



**Summer Opportunity Zone Exercise
Group 1 Notes
Submitted 6/16/09**

- BMX area somewhere more appropriate in pit
- Connected to Town path to staging area/pit
- Staging area at tank farm (signage, interpretive)
- Better loop opportunities on Mammoth Rock (non-motorized)
- Bicycle/non-motorized loop in whole area, especially Panorama Dome/Panorama Vista (Flume Trail) area
- Interpretive sites/connecting better/signing
- Non-motorized trails on Sierra Meadows Ranch/signage, loop opportunities
- Mammoth Meadow access
- Kerry Meadow/Mammoth Meadow restoration?
- Day use only (except for permit), quiet, open space preservation for destination drives, bikes, hikes: ecological value, botanizing, birding, interpretive, education





Summer Activity Zones
Sherwins Area
Proposal by Team #2
(Submitted 6/22/09)

In order to accommodate as many outdoor recreation activities as possible while considering their various degrees of mutual compatibility as well as their environmental impact in the respective areas, we suggest establishing three opportunity zones:

- 1) The first zone would be for **mixed use, inclusive of motorized use**. This would accommodate practically all activities listed in the handout as amended at the 6/16/09 meeting. We find that this zone can most appropriately be placed in the area east of a north-south line that is east of the proposed Turner Propane tank farm and south of Sherwin Creek Road.
- 2) The second zone would be for **all non-motorized use, inclusive of mechanical use such as biking (i.e., all listed activities other than motorized ones)**. This zone would consist of two parts: The first part would be the area north of Sherwin Creek Road, which is currently used for equestrian purposes in particular. The second part would be the area south of and including Mammoth Rock Trail, as well as the area west of Old Mammoth Road
- 3) The third zone would be **limited to non-mechanized use** and consist of the most environmentally sensitive area: the meadow itself. This zone will be available for equestrian use, hiking, pet walking (off leash), running, and study and preservation of fauna and flora. This zone will consist of the area north of Mammoth Rock Trail and west of a north-south line that is east of the proposed Turner Propane tank farm, ending at Old Mammoth Road.

We envision a main staging area at the proposed Turner Propane tank farm as well as trailhead parking for non-mechanized use at the end of Tamarack Street and at the proposed Snowcreek VIII hotel.

Once a consensus is reached regarding the zones, more detailed decision-making must be addressed as to specific trails, consolidation and restoration of existing ones, and establishment of new ones—for instance, south of Mammoth Rock Trail and a switchback connector from the meadow to Mammoth Rock. It must also take into consideration improved access to trails less accessible today, several of which have historical interest.





**Summer Opportunity Zone Exercise
“Group 3 Summer Use Notes”
Submitted 6/16/09**

UNPAVED

1. Biathlon (near motocross track)
2. Non-motorized trail connectivity from upper Mammoth Rock Trail to: a) Panorama Dome; b) Lakes Basin
3. Non-motorized (specifically excluded activities such as equestrian) connectivity from lower Mammoth Rock Trail to: a) The Bluffs/Panorama Dome/Lakes Basin; b) Shady Rest
4. Non-motorized connectivity from lower Mammoth Rock Trail to Shady Rest (probably separate from equestrian trail)
5. BMX/challenge park (contained track) near proposed Turner Propane tank farm and/or motocross (pipe water if necessary)

OTHER

1. ADA paved/hardened opportunities from the proposed Turner Propane tank farm to the meadows/Hidden Lake
2. Recognize birding area near The Bluffs





**Summer Opportunity Zone Exercise
Group 4 Notes
Submitted 6/26/09**

Panorama Dome Area: This area has excellent existing biking trails and potential for more. The soils in this area are the best around for bike trails; they are actually real dirt and not loose pumice or jumbled rocks. The trails in the area would be open to multi-use.

Sherwins Access Trail: Currently there is only a use trail accessing the Sherwins Ridge area. This area has great hiking potential because it is the easiest way to access the top of the ridge. It would be good to have a formal trail instead of the current use trail.

Mammoth Rock Trail: This is a great multi-use trail. It is important because it connects Mammoth Mountain Ski Area (MMSA) to the south portion of Mammoth Lakes. It is also a great multi-use trail. Currently, it isn't possible to access the meadow area from the Mammoth Rock Trail. There is potential to create multi-use connections from the Mammoth Rock Trail down into the meadow area. Currently the easternmost portion of the Mammoth Rock Trail is very sandy and not the most enjoyable on a bike; it would be great to have an alternate bike portion on the east side.

There was also interest from some in our group to see a connector trail from the Mammoth Rock Trail to the south up to the top of the Sherwins. The access trail would include at least hiking and possibly biking.

Mammoth Meadow (off the end of Tamarack Street): This area was seen as a great location for hiking and dog walking. There are currently several trails around the meadow. There is abundant wildlife and a peaceful and serene environment. Would like to see this area remain non-motorized; also, a small parking area off the end of Tamarack Street for non-motorized use.

Motocross Track: Currently motorized use is allowed on the track only during the annual Mammoth Motocross event (approximately 10 days). Could this be allowed all summer? Also, behind the motocross track are some old mining roads. The roads are outside of the study area, but access to these old roads occurs through the area. Potential for mountain bike and hiking trails.

Sherwin Lakes Trailhead: Important trailhead for hiking.





Mammoth Creek: Fishing access is an important use along the banks of Mammoth Creek throughout the study area.

Tank Farm/Gravel Pit: This area would make a great parking/staging area. The area surrounding the tank farm is currently used by people walking their dogs off-leash. It would be good to keep this area as an off-leash spot for dog walkers. Also, there was some interest in putting a BMX track in the area near the parking lot. The lack of water could be an issue, though.

In general, we discussed the use of motorized vehicles to the east of the parking area and non-motorized use to the west of the parking area. The meadow areas to the west of the parking area are more environmentally sensitive areas and therefore should remain non-motorized. Most of the motorized use currently is to the east of the parking lot. There are many existing roads that OHV users currently utilize between Sherwin Creek Road and Mammoth Creek.

A future use that we would like to see is a continuation of the bike path from Old Mammoth Road along Sherwin Creek Road to the gravel pit, then along the southern portion of the Snowcreek VIII and Snowcreek V property to the end of Tamarack Street. This would allow access from the Old Mammoth portion of town to the eastern portion of town without having to utilize Old Mammoth Road. This path would also be a great spot for an ADA-accessible trail for disabled folks as well as parents with strollers, etc.

There were not any equestrian people represented in our group. We do recognize the need for equestrian access to the meadow and areas around Mammoth Creek.

