

**PRELIMINARY DRAFT
RECREATION RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN**

**UPPER NORTH FORK FEATHER RIVER HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT
FERC Project No. 2105**

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August 26, 2002

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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

This section will list all acronyms and abbreviations mentioned in the Recreation Resource Management Plan (RRMP) for the Upper North Fork Feather River Hydroelectric Project (Project). A partial listing is below.

ADA	Americans with Disabilities Act
ADAAG	Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines
FERC	Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
Forest Service	US Department of Agriculture Forest Service
I&E	interpretation and education
LAC	Limits of Acceptable Change
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
O&M	operations and maintenance
PG&E	Pacific Gas and Electric Company (Licensee)
PM&E	protection, mitigation and enhancement measures
ROS	Recreation Opportunity Spectrum
RRMP	Recreation Resource Management Plan
RV	recreational vehicle
RWG	Recreation, Land Use, and Aesthetics Work Group
UNFFR	Upper North Fork Feather River

A. INTRODUCTION

Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E or Licensee) is relicensing the Upper North Fork Feather River Hydroelectric Project (Project No. 2105) with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). The Licensee has prepared this Draft Recreation Resource Management Plan (RRMP) as a product of relicensing. Project lands and waters provide a variety of recreation opportunities. The Licensee used a "traditional plus" relicensing process, which included various technical work groups, including the Recreation, Land Use, and Aesthetics Work Group (RWG). RWG stakeholders participated in the development of the technical studies and this Draft RRMP and included representatives from federal, state, and local agencies; adjacent land owners; shoreline homeowner and country club associations; and other stakeholders. A result of this consultation, the Draft RRMP defines a number of proposed recreation enhancement measures.

The Draft RRMP details the Licensee's involvement, role, and responsibilities in managing identified existing and future recreation resources associated with the Project over the term of the new license. Licensee-proposed measures include site-specific and programmatic measures. Programs presented in the Draft RRMP that implement these site-specific and programmatic measures were derived from RWG input, other agency and relicensing consultation, and from the technical studies (see Exhibit E5 of the Final License Application) conducted by the Licensee for relicensing.

The Draft RRMP is being submitted to the FERC as part of the Final License Application. Following issuance of a new license by the FERC, the Draft RRMP will be finalized as directed by the FERC.

B. OVERVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

1. Purpose and Intent

The purpose of the Draft RRMP is to guide and facilitate the management of existing and future recreation sources associated with the Upper North Fork Feather River (UNFFR) Project. The Draft RRMP provides a vision of the desired future condition for recreation resources in the Project area, establishes long-term goals and objectives for managing recreation resources in the Project area, and identifies both site-specific and programmatic recreation measures to be implemented over the term of the new license. Six programs are presented in the Draft RRMP that implement these proposed measures. The Draft RRMP also details estimated costs for development and operation, provides conceptual designs, and provides an implementation schedule for these proposed measures.

Taken as a whole, the Draft RRMP represents a single "umbrella" protection, mitigation, and enhancement (PM&E) measure for recreation resources. The Draft RRMP is intended to be specific to the Licensee's recreation resource roles and responsibilities for the term of the new FERC license. The Draft RRMP does not make management or resource commitments for other entities such as the US Department of Agriculture Forest Service (Forest Service), other

agencies, or tribes. However, the continued active involvement of these other recreation providers in the Project area is important in helping to meet the overall recreation needs of visitors and residents during the term of the new license.

2. Plan Vision

The Draft RRMP provides a long-term vision of how Project-related recreation resources should be managed in the Project area for the term of the new license. The Draft RRMP benefits from the cooperative nature of the relicensing process, which included input and advice from the RWG and other stakeholders. The plan vision includes:

- The Licensee and other recreation providers in the area have a shared responsibility to help meet the needs of visitors and residents over the term of the new license;
- The Licensee will be an active recreational provider in the Project area through implementation of the Draft RRMP;
- The Licensee recognizes the need to provide additional shoreline recreation opportunities for area residents surrounding Lake Almanor, particularly Chester;
- The Licensee will closely coordinate recreation resource needs with other recreation providers in the Project area, particularly the Forest Service and private resort operators;
- The Licensee will utilize appropriate coordination efforts aimed at balancing various resource needs to achieve the best outcome possible for the region's resources;
- The Licensee acknowledges that conditions will change over time and monitoring is an appropriate and necessary strategy to manage regional recreation resources in the future;
- The Licensee desires to maintain and/or improve the experience now enjoyed by residents and visitors to the Project area while providing appropriate developed recreation facilities in suitable locations to address visitor needs;
- The Licensee will maintain the unique outdoor experience found in the Project area by focusing more developed recreation uses at Lake Almanor and more primitive recreation uses at Butt Valley Reservoir and the Bypass Reaches; and
- The Licensee will employ Limits of Acceptable Change (LAC) and Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS) recreation planning concepts as guidance for establishing an appropriate and suitable means of monitoring and managing recreation resources in the Project area.

3. Methodologies Used

The methodology used to develop the Draft RRMP involved four tasks: (1) conducting two years

of technical studies and reviewing the results with the RWG and others; (2) preparing proposed recreation facility and operations and maintenance enhancements in the Draft License Application; (3) refining proposed enhancements between the Draft and Final License Applications; and (4) integrating the refined proposed enhancements into the Draft RRMP including implementation programs and supporting exhibits. The Draft RRMP's six programs define the Licensee's responsibilities during the term of the new license.

4. Adaptive Management

Over time, the Draft RRMP will be guided by an adaptive management strategy based on a modified Limits of Acceptable Change (LAC) and Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS) planning concepts and monitoring approaches. LAC is an established resource management and recreation planning methodology developed by the Forest Service (USFS 1985). While the methodology was originally developed for wilderness settings, it has been modified and adapted over the years for use in other resource and recreational settings. Therefore, the Draft RRMP will use a modified LAC approach.

Not all recreational experiences are alike and a mix of experiences over a large area such as the project is desirable. As a result, different monitoring variables (resource values, key indicators, management standards, management actions, and monitoring activities) are anticipated for different recreational settings. Specific areas or reaches of the project reservoirs may be defined for different recreational settings. A modified ROS (USFS 1990) approach is used to allow for stratifying and defining classes of outdoor environments, activities, and experience opportunities in the Project area.

No long-term plan can predict exactly what is needed or foresee all events, particularly for a 30 to 50 year license term. Actions taken will have to be adaptive. Adaptive management is an interactive approach to decision-making that incorporates LAC-type concepts and feedback loops to evaluate actions and incorporate new information as it becomes available. Adaptations are necessary as conditions change and more is learned about resource needs or how the resource is responding to planned activities or solutions. In general, the adaptive management strategy has two attributes: (1) it is a response to uncertainty about the resource being managed over time; and (2) future actions are dependent upon information acquired through monitoring the program or resource.

To implement this adaptive management strategy, three types of uncertainty are addressed: (1) ecological uncertainty—the dynamic nature of biological systems, such as changes in viability and distribution of wildlife habitats and wetlands, changes in water quality, and new species listings; (2) social uncertainty—changing social values and visitor attitudes/preferences over time; and (3) measurement of uncertainty—which refers to uncertainty in the estimation and use of parameters such as user densities, occupancy rates, theoretical capacities, and population growth rates and demand. Accordingly, it is important to consider how well the planned monitoring program can be expected to yield data necessary for informed decision-making. Additionally, there needs to be flexibility to make necessary changes over time, either in the monitoring program or in how these data are interpreted.

To address these types of uncertainty, the following adaptive management strategies will be used:

- The Draft RRMP will be reviewed and updated, if necessary, by the Licensee every 12 years from its implementation to address changing conditions (two FERC Form 80 cycles);
- Implementation plans at new or expanded recreation facilities will be developed by the Licensee based on the results of monitoring and identified recreation needs (see the Recreation Facility Development Program);
- A modified LAC methodology will be used for an overall monitoring framework. The basic concept of LAC is to define the type of visitor experience to be provided and to monitor conditions over time to assess whether acceptable conditions have been maintained. Monitoring is accomplished by collecting various data and then comparing results against performance standards and indicators;
- Draft LAC standards will be field-verified within 6 years of implementation of the Draft RRMP and may need to be modified based on results. The monitoring program will be reassessed periodically to ensure that the data being collected and analyzed are necessary and appropriate to decision-making (see the Recreation Monitoring Program);
- Periodic interaction with other resource groups or specialists will be used to address potential resource management conflicts and to balance competing resource goals and values. This will be accomplished through implementation of the Resource Integration and Coordination Program; and
- Licensee funding for proposed enhancement measures in this Draft RRMP may vary depending upon changing needs, but will not exceed the overall identified maximum budget.

5. Overview of the Six RRMP Programs

The Draft RRMP includes six programs that define the Licensee's roles and responsibilities for recreation resources in the Project area over the term of the new license. The six Draft RRMP programs include:

- A **Recreation Facility Development Program** that defines the Licensee's construction-related responsibilities to address existing and future Project-related recreation needs, identifies proposed recreation development projects, provides estimated costs for recreation measures, identifies locations and provides conceptual layouts of the development measures, and discusses general facility development standards and criteria to be used.

- **A Recreation Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Program** that defines the Licensee's existing and future O&M responsibilities. The program defines partnerships and agreements that will be entered into between the Licensee and other federal, state, or local agencies and private entities to provide for operation and maintenance at various recreation facilities. The program addresses existing and future Project-related O&M recreation needs, provides estimated costs for O&M, and discusses general facility and use area maintenance standards to be used.
- **A Recreation Monitoring Program** that defines how the Licensee will conduct recreation resource monitoring and how the monitoring information will be used in decision-making. This program discusses the use of LAC standards and indicators, defines monitoring needs, identifies periodic monitoring and reporting responsibilities, and identifies a decision-making framework related to when new facility construction (if any) would be triggered.
- **A Resource Integration and Coordination Program** that defines how the Licensee will integrate recreation resource needs with other resource management needs over time, such as cultural, wildlife, and aquatic resources. This program discusses how parallel resource management programs and actions will be coordinated.
- **A Plan Review and Revision Program** that defines how the Draft RRMP will be updated or revised over the term of the new license. Plan revisions may be based on results from LAC monitoring or the results of coordination meetings with other recreation providers in the Project area.
- **An Interpretation and Education (I&E) Program** that defines how hydroelectric energy production, environmental, cultural, and informational interpretation and education will be coordinated and conducted by the Licensee. This program involves several resource areas including recreation, aesthetics, fisheries, water quality, terrestrial, and cultural. A detailed I&E Program will be developed during the first 5 years of the new license, in consultation with the Forest Service, Plumas County, and others.

6. Issues and Assumptions

Based on technical recreation studies conducted during relicensing, and on RWG and other stakeholder consultation, several issues and assumptions were identified regarding the management of recreation resources in the Project area. These issues and assumptions are important to consider when revising or modifying the Draft RRMP over time and include:

- The Project has resulted in public recreation opportunities and needs along the shorelines of Lake Almanor, Butt Valley Reservoir, and the Bypass Reaches. These opportunities and needs are located principally within or directly adjacent to the FERC Project boundary.

- To satisfy public recreation needs, several recreation providers including the Licensee have developed, operated, and maintained various public recreation facilities, principally within or adjacent to the FERC Project boundary.
- New recreation development will be concentrated in suitable areas where it is compatible with existing and potential land uses.
- The need for public recreation facilities and programs is anticipated to increase in the future and these needs may change over time. New facility needs are likely to occur during the term of the new license and will result in the Licensee having to construct, operate, and maintain new recreation facilities and programs, as well as renovate and upgrade existing recreation facilities. Other recreation providers in the Project area will also be responsible for building, operating, and maintaining new recreational facilities, as well as renovating and upgrading their existing facilities.
- Recreation providers must comply with the federal Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and the ADA Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG), as amended, which mandate the need to upgrade some existing recreation facilities when major maintenance is undertaken or when new facilities are constructed.
- Since additional recreation facilities are anticipated to be needed in the future, new construction will depend on future monitoring of recreation facility use levels and condition, and will rely upon LAC-type indicators and standards to justify new facilities.
- The potential exists for partnerships and/or cost sharing between the Licensee and other recreation providers to cooperatively fund some measures in the Project area that will benefit the general public and improve the overall recreation experience in the Project area.
- The Draft RRMP concentrates new recreation development in appropriate locations, thereby retaining as much of the natural open space as possible to protect a range of resource values, such as wildlife, aesthetics, and cultural resources.
- Private resort and residential areas on or near the Project shorelines have unique recreational needs. These needs should be accommodated while allowing for adequate and compatible public access and use of the Project shoreline.

7. Explanation of Terms

Key terms used throughout the Draft RRMP and relevant to recreation planning for the Project are defined below.

- **Project** - The Upper North Fork Feather River Hydroelectric Project, FERC Project No. 2105.

- **Project Boundary** - The FERC Project boundary.
- **Project-Related Recreation Needs** - The existing and future recreation needs that are associated with the lands and waters of the Project.
- **Project Area** - The Project area includes all waters and adjacent lands within the FERC Project boundary and all recreation resources within and adjacent to the Project boundary. The Project boundary includes Lake Almanor and Butt Valley Reservoir, Belden Forebay, and areas of the Belden and Seneca Reaches that are used for recreational purposes.
- **License** - The FERC license for the Upper North Fork Feather River Hydroelectric Project, FERC Project No. 2105.
- **Term of the New License** - The length of the new license to be issued by the FERC to the Licensee for the Project, ranging from 30 to 50 years.
- **Recreation, Land Use, and Aesthetics Work Group (RWG)** - A technical work group specifically established by the Licensee during relicensing to help develop recommendations for proposed recreation, land use, and aesthetics/visual resource protection, mitigation, and enhancement measures (PM&Es).

C. GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The Draft RRMP satisfies FERC requirements to prepare a recreation plan and to define the responsibilities of parties when public recreation facilities are to be provided. To satisfy this need, the Draft RRMP has established goals and objectives for managing recreation resources. These goals and objectives are intended to guide the Licensee while managing, planning, designing, and constructing recreation resources and facilities in the Project area, and in making appropriate resource decisions during the term of the new FERC license. As questions arise regarding decisions about implementing the Draft RRMP and future PM&E measures, particularly those anticipated beyond 2010, resource managers may compare future actions against these goals and objectives to evaluate consistency with the original intent of the Draft RRMP.

Seven Draft RRMP goals and their respective objectives are outlined below including:

- Help meet existing recreation resource needs in the Project area
- Help meet future recreation resource needs in the Project area
- Provide adequate public access along the Project shorelines
- Preserve recreation resources
- Coordinate recreation planning and needs
- Provide cost-effective and diverse recreation opportunities

- Provide compatible recreation opportunities

Goal 1: Help Meet Existing Recreation Resource Needs in the Project Area

Help provide a diverse spectrum of public and private recreational facilities, use areas, and opportunities within the Project area that help meet existing Project-related recreation needs.

- Objective 1a: Help provide for the continued operation of existing public and private recreation facilities and use areas in the Project area.
- Objective 1b: Help provide public and private recreation facilities and use areas that respond to visitor facility preferences and needs as identified in visitor surveys conducted during relicensing.
- Objective 1c: Enhance existing recreation facilities, as needed, by making necessary facility repairs and modifications and/or changes to facility operations and maintenance practices.
- Objective 1d: Comply with federal ADA guidelines (ADAAG, as amended) and provide for the health and safety needs of all recreation visitors.
- Objective 1e: Establish monitoring indicators and standards for the Project area and manage existing recreation resources in accordance with the Recreation Monitoring Program.
- Objective 1f: Manage existing Project-related recreation resources in accordance with existing land and resource plans and policies in the Project area.
- Objective 1g: Develop an I&E Program and implement the program's actions to enhance the visitor experience, inform visitors of facility use options, educate boaters about potential boating hazards, better distribute use amongst facilities, and educate visitors about sensitive resources and appropriate behavior.

Goal 2: Help Meet Future Recreation Resource Needs in the Project Area

Help provide a diverse spectrum of public and private recreational facilities, use areas, and opportunities within the Project area that help meet future Project-related recreation needs.

- Objective 2a: In the future, continue to monitor future changes in recreation demand and help provide for recreation needs consistent with resource values and established monitoring indicators and standards. Changes may include the emergence of new recreation technologies, trends toward larger recreational vehicles (RVs) and shorter day use hiking opportunities, increasing demand for water-based recreation opportunities, increased desire for educational/interpretive recreation opportunities, or others.
- Objective 2b: In the future, help provide additional new public recreation facilities or use areas as justified by periodic monitoring of recreation facility and use area visitation,

condition, demand, and monitoring indicators and standards over time.

- Objective 2c: In the future, continue to implement the Recreation Monitoring Program using established monitoring indicators and standards; monitor recreation use levels as needed, and update the visitor needs and preference survey periodically.
- Objective 2d: In the future, help provide adequate funding to implement identified future recreation-related development projects and programs.
- Objective 2e: In the future, periodically update the Recreation Needs Analysis for the Project area (RRMP to be updated at least every 12 years, or two FERC Form 80 cycles).
- Objective 2f: In the future, periodically monitor dispersed shoreline recreational use in the Project area and address related site impacts as necessary. Close or harden sites as necessary.
- Objective 2g: In the future, continue to utilize the I&E Program to help distribute use amongst recreation facilities, if needed, and to educate the public about resource values, appropriate behavior, and potential boating hazards.

Goal 3: Provide Adequate Public Access Along Project Shorelines

Help provide adequate public access to, and use of, Project water bodies and shorelines in the Project area.

- Objective 3a: Help provide adequate public shoreline access and safe public recreation opportunities on Project lands and waters as identified in the Draft RRMP, including campgrounds, viewpoints, shoreline trails, boat launches, swimming areas, and day use areas.
- Objective 3b: Through the I&E Program, provide adequate informational signs and programs to alert boaters, swimmers, anglers, and other users about operational or natural hazards in and around Project reservoirs.
- Objective 3c: Support increased multi-use/non-motorized trail opportunities in the Project area by granting access rights (easements) across Project lands and exploring partnering and/or cost sharing options with other recreation providers in the areas.
- Objective 3d: Improve universal accessibility in the Project area by adhering to federal ADA guidelines (ADAAG as amended) at all existing and future Project recreation facilities.
- Objective 3e: Through the I&E Program, communicate to the public the range of recreation facilities and use areas that are available in the Project area.
- Objective 3f: Coordinate with local law enforcement agencies in the Project area and provide funding to supplement existing funding sources for Marine Patrols, including hazard identification and marking, and land-based patrols in the Project area.

Goal 4: Preserve Recreation Resources

Avoid, minimize, or mitigate existing and future Project-related impacts to recreation resources in the Project area and help preserve the resource base.

- Objective 4a: Allow for recreation use of the Project reservoirs and reaches by providing facilities that accommodate a range of reservoir pool levels.
- Objective 4b: Through the Recreation Monitoring Program, conduct periodic monitoring of recreation use at Project water bodies and the downstream reaches to assess potential impacts to recreation, natural, and cultural resources over time and take appropriate corrective measures as needed.
- Objective 4c: Through the I&E Program, provide environmental education opportunities in the Project area to foster a better understanding and stewardship of natural and man-made resources.
- Objective 4d: Allow for public access to appropriate Project open space lands to help meet the long-term recreation goals and objectives in the Project area and to maintain the existing recreational experience over time.
- Objective 4e: Focus future recreation development in suitable areas that do not significantly affect the existing recreation experience or sensitive resources in the Project area. Physical and cultural resource constraints will be considered in determining suitability in the adaptive management strategy.
- Objective 4f: In the I&E Program, help protect and interpret significant natural features and enhance the public's recreational experience in the Project area (e.g., through interpretation, trails, Watchable Wildlife programs, etc.).
- Objective 4g: Respect property interests and surrounding natural environments while addressing the need for additional recreation facilities and increased recreation use in the Project area over time.

Goal 5: Coordinate Recreation Planning and Needs

Coordinate future Licensee recreation planning efforts in the Project area with federal, state, and local resource management agencies, public recreation providers, and private recreation providers prior to making new recreation development decisions.

- Objective 5a: In the Recreation Monitoring Program, monitor recreation resources and visitation using monitoring indicators and standards and identify appropriate management actions and associated costs needed to address identified problems.

- Objective 5b: Provide adequate Licensee staffing and resources to address recreation resource planning and permitting in the Project area over the term of the new license.
- Objective 5c: Participate in comprehensive planning efforts in the Lake Almanor Basin to coordinate implementation of the Draft RRMP over the term of the new license.
- Objective 5d: Periodically consult with natural and cultural resource specialists to ensure that recreational planning, use, and facilities do not limit or unnecessarily infringe on the environmental characteristics necessary to sustain traditional cultural practices.
- Objective 5e: Review the RRMP every 12 years and update the RRMP programs, as appropriate, to address changing conditions over time.

Goal 6: Provide Cost-Effective and Diverse Recreation Opportunities

Help provide cost-effective recreation facilities and programs in the Project area to maximize on-the-ground recreation improvements using available dollars, minimize operational and maintenance costs where possible while meeting standards, and provide for compatible and desirable facilities that help meet the needs of visitors.

- Objective 6a: Help promote recreation facilities and programs that are cost-effective; and work with others on cost sharing of larger projects that benefit visitors to the Project area and area residents.
- Objective 6b: Help provide facilities that minimize, to the extent feasible, long-term O&M costs.
- Objective 6c: Help provide cost-effective recreation facilities that accommodate existing visitor facility preferences, but also allow for future modification if preferences change over time.
- Objective 6d: Help provide a range of recreation opportunities that include developed fee sites and undeveloped or dispersed non-fee sites to allow for a diversity of visitor choice and experience.
- Objective 6e: Allow for appropriate public and private recreation-related opportunities and facilities in the Project area.

Goal 7: Provide Compatible Recreation Opportunities

Help provide recreation resources that are compatible with adopted land and resource plans and policies and sensitive resources in the Project area.

- Objective 7a: Help provide recreation facilities and programs that are compatible with adopted land and resource plans and policies, as well as other Project-related resource needs, goals, and objectives including water quality, cultural, terrestrial, aesthetic/visual, and aquatic resources.
- Objective 7b: Through the I&E Program, help provide environmental education opportunities (e.g., through viewpoints, interpretive signs or kiosks, environmental education programs, and nature trails) that demonstrate compatibility with and stewardship of natural and cultural resources in the Project area.
- Objective 7c: Provide recreation facilities that are compatible with the Project operations in the new FERC license.
- Objective 7d: Provide recreation facilities and programs that are compatible with private shoreline resorts and residential communities.

D. PLANNING AREAS

Two planning areas have been defined for implementation of the Draft RRMP—Project Area and Management Units. These areas are referenced in the various implementation programs and described below.

1. Project Area

The Project Area (Figure 1—add figure here) includes all waters and lands within and adjacent to the FERC Project boundary and all recreation resources within and adjacent to the Project boundary. The Project area includes Lake Almanor, Butt Valley Reservoir, approximately 13 miles of the UNFFR (Seneca and Belden Reaches), and Belden Forebay, including the shoreline around each reservoir and developed and dispersed undeveloped recreation sites that adjoin the reservoirs irregardless of ownership.

2. Management Units

For purposes of long-term recreation planning and monitoring, the Project Area has been divided into Management Units (Figure 2— add figure here). Periodic data collection and analysis at the management unit level will allow for adequate decision making on a unit-by-unit basis. Draft RRMP Management Units include:

- Lake Almanor (land): Eastshore, Westshore, Northshore, North of Causeway, and Peninsula to Hamilton Branch.
- Lake Almanor (water): Segments A through D in the Reservoir Boating Study of the Draft License Application (north of the causeway, west of the peninsula, east of the peninsula and north of the point, and southeast of the peninsula and south of the point).

- Butt Valley Reservoir
- Belden Forebay/Caribou
- Belden Reach
- Seneca Reach

E. RECREATION MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS

This section describes the Draft RRMP's six programs:

1. Recreation Facility Development Program
2. Recreation Operations and Maintenance Program
3. Recreation Monitoring Program
4. Resource Integration and Coordination Program
5. Plan Review and Revision Program
6. Interpretation and Education Program

The six Draft RRMP programs specifically detail how the Licensee will meet the plan's goals and objectives and implement the proposed PM&E measures over the term of the new license. These programs are described below.

1. Recreation Facility Development Program (scheduled for Sept. 12)

This section will describe the Recreation Facility Development Program that is intended to describe Licensee's role in helping meet some of the existing and future recreation facility needs identified in the project area by the RWG or during agency consultation. The facility component of this program is intended to:

- Define the construction-related responsibilities of the Licensee and/or construction funding provided to others by the Licensee;
- Identify proposed recreation development projects and their estimated costs;
- Provide conceptual diagrams of anticipated improvements; and
- Discuss facility development standards and criteria to be used by the Licensee.

The operations and maintenance component will describe the Licensee's role in the operation and maintenance of existing and future recreation facilities in the project area. It is anticipated that periodic plans will be developed to guide O&M activities for particular timeframes. The timeframe for each set of planned O&M activities will be reconfirmed during annual planning and coordination meetings. The Licensee's role in funding annual O&M of Licensee and non-Licensee recreation facilities and use areas will be identified in a future exhibit. The O&M component will define facility and use-area maintenance standards.

a. **Recreation Facility Development and Upgrades**

This section will describe expanded and renovated recreation facilities that will be constructed through the new term of the license following periodic review, prioritization, and approval. These improvements will be funded and/or constructed by the Licensee.

b. **Recreation Development Locations**

This section will describe the locations of proposed recreation improvements that will be listed in a future exhibit and indicated in diagram format in a future exhibit. For Licensee-constructed and designed projects, construction documents (plans, specifications, and permit applications) will be prepared as required prior to construction for review and approval by the applicable jurisdiction.

c. **Recreation Facility Design Guidelines**

This section will discuss appropriate design guidelines, siting criteria, and other standards that should be consistently used to:

- Comply with public health and safety codes and regulations;
- Provide design continuity and consistency with the ROS class (or equivalent) where the site is located;
- Provide a high quality visitor experience and/or enhance visitor convenience;
- Minimize facility and site deterioration and operations and maintenance costs; and
- Protect the environment.

Recreation facilities constructed within federally managed lands should be designed and constructed to meet federal facility construction standards and other appropriate design guidelines for the appropriate ROS class (or equivalent). Project-related recreation facilities constructed on Licensee lands should also be designed and constructed to be consistent with the appropriate ROS-type class (or equivalent)

d. **Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Compliance and Facility Upgrades**

This section will describe ADA-related improvements that have been identified. Upgrades to campground and day-use facilities, when modified or constructed, should conform to Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG) and standards formally adopted at the

time of construction.

e. **NEPA Compliance and Environmental Project Review**

This section will describe environmental compliance for future recreation projects on federal lands. These projects will need to be reviewed by a lead federal agency, in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and other environmental and land use regulations and policies, including Forest Land and Resource Management Plans and appropriate Records of Decision. This section will describe who will prepare necessary environmental documentation and fund the costs of NEPA or other compliance. This section will also address future recreation projects on project lands that may involve the issuance of permits, licenses, authorizations, or other certifications.

f. **Agency and Public Review**

This section will address opportunities for agency, tribal, and public review of proposed recreation projects, programs, and improvements.

g. **Facility Construction Coordination, Scheduling, and Phasing**

Anticipated facility construction timeframes will be identified in exhibits. This section will discuss the development of periodic implementation plans to guide decision making for planned construction project periods. Construction project timeframes will be reconfirmed during annual planning and coordination meetings.

The Draft RRMP, with further consultation, will describe project selection and prioritization criteria to be used in developing implementation plans and in annual review of projects. The criteria to be developed should foster group consensus building and decision making and should include strategies to address:

- How, when, and if proposed projects move up or down the list of identified needs;
- How unexpected opportunities are addressed;
- How new cooperative or partnership funding sources are evaluated and addressed;
- How proposed projects are matched with available funding; and,
- How priority projects are addressed.

2. **Recreation Operations and Maintenance Program (scheduled for Sept. 12)**

This section will describe the Licensee's operation and maintenance responsibilities,

provide estimated costs for operations and maintenance, and discuss general facility and use area maintenance standards.

a. Recreation Facility and Site Operations and Maintenance Program

This section will identify the Licensee's responsibilities for recreation facility O&M.

b. Operations and Maintenance Standards

This section will describe how O&M standards for federal and private lands will be applied to recreation facilities and use areas, based on published recreation maintenance standards. The level of O&M should be consistent with the ROS class (or equivalent) where the facility or use area is located, as well as applicable federal health and safety codes, as appropriate.

c. Shoreline Access

This section will describe how public shoreline access will be provided, such as the maintenance of signs, trails and trailheads, swimming areas, and boating access sites.

3. Recreation Monitoring Program

The Recreation Monitoring Program defines the License's recreation-related monitoring activities in the Project area over the term of the new license. In many cases, new facility development is contingent upon reaching monitoring threshold levels before new construction may proceed. The monitoring of recreational use levels, impacts, and activities is an integral component of an adaptive management strategy and is necessary in determining when management changes (including new recreation facilities) are needed. Therefore, the Monitoring Program is integral to the implementation of the Draft RRMP. The Monitoring Program defines a number of actions including: start-up activities to test monitoring standards and indicators, annual monitoring activities, analyses of monitoring data every 6 years, other more detailed data gathering and/or survey requirements every 12 years, and decision-making related to new facility construction. The three primary components of the Monitoring Program include:

- Recreation Monitoring Areas Framework—Use of Management Units as the recreation monitoring area framework for future monitoring in the Project area;
- Recreation Monitoring Indicators and Standards Framework—Use of monitoring indicators and standards in each of the key recreation areas and sites; and
- Recreation Monitoring Program Components—Program components that make up the Draft RRMP Monitoring Program.

a. Recreation Monitoring Area Framework

For purposes of long-term recreation monitoring, the Project Area has been divided into several Management Units (see Figure 2). Periodic data collection and analysis at the Management Unit level will allow for decision making on a unit-by-unit and a Project-wide basis. Draft RRMP Management Units include:

- Lake Almanor (land): Eastshore, Westshore, Northshore, North of Causeway, and Peninsula to Hamilton Branch.
- Lake Almanor (water): Segments A through D in the Reservoir Boating Study of the Draft License Application (north of the causeway, west of the peninsula, east of the peninsula and north of the point, and southeast of the peninsula and south of the point).
- Butt Valley Reservoir
- Belden Forebay/Caribou
- Belden Reach
- Seneca Reach

b. Recreation Monitoring Indicators and Standards Framework

The monitoring framework is based on a modified approach of Limits-of-Acceptable Change (LAC)-type indicators and standards. The approach is to define the type of visitor experience to be provided in each area and to monitor conditions over time to assess whether acceptable conditions are being maintained. Two key elements in the monitoring process are indicators and standards that help define the desired experience and provide a framework for monitoring conditions over time. Monitoring indicators identify the key issues or variables to monitor over time and are the specific measurable variables use to define the experience. Monitoring standards define criteria for acceptability and help define the minimum acceptable condition for each indicator. These standards are also called "triggers" in that once these triggers are reached and a trend is identified, further actions are warranted that may include new construction or a range of lesser actions.

Key considerations related to monitoring indicators and standards are described below.

Monitoring Indicators

- Reflect important key issues that should be monitored;
- Specific variables are indicative and realistic of field conditions;
- Allows one to define desired conditions and assess effectiveness of management practices;
- Should be measurable and responsive to possible management actions; and
- Should be easily and economically measurable.

Monitoring Standards

- Should be refined based on field considerations prior to full implantation;
- May use a judgmental process;
- Should not be idealistic goals, but conditions that can be achieved over time;

- May be a statement of existing conditions desired or status quo; and
- May be expressed in terms of probabilities (allows for some variability).

In developing the monitoring indicators and standards, careful consideration should be given regarding how each indicator will actually be monitored in the field. This helps establish a program that can be effectively implemented over time.

Table 1 provides a list of the monitoring indicators for recreation use levels that were created for developed recreation facilities and dispersed undeveloped sites at the Project area. Additionally, Table 1 provides a description of how each indicator will be measured and a listing of potential management options for each indicator. The management options provided represent a continuum of management actions, ranging from minor, less management-intensive options to major, more management-intensive options. Decisions regarding future management actions would be made at the time that standards for each indicator are exceeded based on field conditions.

In all cases, the entire suite of indicators should be reviewed and examined before management actions are taken. Decisions should not be made based on one indicator alone.

Table 1. Recreation monitoring indicators, method of measurement, and management options for developed and dispersed recreation sites.

Key Indicators	Method of Measurement	Potential Management Options
Developed Recreation Facilities		
Visitor Use Levels at Day Use Sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor facility use levels during the summer season and peak month (July-Aug.) timeframes based on user counts and vehicle counts conducted at selected sample sites during the summer recreation season (approximately Memorial Day to Labor Day). • Track data for each sample site, but also aggregate across sites to develop an overall average/indicator. • Assess annually if use levels are approaching threshold standards. If not, assess for Form 80 purposes every 6 years. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Redistribute use by providing visitors with information about alternative sites. • Expand facilities and parking.
Perceived Crowding at Developed Recreation Sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor visitor perceptions of crowding using an established 9-point crowding scale to identify the percentage of users that feel crowded. • Focus on selected sample sites during the summer recreation season (Memorial to Labor Day weekends), particularly during the peak use months of July and August. • Indicators to be tracked for each sample site (rather than aggregating across sites). • Assess every 10 years or when visitor surveys are conducted. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide adequate buffer between user groups and sites. • Address user conflicts as needed. • Provide enforcement.

Key Indicators	Method of Measurement	Potential Management Options
Boating Use Levels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor boating use on-water and at selected launch sites during the months of July and August (count boats on-water and boat trailers in parking areas). • Also monitor trends in watercraft types. • Assess annually if use levels are approaching threshold standards. If not, assess for Form 80 purposes every 6 years. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand parking capacity. • Provide visitors with information about alternative boat launches.
Campground Capacity Utilization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor campground utilization by calculating the average capacity utilization of selected campgrounds during the summer season (primarily Memorial Day to Labor Day weekends) and during the peak months (July and August at most sites). • Assess annually if use levels are approaching threshold standards. If not, assess for Form 80 purposes every 6 years. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase campground capacity. • Develop alternative sites. • Institute a limited entry system. • Expand the reservation system (partial to full). • Provide visitors with information about alternative sites.
Dispersed Undeveloped Recreation Areas		
Site Creep	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor dispersed recreation areas of concern (camping and day use) for possible expansion of the area of impact. • Document the baseline conditions and monitor for creep at sample sites in each area of concern. • Assess every 5 years or as needed in critical areas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Erect natural barriers to better define site boundaries. • Harden sites including fire rings, picnic tables, and/or tent pads on a site by site basis. • Limit use to officially designated dispersed sites only (signed). • Site closures and rehabilitation. • Institute a reservation system. • Provide enforcement.
Site Pioneering	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Periodically survey dispersed recreation areas of concern and record the number and type of dispersed undeveloped sites. • Compare this information with baseline conditions (establish a more detailed baseline at sample sites). • Evidence of new informal use may include bare ground, accumulated litter, site erosion, new structures, sanitation problems, and/or vegetation damage. • Assess every 5 years or as needed in critical areas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide visitors with information about location of appropriate dispersed sites. • Develop more sites. • Limit use to officially designated dispersed sites only (signed). • Institute a reservation system. • Provide enforcement.

Key Indicators	Method of Measurement	Potential Management Options
Dispersed Site Occupancy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor a representative sample of dispersed sites occupied during the 2 peak months (July and August). • Count every 5-10 years or as needed in sensitive areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide visitors with information about alternative sites. • Develop alternative sites. • Institute a reservation system.

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Monitoring standards for each key indicator are shown in Table 2 and vary by type of setting, resource experience, and developed and undeveloped recreation facilities. These standards fall into three types of settings (Resource, Social, and Managerial). Resource setting characteristics vary by area and include the visual character of the area, the number and distribution of man-made structures, and the type of access provided. Managerial setting characteristics also vary by area and include the design characteristics of recreation facilities and their maintenance, design characteristics of roadways and their maintenance, and whether motorized use is allowed or not. Social setting characteristics also vary by area and include the degree of interaction with other users, the evidence of human use and concentration of use, and the types of activities provided. These three settings range from more primitive experiences with solitude to more urban, resort-type experiences.

Within the Project area, three broad types of recreational experiences have been defined within a recreation opportunity spectrum or ROS. These three recreation experience areas are labeled Semi-Primitive, Roaded Natural, and Rural / Project Facility Areas and are defined below:

Semi-Primitive areas include:

- Predominately unmodified natural environment.
- Evidence of human activity including structures is rare.
- Motorized use is permitted.
- Road access is generally via infrequently maintained roads or four-wheel drive roads.
- Site development is primarily for resource protection not comfort.
- Lower levels of use and user interaction/encounters.
- High probability of experiencing solitude, closeness to nature, and tranquility.

Roaded Natural areas include:

- Predominately natural appearing areas.
- Moderate evidence of human activity, including occasional homes, docks, and other structures.
- Structures are visually subordinate from the water and/or primary travel routes.
- More rustic-type recreation facilities, but may include some modern site modifications.
- Regularly maintained, light-duty roads with some surfacing (gravel or asphalt).
- Low to moderate use levels.
- User interaction/encounters are common.
- Activities are more passive in nature and watercraft or vehicular noise is minimal.

Rural / Project Facility Area include:

- Substantially modified natural environment.
- Human activity is active and presence is highly evident.
- Man-made structures are a frequent and dominant feature of the landscape.
- Density of development is moderate to high.
- Recreation facilities are designed for user comfort.
- Roads are predominately paved with asphalt receiving moderate to heavy traffic.
- Moderate to high levels of use.
- User interactions/encounters are to be expected.
- Activities are more active in nature and watercraft or vehicular noise is to be expected.

Table 2. Recreation Monitoring Indicators and Standards by Recreation Opportunity Area.

Key Indicators	Standards by Recreation Opportunity Area		
	Semi-Primitive Areas	Roaded Natural Areas	Rural / Project Facilities
Developed Recreation Areas			
RESOURCE:			
None identified at this time.	None at this time (May develop standards at a later date if necessary)	None at this time (May develop standards at a later date if necessary)	None at this time (May develop standards at a later date if necessary)
SOCIAL:			
Perceived Crowding	N/A	Currently not a problem. Based on future survey (10-15 years out), average crowding score of 4.0 (Shelby and Heberlein 1986).	Currently not a problem. Based on future survey (10-15 years out), average crowding score of 4.7 (Shelby and Heberlein 1986).
MANAGERIAL:			
Public Boat Launch Capacity Utilization	N/A	Satisfy 1 of the following: up to 90% occupancy during weekends in peak months (July and August); up to 60% occupancy during weekends during the primary recreation season when the facility is open during May through October; or up to 15% of the season days at 90%. A minimum 3-5 year trend is needed.	Satisfy 1 of the following: up to 90% occupancy during weekends in peak months (July and August); up to 60% occupancy during weekends during the primary recreation season when the facility is open during May through October; or up to 15% of the season days at 90%. A minimum 3-5 year trend is needed.
Boat Use Levels – Reservoir Surface Water	25 acres/boat reservoir-wide (dependent on primary boating activity)	25 acres/boat reservoir-wide (dependent on primary boating activity)	25 acres/boat reservoir-wide (dependent on primary boating activity)

Key Indicators	Standards by Recreation Opportunity Area		
	Semi-Primitive Areas	Roaded Natural Areas	Rural / Project Facilities
Public Day Use Site Capacity Utilization	N/A	Satisfy 1 of the following: up to 80% occupancy during weekends in peak months (July and August); up to 60% occupancy during weekends during the primary recreation season when the facility is open during May through October; or up to 15% of the season days at 90%. A minimum 3-5 year trend is needed.	Satisfy 1 of the following: up to 80% occupancy during weekends in peak months (July and August); up to 60% occupancy during weekends during the primary recreation season when the facility is open during May through October; or up to 15% of the season days at 90%. A minimum 3-5 year trend is needed.
Public Campground Capacity Utilization	N/A	Satisfy 1 of the following: up to 90% occupancy during weekends in peak months (July and August); up to 60% occupancy during weekends during the primary recreation season when the facility is open during May through October; or up to 15% of the season days at 90%. A minimum 3-5 year trend is needed.	Satisfy 1 of the following: up to 90% occupancy during weekends in peak months (July and August); up to 60% occupancy during weekends during the primary recreation season when the facility is open during May through October; or up to 15% of the season days at 90%. A minimum 3-5 year trend is needed.
Dispersed Undeveloped Recreation Areas			
RESOURCE:			
Site Creep	10 percent expansion of area of impact 5 percent expansion into sensitive habitat	10 percent expansion of area of impact 5 percent expansion into sensitive habitat	10 percent expansion of area of impact 5 percent expansion into sensitive habitat
Site Pioneering	10 percent increase in total number of sites	10 percent increase in total number of sites	10 percent increase in total number of sites
SOCIAL:			
None identified at this time.	None required at this time (May develop standards at a later date if necessary)	None required at this time (May develop standards at a later date if necessary)	None required at this time (May develop standards at a later date if necessary)
MANAGERIAL:			
Dispersed Site Utilization	Up to 50 percent season long (summer)	Up to 50 percent season long (summer)	Up to 50 percent season long (summer)

Note: The recreation season is defined as when the facility is open from May through October, but is generally Memorial Day weekend to Labor Day weekend at many sites. Subject to revision based on on-the-ground testing.
N/A = not applicable.
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Figure 3 (figure to be inserted here) defines the three Recreation Opportunity Areas in the Project area that are classified as Semi-Primitive, Roaded Natural, and Rural / Project Facility.

Table 3 provides a list of monitoring locations where monitoring activities will periodically occur.

Table 3. Monitoring Locations by Management Unit and Monitoring Area in the Project Area.

Management Unit	Monitoring Area	Selected Monitoring Sites/Areas
Lake Almanor (Land)	Eastshore	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Westwood Beach, Stumpy Beach, New Eastshore Campground/DUA, Eastshore Group Camp (modified), and Almanor Scenic Overlook
	Westshore	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Almanor Campground/Boat Launch/Swim Beach, Lake Almanor Campground/DUA, Canyon Dam Boat Launch/Picnic Area, Canyon Dam DUA, Camp Conery, PSEA Beach, and Southwest Shoreline Access Zone (identified access points).
	Northshore	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> North Shore Campground Boat Launch, Chester Shoreline Access (1st Ave. or Stover Ranch), Catfish Beach
	North of Causeway	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Last Chance Campground
	Peninsula to Hamilton Branch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hamilton Branch Fishing Access Site
Lake Almanor (Water)	Segment A – North of Causeway	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water area use by watercraft
	Segment B – West of Peninsula	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water area use by watercraft
	Segment C – East of Peninsula, north of the Point	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water area by watercraft
	Segment D – Southeast of Peninsula, south of Point	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water area by watercraft
Butt Valley Reservoir		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ponderosa Flat Campground
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cool Springs Campground
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alder Creek Boat Launch
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Butt Valley Powerhouse area angler access points
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boat-in/walk-in sites (8) on the southwest shoreline
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Surface water use by watercraft
Belden Forebay		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Belden Forebay Car-top Launch/Trailhead
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Surface water use by watercraft
Belden Reach		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Belden Rest Stop (Hwy 70)
Seneca Reach		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None

Provided by EDAW, Inc.

Data collected to monitor each indicator is derived from a combination of annual or periodic field observations and/or user contacts or surveys. During the first 5-year period of RRMP implementation following issuance of a new Project license, a pre-test or pilot program will occur to fine-tune the indicators, standards, and monitoring procedures. Input from users and resource managers regarding the monitoring standards themselves, and their views of acceptable conditions, will be built into this program. Once the Monitoring Program is tested and modified if needed, it will be implemented on a regular basis with periodic reviews.

c. **Recreation Monitoring Components**

The Recreation Monitoring Program defines the recreation-related monitoring needs of the Project area over the term of the new license. In many cases, new facility development is contingent upon reaching monitoring threshold levels and establishing trends (3 year minimum) before new construction may proceed. Therefore, the Monitoring Program is integral to the Draft RRMP and the maintenance of the desired recreation experience.

Monitoring Program components to be implemented by the Licensee include:

- **Start-up activities to test monitoring indicators and standards:** One of the initial tasks during the first 6 years of implementing the Draft RRMP will be field-testing the monitoring indicators and standards so that a baseline can be established. It is anticipated that some modifications to the monitoring indicators and standards will be needed. Once these are established as a baseline, follow-on monitoring analyses will be used to track changes over time.
- **Frequency of monitoring activities:** The Monitoring Program includes two levels of monitoring. These levels are:
 - (1) Ongoing regular monitoring of recreation sites and use areas using readily available monitoring data collected during normal routine management of recreation resources, such as paid fee receipts, camp host counts, observations made when trash is collected, road counts, etc.; and
 - (2) More in-depth recreation survey work conducted every 10 to 15 years, such as visitor and non-visitor surveys (mail, contact, windshield, etc.).

Some monitoring indicators, such as dispersed undeveloped site pioneering and creep, should be monitored more frequently (every 5 years for example) so that management actions can be taken before the standard is exceeded.

- **Monitoring management actions:** Based on the available data gathered during yearly and periodic monitoring, potential management actions for each management unit should be considered by the Licensee and others. Management options may include those listed in Table 1 and may include:
 - Plan, design, expand, renovate, and/or construct facilities in one or more phases;
 - Increase monitoring efforts as needed, such as collecting more detailed visitor counts at facilities in question;
 - Begin planning and designing new facilities or renovation;
 - Pursue or wait on new construction;
 - Modify monitoring indicators if conditions warrant;
 - Increase visitor information in order to redistribute use patterns; and
 - Consider a full or partial reservation system.

Other management actions may also be considered as appropriate in consultation with other recreation providers in the Project area.

- **Reporting Requirements:** Periodic assessment reports will be prepared by the Licensee management unit (per FERC Form 80 reporting requirements) and will document:
 - Statistical methods applied in analyzing monitoring data.
 - Success of developed recreation visitor management efforts.
 - Recreation facility use levels and counts.
 - Trends in recreation facility use.
 - Projected needs based on monitoring indicators and standards.

FERC Form 80 (required by FERC every 6 years) will be used as a reporting tool by the Licensee to assess visitor trends, whether monitoring thresholds have been exceeded, the success of visitor control measures, and to make plans for the next monitoring timeframe.

Detailed monitoring reporting requirements will be developed and funded by the Licensee for Project-related facilities and sites and their operations and maintenance. Standardized monitoring and reporting forms will be based on FERC Form 80 and may include facility condition inspection forms and recreation site use count forms.

Monitoring personnel will be qualified, either through education or experience, or be adequately trained on how to conduct the monitoring effort and complete the forms in a consistent manner. This and other available information will be compiled and analyzed annually by site and management unit. Updated reporting requirements will be considered over time.

- **Decision-making related to new facility construction:** The Licensee will participate in annual recreation planning and coordination meetings with other recreation providers in the Project area and other, as appropriate. At these annual meetings, it is expected that recreation resource management decisions for the Project area will be made or reaffirmed. Proposed PM&Es listed in Exhibits 1, 2 and 3 will be confirmed based on monitoring results. The estimated date of construction may move up or move back. Management actions to consider include: (1) plan, design, expand, renovate, and/or construct facilities in one or more phases, (2) modify monitoring efforts as needed, such as using volunteers to collect more detailed visitor counts at selected sites in question, (3) begin planning and designing new facilities or renovation, (4) pursue or wait on new construction, (5) modify monitoring indicators if conditions warrant, (6) increase visitor information about less crowded facilities and use areas in the Project area, (7) consider a full or partial reservation system, and (8) collectively participate in grant applications. Other management actions may also be considered.

4. **Resource Integration and Coordination Program**

The Resource Integration and Coordination Program is a formalized process whereby the

Licensee makes coordinated, timely, and informed decisions related to implementation of the Draft RRMP and other Project related plans. Because of simultaneous activities occurring by various resource groups and by other resource agencies, both formal and informal communication are necessary over the term of the new license. An important goal of this communication is to achieve a balanced integration of sometimes competing and sometimes complementary resource goals for Project lands and waters. This goal may be achieved when all interests and concerns have been adequately addressed or met to the fullest extent possible and no party has serious concerns about the resource decisions being made.

The Resource Integration and Coordination Program consists of the following four elements to be implemented by the Licensee:

- The Licensee will conduct ongoing and regular consultation and coordination meetings (at least annually) among necessary parties and resource groups over the term of the new license. Adequate Licensee staff time and resources will be provided to accomplish this task;
- The Licensee will share information use to make resource decisions, including geographic information system (GIS) data, on-the-ground knowledge, or other pertinent data;
- The Licensee will help clarify resource goals, objectives, and priorities per the new License Terms and Conditions as necessary; and
- The Licensee will help coordinate and conduct, as necessary, studies or consultation that help solve particular problems or resolves specific issues.

5. Plan Review and Revision Program

Recreation and resource conditions can be expected to change over time. It is likely that unforeseen recreation needs, changes in visitor preferences and attitudes, new recreation technologies, or other actions will arise over the course of the new license term. As a result, the RRMP may be updated and/or revised. Revision of the RRMP will require that changes be fully documented.

The frequency with which the RRMP is revised or updated will depend on significant changes to existing conditions, monitoring results, and management responses made over time. The Licensee will determine the frequency of RRMP updates in consultation with affected parties; however, the following guidelines should be considered over time for efficiency and continuity purposes:

- RRMP Sections 1 through 4 should be updated approximately every 12 years (two FERC Form 80 cycles) as conditions change;
- Proposed PM&E measures, estimated costs, and recreation site conceptual plans (Exhibits 1 through 3) should be updated every 12 years;
- Monitoring information should be updated after the first 5 years (one FERC Form 80 cycle)

based on initial testing of monitoring indicators and standards and then reviewed every 12 years thereafter, based on ongoing monitoring results; and

- Baseline recreation information (Exhibit 6) should be updated based on information form surveys conducted every 12 years, or as necessary.

6. Interpretation and Education Program

The Interpretation and Education (I&E) Program serves several purposes including providing enhanced experiences for residents and visitors, encouraging participation in resource protection measures by area visitors, and promoting cooperative, safe behaviors to benefit all Project area recreation resources and visitors. The Licensee, with input from other recreation providers and agency resource managers in the Project area, will develop an I&E Program for the Project area. The Program will involve input from various resource agencies and stakeholders in the Project area and vicinity.

To maintain the I&E Program over the term of the new license, the Licensee will provide long-term support for the program including annual operations and maintenance (O&M) funding such as repair of vandalism to signs and kiosks, and updates of signs over time per Exhibit 1.

In the first five years of the new license, the Licensee, in consultation with recreation stakeholders and other resource groups and agencies, will develop a plan for the I&E Program. Program development will likely include:

- Review and selection of appropriate themes. Potential themes may include fish and wildlife with possible Watchable Wildlife sites, volcanic history, hydropower, Native American cultures, pioneers, recreation activities available in the Project area, recreation facility locations, boating hazards, and others;
- Review and selection of appropriate interpretive media to be used, such as signs and kiosks (roadside and at key sites), brochures, pamphlets, audio tours, newsletters, and others;
- Review and selection of consistent media design, such as fonts, logos, and others;
- Review and selection of prioritized sites where the media will be located, such as at existing recreation sites; and
- Review and selection of services to be provided such as interpretive talks, campfire presentations, reservoir clean-up day events, and others.

The I&E Program will include detailed cost estimates for facilities, artwork, design costs, and other costs. Following development of the I&E Program, designs for signs, brochures, artwork, and other features will be developed by the Licensee and others. Once these designs are developed, the I&E facilities, such as signs and kiosks and the artwork to go into these signs and kiosks, will be created. Once constructed, the media will be sited and installed at selected sites per the I&E Program.

In Exhibit 1, the I&E Program includes a support component to help maintain the program over the term of the new license including implementation of appropriate maintenance procedures and practices, such as replacement of vandalized signs or changes in the messages of signs.

F. REFERENCES AND LITERATURE CITED

Draft RRMP references and literature cited include:

USFS 1990. U. S. Forest Service. Recreation Opportunity Spectrum Primer and Field Guide, General Technical Report R6-Rec-021-90. April 1990. Washington, D.C.

USFS 1985. U. S. Forest Service. The Limits of Acceptable Change (LAC) System for Wilderness Planning. General Technical Report INT-176. January 1985. Ogden, Utah.

EXHIBITS (in process)

1. **Exhibit 1 — Proposed Recreation Measures**

This future exhibit will provide a detailed listing of recreation measures that the Licensee would implement over the term of the new license.

2. **Exhibit 2 — Estimated Costs of Proposed Recreation Measures**

This future exhibit will provide a detailed cost breakout of recreation measures that the Licensee will be responsible for implementing over the term of the new license.

3. **Exhibit 3 — Locations of Proposed Recreation Measures and Conceptual Site Plans**

This future exhibit will provide conceptual diagrams of recreation measures that the Licensee will be responsible for implementing over the term of the new license.

4. **Exhibit 7 — Agreements Between the Licensee and Other Parties**

This future exhibit will provide all agreements between the Licensee and other parties, such as Forest Service Collection Agreements.

5. **Exhibit 8 — FERC License Terms and Conditions for Recreation Resources**

This future exhibit will provide the final FERC License Terms and Conditions following issuance of the new license.

6. **Exhibit 9 — Baseline Recreation Studies Conducted During Relicensing**

This future exhibit will serve as a database for future reference and will include all recreation resource surveys, planning studies, and inventories conducted for relicensing by the Licensee. Additional study results from future studies may be added over time.