

Brief Summary of Santa Catalina Collaborative Alternative Team (CAT) Process

Prior to the first Santa Catalina District CAT meeting held on March 8, 2012, Core and Santa Catalina CAT members performed pre-work which included reviewing maps, routes, and information about the routes in the Santa Catalina District's proposed action. At the meeting, at the request of CAT members, District Ranger Stan Helin and staff from the Santa Catalina District provided an overview of the District's Travel Management Process to date, described in general the current system of routes, and answered questions from the CAT about specific routes and rationales for the District's proposed Action. Based on these resources and getting input from others, CAT members determined which routes in the proposed action they disagreed with. At the end of the March 8 meeting, the CAT requested to meet again on March 13 to continue their work on collaboratively developing an alternative to the Santa Catalina District's proposed action. At CAT members' request, a third meeting was held on April 18, to discuss a subset of CAT members' proposals related to proposed parking in the Redington Pass area and routes in the Happy Valley area. For a list of CAT members, U.S. Forest Service staff, and U.S. Institute staff attending the meetings, please see Appendix A.

At all three meetings, members of the public were given the opportunity to attend and provide written comments. Also, the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) staff helped CAT members locate routes on maps, answered questions, and served as resources for CAT information requests at all three meetings.

At the March 8 Santa Catalina CAT Meeting, CAT members placed dots on spreadsheets on the wall indicating routes where they disagreed with the proposed action. At the March 13 meeting, using those spreadsheets, areas of agreement and disagreement were enumerated and CAT members discussed 17 routes about which there was the most disagreement and achieved consensus on 12 of the 17 routes.

At the April 18, 2012 Santa Catalina CAT Meeting, CAT members considered proposals related to Happy Valley routes developed by a subgroup of the CAT and a proposal related to proposed parking in the Redington Pass area developed by one of the CAT members. The CAT did not reach consensus on the Happy Valley routes proposals. They did recommend that the District Ranger explore where, near the Three Ponds area in Redington Pass, an enclosed, reinforced parking area that prevents jumping off points for motorized vehicles from the parking area, such as an enclosed cul-de-sac, might be provided by the Forest Service. At the end of the meeting, CAT members agreed that their work on the Santa Catalina District collaboratively developed alternative was complete.

Statistics

Statistics for the Santa Catalina proposed action are as follows:

- The total number of routes in the Santa Catalina proposed action is 147.

Statistics for the CAT's collaboratively developed alternative for Santa Catalina are as follows:

- CAT members reached consensus on 68 routes. These routes automatically go into the collaboratively developed alternative. (See Santa Catalina Appendix B.)
- CAT members did not reach consensus on 79 routes from the proposed action. The Santa Catalina District Ranger will now decide how to address those routes in this alternative. (See Santa Catalina Appendix B.)

- Once the Santa Catalina District Ranger completes work on the remaining routes for this alternative, the final alternative will be presented to CAT members and the public and analyzed under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

Appendices

- Santa Catalina Appendix A: List of Core and Nogales CAT members, number of public attendees, and list of USFS staff present at each meeting
- Santa Catalina Appendix B: Results of Collaborative Alternative Team Consensus Building Process on the Santa Catalina Ranger District