



Recreation Site Facility Master Planning Project
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For more information on this project and the opportunity to share your ideas contact Vicki Jowise (information above)

Or visit our website at:

www.fs.fed.us/r5/eldorado/rsfmp

For More Information Regarding Specific Eldorado National Forest Recreation Sites Contact:

Amador Ranger District
26820 Silver Drive
Pioneer, CA 95666
(209) 295-4251

Placerville Ranger District
4260 Eight Mile Road
Camino, CA 95709
(530) 644-2324

Pacific Ranger District
7887 Highway 50
Pollock Pines, CA 95726
(530) 644-2349

Georgetown Ranger District
7600 Wentworth Springs Road
Georgetown, CA 95634
(530) 333-4312



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Recreation Site Facility Master Planning Eldorado National Forest



Looking for Ways to Improve Recreation Opportunities on the Eldorado National Forest

The Forest Service is reviewing more than 100 developed recreation sites across the Eldorado National Forest, through a process called "Recreation Site Facility Master Planning" (RSFMP). This process will allow the Forest Service, with ideas and information from you and others, to provide the best recreation opportunities in the right national forest locations.

Many of the Eldorado's developed recreation sites were built 30-50 years ago, while others have been upgraded more recently (*See Highlight on inside page*). We know that over the years, visitor preferences and demographics have changed and that some sites do not meet visitors' expectations and needs. Our data shows that some sites receive little or no use and some are in poor condition.

RSFMP Process

This study will look at the operation and maintenance of the campgrounds, picnic areas, trailheads, boat ramps, information stations, and other facilities in the Eldorado National Forest to assure that sound economic decisions are made that meet current and future visitor and community recreation needs.

"I look forward to working with people to ensure that our developed recreation sites are a good match with visitors' desires, this national forest's special characteristics, and that they are efficiently operated," said Forest Supervisor Ramiro Villalvazo.

National Forests around the country are conducting similar studies and following a similar process. The RSFMP process involves seven steps designed to identify developed recreation sites that are best suited for the Eldorado. The process will

also determine any modifications needed to make these recreation sites consistent with visitor needs and uses.

The RSFMP is a tool to help the Forest Service align its developed recreation sites with the unique characteristics of the Eldorado National Forest, projected recreation demand, visitors' expectations, and revenue opportunities.

As a part of this process, the Forest Service will consider federal funding, fees collected at recreation facilities, and how partners and volunteers might help to fill funding gaps.

We Want To Hear From You

Your ideas about how to care for the recreation facilities in the future is an important part of the process. We are aware that certain sites, even those in less than desirable condition, are important to groups and individuals. It is valuable for us to hear from you to help round out our understanding of what is important to consider in this process.

Opportunities to learn from you will be available throughout the process.

One of the early steps in the RSFMP is to describe the recreation opportunities and settings in the Eldorado National Forest and to identify the special places. You are invited to add to this discussion by sharing your ideas and information about your use of these recreation facilities (*See inside page right side for topics*).

Forest Service
Pacific Southwest
Region



Seven Steps Of Recreation Site - Facility Master Planning

The RSFMP involves seven steps, each bringing the Forest's developed recreation sites in closer alignment with the Forest's unique characteristics, projected demand, visitor expectations, costs for operation and maintenance, and revenue.

- Step 1: Prepare Site Inventory and Financial Data.**
In this step, the inventory of recreation sites is updated, along with estimates of the costs for operation and maintenance and deferred maintenance for each recreation site.
- Step 2: Identify Unit Recreation Program Niche.**
Recreation-visitor use, market data, and public input are examined to determine the focus of the forest's recreation program. This will include a map that displays the forest's recreation settings and a summary paragraph that characterizes the forest's unique recreation program "niche."
- Step 3: Identify Operational Efficiencies.**
Recreation sites are examined to determine if efficiencies can be undertaken to further reduce site expenditures and eliminate deferred maintenance while maintaining recreation opportunities. A proposed set of management options is developed for each site to reduce costs or provide services in other ways.
- Step 4: Rank Recreation Sites.**
Recreation sites are rated through the use of a series of questions involving the sites' conformance with the forest recreation program niche; their financial and operational efficiency; their effects on environmental sustainability; and their effects on community stability.
- Step 5: Propose 5-year Program of Work to Stakeholders.**
The proposed 5-year program of work for recreation sites is prepared based upon the analysis completed in the previous four steps. Broader discussions with stakeholders are sought to explore alternative ways of operating sites or building new partnerships.
- Step 6: Finalize 5-year Proposed Program of Work.**
The 5-year program of work for recreation sites is refined, based upon the broader discussions with stakeholders.
- Step 7: Implementation.** Annually, site-specific steps are proposed to implement the 5-year program of work for recreation sites. Prior to implementation of individual projects, National Environmental Policy Act and other agency coordination requirements are completed.

Completed mid-December.

Scheduled for January 31 and February 1.

Public comments needed for "niche" development

Scheduled for the week of April 16.

Public review of draft plan in early May.

Date to be determined but must be ready to implement by December 31, 2007.

After December 31, 2007. Projects will be listed in the Eldorado's Schedule of Proposed Actions.

Specifically Concerning the Development of the Forest's Recreation Program Niche....



During the last week of January, Eldorado National Forest staff will meet to create the initial draft of the Forest's recreation program niche (Step 2 of the RSFMP process). As part of this step, the staff will be exploring the following topics and we would like to hear from you on these topics.

- ♦ **Understanding What is Unique** - What is unique or exceptionally distinctive about the Eldorado National Forest and/or the recreation opportunities it provides?
- ♦ **Understanding Our Visitors** - What are the things that Forest visitors are most satisfied about?
- ♦ **Understanding Our Communities** - What is the importance of the Forest and/or recreation opportunities it provides to local communities?
- ♦ **Of Long-Term Value** - Twenty-five years from now, what do you expect the public to value the most about the Forest?

This is an important step since all the recreation sites will be evaluated later in the process on how well they meet the forest niche and the result will effect the ranking in Step 4.

What You Can Do

You are encouraged to add your ideas and answers to these questions to the discussion. Feel free to send your responses to Vicki Jowise, RSFMP Project Coordinator, before the January Step 2 meeting so we can incorporate them into Step 2.

You can e-mail us at: eldorado_rsfmp@fs.fed.us

Or mail us at:

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Placerville, CA 95667



Or call us at: 530-622-5061

We will keep the latest information on our website at www.fs.fed.us/r5/eldorado/rsfmp. If you would like to be added to the RSFMP mailing list or you have specific questions or concerns about RSFMP please contact us.

Thank you for your participation in determining how quality recreation opportunities can continue to be provided on the Eldorado National Forest.

Highlight - South Shore Bear River Campground Renovated



Lower Bear River Reservoir, situated 2 miles south of State Scenic Highway 88, is a beautiful deep blue lake nestled in the rocks and pines typical of mid-elevations in the Sierra Nevada.

South Shore campground is located near the west end of Lower Bear River Reservoir, just south of the dam, and is easily accessed by passenger vehicle. This campground was renovated during the summer of 2006 in cooperation with Pacific Gas and Electric, as a part of the Mokelumne River Hydroelectric Project. This campground offers 22 camping units with two walk-in tent camping units and four multi-family units.

There are several other campgrounds around the reservoir, along with a group campground, picnic area, and boat ramps. Lower Bear River Reservoir is ideal for fishing, swimming, and boating. Other activities in the area include hiking and exploring along the Mokelumne River.

For more information about this campground or other camping opportunities on the Eldorado Forest, please visit our website at www.fs.fed.us/r5/eldorado.

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