

HRSP Road and Trail Management Plan

Stakeholder Meeting 5: Hiking User Group

11/30/2010

2 attendees

Questions and comments

Need system for ranking trail difficulty so know which trails are appropriate for different groups

- elevation change is most important

Access

- trails are in place, but difficult to access

- Would like to drive up Pole Line in order to access Peavine

 - would need major evaluation

 - if allow driving, it is public and open to anyone; could cause sustainability issues.

 - if open, may require paving to be sustainable

 - possibility of gaining access through a "tour", special use permit, or other arrangement through visitor services rather than making road public

- Thornton- wonderful trail, hard to access

 - lower portion reroute in progress, will be done in 12-18 months

 - River Trail also in progress. Will be done by spring 2012.

Signage issues

- Rockefeller/ Big Trees

 - people looking for Rockefeller Loop

- Bull Creek Flats Trail

- Currently cleaning up naming of roads/trails (i.e. Preacher/Squaw/ Greig) and can get better signage after that.

- Department going through standardization for signs

Views

- Peavine and Pole Line to Fox Camp in particular

 - There are views from the trail that enhance the experience but are marginal. If views could be expanded it would be very positive for the experience

 - Possible to remove a few trees to improve view, but not too many at once so it doesn't ruin aesthetics

 - difficult to justify removing habitat from forest (i.e. spotted owl), but more of a possibility to cut trees encroaching on prairies

 - Fox Camp prairie recovery project will remove lots of trees

 - Possibility to put trails into prairies/openings to provide vistas rather than remove trees

Development of trails

- How want desires worded?
- Development in Anderson Preserve?
 - No development allowed in preserve
 - Wilderness does allow trails, but not mechanized

Canoe Creek drainage

- inaccessible after fire
- what is sense of useage/frequency of use on trail?
 - some sense based on wear on trails, particularly for horses and bikes; hiking difficult
- lots of 2nd growth, not as big of an issue with putting in new routes
- status of old trail off Grasshopper in Canoe Creek, marked with a redwood marker?
 - probably gone after fire; Grasshopper trail still there but other routes completely gone
- When will Canoe Creek Loop open?
 - no more loop, geology changed so much can't put a bridge there anymore (fish and game, NOAA fisheries, RTR etc. determined not feasible)
 - just river trail once reopened

When build a trail, does RTR need specific funding?

- yes, project funded only; annual funds barely covers maintenance. Environmental clearance is expensive.

Struggle between protecting resources and access