

**Table 4. Preliminary Draft Alternatives by Key Topic – Party Size: People and Stock
October 2012**

Topic	Common to All Action Alternatives	Alternative 1 – No Action - Current Management Practices Continue.	Alternative 2 – Protect wilderness character while accommodating increased visitor use and allowing for expanded facilities for visitor and administrative support.	Alternative 3 – Protect wilderness character by balancing visitor access, development, and restrictions.	Alternative 4 – Protect wilderness character and reduce need for development by decreasing visitor access and increasing restrictions.	Alternative 5 – Substantially reduce development and protect wilderness character by reducing visitor use and increasing restrictions.	Alternative 6 – Provide for the most unconstrained wilderness experience and protect wilderness character by significantly reducing visitor access.
PARTY SIZE: PEOPLE AND STOCK							
<p>Party Size – People</p> <p>Size of parties traveling and/or camping together is managed to preserve opportunities for solitude of other visitors and to reduce adverse impacts on the natural character of wilderness.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Zones B-D would allow for variances based on resource concerns and/or the protection of wilderness character. Variances would be considered on a case-by-case basis for administrative purposes such as trail maintenance projects, resource management, and research. Affiliated parties that exceed party size limit must travel and camp ½ mile from each other. 	<p>Common to All Zones –</p>	<p>Common to All Zones –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing variances in Zones B-D would be removed (party size of 8). 	<p>Common to All Zones –</p>	<p>Common to All Zones –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing variances in Zones B-D (party size of 8) would be adopted permanently at Dusy Basin, Sphinx Lakes, Darwin Canyon, Mount Langlely, Sixty Lakes Basin, and potentially other specific areas (TBD). 	<p>Common to All Zones –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Same as Alt 4. 	<p>Common to All Zones –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Same as Alt 2.
		<p>Zone A and Day Use –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maximum of 25 people traveling in wilderness [from 1986 Backcountry Management Plan (BMP)]. 	<p>Zone A and Day Use –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Party size limit of 35 would be implemented. A party size restriction of 4 would be implemented for camping at North Dome. 	<p>Zone A and Day Use –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Same as Alt 2. 	<p>Zone A and Day Use –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Party size limit of 25 would be implemented. 	<p>Zone A and Day Use –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Party size limit of 20 would be implemented. 	<p>Zone A and Day Use –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Party size limit of 15 would be implemented.
		<p>Zones B, C, and D –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 15 people per party maximum. Temporary variances in 5 specific areas where there is a restriction of 8 people/stock or combination: Dusy Basin, Sphinx Lakes, Darwin Canyon, Mount Langlely, and Sixty Lakes. 	<p>Zones B and C –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 18 people per party maximum. 	<p>Zones B and C –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 15 people per party maximum. 	<p>Zones B and C –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12 people per party maximum. 	<p>Zones B and C –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 people per party maximum. 	<p>Zones B and C –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Same as Alt 5.

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			Zone D – • 15 people per party maximum.	Zone D – • 12 people per party maximum. • Existing variances in Zone D would be considered for permanent adoption (party size of 8) at Dusy Basin, Sphinx Lakes, Darwin Canyon, Mount Langley, Sixty Lakes Basin and possibly other specific areas to be determined (TBD).	Zone D – • 8 people per party maximum.	Zone D – • Same as Alt 4.	Zone D – • 10 people per party maximum.
<p>Party Size – with Stock</p> <p>Party size for stock parties is managed to protect resources, preserve opportunities for solitude and to control impacts on wilderness character created by the number of stock and people traveling and camping together. The entire party size would be limited to manage social and resource impacts (wilderness character).</p> <p>The goal of combining the maximum people/stock numbers is to give the visitor flexibility to manage their party size and composition.</p> <p>For example, with a party size limit of 20 (with no more than 12 people or no more than 12 head of stock), the following would be allowed: A party of 12 people and 8 head of stock; or a party of 10 people and 10 head of stock, <i>as</i></p>	<p>Local changes may be implemented to protect wilderness character and for resource protection.</p> <p>A maximum party size would be established for each zone and the number of people and stock would be limited, not to exceed overall party size (described by the three numbers below):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The total number of people in a party is limited to the same total number of people allowed in a hiking party to limit social impacts. The total number of stock in a party is limited to manage resource impacts. The overall party size is limited to manage the cumulative social and 	<p>Common to All Zones –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maximum stock party size of 20 head/15 people except where noted. Temporary variances in 5 areas in Zone D, with a temporary restriction of 8 people/stock or combination: Dusy Basin, Sphinx Lakes, Darwin Canyon, Mount Langley, and Sixty Lakes Basin. <p>Zone A –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stock party size of 20 head w/ 25 people (from 1986 BMP). <p>Zone B –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stock Party Size of 20 head with 15 people -- with some lower exceptions, e.g. 15 head at Castle Domes, Scaffold, Cement Table, and Junction (Kern) Meadows. 	<p>Common to All Zones –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing variances in 5 areas of Zone D (combined party size of 8) would be removed. <p>Zone A –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stock-supported day trips only: -Max number of people=35 -Max number of stock=20 Combined total = no more than 40 <p>Zone B –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Max number of people=18 -Max number of stock=20 Combined total = no more than 36 	<p>Common to All Zones –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing variances in 5 areas of Zone D (combined party size of 8) would be considered for permanent adoption at Dusy Basin, Sphinx Lakes, Darwin Canyon, Mount Langley, and Sixty Lakes Basin. <p>Zone A –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stock-supported day trips only: -Max number of people=15 -Max number of stock=20 Combined total = no more than 35 <p>Zone B –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Max number of people=15 -Max number of stock=20 Combined total = no more than 35 	<p>Common to All Zones –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing variances in 5 areas of Zone D (combined party size of 8) would be adopted permanently at Dusy Basin, Sphinx Lakes, Darwin Canyon, Mount Langley, and Sixty Lakes Basin. <p>Zone A –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stock-supported day trips only: -Max number of people=15 -Max number of stock=15 Combined total = no more than 25 <p>Zone B –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Max number of people=12 -Max number of stock=12 Combined total = no more than 20 	<p>Common to All Zones –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing variances in 5 areas of Zone D (combined party size of 8) would be removed. <p>Zone A –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Same as Alt 4. <p>Zone B –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Max number of people=10 -Max number of stock=10 Combined total = no more than 20 	<p>Common to All Zones –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Same as Alt 2. <p>Zone A –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stock-supported day trips only: -Max number of people=12 -Max number of stock=12 Combined total = no more than 20 <p>Zone B –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Max number of people=10 -Max number of stock=10 Combined total = no more than 16

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<i>long as the maximum number of people AND maximum head of stock AND maximum total party size are not exceeded.</i>	resource impacts of a large party.	Zone C – • Stock party size of 20 head with 15 people with some lower exceptions (per 1986 BMP and temporary restrictions).	Zone C – -Max number of people=18 -Max number of stock=20 Combined total = no more than 36	Zone C – -Max number of people=15 -Max number of stock=20 Combined total = no more than 35	Zone C – -Max number of people=12 -Max number of stock=12 Combined total = no more than 20	Zone C – -Max number of people=10 -Max number of stock=10 Combined total = no more than 20	Zone C – -Max number of people=10 -Max number of stock=10 Combined total = no more than 16
		Zone D – • Stock party size of 20 head with 15 people with some lower exceptions in cross-country areas where stock is specifically allowed.	Zone D – -Max number of people=15 -Max number of stock=20 Combined total = no more than 35	Zone D – -Max number of people=12 -Max number of stock=12 Combined total = no more than 20	Zone D – -Max number of people=8 -Max number of stock=8 Combined total = no more than 12	Zone D – • No stock would be allowed.	Zone D – -Max number of people=10 -Max number of stock=10 Combined total = no more than 16