

Friends of the Inyo

Multi-Year Measure U Programming

FY 2019/2020

FY 2020/2021

FY2021/2022

Multi-Year Program Funding Ask:

FY 19/20 Ask: \$17,000.00

FY 20/21 Ask: \$17,000.00

FY 21/22 Ask: \$17,000.00

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Measure R & U Allocation Application

Type of Request	Programming
Name of the Organization, Lead Agency, or Individual	Friends of the Inyo
Name of the Program or Project:	Friends of the Inyo Trail Ambassador in Mammoth Lakes

Purpose of the proposed Program or Project and include a detailed schedule with a timeline, dates, programs and venue:

Vision

Friends of the Inyo's Trail Ambassadors seek to ignite a passion for the Eastern Sierra's public lands, connecting visitors and local residents with our region's special places through education, interpretation, and hands-on restoration. A highly successful pilot season of this program in 2017 introduced nearly 1,000 visitors to Leave No Trace ethics and generated over 300 hours of volunteer service. With enthusiastic support from the Inyo National Forest, Friends of the Inyo expanded the program in 2018, staffing trails throughout the Eastern Sierra from Mount Whitney to Yosemite. A crucial component of this region-wide program was a Trail Ambassador located in Mammoth Lakes: a professional presence dedicated to providing stewarding and education on the Mammoth Lakes Trail System.

Strong Local Partnerships

Friends of the Inyo has a long history of stewardship and educational accomplishments on the Mammoth Lakes Trail System. We have established lasting partnerships with the Town of Mammoth Lakes, Mammoth Lakes Recreation, Mammoth Lakes Trails and Public Access, and the Inyo National Forest. In 2019, we look forward to another season of collaboration with these organizations. In preliminary meetings, the Inyo National Forest and the Town of Mammoth Lakes Trails Coordinator have indicated their enthusiasm for the 2019 Mammoth Lakes Trail Ambassador program. To ensure the program's successful integration with other efforts to care for the Mammoth Lakes Trail System, we will regularly discuss schedules and proposed projects with the Mammoth Trails Coordinator, the Inyo National Forest, and Mammoth Lakes Trails and Public Access.

A Presence During Peak Times

We understand that the Mammoth Lakes Trail System often faces its heaviest burden at

times when town, county, and agency staff are unavailable. Friends of the Inyo understands that weekends and holidays, and especially holiday weekends, during peak summer visitation season, are times of critical need on the Mammoth Lakes Trail System. We are committed to work with town and agency staff to develop a schedule that enables the Mammoth Lakes Trail Ambassador, who at times of heavy demand will be assisted by other members of the Trail Ambassador team, to steward, educate, and inspire at those critical times.

Interpretation

One goal of the Trail Ambassador program is to share the stories of our region's natural and cultural history. The Mammoth Lakes Trail Ambassador will lead weekly interpretive walks from locations in the Mammoth Lakes Sphere of Influence, engaging participants throughout the summer peak visitation season on topics ranging from geologic history to ethnobotanical uses of native plants.

Interpretive programs give visitors a deeper understanding of the Mammoth Lakes Trail System's rich ecology and culture. We believe this deeper understanding transforms visitors into better stewards of this very special place.

Stewardship

The Mammoth Lakes Trail Ambassador, with assistance as necessary from other members of the Trail Ambassador team especially at times of peak visitation, will patrol and help maintain all Forest Service system trails within the Town of Mammoth Lakes Sphere of Influence (approximately 30 miles of trails). The Mammoth Lakes Trail Ambassador will perform vital maintenance on popular trails removing fallen trees, cleaning water bars, and repairing rock steps. Without this work, many popular trails will remain inaccessible and/or unsafe well into the busy summer season. Regular maintenance increases the sustainability of the Mammoth Lakes Trail System and dramatically reduces the

likelihood of catastrophic trail failures and costly large-scale repairs.

In addition to professional trail work, the Mammoth Lakes Trail Ambassador, assisted by other members of the team, will organize and lead volunteers in stewardship projects during the busy peak visitation season. This will include projects in collaboration with Mammoth Lakes Trails and Public Access. The Trail Ambassadors will also lead personalized service projects for visiting youth groups from urban areas. In the Mammoth Lakes area, these volunteer stewardship events will generate over 150 hours of service (valued at \$3,621) and will enrich participants' experience of the Mammoth Lakes Trail System by creating a sense of investment in and responsibility for our public lands.

Education

During regular trail patrols during the peak summer visitation season, the Trail Ambassadors will make contact with as many as 500 trail users, sharing information about trail conditions, safety, Leave No Trace principles, and wilderness ethics. Visitors who encounter this information while recreating on the Mammoth Lakes Trail System are more likely to be good stewards of our public lands.

Conclusion

As our region's primary outdoor recreation destination, Mammoth Lakes hosts a vibrant local community and draws visitors from around the world. The Mammoth Lakes Trail Ambassador, assisted as appropriate by other members of the Trail Ambassador team, will provide critical coverage during times of peak visitation and will also provide the community with unique, meaningful opportunities to learn about and care for the trails and places they love.

What are your stated goals of the project, as aligned with the Allocation Broad Objective?	The goal of this program is to enhance recreation, education and stewardship opportunities on public lands within the Town of Mammoth Lakes Sphere of Influence, especially at times of peak need. The Mammoth Lakes Trail Ambassador will achieve this goal by completing critical maintenance to keep popular trails safe and open, and by engaging community members and visitors in stewardship and education experiences that deepen their connection to the Town of Mammoth Lakes and its public lands.
Total amount of funding requested for one or multiple years:	This application seeks total funding of \$51,000. This amount would fund the Mammoth Lakes Trail Ambassador for three consecutive summer seasons.
Is this a one-time funding request or on-going?	Multi-year funding
If this is a multi-year request, please provide a timeline for the funding you are requesting.	This is a multi-year request, intended to cover three seasons of a Mammoth Lakes Trail Ambassador working exclusively on the Mammoth Lakes Trail System. \$17,000 for the 2019 summer season \$17,000 for the 2020 summer season and \$17,000 for the 2021 summer season.
Has your program/project been awarded R and/or U funding in the past?	I have received Measures R and/or U funding in the past
Amount (1)	2018: \$6,000
Date (1)	04-02-2018
Year Three	FOI_2013_to_2018_Trail_Ambassador_stats.docx (235k)
Future Attendance Forecast	Meas_U_2019_Forecast_1.docx (236k)
Is there a cost of admission and/or participation?	No. The Mammoth Lakes Trail Ambassador interpretive walks and community trail work days will be free and open to the public.
Are scholarships available?	No
Please provide a brief description if yes OR no:	Scholarships are not available as our programs are free of charge.

Is the program(s) ADA compliant to all potential participants? If not, please explain:

Due to the rugged nature of many Forest Service trails within the Town of Mammoth Lakes Sphere of Influence, most interpretive walks and service projects will not be ADA-accessible. However, with sufficient advance notice we may be able to arrange ADA-accessible programs for interested individuals.

Describe the public benefit:

The Mammoth Lakes Trail Ambassador will benefit the public by providing Leave No Trace and other good stewardship education to users of the Mammoth Lakes Trail System, maintaining safe, sustainable, clean and attractive trails, and by providing opportunities for members of the public to care for and explore these trails. All event advertisements will be written in English and Spanish, and all service projects will be adaptable to people of varying ages and abilities. Events will take place on both weekdays and weekends to facilitate maximum public participation opportunities.

Stewardship and education programs led by the Trail Ambassador will enhance quality of life and recreational opportunities in and around Mammoth Lakes, while teaching respect for the landscape and encouraging visitors to become invested in this special place.

Responsible Party & Title:

Alex Ertaud, Stewardship Program Director

Point of Contact/PR personnel and contact information:

Alex Ertaud, Stewardship Program Director

Organization's Mission Statement:

Friends of the Inyo's mission is to protect and care for the public lands of the Eastern Sierra.

Website:

friendsoftheinyo.org

Social Media Page(s):

<https://www.facebook.com/friendsoftheinyo/>
<https://www.instagram.com/friendsoftheinyo/>

Business Address

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Choose a tax status:	Non-Profit 501(c)3
Federal EIN number or ID number:	77-0389436
990 Form	2017_Form_990_Signed.pdf (14193k)
Previous Year's Profit and Loss (P&L) Statement	BudgetToActual2018_1.pdf (60k)
Previous Year's Balance Sheet	Balance_Sheet_2018_1.pdf (58k)
Year-to-Date Profit and Loss Statement	Budget-Actual1.31.2019.pdf (60k)
Year-to-Date Balance Sheet	BalanceSheet1.31.2019.pdf (59k)
Current Year Budget	2019_Budget.xlsx (782k)
Proposed Program Budget	Friends_of_the_Inyo_Trail_Ambassador_Budget.xlsx (50k)
If you received Measure R or U funding during Fiscal Year 17/18 and your program or project is complete, please fill out and attach the Performance Report (Appendix - B):	FOI_FY1819_MLR_Allocation_Performance_report_FINAL.pdf (83k)
Project Specific Budget (Appendix A):	Friends_of_the_Inyo_Trail_Ambassador_Budget_1.xlsx (50k)