

1.11.5 Recreation Education Subelement

Overview

Recreation Education is an important component of effective recreation planning and therefore is added as a new Subelement to action Alternatives 2, 3 and 4. It provides interpretive opportunities to disseminate information about recreation. Education and interpretation about recreation facilities, the resources within the facilities, and the availability of transportation options to get to the facilities is important to protect resources, alleviate overcrowding, and improve the visitor experience.

Alternative 1

Summary

Because the Recreation Education Subelement is newly proposed for the Regional Plan Update, and Alternative 1 is the “No Action” Alternative, this Subelement would not be included (and there would be no Goals, Policies, or Implementation Measures).

Alternatives 2, 3, and 4

Summary

The Pathway process identified the need for public and visitor education regarding recreation in the Tahoe Basin. The “action” Alternatives include a new goal and four new policies.

Goals and Policies

The new Recreation Education goal seeks to educate residents and visitors about recreation opportunities and how to engage in behavior appropriate to the unique natural and cultural environments of Lake Tahoe. Four policies would encourage additional signage (through a variety of forms, languages, and technologies) and interpretation to enhance the recreation experience. The purpose of these policies is also to help alleviate overcrowding at recreation facilities.

Implementation Measures

No Code amendments are proposed to implement goals and policies relating to recreation education; however, TRPA will continue to coordinate with partner agencies and stakeholders to implement the Lake Tahoe Recreation Sign Guidelines and the “Wayfinding” projects currently underway at the City of South Lake Tahoe and the North Shore.

**Table REC-2
Recreation Growth Scenarios**

	Existing 2006	Planned in CP's	Alternative 1	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 4
Total Residential Units	46,970		48,170	52,670	53,370	50,770
percent change			2.5%	11.8%	12.2%	7.1%
Additional SFD			150	3,500	4,200	2,000
Additional Multi			500	1,000	1,000	600
Total Commercial FA	4,863,340		5,210,340	5,610,340	5,810,340	5,410,340
percent change			7.1%	14.3%	16.9%	9.4%
Community Plans			160,000		300,000	
Special Projects (CEP)			187,000	200,000	300,000	
Transfer Incentive				200,000		200,000
Total Tourist Units	11,714		11,966	12,166	12,366	11,966
percent change			2.1%	3.7%	5.3%	2.1%
Bonus			252	200	400	
Total Recreation	110,751		120,080	121,489	122,810	117,470
percent change overnight			5.0%	10.0%	10.0%	2.5%
Overnight DCPs ⁽¹⁾	9,232		462	923	923	230
percent change summer			8.0%	8.0%	9.0%	6.0%
Summer DCPs ⁽²⁾	64,888		5,191	5,191	5,840	3,890
percent change winter			5.0%	7.7%	10.0%	5.0%
Winter DCPs ⁽³⁾	23,332		1,167	1,797	2,333	1,167
percent change dispersed			25.0%	25.0%	25.0%	25.0%
Dispersed DCPs ⁽⁴⁾	8,774		2,194	2,194	2,194	2,194
percent change urban			7.0%	14.0%	17.0%	9.0%
Urban DCPs ⁽⁵⁾		4,525	317	634	769	400
Total Public Service FA	1,664,754		1,764,754	1,864,754	1,914,754	1,814,754
percent change			5.7%	10.7%	13.1%	8.3%
PS FA			100,000	200,000	250,000	150,000
Day Use (Ave. Day External Trips)	19,000		23,066	23,066	23,750	22,230
percent change			21.40%	21.40%	25.00%	17.00%

⁽¹⁾ Overnight DCPs for Alternative 1B and 4 based on 1987 Regional Plan past trend distributions for overnight PAOTs. Alternative 4 increase estimated at one-half of the previous trend distributions utilized for Alternative 1B. For Alternatives 2 and 3, increase in overnight DCP's based on ten percent change from existing summer overnight recreationists to estimated summer overnight recreationists build-out (population change from 4,700 in 2005 to 5,180 in 2025). Includes developed camping, undeveloped camping and group facilities (source: TRPA Regional Recreation Plan Recreation Assessment, 2005).

⁽²⁾ Summer DCP's estimated based on 37 percent of day use trip increase times existing summer DCPs (for example, 8% increase for Alternative 2 summer DCP is 37% of 21.4%). Summer day use percent estimated from NUSTATS 2004 Summer Visitor Travel Survey which found that "beach activities comprised one-third of activities done by Day Visitors

(37%).

⁽³⁾ Winter DCPs for Alternative 1B and 4 increase based on Heavenly and Homewood planned ski area projects, allocated as PAOTs in PAS area. Heavenly PAOTs not allocated to projects = 1077; Homewood CEP project proposes to utilize 120 PAOTs for Homewood Master Plan project for a total of 1197 PAOTs (9.6% of total allocated winter PAOTs or 5% of total existing winter DCPs.) Alternative 3 based on 1B plus 1200 additional PAOTs estimated for potential expansion of Alpine (600) and Northstar (600) ski areas, or 10% of total existing winter DCPs. Alternative 2 based on 1,000 PAOTs removed from Northstar Ski Resort transect and PAS to correspond to USFS Forest Plan Map and 600 (NOTE: Heavenly requests that all 1000 from Northstar be transferred to Heavenly) of those transferred to Heavenly (1077 Heavenly + 120 Homewood + 600 transferred = 1797 or 7.7% of existing DCPs). (Northstar totals 8% of total allocated winter PAOTs or 4% of total existing winter DCPs.)

⁽⁴⁾ Dispersed DCP's are based on 25% increase in visitation to USFS lands. This was estimated based on projected 50% increase in visitation to LTBMU estimated thru 2025, per *NVUM 2001*, with estimated 50% of visitors participating in dispersed recreation (hiking) *source: Recreation User Preference Survey, 2001*. NVUM data conflicts with data in Future Conditions report which stated that a minority of visitors use/need dispersed facilities. However, users of dispersed recreation also includes users of trails and bike trails, dispersed beach use as well as paved multi-use paths, and increases in these users will increase the percentage of dispersed recreation users. Dispersed recreation includes urban area trail connections as well as non-urban trails and paths that are less intensely developed.

⁽⁵⁾ Urban DCP's based on planned urban facilities as listed in community plans. Percent of change tied to commercial growth, based on information from TRPA studies (Frequency & Duration and User Preference Survey) which found an increased rate of use by visitors of urban and developed recreation facilities.

