MOUNTAIN ACCORD

Draft Recreation System Existing Conditions

System Group Recommendation

April 2014

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EXISTING CONDITIONS

This report summarizes the best available information at this time on existing conditions for the Central Wasatch Recreation System, intended to succinctly inform the Mountain Accord process. This report references other detailed information and analyses, but is not meant to be a comprehensive description of all that is known about the Recreation System. It is meant to concisely present available information about the Recreation System that is most relevant to the intent of Mountain Accord. Together with the Future Trendline information, the Existing Conditions information will help identify the key needs and opportunities for this system, inform the development of a Vision, goals and metrics, and establish a baseline against which to compare options for a future Idealized System. If during later steps in the process, the need for additional information on existing conditions is identified, that information can be added at that time.

SYSTEM INTRODUCTION

The recreation system in the Wasatch Mountains is composed of the natural environment, recreational infrastructure, and the human population who build, maintain, and use these amenities to recreate. The natural, built, and human elements of the system are balanced such that they support a wide range of activities and provide an opportunity for high quality recreation experiences in a small area. This balance is unique in the Western United States and treasured by local residents who use the recreational amenities to support their healthy, active lifestyles and high-quality of life. This document describes the existing infrastructure and resources critical to the recreation system in the Wasatch Mountains, discusses the overall performance of the system, and describes its ability to meet the existing needs of recreational users. The report focuses on the experience of the recreational user of the Central Wasatch. Interrelated topics of recreation economics, environmental resources, and transportation to access recreation relevant to the Mountain Accord process are addressed in separate reports.

SUMMARY OF RECREATION SYSTEM EXISTING CONDITIONS

Anyone who has lived in or visited northern Utah has been witness to the unique setting offered by the proximity of population centers to high-elevation mountains providing opportunities to recreate, exercise, experience solitude, recharge, and escape from urban life. The proximity of mountain and urban environments provides an increasingly urban population with an opportunity to access close-to-home open space, connect with the outdoors and the lands that sustain them, promotes health and fitness, and fosters community awareness of our environment, wealth of outdoor amenities, and heritage.

Within the mountains themselves the natural, built, and human elements of the recreation system are balanced such that they support a wide range of activities and provide high-quality recreation experiences in a small area. This balance is supported and maintained by existing land uses and regulations and allows opportunities for high-quality recreation pursuits including hiking, skiing, mountain biking, rock climbing, and enjoying beautiful scenery to coexist.

Easy access to a variety of quality outdoor recreation opportunities and the quality of these opportunities fuel residents' high-quality of life and makes the Central Wasatch a haven for local residents as well as a destination for out-of-state visitors. The mountains attract new residents and businesses and receive high levels of use exceeding other popular recreational destinations including all of Utah's National Parks (U.S. Forest Service 2013 and Utah Governor's Council on Balanced Resources 2013). Where else can you ski in the backcountry or at one of our world class resorts in the morning and mountain bike on award winning trails in the afternoon? Wintertime visitors to ski resorts are primarily out-of-state visitors while the majority of general year-round recreational visits to other amenities are from Utah residents (RRC Associates 2013 and U.S. Forest Service 2008).

The most prominent issues associated with both winter and summer recreation are related to competition for the highest quality recreation sites and areas. Competition results in crowding along roadways, parking areas, and trailheads and can diminish recreation experiences. In addition to crowding, the highest quality areas for several of the most popular activities overlap and can lead to conflicts between user groups. These conflicts generally lead to minor and temporary dissatisfaction among recreational users. However, increasing use and demand for popular recreational amenities or changes in existing land uses and land use regulations could disrupt the delicate balance that supports each activity.

REGIONAL CONTEXT

A fundamental component of the recreation system in the study area is the unique combination of natural environment provided by the Wasatch Mountains and human settlement pattern in adjacent valleys. Urban and suburban areas along the Wasatch Front and Back provide the population with access to amenities including jobs, education, cultural opportunities, and transportation infrastructure while the mountains provide the population with opportunities for recreation, exercise, solitude, to recharge, and escape from urban life (Figure 1). The proximity of urban and mountain environments and accessibility to a diversity of developed and disperse recreation opportunities provided by this proximity are unmatched in the

Western United States. This proximity provides a unique opportunity to connect the population with the outdoors and the lands that sustain them, promote health and fitness, and foster community awareness of our environment, wealth of outdoor amenities, and heritage.

Source: Mountain Accord Recreation System Group.

Figure 1. Regional Recreation Context

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

The Wasatch Mountains and adjacent urban areas occur at the convergence of three major ecoregions. The climate, natural resources, and development pattern of each region facilitates the various opportunities for year-round recreation in the study area.

The climate in the Salt Lake Valley is characterized by long, hot summers and cold winters. The landscape has an urban character with outdoor recreation facilities generally limited to paved paths, city parks, and ball fields. In the mountain valleys along the Wasatch Back, the climate is characterized by warm to hot summers and cold winters. The landscape has a suburban to rural character and outdoor recreation facilities include mountain and paved trails, city parks, and ball fields. The climate of the Wasatch Mountains themselves is characterized by long, cold winters; short, cool summers; and a deep winter snowpack deposited by orographically enhanced precipitation. The mountain landscape maintains a natural character and provides a location for Wasatch Front and Back residents to escape the summer heat and winter inversions with consistent snowfall to support a variety of winter time recreational activities (Figure 2). Outdoor recreation facilities include ski

resorts, mountain trails, campgrounds, picnic areas, and natural areas for dispersed recreation.

Source: Mountain Accord Recreation System Group.

Figure 2. Climate and Natural Environment

RECREATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Infrastructure used by people to access and participate in recreation activities plays a critical role in the function and structure of the recreation system. Private automobiles provide the primary mode of transportation for bringing people from population centers to mountain recreation destinations. Several main roadways traverse the Wasatch Front and Back and ascend the major canyon. In addition to serving automobiles these roads provide opportunities for road biking. Parking facilities at trailheads, on road shoulders, and at major resorts provide access to the network of recreational infrastructure and natural resources in the study area. On busy weekends and holidays, roadway congestion (both in the canyons as well as the areas at the canyon mouths) leads to delays and demand for parking exceeds the number of available spaces in popular areas. Transit opportunities are limited in the canyons along the Wasatch Front. A ski bus operates during the winter and provides access to the ski resorts and popular trailheads. Due to the travel time, stop locations, crowding, and frequency of ski bus service in addition to the level of congestion and high demand for parking hitchhiking in common during the winter ski season. For additional detail about transportation in the Central Wasatch, please refer to the transportation system group report.

Other recreational infrastructure including trails, resorts, campgrounds, picnic areas, and natural resources (e.g., cliffs for rock climbing, high elevations slopes suitable

for backcountry skiing) are distributed throughout the study area. A database of these resources has been developed by the recreation system group and serves as the basis for observations about existing patterns of recreational uses in the study area. The database of existing recreation infrastructure is available for review and depicted on an interactive map viewer located here.

Trails are some of the most important built components of the recreation system in the study area. Trails provide critical infrastructure for several of the most popular recreational activities in the study area, including activities that have experienced explosive growth in participation. Demand for different types of trail systems has evolved along with the activities that these trail systems support. Areas supporting active trail development have been able to adopt and keep pace with the evolving demand for different types of trail systems in comparison to areas with limited new development. Many of the trails on the National Forest were initially built as mining or logging roads which were later converted for use as multi-use or hiking trails. Several of these trails have design issues including steep grades and poorly planned alignments resulting in erosion, natural resource and watershed degradation, and reduced user experiences. Additionally, lack of directional and freeride/gravity biking trails has resulted in user conflicts and natural resource damage associated with user-created trails. In contrast, the trail network on the Wasatch Back has been able to adapt to evolving demand. Construction and designation of multi-use, hiking only, directional, and freeride/gravity mountain biking trails has resulted in a world-class trail system, has largely avoided natural resource damage associated with user-created trails, and requires less expensive maintenance.

One of the most influential components of recreation infrastructure, which occupies the central portion of the study area, is the seven ski resorts (Alta, Brighton, Canyons, Deer Valley, Park City, Snowbird, and Solitude). In addition to providing opportunities to lift-accessible skiable terrain for a variety of skill levels, these resorts also provide a range of summer amenities and have the most developed access including transit service and expansive parking areas.

SETTING

The setting for a recreational activity and users' expectations about this setting play a key role in where users decide to recreate and the user's enjoyment of the experience. For example, a person accessing the mountains for a quick, after work mountain bike ride inherently has different expectations about the amenities, suitable levels of social interactions with other users, and acceptable modification of the landscape than someone looking for a quiet hike in nature to observe wildlife. Furthermore, the hiker may prefer to recreate in areas not used by downhill skiers or mountain bikers. Understanding the preferred setting for each use can help identify compatible and incompatible uses.

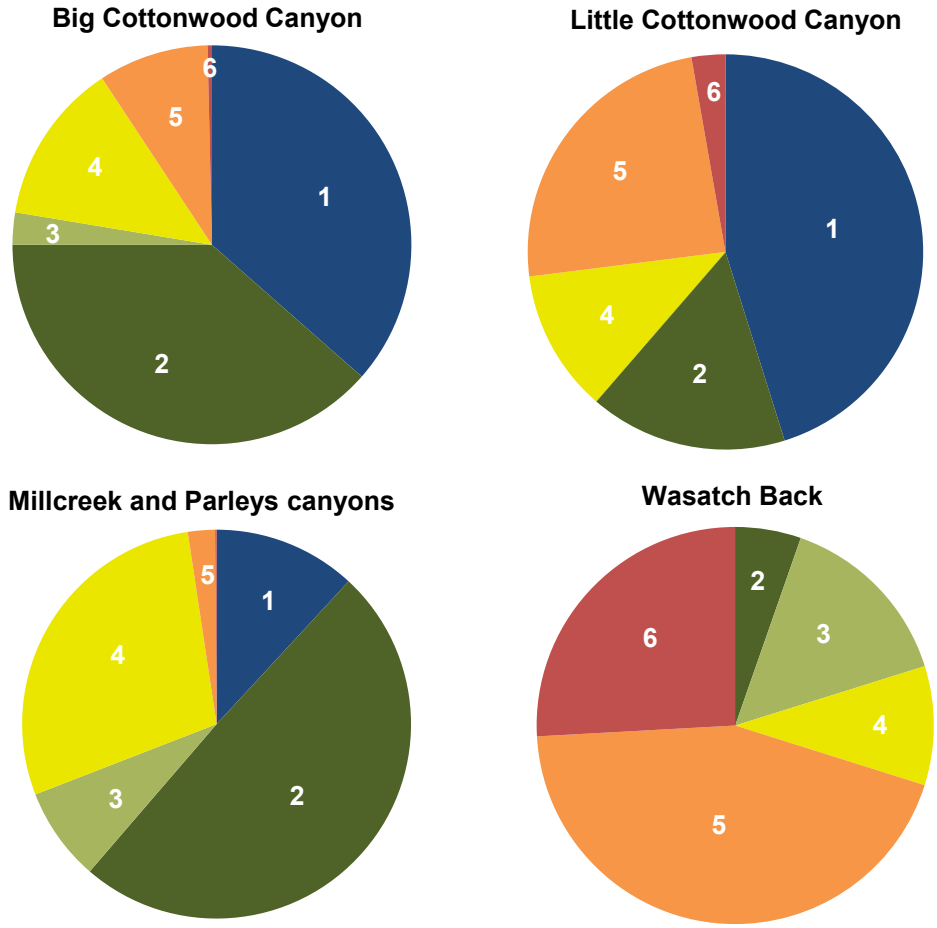
Primitive settings with low amounts of social interaction between users are relatively abundant in the study area and members of the recreation system group have identified the variety of settings and the accessibility of primitive areas as a unique and critically important element of the recreation system. Unfortunately, differences in recreational settings are inherently difficult to quantify. One tool for describing recreation settings is the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS). The ROS establishes descriptions for levels of acceptable accessibility, remoteness, naturalness, facilities and site management, social encounters, visitor impacts, and visitor management across a spectrum of recreational settings. More information about ROS is available here. The recreation system group has elected to inventory the existing recreational settings in the entire study area using the concepts developed by the USFS for ROS. For this inventory, a numerical scale ranging from 1 to 6, with 1 representing the most primitive and 6 representing the most developed settings was used to avoid confusion associated with the names of the USFS ROS categories (Figure 3). In the example above, the mountain biker may prefer to recreate at a ski resort with developed mountain bike trails (level 4 or 5 areas), whereas the hiker viewing wildlife would generally choose to hike in level 1 or 2 areas (i.e., a highly natural setting).

Sources: Mountain Accord Recreation System Group and U.S. Forest Service 1994.

Figure 3. Recreation Setting Spectrum

The recreation setting inventory for Mountain Accord was developed by the recreation system group based on members' knowledge and expertise during a workshop held on March 13, 2014. The information was provided for review using ArcGIS online as well. The resulting inventory of recreational settings is included in the database available for review using the interactive map viewer. The database includes all lands in the study area, does not imply management direction, and should not be used for parcel-specific interpretation. The quantity of each recreation setting level varies between the canyons and areas within the Central Wasatch and supports the unique balance of uses tied to these settings (Figure 4). Both Little and Big Cottonwood canyons have large areas of lands at the more primitive end of the spectrum (levels 1 and 2) which support a variety of recreation activities along the existing non-motorized trail network (e.g., hiking, backcountry skiing, and snowshoeing). By comparison, the Wasatch Back is largely comprised of more modified landscapes including ski resorts and rural housing developments (level 5).

These more modified settings facilitate activities requiring more recreation infrastructure including resort skiing, Nordic skiing, and mountain biking.



Source: Mountain Accord Recreation System Group

Figure 4. Recreation Setting Breakdown by Area

The distribution and balance of recreational settings may be upset through additional development or the proliferation of recreation uses incompatible with the existing setting. Additionally, changes in setting can affect the quality of recreation experiences occurring in the area. Compatible uses and critical areas for long-term preservation of recreational experiences can be identified by understanding the recreation setting, how the setting supports existing activates, and how development and management changes can alter the setting.

RECREATIONAL USERS

Studies that have been completed provide a wealth of information about the recreational users of the Wasatch Mountains, existing patterns of recreational use, and user preferences and perceptions. Unfortunately, detailed, site-specific studies of recreational use in the study area are not available at this time. Information that is available including trail counts and user surveys show increasing use of trails over time. Concentrations of use occur around trailheads with high parking capacity and easy access, which are amplified on trails that receive local and national media attention. At least two efforts are currently underway led by participating organizations in the recreation system group to gather more detailed information about recreational users and relative levels of recreational use. The results of these efforts will provide important information for future recommendations to the Mountain Accord Executive Board.

Studies conducted at the national level have shown that the percentage of Americans participating in outdoor recreation has remained relatively stable over time and growth in outdoor recreation participation results directly from population growth. However, Utah residents participate in outdoor recreation at a much higher rate (82% participation) compared to nationwide averages (50% participation) (Outdoor Foundation 2013). Assuming that the rate of outdoor recreation participation in Utah has remained relatively steady over time, the number of users recreating in the study area has increased dramatically as the regional population has increased over the past decades (Table 1).

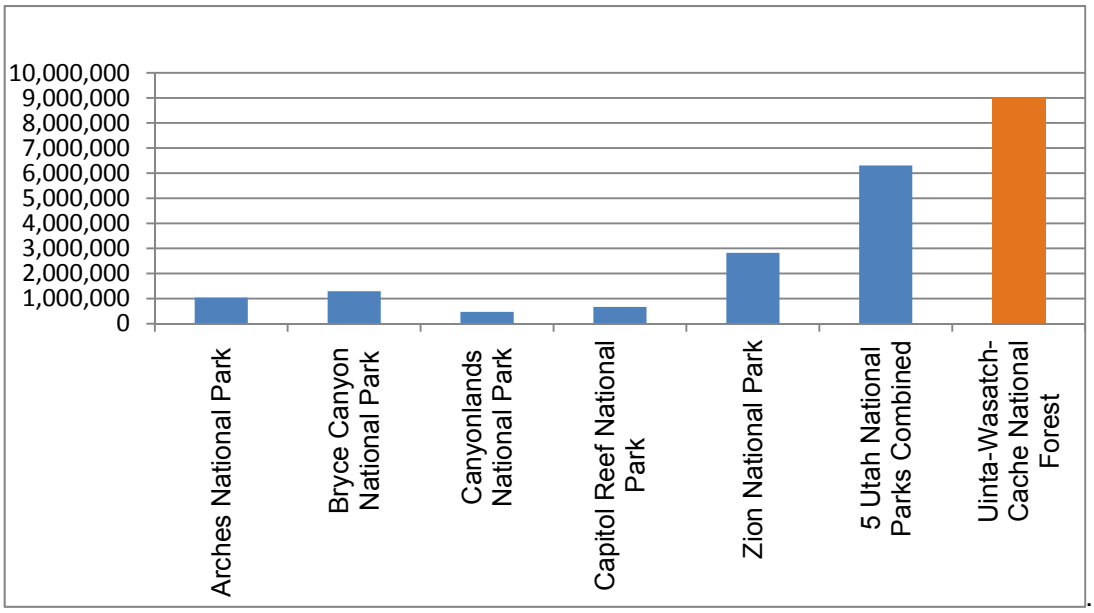
Table 1. Historic and Projected Population Growth

County	1950	1975	2000	2012	2020	2040
Salt Lake	279,000	521,200	902,843	1,059,112	1,180,859	1,507,997
(% of current)	(26%)	(49%)	(85%)		(111%)	(142%)
Summit	6,700	7,500	30,012	37,704	45,491	71,433
(% of current)	(18%)	(20%)	(80%)		(121%)	(189%)
Wasatch	5,500	7,000	15,427	25,354	32,741	59,159
(% of current)	(22%)	(28%)	(61%)		(129%)	(233%)

Source: Utah Governor's Office of Management and Budget 2012

The popularity of outdoor recreation in the Wasatch Mountains of northern Utah is confirmed by visitor use monitoring conducted by the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest (UWCNF). Lands administered by the UWCNF are located along the Wasatch Mountains from the Utah/Idaho border to U.S. Highway 6 south of Provo, Utah and extend into the Stansbury and Western Uinta Mountains. Resorts and popular recreation destinations on the Wasatch Back are not within the UWCNF and some visitor monitoring by UWCNF occurs outside the study area. Therefore, the National Forest's visitor use monitoring does not provide a comprehensive

review of visitation in the study area but are the best available data to qualify relative levels of recreational use. The portions of the study area along the Wasatch Front administered by UWCNF are among the most heavily visited areas in the Wasatch Mountains. The UWCNF estimates that annual Forest-wide recreational visitation exceeds approximately 9 million visitor-days (U.S. Forest Service 2013). This level of recreational visitation does not include use occurring at popular destinations along the Wasatch Back and exceeds the combined annual visitation at all five Utah national parks (approximately 6.2 million visitor-days) (Utah Governor's Council on Balanced Resources 2013) (Figure 5).

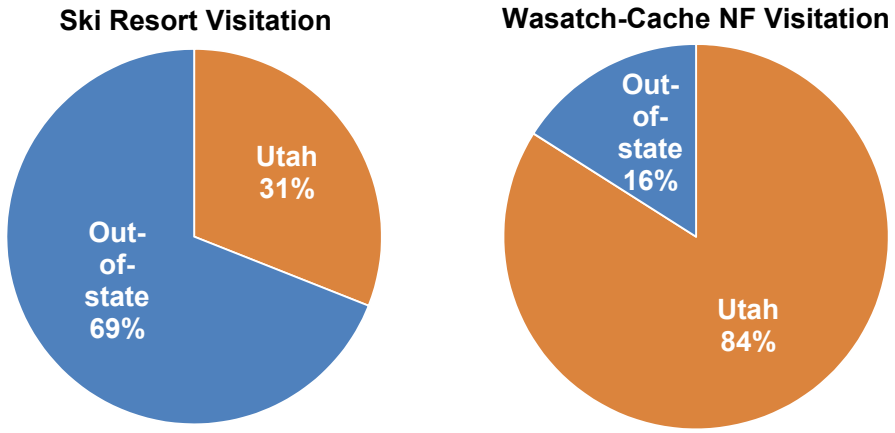


Source: U.S. Forest Service 2008 and Utah Governor's Council on Balanced Resources 2013

Figure 5. Annual Visitation at Utah Outdoor Recreation Areas

Wintertime visits to the ski resorts account for a significant proportion of the visitation to the area. The State of Utah currently receives approximately 4 million skier-days per year, including visits that occur at resorts outside of the study area (RRC Associates 2013). Other highly popular recreational uses of the study area include hiking, mountain biking, backcountry skiing and snowboarding, dog walking, picnicking, and escaping from the urban environment to relax.

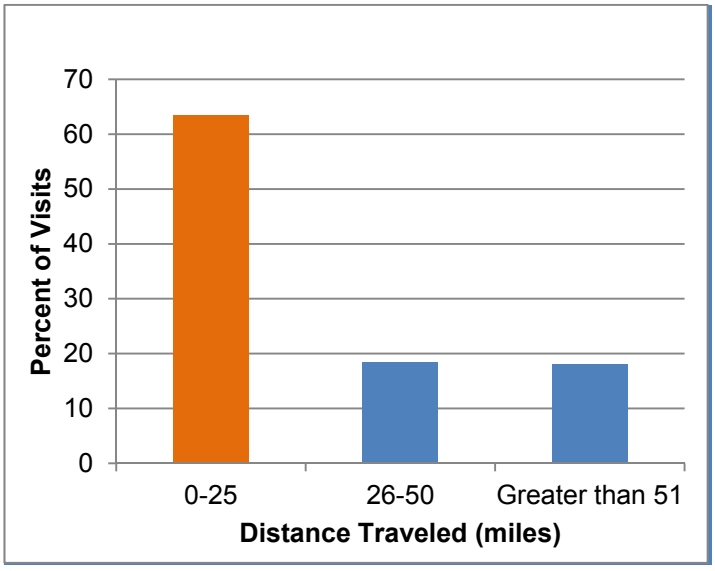
The variety of high-quality recreational activities occurring in the study area attracts a range of recreational users. A majority of the wintertime visitors to ski resorts are from out-of-state, while the majority of general recreational visits to the National Forest are from Utah residents (Figure 6).



Source: RRC Associates 2013 and U.S. Forest Service 2008

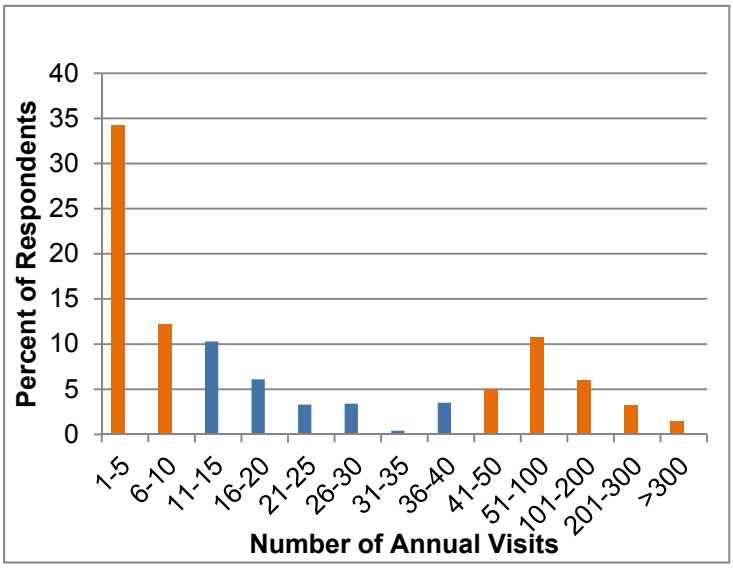
Figure 6. Comparison of Visitation of Utah Residents and Out-of-State Visitors

Visitor use monitoring conducted specifically on the Wasatch-Cache National Forest (including areas outside of the study area) shows that an overwhelming majority of general Forest visits occur close to home (Figure 7). Most visitors are only occasional visitors to the Forest (45% visit 1-10 times/year). However, there is also a notable population of avid Forest visitors (26% of visitors visit more than 40 days/year) (Figure 8). As such, use within the study area includes both out-of-state visitors and two distinct groups of local residents, with each group holding different goals and expectations for their recreation experience.



Source: U.S. Forest Service 2008

Figure 7. Distance Traveled to Visit Wasatch-Cache NF



Source: U.S. Forest Service 2008

Figure 8. Number of Visits to Wasatch-Cache NF Annually

PATTERNS OF RECREATIONAL USE

The distribution of natural resources, recreational infrastructure, and different recreational settings in the study area in combination with the preferences of users has resulted in predictable patterns of recreational use. These patterns can be used to describe the relative levels of use and geographic distribution of different activities (Figure 9). In addition to the major canyons (Little Cottonwood, Big Cottonwood, and Millcreek/Parleys canyons) and the Wasatch Back, there are several minor canyons on the Wasatch Front which are easily accessible form adjacent neighborhoods and frequently used by local hikers and dog walkers.

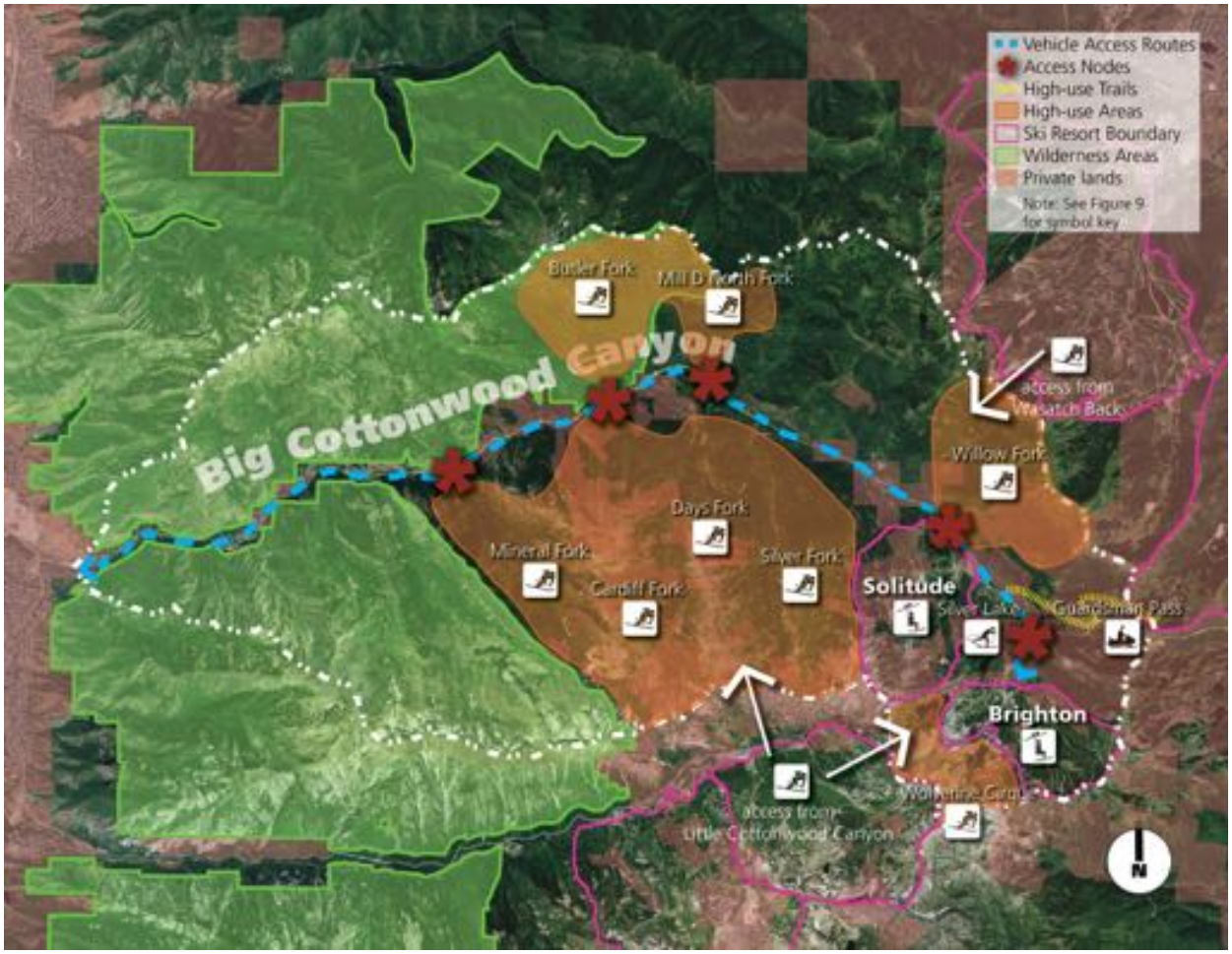
Source: Mountain Accord Recreation System Group

Figure 9. Patterns of Recreational Use

Historic changes in land use, increases in the number of recreational users, and a rise in the number of uses in the study area have resulted in increasing social interaction between users and competition for finite resources (e.g., trails, untracked snow, and areas offering opportunities for solitude), especially for the highest quality terrain and sites. Conflicts between and among user groups and between non-commercial users, commercial users, and private land owners are reoccurring, predictable, and becoming more frequent. Crowding has been identified as a major concern. However, different users perceive crowding differently. A study conducted in Albion Basin during the summertime found that visitors who visited more frequently (once per week) were much more likely to identify crowding as a concern compared to first time or occasional visitors (Friends of Alta 2010). In some areas, lack of resources desired by recreation users has resulted in unmanaged and unplanned development (e.g., user-created mountain bike trails). The increasing frequency of these conflicts has diminished the quality of recreational experiences and heightened concern about the management objectives of landowners in the study area and preservation of recreational access on remaining undeveloped lands. Special events, which take place on both the Wasatch Front and Back, contribute to focused, intense crowding including traffic congestion, short-term overuse of resources, and can contribute to resource damage. These events also attract large numbers of people into the Central Wasatch to enjoy the natural beauty of the area that may not typically participate in outdoor recreation, and provide an opportunity for education of citizens to the importance of preserving these vital resources

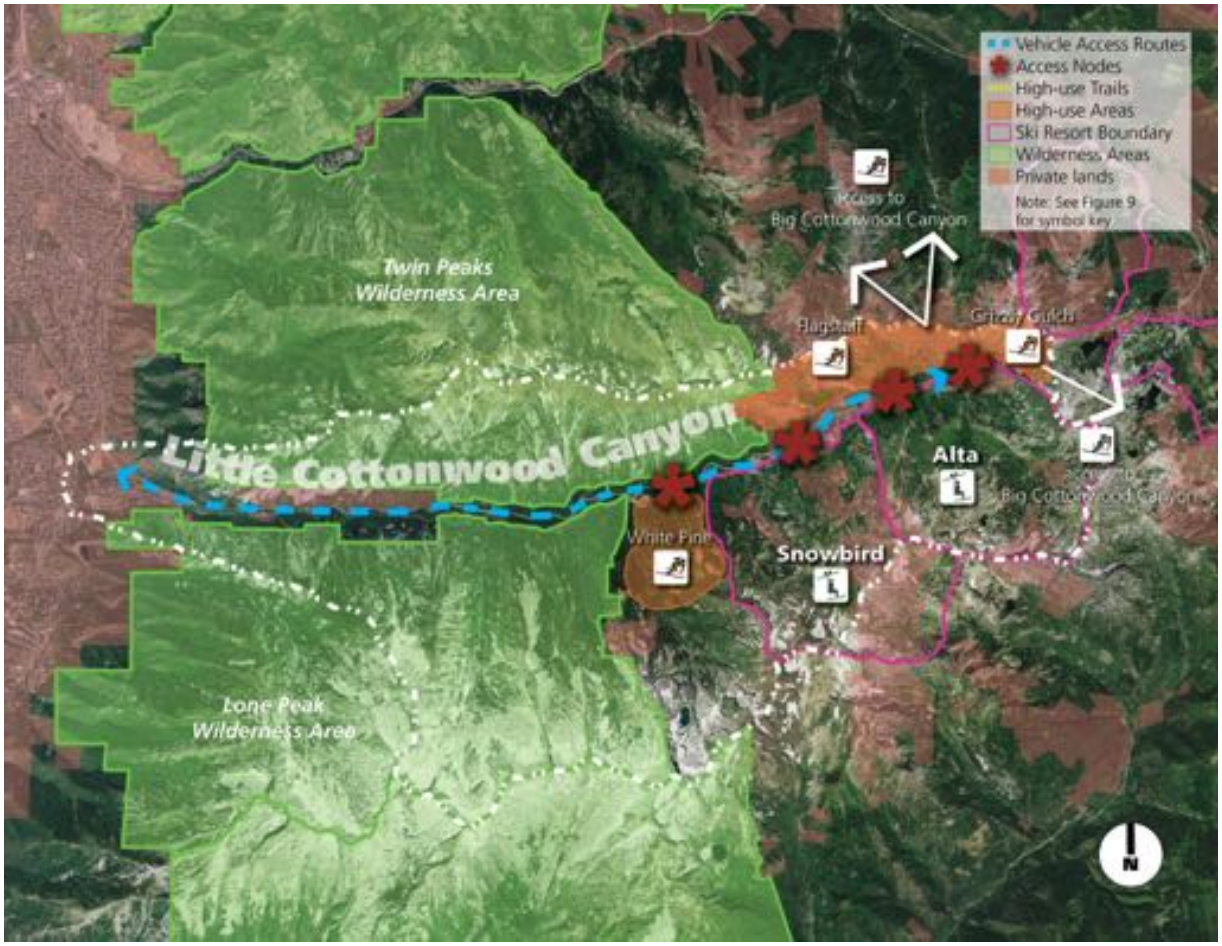
The locations and patterns of recreational conflicts, high use areas, and areas critical for the most popular recreation pursuits in the Central Wasatch vary by season, and by area. A workshop was held with the Recreation System Group on April 10, 2014 to identify prime terrain for the most popular activities and most

prominent conflict areas. In the winter, competition between multiple user groups (i.e., backcountry skiers, ski resorts, helicopter and cat skiing operations, and skiers exiting resorts) for limited skiing terrain and untracked powder snow occur. This conflict is most prevalent in areas with easy, quick access to high quality backcountry skiing terrain (upper Big and Little Cottonwood canyons) and adjacent to resort boundaries on high elevation terrain where the snowpack lingers the longest providing early and late season access to winter recreation. Other significant, reoccurring winter issues include traffic and congestion on roads used to access the mountains, lack of parking at ski resorts and popular trailheads, and competition for groomed winter trails for Nordic skiing, dog walking, biking, and other uses (Figures 10 through 13).



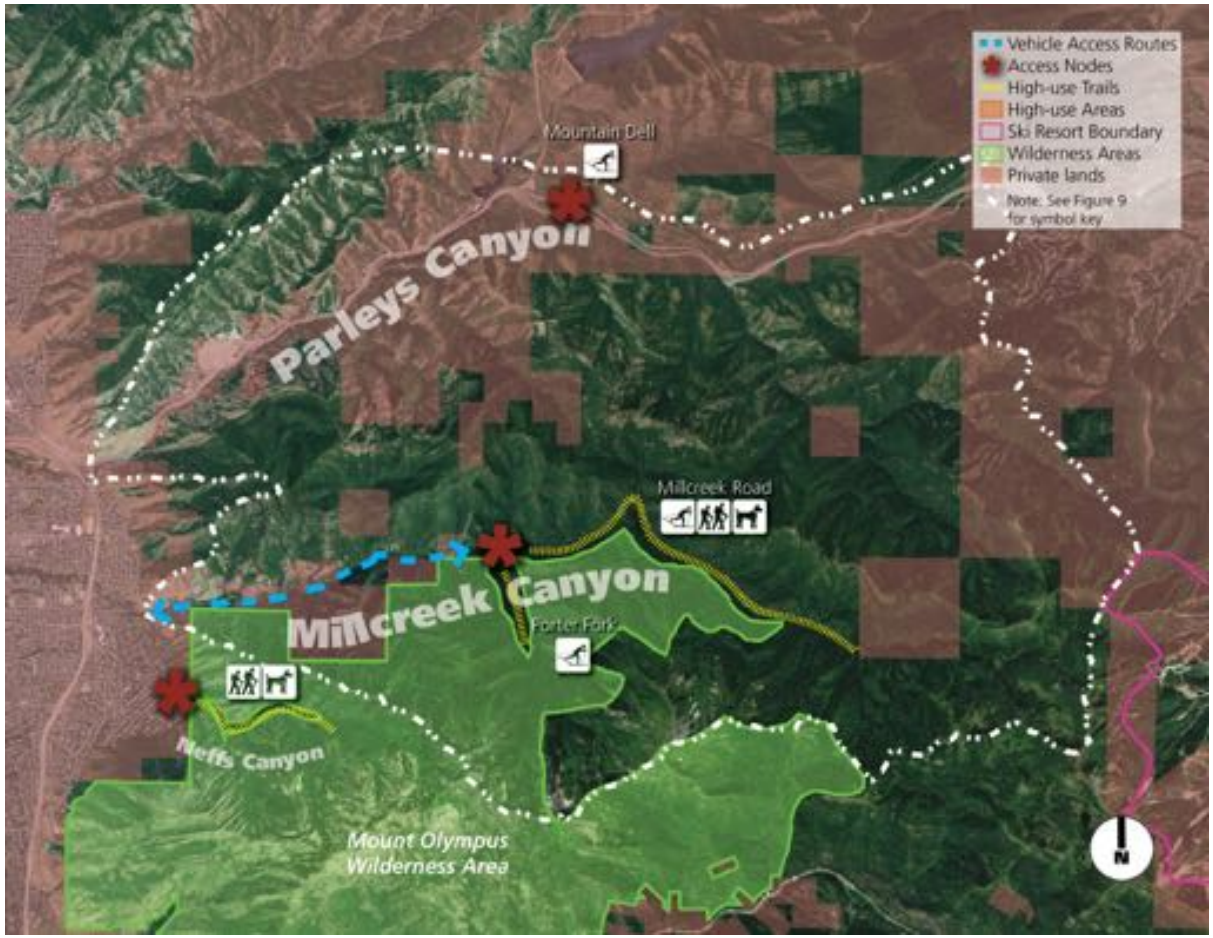
Source: Mountain Accord Recreation System Group

Figure 10. Big Cottonwood Canyon High Winter Use Areas



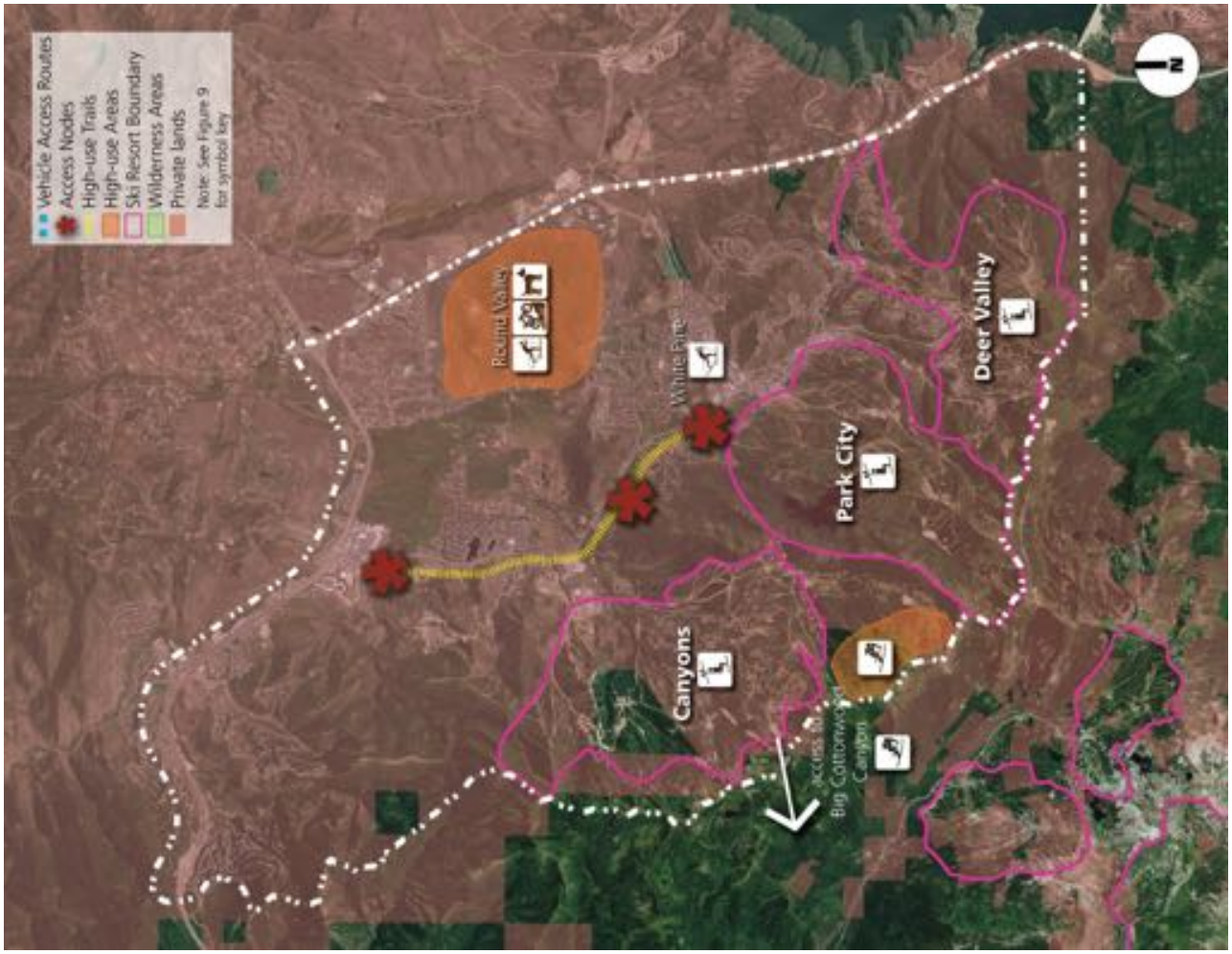
Source: Mountain Accord Recreation System Group

Figure 11. Little Cottonwood Canyon High Winter Use Areas



Source: Mountain Accord Recreation System Group

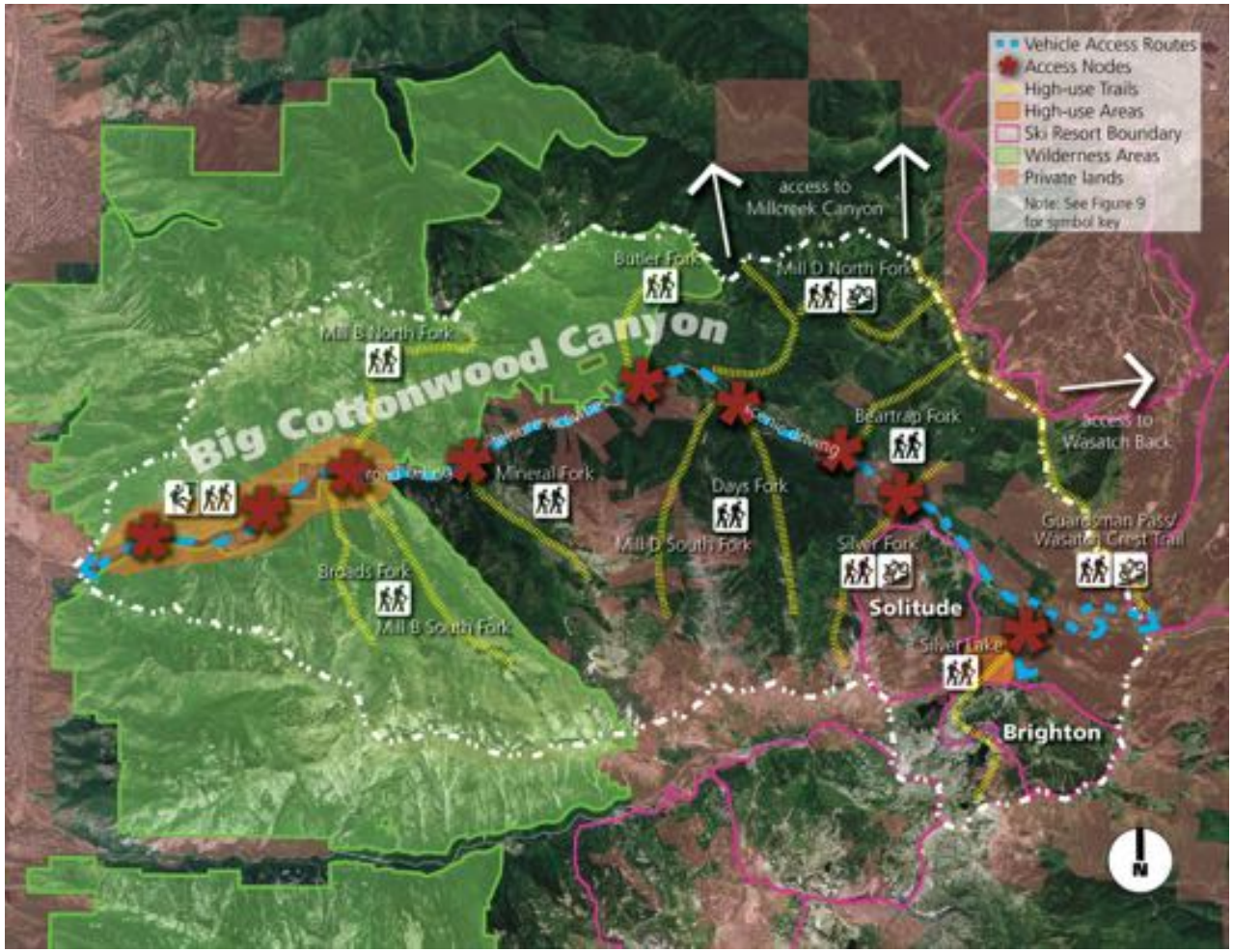
Figure 12. Millcreek and Parleys canyons High Winter Use Areas



Source: Mountain Accord Recreation System Group

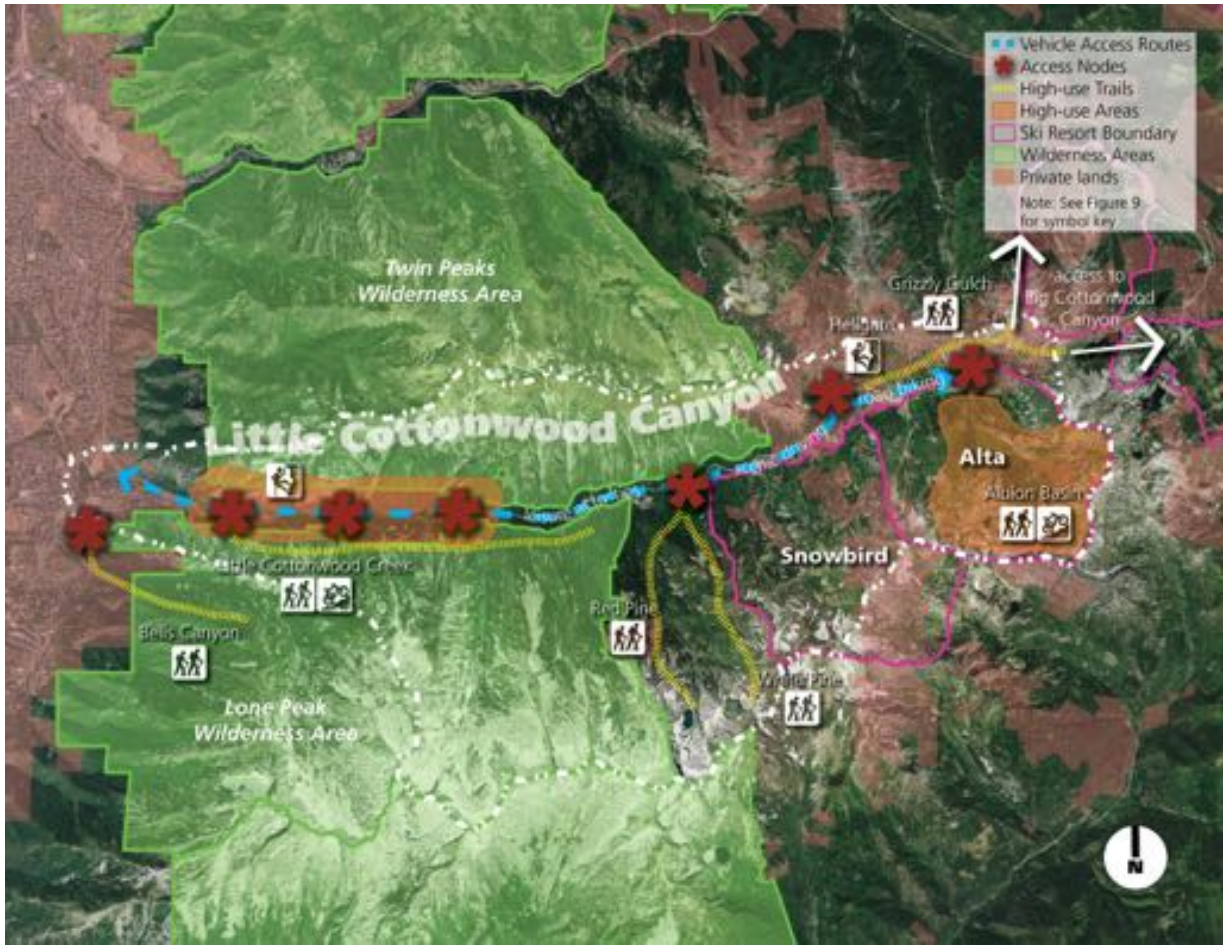
Figure 13. Wasatch Back High Winter Use Areas

In the summertime, the most substantial issues are related to crowding of trails and other sites popular with casual and leisure-focused visitors (e.g., picnic areas). In particular, access to special areas providing opportunities to view alpine lakes, waterfalls, stunning mountain scenery, and expansive views lead to the most intense crowding (Figures 14 through 17). Crowding is most likely to result in conflict between users when multiple user groups overlap (e.g., hiking, mountain biking, and dog walking) and in areas where systems are not in place to manage high levels of visitation (e.g., directional trail systems, designated use trails). Other significant, reoccurring summer issues include lack of maintenance on popular trails and facilities, overuse and unmanaged use resulting in natural resource damage, traffic and congestion on roads used by motorists and cyclists to access the mountains, lack of adequate shoulders to provide for cyclist safety, and lack of parking at popular trailheads.



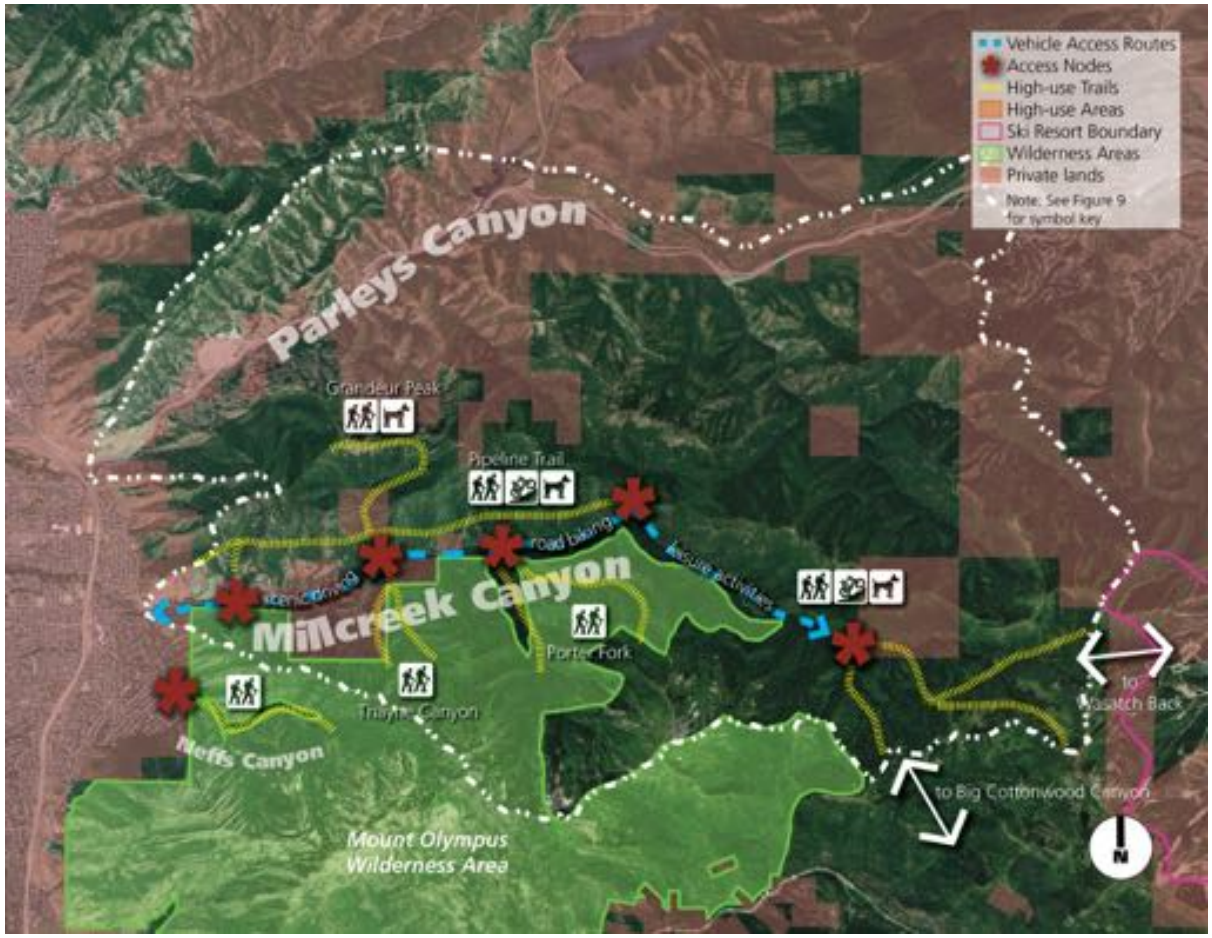
Source: Mountain Accord Recreation System Group

Figure 14. Big Cottonwood Canyon High Summer Use Areas



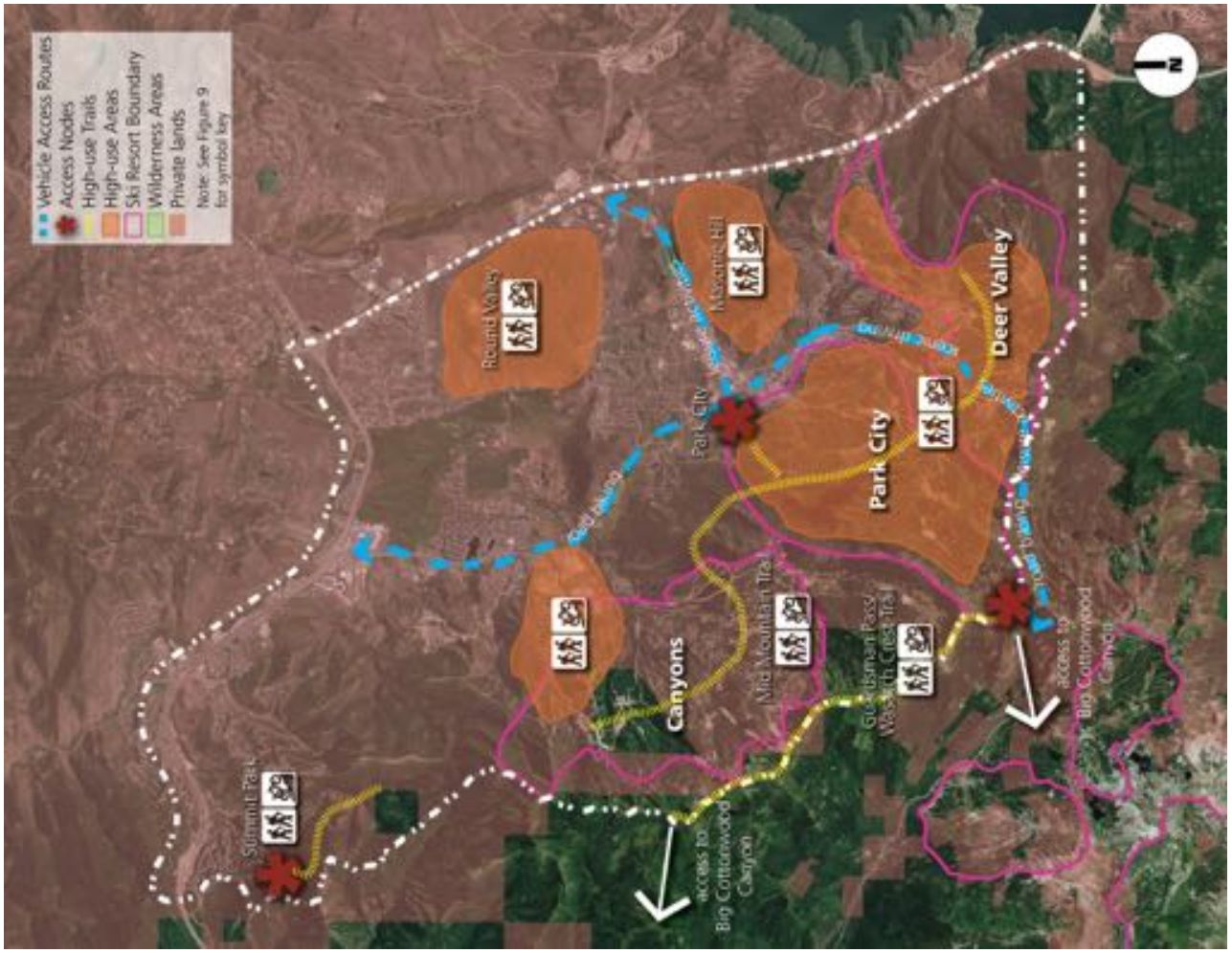
Source: Mountain Accord Recreation System Group

Figure 15. Little Cottonwood Canyon High Summer Use Areas



Source: Mountain Accord Recreation System Group

Figure 16. Millcreek and Parleys canyons High Summer Use Areas



Source: Mountain Accord Recreation System Group

Figure 17. Wasatch Back High Summer Use Areas

RECREATION FUNDING

Detailed information about existing funding for recreation facility development and maintenance and recreation management were not available to incorporation in this report. However, general observations about funding in the study area provide a good overview of issues and challenges. Multiple organizations are involved in funding recreation facility development, management, and maintenance in the study area. These organizations include federal agencies, city and county governments, special service districts, recreation advocacy groups, and private-public partnerships.

Partnerships between organizations are a large component of most major efforts and the number of partners involved can make comprehensive recreation planning and funding challenging. Funding from local government agencies is generally in the form of allocation of general funds and municipal bonding. Funding from federal government agencies (i.e., USFS) is allocated in national budgets and is constrained by national budget trends and varies based on regional and forest priorities. To help meet funding needs for recreation facility maintenance and management on federal lands, local governments and non-profit organizations provide some financial support to USFS. For example, Salt Lake County collects use fees and supplies some funding to USFS for facility maintenance in Mill Creek Canyon, Salt Lake City provides funding for recreation and watershed management staff in municipal watersheds, and the Cottonwood Canyons Foundation partners with USFS for trail and education programs. Grant funding for new facilities also plays a large role but is variable and sometimes difficult to obtain for long-term management. Despite the many partnerships in place, funding for maintenance and management of recreation infrastructure, especially trails, along the Wasatch Front is not sufficient to address the level of use, degraded condition, or design flaws which occur as a result of the how the trails were developed. The lack of adequate funding to maintain existing facilities and complex jurisdictional environment also detracts from agencies' interest in developing new facilities that could help the trail system meet the evolving demands of the public. In general, communities along the Wasatch Back have higher levels of funding as a result of bonding and tax levies applied to recreation that allows for higher levels of development, maintenance and management of these resources. As a result, the trail system on the Wasatch Back provides opportunities for high quality recreation experiences for a variety of trail-based activities and has been recognized with several national awards.

SUMMARY OF COMMENTS & POLL RESULTS ON EXISTING CONDITIONS

Comments Received at First Group Meeting

When asked to describe the most important issue facing the Wasatch Mountains, the recreation group's responses included topics related to:

- Pressures related to population growth including increases in use and conflicts between users;
- Lack of multi-jurisdictional recreational planning;
- Effects of climate change on recreation opportunities;
- Maintaining the quality of current recreation experiences;
- Balancing use of the mountains and preservation of the natural environment;
- Funding and staffing limitations for recreation management;
- Provisions for/limitations on commercial use; and
- The need to preserve land for dispersed recreational use.

When asked about the types of information that would be needed to summarize the existing condition of the recreation system the recreation group's responses included topics related to:

- A method to evaluate the qualities of aesthetics, solitude, and other qualitative elements important to recreation;
- Address funding for recreation facility development and management;
- Understand the relative levels of use and locations of heaviest use;
- Understand where the most substantial recreational issues and user conflicts occur;
- Understand the influence of adjacent recreation destinations on the recreation system in the study area;
- Address commercial use in dispersed recreation areas; and
- Include elements of disperse recreation economics.

Since the first meeting, much of this information has been gathered with the assistance of the recreation system group. Additionally, workshops were held to identify the aesthetics, opportunities for solitude, and other qualities of recreational settings important to the recreation group as well as to identify key recreation, high use, and recreation conflict areas. This material was used in the development of this report. Information regarding the importance of dispersed recreation economics was

gathered and provided to the Economic System Group including the statewide economic effect of outdoor recreation described in Outdoor Industry Association and International Mountain Bicycling Association reports.

Data Requests that could not be Filled

Members of the Recreation System Group requested information about existing funding for recreation facility development and maintenance and recreation management to be incorporated into the description of existing conditions. Detailed funding numbers for recreation development, management, and maintenance are not available for this existing condition report.

Summary of Poll Results on Existing Conditions Information

Results of Poll Conducted on April 1, 2014

The members of the Recreation System Group were polled on their level of concurrence with the draft Existing Conditions report plus changes recommended by the Group. They were asked to indicate their level of concurrence with the following statement:

This Report (plus recommended changes) accurately represents currently available information on existing system conditions to inform my vote on a future Idealized System.

1. Concur
2. Concur with minor point of contention
3. Disagree with outcome but consent to move forward
4. Dissent
5. Waive or Abstain

Poll results were:

- Number of responses: 34
- 1 (concur with no contention) : 15 %
- 2 (concur with minor or no contention): 59%
- 3 (consent to move forward): 15%
- 4 (dissent): 12 %
- 5 (waive or abstain): 0%

Members who dissented, or who disagreed with the outcome but consent to move forward, were asked to comment on their response. Comments are summarized below:

- Concerns with the vision projected - feel like the previous visions need to be part of the existing conditions.
- ONE Wasatch has a clear vision and proposal, what are the solutions proposed by this project? There is a need to identify where prime backcountry areas are located to balance this.
- Too much weight placed on U.S. Forest Service data. Understand there is option to supplement this data with qualitative information.
- More review opportunities and longer report review periods before polling.
- Need a better balance of resident and out-of-state guests in report.
- It is difficult to agree to a report without seeing the revised version. Minor point of contention. System group members will send any written comments technical leads.

SOURCES

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Note: This report reflects the input of the System Group, which is an advisory body to the Mountain Accord. As such, this report may not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Mountain Accord Executive Board organizations. The intent of this report is to lead to the development of a recommendation from the System Group to the Executive Board for their consideration.


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