

RECREATION SYSTEM GROUP POLLING QUESTIONS

OVERALL RECREATION SYSTEM

1. I support advancing the Idealized Recreation System to the Executive Board for consideration in the analysis of combined scenarios, with the understanding that there are still some unresolved topics without consensus (i.e., land preservation mechanisms, transportation connection, One Wasatch).

OTHER POTENTIAL ACTIONS

The following statements refer to potential actions for implementing the Recreation System goals, as well as actions being considered by other System Groups that could have relevance to the Recreation System goals. You will be asked to indicate your level of agreement with each statement. The statements have 5 response options: (1) strongly agree, (2) agree, (3) undecided/neutral, (4) disagree, and (5) strongly disagree.

Following the polling on each group of questions, you will have a chance to briefly summarize the following:

- For those who agree or strongly agree, are there conditions that need to be attached to the proposed action to achieve that level of agreement; and,
- For those who disagree or strongly disagree, what are the key threats to the recreation goals from that proposed action?

POTENTIAL FEDERAL LAND PRESERVATION ACTIONS

1. The existing USFS Land Use Plan or an amendment to the plan is sufficient to protect recreation areas in the in the Central Wasatch. Congressional or executive designations are not needed.
2. Additional congressional or executive designations (e.g., Wilderness, National Conservation Area, National Recreation Area, National Monument) should be used to provide additional long-term protection against development while maintaining flexibility for recreation.
3. Pursuing a congressional or executive action would require additional discussion to identify the appropriate designation and allowed uses in each area.
4. Wilderness is an appropriate tool for protection of some but not all recreation areas in the Central Wasatch.
5. Wilderness modifications should be made to accommodate completion of the Bonneville Shoreline Trail.

POTENTIAL TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM ACTIONS

1. Public transit should promote accessibility and connection of recreation areas in the Central Wasatch.
2. A public transportation connection (either rail, bus or gondola) between Big and Little Cottonwood Canyons and the Wasatch Back is desirable to promote recreation connectivity and to reduce roadway congestion.
3. The impacts of a Little Cottonwood/Big Cottonwood/Park City connection on recreation are highly dependent on mode.
4. An underground connection (e.g., rail tunnel) would have fewer adverse impacts on recreation than an above ground connection (e.g., gondola).
5. Providing transit service to new ridgetop locations that do not currently have transit or roadway access (e.g., Twin Lakes Pass) is undesirable.
6. Recreation crowding and induced demand are my biggest fears regarding a Little Cottonwood/Big Cottonwood/Park City connection.
7. Change of existing community character and loss of undeveloped landscapes are my biggest fears regarding a Little Cottonwood/Big Cottonwood/Park City connection.

ONE WASATCH

1. One Wasatch is desirable because it will create a new and unique recreation experience and expand opportunities to manage for high density recreation at the resorts.
2. One Wasatch could be acceptable if the design is developed and refined through stakeholder involvement to limit unintended consequences (e.g., appropriate boundary management to limit side-country access, allowances for uphill traffic in Grizzly Gulch, etc.) and to negotiate potential trade-offs (e.g., permanent public access to Flagstaff Ridge).
3. Impacts to or loss of backcountry terrain are my primary concerns with One Wasatch.
4. Potential visual impacts on undeveloped landscapes and potential loss of opportunities for solitude and restorative nature experiences are my primary concerns with One Wasatch.
5. One Wasatch would have the largest impact on recreation at this location:
 - a. Grizzly Gulch (connection between Big and Little Cottonwood Canyons)
 - b. Guardsman Pass (connection between Big Cottonwood Canyon and Park City)

OTHER POTENTIAL ACTIONS

1. Some new development (e.g., restaurants, restrooms, shops) within resort base areas could support the vision and goals of the Recreation System Group provided that the character of the area is preserved.
2. Parking fees and access restrictions are tools that I would support using to manage recreational use in the Central Wasatch and achieve the vision and goals of the Recreation System Group.
3. Opening Guardsman Pass to year round automobile access would help meet the goals of the Recreation System Group.

RECREATION SYSTEM VISION AND GOALS

VISION

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.

GOALS

- Identify and establish high use areas to focus where future growth in recreation occurs.
- Preserve special, unique recreation areas and settings to maintain opportunities for solitude and naturalness.
- Provide a well-designed, appropriately maintained, well-signed, and interconnected trail network that meets demand and can adapt to evolving uses.
- Pursue the most appropriate and feasible means of securing legal public access to critical recreational opportunities while mitigating conflicts on privately-owned lands.
- Establish appropriate levels of access and designed settings in harmony with the desired recreation experience.
- 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.