

## **REC 20 TRAILS**

### **(SPRING, SUMMER AND FALL, NON-SNOW SEASON)**

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#### **1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This study report evaluates the recreational trail use opportunities within the study area during the spring, summer, and fall seasons (winter recreation trails are addressed in the REC 21, Winter Recreation technical study). Data for this study was obtained from the results of the active and self-census recreation surveys that were conducted in 2002 as part of the REC 17, Dispersed Recreation Opportunities and Needs Assessment, study. The survey was designed to obtain information from survey respondents for five major activity/location groups including: camping, picnicking, trail use, boating, and recreation activities in stream or river corridors. Visitors to the Project area were asked to complete surveys on a variety of topics including: general background characteristics (e.g., group size, length of stay, approximate trip expenditures), areas visited, activities engaged in, and satisfaction with their recreational experience and the related facilities and conditions.

Eighteen trailheads were identified by survey respondents, 14 of these are located near study area reservoirs or forebays. These trailheads provide access to a trail system which include trails that lead to a single destination, trails that are connected to an integrated network, and trails that pass through the study area. Two notable trails that pass through the study area are the California Riding and Hiking Trail and the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail.

Based on data obtained from trail users during the 2002 summer recreation user survey, user satisfaction with trail-related factors were rated by survey respondents from moderately acceptable to highly acceptable for all of the factors evaluated. Parking availability, condition of trail, parking area condition and access to the facilities generally received the highest satisfaction rating by survey respondents.

When choosing an area for recreation, trail users indicated that “Scenery/aesthetics”, “Lack of crowds”, and “River, stream, lake, or trail access” were the most important factors.

Most trail use respondents stayed overnight locally in the area and nearly half of all trail users stayed in USDA Forest Service (USDA-FS) campgrounds. The USDA-FS campgrounds that were referenced the most by trail users were Rancheria, Vermilion, and Mono Hot Springs campgrounds.

Huntington Lake was the area most visited by trail users. Mammoth Pool Reservoir and Redinger Reservoir were the areas least visited by trail users (3.1% and 2.4% respectively).

## **2.0 STUDY OBJECTIVES**

Characterize the current uses and estimate the future demands for trails and trailheads at or near Project-related recreation areas.

## **3.0 STUDY IMPLEMENTATION**

### **3.1 STUDY ELEMENTS COMPLETED**

- Identified trails and trailheads at or near Project facilities.
- Identified and documented existing trail use activities near Project facilities (e.g., mountain bicycling, traveling with stock (horses, mules), backpacking, angling, and hunting).
- Developed a recreation survey instrument to be used to gather data on existing and potential uses, factors influencing uses, if uses were Project-related, and identified perceived needs for recreation.
- Identified target areas and sites that would be surveyed.
- Conducted Dispersed Recreation Use Surveys at target sites.
- Used survey results and data from other appropriate sources to characterize the recreation opportunities and estimated future recreational needs.
- Consulted with local representatives of trail user groups to discuss the Project area and associated trail use activities.

### **3.2 OUTSTANDING STUDY ELEMENTS**

- Identify and document potential improvements to meet existing and future recreation uses.

## **4.0 STUDY METHODOLOGY**

The trails study identifies and characterizes trail systems and support facilities located in the study area. The study included a literature review and consultation activities to identify and obtain information on trails, trailheads and any historical trail use data, if available. The type of information obtained includes, trail and trailhead locations, allowable trail use activities, any restrictions based on user type, permitting requirements, support facilities, and seasonality of trails. Data sources for the literature review include: USDA-FS documents and maps, recreational guide books, interviews with user groups, and any other publications regarding recreation opportunities in the Big Creek Basin. Telephone consultation with the USDA-FS and special-interest user groups supplemented the published trail use data.

Current trail use data was obtained through the implementation of the summer recreation survey that was performed as part of REC 10/17, Recreation Opportunities and Needs Assessment/Dispersed Recreation Opportunities and Needs Assessment, during the summer of 2002. The survey was implemented by active survey and by self-census techniques. The self-census survey was accomplished by placing census forms

in locked drop boxes at selected trailhead locations. The survey collected data on the experiential value associated with the trail use, as well as physical data on the numbers of trail users, types of uses, timing (seasonality) of trail use, reasons for choosing the particular trail, general trail condition, and destination locations. For specific methodologies with respect to survey development and implementation refer to the REC 10/17, Recreation Opportunities and Needs Assessment/Dispersed Recreation Opportunities and Needs Assessment, technical study reports (SCE 2003).

Survey questions which asked for information regarding the user satisfaction with a particular facility or service associated with trailheads were scored using a five-point scale format that ranged from highly acceptable (2); moderately acceptable (1); neutral (0); moderately unacceptable (-1); and highly unacceptable (-2). For statistical analysis purposes the response format was converted into a 1-5 scale, 1 being highly unacceptable, and 5 being highly acceptable. In this manner results can be described below using numbers ranging from 1 to 5 and averages could be calculated based on these values. For example, mean scores above a value of 4.0 would indicate a moderately to highly acceptable degree of satisfaction by survey respondents.

The survey form also allowed respondents to indicate if a question was not applicable to their recreation experience (N/A). If respondents provided an unacceptable satisfaction rating for any of the factors evaluated, they were asked to identify where these experiences occurred.

The data collected through literature review, consultation activities and the implementation of the summer recreation survey was compiled and summarized in a tabular format and presented graphically on GIS generated maps. Maps were designed to depict the study area trailhead locations and distribution of trails.

## **5.0 STUDY RESULTS AND ANALYSIS**

### **5.1 CONSULTATION**

Consultation for the trails study includes interviews with representatives from the Backcountry Horsemen of California, Southern California Edison (SCE), the San Joaquin River Trail (SJRT) Council, and the USDA-FS. These groups provided information on the trails system that run throughout the study area. Consultation with the USDA-FS provided general information about trails in the study area. Consultation with the Backcountry Horsemen of California, SCE, and the SJRT Council provided specific information, which is summarized in the following sections.

#### Backcountry Horsemen of California

Toby and Katie Horst were consulted as representatives of the Backcountry Horsemen of California group. This organization is a volunteer group whose purpose is to preserve the heritage and use of trails. The USDA-FS, California State Parks Service, and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) work with the Backcountry Horseman by providing direction to their organization regarding the location of their trail maintenance activities. The Backcountry Horsemen volunteered over 3,300 hours of service

throughout California in 2003. The Backcountry Horsemen have extensive knowledge of the trails systems in the study area and a primary concern of theirs is the condition of important trails and trailhead access points for backcountry horsemen. The most important trailheads in the study area for this group include the trailheads at Florence Lake and Lake Edison, because they are the primary portals into the wilderness areas, and the popular Pacific Crest Trail. An important concern to horsemen regarding trailhead access is the size of the parking area for horse trailer accessibility.

### Southern California Edison (SCE)

SCE maintains approximately 12 miles of recreational trails within the Camp Edison grounds at Shaver Lake. Maintenance activities along these trails are conducted by SCE on an as needed basis and may be prolonged due to extensive recreational use and weather conditions. As such, trail improvement projects by SCE are typically limited to periods during the spring and fall when recreation use is not as high. In addition, logging activities for trail maintenance occur approximately once every 10 years, and are also scheduled during early spring or late fall when recreational use is low.

During the winter SCE conducts grooming activities along trails within Camp Edison to provide cross-country skiing opportunities for recreational users. The skill level of these cross-country skiing trails ranges from “beginning” to “moderate” with only a few advanced trails. SCE’s primary winter maintenance activity along these trails consists of grooming after each winter storm event.

SCE also maintains some trails in the study area that are used by SCE personnel to access stream gages and diversions. These trails are not intended for recreational use, but are accessible to the public. Operational use and maintenance of these trails are conducted on an as needed basis, and is not part of a developed pattern of regular use.

SCE also provided information on the Historic Mono Trail. The Mono Trail is associated with traditional cultural use of the southern Sierra Nevada by Mono peoples, linking families, places and resources since aboriginal times to the present. Although historic developments in the Sierra National Forest have altered the ancestral routes of the trail network, the trans-Sierran Mono Trail remains an important aspect of contemporary Mono culture and is still used today by Mono people from North Fork and Auberry.

### San Joaquin River Trail (SJRT) Council (Steve Haze)

The San Joaquin River Trail Council is a non-profit organization that is leading an effort to develop, construct, maintain and protect the San Joaquin River Trail. The SJRT Council has been working with the Bureau of Reclamation, BLM, the USDA-FS, and the National Park Service to establish the 75 mile trail as a National Scenic, Recreational, or Historic Trail. This trail has a proposed alignment which follows the San Joaquin River from the Millerton Lake State Recreation Area to the Devil’s Postpile National Monument and utilizes several existing trails along its alignment. The proposed SJRT alignment contains sections of trail that are proposed for construction (do not currently

exist), portions of existing trails that will be used to connect sections of the SJRT, and segments of the SJRT that exist. The proposed alignment of the trail uses primarily existing trails and crosses private, California State, Bureau of Reclamation, BLM, and National Forest Service lands. A section of the proposed SJRT alignment is located near the Mammoth Pool Reservoir study area and shares its alignment with the French Trail. In the vicinity of Mammoth Pool Dam the SJRT follows several USDA-FS roads. Beginning at Shakeflat Creek, the proposed alignment follows USDA-FS Road 6S25 to Mammoth Pool Road (USDA-FS Road 7S76). The proposed alignment continues along Road 7S76 to the Logan Meadow Trailhead from which the SJRT continues to shares its proposed alignment with the French Trail leading to the Mammoth Lake area on the east side of the Sierra Nevada Mountains.

## 5.2 USER SURVEYS

Current trail use data was obtained through a summer recreation use survey conducted as part of REC 10/17, Recreation Opportunities and Needs Assessment/Dispersed Recreation Opportunities and Needs Assessment. This survey was conducted during the summer of 2002 and obtained information from 2,019 survey respondents. Of these respondents, 621 provided information regarding trails and trailheads. Four hundred and ninety of the 621 respondents that provided trail information specifically identified the trailhead they used and 131 respondents only provided general information and did not specify a specific trailhead location. Eighteen trailheads were identified and are summarized by rank in Table REC 20-1 and depicted in Figure REC 20-1. Of the 490 trailhead write-in responses, nearly two-thirds (319 responses) wrote in a trailhead location that was not identifiable or listed a location that was vague (e.g., “around the lake”) and were subsequently categorized as “Other” trailheads in Table REC 20-1. The two most frequently identified trailheads were Rancheria Trailhead (58 responses), and Mono Creek Trailhead (27 responses).

Of these 18 trailheads listed by survey respondents, 14 trailheads are located near study area reservoirs or forebays as listed in Table REC 20-2. These 14 trailheads and a summary of the trails originating from the trailheads are provided in Table REC 20-2 and depicted in Figure 20-1. As depicted in Figure REC 20-1, trails vary in length and may end at a single destination, or exist as part of a larger integrated network that connects to other trails that pass through the study area. The two most notable trails passing through the study area are the California Riding and Hiking Trail and the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail.

Survey respondents also identified other frequently visited trailheads that are not immediately adjacent to any study area reservoir or forebay. These include the Kaiser Pass Trailhead (15 responses); Potter Pass Trailhead (14 responses); Corbett Lake Trailhead (three responses); and the Tamarack Trailhead (two responses).

Table REC 20-3 displays information on trail user satisfaction with trail-related factors. The information in this table is based on the input provided by 621 respondent surveys which includes the 490 surveys that attributed data directly to a trailhead location and the 131 surveys that were not specific to any trailhead. The results of the survey

indicate that all factors were rated from moderately acceptable to highly acceptable with scores above 3.6. "Parking Availability" and the "Condition of the Trail" factors received the highest ratings with scores of 4.5 and 4.4, respectively. All ratings for this section ranged from moderately acceptable to highly acceptable.

Table REC 20-4 displays trail users' satisfaction with trail-related factors at the Rancheria trailhead, which received the greatest number of survey responses (57). The Rancheria trailhead received a combined higher satisfaction rating than those for all other trailheads combined. All ratings for the Rancheria trailhead ranged from moderately acceptable to highly acceptable. The factors of "Parking Availability", "Parking Area Condition" and "Access to Facilities" received the highest ratings with scores of 4.5 each.

Table REC 20-5 displays trail users' satisfaction with trail-related factors at the Mono Creek trailhead which received the second greatest number of survey responses (26). The Mono Creek trailhead also received a combined higher satisfaction rating than those for all other trailheads combined. All ratings for the Mono Creek trailhead ranged from moderately acceptable to highly acceptable. The factors of "Parking Availability", "Parking Area Condition" and "Access to Facilities" received the highest ratings with scores of 4.5 each.

Table REC 20-6 displays the factors that are most important to trail users when choosing an area for recreation. Trail users indicated that "Scenery/aesthetics", "Lack of crowds", and "River, stream, lake, or trail access" were important factors, each receiving scores of 4.4 or higher. The least important factor to trail users was "Availability of accommodations (cabins, resorts, etc.)".

Table REC 20-7 and Table REC 20-8 describe the overnight use, location and accommodations of recreational trail users. Most trail users (87.6%) stayed overnight in the local area. Overnight use at USDA-FS campgrounds totaled 43.7% of trail users (top Sierra National Forest campground responses were Rancheria, Vermilion, and Mono Hot Springs campgrounds), 26.3% stated that they stayed overnight in a rental home, hotel, condo, cabin, or lodge, and 11.4% stated that they stayed overnight in undeveloped areas of the national forest.

Table REC 20-9 presents the areas visited by trail users. This information is presented in rank order of number of responses recorded on the surveys. By a large percentage, Huntington Lake was the area most visited by trail users (49.6% of the total responses). Mammoth Pool Reservoir and Redinger Reservoir were the areas least visited by trail users (3.1% and 2.4% respectively).

Table REC 20-10 lists trail users satisfaction with recreation activities. This list is in rank order by satisfaction rating. Of the 25 activities listed, 22 activities received a satisfaction rating of 4.0 (moderately satisfied) or higher. The activities receiving the highest ratings were hiking/walking (4.9), general relaxing (4.8), wilderness day use (4.8), and viewing wildlife, scenery, etc. (4.8).

## **6.0 LITERATURE CITED**

Southern California Edison. 2003. 2002 Draft Technical Study Report Package for the Big Creek Hydroelectric System Alternative Licensing Process. October 2003.

## **TABLES**



**Table REC 20-1. Study Area Trailheads Identified By Survey Respondents.**

<b>Trailhead</b>	<b>Frequency</b>
1. Rancheria Trailhead	58
2. Mono Creek Trailhead	27
3. Kaiser Pass Trailhead	15
4. Potter Pass Trailhead	14
5. Bear Creek Trailhead at Forebay	13
6. Billy Creek Trailhead	11
7. Balsam Meadow Trailhead	8
8. College Rock Trailhead	6
9. Dutch/Crater Trailhead	4
10. Corbett Lake Trailhead	3
11. Bear Ridge Trailhead	2
12. Margaret Lakes Trailhead	2
13. Mono Crossing Trailhead	2
14. Tamarack Trailhead	2
15. Bear Creek Trailhead at Kaiser Pass Road	1
16. Logan Meadow Trailhead	1
17. Rattlesnake Crossing Trailhead	1
18. Sunset Point Trailhead	1
19. Other	319
<b>Total</b>	<b>490</b>

**Table REC 20-2. Project Area Trailheads and Associated Trails.**

<b>Trailhead</b>	<b>Nearest Lake/Forebay</b>	<b>Associated Trails</b>
Balsam Meadow Trailhead	Balsam Forebay	Balsam Forebay Access Trail
Bear Creek Trailhead at Kaiser Pass Road	Mono Creek Forebay	Bear Creek Trail Bear Creek Cutoff Trail Mono Meadow Trail Edison Dam Trail
Bear Creek Trailhead at Forebay	Bear Forebay	Bear Creek Trail Cirque Lake Trail Poison Meadow Trail
Bear Ridge Trailhead	Lake Thomas A. Edison	Bear Ridge Trail Volcanic Knob Trail Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail
Billy Creek Trailhead	Huntington Lake	Billy Creek Trail Huntington Shore Trail Coursegrass Meadow Trail Nelie Lake Trail Gloria Meadow Trail Mary's Meadow Trail Kaiser Loop Trail Deer Creek Trail Potter Creek Trail Twin Lake Loop Trail George Lake Loop Trail California Riding and Hiking Trail
College Rock Trailhead	Huntington Lake	Huntington Shore Trail Kaiser Loop
Dutch/Crater Trailhead	Florence Lake	Dutch Lake Trail Crater Lake Trail Dutch Oven Trail Thompson Lake Trail Florence Lake Trail Hot Springs Pass Trail
Inspiration Point/ Sunset Point Trailhead	Huntington Lake	Inspiration/Sunset Point
Logan Meadow Trailhead	Mammoth Pool Reservoir	French Trail Hell's Half Acre Trail Cassidy Trail
Margaret Lakes Trailhead	Lake Thomas A Edison	Margaret Lakes Trail
Mono Creek Trailhead	Lake Thomas A. Edison	Saddle Mountain Trail Warm Creek Trail China Camp Trail Tule Lake Trail North Mono Crossing Trail Mono Hot Springs Trail Edison Lake Trail Goodale Pass Trail Devil's Bathtub Trail Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail
Mono Crossing Trailhead	Portal Forebay	Rattlesnake Creek Trail North Mono Crossing Trail Mono Crossing Trail Tule Lake Trail China Camp Trail Four Forks Trail California Riding and Hiking Trail
Rancheria Creek Trailhead	Huntington Lake	Rancheria Falls Trail
Rattlesnake Crossing Trailhead	Portal Forebay	Mono Trail Rattlesnake Creek Trail

**Table REC 20-3. Trail Users' Satisfaction with Trailhead Factors (all trailheads combined).**

<b>Factor</b>	<b>Number of responses<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Mean<sup>2</sup> (Standard Deviation)</b>
Parking availability	621	4.5 (0.83)
Condition of trail	600	4.4 (0.95)
Parking area condition	616	4.4 (0.83)
Access to facilities	519	4.2 (0.96)
Number of people encountered at trailhead	579	4.2 (0.95)
Restroom availability	591	4.1 (1.11)
Restroom cleanliness	572	4.0 (1.09)
Adequacy of visit/trip/ recreation information	539	3.9 (1.04)
Adequacy of interpretive/educational displays	550	3.6 (1.01)

<sup>1</sup>Based on a total of 621 trailhead use reports (some surveys reported on 2 trailheads).

<sup>2</sup>Mean and standard deviation for each factor provided to compare the relative condition of facilities at trailheads. For purposes of this calculation, steps in the rating scale were assigned values of 1 to 5. 1= Highly Unacceptable, 2= Moderately Unacceptable, 3= Neutral, 4= Moderately Acceptable, 5= Highly Acceptable.

**Table REC 20-4. Rancheria Trail Users' Satisfaction with Trailhead Factors.**

<b>Factor</b>	<b>Number of responses<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Mean<sup>2</sup> (Standard Deviation)</b>
Access to facilities	50	4.5 (0.96)
Parking area condition	55	4.5 (0.74)
Parking availability	57	4.5 (0.66)
Restroom cleanliness	52	4.4 (1.16)
Restroom availability	53	4.4 (1.08)
Number of people encountered at trailhead	52	4.4 (0.84)
Condition of trail	55	4.3 (0.53)
Adequacy of visit/trip/ recreation information	48	4.1 (0.98)
Adequacy of interpretive/educational displays	46	3.5 (0.97)

<sup>1</sup>Based out of a total of 58 respondents using Rancheria trailhead.

<sup>2</sup>Mean and standard deviation for each factor provided to compare the relative condition of facilities at trailheads. For purposes of this calculation, steps in the rating scale were assigned values of 1 to 5. 1= Highly Unacceptable, 2= Moderately Unacceptable, 3= Neutral, 4= Moderately Acceptable, 5= Highly Acceptable.

**Table REC 20-5. Mono Creek Trail Users' Satisfaction with Trailhead Factors.**

<b>Factor</b>	<b>Number of responses<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Mean<sup>2</sup> (Standard Deviation)</b>
Access to facilities	21	4.5 (1.07)
Parking area condition	26	4.5 (0.86)
Parking availability	26	4.5 (0.80)
Restroom availability	25	4.4 (0.96)
Restroom cleanliness	24	4.4 (0.92)
Number of people encountered at trailhead	25	4.4 (0.83)
Condition of trail	23	4.3 (1.25)
Adequacy of visit/trip/ recreation information	23	4.1 (1.05)
Adequacy of interpretive/educational displays	25	3.5 (1.28)

<sup>1</sup>Based out of a total of 26 respondents using Mono Creek trailhead.

<sup>2</sup>Mean and standard deviation for each factor provided to compare the relative condition of facilities at trailheads. For purposes of this calculation, steps in the rating scale were assigned values of 1 to 5. 1= Highly Unacceptable, 2= Moderately Unacceptable, 3= Neutral, 4= Moderately Acceptable, 5= Highly Acceptable.

**Table REC 20-6. Importance of Factors for Trail Users in Choosing the Area.**

<b>Factor</b>	<b>Number of responses<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Percentage of respondents</b>	<b>Mean<sup>2</sup> (Standard Deviation)</b>
Scenery/aesthetics	368	75.1	4.5 (1.0)
Not crowded	407	83.1	4.4 (1.0)
River, stream, lake, or trail access	400	81.6	4.4 (0.9)
Clean/well maintained facilities	398	81.2	3.8 (1.2)
Other	34	6.9	3.7 (1.4)
Variety of recreation opportunities	393	80.2	3.4 (1.3)
Cost of facility access fees	401	81.8	3.3 (1.3)
Developed restroom/shower/drinking water	403	82.2	3.2 (1.4)
Developed camp/picnic sites	389	79.4	3.1 (1.4)
Availability of commercial facilities (gas, stores, rentals, etc)	393	80.2	2.9 (1.2)
Interpretive/educational opportunities	392	80.0	2.8 (1.3)
On-site manager (camp host)	394	80.4	2.7 (1.4)
Cultural/historic opportunities	392	80.0	2.7 (1.3)
Availability of accommodations (cabins, resorts, etc.)	399	81.4	2.3 (1.4)
RV hook-ups	385	78.6	1.4 (1.2)

<sup>1</sup>Based out of a total of 490 trailhead user responses.

<sup>2</sup>Mean and standard deviation for each factor provided to compare the relative condition of facilities at trailheads. For purposes of this calculation, steps in the rating scale were assigned values of 1 to 5. 1= Highly Unacceptable, 2= Moderately Unacceptable, 3= Neutral, 4= Moderately Acceptable, 5= Highly Acceptable.

**Table REC 20-7. Trailhead Overnight Use.**

<b>Did you stay locally overnight?</b>	<b>Number of responses<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Yes	429	87.6
Yes	429	87.6
No	23	4.7

<sup>1</sup>Based on a total of 490 trailhead user responses.

**Table REC 20-8. Trail Users' Overnight Stay Location.**

<b>Locations</b>	<b>Number of responses<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Percentage</b>
USFS Campground	214	43.7
USFS Campground	214	43.7
<i>Rancheria</i>	32	6.5
<i>Vermilion</i>	32	6.5
<i>Mono Hot Springs</i>	30	6.1
<i>Deer Creek</i>	20	4.1
<i>Jackass Meadow</i>	14	2.9
<i>Billy Creek (Upper Billy Creek)</i>	12	2.5
<i>Mono Creek</i>	10	2.0
<i>Lower Billy Creek</i>	9	1.8
<i>Kinnikinnick</i>	8	1.6
<i>Dorabelle</i>	7	1.4
<i>Catavee</i>	6	1.2
<i>Other</i>	4	0.8
<i>Mammoth Pool</i>	4	0.8
<i>Portal Forebay</i>	4	0.8
<i>Ward Lake</i>	4	0.8
<i>Camp Edison</i>	2	0.4
<i>College</i>	2	0.4
<i>Badger Flats</i>	1	0.2
<i>Midge Creek</i>	1	0.2
Rental Home, Hotel, Condo, Cabin, or Lodge	129	26.3
Camping in undeveloped areas of the National Forest	56	11.4
Camp Edison	37	7.6

<sup>1</sup>Based on a total of 490 trailhead user responses.

**Table REC 20-9. Areas Visited by Trail Users.**

<b>Location</b>	<b>Number of responses<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Huntington Lake	243	49.6
Lake Edison/Bear Diversion Dam	139	28.4
High Sierra Station/Mono Hot Springs/Ward Lake	131	26.7
Shaver Lake	117	23.9
Florence Lake	106	21.6
Kaiser Wilderness Area	97	19.8
John Muir Wilderness Area	79	16.1
Ansel Adams Wilderness Area	68	13.9
Kaiser Ridge	53	10.8
Portal Forebay	44	9.0
San Joaquin River Canyon	37	7.6
Big Creek/Camp Sierra	30	6.1
Dinkey Lakes Wilderness Area	30	6.1
Tamarack Ridge/Red Lake/Coyote Lake	23	4.7
Stump Springs Rd./ Mt. Tom	16	3.3
Mammoth Pool Reservoir	15	3.1
Redinger Reservoir	12	2.4

<sup>1</sup>Based on a total of 490 trailhead user responses.

**Table REC 20-10. Trail Users' Satisfaction with Recreation Activities.**

<b>Factor</b>	<b>Number of responses<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Percentage of respondents</b>	<b>Mean<sup>2</sup> (Standard Deviation)</b>
Hiking/walking	320	65.3	4.9 (0.5)
General – relaxing	252	51.4	4.8 (0.6)
Wilderness day use	207	42.2	4.8 (0.6)
Viewing wildlife, scenery photography, etc	259	52.9	4.8 (0.5)
Swimming/wading/water play	221	45.1	4.7 (0.7)
Picnicking (single or group sites)	118	24.1	4.6 (0.8)
Camping in developed sites	277	56.5	4.6 (0.7)
Wilderness overnight use	114	23.3	4.6 (0.7)
Undeveloped camping	111	22.7	4.5 (0.8)
Nonmotorized flatwater boating	111	22.7	4.5 (0.8)
Motorized water activities (boat, personal watercraft, etc.)	133	27.1	4.4 (1.1)
Driving for pleasure on roads	154	31.4	4.4 (1.0)
Resorts, cabins, rental accommodations	150	30.6	4.4 (0.9)
Sailing	88	17.9	4.4 (0.9)
Horseback riding	73	14.9	4.4 (0.9)
Stream fishing	152	31.0	4.3 (1.0)
Bicycling/mountain biking	86	17.6	4.3 (1.0)
Lake fishing	208	42.5	4.2 (1.1)
Visiting historic/cultural sites	85	17.4	4.2 (1.1)
Off-highway vehicle travel	79	16.1	4.2 (1.0)
Woodcutting	65	13.3	4.1 (1.0)
Sports/games/field activities	48	9.8	4.0 (1.0)
Visiting interpretive/education center	87	17.8	3.9 (1.2)
Hunting	43	8.8	3.8 (1.0)
Whitewater boating	31	6.3	3.4 (1.0)
Other	12	2.5	3.9 (1.4)

<sup>1</sup>Based on a total of 490 trailhead user responses.

<sup>2</sup>Mean and standard deviation for each factor provided to compare the relative condition of facilities at trailheads. For purposes of this calculation, steps in the rating scale were assigned values of 1 to 5. 1= Highly Unacceptable, 2= Moderately Unacceptable, 3= Neutral, 4= Moderately Acceptable, 5= Highly Acceptable.



## FIGURE

## **Placeholder for Figure**

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