



Key Questions Exercise - Gateway Communities Meetings

June Lake October 30, 2014

Big Pine October 28, 201

Participants at the June Lake and Big Pine meetings were asked to reflect upon and discuss the following questions. Comments were recorded on a large blue wall and reported here below with no additional editing.

How to foster a symbiotic relationship between INF Recreation use and Conservation?

June Lake Meeting Summary

- Community culture of stewardship
- Advocate a culture of stewardship (i.e. “don’t feed our bears campaign”)
- Improve INF capacity to work with partners – dedicated partnership person
- Engage various user groups in both monitoring and stewardship - and streamline the process that enables these groups to perform forest service functions
- Foster new groups
 - Fishing group picks up line and beer cans
 - Hunting group
 - Moto group – maintain OHV trails
 - Dog walker group
- Volunteer wilderness rangers
- Get recreational group engaged in partnering and educating
- Sense of ownership
- Respect among diverse uses
- Avoid polarizing
- Self-monitoring of group behavior
- May want to look at separation/ segregation of mixed uses
- Difficulties
 - Sustaining programs
 - Cultural change
 - Possible inconsistencies w/ land managers decisions, policy consistent across the board
 - Engagement with tribal partners
- Use of interpretive programs
- Specialty camps



- Consistent, stable policy approach by forest service managers (from one manager to the next)
- Assess needs – coordinate action
- Smokey Bear- like campaign to promote good behavior in National Forest
- Promote public appreciation and education beyond traditional methods
- Use science based principles to identify sustainable recreation (use of science to establish use)
- Education
- Education, factual dialogue between all stakeholders
- Studies/ best practices identified

How to foster a symbiotic relationship between INF Recreation use and Conservation?

Big Pine Meeting Summary

- Integrate public/private partnerships into agency (resources)
- Continuing organization to sustain interests after planning
- Symbiotic relationship is active stewardship by recreationist
- Wilderness designation may/does present challenges
- Over use (grazing/packers) may have negative impacts to wilderness
- Active stewardship is preventive too
- How to create/encourage stewardship expectations for visitors too
- NGO's provide volunteers to oversee stewardship (trainings – Colorado example of active agency engagement)
- Partnerships by agency w/other NGO's to connect youth to public lands (get outdoors)
- Visualize how grandchildren will have wilderness and what to do to make sure they have wilderness
- Recognize the diversity of species in wilderness (beyond human)
- Monitoring will be key to understand what is happening in order to sustain
- Mitigation of recreation impacts
- Concept of “near wilderness” less restrictive/more alternatives based upon area resources
- Wilderness can protect recreation values
- Funding to agency needed to protect resources and values



“What issues do you experience as a result of multiple uses of INF resources?”

June Lake Meeting Summary

- ✓ Impacts to natural conditions - one use impacts another use
- ✓ Multiple use may offer opportunities to gain new experiences – see land thru different eyes
- ✓ Safety concerns
- ✓ Constraints of land managers ability to manage/ make decisions
- ✓ Degradation of trails by mixed use (compatibility)
- ✓ Conflicts between diverse users
- ✓ Noise

“If issues exist, what ideas do you have for addressing them from a recreation management and maintenance perspective?”

June Lake Meeting Summary

- Distribute different uses
- Odd/ even days for multiple uses – time share trails
- Manage INF protection of soundscape as valuable
- Education/understanding what is available to access
- We can work together
- Safety – use bells on trails (Santa Barbara example)
- Need for new trail development (front country dispersal) – demand population dispersal
- Need mechanism/tool to facilitate getting action – need path for solving the problem
- Wayfinding/signage education of directions - where to go?
- Facilitate “civil” dialogue between groups to learn about each other