



March 8, 2013

District Ranger Jon Regelbrugge
Inyo National Forest
c/o Katy Rich
351 Pacu Ln. Suite 200
Bishop, CA, 93514.

Dear Jon –

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the “Shady Rest Off-Highway Vehicle/Over Snow Vehicle (OHV/OSV) Staging Area Project” per your “scoping notice” letter of January 30, 2013.

MLTPA – and the parties who have added their signatures to this letter – would respectfully offer the following thoughts in the spirit of your invitation to provide “... comments regarding issues, opportunities, concerns, and suggestions for the proposed project.”

If appropriate, please provide the following as part of your draft Environmental Assessment (EA):

1. The rationale for a new OSV/OHV staging area in Shady Rest.
2. The rationale for the size and scope for the proposed facility(s).
3. The anticipated year round usage at the new facility(s) and the relationship of the anticipated usage to the proposed facilities.
4. A detailed conceptual drawing of the proposed staging area consistent with the site plan that you will use in your project analysis.
5. A detailed project map showing all of the current facilities and permitted activities in the vicinity including USFS facilities, those of the Mammoth Lakes Trail System, the Town of Mammoth Lakes, Mammoth Nordic, and others.
6. Narrative that provides analysis regarding the relationship between this project and the proposed CASA DIABLO IV Geothermal Development Project.
7. Narrative that provides analysis as to the appropriate role of the CASA DIABLO IV Geothermal Development Project in financing the construction of this project and its ongoing maintenance given your analysis of the relationship between the two projects (*see #5, above*).
8. Identification of the parties responsible for the maintenance of the proposed staging area, bathroom, as well as the proposed access roads and trails.

9. Rationale as to the appropriateness of a collaborative planning effort similar to the Sherwins Working Group for the Shady Rest region to look at all of the proposed projects in the area.
10. Rationale as to whether any projects in the Shady Rest region should be implemented absent a Shady Rest Regional collaborative planning effort.
11. Analysis of the opportunities and constraints for reducing traffic and parking congestion at "Shady Rest Park" during the summer months.
12. Analysis of the opportunities and constraints for a future designated "snow play" area at the project site.
13. Opportunities for mitigation of the proposed re-designation of a current non-motorized trail to motorized use such that non-motorized use is not affected.
14. Analysis of the opportunities and constraints associated with moving the proposed "Ride Back Trail" to the west side of Sawmill Cut-Off Road.
15. Citations of the appropriate and adopted Town of Mammoth Lakes planning documents that are relevant to the project given the expressed desire of the Town for an "enhanced partnership" between the two agencies and appropriate executed and draft MOU's. Examples of these documents include the Town's "General Plan Update", "Trails System Master Plan", "Parks and Recreation Master Plan", "RECSTRATS" and the "Trails Commission MOU" aka the "MLTPA MOU", to which both agencies are signatories.
16. Organize field trips with Inyo National Forest staff and constituents to the project area as soon as is practicable.
17. Consider including a range of alternatives for your proposed action including a "No Action" alternative; an alternative to move the "Ride Back Trail" to the west side of Sawmill Cut Off Road, and an alternative to improve the existing facilities at Shady Rest park versus building any new facilities at all.
18. Narrative providing analysis on the future of current motorized and non-motorized recreation opportunities at shady Rest Park.
19. A program for kiosks and signage consistent with recent partnered efforts by the Inyo National Forest, the Town of Mammoth Lakes, and others, for the Mammoth Lakes Trail System Signage and Wayfinding program (MLTS Signage). The technical protocols for this program currently exist as a draft update to the Town's Public Works Standards Manual ("Section 600- Mammoth Lakes Trail System *November, 2012*"). New signage at the project site should be consistent with installed MLTS Signage along the recently completed "Lakes Basin Path" and throughout the Town and community of Mammoth Lakes.

Thanks again for the opportunity to provide these comments and observations. We look forward to your "Environmental Assessment" document and to future efforts at Shady Rest.

Thank You -

MLTPA
Organization/Name
John Wentworth
CEO/Board President - MLTPA

[Signature]
Signature

13/03/05
Date

HIGH SIERRA TRI CLUB
Organization/Name

[Signature]
Signature

3.5.13
Date

Laurel Martin
Recreational Dog Musher
Organization/Name

[Signature]
Signature

3/8/13
Date

Disabled Sports
Organization/Name
Eastern Sierra

[Signature]
Signature

3/8/13
Date

Megan Mahaffey
Organization/Name
mammoth lakes
resident

[Signature]
Signature

3/8/13
Date

Elizabeth (Betsy) Trux
Organization/Name
Mammoth lakes resident

[Signature]
Signature

3/8/13
Date

Organization/Name Signature Date