

Winter Recreation Opportunity Spectrum

08/05/09

Setting Indicators <i>Key indicators</i>	Primitive (10%) <i>Visitor Satisfaction Availability of Untracked Snow</i>	Semi-primitive Non-motorized (10%) <i>Visitor Satisfaction Availability of untracked snow</i>	Semi-primitive Motorized (29%) <i>Visitor Satisfaction Availability of untracked snow</i>	Roaded Natural (37%) <i>Visitor Satisfaction Availability of parking</i>	Non-motorized Social (0.8%) <i>Visitor Satisfaction Ability to recreate out of sight and sound of motorized use</i>	Motorized Social (11%) <i>Visitor Satisfaction Availability of parking</i>	Rural (2%) <i>Visitor Satisfaction Availability of parking</i>
Physical a. Remoteness b. Size c. Evidence of human development d. Trails/Facilities e. Parking f. Availability of untracked snow	a. >1/2 mile from any road or motorized trail. b. Typically >5,000 acres. May be <5,000 acres for areas that are remote and difficult to access in winter. c. None. d. None. e. None. f. <i>Excellent. Untracked snow is available to 90% of users on non- peak days (up to a week after the last significant snowfall).</i>	a. Typically >1/2 miles from any road. May be adjacent to motorized trails. Includes SPNM transition zones between motorized areas and primitive areas. b. Typically >2,500 acres. May be <2,500 acres in transition zones. c. Evidence of humans minimal and does not detract from natural setting. d. Some designated trails, but not common. Trails are marked but not groomed. e. None. f. <i>Good. Untracked snow is available to 70-80% of users on non-peak days (up to a week after the last significant snowfall).</i>	a. > 1/2 mile from primary access roads. b. Typically >2,500 acres. May be <2,500 acres in corridors and transition zones. c. Evidence of humans minimal and does not detract from natural setting. d. Motorized trails may be groomed. Non-motorized trails are not groomed. e. None. f. <i>Good. Untracked snow is available to 70-80% of users on non-peak days (up to a week after the last significant snowfall).</i>	a. Adjacent to secondary access roads. b. Typically 640 acres, but exceptions may occur. c. Landscape partially modified by man-made improvements, but none overpower natural features. d. Modest rustic facilities such as warming huts and restrooms. Marked and groomed trails. e. <i>Small-moderate snoparks (up to 100 PAOTs). Designed parking capacity accommodates visitor demand on 100% of non-peak and 95% of peak days.</i> f. Fair. Untracked snow is available to 60% of users on non-peak days (up to a week after the last significant snowfall).	a. Adjacent to secondary access roads. b. Typically 640 acres, but exceptions may occur. c. Man-made improvements associated with recreation facilities and developments. d. Modest rustic facilities such as warming huts and restrooms. Marked and groomed trails. e. <i>Small-moderate snoparks (up to 100 PAOTs). Designed parking capacity accommodates visitor demand on 100% of non-peak and 95% of peak days.</i> f. Fair. Untracked snow is available to 50% of users on non-peak days (up to a week after the last significant snowfall).	a. Adjacent to secondary access roads. b. Typically 640 acres, but exceptions may occur. c. Man-made improvements associated with recreation facilities and developments. d. Modest rustic facilities such as warming huts and restrooms. Marked and groomed trails. e. <i>Small-moderate snoparks (up to 100 PAOTs). Designed parking capacity accommodates visitor demand on 100% of non-peak and 95% of peak days.</i> f. Fair. Untracked snow is available to 50% of users on non-peak days (up to a week after the last significant snowfall).	a. Adjacent to primary access roads. b. No minimum. c. Obvious man-made improvements not recreation related. d. Modern facilities match character of natural landscape. e. <i>Moderate-large snoparks (100+ PAOTs). Designed parking capacity accommodates visitor demand on 100% of non-peak and 90% of peak days.</i> f. N/A
Managerial a. Motorized Use b. Separation of Use c. Visitor Services d. Outfitter-guides e. Law enforcement f. Safety	a. None. b. None. c. None. d. Limited guided opp protect resource and social values e. Very Limited - use restrictions and enforcement presence enhance resource and social values. f. Visitors must rely on advanced knowledge of winter recreation hazards and self-rescue skills.	a. None. b. None. c. Basic maps and information. d. Guided opp to provide access to non-motorized areas and enhance resource and social values. e. Use restrictions and enforcement presence common at boundaries. Signs at boundaries and access points. f. High degree of self-reliance. Rescue is limited.	a. Yes. b. May occur to provide opp for non-motorized Alpine Solitude. c. Basic maps and information. d. Guided opp provide access to visitors with some previous knowledge or experience. e. Use restrictions and enforcement presence common at boundaries. Signs at boundaries and access points. f. High degree of self-reliance. Rescue is limited.	a. Yes. b. No. c. Information materials describe rec opp. d. Guided opp provide access to visitors with limited knowledge and experience. e. Rules clearly posted at facilities and access points. Enforcement presence common. f. Moderate feeling of safety.	a. No. b. Yes. c. Personnel provide visitor information. d. Guided opp focus on skill development for beginners. e. Rules clearly posted at facilities and access points. Enforcement presence common. Focus on user education and conflict reduction. f. Moderate-high feeling of safety.	a. Yes. b. Yes. c. Personnel provide visitor information. d. Guided opp focus on skill development for beginners. e. Rules clearly posted at facilities and access points. Enforcement presence common. Focus on user education and conflict reduction. f. Moderate-high feeling of safety.	a. Yes. b. Yes. c. Personnel provide visitor information. d. N/A e. Rules clearly posted at facilities and access points. Enforcement presence routine. Focus on user education and conflict reduction. f. High feeling of safety.
Social a. Opportunities ¹ b. Human noise c. Encounters and group size d. Satisfaction	a. Opportunities for challenge, self-reliance and solitude prevail (Alpine Solitude). b. Rare - heard <10% of time during peak hours. c. Infrequent encounters with groups of 3 or less. d. <i>No more than 10% of visitors are dissatisfied with their experience in due to crowding or behavior of other visitors.</i>	a. Opportunities for challenge and self-reliance prevail (Alpine Solitude, Backcountry & Alpine Challenge). b. Infrequent - heard 10-25% of time during peak hours. c. Infrequent encounters with groups of 6 or less. d. <i>No more than 10% of visitors are dissatisfied with their experience due to crowding or behavior of other visitors.</i>	a. Opportunities for challenge and self-reliance prevail (Backcountry & Alpine Challenge). b. Infrequent - heard 10-25% of time during peak hours. c. Infrequent encounters with groups of 6 or less. d. <i>No more than 10% of visitors are dissatisfied with their experience due to crowding or behavior of other visitors.</i>	a. Opportunities for social interaction and family bonding prevail (Motorized Social & Non-motorized Social). b. Regular - heard 25-50% of time during peak hours. c. Regular encounters on travel routes with groups of up to 12 people. d. <i>Percent of visitors satisfied with winter recreation opportunities is the same as or better than FY 2008.</i>	a. Opportunities for social interaction and family bonding prevail (Non-motorized Social). b. <i>Regular - Sounds of people heard 25-50% of time during peak hours. Motorized vehicle noise is infrequent.</i> c. Regular encounters throughout area with groups of up to 12 people. d. <i>Percent of visitors satisfied with winter recreation opportunities is the same as or better than FY 2008.</i>	a. Opportunities for social interaction and family bonding prevail (Motorized Social). b. Frequent - Sounds of people and motorized vehicles heard >50% of time during peak hours. c. Regular encounters throughout area with groups of up to 12 people. d. <i>Percent of visitors satisfied with winter recreation opportunities is the same as or better than FY 2008.</i>	a. Opportunities for social interaction and family bonding prevail (Motorized Social & Non-motorized Social). b. Frequent - heard >50% of time during peak hours. c. Other people continuously present at parking areas and within 1/2 mile of sno-parks. Groups of 15+ common in sno-parks. d. <i>Percent of visitors satisfied with winter recreation opportunities is the same as or better than FY 2008.</i>

¹ See WRSA pg. 18-19