

ESSRP Projects 118 to 183 - Stakeholder "Desirability" Scoring - December 10, 2020 - 5:00pm to 8:00 pm, 59 Respondents

ESSRP Projects 118 to 183 - Stakeholder "Desirability" Scoring - December 10, 2020	Score	Stewardship	Access	Benefit
<p>129 - Sustainable Dispersed Camping (Eastern Sierra Public Lands; Temporary Seasonal Infrastructure, Signage, Volunteers)</p> <p>Dispersed camping is exploding in popularity. Work with land management partners to support it more sustainably with increased dumpsters, porta-potties, signage, etc. Dispersed camping is exploding in popularity, particularly since management agencies haven't built many new campgrounds since the '70s and have no real intent to add more in the near future. Dispersed camping provides unique recreational opportunities, but completely unmanaged dispersed camping has been leading to trash and waste problems both in the heavily used camping areas and in nearby communities. The project would be to work with management agencies to bring some amount of management to dispersed camping such as strategically placed seasonal dumpsters, porta-potties, and responsible-use signage (including locations of dump stations), and periodic clean-up service.</p>	22.71	7.71	7.09	7.91
<p>151 - Eastern Sierra Campground Inspection, Repair, and Replacement Project (Multiple locations across the Eastern Sierra region; New Bathrooms, Buildings, Roads, Trails or other "Hard Infrastructure")</p> <p>This project will inspect all Eastern Sierra campgrounds, and identify, repair, and replace needed infrastructure, equipment, or other facilities to make them adequate for recreation use. Many Eastern Sierra campgrounds are in dire need of maintenance and repair of various infrastructure and equipment. This includes restrooms, roads, water and sewer systems, tables, fire rings, camping spaces, informational kiosks, and other needs. This project will inspect all the Eastern Sierra campgrounds, prepare a list of necessary improvement projects, and then begin prioritized implementation of the work needed. This project must be done to ensure resource and public health protection, while enhancing the developed camping experience for the thousands of campers that use these campgrounds annually.</p>	22.44	7.46	7.34	7.64
<p>181 - Inyo National Forest Campground Improvements (Forest Service campgrounds from Lone Pine to June Lake; Maintenance)</p> <p>Partnerships with the campground concessionaires should be expanded to provide for opportunities to upgrade the water systems. Many are outdated and the Forest Service alternative is to close them. With the passage of the Great American Outdoors Act, there is substantial federal funding available to address deferred maintenance issues. The Inyo National Forest needs to make the water systems in the campgrounds a priority for this funding, in partnership with the campground concessionaires, to ensure that potable water continues to be provided in the agency's campgrounds. Presently, the Forest proposes to close many campgrounds rather than make the necessary repairs to</p>	22.36	7.51	7.4	7.45

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<p>upgrade the water systems. Having clean water in the campgrounds is an important value for many of today's campers, and as we have seen with COVID-19, it is essential.</p>				
<p>157 - Eastern Sierra Public Trails Inspection, Repair, and Replacement Project (Multiple locations across the Eastern Sierra region; New Bathrooms, Buildings, Roads, Trails or other "Hard Infrastructure")</p> <p>This project will inventory designated public trails across the Eastern Sierra and prioritize repair and maintenance as needed for each trail and related infrastructure. Many Eastern Sierra public trails are in dire need of maintenance and repair. While some non-profit organizations in the region have provided maintenance and repair work over the years using volunteers and donations, a programmatic approach is needed. Trail infrastructure includes the trail itself, regardless of surface composition, foot bridges, signage, water bars, trailhead parking and kiosks, and, if present, restrooms, and bear boxes. This project will conduct an inventory of the condition of all public trails, identify which ones need work and the specific work needed, and then begin to implement these projects. This work must be done to provide a better experience for the numerous hikers and tourists who use these trails annually so they will protect and sustain the land people are coming to enjoy.</p>	22.02	7.45	7.05	7.52
<p>143 - Eastern Sierra Visitor Centers Exhibit Inspection and Review, Repair and Replacement (Visitor Centers in Lone Pine, the Ancient Bristlecone Pine Forest, the White Mountain Ranger Station, Mammoth Lakes, and Lee Vining; Education)</p> <p>Visitor Center exhibits provide information and education for visitors. This project will inspect, repair, and/or replace exhibits needing rehabilitation because of wear, or to be more current. For example, the exhibits in the Mono Basin Scenic Area Visitor Center were carefully designed in 1991 to provide interactive opportunities and information for the public, whether they were residents, tourists, or student groups. These exhibits offer opportunities for viewers to gain new perspectives and make meaningful connections with our public lands. Unfortunately, these exhibits have seen much use over the years. In some cases, the lettering is gone and cannot even be read, and the interactive parts do not work. Others need updating to reflect new technology, new ways people enjoy public land, and evolving social and cultural values and language. Many exhibits include outdated messaging that fails to connect with today's visitors and convey the personal responsibility and actions required to ensure sustainable recreation. This project seeks to make exhibits in all four of our Eastern Sierra Visitor Centers relevant, effective, and impactful for our 21st century visitors.</p>	21.71	7.07	7.33	7.31

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<p>137 - Porta Potties in Popular Climbing Areas (Upper Owen's River Gorge, Sads; New Bathrooms, Buildings, Roads, Trails or other "Hard Infrastructure")</p> <p>More porta potties in popular climbing/bouldering areas The bathroom in Central Gorge as well as porta potty at the Happies parking lot or at the Pratt's Canyon parking lot have shown that such a simple thing can reduce the human impact on those areas by a lot. Therefore, it would be amazing to expand this success to other popular areas.</p>	21.41	8.03	6.04	7.34
<p>176 - Bear Education Signage on Dumpsters (Mammoth Lakes; Signage)</p> <p>Add signage on dumpsters that are frequently used by visitors, such as at condo units, to remind visitors to hook the latch on the dumpster to prevent bears from eating garbage Our idea is to put eye-catching signs on dumpsters telling people to latch dumpster lids. The message should only be a sentence or 2 so that people will read it but should explain why this is important so that people have more motivation to follow through with this action. We think this is necessary because although people may see the "Mammoth: Don't Feed Our Bears" stickers, many do not realize that the carabiners on dumpsters are what keeps the bears out of them or why it is important to not feed bears. These stickers should also be in multiple languages spoken by visitors of Mammoth Lakes.</p>	21.39	7.67	6.4	7.32
<p>147 - Trail Delineation and Sustainability Master Plan (Alabama Hills; New Bathrooms, Buildings, Roads, Trails or other "Hard Infrastructure")</p> <p>In tandem with the Alabama Hills recreation plan, a complete trails survey would be beneficial, followed by sustainability focused trail improvement and creation in order to establish a network. In order to satisfy all users of the Alabama Hills recreation and scenic area, an aligned and professionally established trail network would provide the greatest improvement for its cost. Naturally separating different users through intentional trail creation, will reduce user conflict and disperse users to reduce impact. Sustainable construction methods can better reduce environmental impact through drainage and surface armoring, while improving scenic quality. Well-built trail systems reduce user created trails, exist in better harmony with nature, and increase user satisfaction. A well planned and built trail network for the Alabama Hills would cost less than \$100,000, much of which could be raised by public donations. The economic benefit, environmental preservations, and user satisfaction would far surpass the cost of the project. The nonprofit I direct works with government offices to create trails for public access by leveraging fundraising, grants, and community volunteers.</p>	21.24	7.33	7.02	6.89

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<p>138 - Highway 395 Wildlife and Recreation Crossings (Highway 395, Long Valley; Partnerships)</p> <p>Plan, fund and implement wildlife and soft-surface trail crossings of hwy 395 to reduce wildlife migration mortality and traffic accidents and to enhance connectivity between Mammoth and Long Valley. I understand there is already a multi-agency effort underway but public outreach and fundraising is needed.</p> <p>https://monocounty.ca.gov/sites/default/files/fileattachments/local_transportation_commission_ltc/page/9002/highway_395_203_wildlife_crossing.pdf?fbclid=IwAR28lqkXwWdy4pkXgzV1H5h7To5HbpdKPRWWYu8-qwBFu123lt6JHZYcjRM</p>	21.17	7.82	5.81	7.54
<p>154 - Eastern Sierra Developed Day Use Recreation Facility Inspection, Repair, and Replacement Project (Multiple locations across the Eastern Sierra region; New Bathrooms, Buildings, Roads, Trails or other "Hard Infrastructure")</p> <p>This project will inspect all Eastern Sierra developed day use recreation facilities and repair and replace as needed all infrastructure and equipment to make them adequate for recreation use. Many Eastern Sierra developed day use recreation facilities are in dire need of maintenance and repair of various infrastructure and equipment. Examples of these include trailheads, and special use areas such as Mono Lake’s South Tufa Area, Navy Beach, or June Lake Beach that have thousands of visitors annually. The infrastructure includes restrooms, roads, water and sewer systems, kiosks, tables, parking lots, and other equipment. This project will inspect all these Eastern Sierra recreation facilities, prepare a list of necessary improvement projects, and then begin to implement these many projects. This work must be done to provide a safer experience for the numerous tourists that use these facilities annually.</p>	21.13	7.29	6.81	7.03
<p>161 - Eastern Sierra Dispersed Camping Sustainability Project (All over the Eastern Sierra region; Improved Policy and Procedures)</p> <p>This project will review Eastern Sierra dispersed camping and develop and implement management actions to balance dispersed camping with preservation and protection of our public lands. Over the years more and more visitors to the Eastern Sierra have pursued dispersed camping on public lands. This type of camping is allowed in selected areas of the USFS National Forest, the Bureau of Land Management, and some other areas. USFS and BLM have established regulations to manage this use, including opened and closed areas, stay limits, and fire restrictions. Unfortunately, in recent years, especially this past summer, the incidence of illegal dispersed camping in violation of established policies has grown. This has included illegal campfires, trash, meadow, and stream damage, and in some cases fecal and trash waste left at campsites. This project would assess the extent to which current policy needs revision to ensure more oversight and enforcement, as well as establishment of a potential fee structure to support enhanced management capacity and camper education programs to ensure sustainable enjoyment of our public lands.</p>	21.05	7.39	6.43	7.23

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<p>150 - Eastern Sierra Visitor Center and Regional Interpretive Program and Visitor Services Review, and Development and Implementation of a Plan for Improvement (Lone Pine, Ancient Bristlecone Pines Forest, White Mountain Ranger Station, Mammoth Lakes, and Lee Vining and other recreation areas; Education)</p> <p>All Eastern Sierra Visitor Centers and the region need quality interpretive programs and visitor services. This project would review these current programs and develop and implement improvement plans. As an example, the Mono Basin Scenic Area Visitor Center once provided interpretive programs, such as tours, onsite lectures, and interactive experiences with rangers and others knowledgeable about the area. They also provide information about the area, permits and other services at the counter in the Visitor Center. Over the years, the extent to which these programs and services can be offered has decreased due to lack of staff, financial resources, and other factors. This project would review all these current programs and services and develop and implement an overall plan for improvement at each Visitor Center and other sites based on a realistic estimate of public and partner resources available.</p>	20.98	6.89	7.11	6.98
<p>142 - Crowley to Lee Vining Multi-Use Bike Path (Hwy 395 corridor, Crowley to Lee Vining; New Bathrooms, Buildings, Roads, Trails or other "Hard Infrastructure")</p> <p>Plan and build a quality paved multi-use path along highway 395 corridor connecting Crowley, Mammoth, June Lake and Lee Vining communities, primarily for bikes, e-bikes and runners. See other successful regional bike path projects such as Vail Pass RecPath (Copper to Vail) and Moab Canyon Path (Moab to Arches and Canyonlands)</p>	20.74	6.25	7.23	7.26
<p>144 - Bike (multi-use) Paths in June Lake Loop (June Lake Loop; New Bathrooms, Buildings, Roads, Trails or other "Hard Infrastructure")</p> <p>Many sections of Highway 158 are dangerous for pedestrians and cyclists. This proposal is to support the creation of multi-use paths between the town and Silver Lake Resort and June Lake beach. Many sections of Highway 158 are dangerous for pedestrians and cyclists, limiting recreational opportunities that aren't based on automobiles, and endangering those who do decide to ride or walk. This proposal is to support the creation of bike (i.e., multiuse) paths between the town of June Lake and the June Lake beach (also picking up Oh Ridge CG) and between the town and Silver Lake Resort. These areas often have unsafe cycling and pedestrian use during the summer. It is acknowledged that this would be a challenging project and would require substantial additional funding and the effort of many stakeholders and agencies.</p>	20.69	6.24	7.25	7.2

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<p>118 - Twin Lakes Vista Restroom (Twin Lakes Vista; New Bathrooms, Buildings, Roads, Trails or other "Hard Infrastructure")</p> <p>Install a year-round restroom at the Twin Lakes Vista parking area. Installing a public restroom at Twin Lakes Vista for the public to use year-round. This area is a popular stopping point for guests, as well as people accessing the Lakes Basin for many activities.</p>	20.57	7.16	6.57	6.84
<p>169 - Teen Corps for Healthy Forests (Forests surrounding Mammoth Lakes; Stewardship and Volunteers)</p> <p>Recruit community members (focusing on teens) to help remove dead and down trees in the forests surrounding Mammoth Lakes. This project would be similar to the Trail Days program but with a focus on removing dead and down trees in and around the town of Mammoth Lakes. Often times we have the same volunteers showing up for various projects. My idea is to draw in new volunteers by creating a Teen Corps program where local teens would work for a summer to improve the health of our forests. The teens will learn new skills, connect with others, and give back to their community while benefiting from hard work and sense of accomplishment. This program would help protect our town from the threat of wildfire as well as foster a new generation of volunteers.</p>	20.53	7.05	6.64	6.84
<p>153 - Keep Convict Lake Clean (Convict Lake; Maintenance)</p> <p>"Keep Convict Lake clean" would be a project in which more trash and recycling bins would be available near the lake and parking lots. Trash bins would be near transit areas. Trash bins need to be placed near parking lots and transit areas near the lake to prevent trash from going into the lake.</p>	20.49	7.44	6.3	6.75
<p>159 - Youth Recreation and Tourism Advisory Committee (Regional; Planning and Environmental Review)</p> <p>Empower the region's young people with opportunities for inclusion, influence, and deliberation on local issues which affect their lives through the creation of an advisory committee. Build a program for young people that focuses on getting the youth perspective on regional matters and decision-making processes.</p>	20.22	6.33	6.89	7
<p>126 - Fern Creek Bridge (About a mile up Fern Creek Trail; New Bathrooms, Buildings, Roads, Trails or other "Hard Infrastructure")</p>	20.03	6.56	6.72	6.75

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<p>The Fern Creek bridge was damaged in the Winter of 18/19. The bridge is hazardous to cross, especially in spring. The Fern Creek Bridge connects the Yost/ Fern Trail system. People use the Fern Lake bridge to access Yost Lake, which is the fastest way to Yost and to hike to the Village. In the spring of 19 we had several emergency calls related to people trying to cross the damaged bridge and falling.</p>				
<p>130 - Usage Fees for Dispersed Camping (Eastern Sierra Public Lands; Usage Fees)</p> <p>Managing agencies would charge a modest fee (annual or one-time permits) for dispersed camping to cover costs of sustainability measures. Would still be significantly less than developed camping. Dispersed camping is reaching levels of popularity where it's becoming unsustainable without some amount of management (described in a separate project proposal). The project idea is to work with managing agencies (FS, BLM) to institute a fee system for dispersed camping to support sustainability measures. This could be either an annual permit or something like a 14-day one-time permit. Permits could be available through ranger stations, FS campground hosts, or possibly "iron rangers" at signage locations near popular dispersed camping areas. The fee could be substantially lower than for developed camping, keeping dispersed camping accessible to low-income people while still providing for some sustainability management. Although I haven't verified this, I've heard that this is being done in some areas of the country.</p>	20	6.98	5.82	7.2
<p>156 - Interpretive and Wayfinding Signs (Buttermilks, Happies and Sad Boulders; Signage)</p> <p>Provide signage about LNT and restoration areas; and wayfinding signs to popular boulders found in guidebooks to guide climbers and visitor to prevent trail and restoration areas. Popular climbing areas need better signage to inform those who are seasoned to outdoor recreation and those are who are new. A lot of gym climbers are unaware of how to treat the outdoor environment simply from lack experience because rock climbing was their first outlet to the greater outdoors. I think having better signage about LNT that contains more graphics than words would be very helpful. Not only that, the signs should also depict landscape degradation and show before and current pics (ex. solarium and the hulk). Showing before and after pics of habitats is a very effective way to convey and get the message across as to why LNT and staying on trails is important. Also, ppl lay their gear and crash pads all over designated restoration areas. Have better, more durable signs for such areas would be very helpful in determining where these areas exist. Small wayfinding signs would be helpful for those who get lost and end up cutting through the natural landscape.</p>	19.97	7.04	6.32	6.61

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<p>145 - Caminata en el los Lagos, Hiking at the Lake (Crowley Lake; Señalización, Signage)</p> <p>Caminata alrededor del lago; Hiking around the lakes. Se que mucha gente hispana vive en Crowley lake, pero no saben como llegar al lago por diferentes direcciones. Me gustaria ver una senal de caminata para derejir a la gente a como llegar al lago, por donde puede caminar hace el sur del lago. ; I know that many Hispanic people live in Crowley Lake, but they don't know how to get to the lake from different directions. I would like a sign that could show the people how to get to the lake and how to hike toward the south end of the lake</p>	19.96	5.96	7.19	6.81
<p>167 - Grover Hot Springs Waterfall Interpretive Trail (Grover Hot Springs State Park, Markleeville, CA; New Bathrooms, Buildings, Roads, Trails or other "Hard Infrastructure")</p> <p>The ATA, in cooperation with H-T NF Carson Ranger District and CA State Parks, wishes to develop a safe and inviting interpretive trail for the waterfalls above Grover Hot Springs in Markleeville, CA. Our new trail design will improve access from Grover Hot Springs to the Grover Waterfalls and create an approximately one-mile interpretive loop trail that is fun, safe, and educational. The trail will guide hikers past unique geological and riparian zones to platforms that provide unobstructed views of the falls while discouraging off trail use which leads to erosion and possible injury. Visitors will experience an easily navigated trail with clear directional signs and detailed interpretive signs giving kids of all ages the opportunity to learn more about the flora, fauna, geology, hydrology, and history of the area.</p>	19.95	6.51	6.81	6.63
<p>146 - Eastern Sierra Visitor Center Facility and Grounds Inspection, Repair, and Replacement Project (Lone Pine, Ancient Bristlecone Pines Forest, White Mountain Ranger Station, Mammoth Lakes, and Lee Vining; New Bathrooms, Buildings, Roads, Trails or other "Hard Infrastructure")</p> <p>This project will inspect all Eastern Sierra Visitor Center facilities, including interior and exterior infrastructure and grounds, and repair and replace structures, grounds, or equipment as needed. As an example, the Mono Basin Scenic Area Visitor Center is 30 years old, and while a beautiful and sometimes functional facility, its interior and exterior infrastructure now needs repair and upgrading in selected areas. This project will inspect this facility and all other Visitor Center facilities, prepare a plan for infrastructure repair and replacement as necessary, and implement that plan. Examples of items to be covered include HVAC repair/replacement, interior and exterior physical surfaces, lighting, water and sewer systems, solar installations, and landscaping. The dilapidated condition of portions of these visitor centers reflects badly on the US Forest Service, other public lands agencies, and the communities where they are located.</p>	19.91	6.3	6.7	6.91

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<p>170 - Eastern Grand Bikeway (Paralleling the east side of the Sierra Nevada potentially from Lone Pine to Bridgeport and beyond; New Bathrooms, Buildings, Roads, Trails or other "Hard Infrastructure")</p> <p>A regional bikeway comprised of both paved MUP and dirt single or double track trail connecting east side communities. System to be built in segments aiming for complete connection. The ultimate goal would be a continuous east side bike thruway for both road and mountain bike use, that would allow for day recreation on smaller segments, and car-free visitation and travel in the area.</p>	19.88	6.05	6.87	6.96
<p>168 - Noise and Light Pollution in the Wilderness (Eastern Sierra; Education)</p> <p>Research and education initiative to include noise and light pollution in Leave No Trace principles. Educate campers and backcountry users of the impacts of noise and light pollution on wildlife. Signage at trailheads and campgrounds, social media education initiatives, mandatory education for permit holders (can combine with other projects educating about fire and other backcountry safety), use of scientific research to educate people. Noise and light pollution should be part of the LNT principles. There should be rules about it in the wilderness. Can also include data collection to measure current noise and light pollution impacts in the Eastern Sierra.</p>	19.75	6.95	6.05	6.75
<p>155 - Eastern Sierra US 395 Scenic Byway Kiosk Inspection, Repair, and Replacement Project (Multiple developed existing locations along and directly adjacent to US Highway 395 in the Eastern Sierra; New Bathrooms, Buildings, Roads, Trails or other "Hard Infrastructure")</p> <p>This project seeks to repair and enhance the aging US Highway 395 Scenic Byway Kiosks through a program of inventory, prioritized repair, and meaningful enhancement where opportunities are available. The Eastern Sierra Highway 395 Scenic Byway Kiosks were created 25 years ago by the Coalition for Unified Recreation in the Eastern Sierra (CURES) to provide information about the Eastern Sierra for travelers and visitors. All of these kiosks are in dire need of maintenance and repair while others present unique opportunities for development of sustainable and accessible recreation opportunities. This project seeks to inspect all Scenic Byway kiosks, interpretive panels, and related infrastructure, prioritize maintenance and improvement projects, and then begin strategic implementation as partners and resources are identified.</p>	19.7	6.39	6.8	6.51
<p>173 - Accessible Entry Points to Water (Mono Lake, Navy Beach; New Bathrooms, Buildings, Roads, Trails or other "Hard Infrastructure")</p>	19.61	5.76	7.37	6.48

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<p>Establish wheelchair access to the water at Mono Lake for people with disabilities. This is a first step towards building off of existing infrastructure and would significantly increase access using a simple, easy to install material called a Mobi-Mat.</p>				
<p>139 - Sherwins Meadow and Mammoth Creek Trails Restoration Project (Sherwins Meadow, Mammoth Creek Corridor; New Bathrooms, Buildings, Roads, Trails or other "Hard Infrastructure")</p> <p>Reroute, rehab, restore and designate network of sustainable soft-surface system trails and build new connectors to enhance access and mitigate impacts to soils, vegetation, wildlife, and archeology. See SHARP, TSMP etc.</p>	19.57	6.68	6.38	6.51
<p>125 - Eastern Sierra Regional Trail (Highway 395 Communities; Trail Planning)</p> <p>Revisit the Eastern Sierra Regional Trail Concept proposed from Topaz to Bishop Trail systems within each community, linked to a greater Regional Trail System connecting all Highway 395 communities</p>	19.52	5.98	6.62	6.92
<p>141 - Bodie Hills Mountain Bike Trails (Bodie Hills; New Bathrooms, Buildings, Roads, Trails or other "Hard Infrastructure")</p> <p>Build well-designed network of sustainable soft surface nonmotorized single-track trails to provide quality access to wildlands and opportunities for nonmotorized recreation. In the past there has been significant support for this concept from the environmental community as a way to provide more sustainable economic development, quality of life and recreation opportunities for the Bridgeport Valley than the development of gold mining.</p>	19.45	6.21	6.5	6.74
<p>172 - Providing Access to People of All Abilities (Regionwide; Planning and Environmental Review)</p> <p>Develop planning tools and a community based advisory committee to standardize the inclusion of accessibility in planning and decision-making for recreation related projects. 58.3% of Americans have mobility issues that limit their access to public lands without accommodations. In 2017 CA had the largest disabled population in the country. In 2030 CA will remain the state with the largest disabled population. Obesity alone has gone from an average of 10% of the population, in 1990, to an average of 28% in 2018 with no change in trajectory in the future. The lakes and other recreational attractions in the Eastern Sierra, on public lands have little or no accommodations for the majority of the population of the country, 58.3%. It is the goal to make agencies aware of the need for accessibility in existing and planned projects and assist where possible. To support this, it is recommended that there be a standard process adopted to consider how each project will support people with disabilities accessing recreation opportunities.</p>	19.2	5.4	7.31	6.49

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<p>133 - Community Clean Ups (Lakes Basin in Mammoth; Maintenance)</p> <p>We try and get the community to come together and walk around different portions of Mammoth and clean up the trash and litter they see. Different groups would go to different areas of Mammoth and collect and trash and litter they see. We would also have a donation box to try and get more trash cans placed in Mammoth to limit the amount of litter that's thrown on the ground.</p>	19.15	7.2	5.22	6.73
<p>124 - Mono-Yosemite-Conway Trail System (Conway Summit, Mono Basin; Tioga Pass Trail Planning)</p> <p>A trail system which links Conway Summit, Virginia Lakes turnoff, Conway Ranch, Matley Ranch, the Mono Basin, Mono Lake, Yosemite NP, and the Community of Lee Vining. A 2014 planning document conceived by local community stakeholders, inter-agency staff, multiple user groups and non-profits proposed several trail concepts linking the Yosemite, Lee Vining, Lundy Canyon, and Mono Lake sub-region(s). These trail concepts could be further developed to link the communities of Mono City and Lee Vining along Mono Lake's western shoreline (multi-use pathway). Opportunities also exist to utilize old Highway 395 as an uphill climber lane to create world class multi-use trails descending down Rattlesnake/Bacon/Rancheria Gulch with connections to Conway Ranch and Wilson Creek - as well as trails descending from Virginia Lake turnoff and Conway Summit along the flanks of Copper Mountain to Matley Ranch. This area is the geographic nexus of several distinct communities of unincorporated Mono County and has strong ties to the communities of Lee Vining, Mono City, June Lake, Bridgeport, and visitor outflow from Yosemite National Park.</p>	19.11	5.69	6.62	6.8
<p>122 - Recreation Road System (Eastern Sierra Road Planning; Maintenance and Repair)</p> <p>Recreational roads in our area lack an organized system of planning, repair, and maintenance. Some roads have become impassible due to lack of repair.</p>	18.92	6.08	6.3	6.54
<p>177 - Alpine County Gateway Project (Alpine County/ Markleeville; Programming)</p> <p>Create an Alpine County gateway experience that includes an interactive Visitor Center, satellite information booths, and education strategies that attract, educate, and engage visitors. At the northern gateway to the Eastern Sierras lies Alpine County, rich in outdoor recreation opportunity, but lacking the resources to build a comprehensive visitor engagement & education program. The existing Visitor's Center is facing critical funding cuts, affecting staffing and resources for high quality programs. This project would create a year-round interactive visitor experience, providing a</p>	18.91	5.96	6.38	6.57

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<p>taste of the recreation opportunities within the County and into the Eastern Sierras. Combined with satellite information booths placed throughout the County, improved wayfinding, and educational strategies around area history, culture, and environmental stewardship, visitors can stay engaged at multiple touch points. Finally, with sufficient staffing to facilitate interagency collaboration, consistent marketing communications, and enhanced cultural, historical, and environmental education programs, the Visitor’s Center will be able to better serve all stakeholders.</p>				
<p>162 - Community Connection Path (Crowley to Mammoth; New Bathrooms, Buildings, Roads, Trails or other "Hard Infrastructure")</p> <p>This project would involve creating a path that goes in-between Crowley and Mammoth. This path allows people to travel on a bike or by foot between the two towns. It would be used for both recreation and commuting from town to town. The communities are separated by only 15 miles and there is currently no safe way to travel on foot or bike between the two. People could also use this path to cross country ski between the towns during the winter.</p>	18.67	5.63	6.43	6.61
<p>132 - Trailhead Fees/Donations to Support Maintenance (Eastern Sierra Trailheads; Maintenance)</p> <p>Institute a system of either trailhead fees or donations to support maintenance. Fees via annual pass (free for low-income) or "iron rangers" at trailheads. Donations via iron rangers. Steadily decreasing federal funding is making completely free forest access less sustainable, especially in heavily used forests like the Inyo. The proposal is to implement a system of annual and one-time trailhead fees similar to what is already currently done in some other heavy-use national forests, for example in Washington and Oregon. This would be similar in principle to the sno-park fees which already exist to support winter recreation areas. Annual permits could be free for low-income users. Alternatively, a donation system could be established with trailhead donation drops using "iron rangers".</p>	18.49	6.78	5.16	6.55
<p>119 - Public Dumpster at the Twin Lakes Vista (Twin Lakes Vista; New Bathrooms, Buildings, Roads, Trails or other "Hard Infrastructure")</p> <p>Provide a dumpster for the public to utilize at the Twin Lakes Vista. Twin Lakes Vista is a frequented point of ingress and egress into the Lakes Basin. Many guests have trash in their possession when entering and exiting the Lakes Basin. A place for people to dispose of their trash gives them an opportunity to get rid of their trash the right way.</p>	18.17	6.55	5.38	6.24
<p>158 - Inventory and Description of all Eastern Sierra Fire-Related Resources and Creation of Clearinghouse for Information (All over the Eastern Sierra region; Partnerships)</p>	18.14	6.3	4.98	6.86

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<p>This project would review and summarize all Eastern Sierra fire-related resources, including all public government agencies and all volunteer fire districts and fire safe councils in the region. The Eastern Sierra has numerous fire-related agencies, including Federal agencies such as the US Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management, California State agencies such as CalFire, County EMS, and other local government agencies such as several volunteer fire districts and several fire safe councils. In a major wildfire event, these agencies coordinate and work together to maximize their impact. What is needed beyond this cooperative effort is an analysis of each organization's resources and capabilities, so increased coordination, cooperation and collaboration can occur. That is the purpose of this project. A comprehensive inventory of all fire-related agency resources, services, and programs would be completed and organized for citizens and others to use in pursuing fire prevention, fire suppression, and other activities. A clearinghouse of information would be created on a website accessible by the public for information purposes.</p>				
<p>180 - Sherwins Trailhead (Sherwins Trailhead, Propane Tanks, Borrow Pit; New Bathrooms, Buildings, Roads, Trails or other "Hard Infrastructure")</p> <p>Develop the existing parking area into a functional trailhead. Need to have year-round amenities available for users.</p>	18.06	5.89	6.04	6.13
<p>160 - Eastern Sierra Motorized Recreation Improvement Project (All over the Eastern Sierra region; Partnerships)</p> <p>This project is a review of Eastern Sierra motorized recreation (from street-legal to ATV/OHV use) designed to maintain diverse recreational experiences while sustaining public lands. In recent years, increasing visitors to the Eastern Sierra are exploring public lands with street-legal and ATV/OHVs. Off-highway vehicle use is allowed in selected areas of the USFS National Forest and BLM lands under established regulations. Unfortunately, in recent years, especially this past summer, the sheer number of vehicles utilizing open and closed roads and areas has resulted in increasing road damage, unauthorized off-route travel, and unsafe conditions. This project would assess the current use and policy while developing ways to ensure continuation of quality motorized recreation experiences on public lands which respect other public lands users, protect local property owners, sustain community character, preserve developed road conditions and enhance natural resources.</p>	17.67	5.88	5.72	6.07
<p>120 - More Solar Power in Mammoth Lakes (TOML; New Bathrooms, Buildings, Roads, Trails or other "Hard Infrastructure")</p> <p>Install more solar panels in the Town of Mammoth Lakes to power all of the community buildings and streetlights. Offer a stipend or rebate to homeowners in Mammoth wanting to go solar. With "300 days of sunshine per year", the Town of Mammoth Lakes should be utilizing more solar power to run community buildings and streetlights. Although</p>	17.45	6.53	4.56	6.36

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<p>snow buildup in the winter will have to be considered, that one facet should not stand in the way of us sustainably powering our community. The town should also provide a stipend or rebate to encourage homeowners to go solar.</p>				
<p>148 - Early-Spring Access to Higher Elevations (Eastern Sierra roads Leading to High Elevations; Trail Planning)</p> <p>Proposal to work with various road managing agencies (County, Caltrans, Forest Service) to enable earlier spring access to higher elevations for early-spring snow-based recreational activities. For many snow-based activities, such as snowshoeing and backcountry skiing, once the front country has melted out, access to higher elevations is typically blocked by gated and unplowed roads until after the short window of opportunity for those activities has mostly passed. The proposal is to work with road management agencies, such as Caltrans, the County, and the Forest Service to begin opening up higher elevation access several weeks earlier than is currently done. In some areas, such as Rock Creek and Mosquito Flat, it could mean somewhat earlier plowing. In other cases, such as on Highway 120, it could mean phased re-opening with multiple closure points (i.e., allow following the melt-off) rather than leaving the whole road gated all the way at the bottom until the entire road is clear. Currently there are only a small handful of roads that tend to open up fairly early, such as Virginia Lakes. This would help spread out the early-spring usage among more areas.</p>	17.4	5.18	6.07	6.15
<p>183 - Equestrian Camping (Trailheads on the Inyo National Forest from Lone Pine through to Lee Vining and Tioga Pass; BLM lands also have highly desirable areas that would provide outstanding horse camping opportunities, as well as other public lands on the East Side; Stewardship and Volunteers)</p> <p>There should be a network of equestrian campgrounds at trailheads from Lone Pine to Tioga Pass. There are very few equestrian facilities for visitors wanting to take day rides or pack trips. For visitors with their own pack and saddle stock, there are few equestrian facilities where they can camp to take day rides or pack trips into the Inyo National Forest, BLM lands, Owens River, Mono Lake and other public lands. The facilities should include corrals, picnic tables, and ample parking for trucks with trailers at the least. This would provide an excellent opportunity to create sites that are sustainable and would be managed to maintain cleanliness and safety for the user and the resources.</p>	17.27	5.39	6.12	5.76
<p>127 - Down Canyon Trail (Fern Lake Trailhead to Village; Planning and Environmental Review)</p> <p>The Down Canyon Trail Project has been an ongoing effort from JLTC and the community to connect the Down Canyon Neighborhoods to the village via existing user trails. The project has gone through mapping and has a project proposal. We are held up by NEPA.</p>	17.1	5.64	5.51	5.95

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<p>152 - Outdoor Awareness (Mammoth Mountain or other appropriate website; Education)</p> <p>Getting people outdoors means giving them information on where, why, and how. There is no obvious website where you can go to find out where you can walk or hike in the town. Mammoth Mountain only wants you to spend money with them, there is not a peep I can see on their website regarding non-mountain related activities, such as walking or light hiking in the town, or even the wonderful free transportation available. This is the first step in getting people outside. Such a website that is easy to find needs to be developed. You can google whatever you want if you know what to ask for, but there is no single source. A good start could be something as simple as a detailed index of what people might want to know about with appropriate links to what exists. Ideally the website should have everything.</p>	17.08	5.35	5.98	5.75
<p>164 - Zero-Waste Grocery Store (Mammoth Lakes; Hard Infrastructure)</p> <p>A zero-waste grocery store would focus on waste prevention that encourages the redesign of resource life cycles so that all products are reused. This store would send no trash to landfills. The idea of a zero-waste grocery store is that individuals would bring empty bottles purchase one at the store or take a free donated container and refill it with quality products such as food, wellness, and household items.</p>	16.87	6.04	5.21	5.62
<p>182 - Modernize Town Bus Bike Racks (Town buses and trolleys; Public Transportation)</p> <p>Modernize bike racks on the town buses to accommodate changing bicycle trend of larger wheels on mountain bikes. All of the town buses have different bike racks on the front. The racks located on the front of the buses do not accommodate for current bicycle trends with larger wheels @ 27.5" and 29". I would have utilized the shuttle system to the village more often had my bicycle fit on the rack.</p>	16.79	4.87	5.86	6.06
<p>175 - Geothermal Spa Network (Regional; New Bathrooms, Buildings, Roads, Trails or other "Hard Infrastructure")</p> <p>Develop a modern network of geothermal spas across the region. Make them architecturally pleasing so that they're a desirable amenity. Provide a release mechanism for the overrun natural hot springs. Counties could work together to manage the network. Provides jobs. Access should not be financially prohibitive. There are models for this in Iceland and other geothermally active regions.</p>	16.6	5.18	5.79	5.63
<p>174 - Padooa Park - Turning Golf Courses into Green Space (Mammoth Lakes; New Bathrooms, Buildings, Roads, Trails or other "Hard Infrastructure")</p>	16.43	5.47	5.69	5.27

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<p>Turn Sierra Star golf course into the crown jewel of public green space, with walking trails, dog area, some grass areas, and minimal amenities. As Sierra Star golf course is not profitable, use the land in a way to benefit the entire community, proving a high accessibility level to outdoor green space and its various health benefits. It could be accessed quickly by working people during the day, accommodate all ability levels, provide an outdoor venue space for plays and music, and be used to connect various parts of town via a trail or path network.</p>				
<p>163 - Fun Bins (All Eastern Sierra; Stewardship and Volunteers)</p> <p>My project is for Eastern Sierra residents and tourist decorate a trash can that can be put around town, trails, and lakes to keep the trash in the trash cans and not all over town. This is a fun family project that can help us with trash around town, lakes, and trails.</p>	16.27	5.62	4.98	5.67
<p>121 - Community Snow Skills and Terrain Park (TOML; New Winter Recreation Opportunities)</p> <p>Create a town-run or nonprofit run snow skills and terrain park in the Town of Mammoth Lakes. There are no after hour opportunities for learning snowboard or ski skills after MMSA closes for the day. Not only will this park be a low-cost alternative to a \$200 lift ticket for a new skier/ snowboarder to try out the sport, but it gives youth and citizens of Mono County another positive activity to do after hours. This park will have 2 separate rope tows, one with a terrain park, and one with a mild slope for first timers. This park will increase in town rentals and will provide community jobs. It will address cost accessibility to low-income families wanting to get on the snow. It will also be a great place for Mammoth snow teams, including youth, to train after hours. There will be rope attendants for safety during operating hours. Park is not accessible outside of business hours for safety reasons.</p>	16.26	4.3	6.05	5.91
<p>140 - OHV Singletrack (Mammoth to June Area; Trail Planning)</p> <p>Link existing short segments of OHV single-track into a signed trail network to support legal trail usage and enhanced recreation experiences for dirt bike users (and e-bikes and mtn bikes). INF has <20 miles of OHV single-track with no 1 trail longer than 3 miles and with pieces scattered in the forest. As with hiking/biking, single-track OHV trails provide increased recreational experience and are more in demand. The lack of trails with high demand increases the risk of illegal trails being used. Increased popularity of UTVs has also decreased the safety for dirt bike users as the UTVs take up more space and are capable of very high speeds on roads. Moving dirt bikes to single track trails will increase safety, reduce dirt bike speeds, and enhance the experience. An example trail could link Shady Rest to Upper Dry Creek to Minaret Vista providing a legal OHV path for a high value experience. Other trails could, on both the west/east sides of 395, link Mammoth to June to take advantage of existing trails, repurpose 2-track road to single-</p>	15.8	5.02	5.46	5.32

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<p>track, create new connectors, and add signage. Access via Shady Rest/Sherwin Creek campgrounds would also reduce local vehicle traffic.</p>				
<p>171 - East Side Community Boulders (Potentially any community on the east side, in parks, next to trails, or any appropriate public land; New Bathrooms, Buildings, Roads, Trails or other "Hard Infrastructure")</p> <p>Placement of natural or artificial bouldering features in parks, near trails, picnic spots, other public recreation spots. Rock climbing and bouldering are a huge part of modern east side culture. Let’s install natural or artificial bouldering features in parks etc.—low height rocks or simulacra designed to be challenging and interesting to climb with no more risk than playground features. The most popular playground feature for children in mammoth creek park is not a swing or a slide, but a granite boulder next to the parking lot. Climbing is a huge part of our culture—let’s celebrate our own identity by giving our parks bouldering. Features could even pay tribute to internationally known boulders or crags like the Happy Boulder or Iron Man Traverse in the Buttermilks.</p>	15.78	4.62	5.7	5.46
<p>131 - Access Apartments (238 Sierra Manor Road Mammoth Lakes, CA; Housing)</p> <p>Access Apartments is a 100% affordable multifamily apartment project currently in pre-development stages. The project will have 11 one-bedroom apartments and 5 garages for local households. Regional communities need 1,083 homes. Due to this deficit, community members commute long distances, live in their cars, overcrowd, or otherwise make unhealthy choices about where to live. A high percentage of local employees work in recreation and tourism industries. These 11 affordable apartments will serve households earning below 80% of the area median income. This redevelopment is located within 1 mile of free public transit, health facilities, schools, libraries, shopping, and bike paths. The total project development cost is about \$6M; MLH has contributed about \$1M to date on acquisition, architecture and engineering, fees, etc. Other partners have pledged funding including a partial land donation, the Town of Mammoth Lakes, IMACA through the Continuum of Care, and Mono County. MLH has applied for State/Federal funding grants amounting to \$4.5M. In order for this project to succeed it will require additional funding sources which this initiative could potentially provide.</p>	15.65	4.31	5.22	6.12
<p>123 - Skate June (Gull Lake Park or June Lake Ball Field; New Bathrooms, Buildings, Roads, Trails or other "Hard Infrastructure")</p> <p>Skate June is the construction of a well-built, medium sized, cement skate park with progressive flow and a variety of features suitable for all ages and all abilities in a recreational zoned area. A skate park in June Lake would add a great value to our town. June Lake is a tourist destination with a growing local population. Many young people are moving</p>	15.63	4	5.7	5.93

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<p>here and starting families or relocating their families here from larger suburban areas. Cities all over the country have installed skate parks to attract young professionals and creative types. Skate tourism has put many small towns on the map and draws visitors who either don't have a skate park of their own or just want to explore new terrain. A skate park would add to the recent and continuing "revitalization" of June Lake. The prime location for this skate park is the land located behind and adjacent to the community center building. This area is an established recreational hub that includes a playground, picnic areas, fishing, tennis, basketball, hiking, and lake activities. Parking and bathroom facilities are already in place.</p>				
<p>149 - Develop Winter Camping Options in Northern Counties (Higher elevation counties like Mono County; Partnerships)</p> <p>Winter camping is becoming very popular but is very limited in northern counties. Proposal is to create a task force to investigate and implement winter camping options, particularly near ski areas. With the popularity of vans and smaller RVs, winter camping is beginning to become much more popular. In many years, northern counties such as Mono have widespread snow cover and many closed, gated, and snow-covered roads, severely limiting options for winter camping, even dispersed camping. The proposal is to start a task force to look at various ways to create options for winter camping, even if it's dry camping, that can be easily worked into existing snow removal operations and won't incur high costs. A good focus to start with would be proximity to ski areas, perhaps by negotiating to legitimize the use of some ski area parking facilities. There are already dozens of ski areas across the country that are beginning to accommodate the winter camping trend.</p>	15.53	4.54	5.57	5.42
<p>128 - Whitewater Boating Take-Out at Mt. Gate Park (Mountain Gate Park; New Bathrooms, Buildings, Roads, Trails or other "Hard Infrastructure")</p> <p>The W. Walker River is swift at Mt. Gate Park when the river is at boatable levels, with no really safe take-out spot. Project idea is to create an eddy which can be used for safe and easy exit. To encourage/facilitate more recreational whitewater boating on the West Walker River between the 395 bridge and Walker, the project idea is to build an eddy in the river at Mt. Gate Park. Currently, public put-in access along the river is good, but good take-out access is limited at best. The river is swift in the Mt. Gate area when flows are at boatable levels and taking out can be challenging. Creating an eddy in the river would provide a safe and convenient take out at a location with good, convenient public access.</p>	15.47	4.52	5.4	5.55

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<p>135 - Law Work (Eastern Sierras; Legal)</p> <p>I would like to petition the state and/or local government to make harsher laws when regarding the protection of our area. I would like to harsher laws against littering, any damages to the natural area. This could include larger fines, possible jail time for larger offences.</p>	15.36	5.75	4.18	5.43
<p>179 - Doe Ridge Trails (Doe Ridge; New Bathrooms, Buildings, Roads, Trails or other "Hard Infrastructure")</p> <p>Develop trails in the area known as Doe Ridge. Use existing infrastructure in at the Whitmore Complex to facilitate a trailhead for experiences into the Doe Ridge area.</p>	14.77	4.56	5.21	5
<p>136 - Public Access Trail to USFS Sherwin Meadows Area (Tamarack Street Southeasterly Terminus of Tamarack Street; New Bathrooms, Buildings, Roads, Trails or other "Hard Infrastructure")</p> <p>Refer to the Informational Board (in the immediately following related email) about public access at the end of Tamarack St across the private Plum Family properties to the Sherwin Meadows. Refer to the Plum Family Informational Board (in the immediately following related email) about: handicap parking at the end of Tamarack St with a public road to the private Plum Family properties and the 2 Gibbs father/son headstones.</p>	13.71	4.05	5.15	4.51
<p>166 - Open Monitor Pass Year-Round (Highway 89 from the Highway 4/89 junction in Alpine County to the Highway 89/395 junction in Mono County; Permits and Agreements)</p> <p>Keep Monitor Pass open year-round by providing funding to any agencies that may need it, including, if necessary, funding to study the feasibility of the project. Typically Monitor Pass closes when the first major snow of the season arrives and doesn't re-open until the snow melts in the spring. Because of this, access from 395 near Coleville, to Markleeville, and Tahoe/Kirkwood, is not possible. We would like to see funding directed in such a way that the Pass can be plowed and remain open during the winter months. Since Monitor Pass is mostly exposed, with limited tree cover, we believe it would take less effort to plow and clear than Ebbetts Pass, which is the other major corridor that closes Markleeville off during the winter months.</p>	13.56	3.88	4.8	4.88
<p>178 – Grading (Mammoth to June Lake parallel to 395; Maintenance)</p> <p>Level out some of the whoops. There is a trail on the west side of Highway 395 from Route 203 to Route 158 (the June Lake junction) that is used by mostly off-highway vehicles. When I last traveled that route, it had really large "hoop de</p>	12.35	4	4.31	4.04

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<p>does" (moguls to a skier), particularly in the sandy areas. It would be nice to level those things out once in a while. I am not sure if a normal road grader would do it, but it would be interesting to try.</p>				
<p>165 - Mammoth Creek Park Manzanita Maze (Mammoth Creek Park; Trail Planning)</p> <p>On the MUF LAND cut a maze in the manzanita. The land is so overgrown with bushes it is unusable. If people start to play there, the neighbors will get used to the activity. BINGO The larger piece of land in Mammoth Creek Park to be used as parking and the MUF is not being used for anything. Even I, a veteran bush walker, wouldn't cut through that area. You could easily clear and make a maze with only two entrances or exits. This would be easy for parents to keep track of their kids. "They are in the Maze."</p>	11.26	3.33	4.19	3.74
<p>134 - Snowmobiling Expansion (Mammoth Lakes; Trail Planning)</p> <p>Here in the Mammoth area we have huge snowmobiling potential. We have miles of groomed trail and many unique places to explore. I believe that this potential is highly underutilized. I believe that with a few changes and additions that we could turn Mammoth into a world class snowmobiling resort. Starting with adding infrastructure. Including more trail map for people new to the area. More accessibility such as increased parking and launching areas. Along with more groomed trial. The next step would be letting people know about it. One way the town could do this is through advertising. Both with signs around the community and in other locations. Next the town could invite Snowmobilers with many followers such as Chris Burandt. Finally, the town could host snowmobile events like community rides or commotions. Possibly partnering with the mountain or other organizations. However most importantly the town needs to protect the sport. Many groups such as the Sierra club are seeking to shut down much of the area for snowmobilers in as well as confining people to the groomed trails. So, the town needs to ensure that there isn't huge restriction place on the sport.</p>	11.13	3.11	3.93	4.09