



MAMMOTH TRAILS COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday, April 13, 2017 @ 3pm

Mammoth Lakes Tourism and Recreation Conference Room

2520 Main Street, Mammoth Lakes, California

www.mammothlakesrecreation.org | www.mammothtrails.org

NOTE: In compliance with the American with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please call (760) 934-4932. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable MLR to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting. (28CFR 35.102-35.104 ADA Title II)

NOTE: All comments will be limited by the Chair to a speaking time of five-minutes.

ROLL CALL

Committee Members: Finlay Torrance, Dan Holler, Alan Jacoby, Heather Schaubmayer, Elise Howell and David Page

PUBLIC COMMENT (On items not on the Agenda)

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

1. Approval of the agenda
2. Approval of the meeting minutes for February 23, 2017
 - a. Attachment 1
3. Potential MTC Candidate Introductions
4. Third Quarter Budget Report and Fourth Quarter Budget Reallocation Request
 - a. Attachment 2
5. SHARP Environmental Analysis for USFS Presentation
 - a. Materials to be projected at meeting
6. Review of MLR Budget Recommendations to Town Council
7. Summer 2017 Preview
 - a. New Trail Construction – SHARP ID #13, #18
 - b. Trail Maintenance
 - c. Trailhead Maintenance
 - d. Summer of Stewardship Trail Days
 - e. LABSS Trail Alignment Studies
 - f. Inyo Craters – Shady Rest Planning
 - g. Trail Workshop
8. National Forest System Trails Stewardship Act
 - a. Attachment 3
9. Potential MTC Candidate Confirmation



COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS

REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

ADJOURNMENT

To the next meeting of the Mammoth Trails Committee which will occur on May 11, 2017, at 3 pm. I hereby certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing agenda was posted in the Mammoth Lakes Tourism & Recreation outside showcase not less than 72 hours prior to the meeting dated as April 6, 2017.

Rich Boccia, MLR Executive Director



February 23, 2017, Mammoth Trails Committee Meeting Minutes
Mammoth Lakes Tourism and Recreation Conference Room,
2520 Main St, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

ROLL CALL

Chair Page called the meeting to order at 3:11 p.m. at the Mammoth Lakes Tourism and Recreation Conference Room, 2520 Main St, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546. Present: David Page, Finley Torrance, Elise Howell, Alan Jacoby, Dan Holler.

PUBLIC COMMENT

John Wentworth – building a partnership with the Forest Service to strategize over trail heads, building toilets, and other trail service things. Walk-Bike-Ride Program: They are asking for a policy on e-bicycles. The idea is to encourage more people to use the FROCO (Front Country) areas and take pressure off the wilderness areas.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

1. Approval of the Agenda: approved
2. Approval of the meeting minutes for January 12, 2017 (M Page, S Holler 5-0)
3. Winter Program – Trails Coordinator Update: Joel Rathje gave an update on the Shady Rest Winters Trails, Sherwin's Access Signage, Poo Fairy Program and the ESAC Integration on the MLTS Website.
4. MLTS Sign / Map Updates and Repair: Motion to recommend to MLR moving the \$24,550.60 for Trail Signage up to Town Council for approval. (M Jacoby, S Howell 5-0)
5. MLTPA 5-year Budget Outline: Rathje gave an overview of the proposed 5 year Budget. Motion to approve 5 Year Budget for commitment of stated dollars between operations and capital and incorporate elements as presented by MTC and edited by Joel Rathje. (M Holler, S Torrance 5-0)
6. Budget Approval Schedule: The 5 Year Budget will be presented to MLR on April 4, 2017. MTC Board is forgoing the March 9, 2017 Board Meeting.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Mammoth Trails Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 4:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Emily Woods
Program Administrator, Mammoth Lakes Recreation

Program Area	Project Name	OPERATING BALANCE	REALLOCATION REQUEST		RESERVE	BALANCE
		END Q3	FOR Q4		INITIATION	START Q4
		31-Mar-17	MTC IN	MTC OUT	13-Apr-17	1-Apr-17
Planning						
Collaborative Processes	Inyo Craters Shady Rest Planning	\$ 6,247.18				\$ 6,247.18
Design		\$ 6,247.18	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,247.18
Project Design	SHARP – Trail Design	\$ (15.48)				\$ (15.48)
Trail Alignment Studies	SHARP - Trail Alignment Studies	\$ (2,871.17)	\$ 8,000.00			\$ 5,128.83
	LABSS - Trail Alignment Studies	\$ 250.00				\$ 250.00
Implementation		\$ (2,636.65)	\$ 8,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,363.35
Easement/ Access Neg.	Sherwins – Winter Access/Egress	\$ 2,392.80		\$ (2,000.00)		\$ 392.80
Environmental - Project	SHARP Environmental - NEPA/CEQA - TOML	\$ 117,500.00		\$ (17,500.00)		\$ 100,000.00
	SHARP Environmental - NEPA/CEQA - MLTPA	\$ 6,500.00		\$ (6,500.00)		\$ -
Implementation/ Construct	SHARP – Trail Construction Fund	\$ -			\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
	Signage and Wayfinding – Map Updates & Repair - TOML	\$ 12,401.06		\$ (9,000.00)		\$ 3,401.06
	Signage and Wayfinding – Map Updates & Repair - MLTPA	\$ (1,961.57)	\$ 12,000.00			\$ 10,038.43
	Soft Surface Signage Implementation	\$ 5,990.99				\$ 5,990.99
Operations		\$ 142,823.28	\$ 12,000.00	\$ (35,000.00)	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 139,823.28
Governance	TOML Staff Time for MLTS Projects Support	\$ 3,500.00		\$ (3,500.00)		\$ -
	MLTS Trails Coordinator + Support	\$ 22,071.91				\$ 22,071.91
	Project Management Support	\$ 14,742.48		\$ (5,400.00)		\$ 9,342.48
	MLTS Action Plan + Annual Budget	\$ 960.14		\$ (500.00)		\$ 460.14
Interagency Coordination	MLTS Communications	\$ 2,356.18				\$ 2,356.18
Website	MLTS Website Operations and Maintenance	\$ 5,594.66				\$ 5,594.66
	MLTS Website – TOML Tech Support	\$ 1,000.00		\$ (1,000.00)		\$ -
	MLTS Website – Content Development	\$ 8,853.53				\$ 8,853.53
Information Systems	MLTS Data Library	\$ 1,372.02	\$ 12,000.00			\$ 13,372.02
Interpretive	MLTS Interpretive Program	\$ 2,000.00				\$ 2,000.00
Image Library	MLTS Photo and Image Library	\$ 2,000.00				\$ 2,000.00
Maintenance		\$ 64,450.92	\$ 12,000.00	\$ (10,400.00)	\$ -	\$ 66,050.92
MUP Maintenance	MLTS Winter Mobility Program	\$ 2,000.00		\$ (2,000.00)		\$ -
Soft Surface Trail Maint.	MLTS Trail Days - FOI	\$ 3,238.84		\$ (3,238.84)		\$ -
	MLTS Trail Days - MLTPA	\$ 2,382.33	\$ 3,238.84			\$ 5,621.17
	Soft Surface Trail Maintenance Program	\$ (3,896.21)	\$ 14,500.00			\$ 10,603.79
Nordic Trail Maint.	MLTS – Winter Grooming	\$ 11,807.67				\$ 11,807.67
Trailhead Maintenance	MLTS Trailhead Maintenance	\$ 2,517.58	\$ 2,900.00			\$ 5,417.58
Stewardship		\$ 18,050.21	\$ 20,638.84	\$ 5,238.84		\$ 33,450.21
Mammoth Trails	Mammoth Trails	\$ 1,318.10	\$ 3,000.00			\$ 4,318.10
Adopt A Trail	Adopt A Trail	\$ 2,500.00				\$ 2,500.00
Marketing/Promotion		\$ 3,818.10	\$ 3,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,818.10
Trail Maps / Guides	Maps and Trail Guides - Development	\$ 5,235.17		\$ (5,000.00)		\$ 235.17
		\$ 5,235.17	\$ -	\$ 5,000.00	\$ -	\$ 235.17
		\$ 237,988.21	\$ 55,638.84	\$ 55,638.84	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 257,988.21



U.S. Forest Service
Inyo National Forest
351 Pacu Lane, Suite 200
Bishop, CA 93514

News Release

For Immediate Release:
March 20, 2017
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The Pacific Southwest Region invites public to help identify priority trail maintenance work *Partners, volunteers integral to addressing maintenance backlog*

The Pacific Southwest Region (Region 5) is inviting the public to help identify trails that will be part of a U.S. Forest Service effort with partners and volunteers to increase the pace of trail maintenance.

Nationwide, the Forest Service will select nine to 15 priority areas among its nine regions where a backlog in trail maintenance contributed to reduced access, potential harm to natural resources or trail users and/or has the potential for increased future deferred maintenance costs.

Region 5 manages more than 16,000 miles of trails enjoyed by 16,100,000 users each year. In Region 5, volunteers and partner groups contributed more than 178,000 hours in maintenance and repair of nearly 2,984 miles of trails last year.

“We are counting on our fellow Californians to help us identify where maintenance is needed,” said Randy Moore, regional forester for the Pacific Southwest Region. “The forest visitors who enjoy these trails year-round are the best source of information for what’s needed on the ground, and we’re counting on their expertise and willingness to help.”

Region 5 has until April 15 to submit at least three regional proposals to National Headquarters. Those proposals will be weighed against proposal submitted by other Forest Service regions.

The trail maintenance effort is outlined in the National Forest System Trails Stewardship Act of 2016 and aims to increase trail maintenance by volunteers and partners by 100% by the end of 2021.

The selected sites will be part of the initial focus that will include a mosaic of areas with known trail maintenance needs that include areas near urban and remote areas, such as wilderness, are of varying sizes and trail lengths, are motorized and non-motorized, and those that incorporate a varied combination of partner and volunteer approaches and solutions.

The Forest Service manages more than 158,000 miles of trail – the largest trail system in the nation – providing motorized and non-motorized trail access across 154 national forests and grasslands. These Forest Service trails are well-loved and highly used with more than 84 million trail visits annually, helping to support mostly rural economies.

-more-

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.



The Forest Service receives widespread support from tens of thousands of volunteers and partners each year who, in 2015, contributed nearly 1.4 million hours – a value of about \$31.6 million – in maintenance and repair of nearly 30,000 miles of trails.

However, limited funding compounded by the rising cost of wildfire operations, has resulted in less than 25 percent of Forest Service trails meeting all of the agency’s standards for safety, quality recreation and economic and environmental sustainability. The remaining trails meet standard to varying degrees.

To provide ideas and suggestions on potential priority areas and approaches for incorporating increased trail maintenance assistance from partners and volunteers, contact your local Forest Service office or Regional Trail Program Manager Garrett Villanueva at gvillanueva@fs.fed.us by April 7.

The mission of the U.S. Forest Service, an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, 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 agency manages 193 million acres of public land, provides assistance to state and private landowners and maintains the largest forestry research organization in the world. Public lands the Forest Service manages contribute more than \$13 billion to the economy each year through visitor spending alone. Those same lands provide 20 percent of the nation’s clean water supply, a value estimated at \$7.2 billion per year. The agency also has either a direct or indirect role in stewardship of about 80 percent of the 850 million forested acres within the U.S., of which 100 million acres are urban forests where most Americans live.

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Town of Mammoth Lakes
P.O. Box 1609, Mammoth Lakes, CA, 93546
(760) 934-8989
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Dear Mr. Villanueva,

The Town of Mammoth Lakes is a proud partner with Inyo National Forest and has been actively involved in trail related projects for many years. Beginning in 2007, 11 agencies, organizations, and businesses entered into an MOU (The Trails Commission MOU) to establish and provide a working public/private cooperative framework, or collaborative planning process, directed toward the establishment and maintenance of a system of public trails providing reasonable access to and enjoyment of public lands that are both within and surround the Town. In conjunction with the development of the Trails Commission MOU, the Town of Mammoth Lakes prepared and adopted a Trail System Master Plan outlining a program of trails development, maintenance, and promotion as a framework for implementation of the Mammoth Lakes Trail System (MLTS). The Mammoth Lakes Town Council adopted Resolution R12-940-10 on February 1, 2012 to establish and formalize a high level of interagency cooperation with the USDA Inyo National Forest with FS Agreement No. 13-MU-11050400-013 to plan, design, implement, construct, operate, maintain, and promote an integrated year-round trail system to be known as the Mammoth Lakes Trail System (MLTS). The purpose of the MOU is to document the cooperation between the parties to create an enhanced trails-based recreational experience using a comprehensive program of physical trail improvements; integrated wayfinding and interpretation using both traditional and contemporary communication formats; and continuing system maintenance.

In May of 2013, a Master Challenge Cost Share Agreement (13-CS-11050400-032) was approved and signed by the USFS and the Town of Mammoth Lakes to document the cooperation between the parties to implement trail and facility construction, maintenance and promotion projects. Subsequent Supplemental Project Agreements have been approved and signed in recent months and years for specific efforts.

The Town of Mammoth Lakes is in a unique position to be able to maintain, optimize, and expand trail facilities. In 2008, the Mammoth Lakes Recreation, Trails, and Parks Investment Initiative (Measure R) was adopted by Town Council and approved by the voters of Mammoth Lakes. The Ordinance imposed a Transactions and Use Tax in the amount of one-half percent for the purpose of funding Recreation, Trails and Parks. Measure R is a special fund designated for use by the Town of Mammoth Lakes only for the planning, construction, operation, maintenance, programming and administration of all trails, parks and recreation facilities managed by the Town of Mammoth Lakes.

In August 2015, The Town of Mammoth Lakes hired a Trails Coordinator to administer the Mammoth Lakes Trail System program. In May 2016, a Non Funded Challenge Cost Share Agreement was approved and signed specifically for trail maintenance (16-CS-11050400-036). The Mammoth Lakes Trail System Trail Maintenance Program includes about 30 miles of soft surface trails within the municipal boundary of the Town. During the 2016 season, about 15 miles of trails were maintained, 82 Type 9a wayfinding signs were installed, and over 1000 pounds of trash were removed from public lands.

The Town of Mammoth Lakes is very interested in the Forest Service Trail Strategy, National Forest System Trails Stewardship Act of 2016, and the 50th anniversary of the National Trails Systems Act in 2018. We agree that this convergence presents a pivotal opportunity for all of us to increase our focus and expand our collaborative efforts to achieve a lasting legacy that ensures a highly valued and sustainable trail system for generations to come.

The Town of Mammoth Lakes is strategically positioned to be able to help the Forest Service to fulfill the major requirements and deliverables of the National Forest System Trails Stewardship Act:

- Double Partner and Volunteer Contribution within five Years
- Develop National Trail Volunteer and Partner Strategy
- Study the Use of Fire Crews in Trail Maintenance
- Implement Priority Trail Maintenance Program (in nine to 15 Nationally Selected Areas)
- Establish Outfitter and Guide Stewardship Credit Pilot Program (on at least 20 National Forests)
- Submit Report on Findings to Congress

We are particularly interested in studying the use of fire crews in trail maintenance. The Town of Mammoth Lakes Trails Coordinator has been using fire crews in trail maintenance and construction for over twelve years.

The Town of Mammoth Lakes hopes that you will consider our community and our beautiful landscape as you work to identify and rank recommended priority areas to your national office by April 15th, 2017. Our efforts can be used as a model as the Forest Service implements the National Strategy for a Sustainable Trail System in the context of Sustainable Recreation.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Joel Rathje
Trails Coordinator
P.O. Box 1609
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546
Phone: 760-934-1769