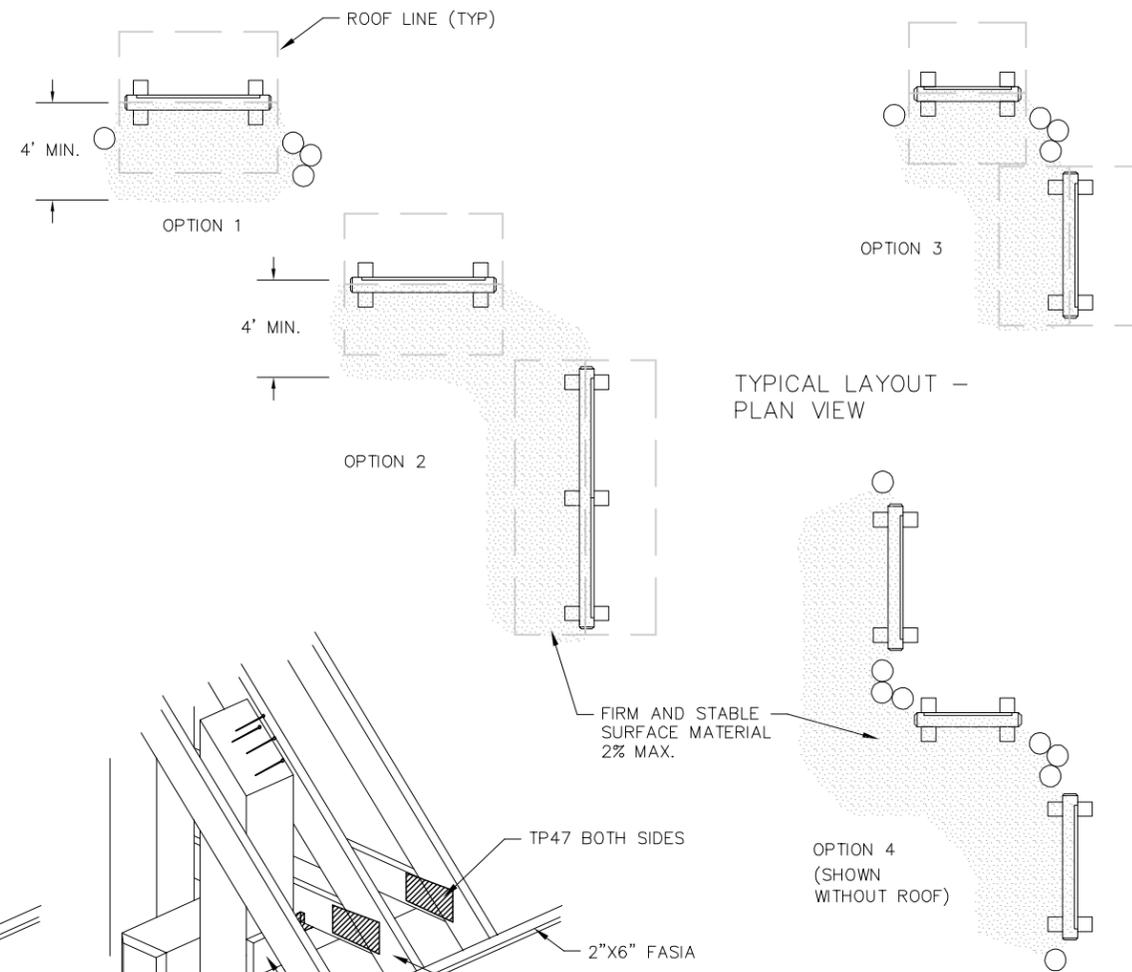
DETAIL WITH END TRUSS



ELEVATION VIEW



PLAN VIEW



TYPICAL LAYOUT - PLAN VIEW

GENERAL NOTES:

1. PROVIDE FIRM AND STABLE SURFACE. GRADE AND COMPACT SURFACE MATERIAL 2% MAX. FOR 4 FT. MIN. FOR ACCESSIBILITY.
2. IF PANELS ARE ON BOTH SIDES OF KIOSK, PROVIDE FIRM AND STABLE SURFACE ON BOTH SIDES.
3. ROOF TO BE FERN GREEN OR APPROVED EQUAL.



DESIGN	BY: C. HARTMAN
CHECK	CHECK: C. HARTMAN
DRAWING	BY: C. HARTMAN
CHECK	CHECK: C. HARTMAN
APPROVED	DIRECTOR, ENGINEERING
DATE	

Intermountain Region



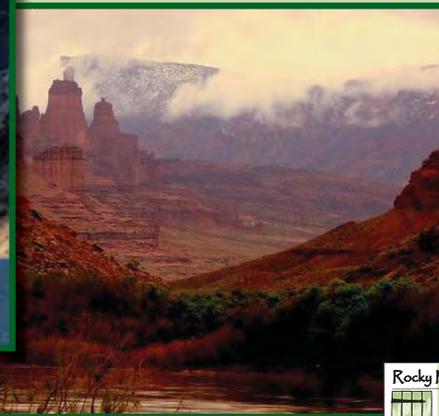
United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest Service
Intermountain
Region

February 2009



Design Guidelines *for Recreation-related Exhibitory and Print Media*



February 2009
Intermountain Region

Design Guidelines
for Recreation-related Exhibitory and Print Media

Carol Ryan, Intermountain Region, Interpretive Specialist

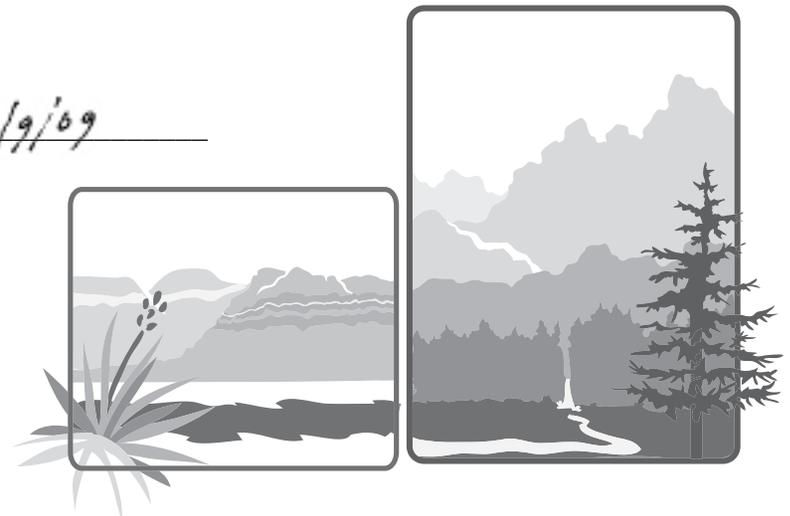
Signature: Carol Ryan Date: 3/9/09

Liz Close, Intermountain Region, Director of RHWR

Signature: Liz Close Date: 3/9/09

Chris Hartmann, Intermountain Region, Landscape Architect

Signature: Chris Hartmann Date: 3/9/09



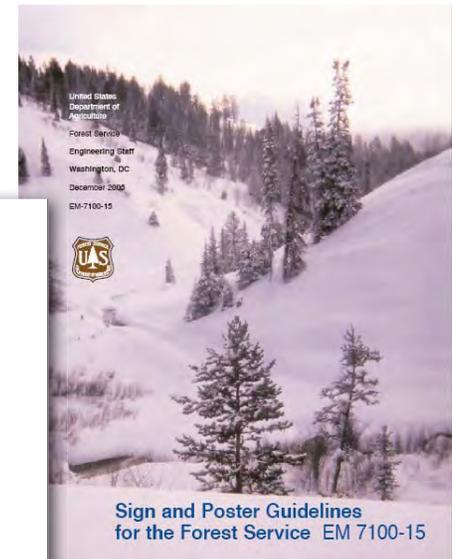
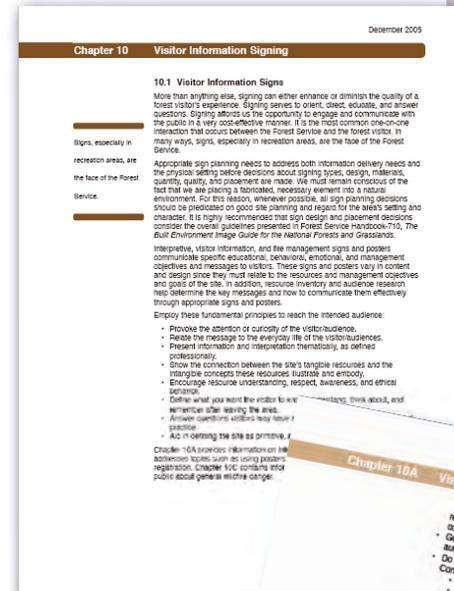
Region 4 Design Guidelines for Recreation-related Exhibitory and Print Media

Outdoor interpretive, informational, and wayfinding media as well as recreation print products within the Intermountain Region are an important component of the overall experience on our national forests. They enhance the visitor's understanding of and appreciation for the landscape and heritage of the region. They inspire further exploration and extended visits to the area.

Forest Service Direction and Guidance

All print, exhibit, and presentation media should follow the requirements set out in the following:

- » FSM 1630 and FSH 1609.11 - <http://fsweb.wo.fs.fed.us/directives/html/fsm1000.shtml>
- » USDA Visual Information Standards - http://www.fs.fed.us/r2/cdi/other_resources/publications/visual-standards-04.pdf
- » Text should follow the Government Printing Office Style Manual - <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/stylemanual/browse.html>
- » EM 7100-15, Sign & Poster Guidelines for the Forest Service - http://fsweb.wo.fs.fed.us/eng/roads_trails/signs_05/index.htm
- » FSM 2300, Chapter 90, Interpretive Services Manual - <http://fsweb.wo.fs.fed.us/directives/html/fsm2000.shtml>



The following guidelines will ensure these points of contact with the public promote a corporate and Region 4 identity within the recreation program, enhance the landscape and setting, and provide an enjoyable discovery experience for the visitor.

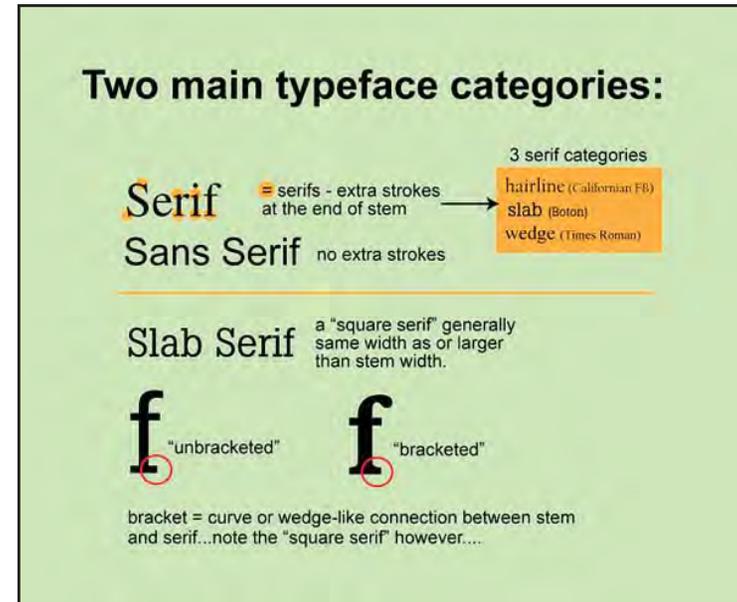
Fonts and Design Standards

Fonts

Font types are divided into two main categories, serif and sans serif. Fonts for exhibitry (indoor or outdoor - where the viewer is several feet from source) should be taken from the slab and san serif families. Slab serifs present a feeling of strength and foundation and are easily legible in poor viewing conditions. They are good for headlines and subtitles, main body text, and secondary text. San serifs should be used for subtitles, non-lengthy areas of secondary text, and for limited, smaller, tight spots of text.

Lengthy blocks of san serif in printed documents are hard to read as the eye doesn't flow across easily. Serifs help to propel the eye from word to word. However, the opposite is true for websites and electronic mobile devices. San serifs are the best choice for long blocks of text with serifs being used in a limited manner.

The Intermountain Region has adopted the following font combination for recreation-related exhibitry and print media:



Byington - Title, Subtitle, Body text

Byington italic, **bold** (slab serif)

Franklin Gothic (book, medium, **demi**, **heavy**) -

Subtitle possible, secondary text, caption, *italic*, (san serif)

A third font, more decorative in nature, may be used for exhibitry titles and subtitles. The font should be used to promote the sense of place, environment, or time period of the site.

These fonts were chosen for their open and friendly yet strong characteristics. Their availability to most Forest Service users from within common corporate software was also a deciding factor.

Font guidelines for outdoor/indoor exhibitory

- » Use no more than two different fonts per sign.
- » Use italics sparingly, and never for long blocks of text.
- » Maintain the same fonts and type size hierarchy on each sign.
- » In general, use the font point sizes listed below (take note of the minimum physical text size in parenthesis) for interpretive panels, assuming sign is 2' x 3' and landscape oriented. Adjust sizes upward for larger panels.
 - Main heading: 150 - 190 point, single line (1.5")
 - Secondary Titles: 65 - 72 point (3/4")
 - Subtitles: 40-48 point (1/2")
 - Main Text: 36 - 30 point/40 leading (3/8")
 - Secondary Text: 26 point/30 leading (1/4")
 - Captions: 20-24 point/22-26 leading. Italics may be used. (1/4")

These guidelines are adapted from the Smithsonian Guidelines for Accessible Exhibition Design. As font physical size may differ from typeface to typeface even though the same point size is chosen, it is best to print out your project full size to check accessibility before sending to the fabricator.

Font guidelines for print media

- » Use no more than two different fonts per publication; however for variation use the different aspects of each font: regular, bold, italic etc.
- » Set up a hierarchy (title, subtitle, body text, bullets, caption) and use it throughout for consistency
- » Font sizes
 - Covers: (minimum size)
 - Title - 18/18 (font size/leading) bold, flush left, ragged right, title case
 - Subtitle - 14/14, regular, flush left, ragged right, title case
 - Inside document:
 - Titles - 14/15, bold, sentence case
 - Main body - 12/13, sentence case
 - Caption text - 10/10, sentence case or italic, flush right, ragged left as needed

Flush left, ragged right:

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Mauris quis lectus. Nam sit amet metus. Aenean aliquet. Proin

Flush right, ragged left:

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Mauris quis lectus. Nam sit amet metus. Aenean aliquet. Proin

Justified text:

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Mauris quis lectus. Nam sit amet metus. Aenean aliquet. Proin molestie est et

Use of the Forest Service Shield

Recreation-related print media

Materials for the public are important not only for the information provided, but are like a “word of mouth” advertisement for the Intermountain Region and the Forest Service. It is crucial that all recreation-related hand out materials reflect the regional and corporate identity. These guidelines will help to establish a consistent, unified design concept.

- » Reinforce agency identity and professionalism through the proper use of Forest Service shield and USDA logo. Include partner logos as appropriate. The Forest Service shield should be used only in its approved color scheme (see specified PMS colors example - right) and font. See the USDA Visual Information Standards document (website shown in #2 of bullet below) for guidance.
- » Publications must include the EEO statement. It is not required on indoor or outdoor exhibitry.

Exhibitry

The Forest Service shield color should be used in its specified PMS colors, shown to the above right.



PMS colors for full-color print:
Green: PMS 3435
Yellow: PMS 114



PMS colors for single color print:
Green: PMS 3435
Black

*FS Shields can be found at:
<https://fs.usda.gov/wps/myportal/> - Click on External Affairs (left hand navigation bar) and then on Developing Communication Products (right hand navigation bar)*

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

EEO statement

Color - Outdoor and Printed Products

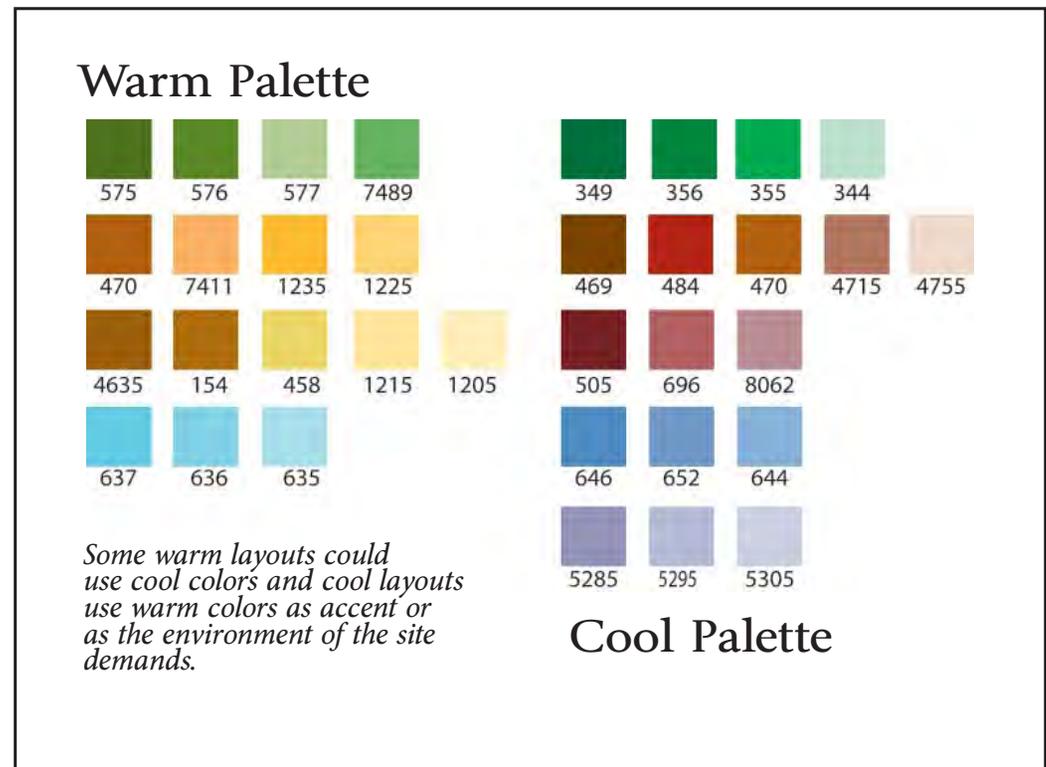
The following color palette should be referenced for both outdoor and printed products in the Intermountain Region.

An outdoor exhibit site's palette should be drawn from its environment. The color goal of outdoor exhibitory is to enhance the site, not detract. Slight variations of these palette colors may be necessary to achieve that end but these variations should be kept to a minimum.

Colors should be referred to by their Pantone Matching System (PMS) numbers to accurately communicate with designers and fabricators about the desired result. Colors were chosen from the PMS Solid Coated palette. The Spring Mountains NRA Visitor Guide was used as the color template starting point.

Pantone Color Guides may vary in different software programs or versions of the same software. Acquiring Pantone shade guide fans are recommended for complete accuracy. Guides can be purchased from www.pantone.com as well as other art retailers.

Calibrating your monitor to your output device is also recommended to assure color matching from computer file to hard copy. In the Adobe suite of graphic software, use Adobe Gamma to help in calibration. There are also other stand-alone calibration products available.



A hard-copy color proof should be sent with the electronic files to the fabricator of both outdoor and printed documents. It is from this hard-copy color proof that color-matching to the final product is done. Some fabricators include this in the cost of producing your product, while for others it is an added cost. Make sure your budget allows for color matching costs.

Placement of Agency Identification Elements for Exhibitory

The Intermountain Region has adopted specific guidelines for the placement of the corporate identity (Forest Service shield and logo - "Caring for the Land and Serving People"), cooperators logos, and forest name for outdoor products. **Figure 1** shows the placement for single, low-profile panels. The forest name, Forest Service shield and logo are placed in the lower right hand corner with cooperators logos in the lower left.

The Forest Service shield should be approximately 1 inch by 1 inch at final size for 24" by 36". Adjust its size upward or downward for other panel sizes. The horizontal bar should be roughly one third the final size of the shield in width.

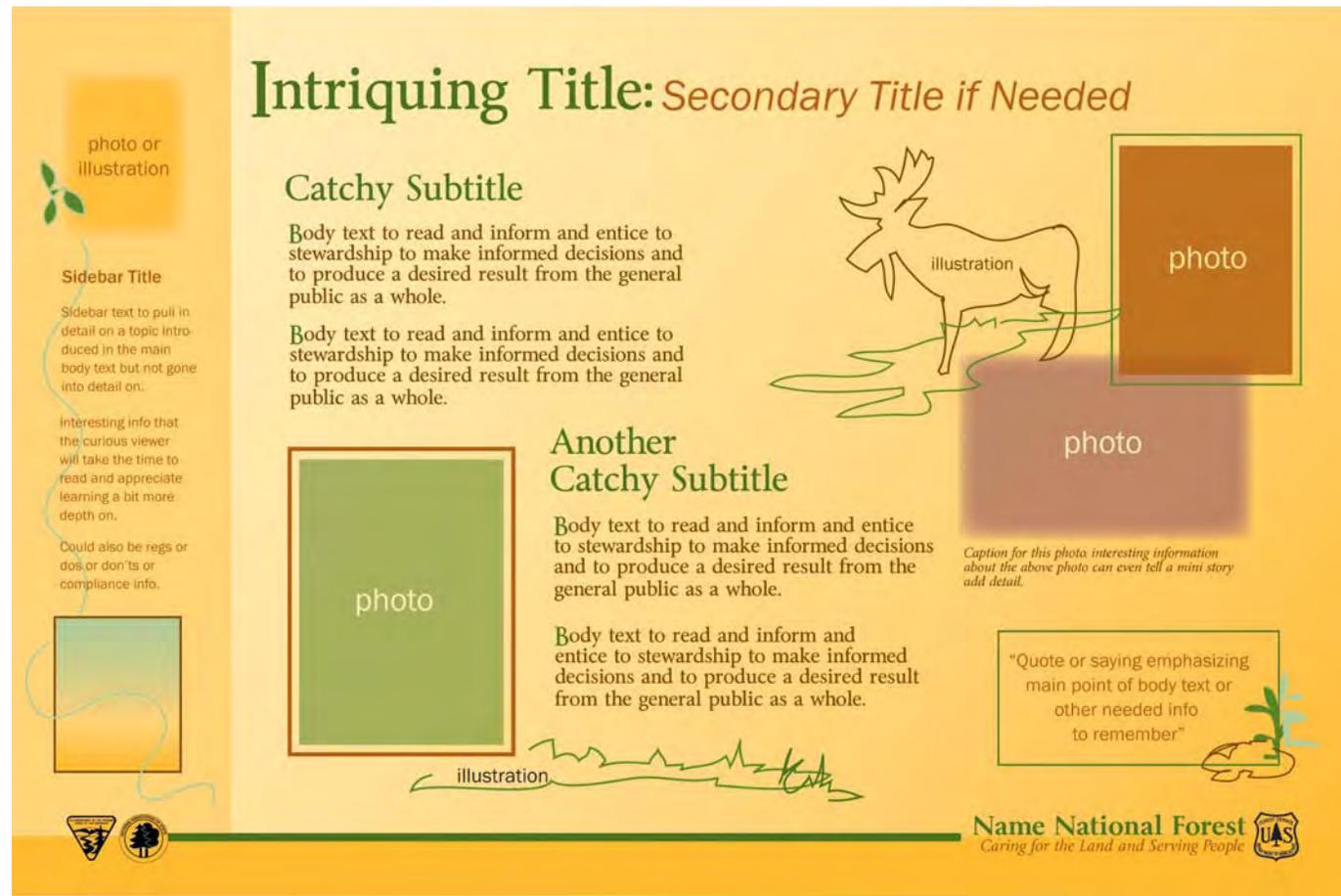


Figure 1

Figure 2 shows a multiple panel side-by-side situation. The furthest right panel will carry the Forest Service shield, logo, and forest name, while the furthest left panel will hold cooperators logos.

On a double panel site where panel placement is back to back, the low profile example will be followed with cooperators logos in the lower left hand corner and Forest Service shield, logo, and forest name in the lower right hand corner on both panels.



Figure 2

In short, the corporate identity and forest name should be seen in any view that a visitor might encounter on an interpretive, informational, or wayside site, but not in a redundant fashion. (Figure 3)

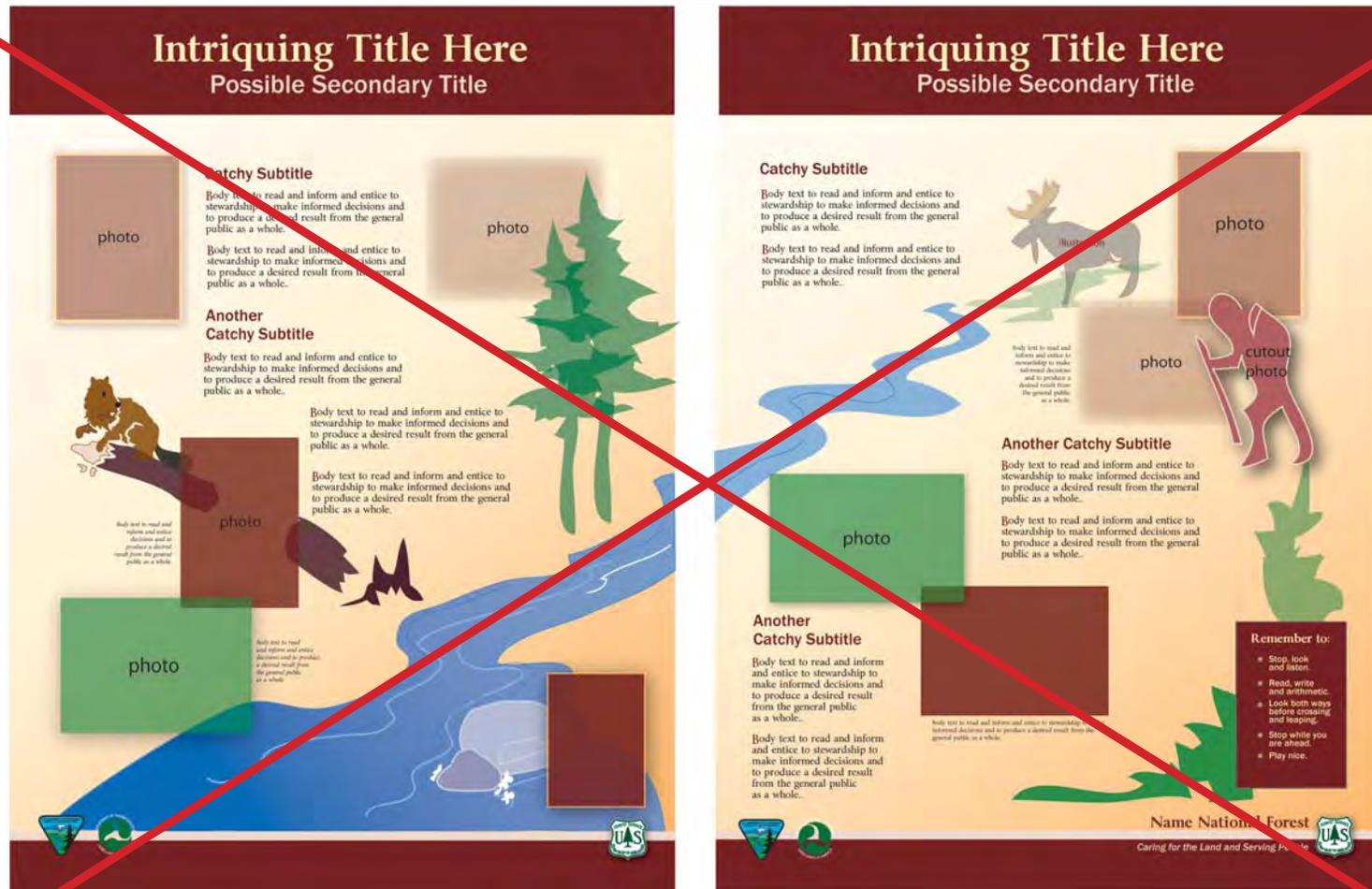


Figure 3

Region 4 Interpretation and Conservation Education Strategic Plan

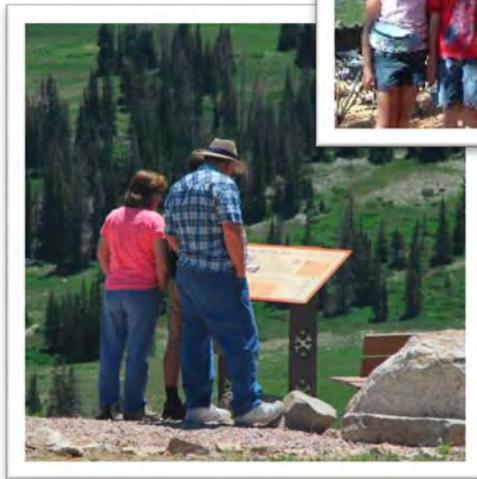


Table of Contents to come

DRAFT

Introduction and Need for a Plan

The USDA Forest Service, as an agency, is involved in a number of critical focus areas, including:

- Healthy Forests
- Recreation Management
- Water Quality & Supply
- Partnerships
- Markets for ecosystem services
- Informed Citizenry – through environmental education and “More Kids in the Woods”

These are all very important efforts with many possible public messages. Currently, interpretive and conservation education efforts within the region have been made on a site-by-site basis with random overall themes, goals and objectives (if any). This Interpretative Services (IS) and Conservation Education (CE) Strategy is designed as a management tool to help implement national direction within the region in a consistent and coordinated way. The role the IS and CE programs can play in the wise stewardship of public lands is a unifying force, crossing many programmatic boundaries aimed at increasing people’s awareness and appreciation for natural and cultural resources. This plan tiers to the National Interpretive Services Strategy and the National Conservation Education Strategic Plan and was developed in conjunction with an integrated team of various staff units within Region 4 to guide the future of the program.

This plan identifies consistent key messages to assist development of National Forest interpretive and conservation education (ICE) plans, guide programming for coordinated campaigns and media, and help leverage resources in a targeted way that ultimately best serves our public.

Sources:

The US Forest Service – An Overview

http://www.fs.fed.us/documents/USFS_An_Overview_0106MJS.pdf

National Interpretive Services Strategy (NISS) 2003

<http://fsweb.wo.fs.fed.us/rhwr/interpretive/interpretive.pdf>

National Conservation Education Strategic Plan to Advance Environmental Literacy (SPAEL) 2007 -2012

http://www.na.fs.fed.us/spfo/ce/spring2007conference/materials/CE_strategic_plan_FINAL.pdf

Differences between Conservation Education and Interpretation

Conservation Education and Interpretive Services are very-much related to each other and in the eye of our visitors, customers and partners are indistinguishable. However, there are differences as described below.

Conservation Education focuses educational efforts on children (pre-kindergarten through 12th grade) and their educators usually in a classroom setting. Programs are a structured series of experiences that characterizes formal curriculum-based education, that meet state standards, usually are targeted for a specific age group and have a captive audience. However, it also coordinates with other Forest Service educational programs directed toward adults to ensure continuity and consistency of education materials from childhood to adulthood. A emphasis of the agency is to get “Kids in the Woods”. These efforts work hard to assure that future generations will care for the land.



Interpretive Services assists in protecting resources, managing capacity, and maintaining local economies through sustainable tourism. IS provides products and services aimed at increasing people’s awareness and appreciation for natural and cultural resources and land management issues. By forging intellectual and emotional connections between people and their natural and cultural heritages, Interpretive Services plays a key role in achieving the education and visitor satisfaction goals of the Forest Service’s Recreation Agenda. Interpretation is not simply presenting information, but a specific communication strategy that is used to translate information for people, from the technical language of the expert, to the everyday language of the visitor. Interpretation aims to reach the “heart” of our visitors to **want** to care for the land. The audience spans all ages and the programs are usually conducted in a natural setting. Learning occurs during leisure time, at the choosing of the participant. Two forms of IS are wayside signs and visitor centers facilities.

Visitor Information Services (VIS) aims to provide information, orientation, and awareness of Forest Service programs, activities, and services. Types of VIS services include campground information bulletin boards and front desk employees who help a visitor find appropriate facilities and services on a forest.

How this Plan will be Used:

Each year, a program of work will be developed from this strategy with input from the regional ICE Network team and forest staffs. This plan has no lifespan since it will be reviewed and updated annually.

The messages from this plan will be integrated into all resource staff areas to ensure consistency of messages and implementation. Components of this plan may also be incorporated into training and annual operating plans for identified recreation special use permittees (outfitters & guides, ski areas, resorts, marinas, etc).

Target audiences:

- Youth
- Visitors' onsite to the National Forests.
- Information seekers (web browsers, trip planning, etc.)
- Forest users, (private land holders, rely on resource for livelihood)
- Internal staff

Key Messages

These messages capture what is unique about the Intermountain Region. They answer the questions - what's so special about this region? Why should our visitors care about this area? The answers to these questions (the messages) help describe the significance of the resource and set the stage for the further development of themes and storylines to be used in programs, exhibits, brochures – any public contact message.

Forests will use these key regional messages to generate their own forest-specific messages. Forests will integrate these messages across all staff areas to ensure region-wide consistency. To be effective, the IS/CE program needs to respond to managers' area-specific concerns while keeping in mind the “big” issues that are regional or national in scope. Since issues change over time, the messages that address those issues also need to be updated.

The key messages were assembled by a interstaff group (ICE Network team) representing each of the director staffs in the regional office with comments from the field.

Our messages also need to build from the mission of the agency as a whole. The Forest Service mission statement and motto are given below along with a mission and vision statement developed by the interstaff group to give purpose and direction to the regional IS/CE program.

Forest Service Mission

The mission of the USDA Forest Service is to sustain the health, diversity and productivity of the Nation's forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations. The Forest Service motto is “Caring for the Land and Serving People.”

R4 IS/CE Mission

Fostering stewardship of our forests in the Intermountain Region

R4 IS/CE Vision

Through efforts of the Forest Service within the Intermountain Region, the public will value National Forest resources, and work with us to assure wise management and future sustainability



Interpretation is not instruction, but provocation.

We learn only 10% of what we hear,
30% of what we read,
50% of what we see, and
90% of what we do.

Regional Key Messages

These key messages are broad thematic statements under which specific products can be developed for targeted audiences or purposes. Related messages expand on key message themes and offer approaches for further development.

1) Topic: Water

Key Message: The National Forests in Region 4 were created to protect western watersheds where dynamic ecosystems rely on the presence and absence of water.

Related Messages for Forests:

- Forests are water towers of the west -- the Forest Service manages these watersheds to store and provide clean water for the American people.
- Water is a limited resource with many competing demands.
- Sustainability of our water resources dates back to the original intent of the creation of the Forest Service.
- Climate change is going to change availability of water...exactly how is uncertain.
- Water-based recreation is an important component of recreational use in Region 4.
- Pollutants, sediments and erosion from human activities affect water quality and diversity of plant and animal life within our watersheds.

2) Topic: Management and Stewardship

Key Message: The Forest Service exercises our legal authorities, scientific expertise, and critical partnerships to balance resource sustainability with human needs.

Related Messages for Forest:

- Caring for our National Forests in Region 4 requires using the best scientific information and tools to manage the resources for today and into the future.
- The Forest Service has a long history of land management, and continues to change to reflect the values of the American public.
- Natural and cultural resources are finite resources with infinite demands.
- The irreplaceable heritage of public lands contain clues to the past and discoveries for the future requiring managers to make ongoing decisions that best serve conserving those landscapes.
- This region contains some of the most significant ecology resources within the entire US.
- Recreation is a human need and one of the many uses on Forest Service lands requiring different management and communication needs.

3) Topic: People and the Land

Key Messages:

People have relied on forests to sustain basic human needs (social, physical, and spiritual) for thousands of years. Forest Service public lands are a place for recreation and inspiration and require respect and wise use/stewardship to ensure protection for future generations.

Forest Level Messages:

- Throughout time, people have relied on natural resources for basic human needs, but are unaware of their origins.
- Forest and wilderness lands serve as a genetic repository of plant and animal life for future knowledge and provide opportunities for solitude and renewal.
- Human behavior on public lands affects the sustainability of the landscape for future generations.

- Forests provide multiple opportunities for American citizens to give back to the nation as a whole through volunteerism.
- Wild lands hold inherent adventure and risks and require certain knowledge and skills to navigate, and ethical standards of behavior to protect.



GOALS and OBJECTIVES for Region 4 Interpretation & Conservation Education (ICE) Program

These goals and objectives were developed to identify what the regional office hopes to accomplish with regards to visitor experiences and outcomes. Each year, the Regional IS/CE manager will define action items in a yearly plan of work in consultation with the Recreation Director and the Regional Network ICE group.

Goal 1: Provide strong and management leadership of Region 4 Interpretive and Conservation Education programs by promoting an integrated and consistent message across all regional staff areas that interface with the public.

Objective 1.1: Provide strong and management leadership of Region 4 Interpretive and Conservation Education programs.

Action Items:

- Develop and coordinate a regional office level network of advisers to the program.
- Support ICE plans at Forest and District levels that tier from Regional key messages.
- Encourage leadership involvement in interpretation and conservation education at all levels in the Intermountain Region.
- Develop a training program to help improve interpretive and conservation education programs and products in the Intermountain Region.
- Develop an internal dispersal system within the Intermountain Region for ICE related information.
- Strengthen partnerships with state tourism and conservation agencies regarding interpretation and conservation education.
- Support forests in development of new partnerships that target underserved populations. (urban, ethnic, women, children).

Objective 1.2: Ensure adequate resources and coordination to accomplish an effective and efficient mission based interpretive and conservation education program at all levels in the Intermountain Region.

Action Items:

- Inventory current interpretive and conservation education materials and programs in Region 4 and review and analyze for appropriateness to target audience, and ensure it meets professional standards.
- Survey forests and districts for application of current key messages as identified within their ICE materials, exhibits, facilities and programs.
- Identify resource needs and potential sources, including grants and partnerships, to deliver a more effective ICE program.
- Advocate the incorporation of interpretation and conservation education into program direction at Regional and Forest level planning efforts.
- Facilitate delivery of tools and training to develop Memoranda of Understanding or Partnership Agreements for ICE programs.

Objective 1.3: Improve accountability systems and program evaluation for interpretation and conservation education in the Intermountain Region.

Action Items:

- Assist forest and district staff in making use of the national databases for accomplishments reporting (Nature Watch, Conservation Ed).
- Make recommendations for on-going evaluation of interpretive and educational programs in the Region.
- Assist forest and district staff in development, nurturing of interpretive associations.
- Lead regional approval process for Visitor Center exhibit projects requiring Washington Office approvals.

- Assist forests and districts with ICE program needs including using interpretive contracts as needed.

Goal 2: Coordinate the development and delivery of high-quality interpretive and conservation education programs and materials.

Objective 2.1: Ensure the availability and distribution of high-quality interpretive and conservation education materials and programs regarding forest management programs (such as recreation, watersheds, ethics, fire, heritage, wilderness).

Action Items:

- Lead and assist forests in accomplishing their INFRA interpretive inventories.
- Monitor interpretive and educational materials and forest reporting that support the USFS mission, and are correlated with appropriate design, education, or agency guidelines.
- Assist forests in identifying service learning* opportunities. (* service learning opportunities are conservation service projects such as the Stream Watch program, community invasive weed pulls, and trail building projects by Scout groups).

Objective 2.2: Improve access to Regional and National Forest Service resources and information.

Action Items:

- Inform forests and districts regarding educational materials and information available through educational and scientific organizations.
- Assist forests in networking, making connections, building relationships with others to provide ICE opportunities.
- Investigate and increase the use of digital technology to reach (like pod casts, GPS rangers) and increase access to FS resources for a variety of learning styles and backgrounds.

Objective 2.3: Ensure that the Intermountain Region interpretive and conservation education programs support and enhance the ability of Forest Service employees to achieve excellence in conservation education and interpretation.

Action Items:

- Explore incentives for Region 4 employees that excel in interpretation and conservation education.
- Support training and professional development in interpretation and conservation education for FS personnel, volunteers, partners, informal educators, teachers and future educators. When appropriate, partner with other agencies, organizations or institutions of higher education.
- Explore ways to ensure front line interpretive and conservation education professionals versed in knowledge of audiences and resources, and appropriate technologies for delivery.
- Develop content material and make accessible to the Region, tools to improve communications and networking among interpretive and CE staff in the region as well as the public.
- Develop an internal dispersal system within the Intermountain Region for ICE related information, professional development and training.
- To survey forests and districts for application of current key messages as identified within their ICE materials, exhibits, facilities and programs.

DRAFT
Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest
Volunteer/Interpretive/Conservation Education Strategy
July 2009

Introduction

The Uinta-Wasatch-Cache (UWC) is a large forest covering over 2 million acres with 7 ranger districts which extends along many urban Utah communities. It has a very high visitor base of 9 million visitors (2008 NVUM) and is the second most visited forest in the nation. The Uinta and Wasatch-Cache National Forests combined and integrated in 2009 causing some consolidation and/or elimination of positions to save money and increase efficiency. This impacted volunteer and I&E coordinator positions across the Forest. A Forest-wide team was developed to maximize existing programs and identify more effective ways to work together. The purpose of this strategy is to develop goals and objectives for the team.

Current Conditions

Currently, the forest districts have been working independently to develop volunteer projects, interpretive messaging and educational activities. There are opportunities to work together for special events, but there generally haven't been sustained efforts. Each district possesses unique attributes and interests, but share common programs that often have common goals and themes. They include:

- Established volunteer days (National Trails Day, National Public Lands Day, etc)
- Scenic byways
- Outdoor ethics programs (Leave No Trace & Tread Lightly!)
- Visitor contact centers (Logan, Ogden, SLC, District Offices, and Strawberry V.C.)
- Working with partners (Backcountry Horsemen, Dedicated Hunters, Scouts, Cottonwood Canyons, etc)
- Volunteer projects

Some districts have unique programs that may benefit other districts, such as the trail adoption program on the Pleasant Grove Ranger District, the Wasatch Wildflower Festival on the Salt Lake Ranger District, Diamond Fork Youth Forest on the Spanish Fork Ranger District, and the OHV education trailer on the Mountain View/Evanston Ranger District.

Identified Issues and Challenges:

The UWC Volunteer/I&E team have identified specific issues and challenges for the program that need to be addressed as these efforts progress. They are:

- A public that is very interested in volunteer/I&E opportunities and programs
- Lack of sufficient funding and personnel
- Identification of dedicated personnel (whose job is it?)
- Dedicated office space for staff, volunteers and partners
- Time management issues – not enough time to do everything
- Assistance with graphic design for websites, brochures, information boards, etc
- Identification of common materials, i.e., brochures, lesson plans, forms, etc, that can be shared
- Marketing to “sell” the program to internal leadership

- Training assistance
- On-the-shelf project lists for volunteers
- Non-profit nurturing
- Availability of information that can readily be used for programming, etc

Key Messages

These key messages focus on the take home information that various audiences should receive regarding resources and management within Region 4. The key messages are broad statements that many themes can tie to. Related messages are concepts and topics that various forests would develop to share in a variety of ways. The UWC's messages are incorporated into this list to assure that would be in alignment with regional and national messages.

1) Topic: Water

Key Message: The National Forests in Region 4 (Intermountain) were designated to protect western watersheds where dynamic ecosystems rely on the presence or absence of water.

Forest Level Messages:

- Forests are water towers of the west -- the Forest Service manages these watersheds to store and provide clean water to the American people.
- Water is a limited resource with many competing demands for it
- Sustainability of our water resources dates back to the original intent of the Forest Service mandate of multiple uses.
- Climate change is going to change availability of water...exactly how is uncertain.
- Water based recreation is an important activity in Region 4.
- Our activities affect water quality within our watersheds by pollutants, sediments, erosion, stream quality and diversity of plant and animal life.

UWC Themes:

- The mountains and forests bordering the urban Salt Lake Valley are the source for drinking water for its residents and needs to be kept clean.
- Clean water is vital to healthy living for both humans and wildlife.
- Watersheds are important for providing clean water to communities along the Wasatch Front.
- Recreating responsibly (OHV, dogs) will protect our watersheds.

2) Topic: Management and Stewardship

Key Message: The Forest Service exercises our legal authorities, scientific expertise, and critical partnerships to balance resource sustainability against human needs.

Forest Level Messages:

- Caring for our National Forests in Region 4 requires using the best scientific information and tools to manage the resources for today.
 - The Forest Service has a long history of land management, and continues to change to reflect the values of the American public. (Build/reestablish credibility)

- Natural and cultural resources are finite resources with infinite demands.
- The irreplaceable heritage of public lands contain clues to the past and discoveries for the future requiring managers to make ongoing decisions that best serve conserving those landscapes.
- This region contains some of the most significant ecological resources within the entire US.
 - This region's landscapes contain one-third of the imperiled plant species within the entire United States, and the second highest imperiled list of plant species in US. [Need some clarification from Teresa for accuracy on this]
- Recreation is a human need and one of the many uses on Forest Service lands requiring different management and communication needs.

UWC Themes:

- Using the best available science to manage fires.
- Cooperation with our partners to protect and educate about our cultural and natural resources.
- Invasive species are a threat to healthy forest and water ecosystems.
- Watershed protection is critical element in national forest management.

3) Topic: People and the Land

Key Message:

People have relied on forests to sustain basic human needs (social, physical, and spiritual) for thousands of years. Forest public lands are a place for recreation and inspiration and require respect and wise use/stewardship to ensure protection for future generations.

Forest Level Messages:

- Just as humans always have, we still rely on natural resources for basic human needs, but are unaware of their origins.
- Forest and wilderness lands serve as a genetic repository of plant life for future knowledge.
- Human behavior on public lands affects the sustainability of the landscape for future generations.
- Forests provide multiple opportunities for American citizens to give back to the land.

UWC Themes:

- Protection of our resources requires that our visitors practice the principals of "Leave No Trace" and "Tread Lightly!"
- Communities have been and will continue to be connected to the land and were instrumental in the creation of the UWC.
- UWC provides a sanctuary for physical, mental, and spiritual renewal.
- UWC is a source of economic development through tourism, grazing, timber, oil and gas.
- Visitors are encouraged to recreate responsibly by respecting others and the land.

Goals and objectives for UWC Volunteer/I&E Program

Goal 1: Provide for an integrated volunteer/I&E program on the UWC that utilizes consistent messaging across all staff areas that interface with the public.

Objective 1.1 Ensure adequate resources and coordination to accomplish an effective and efficient program at all levels on the forest.

Action items:

- Coordinate and develop a comprehensive OHV and water education program, develop performance measurements as an evaluation tool.

Objective 1.2 Improve communications and coordination among team members to ensure effective operations.

Action items: Team members will meet quarterly.

- Establish a volunteer/I&E Forest blog (or similar digital program) for staff to share information.
- Team members will produce an annual report for the Leadership Team.

Objective 1.3 Explore alternative and creative message delivery

Action items:

Create an educational geocaching adventure on one district by summer 2010.

Produce an Ipod blip on recreational opportunities within the next three years.

Goal 2: Coordinate the development and delivery of high-quality interpretive and conservation education programs and materials.

Objective 2.1 Improve utilization of Forest, Regional and National Forest Service resources and information in providing quality programs.

Action items:

- Develop model based on Diamond Fork Youth Forest to use with underrepresented groups, i.e. west-side Salt Lake City schools by March 2010.
- Implement Mountain View/Evanston OHV program Forest-wide by April 2010.
- Make suggestions for improvements to the regional IS/CE toolbox to assure forest needs are met.
- Utilize the national Youth, Volunteer, and Hosted web page to guide volunteer program management.
- Develop a 'Forest for Every Classroom' program for each district to use.

Objective 2.2 Ensure that the UWC volunteer/I&E program supports and enhance the ability of employees to achieve excellence.

Action items:

- Provide training and professional development for volunteer/I&E coordinators and program managers, volunteers, and partners. When appropriate, partner with other agencies, organizations or institutions of higher education.

- Survey/audit districts for application of current key messages within their public programming and materials.
- Participate in monthly regional IS/CE conference calls to gain information on other programs being implemented in the region.

Objective 2.3 Explore creative and sustainable funding sources.

Action items:

- Actively seek out new partners for assistance in program development and sustainability.
- Support creation of non-profit Forest association by recommending projects and activities to generate support.
- Identify additional grant opportunities.

Goal 3: Coordinate and implement highly successful and sustainable volunteer programs.

Objective 3.1 Ensure volunteer projects continue to provide for safe and high quality experience.

Action items:

- Ensure volunteer agreements and JHAs are in place before project begins.
- Develop on-the-shelf projects that can extend across district boundaries.

Objective 3.2 Actively seek to expand “what’s working” volunteer projects across the Forest.

Action items:

- Identify projects that can be standardized for each district, i.e. adopt-a-
programs, volunteer OHV education patrols, service learning projects for
groups.

Interpretive Service Program Plan

The Personal Service Planning Form is something the supervisor fills out with key management objectives and general direction on how to conduct the specific interpretive activities. The form can include a specific topic you want covered, i.e. Forest Service mission talking points, zebra mussel talking points, etc. The cost estimates can then be plugged into the annual project work plan. At the beginning of the season the forms are given to the interpreter who is responsible for developing these programs on the Individual Service Plan. The Planning Form could also be filled out and given to concessionaires or partners that are conducting programs, particularly at the beginning of the season on specific topics that you want to make sure they cover throughout the season.

Individual Service Plan

The Individual Service Plan is filled out by the interpreter and includes the details of the specific program. It can then be maintained in the District file for use by other interpreters in the future. It includes enough outline and reference materials so that another interpreter could put the program on with less research. It is also helpful to keep track of when and where the programs are given and how many attend the program. Additional notes concerning weather, particularly if it affects attendance, are also important. This file can then be used at the end of the season to help calculate total numbers and cost per program. This can be kept in a separate card file, or attached at the end of the Plan. Program attendance helps demonstrate which topics have great appeal. Sometimes, by reviewing how the topic was presented, changes can be made in the program to make it better or more exciting.

Program Evaluation

The program evaluation can be filled out by a resource manager or supervisor of the interpreter. Evaluations are useful in helping determine if you are meeting your interpretive objective. They allow for refining your program and approach and can help the interpreter to improve the program.

Interpretive Services Planning Form

Interpretive Service <i>(i.e. tour / program / roving interpreter / etc)</i>	
Management Objective <i>(i.e. reduce vandalism / etc.)</i>	
Why are you using this method?	
Where is the program located?	
Length of Program	
Characteristics of Service <i>(i.e. physical conditions / are there weather issues)</i>	
Alternatives <i>(i.e. backup plan / do you cancel if there is rain or offer an alternative location?)</i>	
References <i>List key reference books on the interpretive subject and interpretive techniques</i>	
Areas of Concern or Special Factors	
Program History <i>(i.e. this service has been provided since xxxx.)</i>	
Cost Estimate	
Prepared by	Date:

Interpretive Services Planning Form -- Sample

Interpretive Service <i>(i.e. tour / program / roving interpreter / etc)</i>	Roving interpreter, short informal – Welcome to the Forest
Management Objective <i>(i.e. reduce vandalism / etc.)</i>	Provide visitors information to successfully use and enjoy the forest, reduce vandalism and litter.
Why are you using this method?	To orient visitors at the beginning of their visit, provide information so they can best use their time
Where is the program located?	Entry kiosk location
Length of Program	5 minutes or less
Characteristics of Service <i>(i.e. physical conditions / are there weather issues)</i>	Informal informational talk should be flexible to allow for questions
Alternatives <i>(i.e. backup plan / do you cancel if there is rain or offer an alternative location?)</i>	If weather is bad, move under awning at bookstore
References <i>List key reference books on the interpretive subject and interpretive techniques</i>	Interpretation for the 21 st Century, Environmental Interpretation – A Practical Guide...
Areas of Concern or Special Factors	Want to reach visitors early in their visit. Look at Job Hazard Analysis (JHA) for interpretive programs in Health and Safety Code handbook
Program History <i>(i.e. this service has been provided since xxxx.)</i>	This has never been done at this location
Cost Estimate	Seasonal- GS4, \$85/day X 110 days= \$9,350 plus vehicle -- @ \$3,000
Prepared by Smokey Bear	Date:

Individual Service Plan Form

Program Topic	
Theme	
Objectives <i>(i.e. as a result of this program, visitors will... objectives can be learning, behavioral, or emotional)</i>	
Program Outline	
Length of Program	
Where / When	
Materials	
Concerns	
References <i>List key reference books on the interpretive subject and interpretive techniques</i>	
Prepared by	Date:

Individual Service Plan Form -- Sample

Program Topic	Bighorn Sheep
Theme	Bighorn sheep, a majestic symbol of the Rocky Mountains, historically ranged throughout the Bighorn Mountain Range and now their continued existence is due to conservation efforts by federal and state agencies.
Objectives <i>(i.e. as a result of this program, visitors will... objectives can be learning, behavioral, or emotional)</i>	As a result of this program, visitors will be able to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tell why sheep live in this area. • Tell the difference between Bighorn sheep, mountain goats, deer, and domestic sheep. • Explain the management policies of the FS and Fish and Game as they relate to Bighorn Sheep.
Program Outline	<p>Introduction</p> <p>Body</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where can commonly see Bighorn Sheep and how to identify / physical characteristics / horns (not antlers) groom and broom / coats bleach out in summer / Numbers in and locations of herds / male and female how they live / how humans impact Bighorn sheep / hunting policies <p>Conclusion and Review</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where to see / best time to see Bighorn sheep / human impacts • Repeat theme and end with quote
Length of Program	40 Minutes plus Q&A's
Where / When	Overhang Campground Amphitheater, Fri & Sat 8PM for month of June
Materials	Bighorn Skulls and skins, photos, maps– powerpoint presentation
Concerns	
References <i>List key reference books on the interpretive subject and interpretive techniques</i>	Sierra Club Naturalist's Guide
Program Given	5/09 Big Bend VC (200 people), 6/09 Timberline Falls (150 people), 7/09 Timberline Falls (30 people—rained)
Prepared by Smokey Bear	Date:

Program Evaluation Form

Program Topic / Activity	
Presenter	
Date / Time	
Location	
Pre-Program <i>(Arrives early to check equipment and mix with the group, set-up, begins on time)</i>	
Introduction <i>(Welcome, description of program, announces other activities, intro linked to main theme)</i>	
Rules / Regulations <i>(Safety message, regulations and rationale)</i>	
Theme / Message <i>(Introduce theme and work into program or activity, organization, transitions)</i>	
Sincerity / Enthusiasm <i>(Positive and enthusiastic, effective illustration)</i>	
Content / Accuracy <i>(Technically accurate, appropriate for and relevant to audience, addresses a "bigger idea")</i>	

Stops / Logistics <i>(Pace, positioning, group management, group involvement and interaction)</i>	
Speaking Style <i>(Tone and speed, voice projection, articulate, eye contact)</i>	
Conclusions <i>(Recognizable, restatement of theme, stimulates thought and gives ideas for future actions)</i>	
Additional Comments	
Reviewer:	Date:

This list may be of assistance in identifying the strong and weak points of installed wayside exhibits. In the blanks provided, answer questions "yes" or "no". A separate sheet should be completed for each exhibit being evaluated.

WAYSIDE EXHIBIT EVALUATION CHECKLIST

Name and location of exhibit: _____

CONTENT _____

1. _____ Is the **topic** interesting, significant and appropriate?
2. _____ Is this a **logical** location for this subject?
3. _____ Is the exhibit **content** accurate?
4. _____ Are sentences and paragraphs **clear, concise and correct**?
5. _____ Are the **graphics** effective
6. _____ Does the panel contain the right amount of **information**?
7. _____ Does the exhibit accomplish the **purpose** stated in the exhibit plan?
8. _____ Is the exhibit consistent with the **theme, goals and objectives** of the interpretive plan?

EXHIBIT DESIGN _____

1. _____ Is there a good **balance** of text and graphics?
2. _____ Are the panel **colors** pleasing and easy on the eyes?
3. _____ Does the **arrangement** of text and graphics aid comprehension?
4. _____ Is the **type** legible and readable?
5. _____ Are **captions** complete and properly placed?
6. _____ Is the panel **size and shape** appropriate for the subject?
7. _____ Are panel and base **materials** appropriate for the site?

INSTALLATIONS/MAINTENANCE _____

1. _____ Was the exhibit installed so as to be **unobtrusive** to natural resources?
2. _____ Is there a **level, hard-surfaced exhibit pad** of adequate size?
3. _____ Is the site **accessible** to visitors, including the mobility - impaired?
4. _____ Is the exhibit **plumb, level, and solidly anchored**?
6. _____ Is the exhibit **clean** and in **good condition**?
7. _____ Has the **vista** from the exhibit site been properly maintained?

COMMENTS: _____

Adapted from the Wayside Exhibit Evaluation Checklist of Guidelines for Planning, Designing and Producing Wayside Exhibits, National Park Service, Harpers Ferry Center, Division of Wayside Exhibits., 1992.

INTERPRETIVE EXHIBIT FORM
Interpretive Media Information for the XX Facility

Purpose of Exhibit:

Topic/Key Message(s):

Theme:

Audience:

Objectives - As a result of visitors interacting with this exhibit they will (feel, think, do):

Suggested Media:

Needs/Requirements: (electrical, audio, plumbing)

Suggested Graphic/Audio Needs: (specific photos, artwork, music)

Approximate Size and Location of the Exhibit within the Facility:

Design Notes/Instructions:

Estimated Cost:

Estimated Operation & Maintenance Cost of Exhibit:

Guidelines for Interpretive Media Design

Following are some basic guidelines for the preparation and design of interpretive media:

Accessibility

For specific guidelines on accessibility, see the SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION ACCESSIBILITY PROGRAM and the Accessibility Guidelines.

Captions

Captions for graphics can be used to meet learning objectives and capture the theme; some visitors look only at graphics so the graphic and its caption should be a learning opportunity on its own.

Color and Contrast

Use contrasting colors for text and background for ease of reading.

Corporate Image

Incorporate Forest name, shield, FS Mission – Caring for the Land and Serving People and perhaps a forest “look” – i.e. representative pine branch that appears on all signs, brochures, etc. (See samples of such signs on website.)

Layout/Design

In general, signs should contain 1/3 graphics, 1/3 text, and 1/3 blank space.

Margins

Margins on text should be flush on the left side and ragged on the right.

Mounting Height

A mounting height of 24 to 30 inches with a 30 to 45 degree angle toward the viewers will be accessible to most visitors.

Site Compatibility

Make sure the sign is compatible with the site, the Built Environment Image Guide (BEIG) and the Recreation Opportunity Spectrum classification as far as color, size, frame, etc. It should enhance the site, not detract from it.

Simplicity

The main body of text should be no more than two paragraphs of three or four short sentences. Keep text to 150. (Up to 300 words maximum if using captions and smaller fonts (18) for secondary text or captions.)

Text

The text should be written with the “3-30-3” rule in mind. You have 3 seconds to hook the visitor, 30 seconds if they are hooked, and 3 minutes if they are very interested. A sign can be designed and written so that it contains three levels of text with each level conveying a feeling of the theme, thus providing all visitors with an interpretive

opportunity. For example, a short title at the top of a sign might be the only text some visitors read, so it is important the learning objectives for the site be met to some degree even at the 3 second timeframe. I.e. National Forests – An American Legacy – followed by subheadings – Many Uses, Many People, Many Values, A Balancing Act.

Titles

The titles of a sign or brochure should be a statement of a theme. For example, “Salvaging Blowdown – A **T**remendous Renewable Resource” sets the stage for talking about how trees are a renewable resource.

Typeface

Use simple serif typeface or sans serif, upper and lower case, with a minimum 18 point type size on signs. Titles: 72 – 60 point, Subtitles: 48 – 40 point, Body Text – 24 point, Captions: 18 point. (Complies with suggested sizes for visually impaired as per National Park Service Recommendations.)

These are just a few of the hints for designing interpretive media. The following resources listed below go into more detail:

Design Resources

Interpretation of Cultural and Natural Resources, by Douglas M. Knudson, Ted T. Cable, and Larry Beck, Venture Publishing, Inc., State College, PA. (814) 234-4561

Interpretation for the 21st Century – Fifteen Guiding Principles for Interpreting Nature and Culture, by Larry Beck and Ted Cable, Sagamore Publishing, Champaign, IL

Sign, Trails, and Wayside Exhibits Connecting People and Places, by Suzanne Trapp, Michael Gross and Ron Zimmerman, College of Natural Resources, UWSP, Stevens Point, WI 54481 (715) 346-2076

The Graphics of Communication, A. Turnbull and R. Baird

The Interpreter’s Handbook, by Russell K. Grater, Southwest Parks and Monuments Association.

Environmental Interpretation – A Practical Guide for People with Big Ideas and Small Budgets, by Sam H. Ham, North American Press, Golden, Colorado

Graphic Standards for Landscape Architects, Austin, Dunbar, Hulverson, and Todd; Von Norstrand Reinhold Co., New York

Accessibility Guidelines for Interpretive Planning

1. Include captioning on all films/videos. Captioning must be visible when video is shown in public.
2. Make brochures available in alternate formats, including large print (18 point), and available in audio, and computer disc format upon request.
3. Make web sites fully accessible in compliance with Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act.
4. Offer an accessibility guide, available in alternative formats, and include the guide on your web site.
5. Make sure all signage related to accessibility are appropriately posted and use appropriate language and terminology (i.e. “Accessible Parking” instead of “Handicap Parking,” etc.)
6. Involve people with disabilities in planning, design, etc.
7. Provide written scripts wherever audio information is presented.
8. Create accessible routes to exhibits.
9. Display content of information redundantly or in part – aurally, tactually, and visually when appropriate.
10. Eliminate obstructions to viewing exhibits (i.e. high pedestals, railings, etc.)
11. Use large (18 point), sans serif, high contrast print.
12. All materials for distribution of examination are to be within the reach ranges stated in the accessibility guidelines –maximum forward reach of 48”, maximum side reach of 54”. All controls must operable with one closed fist and force of no greater than 5 lbs.
13. Use Braille only where it counts...restrooms, elevators, etc. Develop Braille site maps and key brochures as appropriate.

Note Statistics on Visual Impairments: 11 million people are visually impaired, 5% are blind, and only 0.25% -0.35% actually read Braille. The 95% with low vision would benefit most from **large print (18 point)**.

Accessibility Web Sites

National Center on Accessibility (www.indiana.edu/~nca/nca.html)
U.S. Architectural & Transport. Barriers Compliance Board (www.access-board.gov)
U.S. Census Bureau (www.census.gov/hhes/www/disable.html)
Abledata (www.abledata.com)
International Disability Access Symbols (www.gag.org/das/)
Center for Universal Design (www.design.ncsu.edu:8120/cud/)
National Institute on Disability & Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR)
(www.ed.gov/offices/OSERS/NIDRR/index.html)
Trace Research & Development Center (www.trace.wisc.edu/index.html)
Project Action (www.projectaction.org)
Wilderness Inquiry (www.wildernessinquiry.org)
Beneficial Designs (www.beneficialdesigns.com/)
National Center on Accessible Media (www.wgbh.org/wgbh/index.html)
Disability & Business Tech. Assist. Centers (www.ncddr.org/urlist/adatech.html)
U.S. Department of Justice (www.usdoj.gov/crt/ada/adahoml.htm) ADA home page