

Recreation Vision Statement

The recreation system in the Central Wasatch is balanced, sustainable, and provides a range of settings that accommodates increasing demand for year-round outdoor recreation opportunities while protecting solitude, naturalness, and other backcountry values by encouraging stewardship and high levels of use at thoughtfully designed locations with convenient access.

Recreation Goals, Metrics and Targets

	Measurement Unit	Target
An Ideal Central Wasatch Recreation System Would:		
Goal 1: Identify and establish high use areas to focus where future growth in recreation occurs.		
MAPPING EXERCISE: Identify desirable high use nodes in charrette #1.		
Metric a: Score based on checklist of desirable high use nodes (see scoring worksheet for checklist).	# of nodes	
Metric b: Average number of user level types (casual, active, committed) served at high use nodes by season (see scoring worksheet for user type definitions).	Average # of user types served by season	
Metric c: Average number of uses (e.g., resort and backcountry skiing) served at high use nodes by season (see scoring worksheet for lists of seasonal uses).	Average # of uses served by season	
Goal 2: Preserve special, unique recreation areas and settings to maintain opportunities for solitude and naturalness.		
MAPPING EXERCISE: Identify areas that need more protection due to high quality scenic vistas and backcountry recreation values in charrette #1. On non-private lands, the prescription to protect these areas will be completed in charrettes #2 and 3, including desirable, satisfactory, and undesirable outcomes.		
Metric d: Aggregate score based on checklist of areas to be preserved with a suggested level of management (e.g., wilderness, special management area, backcountry skiing areas with no helicopter access, permitted access, etc.) with relative scores measuring desirability of different management options (see scoring worksheet for matrix and examples).	Aggregate score	
Goal 3: Provide a well-designed, appropriately maintained, well-signed, and interconnected trail network that meets demand and can adapt to evolving uses.		
MAPPING EXERCISE: Identify key trail connections in charrettes #2 and 3.		
Metric e: Score based on checklist of desirable trail connections completed (see scoring worksheet for checklist).	# of trail connections completed	
Metric f: Qualitative assessment of trail system quality by area (Big Cottonwood Canyon, Little Cottonwood Canyon, Parley/Millcreek canyons, and Wasatch Back) and overall system, by scoring 6 qualitative components on a scale of 1-3 for a total of 18 points (see scoring worksheet for matrix).	Total score by area and overall system	
Goal 4: Pursue the most appropriate and feasible means of securing legal public access to critical recreational opportunities while mitigating conflicts on privately-owned lands.		
MAPPING EXERCISE: Identify areas that need more protection in charrette #1. On private lands, assess the value of acquiring access (e.g., purchase, conservation		

<u>easement, recreation easement, etc.) to each area in charrettes #2 and 3.</u>		
Metric g: Aggregate score based on checklist of key areas where acquiring public access is desirable (see scoring worksheet for matrix and examples).	Aggregate score	
Goal 5: Establish appropriate levels of access and designed settings in harmony with the desired recreation experience.		
<u>MAPPING EXERCISE: Identify proposed high, moderate, and low use nodes in charrette #1.</u>		
Metric h: Qualitative ranking of responsiveness of the designed recreation environment to the desired recreation setting by scoring 4 qualitative components on a scale of 1-3 for a total of 12 points for each node (node scores will be averaged by area [Big Cottonwood Canyon, Little Cottonwood Canyon, Parley/Millcreek canyons, and Wasatch Back]) (see scoring worksheet for matrix).	Average score by area	
Goal 6: Establish an organization, with authority to act based on public support, that fosters long-term success of the Central Wasatch recreation system by promoting collaborative and united management, user education, and acquisition of ongoing funding for continued system maintenance, evolution, and management.		
Metric i: Number of participating agencies with authority to act and the means to provide and secure ongoing funding (e.g., U.S. Forest Service, Salt Lake City, Wasatch County, etc.).	# of agencies participating and providing funding	
Metric j: Annual recreation budget for a Central Wasatch recreation organization	\$	