Collaborative Community Recommendations for Oregon State University College Forests Recreation Planning


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Executive Summary

Recreation visitors of the Oregon State University College Forests (College Forests) participated in a collaborative planning effort to draft this document of recommendations for the future of the recreation program. The purpose of these community generated recommendations is to serve as the foundation for a strategic recreation plan for the College Forests. In this process, community members who recreate in the forest participated in focus groups to identify issues and concerns and generate ideas for improvements. The College Forests Recreation Collaborative (Collaborative), a group of community representatives, was then formed to develop these opportunities and challenges into more concrete descriptions of the types of recreation opportunities users would like to have in the College Forests. This document was generated from this collaborative effort, and represents the thoughts, opinions and ideas of the community of College Forests recreation visitors. All those with an interest in how recreation is managed on the College Forests are invited to provide comments on this document to better inform the next step of developing a strategic recreation plan.

The Collaborative recommended different areas of the forests provide different recreation settings so that users can have diverse experiences in the College Forests. A system of opportunity classes would establish defined areas, each with a specific set of appropriate features, structures and desired social and resource conditions. The recommended system includes a spectrum of opportunity classes designed to provide opportunities from accessible parks to challenging explorations.

Within these opportunity classes, a diverse set of trail types was also recommended, including: highly developed park trails, generic forest trails, trails traversing long distances, and trails offering technical challenges. Most new trails would be designed for all user groups, while some may be designed for a particular, primary use. The recreation user community recommends that trail designation be balanced and inclusive of the diversity of recreation use types. The Collaborative recommendations include a set of criteria under which it would be appropriate to exclude certain use types from trails.

Additional recommendations to address common issues on the College Forests include: parking enhancements at access points, updates to maps and trail signs, management of invasive species, expansion of access hours, additional environmental interpretation and more community involvement. Users recommend expanding opportunities for donations and volunteerism to generate the resources that would be required to make these improvements and support recreation program into the future.

This report outlines each of these recommendations in detail. The community is invited to contribute to these recommendations by submitting comments to be included in the final document. This report and your comments will be used to inform the development of a strategic plan that incorporates the needs of the community into the management of recreation on the College Forests.

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Introduction

Purpose & Need

The Oregon State University (OSU) College Forests were donated primarily for the purpose of research, teaching, and demonstration. The College Forests are also managed for recreation, and timber harvests whose revenues support all these activities. Recreation in OSU's College Forests makes an important contribution to Corvallis' mission to enhance community livability. Community members visit the forests regularly to hike, walk their dogs, run along a trail, mountain bike, ride their horses, and hunt (Dunn Forest only). Table 1 provides a breakdown of activities forest visitors participate in on the College Forests. According to a 2009 visitor survey conducted by Drs. Needham and Rosenberger[1], the College Forests see about 11,500 visitors each year primarily from the Corvallis vicinity. The average visitor has been coming to the College Forests for 11 years and does so during the summer months about once a week. They often drive to the forest and come alone or with a dog for two hours or less.

Table 1. Forest Activity Participation as percentage of 2009 survey respondents[1]

	Typical Forest Activity[a]	Activities Ever Participated In[b]
Hiking or walking	42	94
Trail running or jogging	21	52
Dog walking	17	60
Mountain biking	15	47
Horseback riding	3	7
Nature viewing	1	55
Bird watching	0	24
Hunting	0	2
Other	1	8

[a] "Primary activity in which you typically participate at this forest."
[b] "Check all activities in which you have ever participated in the McDonald-Dunn Forest."

Recreation, however, is not part of the original mission for which the College Forests were donated, which has resulted in a largely informal recreation planning process based on little understanding of visitors' desires for future development. Informal planning can bring with it inefficiencies, user conflicts, inequitable access to different user types, unintentional damage to the resource, and disruption of primary uses such as harvesting and research. Through requests made to managers and responses to the 2009 visitor survey, users of the Forests have expressed an interest in seeing recreation opportunities grow[1].

[1] Needham, M.D., & Rosenberger, R.S. (2011) Public support, demand, and potential revenue for recreation at the McDonald-Dunn Forest (Final project report for Oregon State University College Forests and College of Forestry). Corvallis, OR: Oregon State University, Department of Forest Ecosystems and Society.

The increasing demand for recreation has demonstrated a need for strategic recreation planning in the College Forests. The purpose of this document is to summarize community stakeholder recommendations for recreation planning on the College Forests. These recommendations come out of the College Forests recreation research team's efforts to solicit input from, and collaborate with, engaged visitors to serve as a foundation for strategic recreation planning.

Project Objectives

- Identify and articulate the interests of visitors and stakeholders for enhancing the recreation opportunities on the College Forests.
- Improve the transparency of the planning process for forest recreation resource management through participatory planning.
- Build collaborative partnerships with stakeholders in the community around recreation planning and management.
- Initiate a strategic planning process for recreation opportunities on the College Forests.
- Contribute to the Graduate Research Assistant's, Elspeth Gustavson, thesis research for completion of her Masters of Science in Forest Ecosystems and Society in the College of Forestry. A short summary of the research questions and findings can be found in appendix B of this document.

Process

Overview

The recommendations contained in this document are the result of a multi-stage process engaging community members and stakeholders with College Forests' managers and researchers. The process described below was designed to build the foundation for a mutually beneficial plan for recreation in the College Forests. These recommendations articulate the type of recreation the community wants, and how the forests might be managed for those conditions. The results from this process informed the content of this report, and will continue to inform the further development of a strategic recreation plan. This plan will outline future developments to recreation infrastructure and outline guidelines for effective program management.

The community engagement process was facilitated by a research team made up of Elspeth Gustavson (MS candidate in Forest Ecosystems and Society), Christine Olsen (Faculty Research Associate in Forest Ecosystems and Society), and Ryan Brown (Recreation Manager at OSU College Forests). This team planned and conducted the focus groups and Recreation Collaborative sessions, and Elspeth Gustavson compiled the resulting information into this document.

Limits of Acceptable Change Framework

The College Forests intend to follow a version of the Limits of Acceptable Change (LAC) process for recreation planning. LAC is a planning framework that was established by Stankey, Cole, Lucas, Peterson, and Frissell in 1985 for the U.S. Forest Service[2]. It offers a common process and language for recreation resource managers to utilize in planning. This process outlines nine important steps for evaluating, managing, and balancing recreation use with resource protection as seen in Figure 1. The results presented here are specifically part of the first two steps of this process, identifying issues and concerns, and defining and describing opportunity classes (also called zones). Opportunity classes define the resource, social, and managerial conditions considered appropriate and desirable in a defined zone of the natural area[3]. These shared stakeholder interests will continue to inform later stages of the planning process.

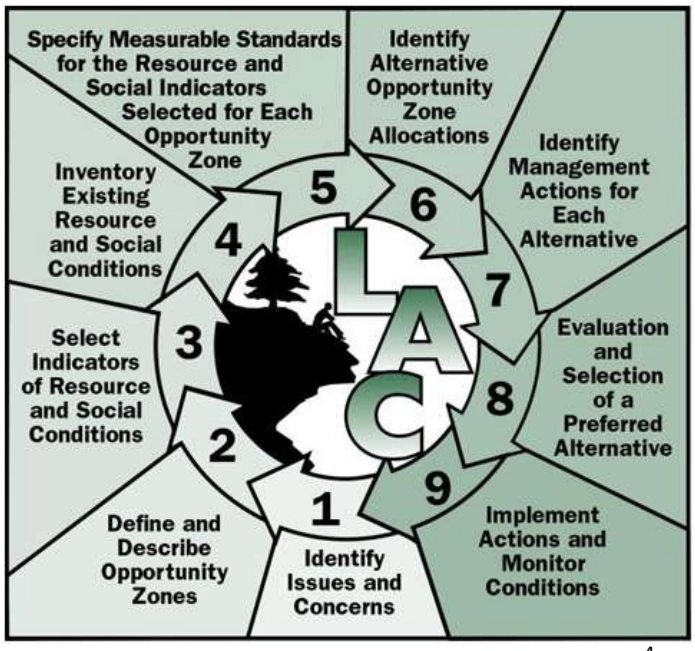


Figure 1. Limits of Acceptable Change Framework[4]

[2] Stankey, G. H., Cole, D. N., Lucas, R. C., Petersen, M. E., & Frissell, S. S. (1985). The limits of acceptable change (LAC) system for wilderness planning. *General Technical Report, Intermountain Forest and Range Experiment Station, USDA Forest Service*, (INT-176).

[3] Hendee, J.C., Stankey, G.H., & Lucas, R.C. (1990) *Wilderness management* (2nd ed.). Golden, CO: North American Press.

[4] Daniel Boone National Forest - Home. (n.d.). Retrieved April 2, 2014, from htttp://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/dbnf/home/?cid=stelprdb5346360

Step One: Focus Groups Identify Issues and Concerns

Beginning in April of 2013, the research team started recruiting community members to participate in focus groups that were intended to identify stakeholder issues, concerns and desires for recreation on the College Forests. Flyers describing the opportunity to engage in recreation planning for the College Forests were posted in key locations throughout the community of Corvallis and at trailhead kiosks. Further, information on the project was disseminated through key stakeholder contacts and community groups centered on different recreation activities. This effort generated interest from 102 community members (34 mountain bikers, 24 hikers, 20 equestrians, 19 runners, and 5 hunters) from which the research team randomly selected 55 to invite to the focus group meetings.

Up to 12 interested community members from each cornerstone recreation user group came together in one of five focus group meetings in April and May, 2013: hikers, mountain bikers, equestrians, trail runners, and hunters. By separating participants by their use type, each group could consider their interests, issues, and concerns without being inhibited by considering the needs of other groups. For these meetings we engaged in open discussion to brainstorm regarding the following questions:

1) Imagine the ultimate College Forest of your dreams in 20 years – what does it look like and how is that different from today?
2) What is most important to you about recreating in the College Forests? What management actions would you recommend to promote these important aspects?
3) Do you have issues, concerns, or barriers regarding your recreational use of the College Forests? What are they? What management actions would you recommend to address these concerns?
4) When you visit the College Forests, do you come wanting to learn something or solely for the purpose of recreation? What do you want to learn about? How would you like to receive this information?

These focus groups concluded with a mapping exercise where small groups took the concepts discussed above and drew areas in the forest where they occur. In other words, the research team asked participants to circle areas they found important, where their issues and concerns occur, and where they would like to access in the future.

The research team then solicited additional input from the community members that were not selected to participate in the focus groups. The questions addressed in the focus groups were sent by email to other community members and their responses were also

collected and considered. Complete summaries of the input gathered in this effort are available in the appendix of this document (Appendices B – I).

Step Two: Collaboration to Define and Describe Opportunity Classes

To define opportunity classes for the College Forests, the research team assembled the College Forests Recreation Collaborative. The group consisted of 14 people selected from focus group participants, the Forest Recreation Advisory Committee, and members of key underrepresented community groups. The collaborative membership included equal representation from each user group (two representatives each for hikers, equestrians, hunters, mountain bikers, and trail runners), one representative from disability and access services, another from the OSU undergraduate student population (underrepresented groups), and the research team including the College Forests Recreation Manager. This group met four times[5] throughout November and December of 2013 to workshop the results of the step one focus groups into concrete recommendations for trails and opportunity classes/zones. Each meeting was a progressive continuation of discussion that shaped the recommendations in this report.

Meeting One – Research team presented the focus group recommendations (as seen in Appendix C), and the Collaborative then identified important topics for further discussion.

Meeting Two – Review of LAC and began the discussion to define desired opportunity classes.

Meeting Three – Finalization of the desired opportunity classes and discussion regarding trail management and design for different user groups.

Meeting Four – Opportunity class and trail type mapping and further discussion of primary and multi-use trail designations as well as acceptable reasons for excluding specific user groups from a given trail.

[5] Five meetings were actually held. Due to inclement weather in December, the fourth collaborative meeting was rescheduled shortly before the holidays. As a result, not all members were able to attend and a second make-up meeting with an abbreviated agenda was held.

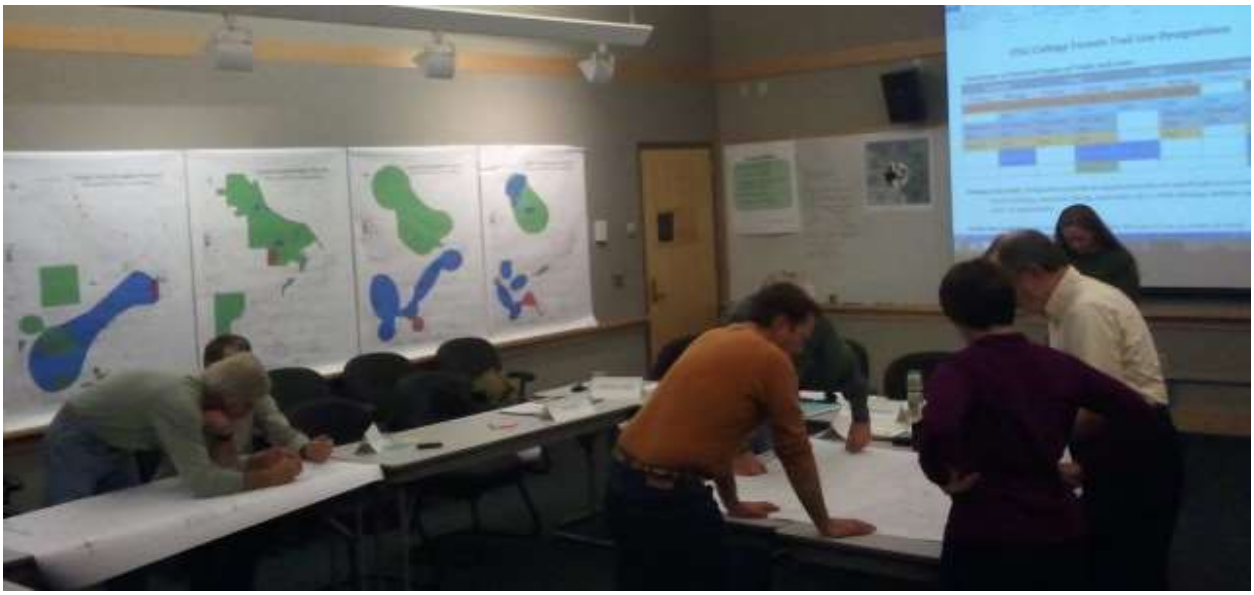


Figure 2. Members of the College Forests Recreation Collaborative at work.

Next Steps & Future Public Involvement

The College Forests Recreation Collaborative meetings closed with a discussion of the groups' desire for further involvement in the recreation planning process and recommendations for future public engagement. All of this input received throughout the process is synthesized in this document which will feed into a greater strategic plan for both the recreation program and the College Forests as a whole. The complete process is graphically displayed in Figure 3 below.

Figure 3. Recreation Planning Process in Context of Strategic Forest Plan

A draft of completed recommendations (this document) was reviewed by the members of the College Forests Recreation Collaborative. After revisions were completed by the research team, the completed document was published for public review.

During this period of public review, members of the community are asked to comment on these recommendations with ideas that add to the topics described and bring forward any issues or solutions that were missed in our public engagement process so far. The College Forests' staff and administrators seek public feedback so that final plans will provide recreation opportunities that meet community needs.

Constructive public comments will be incorporated into the recommendations outlined here by the research team. This document will provide direction for College Forests' staff to draft a near and long term strategic plan for the recreation program. This plan will be made available first to the Recreation Collaborative, and then the larger community of recreation visitors for review in 2015.

In the summer of 2014, a committee of College Forests and College of Forestry Staff and Faculty will convene to craft a set of goals and objectives for the future of recreation on the College Forests. These objectives will be informed by the public input process and the content of this document to answer the "hard questions," and will help planners outline acceptable social and resource conditions to be used in writing the recreation plan.

Table 2. College Forests' Recreation Planning Timeline.

When	Who	Objectives & Activities
Spring 2013	Community recreation user focus groups	Brainstorm issues, concerns, and desires for College Forests Recreation
Summer 2013	Research Team	Transcription, analysis and summarization of focus group results.
Winter 2013	College Forests Recreation Collaborative	Establish a set of recommendations for College Forests Recreation Planning
May 2014	College Forests Recreation Collaborative	Edit and comment on completed recommendations and objectives.
June 2014	Research team	Revise recommendations according to collaborative comments.
July 2014	Community of recreation users	Review these recommendations and objectives and provide feedback.
August 2014	Research Team	Revise recommendations according to public comments.

Summer 2014	Committee of College Forests Staff and Faculty	Define a set of goals and objectives for recreation on the College Forests
Summer 2014	College Forests Staff	Draft recreation plan.
Fall/Winter 2014	College Forests Recreation Collaborative	Review draft recreation plan and provide feedback.
2015	College Forests Staff	Publish a draft recreation plan for public review and implementation.

Opportunity Classes

The purpose of defining opportunity classes for forest recreation is to establish management parameters and user expectations for each area of the College Forests. Each opportunity class is defined by a set of features and social and resource conditions. This collection of attributes would be applied to the landscape as appropriate. However, each designated area does not require all features and conditions to qualify as that opportunity class. Table 3 shows the four class system for recreation opportunities in detail as developed by the College Forests Recreation Collaborative. These opportunities establish a spectrum of opportunity areas from developed to remote.

Table 3. Recommended College Forest Recreation Opportunity Classes

	Classifications			
Class Features	**Remote – Trail-less**	**Remote – Trailed**	**Semi-remote**	**Developed**
Facilities	None	Primitive bridges		Dog bags Visitors' center and information Trash receptacles Porta-potties accessible for people with physical disabilities Picnic areas Weed removal stations Water Parking facilities Horse trailer parking
			Bridges, benches & plaques	
Managerial presence	Indirect methods		On-site action	Positive physical presence: OSU & partners
	Positive, minimal physical presence Collective ownership Online			
Experience	Exploration Wild Solitude		Moderate, managed, solitude, en route	Safe, controlled, introductory, park, accessible, attainable, inviting
Destinations	None	Not the focus	Access destination via trail	Short distances to reach or accessible by car

	Remote – Trail-less	Remote – Trailed	Semi-remote	Developed
Directional Signage	None	Minimal	Some	Lots Visitors' center with maps and information
Messages	None	Interpretation[6]	Interpretation[6] Etiquette	Interpretation[6] Introduction to College Forests Direct to experiences (e.g. Distances to destinations)
Interpretation[6]	None	Non-signage methods (e.g. self-guided tours)	Interpretive[6] signs appropriate	Interpretive[6] signs appropriate
Night use	Hunting**	Mountain bike, Hunting**	Available for all recreation uses	
		Birding, nature watching		
Access points	No defined trailheads/parking remote	Accessed via trails or forest roads Trailheads/parking remote	Accessed via trails or forest roads Trailheads/parking remote	On-site trailheads & parking
Unauthorized trails	Analyze existing unauthorized trails and provide alternative (authorized) trails offering similar opportunities where appropriate.			
Trails	None	Difficult Intimate experience	Use roads Many multi-use trails	Easy, Accessible Short/close to trailhead
Trail Types*	None	Long Forest	Long Technical Forest	Long Park
Events	None	Low frequency		Educational, community events

*see trails planning section for trail type definitions (pages 23–29)
** for access to areas before shooting hours

[6] Environmental interpretation is defined as, "an educational method that aims to reveal meanings and relationships through the use of original objects, by firsthand experience, and by illustrative media, rather than simply to communicate factual information" (Ham, S. H. (1992). *Environmental interpretation: A practical guide for people with big ideas and small budgets*. Fulcrum Publishing. Pg. 411)

Developed

In areas designated as the developed opportunity class, facilities would be abundant and management would have a strong, positive presence. Visitors would have a safe and controlled recreation experience in developed areas on short, easy, and accessible trails. Developed destinations may be accessible from the car or only a short distance away from parking. Interpretive opportunities and educational events would be concentrated here and these developed areas would be introductory locations for visitors new to recreating in the College Forests. Trailheads, parking areas, and possibly a visitor's center would give visitors access to these areas and provide information on and directions to recreation opportunities available throughout the forest.

Semi-Remote

Access to semi-remote areas of the forest with many multi-use trails and road-based recreation opportunities would be gained by traveling on trails or forest roads. Features such as bridges, benches, and some directional signs would carry over from developed to semi-remote regions. Also, interpretive signage may still be appropriate in semi-remote areas, however community and educational events would occur here at a low frequency. These forest zones would provide a managed experience where the visitor may be en route to other zones or a specific destination, yet also have the opportunity to experience some solitude.

Remote Trailed

The remote trailed class would offer visitors narrow, difficult trails for a more intimate experience with opportunities for solitude. Visitors could explore the forests where management uses limited indirect methods. Access points would be remote and visitors would likely have to pass through semi-remote areas via trails and forest roads to find these remote opportunities. While destinations might exist in remote areas, they would not be the focus of recreation opportunity and would be accessed via long stretches of trail. The only constructed features here would be primitive bridges and minimal directional signing at trail or road intersections to keep visitors from becoming lost.

There would be no road signs, no facilities, and trail access would be via other trails or forest roads.

Remote Trail-less

The remote trail-less areas of the College Forests are where no trails would be developed, though there may be existing roads. There would be only road signs and no facilities. These regions would be left open for wildlife habitat and hunting access and would be access by trails and forest roads. Visitors may enter these areas for a genuine opportunity to

explore without trails, however their presence should leave no impact nor establish any unauthorized trails.

Opportunity Class Locations

The map on the following page (Figure 4) is the College Forests Recreation Collaborative's initial recommendation for how opportunity classes might be located on and applied to the College Forests land. It reflects the recommendations of two groups within the collaborative working on separate maps. Therefore, areas of agreement between the two groups are displayed darker than those recommended by only one. Overlapping colors demonstrate where the two groups varied regarding zoning recommendations.

Comments that refine the recommendations for locations of these opportunity classes are welcome.

Developed Opportunities – Generally, major access points on the northeast Dunn, and east, south, and north-central McDonald periphery. Specifically, Peavy Arboretum, the Chip Ross Park border, Oak Creek, Sulphur Springs, the center of the Cameron Tract, and Lewisburg Saddle

Semi-remote Opportunities – Core of the McDonald forest, and possibly along the southern and eastern edges of Dunn forest closest to developed access points

Remote Trailed Opportunities – Remaining areas of the Dunn forest (at least its southwest corner) as well as the connecting boundary between Dunn and McDonald, the periphery of the Cameron tract, and the northwest corner of the McDonald forest

Remote Trail-less Opportunities – Northern reaches of the Dunn forest

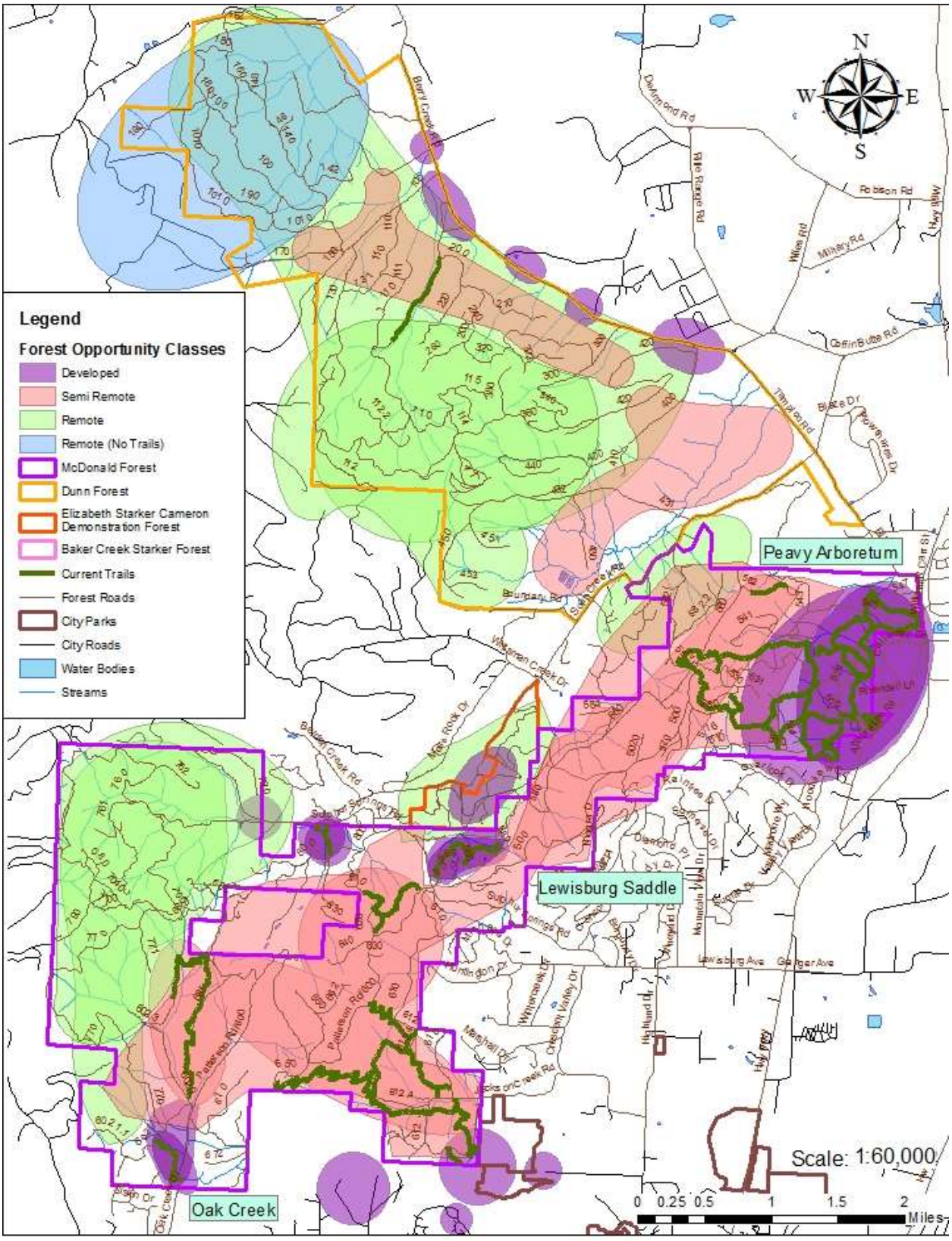


Figure 4. Recommendations for Forest Opportunity Class Locations

Recreation Program Recommendations

The following are several important topics mentioned frequently in the recreation user focus groups. These recommendations came with a high degree of agreement between the various user groups interviewed. The topics are listed from most to least prevalent in the focus group conversations.

Parking Enhancements

Key access points have a relatively significant shortage of places for parking. Focus group participants reported that during high use times the Lewisburg Saddle and Oak Creek parking areas can become dangerous because of traffic congestion and recreationists on foot, bicycle, or horseback. These are the recommendations that were made to address the issue:

- Increase the efficiency of the current parking lots and expand in problem areas such as Lewisburg Saddle, Jackson Creek, and Dunn Forest gates 100, 300, 400, and 540.
- Create more spaces for horse trailer parking.
- Place bike racks at parking areas for those who bike to the trailhead to run or hike.
- Extend bus service to trailheads to reduce need for parking and allow for more access.
- Work with the County to expand parking at Chip Ross Park.

Map Updates & Improvements

The focus groups all agreed that the current maps of the College Forests are inaccurate and inaccessible. The lack of accurate maps has caused users great uncertainty regarding where designated trails are and which are unauthorized. These are some recommendations made for providing maps:

- Update maps and include topography.
- Sell maps in local recreation stores for accessibility and as a potential funding source.
- Offer a large map of the Dunn forest.
- Ensure trail names and road numbers are consistent between maps and signs.
- Offer a downloadable GPS map.

Funding & Volunteerism

Recognizing that the desired improvements to recreation in the College Forests require a great deal of labor and funding, the focus groups suggested partnering with local community members and groups. While parking fees or annual passes were suggested, the most agreeable option was to offer more opportunities for voluntary donations to recreation development

specifically. This suggestion is further supported by the 2009 survey work of Drs. Needham and Rosenberger[7] in the College Forests. They found a high degree of support for voluntary contributions as 84% of users were willing to pay a voluntary donation of $30 on average ($20 median). Potentially a "Friends of the Forest" membership program could be created, with bumper stickers to display support around town and at the trailhead parking lots. Beyond this primary idea, these are other recommendations made for community investment in College Forests recreation.

- Place donation boxes and/or information about how to donate at the trailheads.
- Supplement donation dollars with volunteer opportunities to remove invasive species and design, build, and maintain trails that meet visitor needs.
- Partner with community groups who have funding, materials, and experience to help build trails and structures, such as Team Dirt, Oregon Equestrian Trails, and Heart of the Valley Runners.
- Offer an "Adopt a Trail" Program for community groups to adopt current trails and help maintain them, or to design, build, and maintain new trails.
- Make donating to the OSU Foundation recreation account a more visible option.

Access Hours

Visitors expressed interest in expanding the hours for access to the forests beyond the current dawn to dusk regulation. This is of particular concern during the dark winter months. Many visitors currently access the forest during dark hours to participate in otherwise legitimate recreation activities. The focus groups recommended the following possibilities for access hours.

- Set expanded fixed hours for access.
- Allow 24-hour recreation access.
- Allow for after dark access in some areas or trails.

Recreation as an Opportunity for Teaching & Research

The focus groups were particularly interested in having more opportunities to learn about the research activities occurring in the forest. They also made some recommendations around planning, teaching, and potential areas for research.

[7] Needham, M.D., & Rosenberger, R.S. (2011) Public support, demand, and potential revenue for recreation at the McDonald-Dunn Forest (Final project report for Oregon State University College Forests and College of Forestry). Corvallis, OR: Oregon State University, Department of Forest Ecosystems and Society.

- Use the forests as a place to teach about collaborative land management practices and principles around trail building and maintenance.
- Conduct new research projects that look at the differential ecological impacts of recreation uses in the forest.

Environmental Interpretation

While some visitors come to the forests for physical activities alone, many others desire opportunities to learn while they recreate. Listed below are the topics visitors would like to learn more about, and the methods they would like this information presented to them. A more thorough summary of the feedback regarding learning opportunities is available in appendix E.

Educational Topics

- Current research occurring in the College Forests with a summary of results.
- Updates on management activities occurring on the College Forests and the reasons for them.
- Alternative forestry practices and new methods for timber harvests.
- Safety and trail etiquette guidelines, particularly regarding how to approach other users in the forests like horses, bikes, and dogs.
- Plant and animal identification, especially for any rare species the College Forests host.
- Cultural history of the College Forests.
- Invasive and non-native species identification and how to keep from spreading them.

Distribution Methods

- Trailhead kiosks and trail signs, with regularly changing displays.
- Website, social media, and phone applications.
- Educational events including peer teaching and fireside talks.
- Electronic newsletter.
- Directional maps with educational information included.
- Brochures.
- Videos.

Invasive Species & Pest Management

There was concern regarding the proliferation of invasive species and pests in the forest including Scotch broom, false brome, burs, ticks, and poison oak. These are some recommendations for how the forests might control invasive plant species.

- Spray herbicides.
- Remove plants with volunteer efforts.
- Place bike washes at trailhead.
- Increase the deer hunting limits to reduce tick populations.

Building Recreation Community

There was some desire from the mountain biking, running, and equestrian groups for community groups and events to be organized for their recreation activity. At a minimum, they would like information about existing groups and events posted on trailhead kiosk signs or have an online calendar that community groups can post about upcoming events.

Hunting Program

Hunters require some special considerations and were primarily concerned with improving the process for selecting recipients of hunting permits or tags. Currently, several hunters reported not receiving tags for multiple successive years. This is probably because each year selections are made at random from all applications submitted without any preference system for those who did not get a tag in the previous year. Their recommendations for handling this issue, as well as improving the hunting program in other ways, are:

- Give preference points to people who did not get a permit in prior years, possibly mimicking the state system.
- Retain the names of applicants who did not get permits the previous year and then add the new applicants to the drawing so that those who applied again have their names entered twice (or more), increasing their chance of receiving a tag.
- Expand the species available for hunting including birds, turkey, predators, and special hunts.
- Leave patches of forest without trails and other developments for wildlife habitat.
- Give permits for bow hunting and master hunts in additional areas like the McDonald forest.

Trails Planning

Currently the College Forests provides multi-use road based recreation opportunities and 22 miles of authorized trails. Some trails are currently closed to specific uses to protect the tread of the trail (reduce trail maintenance), provide for safety, or to provide for the hiker or family experience. The number of miles designated for each type of trail access is shown below in Table 4.

Table 4. OSU College Forests Current Trail System Access

Trail Access	Miles	Percent of Total Trail Mileage
Multi-use, year-round	8.1	36%
Multi-use, seasonally closed to non-pedestrian use	4.8	22%
Pedestrian Only. Year-round	9.3	42%

The most predominant topic of discussion in all the community meetings was trail conditions and development. Many visitors find the current 23 miles of mostly gravel-based trails insufficient for the diversity of experiences desired in the forest. While the 114-mile road system is also open for recreation use, visitors seek more singletrack trail opportunities. The 25-mile user-created system of unauthorized trails indicates the community has needs which are not met by the authorized trail and road system. Recommendations from visitors for trail development in the College Forests are below. The Collaborative defined trail types and guidelines for managing trail use based on the trail features requested in the initial focus groups. They should be used to set a spectrum of trail design specifications for trail maintenance and development.

Multi-Use vs. Primary Use Trails

Currently the College Forests provides primarily multi-use road based recreation opportunities with 23 miles of trail. More than half of these trails are open to all user groups seasonally, though many of the trails near the Peavy Arboretum are designated for pedestrian use only. The number of miles designated for each type of trail access is shown above in Table 4. In the interest of providing diverse trail experiences for many types of users and reducing conflict between users on the trail, some new trails may be designed for a specific primary use. As opposed to multi-use trails designed for broader accessibility, primary use trails would be designed to provide an opportunity tailored to a specific group of users.

Multi-Use Trail: Trail designed to accommodate all types of non-motorized use or modes of travel.

Primary Use Trail: Designed to provide an opportunity tailored specifically to one mode of travel (running, mountain biking, horseback riding, etc.), while managed for multiple uses as appropriate. Visitors to primary use trails should expect to encounter more users from the target group on these trails in comparison to multi-use trails.

The recommended ratio to balance these types of use is to designate approximately 75% of new trails for multi-use, and 25% for primary uses. Primary use trails would be identifiable by a signing system that would be explained to visitors online and at major trailhead kiosks. This signing system would rely on something similar to the current carsonite trailhead signs displayed in Figure 5. However, on a primary use trail, the symbol for the activity the trail was designed for would appear at the top of the sign in a different color. The primary use group symbol would be labeled "Designed For," the other allowed user group symbols would be labeled "Open To," and any restricted use of the trail would be labeled "Closed To." Multi-use trails may also have a different new sign to clearly indicate that the trail is designed for multiple user groups to share. An example of what this sign system may look like in comparison to current signing is in Figure 5 below.

Figure 5. Example of what new signs might look like to inform users regarding primary use trails.

Exclusionary Trail Use

Beyond the issue of primary versus multiple use designed trails, there is the question of when it is appropriate to prohibit a user group from any given trail. Why might hikers and runners be allowed to use one trail and not horses and bikes, or vice versa? Currently, some trails in the College Forests restrict access to user groups to protect the trail tread and reduce maintenance needs, and to provide trail opportunities on the forest for pedestrians only. The Collaboration discussed this issue and proposed a set of reasons why a user group might be excluded from authorized use of a trail on a site by site basis.

1) **Resource Protection & Trail Damage**

   All the user groups recognize that on a trail not designed for it, high impact use on a wet, muddy trail can cause erosion and destroy the tread of the trail surface. This results in increased need for maintenance and causes run off into water sources. These potential damages may justify excluding bike and horse use on trails when they are wet. However, just restricting use over a set season of the winter months may not be effective at protecting trail tread. It may be more appropriate to restrict use whenever the trail is wet, regardless if that is the middle of summer or during winter.

   However, not all users agree that this justifies excluding user groups. Instead it is recommended that trails are built better and maintained to withstand high impact uses. Trail contouring and drainage could be better utilized to allow trails to be open all year to all users without incurring damages.

2) **Safety**

   Visitor safety is of utmost importance. If two types of use sharing a trail may pose risks to visitor safety, one user group should be restricted from using the trail. A trail with poor sight lines, steep slopes, and tight switchbacks would not be safe for fast types of recreation use. Fast bikers and horses may then be excluded from using such a trail. Another possibility is a trail designed for accessibility for people in wheelchairs. Again, fast bikes and horses may pose a safety risk to the visitor in a wheelchair. These user groups may not be able to use the same trail.

3) **Preserving Diverse Experiences**

   Forest visitors are diverse in how they would like to experience recreation in the College Forests. Some come for a stroll with their young children along easy trails, others seek gnarly turns and steep grades to challenge their abilities. Any given length of trail may not be able to provide users with their desired experience. Further, where different uses coexist, their activities may actually interfere with each other's goals. These conflicts may be a legitimate reason for separating users onto different trails. However, the primary use

trail design framework may already facilitate these different experiences. A family with small children is unlikely to *want* to hike on a technical mountain biking trail, whether or not they are *allowed.*

Besides outright exclusion of, for example, hikers on technical mountain biking trails, there are a few other recommendations for preventing these user conflicts. Bypass trails around technical areas would allow both hikers and beginner bikers a way to get around a difficult area and still continue down trail. Also, concentrating easy and accessible trails along the margins of the forest could act as a buffer zone between boundary access points and the interior forest areas where more technical and longer trails might provide different experiences.

Types of Trails

The College Forests should provide a spectrum of trail experiences. Table 5 describes the four types of trails users desire in the forest and which user groups would like to access these trails.

Table 5. Types of Trails Recommended

Park Trails		
Description	Highly developed trails with accessible design.	
Opportunity Class(es)	Developed	
User Access	Primary Use	Equestrians: wide trails for side by side riding.
		Hikers
		People with physical disabilities
Features	- ADA accessible design. - Benches, bridges & plaques. - Frequent directional, interpretive, and yielding and etiquette signing. - Loop opportunities and connectivity to trail system.	
Forest Trails		
Description	"Generic" forest trail leading to a destination or through a unique area.	
Opportunity Class(es)	Semi-remote, Remote Trailed	
User Access	Multi-use: Bicycle, Equestrian & Pedestrian	
	Primary Use	Hikers: narrow trails with tight turns.

		Mountain Bikers: promotes good flow and sinuosity with good sight lines.
Features	- Bridges, benches & plaques. - Moderate directional, interpretive, and yielding and etiquette signing - Loop opportunities and connectivity to trail system.	
Long Distance Trails		
Description	Trail designed to traverse long distances, one or more destinations and multiple access points along the route.	
Opportunity Class(es)	Developed, Semi-remote, & Remote Trailed	
User Access	Multi-use: Bicycle, Equestrian, & Pedestrian	
Features	- Bridges as needed - Directional signs as needed. - Loop opportunities and connectivity to trail system.	
Technically Difficult Trails		
Description	Trail created to present technical challenges specific to a user type.	
Opportunity Class(es)	Semi-remote	
User Access	Primary Use	Equestrians: obstacles for training such as jumps, logs in the trail, and sections for galloping.
		Mountain Bikers: obstacles for technical skill building such as steep downhill directional sections, dirt and wooden structures, boulders, slabs, ladders, bridges, and skinnies.
		Runners: trail sections that are extremely steep or have large features to dodge.
Features	- Intentional obstacles and barriers. - Bridges and obstacle bypass trails as needed. - Directional trails and a variety of difficulties from beginner to advanced. - Directional, difficulty, yielding and etiquette signs as needed. - Loop opportunities and connectivity to trail system.	

Unauthorized Trails

Over the last three decades, about 25 miles of unauthorized trails have been developed in the College Forests, causing impacts to natural and cultural resources, as well as forest research projects. One intention of this recreation planning process is to curb the use of these

trails by offering similar types of opportunities on official trails. This may mean converting some currently unauthorized trails into official forest trails, however continued use of unauthorized trails will still not be sanctioned or managed on the College Forests. It is the hope that the efforts summarized in this document have identified what visitors want from their forest recreation experiences, including experiences that have not managed for in the past. In the future, those who would like to see new opportunities should partner with the College Forests and volunteer to help design and build new trails, or redesign and improve existing unauthorized trails. The volunteer efforts of the entire community of visitors are desired and appreciated as they contribute to the implementation of this plan's new vision.

Trail Features

Trail Surface & Tread

The climate and soil conditions of the Willamette Valley make maintaining trail surface challenging. Frequent rain through a great deal of the year in this region makes trails very muddy. To reduce mud, many of the trails in the College Forests have a gravel surface. While some hikers appreciate the gravel trail surface, many others would like to see alternative surfaces offered in the forest such as dirt and duff. Further, packed gravel was mentioned in the focus groups as a contributing factor to fast mountain bike speeds on forest trails. To alleviate the accumulation of mud, non-graveled trails would need additional contouring, armoring, and drainage constructed. Many visitors recommend that gravel only be used if absolutely necessary in places like steep sections, culverts, bends, and in low sections. Even then, visitors recommend using small gravel (≤ ¾") and do not support the use of larger sized gravel.

Slope, Grades and Switchbacks

Hilly terrain is common across the College Forests leaving many trails with steep grades. While for some technical trails, these steep grades may be experientially beneficial, reducing trail grade is desirable for most trails. To do so, visitors recommend building trails near ridgelines and bench cutting trails instead of following down the fall line. Additional trail design strategies should be employed such as meandering switchbacks and grade reversals in steep sections of trail. For mountain bikes, these switchbacks should be designed to promote flow and sinuosity through corners.

Trail Width

Considering there are currently 114 miles of roads in the forest open to recreation use, visitors are interested in increasing singletrack trail opportunities. Some of these singletrack

trails could be built parallel to roads, offering a different opportunity while leaving the trails accessible for maintenance. Visitors also recommend that old roads might be converted into singletrack trail. As reflected in the opportunity classes, the width of these singletrack trails may vary between zones, from narrow paths in remote areas, to wide and accessible in developed areas. Further, equestrians would like some wide trails made for side by side riding.

Constructed Features

While constructed features should be kept to appropriate opportunity class zones, there are several ideas for structures that visitors recommend having along College Forests trails.

- Bridges with good traction.
- Stream fording opportunities, particularly across seasonal streams.
- Water troughs, or access points to natural sources of water, for horses.
- Photography blinds.
- Off trail rest stops, some with benches.
- Bike wash at the trailhead (may help reduce spread of invasive species).
- Technical structures and obstacles for mountain bikes and equestrians.

Signs

More signs are needed in the forest to mark road numbers, forest boundaries, and trail intersections. However, visitors desire a careful balance of trail signs; enough that they do not get lost, but not so many that the trail is lined in billboards. It is also important that inaccurate signs are either corrected or removed. Following are the recommendations for signs needed in the forest.

- Directional trail signs, including marking all authorized trails to differentiate them from unauthorized trails.
- Allowed and prohibited uses for each trail.
- Yielding guidelines for encounters with other user groups.
- Trail length and difficulty.
- Seasonal closures, identifying when the trail is open to use vs. when it is closed.
- Cautions for significant trail hazards (e.g. steep drops and blind curves).
- Research location to keep users out (readable from the trail).
- “Clean up” signs regarding dog refuse and keeping parking lots clean of horse manure.

Trail Locations

Following discussion over trail access, the College Forests Recreation Collaborative worked in small groups to make recommendations for areas in the forests where trails could be built. Each small group focused on different types of use and had a separate map to work on. The following map, Figure 6, shows the combined efforts of these groups to make recommendations for general areas where future multi-use and primary use trails might be located.

Note: This map does not display a trails plan. It is a collection of interests in potential trail locations to be used as information to inform the creation of a trails plan in the future.

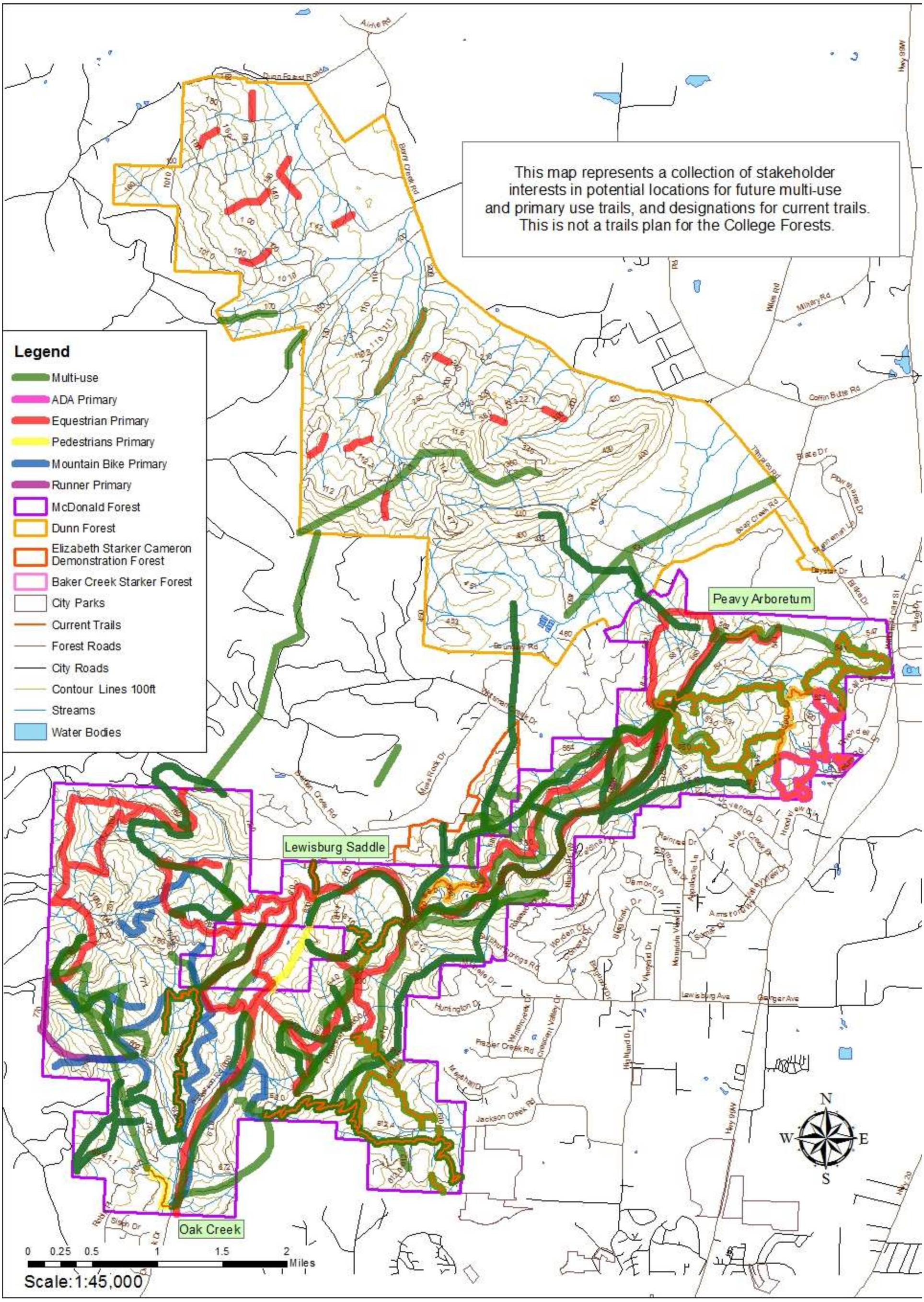


Figure 6. Recommendations for potential future trail locations

Appendix A – Summary of Graduate Thesis Research Resulting from this Project

This research is another outcome of this project. The data being considered comes from the focus groups and collaborative meetings conducted as part of the planning process. Analysis is still underway and the research focus and findings are subject to change.

Thesis Chapter One: Managing Recreation Impacts and Experiences in a WUI Forest
Elspeth Gustavson, Christine Olsen, Ryan Brown

Growing suburban populations are expanding the wildland-urban interface (WUI) and escalating community demand for recreation opportunities. Consequently, increased use of WUI forests can strain the social and resource conditions of forests managed for multiple uses. To reduce these impacts, managers and researchers have favored the use of indirect management strategies such as education and site modifications. Indirect methods, as opposed to a direct regulatory approach, are considered both more appropriate for recreation where freedom is valued, and more preferred by recreation users. However, these preferences have largely come from recreation research in a wilderness setting.

This research considered community preferences for direct or indirect management strategies in a case study of several WUI forests. Oregon State University's College Forests are popular recreation destinations for the community of Corvallis and a frequent source of timber revenue which supports the teaching, research, and demonstration activities in the forest. As the community has increasingly expected a participatory planning process for these forests, managers employed a collaborative approach to their recreation planning. From these conversations with recreation users of a WUI forest, we can better understand their management preferences and the factors that play into their decisions regarding indirect and direct management strategies.

With a series of focus groups in a collaborative planning process, this research sought to understand the type of experiences and conditions users desire in these forests. One focus group was held for each recreation user type (equestrians, hikers, runners, mountain bikers & hunters) to gather an uninhibited list of desired experiences. Preliminary results of this research found that College Forests' users prefer indirect management action. However, their reluctance to adopt direct action techniques may be rooted in the fact that many of the social and resource conditions of the Forests are still at acceptable levels. While support for indirect action was strong, direct action strategies were met with mixed reaction. Specifically, users expressed preference for increasing trail mileage and points of access to spread out use instead of policies that would limit or restrict use. Furthermore, instead of restricting certain uses to hard set zones, users expressed preference for a soft zoning technique. Here, areas or trails may be designed for specific types of use, however all user groups would retain the right to access the area. Also, users would prefer to see improvements made to trail designs so that seasonal closures are not necessary. Insights from this study may help guide other WUI forest recreation managers in understanding what type of management their communities might prefer to decrease resource impacts while preserving or enhancing forest experiences.

Thesis Chapter Two: Close to Home and in Close Contact: Managing Recreation Conflict in a Wildland-Urban Interface Forest
Elspeth Gustavson, Christine Olsen, Ryan Brown

In a forest shared by multiple recreation users, there is potential for adverse encounters between visitors. These recreation conflicts can occur in a number of different ways. Interpersonal conflicts are those in which two recreationists physically meet on the trail and disrupt each other's experience, while social values conflict is when one believes that a different recreation use is inappropriate in a given area, without actually encountering someone doing that activity. Conflicts can occur between different types of users (i.e., hikers and mountain bikers) or within a recreation use group (i.e., mountain bikers to other mountain bikers). Managing these conflicts has typically involved zoning incompatible user groups apart. Separating users may be effective in reducing out-group, interpersonal conflicts, but in-group and social values conflicts may require an educational approach.

Using qualitative, participatory action research methods through a collaborative planning process, this study seeks to understand the type of conflict found in a wildland-urban interface forest managed for multiple values including recreation, timber harvest, and university teaching and research. The focus of this study is three forest tracts located along the boundary of Corvallis where Oregon State University's main campus is located: the Dunn, McDonald, and Cameron forests. Free public day use recreation brings 11,500 visitors to this complex of forests on foot, bikes, and horses each year. While satisfaction with the recreation opportunities on the forest is high, conflicts between mountain bikers, walkers, and horseback riders are evident. By engaging in a conversation with the forests' recreation users, we will explore the reasons and values underlying conflict experiences and the methods users find acceptable to create better recreation experiences for all types of users to share. In the end we seek to answer two questions: How is conflict experienced by users of the OSU College Forests? What are the user group preferences for managing this conflict?

Appendix B – Focus Group Recommendation Results by Prevalence

Broad Themes by Prevalence

1) Trails
2) University Relations & Management
3) User Conflict
4) Access
5) Use Types and Extent
6) Ecology
7) Change
8) Information & Education

Most Prevalent Topics

- Surface of trail
  (Run, Mountain Bike, Equestrian, Hike)
  - Soft trail surface, dirt and duff
  - Non-gravel trails, stop spreading gravel
  - Selective small gravel to maintain year-round use (pea, ≤¾")
    - Use alternate armoring techniques such as contouring & drainage
    - Gravel only in steep culverts, bends, in sinks
- Improved and expanded parking at access points
  (Equestrian, Hike, Run, Hunt, Mountain Bike)
  - Horse trailer parking areas
  - Bike racks at trailheads
  - Convert old roadside viewpoint pullouts, and Oak Creek building plots, into parking spaces
  - Make current parking areas more efficient
  - Increase parking at current access points
    - Problem areas: Dunn forest, Lewisburg Saddle, Jackson creek, 300/400 road
  - Utilize fairgrounds for parking
- Mountain bike conflict
  (Hunt, Hike, Mountain Bike, Equestrian, Run)
  - Reports of positive interactions with bikes
  - Reports of fast bikes startling horses, people, dogs
  - Concern about bikers not looking out for other users and stopping
  - Trail design needs good sight lines
  - Some attempt to avoid conflict by finding appropriate trails for riding where there are fewer other users
  - Separate trail use for downhill/freewheel
  - Previous cases of booby trapping trails to stop bikers (sticks, logs, etc.)
  - Official trails are graveled making bikes go fast in areas where they should be going slow to yield to other users
- Maps, more and better ones
  (Equestrian, Hike, Mountain Bike, Hunt, Run)

  - Sell updated map at local recreation stores
  - Hunting maps should correlated better with signage
  - Include topography
  - Larger trailside maps
  - Road numbers need to match signs (and trail names)
  - Potential for volunteer GPS crews (equestrians) to get data points and photographs
  - Large printed Dunn map
  - Improve online fire map symbols
  - Downloadable GPS trail maps
- Refuse on the trail
  (Run, Hike, Equestrian, Hunt, Mountain Bike)
  - Everyone is concerned about refuse on the trails (less so equestrian, particularly runners)
  - Concern from equestrians that they will be 'kicked out' because of manure
  - "Just the way it is" when sharing the trail
  - Signage: tie dog refuse bag onto your dog's collar or leash.
- Unauthorized trails
  (Mountain Bike, Run, Hunt, Hike, Equestrian)
  - Establishing new trails might limit unauthorized trail building, provide a means for authorized trail building to fill the need causing people to make them in the first place.
  - College students as temporary residents might not know the forest rules and the distinction between authorized and unauthorized trails.
  - Quality of unauthorized trails:
    - Some are very well built.
    - Without tools or proper training/designs, some trails are dangerous and damage the resource.
      - Erosion issues
      - Grades are too steep
      - Unsustainable
    - Some trails need only minor improvements before they could be made official (for example, added switchbacks)
    - Many trails are well established, 25+ years old, to the degree that new trails are not being built around them.
  - New trails might be built by connecting the good parts of existing trails.
  - Middle ground between authorized and unauthorized: authorized and maintained by other groups.
  - Make them official because people get lost in the large network of unmapped, unauthorized trails.
  - Several mentions about the need for seasonal or use-type restrictions on unauthorized trails.
  - Underground nature of the trails generates animosity.
  - Many favorite trails ("challenging" or "fun") in the forest are unauthorized.
- More official singletrack trails, especially in high use areas

(Mountain Bike, Hike, Run, Equestrian)
  - Create a ridgeline trail
  - Singletrack trail access to all forest peaks
    - McCulloch, three peaks in Dunn
  - Year-round trails
  - Close unused roads and convert them into singletrack
  - Establish singletrack trails parallel to roads for safety and easy maintenance
  - Design trails for specific recreation goals such as scenic quality
  - Repair damaged trails in a timely manner to retain use
  - Use recently harvested areas as opportunities for new trail building
  - Don't restrict trail building in areas of future harvesting
- Zoning
  (Hike, Hunt, Mountain Bike, Equestrian)
  - Specific, purpose built trails for mountain biking only (suggested use of IMBA standards)
  - A few dedicated equestrian trails
  - Designated special use areas might include parks for families
  - Special use areas for specific user groups but not restricting other uses, "awareness"
  - Desire the freedom to go all the places in the forest, some resistance to regulation
  - Time sharing of zones, or temporal/seasonal zoning
  - Route trails to specifically leave open, set aside, zones for hunting
  - Groups that want their own trails assume others will want their own also
  - Hikers 'have their own' trails already, Peavy
  - Education instead of zoning to address conflict?
    - Forming a sense of community and toleration for other users
    - Signage and awareness building
    - User-user communication
- Seasonal trails
  (Run, Equestrian, Mountain Bike, Hike)
  - Concern about damage created by bike/horse use in winter on inappropriate trails
  - Not enough winter singletrack trails available
  - Create a winter riding area
  - Trail drainage instead of gravel
  - Trails closed to bikes and horses "despite differing impacts"
  - Signage: when trail is open, instead of when trail is closed
- Desired trail features
  (Equestrian, Mountain Bike, Hike, Run)
  - Traction on bridges
  - Horse fording opportunities, especially across seasonal streams
    - Multi-user accommodating stream crossings
  - Water access for horses including natural sources and troughs
  - Guardrails or signs along trails where there are steep drop offs to keep horses from running off the edge
  - Photography blinds (with reservation system?)
  - Off trail rest stops, benches

  - Bike wash at trailhead
- Loops of singletrack
  (Hike, Run, Equestrian, Hunt, Mountain Bike)
  - Sulphur Spring and Oak Creek
  - Retain ability to “create your own” trail by connecting multiple loops

Very Prevalent Topics

- Stable funding for recreation program
  (Run, Hike, Equestrian, Mountain Bike)
  - Volunteer donation program; “Friends of the College Forests”
    - bumper/window stickers
  - Apply for grants for specific structure building (such as bridges)
  - Fundraising events such as races and competitions
  - Charge for parking at trailheads
  - Annual forest recreation use pass
  - Partner with local recreation organizations who have funding, materials and expertise
    - Trails sponsored by recreation groups, “Adopt a Trail”
  - Dedicate more harvest funds to recreation
  - Sell forest recreation maps
- Enhance opportunities for volunteerism
  (Mountain Bike, Equestrian, Run, Hunt)
  - Partner with community/advocacy groups and schools for volunteer days
  - Saturday work parties
  - Reinstitute trail monitor program
  - Compliment volunteer days with educational opportunities
  - Areas of interest to volunteers
    - Trail design
    - Trail building/maintenance
    - Not graveling
    - Invasive species removal
- Recreation allowed before and after dark
  (Equestrian, Hike, Hunt, Mountain Bike, Run)
  - 24-hour trail access
  - Extended set hours (ex. 5am to midnight)
  - Night access permit
- University research ideas
  (Mountain Bike, Run, Hunt, Equestrian)
  - Effective water trough systems for horses
  - Wildlife population (for example, black tail)
  - Shift research focus of college forests from forestry to health/exercise and sport science
  - Comparative trail impacts of different user groups
  - Comparative impacts of trails vs. roads
  - Comparative impacts of gravel vs. non-graveled trails
  - Purpose built trails

  - Oak savannah restoration
  - Poison oak eradication
  - Refuse leaving behavior motivations
- University teaching/courses
  (Mountain Bike, Run, Hunt, Equestrian)
  - Reinstitute the university's equine program
  - Hunting class
  - Applied community/collaboration projects for teaching students land management practices
  - Trail building/management (in cooperation with a trail building coordinator)
  - Trail etiquette
- Long, "epic," singletrack trails (14 - 20 miles)
  (Hike, Mountain Bike, Equestrian, Run)
  - Oak Creek to Tampico Road
  - Connect the Dunn forest peaks
  - Peak to Saddle
  - Contribute to Corvallis to Coast trail effort
- Switchback and trail grading
  (Mountain Bike, Equestrian, Run)
  - Utilize ridgelines
  - Promote "flow" and sinuosity with curved corners
  - Minimize amount of gravity on the trail
  - Bench cut trails instead of following fall line
  - Meandering switchbacks and grade reversals
  - Establish switchbacks in steep parts of trails
- Control of invasive species and pests
  (Equestrian, Run, Hike, Mountain Bike)
  - Scotch broom, false brome, burs, ticks & poison oak
  - Spraying
  - Bike wash at trailheads
  - Volunteer events
  - Increase hunting limits (for ticks)
  - "Deal with it" (re: pests)
- Equestrian conflict
  (Equestrian, Hike, Hunt)
  - Equestrian users feel resentment from other users over right of way/yielding rules
  - Feel responsible to educate their animals and other users in having safe encounters

Somewhat Prevalent Topics

- Signage, more and clear
  (Equestrian, Run, Hunt, Hike, Mountain Bike)
  - Current trail system is confusing and people easily get lost.
  - More road number, forest boundary, and directional trail signs

  - Trail hazard signs: blind curve, steep drop
  - Research locations (larger/readable from the trail)
  - Use regulations
    - Trail signs include allowed and not allowed use
    - Accurate, and more effective, yield signing
    - "Clean up" signs for equestrian parking areas
    - Marking all legal trails (differentiate from unauthorized trails)
    - Seasonal closure signs state allowed season instead of when closed
  - But, where do we draw the line? Not too many signs.
- Retain and promote the development of varied difficulty trails
  (Mountain Bike, Run, Equestrian)
  - Rate and sign trails according to difficulty (like ski resorts)
  - More entry-level mountain biking trails with some technical features, potentially in Saddle area
  - Trails of varied grades
- Build and promote community around recreation activities
  (Equestrian, Mountain Bike, Run)
  - Post contact information for existing groups
  - Singles club
  - Online chats for cross-user groups
  - Online events calendar which community members can contribute recreation activities to.
  - Horse pooling network
- Connect existing trails to provide more continuous trail
  (Hike, Equestrian, Mountain Bike, Run)
  - Connect the McDonald trails with the Dunn trails
  - Minimize use of roads to make connections
- Technical features for horses and bikes
  (Mountain Bike, Equestrian)
  - Jumps, obstacles, embedded logs in trail, long stretches for cantering and galloping, race track for horses, dirt and wooden built structures, big berms, large boulders, ladders, bridges, skinnies
- Create and maintain viewpoints, expansive, along the trail
  (Hike, Run, Mountain Bike)
  - Peavy peak, Dimple Hill, McCulloch,
  - Utilize selective thinning and harvest, "view logging"
  - Increase the distance to viewpoints with long sections of trail
- University's Decision Making Process
  - CF Mission
    (Run, Mountain Bike, Hike, Hunt)
    - Stronger branding of the forests, help users understand the purpose.
    - How does recreation fit into the objectives of the College?
    - Need to elevate recreation as a priority in the College Forests' mission.

        - Feel marginalized because the college forests' mission does not include recreation
    - Transparency
      (Mountain Bike)
        - Community would be more understanding of trade-off decisions and regulations if they understood why.
        - Need affirmation that issues are being worked on.
        - Mission of the forests needs to be clearer
        - College of Forestry feels like a closed door, community input is not wanted.
        - Desire for connection to those in position of making decisions.
    - Participatory:
      (Mountain Bike)
        - Community may support decisions if they were included in making it.
        - Users feel marginalized.
        - Users are creating trails whether or not you include them.
        - Trails might be safer if it was official because then their name is on the trail, it's not anonymous.
        - Sense of ownership encourages sustainability.
- To expand and increase use, or not?
  PROs
  (Mountain Bike, Equestrian, Hunt, Run, Hike)
    - Desire to expand their own user group, particularly more equestrians, but also mountain biker and hunters
    - Create opportunities locally so you don't have to travel for the desired experience
    - Don't stop growing until overuse is a problem
    - Potential for Corvallis to be a major mountain biking attraction ("mountain biking mecca," "destination place"), increase community livability and bolster the economy.
    - People that live in Corvallis, frequently came west for the outdoors and they desire robust local opportunities.
    - People are using the resource and creating trails, damaging the resource, whether CoF plans it or not. "Better to be at the front than the back." Expansion to create a sustainable system.
    - Expanding the trail network and access points would disperse the use and curb both crowding and conflict.

  CONs
  (Hike, Hunt, Mountain Bike)
    - Hiker conversation about restricting, or discouraging, users outside of Corvallis and retaining local use.
    - Desire to protect from overuse.
    - Hunters discussed the importance of keeping use low in Dunn so that they do not become displaced if use were to become like that of the McDonald Forest.
    - Concern over the growing population of Corvallis impacting the resource and recreation experience, crowding, getting displaced. How do we retain the feeling of the current use levels?

  - Hesitation that change will mean a degradation of the experience they currently value.
  - Concern that the proliferation of information regarding recreation opportunities in the forest will attract more people.
  - The current low-use feeling in the forest is important.
- Use thinning to promote a more open forest
  (Mountain Bike, Equestrian, Hike)
- Retain current access level and develop more access points
  (Run, Hike, Hunt, Mountain Bike, Equestrian)
  - Establish easement agreements and coordinate with forest neighbors for access and trail right of ways
    - Starker, MLK, Timberhill, Crestmont farms, coast range conifers
  - Hunting access to oak savannahs
  - McDonald Forest and agricultural lands access for Master hunters and archery
  - Community group access to forestry cabin
  - Access around gates for horses
  - Access to gate locks for emergencies
  - Interest in keeping it an off leash dog area
  - Equestrians and runners would like more access to the Dunn.
  - Hunters desire retaining their Dunn use and are concerned if other groups start using it they will lose it
- Dog conflict
  (Hike, Mountain Bike, Equestrian)
  - Problematic dog and horse interactions
  - Dogs attacking other dogs
  - Concerned with “loose dogs”

Least Prevalent Topics

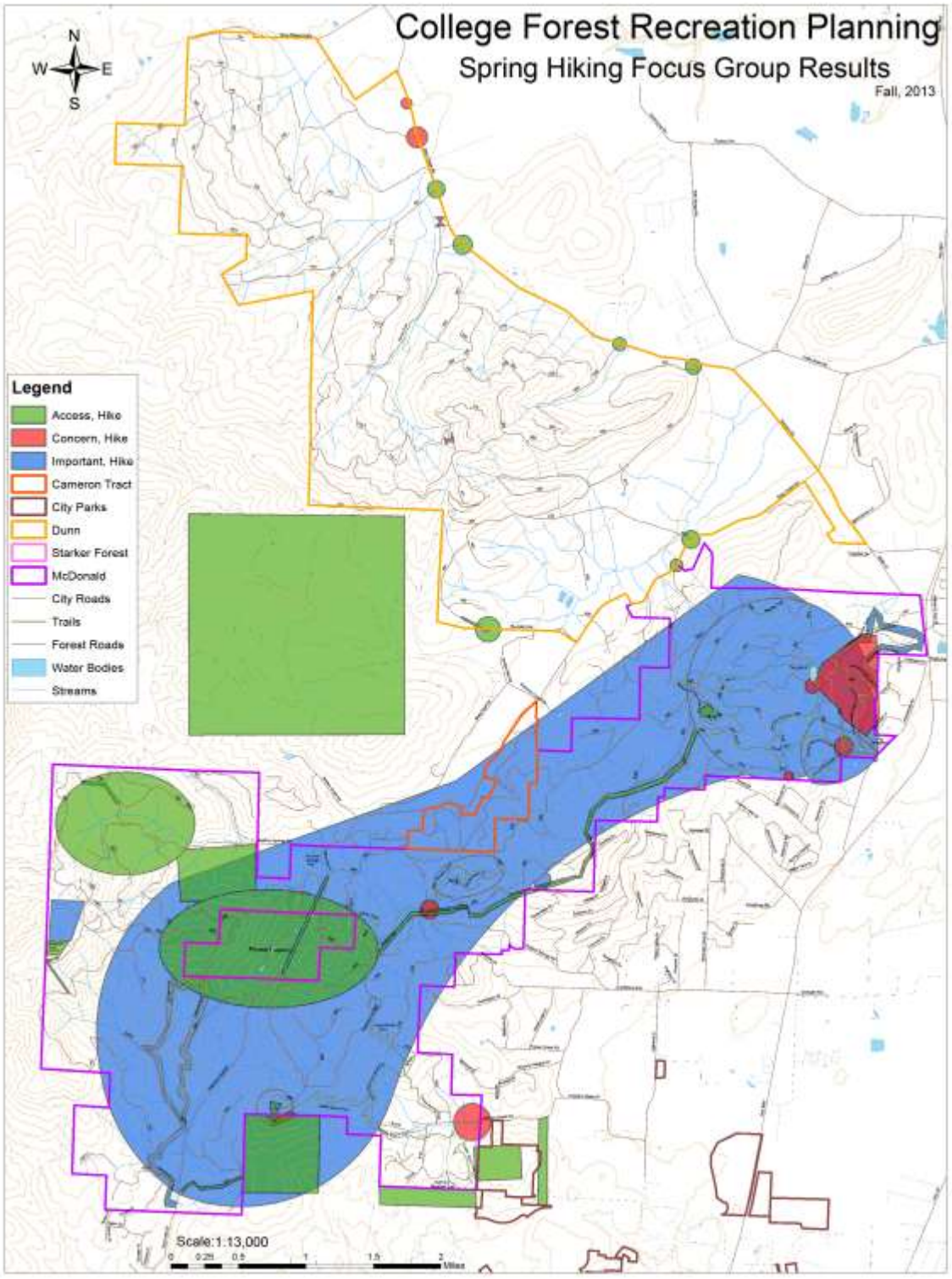
1. Bus service extended to trailheads
   (Hike, Run)
2. Maintain restriction on vehicle use
   (Equestrian)
3. Overnight use/camping allowed in the forest
   (Hike, Equestrian)
4. Retention of trees to allow for old growth
   (Equestrian, Hunt)
5. Promote the restoration of oak savannahs
   (Run, Mountain Bike, Hunt)
6. Allow fishing and swimming in Chronmiller Lake
   (Hike)
7. Provide a mechanism for community members to report problems, issues and complaints.
   (Hunt, Equestrian)
8. Create wildlife habitat patches retained for hunting, including oak savannah and ridgelines
   (Hunt)
9. Allow firearms in the forest outside of hunting season

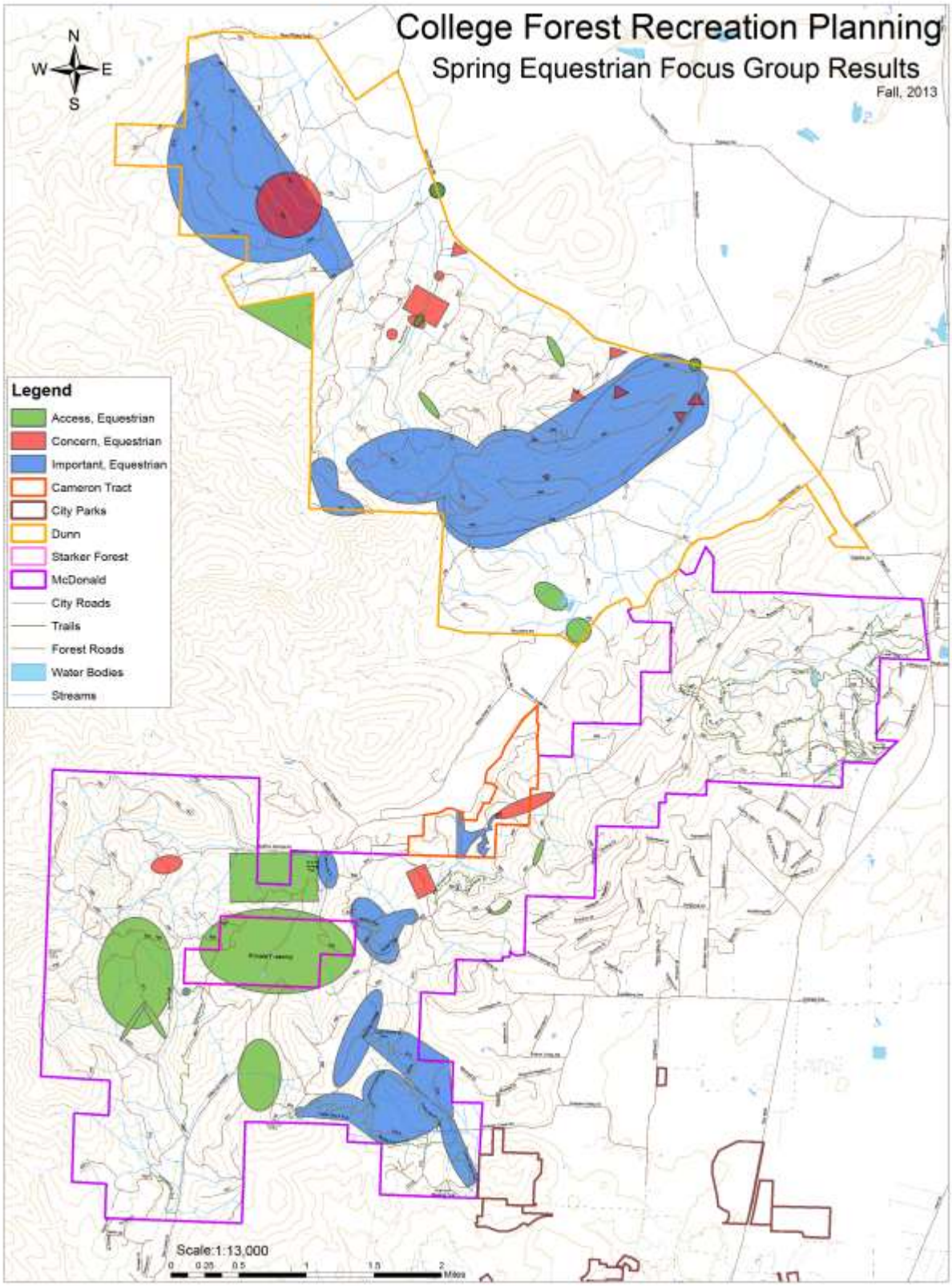
(Hunt)

10. Diverse species for hunts
    (Hunt)
    - Birds, turkey, predators ("sports pack"), special hunts (i.e. bighorn sheep)
11. Wide trails for side-by-side riding
    (Equestrian)
12. Uphill and downhill directional mountain biking trails
    (Mountain Bike)
13. Hunting tag selection process
    (Hunt)
    - Consider special treatment in selection process for those not awarded previous years
    - Preference point system (current state system has flaws)
    - For each year you do not get a tag, your name is put in an extra time for the drawing.
14. Hunting conflict – other users (bikers on unauthorized trails mostly) disturbing the hunt
15. Runners, conflict with – not really mentioned except for big race events.
16. Hiker conflict– "we're what disturbs the trail the least"
17. Concern about emergency response
    (Equestrian, Mountain Bike)
18. Concern about logging trucks
    (Equestrian)
19. Spiritual aspect of recreation is important
    (Run, Equestrian, Hike)
20. Retaining the free access relieves CoF from liability
    (Mountain Bike, Equestrian)

Appendix C – Focus Group Maps

Please see Process section, Step One: Focus Groups Identify Issues and Concerns for more information on how these maps were generated. Map scale is based on 36” x 48” print size, actual scale here is approximately 1:60,000.




College Forest Recreation Planning
Spring Equestrian Focus Group Results
Fall, 2013
N
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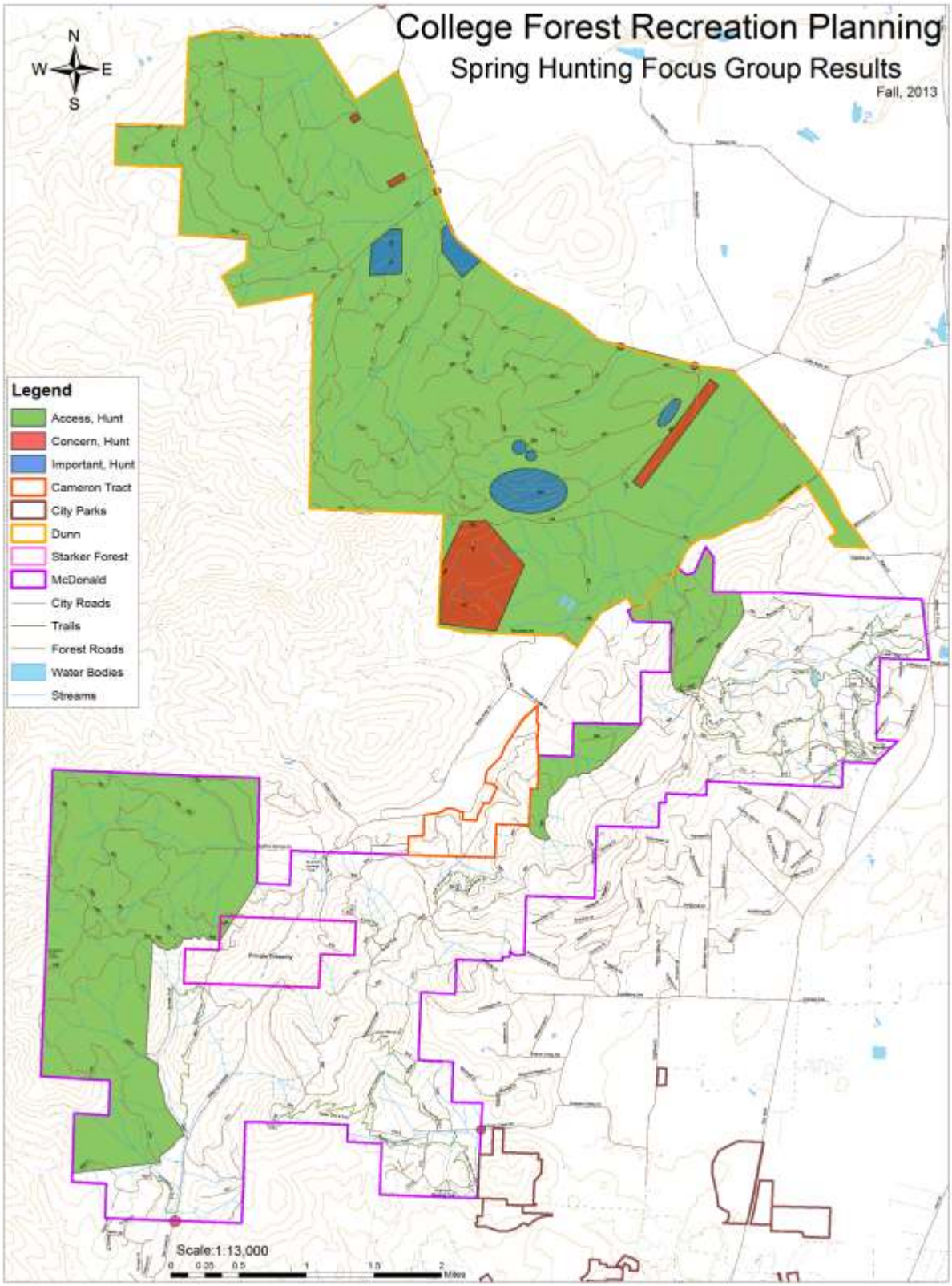
Legend
Access, Equestrian
Concern, Equestrian
Important, Equestrian
Cameron Tract
City Parks
Dunn
Starker Forest
McDonald
City Roads
Trails
Forest Roads
Water Bodies
Streams
Scale:1:13,000


College Forest Recreation Planning
Spring Hunting Focus Group Results
Fall, 2013
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Legend
Access, Hunt
Concern, Hunt
Important, Hunt
Cameron Tract
City Parks
Dunn
Starker Forest
McDonald
City Roads
Trails
Forest Roads
Water Bodies
Streams
Scale:1:13,000
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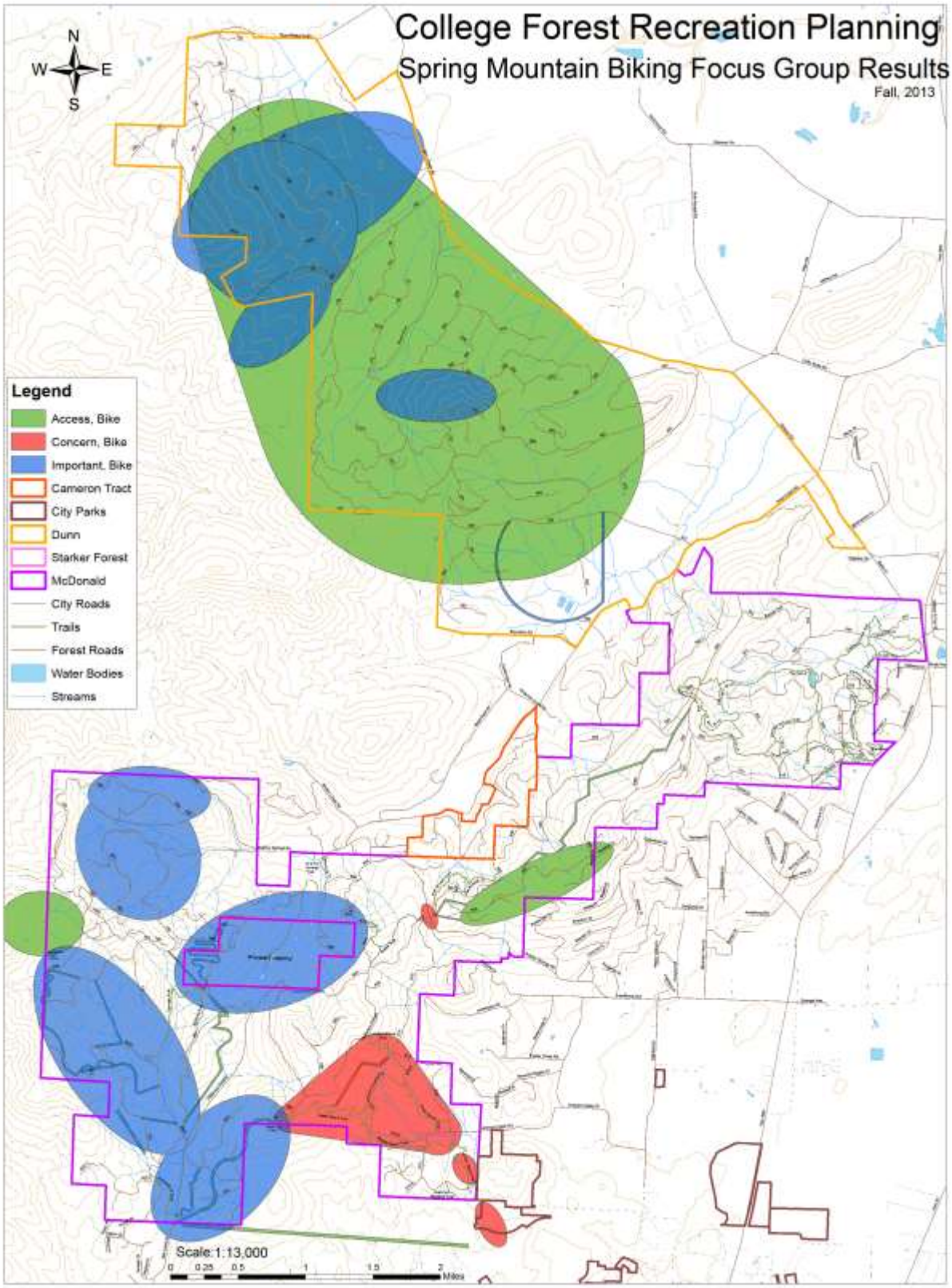
Miles


College Forest Recreation Planning
Spring Mountain Biking Focus Group Results
Fall, 2013
N
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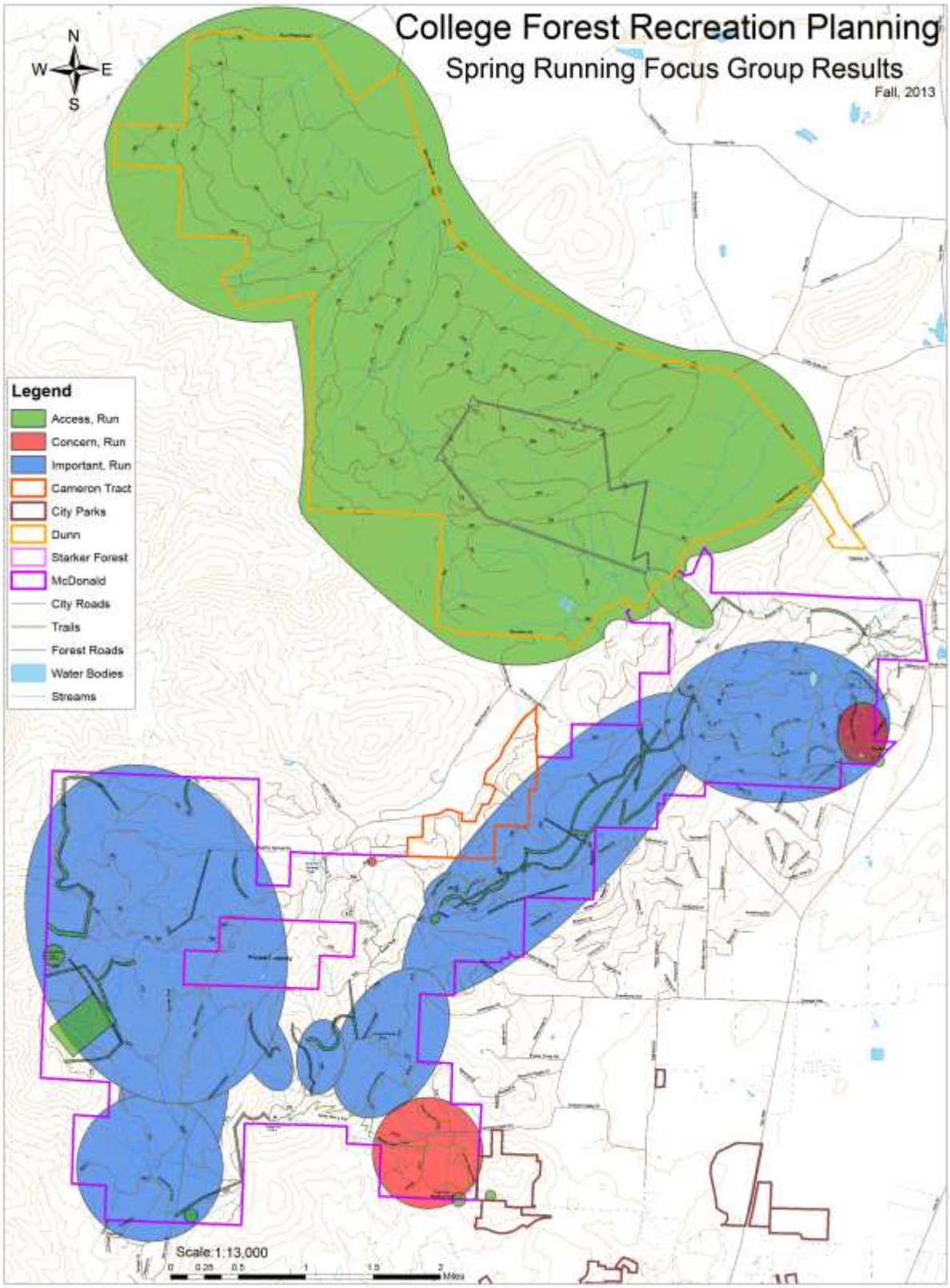
Legend
Access, Bike
Concern, Bike
Important, Bike
Cameron Tract
City Parks
Dunn
Starker Forest
McDonald
City Roads
Trails
Forest Roads
Water Bodies
Streams
Scale:1:13,000


College Forest Recreation Planning
Spring Running Focus Group Results
Fall, 2013
N
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E
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Legend
Access, Run
Concern, Run
Important, Run
Cameron Tract
City Parks
Dunn
Starker Forest
McDonald
City Roads
Trails
Forest Roads
Water Bodies
Streams
Scale:1:13,000

Appendix D – Environmental Interpretation and Education Recommendations

Topics for Interpretation by prevalence

1. Forest Research Activities
   (Discussed by Equestrians, Hikers, Hunters, Mountain Bikers, and Runners)
   - Research activities occurring on the College Forests, those related and not related to forestry.
   - Summaries of the research with results.
   - 100-150 word summaries of research activities with figures in a changing trailhead kiosk display.
   - Research closures and reasons for them.
   - Map of student research projects occurring on the forest and where.
   - Bigger signs marking research locations so they are visible from the trail.
   - Express clearly to visitors that the mission of the forests so they understand they are not just parks.
   - Use interpretation as a method of public outreach to meet grant requirements.
2. Forest Management Activities
   (Discussed by Equestrians, Hikers, Hunters, Mountain Bikers, and Runners)
   - Inform users of management activities in the forest including closures and hazards.
   - Provide clearer information on when and where activities would take place, with as much advance notice as possible.
   - Explain reasons for trail designs and recreation developments.
3. Forestry Practices
   (Discussed by Equestrians, Hikers, Hunters, Mountain Bikers, and Runners)
   - Madrone forest development.
   - Information on the logging sports arena.
   - Explanations of forest growth cycles and succession.
   - Alternative forestry management techniques, visitors already know a great deal about traditional forestry.
   - Special forests products.
4. Trail Etiquette and Safety
   (Discussed by Equestrians, Hunters, Mountain Bikers, and Runners)
   - Safe behavior around horses.
   - Yielding rules and the reasons for them.
   - Standardized guidelines and safety practices.
   - Hunting ethics and fair chase.
5. Forest Plants and Animals
   (Discussed by Equestrians, Hikers, Mountain Bikers, and Runners)
   - Plant species identification.
   - Special wildflowers and trees.
   - Information on the Fender's Blue Butterfly, Fairy slipper, and other rare species.
6. Stewardship

- Experiencing nature and volunteering in the forests can teach people about the importance of environmental stewardship.

7. Cultural History of the Forest
   (Discussed by Hikers)
   - History of the Soap Creek road and Powderhouse Trail.
   - Native American history in the forest.
8. Invasive Species
   (Discussed by Mountain Bikers)
   - Raise awareness of invasive species present in the forest and what visitors can do to mitigate their spread.

Methods for providing Interpretation by prevalence

1. Trailhead kiosks
   (Discussed by Equestrians, Hunters, Mountain Bikers, and Runners)
   - Devote part of the kiosks to education.
   - Give a little information on the kiosks and give links to webpages with further information.
   - Provide information on forest activities on kiosks.
   - Keep the trailhead kiosks updated regularly to engage interest.
   - Install kiosks and displays that can have changing material instead of permanent messages.
   - Provide information about volunteer opportunities on the trailhead kiosks.
2. Website
   (Discussed by Equestrians, Hikers, Hunters, and Mountain Bikers)
   - Keep website regularly updated.
   - Post community activities in the forest on the website.
   - Have a secondary website unaffiliated with OSU.
   - Use online media instead of brochures.
3. Community Events
   (Discussed by Equestrians, Mountain Bikers, and Runners)
   - Hold educational camp fire events.
   - Use volunteer events as opportunities for education.
   - Competitive events (such as races) would raise awareness of the OSU's Forestry program and generate funds.
   - Give tours of the forest.
4. Electronic Newsletter
   (Discussed by Equestrians, Hikers, Hunters, Mountain Bikers, and Runners)
   - Provide an online newsletter with updates on forest activities.
   - Monthly or quarterly publication.
5. Maps
   (Discussed by Equestrians, Hikers, Hunters, Mountain Bikers, and Runners)
   - Produce an educational map with locations of sites.

- Teach visitors about map reading, for example topography.

6. Educational brochures or pamphlets
   (Discussed by Equestrians, Hikers, Mountain Bikers, and Runners)
7. Peer teaching
   (Discussed by Equestrians)
   - Peer to peer teaching events as an opportunity to teach trail etiquette.
8. Cell phone applications
   (Discussed by Hikers, Mountain Bikers, and Runners)
   - GPS phone application educational tours.
   - Phone forest treasure hunt.
   - QR codes on signs to provide additional information.
9. Social Media
   (Discussed by Mountain Bikers, and Runners)
   - Use Facebook to keep visitors informed of forest activities.
10. Videos
    (Discussed by Equestrians)
    - Create television video to promote trail etiquette.

Appendix E – Hiker Focus Group Recommendations

Broad Themes by Prevalence

1) Trails
2) User Conflict
3) Access
4) Use Types and Extent
5) Information & Education
6) University Relations & Management
7) Change
8) Ecology

Topics by Prevalence (in order from most to least)

- Improved and expanded parking at access points
  - More diverse access points with parking
  - Increase parking at current access points
    - Problem areas: Dunn forest, Lewisburg Saddle
- Long, or "epic," singletrack trails (>14 miles)
  - Long trails create solitude by excluding those not willing to hike more than a mile
- Zoning
  - Designated special use areas might include parks for families
  - Special use areas made for specific user groups but do not restrict other uses, "awareness"
  - Desire the freedom to go all the places in the forest, resistance to regulation
  - Resistance to being restricted from using any given trail.
  - Education instead of zoning to address conflict?
    - Need to learn to behave as a community and tolerate other users
- Retain current access level and develop more access points
  - Establish easement agreements and coordinate with forest neighbors for access and trail right of ways
    - Starker, MLK, Timberhill
  - Interest in keeping it an off leash dog area
  - Community group access to forestry cabin
- Mountain bike conflict
  - Many reports of positive interactions with bikers
  - Finding appropriate trails for riding, with fewer hikers or other users
  - Fast bikes startling people and dogs
  - Bikers not looking out for other users and stopping
  - Separate trail use for downhill/freewheel

- Maps, more and better ones
  - Sell updated map at local recreation stores
  - Maps with road numbers matching signed roads and trail names
  - Large printed Dunn map
- More official singletrack trails, especially in high use areas
  - Year-round trails
    - Close unused roads and convert them into singletrack
- Create and maintain viewpoints, expansive, along the trail
  - Peavy peak, Dimple Hill, McCullough,
  - Utilize selective thinning and harvest, "view logging"
  - Increase the distance to viewpoints with long sections of trail
- Dealing with unauthorized trails
  - Concerned about unauthorized trails including erosion issues.
  - Need use-type restrictions on unauthorized trails.
- Refuse, concerned about poop on the trails.
- Funding stability and increase for recreation program
  - Volunteer donation program
  - Dedicate more harvest funds to recreation
- Seasonal trails
  - Concern about damage created by bike/horse use in winter on inappropriate trails
- To expand and increase use or not?

  PROs
  - Don't stop growing until overuse is a problem.
  - Expanding the trail network and access points would disperse the use and curb both crowding and conflict.

  CONs
  - Restrict or discourage users outside of Corvallis to retain local use.
  - Desire to protect from overuse.
  - Concern over the growing population of Corvallis impacting the resource and recreation experience, crowding, getting displaced. How do we retain the feeling of the current use levels?
  - Concern that the proliferation of information regarding recreation opportunities in the forest will attract more people.
  - The current low-use feeling in the forest is important.
- Control of invasive species and pests (burs)
- Loops of singletrack
  - Sulphur Spring and Oak Creek
  - Retain ability to "create your own" trail by connecting multiple loops

- Connect existing trails to provide more continuous trail
  - Connect into the Dunn and Cameron tract
- Desired trail features:
  - Traction on bridges
  - Photography blinds (with reservation system?)
  - Off trail rest stops, benches
- Recreation allowed before and after dark
- Signage, more and clear
  - Current trail system is confusing and people easily get lost.
  - More road number and directional trail signs
- College Forests' Mission
  - How does recreation fit into the objectives of the College?
  - Need to elevate recreation as a priority in the College Forests' mission.
    - Feel marginalized because the college forests' mission does not include recreation
- Dog conflict
  - …and horse interactions problematic
  - Attacking other dogs
- Hiker conflict– "we're what disturbs the trail the least"
- Equestrian conflict
  - Hiker concerned about horses
- Overnight use/camping allowed in the forest
- Surface of trail
    - Gravel useful for muddy trails
- Social tolerance
  - Feeling part of the community, learn to get along on the trail
- Bus service extended to trailheads
- Allow fishing and swimming in Chronmiller Lake

Appendix F – Equestrian Focus Group Recommendations

Broad Themes by Prevalence

1) Trails
2) User Conflict
3) University Relations & Management
4) Information & Education
5) Access
6) Ecology
7) Use Types and Extent
8) Change

Topics in order from most to least prevalent

- Desired trail features:
  - Traction on bridges
  - Horse fording opportunities, especially across seasonal streams
    - Multi-user accommodating stream crossings
  - Water access for horses including natural sources and troughs
  - Guardrails along trails with steep drop offs
- Equestrian conflict– probably spent the most time of any group discussing conflict
  - Feel resentment from other users over right of way/yielding rules
  - Feel responsible to educate their own animals and other users in dealing with encounters
- Surface of trail
  - Soft trail surface, dirt and duff
  - Selective small gravel to maintain year-round use (pea, ≤¾")
- Improved and expanded parking at access points
  - Horse trailer parking areas
  - Covert old roadside viewpoint pullouts, and Oak Creek building plots, into parking spaces
- Maps, more and better ones
  - Sell updated map at local recreation stores
  - Topographic
  - Larger trailside maps
  - Maps with road numbers matching signed roads and trail names
  - Volunteers GPS crew (equestrians) to get data points and photographs
- Control of invasive species and pests (scotch brome, ticks & poison oak)
  - Spraying
  - Increase hunting limits (for ticks only)

  - "Deal with it" (re: pests)
- Build and promote community around recreation activities
  - Post contact information for existing groups
  - Singles club
  - Online chats for cross-user groups
  - Online events calendar which community members can contribute recreation activities to.
  - Horse pooling network
- Loops of trail
- Technical features for horses
  - Jumps, obstacles, embedded logs in trail, long stretches for cantering and galloping, race track for horses
- Seasonal trails
  - Concern about damage created by horse use in winter
  - Not enough winter singletrack trails available.
  - Trail drainage necessary
- Maintain restriction on vehicle use
  - Concern about logging trucks
- Social tolerance
  - Feeling part of the community, learn to get along on the trail
- Mountain bike conflict
  - Fast bikes startling horses
  - Bikers not looking out for other users and stopping
- Signage, more and clear
  - Trail hazard signs: blind curve, steep drop
  - Use regulations
    - Trail signs include allowed and not allowed use
    - Accurate, and more effective, yield signing
    - "Clean up" signs for equestrian parking areas
  - But, where do we draw the line? Not too many signs.
- Timber Harvest
  - Dislike clearcuts
  - Harvest as an opportunity to build new trails
  - Use thinning to promote a more open forest
  - Retention of trees to allow for old growth
- Enhance opportunities for volunteerism
  - Partner with community/advocacy groups and schools for volunteer days
  - Saturday work parties

  - Reinstitute trail monitor program
  - Areas of interest to volunteers
    - Trail building/maintenance
- Zoning
  - A couple of dedicated trails for equestrians.
  - Education instead of zoning to address conflict?
    - Signage and awareness building
    - User-user communication
- More official singletrack trails
- More switchbacks to increase visibility
- Retain current access level and develop more access points
  - Access around gates for horses
  - Access to gate locks with injury
  - More access to the Dunn.
- Funding stability and increase for recreation program
  - Apply for grants for specific structure building (such as bridges)
  - Charge for parking at trailheads
  - Partner with local recreation organizations who have funding, materials and expertise
- Overnight use/camping allowed in the forest
- To expand and increase use or not?

  PROs
  - Desire to expand their own user group, particularly more horse riders, but also mountain biker and hunters
  - Create opportunities locally so you don't have to travel for the desired experience

  CONs
  - Desire to protect from overuse.
  - Concern over the growing population of Corvallis impacting the resource and recreation experience, crowding, getting displaced. How do we retain the feeling of the current use levels?
- Connect existing trails and roads to provide more continuous trail
- Provide a mechanism for community members to report problems, issues and complaints.
- Concern about emergency response
- University research ideas
  - Effective water trough systems for horses
- University teaching/courses
  - Reinstitute the university's equine program
- Dogs harassing horses are problematic
- Runner conflict, avoid forest during race events.

- Refuse
  - Concerned they will be 'kicked out' because of manure
- Rate and sign trails according to difficulty (a la skiing)
- Wide trails for side-by-side riding (equestrians)
- Dealing with unauthorized trails
  - Need seasonal or use-type restrictions on unauthorized trails.
  - Some favorite trails in the forest are unauthorized.

Appendix G – Hunter Focus Group Recommendations

Broad Themes by Prevalence

1) Access
2) Use Types and Extent
3) User Conflict
4) Information & Education
5) Trails
6) University Relations & Management
7) Ecology
8) Change

Topics in order from most to least prevalent

- Improved and expanded parking at access points
  - Make current parking areas more efficient
  - Increase parking at current access points
    - Problem areas: Lewisburg Saddle, Jackson creek, 300/400 road
- Mountain bike conflict
  - Bikes on unauthorized trail disturbing the hunt
  - Previous cases of booby trapping trails to stop bikers (sticks, logs, etc.)
- Maps, more and better ones
  - Hunting maps should correlated better with signage
  - Improve online fire map symbols
  - Downloadable GPS trail maps
- Refuse on the trail
- Unauthorized trails
  - Establishing new trails might limit unauthorized trail building, provide a means for authorized trail building to fill the need causing people to make them in the first place.
  - Quality of unauthorized trails: Some are very well built, others poorly
  - New trails might be built by connecting the good parts of existing trails.
  - Many favorite trails (“challenging” or “fun”) in the forest are unauthorized.
- Zoning
  - Time sharing of zones, or temporal/seasonal zoning
  - Route trails to specifically leave open, set aside, zones for hunting
- Loops of singletrack useful for accessing hunting
- Enhance opportunities for volunteer trail building
- University research ideas
  - Wildlife population (for example, black tail)
- University teaching/courses
  - Hunting class
- Equestrian conflict over parking access
- Signage, more and clear
  - More road number, forest boundary, and directional trail signs

  - Use regulations for hunting
- University's Decision Making Process
  - CF Mission
    - How does recreation fit into the objectives of the College?
- To expand and increase use, or not?
  - Discussed the importance of keeping use low in Dunn so that they do not become displaced if use were to become like that of the McDonald Forest.
  - Concern over the growing population of Corvallis impacting the resource and recreation experience, crowding, getting displaced. How do we retain the feeling of the current use levels?
- Retain current access level and develop more access points
  - Hunting access to oak savannahs
  - McDonald Forest and agricultural lands access for Master hunters and archery
  - Desire retaining their Dunn use and are concerned if other groups start using it they will lose it
- Retention of trees to allow for old growth
- Promote the restoration of oak savannahs
- Provide a mechanism for community members to report problems, issues and complaints.
- Create wildlife habitat patches retained for hunting, including oak savannah and ridgelines
- Allow firearms in the forest outside of hunting season
- Diverse species for hunts
  - Birds, turkey, predators ("sports pack"), special hunts (i.e. bighorn sheep)
- Hunting tag selection process
  - Consider special treatment in selection process for those not awarded previous years
  - Preference point system (current state system has flaws)
  - For each year you do not get a tag, your name is put in an extra time for the drawing.
- Hunting conflict – other users (bikers on unauthorized trails mostly) disturbing the hunt

Appendix H – Mountain Bike Focus Group Recommendations

Broad Themes by Prevalence

1) Trails
2) University Relations & Management
3) User Conflict
4) Change
5) Access
6) Information & Education
7) Ecology
8) Use Types and Extent

Topics in order from most to least prevalent

- Surface of trail
  - Non-gravel trails, stop spreading gravel
  - Use alternative armoring techniques such as contouring & drainage
- Dealing with unauthorized trails
  - Establishing new trails might limit illegal trails, provide a means for legal trail building to fill the need that caused people to make them in the first place.
  - College students as temporary residents might not know the forest rules.
  - Trail quality:
    - Some are very well built.
    - Without tools or proper training/designs, some trails are dangerous and damage the resource.
      - Erosion issues
      - Grades are too steep
      - Unsustainable
    - Some trails need only minor improvements before they could be made official (ie switchbacks)
    - Many trails are well established, 25+ years old, to the degree that new trails are not being built around them.
  - New trails might be built by connecting the good parts of existing trails.
  - Middle ground between authorized and unauthorized: authorized and maintained by other groups.
  - Make them official because people get lost in the large network of unmapped unauthorized trails.
  - Underground nature of the trails generates animosity.
  - Many favorite trails (“challenging” or “fun”) in the forest are unauthorized.
- More official singletrack trails, especially in high use areas

  - Use recently harvested areas as opportunities for new trail building
  - Don't restrict trail building in areas of future harvesting
- Technical features for bikes
  - Dirt and wooden built structures, big berms, large boulders, ladders, bridges, skinnies
- Retain and promote the development of varied difficulty trails
  - Rate and sign trails according to difficulty (a la skiing)
  - More entry-level mountain biking trails with some technical features, potentially in Saddle area
  - Trails of varied grades
- Switchback and trail grading
  - Utilize ridgelines
  - Promote "flow" and sinuosity with curved corners
  - Minimize amount of gravity on the trail
  - Bench cut trails instead of following fall line
  - Meandering switchbacks and grade reversals
  - Establish switchbacks in steep parts of trails
- Enhance opportunities for volunteerism
  - Partner with community/advocacy groups and schools for volunteer days
  - Areas of interest to volunteers
    - Trail design
    - Trail building/maintenance
    - Not graveling
    - Invasive species removal
- Retain current access level and develop more access points
  - Establish easement agreements and coordinate with forest neighbors for access and trail right of ways
    - Starker, MLK, Timberhill, Crestmont farms, coast range conifers
- Mountain bike conflict
  - Need sight lines
  - Finding appropriate trails for riding, with fewer hikers or other users
  - Separate trail use for downhill/freewheel
  - Official trails are graveled making bikes go fast, but also needing to go slow due to other users
- University's Decision Making Process
  - CF Mission
    - Stronger branding of the forests, help users understand the purpose.
    - Need to elevate recreation as a priority in the College Forests' mission.

        - Feel marginalized because the college forests' mission does not include recreation
    - Transparency
        - Community would be more understanding of trade-off decisions and regulations if they understood why.
        - Need affirmation that issues are being worked on.
        - Mission of the forests needs to be clearer
        - College of Forestry feels like a closed door, community input is not wanted.
        - Desire for connection to those in position of making decisions.
    - Participatory:
        - Community may support decisions if they were included in making it.
        - Users feel marginalized.
        - Users are creating trails whether or not you include them.
        - Trails might be safer if it was official because then their name is on the trail, it's not anonymous.
        - Sense of ownership encourages sustainability.
- To expand and increase use or not?

  PROs
    - Desire to expand their own user group
    - Create opportunities locally so you don't have to travel for the desired experience
    - Potential for Corvallis to be a major mountain biking attraction ("mountain biking mecca," "destination place"), increase community livability and bolster the economy.
    - People are using the resource and creating trails, damaging the resource, whether CoF plans it or not. "Better to be at the front than the back." Expansion to create a sustainable system.
    - Expanding the trail network and access points would disperse the use and curb both crowding and conflict.

  CONs
    - Protect from overuse.
- Recreation allowed before and after dark
    - 24-hour trail access
    - Extended set hours (ex. 5am to midnight)
- Seasonal trails
    - Concern about damage created by bike/horse use in winter
    - Not enough winter singletrack trails available
    - Create a winter riding area
    - Trail drainage instead of gravel
    - Trails closed to bikes and horses "despite differing impacts"

- University research ideas
  - Comparative trail impacts of different user groups
  - Comparative impacts of trails vs. roads
  - Comparative impacts of gravel vs. non-graveled trails
  - Purpose built trails
- University teaching/courses
  - Applied community/collaboration projects for teaching students land management practices
  - Trail building/management (in cooperation with trail building coordinator)
- Zoning
  - Specific, purpose built trails for mountain biking only (see many of the trail design suggestions, suggested use of IMBA standards)
  - Desire the freedom to go all the places in the forest, resistance to regulation
- Signage, more and clear
  - Current trail system is confusing and people easily get lost.
  - More road number, forest boundary, and directional trail signs
  - Trail hazard signs: blind curve, steep drop
  - Research locations (larger/readable from the trail)
  - Use regulations
    - Trail signs include allowed and not allowed use
    - Marking all legal trails (differentiate from unauthorized trails)
  - But, where do we draw the line? Not too many signs.
- Maps, more and better ones
  - Topographic
- Retaining the free access relieves CoF from liability
- Refuse, in general and horse specifically
  - “Just the way it is” when sharing the trail
- Loops of singletrack
- Control of invasive species and pests (scotch/false brome & poison oak)
  - Bike wash at trailheads
  - Volunteer events
- Long, or “epic,” singletrack trails (14 - 20 miles)
- Uphill and downhill directional mountain biking trails
- Funding stability and increase for recreation program
  - Fundraising events such as races and competitions
  - Partner with local recreation organizations who have funding, materials and expertise
    - Trails sponsored by recreation groups, “Adopt a Trail”
- Improved and expanded parking at access points

  - Make current parking areas more efficient
  - Utilize fairgrounds for parking
- Dog conflict
  - Concerned with “loose dogs” hurting visitors
- Promote the restoration of oak savannahs and open forest
- Connect existing trails to provide more continuous trail
- Desired trail features:
  - Bike wash at trailhead
- Create and maintain viewpoints, expansive, along the trail (e.g. Dimple Hill)
- Concern about emergency response

Appendix I – Trail Running Focus Group Recommendations

Broad Themes by Prevalence

1) Trails
2) Access
3) University Relations & Management
4) User Conflict
5) Ecology
6) Information & Education
7) Use Types and Extent
8) Change

Topics in order from most to least prevalent

- Surface of trail
  - Soft trail surface, dirt
  - Non-gravel trails, stop spreading gravel
  - Selective small gravel (pea, ≤¾")
    - Use on high use trails only
    - Gravel only in steep culverts, bends, in sinks
- Recreation allowed before and after dark
  - Extended set hours (ex. 5am to midnight)
  - Night access permit
- Refuse
  - Extended conversation about why people leave poop on the trail.
  - Signage: tie dog refuse bag onto your dogs collar or leash.
- Funding stability and increase for recreation program
  - Volunteer donation program; "Friends of the College Forests"
    - bumper/window stickers
  - Fundraising events such as races and competitions
  - Annual forest recreation use pass
- Signage, more and clear
  - Current trail system is confusing and people easily get lost.
  - More road number and directional trail signs
  - Use regulations
    - Seasonal closure signs state allowed season instead of when closed
- Dealing with unauthorized trails
  - Trail quality:
    - Some are very well built.

        - Some trails need only minor improvements before they could be made official (ie switchbacks)
        - Many trails are well established, 25+ years old, to the degree that new trails are not being built around them.
    - New trails might be built by connecting the good parts of existing trails.
    - Make them official because people get lost in the large network of unmapped unauthorized trails.
- Improved and expanded parking at access points
    - Bike racks at trailheads
    - Increase parking at current access points
- Seasonal trails
    - Concern about damage created by bike use in winter on inappropriate trails
    - Create a winter riding area
- Retain current access level and develop more access points
    - Establish easement agreements and coordinate with forest neighbors for access and trail right of ways
        - Starker, MLK, Timberhill, Crestmont farms, coast range conifers
    - More access to the Dunn.
- Control poison oak and invasive species
- Long, or "epic," singletrack trails (14 - 20 miles)
    - Oak Creek to Tampico Road
    - Peak to Saddle
- More official singletrack trails, especially in high use areas
    - Singletrack trail access to all forest peaks
        - McCullough, 3 peaks in Dunn
    - Use recently harvested areas as opportunities for new trail building
- Bus service extended to trailheads
- The focus of the College Forest's Mission
        - Stronger branding of the forests, help users understand the purpose.
        - Need to elevate recreation as a priority in the College Forests' mission.
- University research ideas
    - Shift research focus of college forests from forestry to health/exercise and sport science
    - Oak savannah restoration
    - Poison oak eradication
    - Refuse leaving behavior motivations
- Connect existing trails to provide more continuous trail
    - Connect the McDonald trails with the Dunn trails
- Loops of singletrack

- Create and maintain viewpoints, expansive, along the trail
  - Utilize selective thinning and harvest, “view logging”
- Enhance opportunities for volunteerism
  - Advertise volunteer opportunities better
- Expand and increase use, potential for Corvallis to be a major attraction (economic attraction)
- Mountain bike conflict, not a problem
- Desired trail features:
  - Traction on bridges
- Build and promote community around recreation activities
  - Post contact information for existing groups
- Promote the restoration of oak savannahs
- Maps of Dunn forest

Appendix J – Summary of Public Comments in Response to Recommendations

We received 88 comments from 15 members of the public in response to these recommendations for the College Forests' recreation program. Summarized here are the new ideas, concerns, and perspectives offered in these comments organized by the section of the document to which they refer. Repeated information already discussed, and comments which already led to changes in the recommendations are not included in this summary. Original comments and responses can be viewed in Appendix K.

General Planning Comments

- Nine comments expressed appreciation for and/or approval of the efforts the research team put in to creating the recommendations and/or engaging the stakeholders in the recreation planning process (comments #3, 11, 13, 21, 57, 61, 62, 87 & 88).
- The allocation of opportunities to different user groups should consider how much each group is using the forests. For example, equestrian use may be low, and the cost of their trail and parking design needs is high (comment #18).
- Concern regarding donor intent for the College Forests and efforts to promote recreation use and the sense of user ownership (comment #63).

Opportunity Classes

- Technical trails should also be considered for remote areas (comment #12).
- Trailheads and parking should be included in all recreation opportunity classes (comment #22, 24, 28 & 29).
- Nature watching and birding should be included in the remote trail-less opportunity class (comment #23).
- Remote trail-less areas should have access points to help alleviate overcrowding at other parking areas (comment #27).

Recreation Program Recommendations

- Increased parking may generate more use than the current trail system is suited for (comment #14).
- Parking needs to not only be enhanced but increased (comment #47).
- Forest maps need to include a detailed map of Peavy Arboretum, an uncluttered format, color coded trails, trail information for reference, clear references to local roads, and all new trails (comment #84).
- Consideration should be taken in planning for publicizing the "Friends of the Forest" membership program (comment #8).
- Local businesses should be included in efforts to raise funds for the College Forests (comment #85).
- Work with local public and private schools to conduct environmental interpretation activities in the Forests (comment #35).
- Increasing deer hunting will not help reduce the number of ticks in the Forests (comment #1).

Trails Planning

- Trailhead kiosks should include information about timing and types of hunts occurring in the Forests (comment #9).
- Trail damages may not be a justification for limiting bike use. (comment #15).
- Primary use trail signs need larger text to be read from a distance, should specify which "other uses" the trail is closed to, and need a larger multiuse icon. (comment #38 & 65).
- Roads already provide an opportunity for side by side riding (comment #41).
- Primary use trails seems reasonable instead of exclusionary use trails as many trails are only used a few times a day and people will use the trails regardless of restrictions (comment #66).
- Trail signs should include mileage to destinations (comment #70).
- Trails should be built that connect the Dunn and Cameron Forests to McDonald, and the 500 to 580 roads (comment #67, 68 & 71).
- Graveled trails do not cause mountain bikes to go fast, mountain bikers do (comment #80).

Appendix K – Public Comments Submitted and Management Response

Comment #	Reviewer ID #	Public Comment	Page. Section Reference	Management Response
1	1	"As an entomologist familiar with tick borne disease, the reduction of deer in this small microcosm to reduce tick load doesn't address the other tick hosts and their roles in the epidemiology cycle. I would remove this idea (removing greater numbers of deer)."	21. Invasive Species & Pest Management	We recognize that this might not be feasible, but we have left it in the recommendations as it was suggested by a member of the public. Thank you for this comment; it will be taken into consideration in the next phase of writing the recreation plan.
2	1	"I don't remember the request to carry guns in the forest outside of hunting season and with a proper permit to hunt on OSU forest land. I think it might be hard to justify and might tempt certain people to fire off a round for kicks. Although I acknowledge having crossed Dunn Forest during hunting season with a rifle but without an OSU permit to access the private timberland properties adjacent the forest for the purpose of hunting."	22. Hunting Program	The request was made in the focus group session of concerns in the forest. The specific comment was "Allow firearms outside of hunting season." As from this comment it is unclear if the participant was concerned that we would allow firearms, or if they were concerned that we do not allow firearms, the suggestion will be removed from the recommendations.
3	1	"Monumental undertaking. I think overall a very good MS."	General	Thank you for your comment.
4	2	"What is a "non-trailhead" access to a trail? It seems to me that Dimple Hill would qualify as a semi-remote area, and it is accessed by road from Lewisburg Saddle and Oak Creek, and via Dan's Trail from Chip Ross Park. All three are essentially "trailheads.""	15. Semiremote	To clarify, this section will be rewritten as "access via other trails or forest roads" for Semi-remote, Remote-trailed, and Remote-trailless classes.
5	2	"What does "left far down trail" mean?"	16. Remote Trailed	To clarify, this section will be rewritten as "would be accessed via long stretches of trail."
6	2	"Minimize amount of *gravity* on the trail." "Gravel?"	Focus Group Results Summary	Gravity is the intended word, as in minimizing the steepness of the trail to reduce gravity's pull on a bicycle heading downhill.
7	2	""Keep viewpoints farther down trails (> 1 mile)"	Focus Group	To clarify, this section will be rewritten as

		What does this mean? Increase the distance (lengthen the trail) to viewpoints?"	Results Summary	"Increase the distance to viewpoints with long sections of trail."
8	3	"I like the "Friends of the Forest" membership program idea and wonder how this might be publicized."	19-20. Funding and Volunteerism	Thank you for this comment; it will be taken into consideration in the next phase of writing the recreation plan. FYI, the College Forests are currently drafting a fundraising and marketing campaign. Please contact Ryan Brown if you would like to provide specific input.
9	3	"Didn't see it addressed but I might have missed it - hunt dates and types should definitely be posted on the website and all appropriate trailhead sign boards for reference by other users."	29. Signs	Thank you for this comment; it will be taken into consideration in the next phase of writing the recreation plan. FYI, hunt dates and types are currently posted online and on Dunn Forest kiosks.
10	3	"The new trail signs are good."	29. Signs	Thank you for your comment.
11	3	"I just went thru the whole document. You've done a super job capturing all the various conversations, brain-storming sessions, etc. Wow - very thorough and complete! Your beginning summary is very good."	General	Thank you for your comment.
12	4	"In the table, i don't understand why technical is listed in trail type for semi-remote and not in remote. the remote UA trails can be fairly technical, and they are very much in demand…"	15. Table 2	This is what was discussed and approved by the collaborative. Thank you for this comment; it will be taken into consideration in the next phase of writing the recreation plan.
13	4	"p. 18 map does reflect my recollection of what people wanted, yay!"	18. Figure 2	Thank you for your comment.
14	4	"Also, as you know, expanding parking might just further increase the usage. I don't know if we have sufficient trails from the trailheads to warrant expanding parking. That's definitely something to consider."	19. Parking Enhancements	Thank you for this comment; it will be taken into consideration in the next phase of writing the recreation plan.
15	4	"Regarding trail damage, i believe in the sentiment, however i disagree with the	25. Resource Protection &	Thank you for this comment; it will be taken into consideration in the next phase of

		justification. see: https://www.imba.com/resources/research/trail-science/natural-resource-impacts-mountain-biking ; and: https://www.imba.com/resources/research/trail-science/environmental-impacts-mountain-biking-science-review-and-best-practices ; granted, those are from imba, so there's a potential selection bias. so i throw that out there to be used in the decision making process. i think the paragraph(s) are well written and do express the thoughts expressed in the meetings.	Trail Damage	writing the recreation plan.
16	4	"I think the phrasing "as a potential safety issue as bikes easily speed down graveled paths where they should be slowing down to yield to other users" - the safety issue with respect to trail surface is that it is not safe to brake hard on gravel. the speed has nothing to do with the gravel, a dirt/duff surface can be just as fast. the issue of safety has to do with visibility, congestion, etc. i think the phrasing uses language that sounds blaming, it translates directly to "bikers go fast instead of yielding" bikers always have to yield, regardless of speed. bikers go fast because it's enjoyable and easy (runners go fast too, just not as fast).""	28. Trail Surface & Tread	Packed gravel was mentioned as one reason that mountain bikes go fast on trails in the focus groups. The text will be changed to "Packed gravel was mentioned in the focus groups as a contributing factor to fast mountain bike speeds on forest trails."
17	4	"Regarding ... feedback about group figures. I think that is important, though if the effort is being spent to collect that kind of information you would also want to include the length (time)u of the use, as well as the distances the users traveled in the forest. My hunch is that most hikers/walkers stay 2-3 miles from the	7. Purpose & Need	A table will be added to this section that reports the results of the 2011 survey with percentages of users from each group. In addition, a profile of the average forest user will be added.

		trailheads, and some 90% probably stay within 4 miles. Bikers are obviously less frequent but end up exploring much further, etc. But you probably know this stuff."		
18	4	“an aside: regarding equestrian use. while i agree that everyone should have access (if anyone does), i think the amount of use by a particular group should be taken into consideration. for example, the remote trails are "heavily" used by runners and bikers, and the park trails are more heavily used by dog walkers and hikers. the thing i don't know about: how much equestrian use is there? if there isn't a lot, and if usage is declining (as was hinted at by the equestrian representative), perhaps that should be factored into how much the equestrian needs should be factored in. it costs a lot more in money and labor to make a trail horse friendly year round than it does to make one safe for bikers/hikers/runners.”	General	Thank you for this comment; it will be taken into consideration in the next phase of writing the recreation plan.
19	5	"I concur with ... about crowded trailheads not only on the weekend. For example, last Monday I ran from the saddle at 8-10AM. When I finished, there were 23 cars parked up there. Two days later, I ran at Oak Creek at 11AM on a Wednesday and when I finished, there were 17 cars parked."	19. Parking Enhancements	Language will be changed to "high use times" instead of pin pointing specific days or times that may be high use.
20	6	"My only addition to your draft would be to add Horseback Riding under 'Remote Trailed' ion." and further clarification "I was talking about is the graph on page 15. I guess it is under Remote Trails. but it says night use, so I don't know if horseback riding is applicable, but possibly hunting isn't either, since hunting isn't allowed at	15. Table 2	All zones would be accessible to all users in some way. This point in the chart is only referring to night use specifically.

		night..., but I thought Remote Trails could include horseback riding."		
21	6	"Thank you for your thorough assessment of the forest recreation users! My hope is that tthes report will be a cornerstone in forest practices weigh OSU."	General	Thank you for your comment.
22	7	Include horse trailer and other parking in the semi-remote and remote-trailed opportutnity classes.	14. Table 2	The developed opportunity class was defined by the collaborative as including developed facilities such as parking areas and trailheads. Thus by definition, parking areas do not fit in the other opportunity classes.
23	7	Include nature watching and birding night use in the remote trail-less opportunity class.	15. Table 2	The collaborative agreed to have night use for activities other than hunting limited to trailed opportunity classes for safety reasons. Thank you for this comment; it will be taken into consideration in the next phase of writing the recreation plan.
24	7	Include on-site, trailheads and parking in all other opportunity classes, not just developed.	15. Table 2	The developed opportunity class was defined by the collaborative as including developed facilities such as parking areas and trailheads. Thus by definition, parking areas do not fit in the other opportunity classes. To clarify, this section will be rewritten as "access via other trails or forest roads" for Semi-remote, Remote-trailed, and Remote-trailless categories.
25	7	Trails…"do not need to be small or difficult."	16. Remote Trailed	The text will be changed to: "The remote trailed class would offer visitors narrow, difficult trails for a more intimate experience with opportunities for solitude."
26	7	"Need parking access for bikers, hikers & equestrians?"	16. Remote Trailed	To clarify, "via trails and forest roads" will be added to the description of access in this section.
27	7	"Need access to alleviate over crowding at other	16. Remote	The developed opportunity class was defined

		parking areas." In reference to "no access points."	Trail-less	by the collaborative as including developed facilities such as parking areas and trailheads. Your comment will be taken into consideration in designing the developed opportunity class during the next phase of writing the recreation plan.
28	7	In reference to Remote opportunity classes: "We need parking for horse trailers so access is possible."	17. Opportunity Class Locations	The developed opportunity class was defined by the collaborative as including developed facilities such as parking areas and trailheads. Your comment will be taken into consideration in designing the developed opportunity class during the next phase of writing the recreation plan.
29	7	"Need more trails and TH parking in semi-remote-remote areas."	18. Figure 2	The developed opportunity class was defined by the collaborative as including developed facilities such as parking areas and trailheads. Your comment will be taken into consideration in designing the developed opportunity class during the next phase of writing the recreation plan.
30	7	Proposed change section header to Parking "Development"	19. Parking Enhancements	Members of focus groups and Collaborative had varying opinions on what level of development or increased capacity was appropriate at trailheads. All agreed that improvements should be made to make them safer. The word "enhancements" was specifically chosen because it represents group consensus on improvement, and does not indicate an increase in capacity.
31	7	In reference to when parking areas are overcrowded, also…"weekdays as well as mornings and weekend afternoons (Please go see for yourself)." & "The comment that trailheads are crowded on 'sunny, weekend	19. Parking Enhancements	Language will be changed to "high use times" instead of pin pointing specific days or times that may be high use.

		mornings' needs correction. I suggest you drive to Oak Creek and the Saddle at 10 AM weekday mornings, both rainy and sunny to observe for yourself that it's not only weekend users on sunny days that need more parking space."		
32	7	"And work with county to expand Chip Ross parking space."	19. Parking Enhancements	This idea will be added to the list of recommendations for parking.
33	7	Add "100" to list of gates that need more efficient parking.	19. Parking Enhancements	This gate will be added to the list of areas in the forest that are of concern regarding parking.
34	7	"OSU Foundation: make donating to the forests through the foundation a more visible option."	20. Funding & Volunteerism	This idea will be added to the list of recommendations for funding.
35	7	"Work with school system, also private schools, esp. middle schools."	21. Environmental Interpretation	Thank you for this comment; it will be taken into consideration in the next phase of writing the recreation plan.
36	7	"I was told all the permits that have been available these past few years have not been given out due to decrease in requests. Is the information given above current? ic 2012-2013, check past FRAC meeting notes in which hunting permits were discussed."	22. Hunting Program	Demand for hunting permits is much larger than the number of permits available, per Ryan Brown who administers the hunt lottery. In the focus groups, hunters explained that with the current permitting system, applicants can go several years without receiving a tag and would like to see a more equitable system put in place.
37	7	"Which users. ie Bike riding. Why not explain the source of potential conflict?"	23. Multi-use vs. primary use trails	In the focus groups and Collaborative, discussions of conflict included mountain bikers, equestrians, and dog walkers. Primary use trails may be developed for more than mountain bikers, based on input through this process.
38	7	"Too small to read at a distance." In reference to "Closed to all other users, " "who would that be? dog walkers? birders? why? closed to motorized use already."	24. Figure 3	This figure is an example of possible signs. The actual design would be perfected later when they may be implemented. The "closed to" reference is what currently exists on the trail signs, but does not restrict birders or dog

				walkers as they are included by the hiker, or pedestrian symbol. This comment will be taken into consideration when designing the actual signage strategy.
39	7	In addition to restrictions, the users could be "told of potential for injury."	25. Safety	The subject heading for this section is "Exclusionary Trail Use," and the intention is to list the acceptable reasons why a particular trail might be closed to a particular use, as developed by the Collaborative. Other options exist for meeting the same goals (such as information as opposed to closure) and have been outlined elsewhere in the report when they were brought up during the process.
40	7	In reference to wheelchairs, "Already have this in the arboretum. Currently "accessible trail" is closed to bikes and horses.	25. Safety	The subject heading for this section is "Exclusionary Trail Use," and the intention is to list the acceptable reasons why a particular trail might be closed to a particular use, as developed by the Collaborative. To clarify, this description of current use restrictions will be included in the text: "Currently, some trails in the College Forests restrict access to user groups to protect the trail tread and reduce maintenance needs, and to provide trail opportunities on the forest for pedestrians only."
41	7	"They can use roads for side by side."	26. Table 3	In addition to the opportunity for side by side riding offered by roads, equestrian users requested trail opportunities for such in the focus groups as well.
42	7	In reference to "people with disabilities," "Physical disabilities that restrict physical movement. Don't lump all people with 'disabilities' together." & "Use of the term	26. Table 3	Thank you for this comment; the text will be changed to clarify the intent.

		'disability'. You might like to clarify that you are referring to people only with motility disability rather than other types."		
43	7	Add primary use trail for "Equestrians - loop trails more than 2 miles long with good footing."	26. Table 3	Will change text under each trail category "Features" section to include "Loop opportunities and connectivity to the trail system"
44	7	Add loops to long distance trail description	27. Table 3	Will change text under each trail category "Features" section to include "Loop opportunities and connectivity to the trail system"
45	7	Proposed change to sentence: "Adding meandering switchbacks and grade reversals in steep sections of trail may also be [essential]."	28. Slope, Grades and Switchbacks	Text will be changed to read: "Additional trail design strategies should be employed such as meandering switchbacks and grade reversals in steep sections of trail."
46	7	"Horse manure is horse manure; NOT refuse or poop."	29. Signs	When referring to horses only, language will be changed to "manure." However, where referencing both horses and dogs, "refuse" will be used as a generic term that refers to both species.
47	7	"Not only 'enhancements' needed, get more." Suggested changes to the following sentence: "Many access points for the forests are in need of [increased] parking [development], maps…"	3. Executive Summary	The sentence will not be changed as there was not consensus from all user groups that parking should be increased, but there was agreement that the parking should be improved and enhanced. Thank you for this comment; it will be taken into consideration in the next phase of writing the recreation plan.
48	7	In reference to feeling resentment, "I've never experienced this, everyone should yield to uphill users..."	37. Equestrian conflict	This sentiment was reported by members of the focus group and therefore included in the summary of results.
49	7	Add Equestrian to names of groups who discussed Long trails, "Please, we do need long single track trails for riding."	37. Long trail summary	Equestrians will be added to the list of groups who discussed long trails.

50	7	"Already have roads and some all season trails."	63. Seasonal trails	This sentiment was reported by members of the focus group and therefore included in the summary of results.
51	7	"Substantiate figure, when? How arrived at? annual increase since?" referring to 11,500 visitors figure	7. Purpose & Need	A citation is given for the figure, it is the result of the 2011 OSU study of recreation use in the forests. However, this section will be clarified with additional descriptions of visitor use.
52	7	Add to list of activities in the forest "introduce childern to nature, simply wack wildflower weeds, birding"	7. Purpose & Need	To provide further information, a table of the 2011 survey results of activities and the percent of users participating in them will be included.
53	7	In reference to hunting: "Identify not in McDonald, only Dunn"	7. Purpose & Need	To clarify, the sentence will be changed to "…ride their horses, and hunt (Dunn Forest only)."
54	7	"Why did one of the equestrian focus group participants continue her involvement?"	9. Step One	As described on page 10, Step Two section, some participants from the focus groups were invited to participate further as members of the collaborative stage.
55	7	"Perhaps include information regarding anticipated annual increase of user hours by group in order to substantiante trail, parking, and personnel expenses. The figures do exist in FRAC meeting notes as well as elsewhere. Good amount of information here, very clearly organized - nice work Elspeth!" & "Substantiation for parking and trail improvements based on predicted usage increases. This information exists in our FRAC meeting notes of the past few years. There was a laser beam counter installed which gave us good figures. It might be a better report to have substantiation of need documented."	General	A table will be added to "Purpose and Need" that reports the results of the 2011 survey with percentages of users from each group. In addition, a profile of the average forest user will be added.
56	7	"User group figures. Rather than develop trails	General	A table will be added to the purpose and

		in a 'balanced' way, do you know the percentage of users represented in each of your identified groups? It would create a more compelling argument for single purpose trails if we knew more about the percentages of potential user group growth. I'll be glad to survey the equestrian community regarding their past, current, and future usage."		needs section of the recommendations that reports the results of the 2011 survey with percentages of users from each group. In addition, a profile of the average forest user will be added.
57	7	"A huge report, Elspeth. I comment the extensive amount of work you've put into this project. Nice going!"	General	Thank you for your comment.
58	8	"A tricky interpretation comes with any perceived "demand" by certain recreational users in the create of UA trails (as stated in the table on page 15 and 27). I don't believe the group discussions should be interpreted to imply that because a UA trail exists that it is an indicator of public demand. As the FRAC recently discussed, many UA trails exist that follow the fall line on steep slopes. I suspect many of those UA trails are created by a very small minority of users (primarily downhill bikers) and therefore do not reflect any widespread "demand" by most mountain bike users (myself included). So perhaps this is worth clarification in the report? Your suggestion at the bottom of page 27 is good, as we don't want to encourage the proliferation of UA trails from folks who hope they might be added to the Mac/Dunn forest trail system."	15. Table 2 & 27. Unauthorized Trails	Through discussions in the focus groups, and the physical presence of the unauthorized trails on the ground, they do represent a "demand" of some sort, even if it's by a small minority or a demand that we do not want to cater to. The recreation collaborative did not recommend replicating UA trails on the official trail system, but it was indicated that giving people alternative opportunities to meet some of their needs could allow for the closure of some UA trails. Language will be changed to remove the term "demand" and attempt to more clearly express this sentiment.
59	8	"I believe where the working group ended up on "primary use" vs. "multiple-use" trails (page 23) was that there would be consternation should the College Forests re-designate existing multi-	23. Multi-use vs. primary use trails	Clarification will be added to this section to explain that primary use designations should only be applied to new trails, without changing designations for current trails.

		use trails with a new, primary use. This is in contrast to where new trails might be designed/constructed with an specific primary use in mind--in that case, I don't believe there would be must public consternation because the public would not have a history of using the trail in question. So the level of public controversy/acrimony should be low for new primary use trails, as long as there is thought given to equitably designating new primary use trails for all user groups--and not for just those groups who have the most money or energy to throw into designing/constructing new trails. I don't know how you might best capture the thought, above, about primary use trails. But I wanted to provide the clarification on what I believe the reflected the group's consensus. "		
60	8	"I'll narrow my comments to the report as it was intended--a precursor to inform and shape the forthcoming Recreation Management Plan. I understand that your current work is not the Management Plan, so will not dwell on, or advocate for, one position or another. Rather, I did my review simply as a matter of fact-checking to point out if you might have missed anything or perhaps misinterpreted the group input. Based on those sideboards for review, I did not pick up on any significant errors or omissions (in my humble opinion). ;-)"	General	Thank you for your comment.
61	8	"Upon my second review, I find that I remain very impressed with the level of detail and organization of the report. That was no easy task in itself!"	General	Thank you for your comment.
62	9	“After going to a meeting about recreation on	General	Thank you for your willingness to contribute,

		the OSU Research Forests & riding my horse on the forests since the 1970's I feel that I must respond to inquiries about usage. The privilege of using the forests for recreation is of great importance to me & probably to other users, there is an immediate interest to all of us for that reason so I must speak out in a positive regard for that usage. Our equestrian groups are more than willing to answer questions - surveys- about riding our horses on the forests! Any input we can give in a positive manor will be well received I hope.?"		we will continue to consult with our recreation users as we proceed in the planning process.
63	10	"It is probably fair to say that the average citizen in Corvallis sees MacDunn Forest as a very pleasant addition to the local park system. This research paper, while containing a few sentences that seem to acknowledge that there may be other objectives at play in the Forest, seems to pander to this view of the average Corvallis citizen. And to legitimate it. The project is a very elaborate exercise aimed to elicit the I-want's of local recreational users. And to promote fulfilling those I-want's. This reviewer, though rather slow-witted and inarticulate, has had several decades of experience managing forest tracts, both his own and those owned by clients. During all those years he never became conversant with much of the language used in this report. Therefore, some of his sourpuss views can be explained away purely on that basis. Concepts such as "stakeholders" and "focus groups" never seemed very useful in his experience (As best I can tell, stakeholder refers to an individual or group who has no standing in	General	Thank you for these comments; your thoughts will be taken into consideration in the next phase of writing the recreation plan. This project sought to articulate the desires of the recreation users of the College Forests. These recommendations will be weighed in balance with other forest goals and donor intent in the next phase of recreation planning.

		the matter at hand but who, if granted that status, suddenly become endowed with power which can then be channeled back to the purposes of the one who grants them the status. Focus groups, in turn, seem to be collections of stakeholders assembled by those who grant the power to those stakeholders. Essentially a mechanism to multiply the power granted. Perhaps I should consult a sociology professor to verify if I have that correct.). Likewise for "collaborative community recommendations … for a spectrum of recreational opportunity classes". Provocation to cynicism. First is the concept of adverse possession. My experience suggests that when neighbors or other community members establish a pattern of use of another's property, that pattern frequently becomes deeply embedded in the brain and is extremely difficult to dislodge. Their belief that they have "rights" will cause the landowner unending problems. MacForest is a very large capital asset[What magnitude? Is it $100 million? Maybe $1 billion? Probably in that range.] that essentially belongs to the Dean of Forestry as trustee. If he or she should considered selling it to the City of Corvallis at market value, then that value could be invested elsewhere and the income could be used for College purposes. And the local Corvallis recreationists would then be in a quite legitimate position. The forest would actually belong to them. All they have to do is convince the city fathers to make the investment. The second		

		concept concerns donor intent. It might be useful to have policy discussions with the OSU Foundation on this matter. They will likely suggest that ignoring donor intent is not a wise course for beneficiaries of major philanthropic activity. Was MacDunn forest given to Forestry to provide a sylvan playground for the Corvallis recreationists use? Clearly, it was not. Ignoring the primary objectives while pandering to urban I-wants is not a good long-run policy to follow. Now for my single recommendation. I propose that the Dean simply close the College Forests to local recreational use for two years or five years. Although that may seem somewhat drastic, it is probably the only way to re-establish ownership of the asset. The gradual descent into communal ownership [and control by activist pressure groups] will continue until that is done. During the closure, some careful studies could be done to assess the possibility for establishing a meaningful net revenue stream from recreational users of the College Forests. Directly estimating elasticities would permit maximization of such revenue streams. The conclusion might be that it is not worth the trouble. In that case, the Forests should remain closed. I should not close without congratulating the ones who have conducted this research. Although I profoundly disagree with the overall promotional thrust of the work, it has provided a remarkably clear picture of the viewpoints espoused by the local recreational users of the Forests. The appendices reveal the grasping reach of the users and the complete		

		lack of shame that they have. Such should scare the bejesus out of the Dean."		
64	11	"I think, for clarity, that the hunting users would like to have night access *for access to areas before shooting hours* (p16). I don't want to give anyone the impression that we'd be out there shining deer with spotlights at 2am. :)"	16. Table 3	Thank you for the correction - this is the original intent, and the text has been changed to reflect it.
65	12	"regarding the trail signage: The primary use sign which has a green color for the "designed for" is good and catches the eye. The multiple use sign is too small. We only have a few multi use trails which are year-round, so most would need use dates included, negating the small combined set of symbols. The current signs have symbols which are a good size, but the dates under the symbols are too small to read easily."	25. Figure 5	Thank you for the design feedback. The figure of the signs is just an example of what they may look like. Final design will be considered should the trail designation system be adopted.
66	12	"I do not favor exclusionary trails. Having a trail as one type of primary use with other types of users secondary seems reasonable. The trails are not freeways. Often a trail will be used only once or twice a day on low use days. Also, folks will use the trail whether they are supposed to or not."	24. Multi-Use vs Primary Use Trails	Thank you for this comment; it will be taken into consideration in the next phase of writing the recreation plan.
67	12	"I favor more access points to the trail system and really like the idea of long trails connecting Dunn and McDonald forests."	27. Types of Trails	This was recommended in the focus groups also and will be considered in the planning process.
68	12	"Trails should be built with the idea of loops, so they are not out and back on the same trail. The loop could be tied in with an existing road. An example would be vineyard mt trail which would use 500 road and 5010 road as the other side of the loop coming from the saddle. Also a trail connecting 500 and 580 roads in the "middle" would get a lot of use. It would provide a shorter	27. Types of Trails	This was recommended in the focus groups also and will be considered in the planning process.

		loop to the 6.7 mile Nettleton loop, which is very popular."		
69	12	"Users who do not like gravel based trails need to consider the gravel is often necessary for wet weather use, since bikes, horses and foot traffic tear up dirt trails quickly."	29. Trail Surface & Tread	The recommendation regarding gravel that it be used only as necessary. As you point out, it may be necessary for winter use of trails in some places.
70	12	"I would like some mileage markers on long trails like Dan's so folks know how much farther to the top of Dimple Hill starting from Chip Ross Park. Would help with trail maintenance too."	30. Signs	Thank you for this comment; it will be taken into consideration in the next phase of writing the recreation plan.
71	12	"Cameron Forest has several roads which could be connected to McDonald forest roads and trails, creating loops and more access points to the forest, spreading out users."	31. Trail Locations	Thank you for this comment; it will be taken into consideration in the next phase of writing the recreation plan.
72	12	"Not sure why in table 3 there is a category: remote trail-less. Thorough is one thing, but I see no value in including this to an already very full table. The description says:The remote trail-less areas of the College Forests are where no trails would be developed, though there may be existing roads. If there are roads, it isn't remote. I would remove it."	15. Table 3	Remote was used as a descriptive term relative to the forest conditions. As most of the College Forests is roaded in some way, it is not possible for any place in the forest to be truly remote. However, the Collaborative felt it was still important to reserve some areas without the development of trails and recreation infrastructure.
73	12	"Please add 540 gate as a problem area for parking. Jackson Creek does not have parking, so should be taken off the list."	20. Parking Enhancements	Thank you, we will add the 540 gate to the list of areas where parking needs to be enhanced. The lack of parking at Jackson Creek is one reason why it was included by other users in the list of places to improve parking.
74	12	"What is the role of ODF&W with the forest hunts?"	23. Hunting Program	OSU College Forests grant permission to hunt on Dunn Forest, following all rules, regulations and requirements set forth by ODF&W.
75	12	"I do not see much "planning" in this document but there are a lot of important summaries of	General	These recommendations are the precursor to future recreation planning for the Forests.

		what is happening in forest recreation now."		They are an articulation of the public desires for recreation that should be considered in future planning efforts.
76	12	"I think the "conflict" on trails is way overblown. I am on a lot of trails all over the forest and do not see the conflict."	26. Exclusionary Trail Use	While many visitors do not experience conflicts in the Forests, there is a sizable minority that do. Asking visitors to identify issues sparked many discussions about conflict, which are described in this report. One of the goals in the future will be to prevent future conflict and address it where it might already exist.
77	12	"Page 23 says:"However, not all users agree that this justifies excluding user groups. Instead it is recommended that trails are built better and maintained to withstand high impact uses." This need for high impact trail surface, especially in winter, seems to validate the application of crushed rock to reinforce the trail surface."	26. Exclusionary Trail Use	The recommendation regarding gravel that it be used only as necessary. As you point out, it may be necessary for winter use of trails in some places.
78	12	"page 29 says : Even then, visitors recommend using small gravel (£ 3⁄4") and do not support the use of larger sized gravel. As a regular trail worker for 7 years, we have not used "larger gravel" for trail surfaces, but only as a base in very muddy spots which was completely covered by smoother trail surfaces."	29. Trail Surface & Tread	Thank you for the comment.
79	12	"figure 6 is not useful, because it has way too much information on it. It needs to be split out by each of the 3 forests at a minimum."	32. Figure 6	This map is a starting point for ideas of where access and trails could be developed. It is not intended as a specific plan for trail locations and is therefore intentionally vague.
80	12	"page 35 : says: Official trails are graveled making bikes go fast in areas where they should be going slow to yield to other users. Graveled trails do NOT make bikes go fast, bikers do that."	35. Appendix B	Thank you for this comment; it will be taken into consideration in the next phase of writing the recreation plan.
81	12	"I would like more viewing spots with benches.	40. Appendix	This was recommended in the focus groups

		Several benches are placed where there was a view, but the darned trees grew and blocked the view."	B	also and will be considered in the planning process.
82	12	"I would like to see a portion of any OSU or Cameron forest harvest/logging proceeds to be allocated to OSU recreation to mitigate impacts on trails from logging."	20. Funding & Volunteerism	The College Forests' recreation program is currently funded by timber sales in the Forests.
83	12	"Mountain bikers may have a disproportionate representation in this planning document. They are a vocal and energetic user group and some help work on a trail now and then. The vast majority of forest users are hikers."	General	All user groups were involved in this process, and representatives from each had a say in the development of this document. Thank you for your comment, and it will be taken into consideration in the next phase of writing the recreation plan.
84	13	"I have been a frequent hiker in the OSU forest for the last 18 years. My favorite area by far is Peavy Arboretum, and I am thrilled with the recent addition of new trails that allows me to customize my hike in an infinite number of configurations. Since I hike daily and year-round, I have come to know these trails and roads like the back of my hand, and feel right at home as I mosey down the trails. But recently I have become aware of the fact that many others find Peavy utterly confusing and disorienting. On average, I am asked for directions by other hikers 3-4 times a week. I give them the most clear verbal directions that I can (take a right, then two lefts, then a right again), but as we part, I find myself wondering if they will be able to remember them. I often wish I had a clear visual aide, so that I can have confidence that these hikers will manage to locate their vehicles and get home safely. With these long days, the descending of night while	20. Map Updates & Improvements	Thank you for your comment, and your ideas will be utilized in the next revision of the map.

		one is haplessly wandering is not too much of a concern. But I know of others who have gotten caught in the dark as they tried franticly to find their way out of the forest. At any rate, whether it is mild confusion or outright panic at being lost, this lack of a proper navigating tool is interfering with the enjoyment that should be part of going for an outing in the forest. Much to my disappointment, each successive Trail Map has been moving further away from the direction that I feel is necessary to provide a user-friendly navigational tool. I expressed this opinion to one such lost hiker, and on-the-spot I decided that I would search my house for an old map, update it and make it available to people in need of assistance on the trails. So this is just what I have done. I utilized information from all three recent C of F. maps, as well as the McDonald Forest map (from Peak Sports) and Margie Powell's hiking book. I boiled it all down into one page of essential information, and had copies made a Staples. I will have my map in my trail pack over the weekend and am eager to offer assistance to lost hikers. I would also like to share with you my homemade map as feedback on the direction I feel is needed for any formal College of Forestry maps in the future. The important features as I see them are: - enlarged detail map of Peavy Arboretum - uncluttered format, no unnecessary details - color codes for easy trail identification - bulleted trail info. on the side for easy reference - clear reference to local access roads		

		- inclusion of all new trails I would love to mail you a copy of my homemade map for your perusal, if you would be so kind as to send me your work mailing address. I will also put your e-mail address on any maps that I hand out, so that you may receive feedback directly from other recreational users. If my map proves helpful in your attempts to improve recreational opportunities, then my time has been well-spent! (And besides, I had a lot of fun making it!) I saw that you have a Collaborative Team and I tried reading your document with the intention of commenting, but I got too bogged down in all the rhetoric and overwhelming level of detail. Basically, I'm happy with the trails, I just think you need a better map for Peavy, so I went ahead and made one!"		
85	14	"The report looks ok even thought it's a bit vague. The "Funding & Volunteerism" section has room for improvements. I believe the local business should be more involved. But I love the idea of "Friend of the McDonald/Dunn Forest" membership program."	20. Funding & Volunteerism	This document is intended to summarize recommendations from forest visitors, and will be used to create a recreation plan, which will include more details regarding next steps.
86	14	"Also, I didn't see anything about open up the views at the peaks, like Peavy, Dimple Hill, McColloch, etc. I bet I'm in a minority group on this one, eh?"	40. Appendix B	This was recommended in the focus groups also and will be considered in the planning process.
87	15	"It is readily apparent that the authors of this draft report spent a great deal of time writing it; their exhaustive approach and attention to detail should be commended. After thoroughly reviewing this draft recreation plan, I believe that the College of Forestry staff, along with its	General	Thank you for your comment.

		expert and volunteer advisory panels, are well-equipped to proceed and have a well-rounded approach to forest recreation. This plan is especially important to the community by protecting forest resources and functions that are paramount to the success of the University, its students, and the surrounding community that recreates on Oregon State University land."		
88	15	"Engaging students, university staff, and community volunteer groups ensures that the needs of the community are being satisfied. I would recommend that at a minimum, Oregon State University keep stakeholders well-informed about their policy decisions and processes; this will help to minimize unilateral and unapproved forest activities, such as construction of unauthorized trail or other damaging activities. Recent efforts to include interest groups and to disseminate information to the public has significantly improved the image of the College of Forestry, thereby increasing moral and support within groups who recreate on forest lands."	General	Thank you for your willingness to contribute, we will continue to consult with our recreation users as we proceed in the planning process when appropriate.