

**Devils Postpile National Monument**  
**Draft General Management Plan/Environmental Assessment**  
**Public Comments and Responses (All)**

January 2015

<b>Category</b>	<b>Comment</b>	<b>Response</b>
Alternatives	Alternative C is the best of three alternatives.	Comment noted
Alternatives	[I prefer] Alternative 3	Comment noted
Alternatives	nothing wrong with the old plan. stop wasting money	Comment noted
Alternatives	I like the idea of reducing development within the monument and protecting the watershed.	Comment noted
Alternatives	I support Alternative C, the preferred alternative. It seems to preserve and enhance the current features and values of a national monument and yet maintain or enhance the visitor experience.	Comment noted
Alternatives	I also like making available some visitor enhancement programs in the town of Mammoth Lakes, at the current ranger station or otherwise.	Comment noted
Alternatives	I would like to see alternative C chosen for the park. It seems it would protect cultural and natural resources more than the other alternatives. Also, the boundary adjustment would benefit management of heavy use areas and expand the park lands.	Comment noted
Alternatives	Please keep in mind that this national monument is home to many wild creatures. It is our duty and a privilege as a national monument, as staff and as the educated public to offer protection.	Comment noted
Alternatives	We support the actions included in the preferred alternative as they affect the PCT experience ... The PCTA supports the Preferred Alternative – Connecting People to Nature and Heritage. We commend the GMP Team for developing an alternative that protects the natural environment while promoting recreation and interpretation. Our focused concerns regarding protection of the PCT and its surrounding environment are well addressed throughout the document with recognition of the trails' attributes, establishment of protection zones along the trail, keeping proposed new development away from the trail, and the need for continued connectivity to ancillary connector trails providing access to the PCT.	Comment noted
Alternatives	I prefer Alternative C because it offers a wide variety of opportunities for visitors and for coordination of government agencies. The plans for development seem reasonable.	Comment noted
Alternatives	We prefer Alternative C, the preferred alternative, as providing for protection of the National Monument and also for enhancing the visitor experience. We believe it will provide for excellent management of the Monument for the next 20 years. We agree with the comments on the plan provided by Malcolm Clark, Chair of the Range of Light Group, Sierra Club.	Comment noted
Alternatives	We like and support having most administrative services in the Town of Mammoth Lakes.	Comment noted
Alternatives	We generally agree with the proposals in Alternative C to provide for the best management of the National Monument for the future.	Comment noted
Alternatives	Continuing to use scientific study and analysis for planning is very important.	Comment noted
Alternatives	Climate change and more visitors will undoubtedly affect the Monument. This should be included in planning.	Much of the monument's responsibilities regarding climate change are outlined on page 34, under Servicewide Laws, Policies, and Desired Conditions. In addition, the park has identified a number of actions to be implemented under any alternative that relate to climate change and sustainability, described on page 63.

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Alternatives	ESIA supports the Preferred Alternative, "Connecting People to Nature and Heritage"	Comment noted
Alternatives	ESIA supports the four management zones as defined in the document - Front country, Sensitive Resource Management, Natural and Portal and the characteristics defined for each management zone.	Comment noted
Alternatives	Devils Postpile NM Developed Area: Ranger Station – ESIA supports the enhancement and expansion of the ranger station in order to improve accessibility and provide additional outdoor space for interpretation. We may have access to resources to help expand the outdoor interpretive experiences at the ranger station. We also support the redesign of the shuttle bus stop and parking area to clearly identify points for accessing the bus and the ranger station.	Comment noted
Alternatives	ESIA supports the recommendations for operations and the need to look to partners to help address needs to expand operations facilities.	Comment noted
Alternatives	ESIA supports the monument's desire to enhance the experience at the base of the Postpile through small site improvements. This may include improvements to the trail access and adding interpretive panels and experiences.	Comment noted
Alternatives	ESIA supports the recommendations in the areas of Natural Resources, Cultural Resources, Climate Change and Sustainability, Wilderness, Visitor Experience, Interpretation, Education and Information.	Comment noted
Alternatives	ESIA is very interested in learning more about the monument's long-range interpretive plan and would like to engage with the monument to explore opportunities for development and implementation of the plan.	Comment noted
Alternatives	MLR supports the preferred alternative - Alternative C, Connecting People to Nature and Heritage. The comments below are intended to help identify potential enhancements to the preferred alternative. These enhancements may include expanding on partnership opportunities to assist with the implementation of the final adopted General Management Plan.	Comment noted
Alternatives	MLR supports the four management zones as defined in the document - Front country, Sensitive Resource Management, Natural and Portal and the characteristics defined for each management zone.	Comment noted
Alternatives	MLR supports the NPS actions common to all alternatives as defined in Table 3.2 of the Draft GMP.	Comment noted
Alternatives	Ranger Station – MLR supports the enhancement and expansion of the ranger station in order to improve accessibility and provide additional outdoor space for interpretation. We also support the redesign of the shuttle bus stop and parking area to clearly identify points for accessing the bus and the ranger station.	Comment noted
Alternatives	Devils Postpile NM Viewing Areas – MLR supports the monument's desire to enhance the experience at the base of the Postpile through small site improvements. MLR also supports an evaluation of the Postpile trail to identify ways to improve accessibility from the ranger station to the Postpile. We would encourage the monument to engage with MLR and the Town of Mammoth Lakes as additional trail enhancements are being considered.	The monument will welcome ideas for additional partnership opportunities as it implements the general management plan. No change to the DGMP needed.

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Alternatives	MLR supports the recommendations in the areas of Level and Character of Development, Transportation and Access, Facilities and Employee Housing, Concessions Operations and Commercial Services, Outreach and Partnership Programs. MLR encourages the monument to expand outreach and partnership programs to include Mammoth Lakes Tourism, ESIA and MLR for potential partnership development for the implementation of the recommendations.	Comment noted
Alternatives	MLR supports the management zones applied in Alternative C for the Front Country Zone, the Sensitive Resource Management Zone, the Portal Zone and the Natural Zone.	Comment noted
Alternatives	The Mono Lake Committee (MLC) supports adoption of the Alternative C "Connecting People to Nature and Heritage." This option is thoughtfully constructed to protect important resources while improving the experience of DEPO's many visitors. Connecting visitors with wild nature is a desirable and expected role for a National Monument. Alternative C presents a balanced and careful way to achieve this goal, serve as a gateway to the greater wilderness beyond DEPO's boundaries, all while improving partnerships with nearby developed areas such as Mammoth Lakes. Alternative C contains elements that are important for resource protection, such as relocation of campsites located too close to the river and reconfiguration of the Rainbow Falls visitor experience. At the same time, Alternative C recognizes that the visitor use volume at DEPO should be addressed with improved visitor contact facilities. MLC appreciates that Alternative C covers both ends of this spectrum in planning for the future.	Comments noted
Alternatives	The Draft General Management Plan (GMP) contains key guiding principles including strong partnerships with neighboring agencies like the Inyo National Forest, regional and watershed-based land management planning, and consideration of a broad range of alternatives based on sound science and balanced management.	Comment noted
Alternatives	[The National Parks Conservation Association prefers the] preferred alternative. In general, NPCA supports the direction of the DGMP and its recommendations.	Comment noted
Alternatives	NPCA appreciates DEPO's attention and emphasis on science and science learning on a watershed scale. This supports a partnership between NPS and USFS, and allows more robust science to inform planning by both agencies. It is likely that resources would also be saved through this partnership.	Comment noted
Alternatives	Friends of the Inyo supports the preferred alternative, Alternative C, for its emphasis on the visitor experience and cultural heritage in addition to the health and resilience of natural resources within the monument.	Comment noted
Alternatives	I highly recommend ALTERNATIVE A, Continue Current Management.	Comment noted.
Alternatives	In developing the plan alternatives, thank you for including efforts to identify and monitor species at risk due to climate change and other stressors on native vegetation and wildlife as well as mitigate their effects.	Comment noted

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Alternatives	Regardless of the alternative chosen, NPS proposes to comply with Section 106 through the provisions of the 2008 Servicewide Programmatic Agreement for NPS for each individual undertaking that arises from implementation of the GMP. This approach will result in undertakings being reviewed through either the streamlined or standard process. After reviewing the August 7 letter and draft GMP, the SHPO has no objection to this proposal.	Comment noted
Alternatives	We concur with your proposed measures for Special Status Species listed on page 195 of the DGMP, with the recommendation that the potential effects of projects on listed species be analysed following section 7 of the Act, and, if appropriate formal consultation be completed by the National Park Service.	Comment noted
Alternatives	Three years ago I rode the shuttle with my family. I feel that is the only choice due to inadequate parking areas	Comment noted
Alternatives	You make no specific mention of the entrance road [from Minaret Vista down] and what specific (or even general) plans you have for it. My concerns are safety and are best outlined in a 9/24/2011 letter.	The monument has no jurisdiction over the Reds Meadow Valley Road and may not spend park funds on its maintenance and repair. However, the monument proposes collaboration with the USFS on exploring and supporting funding opportunities for maintenance of the Reds Meadow Valley Road as a part of any alternative selected (page 66).
Alternatives	After studying the document, we support Alternative C, the NPS Preferred Alternative. Having been a permittee of the Inyo National Forest and a provider of visitor services for many years, we want to emphasize the importance of these services to the experiences of the visiting public. Horseback riding is a significant activity in our National Parks and Forests and is a part of the cultural heritage of the public visitors. When the old French Trail was in use, the mode of travel was by horseback and pack mules carried baggage and supplies. The early trails were built as stock trails and this is the pioneer history of the area. Urban visitors who do not have an opportunity to experience this pioneer heritage in their city environment look forward to going back to earlier roots on their mountain vacations. Horseback riding and pack trips are part of the larger camping experience. Hearing more rumors about Yosemite National Park removing the stables from Yosemite Valley concerns us. The use of horses and mules to access our Parks and Forests is an integral component of visitor experiences. Plans still need to accommodate these traditional activities.	Comment noted.
Alternatives	The Range of Light Group (hereafter ROLG) supports the preferred Alternative C: Connecting People to Nature and Heritage. Although not our first choice, ROLG also finds Alternative B to be a reasonable plan, emphasizing as it does maximum protection of the wonderful place that is the Devil's Postpile NM at some expense to recreational use of the NM. Our reason for supporting Alternative C is that it expands protection of the natural resources/environment of the NM while still allowing for and improving upon the main reasons that people visit and recreate in this particular national monument. This difference in emphasis is especially obviously in comparing the 'boundaries' of the four zones in Alternatives B and C (p. 17 of 'plan all pages are to the cumulative numbering in the pdf of the plan and its appendixes). We commend the zone approach as facilitating a more holistic approach to the monument (p. 17).	Comment noted
Alternatives	As regards question 2 (in the on-line comment form). we support locating most administrative services as well as expanded interpretative services on the INF campus in Mammoth Lakes. This will increase visibility of the NM and also allow for a NM presence during the winter when there is no road access to the NM. This will also allow for the expansion of educational services, especially to pre-college kids (p. 87). For the same reason we support the suggested conversion of Pumice Flat cabin to use as an educational facility with possible sleepover for attendees at educational programs (121). The relocation of certain services to Mammoth Lakes will also improve visibility and support of the NM in the town and contribute to the economy of the town, and enable greater integration of outdoor experiences available to visitors. The relocation will also free up additional space for improvements within the NM itself as will location to the extent possible of staff housing in Mammoth Lakes (p. 21).	Comment noted

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Alternatives	We support the removal of the current maintenance facility and the development of an interagency maintenance facility at Pumice Flat, again freeing up room within the NM itself (p. 20).	Comment noted
Alternatives	The uniqueness of the Devils Post Pile geological formation itself, the location of the valley in an area of natural movement between east and west sides of the Sierras make it important to continue the scientific inventory and analysis done so far, including facilitating research proposals by various qualified scientists and institutions. The plan recognizes the importance of continuing such study, utilizing the results of best available science in management. We are happy to see the recognition of the importance of continuing inventorying and monitoring (p. 60ff, 84) with specific reporting intervals in the plan (pp. 124ft). This information is related to analysis of climate change for which the plan properly advocates a pro-active rather than reactive approach (p. 38, 87, 182, 195). Addressing climate change is the major current emphasis of the Sierra Club as a whole. Presumably the results of these areas of study and analysis will provide future modifications to the plan (adaptive management) without waiting for the 20 or so years before a comprehensive new plan will be appropriate.	Comment noted
Alternatives	The Town supports the preferred alternative ("Alternative C: Connecting People to Nature and Heritage").	Comment noted
Alternatives	The Town welcomes the Monument's presence into the community of Mammoth Lakes.	Comment noted
Alternatives	Town supports the identified actions recommended as common to all alternatives and language associated with the Preferred Alternative without additional comment [for the following sections]: "Devils Postpile NM Developed Area Ranger Station, Parking, and Day Use Area"; "Devils Postpile NM Developed Area Campground"; "Devils Postpile NM Developed Area Operations Area"; "Devils Postpile NM Developed Area - Maintenance Facility"; "Pumice Flat Cabin"; "Devils Postpile"; "Natural Resources"; "Cultural Resources"; "Museum Collections"; "Climate Change"; "Camping and Campgrounds"; "Level and Character of Development"	Comment noted
Alternatives	"Wilderness" The Town encourages coordination with the Town on the Mammoth Lakes Trail System for opportunities that relate to trails and wilderness experiences in the region.	Comment noted. Comment relates to operational implementation of DGMP recommendations. No change to DGMP needed.
Alternatives	"Visitor Experience" The Town encourages working with the Town utilizing its resources including Mammoth Lakes Recreation and the Mammoth Lakes Trail System for opportunities that relate to trails, wilderness experiences, and enhancement of the Visitor Experience in the region.	Comment noted. Comment relates to operational implementation of DGMP recommendations. No change to DGMP needed.
Alternatives	"Visitor Information and Interpretation" The Town encourages working with the Town utilizing its resources including Mammoth Lakes Recreation and the Mammoth Lakes Trail System for opportunities that relate to trails, wilderness experiences, and enhancement of the Visitor Experience in the region.	Comment noted. Comment relates to operational implementation of DGMP recommendations. No change to DGMP needed.
Alternatives	The preferred alternative of connecting people to nature and heritage is consistent with the general philosophy and direction of the Mono County General Plan and the current planning initiatives of Mono County.	Comment noted.
Alternatives	Plan direction to locate support facilities and housing within the Town of Mammoth Lakes is also consistent with Mono County General Plan policy of concentrating development within communities.	Comment noted.

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Alternatives	Plan direction for the Postpile to serve as a launch-point and gateway to wilderness and the Pacific Crest Trail is also consistent with county planning efforts. This role assists connecting Mono County's recreational resources via trails and transit. The current arrangement with Eastern Sierra Transit Authority for valley transit service, including common staging areas with the Yosemite Area Regional Transit System, enhances regional access options for our Eastern Sierra visitors.	Comment noted.
Alternatives	It should be noted that Mono County is supportive of and has pursued initial inquiries to formally adjust county boundaries with Madera County. As the document describes, the last monument plan was based on the assumption that a Trans-Sierra Highway would be built, but the highway proposal was later defeated, and Postpile access and service from Madera County is no longer a practical option. Recognition and support for clarifying county boundaries that reflect the reality of the servicing jurisdiction, primary access, and obvious social and economic interdependencies are requested. A long term goal should be simplifying the unnecessary complexities presented by the Postpile's inclusion within Madera County, rather than Mono County, via a boundary adjustment.	Comment noted. Recommendation is outside of the scope of the DGMP
Alternatives	In developing the plan alternatives, thank you for including efforts to identify and monitor species at risk due to climate change and other stressors on native vegetation and wildlife as well as mitigate their effects.	Comment noted
Alternatives	Friends of the Inyo supports the preferred alternative, Alternative C, for its emphasis on the visitor experience and cultural heritage in addition to the health and resilience of natural resources within the monument. We also strongly support your proposal to seek a boundary adjustment to include within the monument the entire section of the river between the northern and southern boundaries, as well as the main trail corridor connecting Devils Postpile and Rainbow Falls.	Comment noted
Alternatives	The document is well-written and captures the spirit of the many interagency and collaborative discussions we have had.	Comment noted
Boundary	The boundary modification [in alternative C] makes sense.	Comment noted
Boundary	ESIA is very interested in the recommendation of creating a complementary USFS National Monument for the entirety of the Upper Middle Fork of the San Joaquin River watershed. We would like to see a community-based collaborative process to determine the viability of, and support for such a designation. We appreciate the potential for a designation and would like to make sure an analysis of agency capacity is considered and also how partnerships with local organizations might assist with the pursuit of such a designation.	Comment noted
Boundary	Do NOT change the Devil's Postpile Boundary.	Comment noted
Boundary	MLR appreciates, and supports the minor boundary adjustment to the monument that would include the main trail corridor connecting Devils Postpile and Rainbow Falls. We encourage the ongoing accessibility to the trails within this area.	Comment noted

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Boundary	MLR is very interested in the recommendation of creating a complementary USFS National Monument for the entirety of the Upper Middle Fork of the San Joaquin River watershed. We would encourage a collaborative process with the community to determine the viability of, and support for such a designation. We appreciate the potential for a designation and would like to make sure an analysis of agency capacity is considered and also how partnerships with local organizations might assist with the pursuit of such a designation.	Comment noted
Boundary	We also strongly support your proposal to seek a boundary adjustment to include within the monument the entire section of the river between the northern and southern boundaries, as well as the main trail corridor connecting Devils Postpile and Rainbow Falls.	Comments noted
Boundary	NPCA appreciates the DGMP's discussion and analysis of the boundary adjustment proposal and agrees with the conclusion that the boundary adjustment is appropriate and critical for enhancing the visitor experience as well as protecting key geological, biological, and archeological resources. If enacted by Congress, the boundary adjustment would increase management efficiencies and reduce operational challenges of managing visitors who are (in a short distance), passing through two different sets of rules and regulations.	Comment noted
Camping	I do like the idea of converting the river campground to day use and restoring impacted areas in the Watershed Alternative.	Comment noted
Camping	We like the proposals to better protect the river by removing campsites next to the river.	Comments noted
Camping	Do NOT remove ANY campsites.	Comment noted
Camping	I strongly dislike the removal of the campground Loop B in Alternative C. The Park Service needs to commit to keeping the same number of campsites even if they are walk in and also address where or how the vehicles of the people who are walking in to their campsites will be able to park.	As described on pages 88 and 102, the monument, under the preferred alternative, would strive to maintain the current campground capacity if feasible. While further implementation planning will need to occur to see if this is feasible, the monument is hopeful that opportunities exist within campground area.
Camping	Campgrounds are an essential experience and the number of campground spaces should be maintained at the same level they are today.	As described on pages 88 and 102, the monument, under the preferred alternative, would strive to maintain the current campground capacity if feasible. While further implementation planning will need to occur to see if this is feasible, the monument is hopeful that opportunities exist within campground area.
Camping	Campground, Parking and Day Use Area – ESIA supports the monument continuing to provide camping and day use opportunities in the developed areas of the monument. We also support a redesign of the camping opportunities and encourage the monument to take into consideration the camping needs of the changing demographic of visitors to the monument and design some campsites to accommodate generational families and groups.	Comment noted

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Camping	Campground, Parking and Day Use Area – MLR supports the monument continuing to provide camping and day use opportunities in the developed areas of the monument. However, MLR is concerned about the proposed removal of campsites in Loop B and would encourage the monument to consider designing improvements to campsites in Loop A to accommodate the loss of sites in Loop B. This redesign should also take into consideration the camping needs of the changing demographic to the monument and design some campsites to accommodate generational families and groups.	Comment noted. As described on pages 88 and 102, the monument, under the preferred alternative, would strive to maintain the current campground capacity if feasible. While further implementation planning will need to occur to see if this is feasible, the monument is hopeful that opportunities exist within campground area. Improvements to campsites in Loop A, as suggested, may be feasible but would require further planning.
Camping	In the GMP, you suggest removing campsites close to the river and designating Loop B as walk-in. Here I have changed my mind from 9/24/11 and endorse your move to save the campground ... In fact I now believe camping the Valley may be suffering from "death by a thousand cuts." From here on I would be very cautious with the elimination of any sites.	As described on pages 88 and 102, the monument, under the preferred alternative, would strive to maintain the current campground capacity if feasible. While further implementation planning will need to occur to see if this is feasible, the monument is hopeful that opportunities exist within campground area.
Camping	We support the elements of the plan that will help improve the environmental quality of the riparian areas along the river, including the elimination of riverside campsites in loop S, replacing them where possible with walk-in campsites (p. 19). As the plan points out, this will also improve visitor access to the river. We do not think that a possible loss in total number of campsites is as significant as the benefits gained. Relating to campsites we also commend the effort to separate walk-in campsites from RV campsites. To the extent possible, visitors should not have to walk through campgrounds to reach various destinations. Campgrounds with RVs is more disruptive to the visitor experience than are campgrounds with only car and tent camping. In balancing for RV and other campsites, we think preference should be given to non-RV camping. We point out that large RVs also contribute considerably to air pollution and traffic congestion, increasing with the size of the RV. For that reason we suggest considering a maximum length for RV permitted in the NM (if there is not already such a limit).	Comment noted. Maximum RV lengths are currently in place.
Camping	The Town recommends the National Park Service consider options in the redesign of the camping area, and/or in working with the USFS to have "no net loss" in camp sites. The loss of camp sites serves to limit the number of visitors who can enjoy the natural beauty of the area through a camping experience.	As described on pages 88 and 102, the monument, under the preferred alternative, would strive to maintain the current campground capacity if feasible. While further implementation planning will need to occur to see if this is feasible, the monument is hopeful that opportunities exist within campground area.
Cooperation	Mammoth Lakes – ESIA supports expansion of the monument's presence in the Town of Mammoth Lakes by expanding its current co-location with the Inyo National Forest at the Mammoth Welcome Center and/or Ranger Station to improve contact with the public. Because we are a partner in the Mammoth Welcome Center, we look forward to helping expand the monument's presence in the facility. We believe there are many opportunities to enhance the awareness of the monument on a year-round basis. We also support the concept of the monument extending its operation into the shoulder seasons and winter months through increased interpretive and educational experiences and by enhancing outdoor exhibits. This includes the integration of technology into the interpretive and educational programs. We also encourage the monument to consider developing partnership opportunities with Mammoth Lakes Tourism, the Mammoth Unified School District, Mammoth Lakes Recreation and ESIA to develop the shoulder season programs.	Comment noted. This comment relates to potential operational implementation of the DGMP and provides specific partnership recommendations. The monument will welcome ideas for additional partnership opportunities as it implements the vision of the plan. No change to the DGMP needed.
Cooperation	ESIA is very interested in several of the recommendations in many of these areas. Specifically, ESIA supports the concept of creating an intra-agency co-location for museum collection storage in the Eastern Sierra. We believe there is a need for such storage in the area and would like to participate in discussions with key stakeholders to further develop the concept.	Comment noted



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Cooperation	ESIA is also very supportive of the monument's ongoing commitment to interpretation, education and information. We are particularly interested in working with the monument to develop science-based learning opportunities for youth – an area we believe has been underserved. We would like to partner with the monument to develop interpretation and education opportunities at Minaret Vista and in Mammoth Lakes as a means to expand the monument's presence in the area.	Comment noted
Cooperation	Mammoth Lakes – MLR supports expansion of the monument's presence in the Town of Mammoth Lakes by expanding its current co-location with the Inyo National Forest at the Mammoth Welcome Center and/or Ranger Station to improve contact with the public. We also support the concept of the monument extending its operation into the shoulder seasons and winter months through increased interpretive and educational experiences and by enhancing outdoor exhibits. This includes the integration of technology into the interpretive and educational programs. We also encourage the monument to consider developing partnership opportunities with Mammoth Lakes Tourism, the Mammoth Unified School District, Eastern Sierra Interpretive Association (ESIA) and MLR to develop shoulder season programs.	Comment noted. This comment relates to potential operational implementation of the DGMP and provides specific partnership recommendations. The monument will welcome ideas for additional partnership opportunities as it implements the vision of the plan. No change to the DGMP needed.
Cooperation	Operations Area – MLR supports the recommendations for operations and would encourage the monument to consider working with Mammoth Lakes Housing to identify affordable housing options in the community for staff housing needs. MLR also supports the monument collaborating with the Inyo NF to consider the development of a new maintenance facility in the Pumice Flat location.	Comment noted. This comment relates to potential operational implementation of the DGMP and provides specific partnership recommendations. The monument will welcome ideas for additional partnership opportunities as it implements the vision of the plan. No change to the DGMP needed.
Cooperation	MLTPA is in agreement with the Town's comments, and also supports the preferred alternative ("Alternative C: Connecting People to Nature and Heritage") and further supports the Town's comments that are "... intended to enhance the Preferred Alternative by identifying partnership opportunities between the Town and the Community of Mammoth Lakes and the Devils Postpile National Monument for the successful implementation of the Monument's Final General Management Plan." ML TPA wishes to draw further attention to the following comments from the Town, and to add its support to their spirit of interagency partnership and cooperation: "The Town recommends the Devils Postpile National Monument identify, make available, and pursue partnering opportunities between the Monument and the Town of Mammoth Lakes. " Lakes Tourism (ML T). Mammoth Lakes Recreation (MLR), and Mammoth Lakes Housing (MLH), non-governmental organizations publicly funded and contracted to the Town. " "Formalization of partnering opportunities would be consistent with the numerous citations and recommendations for" ... agency cooperation and coordination ... " in the recommended "Actions Common to All Alternatives" and the Preferred Alternative." "The Town has executed MOUs with the USFS for the "Mammoth Lakes Trail System" as well as the "mammothtrails.org website." The Town encourages the Monument to consider participation in these MOUs." "The Town is interested in pursuing a "Cooperating Agency" relationship with the Monument."	Comment noted. The NPS would work with the Town of Mammoth Lakes to explore opportunities for cooperation as it implements recommendations in the GMP. This comment relates to potential operational implementation of the DGMP and provides specific partnership recommendations. The monument will welcome ideas for additional partnership opportunities as it implements the vision of the plan. No change to the DGMP needed.
Cooperation	"Curriculum-Based Education" The Town encourages partnership opportunities be pursued with local educational institutions.	Comment noted. Comment relates to operational implementation of DGMP recommendations. No change to DGMP needed.
Cooperation	"Hiking and Hiking Trails" The Town is prepared to facilitate partnering opportunities with the Town itself utilizing available resources including Town staff; Mammoth Lakes Recreation, and the Mammoth Lakes Trail System for opportunities that relate to trails, wilderness experiences, and enhancement of the Visitor Experience in the region. The Town encourages agency participation in existing MOUs between the Town and the USFS that relate to the Mammoth Lakes Trail system.	Comment noted. Comment relates to operational implementation of DGMP recommendations. No change to DGMP needed.
Cooperation	"Bicycling" The Town is prepared to facilitate partnering opportunities with the Town itself utilizing available resources including Town staff, Mammoth Lakes Recreation, and the Mammoth Lakes Trail System for opportunities that relate to bicycle use. The Town encourages the inclusion of mountain biking opportunities in future considerations of trail development.	Comment noted. Comment relates to operational implementation of DGMP recommendations. No change to DGMP needed.

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Cooperation	"Roads and Parking" The Town is prepared to facilitate partnering opportunities with the Town itself utilizing available resources including Town staff; Mammoth Lakes Recreation, and the Mammoth Lakes Trail System for opportunities that relate to trails, wilderness experiences, and enhancement of the Visitor Experience in the region. The Town encourages agency participation in existing MOUs between the Town and the USFS that relate to the Mammoth Lakes Trail System.	Comment noted. Comment relates to operational implementation of DGMP recommendations. No change to DGMP needed.
Cooperation	We have long advocated cooperation and consultation between the federal land managers in the Eastern Sierra and are pleased to see this happening with the National Park Service and Inyo National Forest in their adjoining jurisdictions in the Devils Postpile vicinity and administrative offices here.	Comment noted
Cooperation	ESIA supports the recommendations in the area of Outreach and Partnership Programs. ESIA encourages the monument to expand outreach and partnership programs to include Mammoth Lakes Tourism, Mammoth Lakes Recreation and ESIA for potential partnership development for the implementation of the recommendations in this section. ESIA looks forward to working with the monument to develop a plan to expand the outreach programs and desires to formalize a partnership with the monument.	Comment noted
Cooperation	ESIA appreciates the development of a budget that outlines the improvement costs resulting from implementation of key recommendations in Alternative C. ESIA encourages the monument to consider the utilization of partners for potential funding sources, including the developing Eastern Sierra Partnership program to assist with creating funding sources for the implementation of key projects.	Comment noted. This comment relates to potential operational implementation of the DGMP and provides specific partnership recommendations. The monument will welcome ideas for additional partnership opportunities as it implements the vision of the plan. No change to the DGMP needed.
Cooperation	MLR appreciates the development of a budget that outlines the improvement costs resulting from implementation of key recommendations in Alternative C. MLR encourages the monument to consider the utilization of partners for potential funding sources to assist with implementation of key projects.	Comment noted. This comment relates to potential operational implementation of the DGMP and provides specific partnership recommendations. The monument will welcome ideas for additional partnership and funding opportunities as it implements the vision of the plan. No change to the DGMP needed.
Cooperation	MLC supports DEPO's commitment to providing access to wilderness for a diverse range of people and interest groups. As part of MLC's Outdoor Experiences program, urban youth from Los Angeles spend five days at Mono Lake, learning about Mono Lake, where the Los Angeles water supply originates, camping under the stars, hiking, journaling, and experiencing wild landscapes, often for the first time. Alternative C will improve the capacity of DEPO to support such groups, and MLC looks forward to future opportunities to plan programs for youth from the Mono Basin Outdoor Experiences program.	Comment noted
Cooperation	We are also pleased to note the preferred alternative's emphasis on partnerships both with other agencies, municipalities, and tribes, and with local groups for stewardship, interpretation, and connecting visitors with nature and wild places. As a local organization intent on connecting people with their public lands through exploration and stewardship, we look forward to working with you on this shared goal. In addition to engaging visitors with resource management activities through demonstrations (p 92), there may be an opportunity to work with partners, like Friends of the Inyo, and volunteers to assist in some of this work such as removing invasive species, restoring impacted areas, or improving trail conditions. This type of hands on involvement in the monument creates strong connections among participants and may be a way to address staff capacity shortfalls for appropriate projects.	Comment noted. This comment relates to potential operational implementation of the DGMP and provides specific partnership recommendations. The monument will welcome ideas for additional partnership opportunities as it implements the vision of the plan. No change to the DGMP needed.

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**Public Comments and Responses (All)**

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Cooperation	In addition to working with the INF (and BLM and USDFWS), we urge continued "partnership" collaborations with state, town, county organizations and NGOs including area environmental and user groups.	Comment noted. The DGMP proposes many such partnership opportunities.
Cooperation	Although probably not something proper to include in the plan, we would hope to see increased coordination and promotion beyond the immediate Mammoth Lakes area. Anecdotally, we know foreign groups and individuals often stop in Mammoth, with a trip into the valley, between their more major stops at Death Valley and Yosemite. Perhaps the NM could cooperate in the development of an interpretative film, such as those used by the Mono Lake Visitors Center, the Bristlecone Forest Visitor Center, Eastern Sierra Land Trust and other east side organizations. Ideally, several of these films could be made available at the various visitor centers in addition to the film specific to each visitor center location (and perhaps through the various sites webpages).	Comment noted. This comment relates to potential operational implementation of DGMP partnership recommendations. No change to the DGMP needed.
Cooperation	<p>The Town recommends the Devils Postpile National Monument identify, make available, and pursue partnering opportunities between the Monument and the Town of Mammoth Lakes. The Town is prepared to facilitate partnering opportunities with the Town itself utilizing available resources including Town staff and Mammoth Lakes Tourism (MLT), Mammoth Lakes Recreation (MLR), and Mammoth Lakes Housing (MLH), non-governmental organizations publicly funded and contracted to the Town.</p> <p>Formalization of partnering opportunities would be consistent with the numerous citations and recommendations for "... agency cooperation and coordination..." in the recommended "Actions Common to All Alternatives" and the Preferred Alternative.</p> <p>The Town has executed MOUs with the USFS for the "Mammoth Lakes Trail System" as well as the "mammothtrails.org website." The Town encourages the Monument to consider participation in these MOUs.</p> <p>The Town is interested in pursuing a "Cooperating Agency" relationship with the Monument.</p>	Comment noted. The NPS would work with the Town of Mammoth Lakes to explore opportunities for cooperation as it implements recommendations in the GMP. This comment relates to potential operational implementation of the DGMP and provides specific partnership recommendations. The monument will welcome ideas for additional partnership opportunities as it implements the vision of the plan.
Cooperation	The Town encourages the Monument to pursue housing opportunities with owners of appropriate private properties in Mammoth Lakes as well as working through the Town with Mammoth Lakes Housing (MLH).	Comment noted. Comment relates to operational implementation of DGMP actions. No change to DGMP needed.
Cooperation	"Recommendation to the Inyo National Forest" The Town is prepared to facilitate partnering opportunities with the Town itself utilizing available resources including Town staff; Mammoth Lakes Recreation, and the Mammoth Lakes Trail System for opportunities that relate to trails, wilderness experiences, and enhancement of the Visitor Experience in the region. The Town encourages agency participation in existing MOUs between the Town and the USFS that relate to the Mammoth Lakes Trail System.	Comment noted. Comment relates to operational implementation of DGMP recommendations. No change to DGMP needed.
Cooperation	The Plan's focus on collaboration and coordination with the Inyo National Forest is appreciated and essential, and the proposed boundary adjustment appears reasonable.	Comment noted
Cooperation	We are also pleased to note the preferred alternative's emphasis on partnerships both with other agencies, municipalities, and tribes, and with local groups for stewardship, interpretation, and connecting visitors with nature and wild places. As a local organization intent on connecting people with their public lands through exploration and stewardship, we look forward to working with you on this shared goal. In addition to engaging visitors with resource management activities through demonstrations (p 92), there may be an opportunity to work with partners, like Friends of the Inyo, and volunteers to assist in some of this work such as removing invasive species, restoring impacted areas, or improving trail conditions. This type of hands on involvement in the monument creates strong connections among participants and may be a way to address	Comment noted. Comment relates to operational implementation of DGMP recommendations. No change to DGMP needed.

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	staff capacity shortfalls for appropriate projects.	
Operations	Please promote or provide 2 other things: increased knowledge and facilities for people to be aware of the impact they have by 1) leaving trash, especially at the side of the river; 2) more places to dispose of trash between the Monument proper and Rainbow Falls (the most used trail in the monument); and 3) some place to use the restroom or tell people where the nearest one is. Some think that that in the bushes near the river is the best place to leave their toilet refuse,(or the most private place to go), or to have their dog defecate (really!) This is also true of fishing monofilament and discarded tackle. Bring it in, Pack it out!	Comment noted. This comment relates to ongoing park operations as well as implementation of the broader goals of the DGMP for a quality visitor experience. No changes are necessary to the DGMP.
Operations	In the GMP you mention "Structures visible from Devils Postpile trail that are not needed for essential NPS operations would also be removed to improve the visual quality of the area." Your weather monitoring station fits in this category. I am simply not convinced that even though data collected at a more suitable location may be slightly different, it couldn't be correlated to the location they want.	Comment noted. This comment relates to regular park operations and does not require a change to the DGMP.
Rainbow Falls	We approve of improving and possibly narrowing and making less straight the trail to Rainbow falls and separating the stock trails from the hiking trails. User-made trails should be eliminated and official trails need to be better maintained.	Comments noted
Rainbow Falls	The trail which parallels the San Joaquin from the stock bridge to Rainbow Falls is used by both hikers and equestrians. I suggest widening this section of trail and place a log barrier along the center of the trail in order for the horses to utilize one side while the hikers utilize the other. This approach would be easier to accomplish than constructing a separate trail in order to separate the horses and hikers, should the NPS wish to separate the two user groups. I realize this trail is on the USFS, however it has been managed by the NPS.	This comment relates to an operational issue which can be addressed in implementation-level planning. The idea is not inconsistent with the preferred alternative and will be considered as an option when the planning occurs. No change is required to the DGMP.
Rainbow Falls	We note that after "general sightseeing", hiking is the most popular visitor activity by a considerable margin (p. 198). As an organization with an emphasis on hiking, we like the suggestion of improvement to the trail from Devils Postpile to Rainbow falls, so that the trail itself becomes a more aesthetically enjoyable experience (p.20). While ADA accessibility is important - and we support any needed ADA improvements -- in some places a narrower and less straight trail might be desirable. Suggested modification of the NM boundary to include to the extent possible all of this trail within the NM should provide better management of the trail (p.21, 271). Where feasible, we strongly support separation of the stock trail from the foot trail (p.21). We also think it is important to eliminate informal trails for environmental reasons (p. 149).	Comments noted
Rainbow Falls	ESIA supports the identified enhancements to the Rainbow Falls experience through slight trail realignments and improvements to the viewing platform and would encourage exploring opportunities to include additional interpretive experiences at the platform.	Comment noted.
Rainbow Falls	Rainbow Falls – MLR supports the identified enhancements to the Rainbow Falls experience through slight trail realignments and improvements to the viewing platform.	Comment noted

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Rainbow Falls	At Mono Lake, MLC has seen that management approaches that offer visitors an opportunity for, and sense of, self discovery improve visitor enjoyment of the resource. The Alternative C changes for the Rainbow Falls area will serve this purpose nicely.	Comment noted
Rainbow Falls	Lastly, NPCA supports DEPO's recommendation to continue recreational stock day use rides to Rainbow Falls, while continuing monitoring to ensure the visitor experience is not negatively affected by congestion. It will be important for NPS to monitor visitor use against established indicators and standards on a regular basis, perhaps yearly.	Comment noted. Monitoring frequencies for each indicator and standard are provided on pages 125-127.
Rainbow Falls	I am supportive of the concept of a zoning designation of the Rainbow Falls area which will allow for management tools necessary to properly manage this area. Given the high demand for visitation by the general public, a general wilderness type of management is not practical. Should the NPS desire to create a "Cherry Stem" around the Rainbow Falls area I would be happy to help with this effort in anyway.	Comment noted. Removal of Rainbow Falls from designated wilderness is not an NPS decision and would require an act of Congress.
Rainbow Falls	Any interpretative signage should be located at Rainbow Falls rather than located away from the Falls as suggested in the Draft GMP.	The preferred alternative proposes moving signage to the wilderness boundary to help visitors gain a more complete appreciation of Rainbow Falls and its environs including its location within wilderness and the associated meanings and management implications of designated wilderness.
Rainbow Falls	I support your decision to keep the viewing platforms and the stairs to the bottom at Rainbow Falls. I do, however, believe that the public is best served with interpretive panels that are close to the feature being viewed. Your present locations don't intrude on the view and serves the public well. Separating stock and pedestrian traffic is a good idea.	The preferred alternative proposes moving signage to the wilderness boundary to help visitors gain a more complete appreciation of Rainbow Falls and its environs including its location within wilderness and the associated meanings and management implications of designated wilderness.
Rainbow Falls	The immediate area leading up to and surrounding Rainbow Falls does not qualify as wilderness and pretending that it does keeps managers from doing things that need to be done at that location. One example ... is a composting toilet. A clue here is the amount of toilet paper behind the trees and brush a short distance from the viewpoint. ... The preferred alternative needs to say "remove Rainbow Falls and the short access trail from Wilderness designation."	Comment noted. Removal of Rainbow Falls from designated wilderness is outside of the scope of the GMP and would require an act of Congress.
Rainbow Falls	Your idea to modify the western boundary of the monument to include the trail from the formation to Rainbow Falls is good. I remember a number of management challenges from my time at the monument with this main trail corridor. Even if this isn't accomplished a separate and parallel trail from the stock bridge to Rainbow Falls would enhance the pedestrian as well as the day horse rider's experience.	Comment noted
Rainbow Falls	The Town recommends the informational signage at Rainbow Falls be retained. The signage, which may need to be updated, should be retained as it helps tell the area's story to visitors. Maintaining the signage as close as possible to Rainbow Falls assists with greater understanding of the area.	The preferred alternative proposes moving signage to the wilderness boundary to help visitors gain a more complete appreciation of Rainbow Falls and its environs including its location within wilderness and the associated meanings and management implications of designated wilderness.
Rainbow Falls	The Town supports the continuation of commercial stock day use, but with improved trail separation.	Comment noted.

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Trails	The Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail has particular legislation for designation (National Trails System Act) and status conveyed by Congress. We feel that the current proposed alternative sufficiently complies with that congressional intent. If there was an interest in looking at a more comprehensive example of Department of Interior direction regarding National Scenic Trails, I would recommend a review of the recently adopted BLM manual 6280.	Comment noted
Trails	MLR supports the recommendations in the areas of Natural Resources, Cultural Resources, Climate Change and Sustainability, Wilderness, Visitor Experience, Interpretation, Education and Information. MLR encourages the monument to work with Mammoth Lakes Tourism, ESIA, the Town and MLR to partner on many of the implementation recommendations in these areas. MLR is very interested in working with the monument and the Inyo NF to create an interagency multi-modal trail plan due to its future administration and oversight of the Mammoth Lakes Trail System (MLTS). We welcome the opportunity to explore new or enhanced accessibility for a variety of trail users throughout the monument, including the consideration of potential access for mountain bikes and the separation of stock trails from hiking and mountain bike trails.	Comment noted
Trails	Although not addressed in the GMP, and may not need to be addressed in the GMP, the John Muir Trail and Pacific Crest Trail should be designated as the trail which utilizes the foot bridge and passes through the Postpile display, which was the original JMT/PCT. The trail on the west side of the San Joaquin which utilizes the stock bridge should be designated as a "stock bypass" trail and not be either the JMT or PCT. It is my understanding the USFS plans to reconstruct the portion of the(original) PCT/JMT between the Monument and the Rainbow Falls Parking lot(aprox 1/2 mile), this section of trail was damaged in the wind storm of 2011.	This comment relates to an operational issue outside of the scope of this GMP. The idea is not inconsistent with the preferred alternative and can be considered as an option in future planning. The proposed change would require follow up with the official maps put out by other entities. No change required to DGMP.
Trails	Due to the uniqueness of some features of the NM, signage is crucial, as the plan recognizes (p. 58,65,82,89). We suggest particular attention to the signage design guidelines developed by Mammoth Lakes Trails Public Access (MLTPA) and implemented in co-ordination with the INF and the Town of Mammoth Lakes. To the extent appropriate, we suggest that the same signage design guidelines be used in expanded signage within the NM. As in other areas, coordination with INF is important to realizing an integrated trail system throughout the valley (p. 16).	Comment noted. The DGMP does address collaboration with the USFS on valley-wide design standards for facilities, which includes signage, on page 65. The specific design of trail signage, and additional partners in the process of identifying design guidelines, would be addressed at an operational level as part of the implementation of the DGMP.
Trails	The Town would encourage exploration of additional pedestrian connections including trails for inclusion with and connection to the Mammoth Lakes Trail System over Mammoth Pass that connect to the southern end of the Monument.	Comment noted. Exploring trail connections to the town of Mammoth Lakes is a recommendation in the DGMP (page 115); however the document has been edited to strengthen and clarify the recommendation in the preferred alternative. Specific design and locations of trail connections would be addressed in operational implementation of the DGMP. Added "including the Town of Mammoth Lakes trail system" to page 92
Trails	The Town would encourage exploration of additional pedestrian connections through the Mammoth Lakes Trail System including trails over Mammoth Pass that connect to the Rainbow Falls and the southern end of the Monument.	Comment noted. Comment relates to operational implementation of DGMP recommendations. No change to DGMP needed.
Trails	The proposed interagency multi-modal trail plan is appreciated. Consistent with regional transportation planning policy, additional consideration for accommodating cyclists is recommended. Road improvements should include bike-climbing lanes where feasible to allow for the 3' vehicle separation now required by California law. Retaining vehicle access to Minaret Summit via the proposed redesign is also requested.	Comment noted. Comment relates to specific recommendations for operational implementation of DGMP proposal to develop a multi-modal trail plan with the USFS. No change to DGMP needed.

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U.S. Forest Service	A shuttle stop at Minaret Vista would be useful to accommodate hikers who leave cars there and hike down to the valley.	Comment noted
U.S. Forest Service	While the recommendations [to the USFS] included in the preferred alternative only represent suggestions for the Inyo NF to consider, ESIA supports the recommendations made for Minaret Vista. Specifically, ESIA is very supportive of potential improvements to the Minaret Vista site as this is a key destination for visitors to the area and we would encourage the monument and Inyo NF to consider partnering with local organizations including ESIA to help with implementing any improvements to this area. ESIA is also interested in working with the Inyo NF and the monument to explore some of the recommendations related to the other areas referenced and identifying potential educational and interpretive enhancements in these areas.	Comment noted
U.S. Forest Service	The Town welcomes partner support for the renewal of the Minaret Vista, which is an identified node of the Town's adopted "Trail System Master Plan". Numerous opportunities exist to enhance trail connections of the Mammoth Lakes Trail System to the Minaret Vista.	Comment noted. Comment relates to operational implementation of DGMP recommendations. No change to DGMP needed.
U.S. Forest Service	The Town supports the language associated with the Preferred Alternative and its recommendations to the Inyo National Forest.	Comment noted.
U.S. Forest Service	We also appreciate your efforts to provide recommendations for management zones and approaches for the US Forest Service, and hope the Inyo National Forest will adopt some, if not all, of your recommendations for the Reds Meadow Valley and adjoining areas including Minaret Vista. Doing so will better integrate visitor services, create efficiencies across the agencies, and generally improve the visitor experience and resource conditions.	Comment noted
U.S. Forest Service	While the recommendations [to the USFS] included in the preferred alternative only represent suggestions for the Inyo NF to consider, MLR supports the recommendations made for Minaret Vista, Pumice Flat, Boundary Creek Junction, Agnew Meadows, Reds Meadow Guard Station and Bathhouse and Sotcher Lake. Specifically, MLR is very supportive of potential improvements to the Minaret Vista site as this is a key destination for visitors to the area and we would encourage the monument and Inyo NF to consider partnering with local organizations including MLR and ESIA to help with implementing any improvements to this area.	Comment noted. This comment relates to potential operational implementation of the DGMP and provides specific partnership recommendations. The monument will welcome ideas for additional partnership opportunities as it implements the vision of the plan. No change to the DGMP needed.
U.S. Forest Service	Keep Red's Meadow Facility and all horse stables the same.	Comment noted. The Reds Meadow Resort facilities are outside of the scope of NPS action and no changes are recommended to the USFS.

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U.S. Forest Service	As ... I am not sure if the Reds Meadows campground (with the historic hot spring showers) falls under the jurisdiction of the Devil's Postpile National Monument, I don't know if the following critical statement should be made in relation to "Public Comment." The historic CCC-built Reds Meadows Hot Springs Bathhouse should be reopened. The Forest Service has failed to provide any assessment of what it would take to remedy the problem that saw the famous public resource "closed for the season" in each year from 2009 to 2014. The historic Bathhouse is a very valuable public treasure, and the Forest Service has failed utterly the public trust. In short, the hot springs are a pure source from deep within the earth, but this source water is then pooled. The pooled surface water should not be ingested due to human contamination (imagine a hot tub). But solutions to fix the problem exist, e.g., to bypass the contaminated water to tap the original pure source, or even to just issue a Warning not the drink the water (that would suffice to cover health issues). The Forest Service has perpetually deflected public inquiry by merely restating the problem without ever examining and offering possible solutions (which, I repeat, exist). All donations were clearly posted to go to the upkeep of the historic public bathhouse at Reds Meadows. Where did that money go? Why can't those public funds be used to fix and then reopen the famous hot springs showers?	Comment noted. The Reds Meadow campground, with associated hot springs bathhouse, does not fall under the jurisdiction of the monument. Although the GMP provides some recommendations to the USFS, specific ideas for the adaptive reuse of the CCC bathhouse would need to be addressed through Forest Service planning.
U.S. Forest Service	We also appreciate your efforts to provide recommendations for management zones and approaches for the US Forest Service, and hope the Inyo National Forest will adopt some, if not all, of your recommendations for the Reds Meadow Valley and adjoining areas including Minaret Vista. Doing so will better integrate visitor services, create efficiencies across the agencies, and generally improve the visitor experience and resource conditions.	Comment noted
U.S. Forest Service	The Town welcomes partner support for the renewal of the Minaret Vista, which is an identified node of the Town's adopted "Trail System Master Plan". Numerous opportunities exist to enhance trail connections of the Mammoth Lakes Trail System to the Minaret Vista.	Comment noted
U.S. Forest Service	"Agnew Meadows (USFS)" The Town supports its recommendation to the Inyo National Forest.	Comment noted.
U.S. Forest Service	"Reds Cabin Guard Station and Bathhouse" The Town supports its recommendation to the Inyo National Forest.	Comment noted.
U.S. Forest Service	"Sotcher Lake (USFS)" The Town supports its recommendation to the Inyo National Forest.	Comment noted.
U.S. Forest Service	"Recommendation to the Inyo National Forest" The Town supports the language associated with the Preferred Alternative and its recommendation to the Inyo National Forest. The Town encourages working with the Town utilizing its resources including Mammoth Lakes Recreation and the Mammoth Lakes Trail System for opportunities that relate to trails, wilderness experiences, and enhancement of the Visitor Experience in the region.	Comment noted. Comment relates to operational implementation of DGMP recommendations. No change to DGMP needed.



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U.S. Forest Service	We continue to support to proposed boundary adjustment in the preferred alternative. While the Inyo National Forest is also satisfied with the current boundary, the adjustment proposed appears reasonable, and accommodates any of our concerns regarding our management of the National Forest, and we therefore support the National Park Service taking actions to implement this. In order to ensure that the setback from the road, water tank, and wastewater treatment infrastructure are properly addressed in future legislative efforts to adjust the boundary, we respectfully request the opportunity to review maps and language prepared to adjust the boundary for accuracy. I have also enclosed a map that generally shows the location of our infrastructure, and the mapped setback. Also, the water tank and wastewater facility are located at the following coordinates, in degrees and decimal minutes: Waste Water Facility (USFS, near Rainbow Falls trailhead) -119.0770W, 37.6146N, Water Tank (USFS, near Sotcher Lake) - -119.0779W, 37.6286N	Comment noted. The monument would continue to collaborate closely with the USFS as the proposal to adjust the boundary progresses.
U.S. Forest Service	The language in Table D.2, page 258, appears to restrict commercial trips through DEPO to a number well below the National Forest trail quota; I believe this is in error.	This is an error. It will be edited to clarify that "through trips" are not included in this calculation, as was always intended and previously discussed. See Errata.
U.S. Forest Service	We note the intent to allow access through DEPO on trails that connect to other portions on the Inyo National Forest. Recognizing that trailheads are part of the access, we would like to see stronger language regarding the intent to maintain use of the John Muir Trailhead for this purpose. This trailhead is currently on National Forest land, but is within the proposed boundary adjustment to be acquired by DEPO. We believe it is in the public interest that this access to the trail system is maintained, regardless of ownership. The ability to park vehicles at this location is particularly important during seasons when the shuttle system does not operate.	The DGMP has been edited to strengthen the commitment of the NPS to maintain trailheads within the proposed boundary adjustment for public access to the extensive trail system within the valley. See Errata.
Wild and Scenic River	We are especially supportive of your recommendation to establish the Middle Fork of the San Joaquin River as a Wild & Scenic River.	Comments noted
Wild and Scenic River	Please spell out/identify the source of "UMFSJ" it may not be clear to all that this is an acronym for Upper Middle Fork San Joaquin River.	Edited as suggested. See Errata
Wild and Scenic River	I like most of [the specific actions in the plan]. I would add that I also support and encourage the recommendation that the MFSJ River be designated a Wild and Scenic River. As a fisherman, I appreciate the protections this brings to this river, one of my favorite.	Comment noted
Wild and Scenic River	I like the Wild and Scenic River status eligibility study for the Middle Fork of the San Joaquin River within the Devils Postpile NM because our waterways need all the protection available.	Comment noted
Wild and Scenic River	We support Wild and Scenic designation for the middle fork of the San Joaquin river, a very important watershed. Protection is vital to the river's survival. Other sections of the river have been devastated by unwise water use.	Comment noted
Wild and Scenic River	One high value way to holistically manage river protection, restoration, and recreation is to pursue Wild and Scenic designation for the Upper Middle Fork of the San Joaquin River. Wild and Scenic designation could be implemented in a manner that preserves current economically important uses such as fishing and fish stocking. For these reasons, MLC supports the element common to all three GMP alternative that plans for a NPS recommendation for Congressional wild and scenic designation.	Comment noted

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Wild and Scenic River	NPCA joins the large majority of the public that has previously weighed in on this plan by supporting the DGMP's conclusion that the Middle Fork of the San Joaquin River, within DEPO, is suitable for Wild and Scenic River (WSR) designation. The WSR designation would preserve the unique biodiversity of the river corridor and the recreational values treasured by hikers and anglers, and promote conservation of the watershed through partnership with the U.S. Forest Service. The San Joaquin River is the lifeblood of DEPO, and reflects our country's outstandingly remarkable values in its biodiversity and geology. These values invite visitors from all over California and the country to recreate and enjoy the monument.	Comment noted
Wild and Scenic River	I oppose the Wild and Scenic designation of the Middle fork of the San Joaquin river. As stated in the draft GMP there are no proposals for any development or projects along this section of the river. Additionally another layer of bureaucracy in the management of the Red's Meadow Valley is not necessary.	Comment noted. The river has been protected under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act since it was found "eligible" in 1991. Designation of this segment would not increase the level of legal protection, but would further refine it to ensure protection of its outstandingly remarkable values, including recreation and scenic values.
Wild and Scenic River	We support a Wild and Scenic River designation for the appropriate area of the middle fork of the San Joaquin River (p. 54, 71, 86), realizing that congressional legislation would be required to realize this goal.	Comment noted
Wild and Scenic River	The Town recommends the General Management Plan include a commitment to the continuation of fish stocking in the San Joaquin River. The finding of eligibility of the River to be designated as "wild and scenic" may eliminate future fish stocking, resulting in the loss of the fishing experience.	Comment noted. If designated as a Wild and Scenic River, recreational fishing will be protected as part of the recreation-related ORV. Fish stocking does not occur in the monument boundaries and the proposed action would not change this.
Wild and Scenic River	"Wild and Scenic River" The Town supports Alternative A for this section. Alternative A would retain the current management related to the Middle Fork of the San Joaquin River. To the extent the NPS makes a recommendation regarding a Wild and Scenic River designation the proposed action should be clear to not preclude fish stocking and the fishing experience as one of the traditional recreational experiences.	Comment noted. If designated as a Wild and Scenic River, recreational fishing will be protected as part of the recreation-related ORV. One of the primary purposes of designation is the protection of this traditional value. Fish stocking does not occur in the monument boundaries and the proposed action would not change this.
Wild and Scenic River	We are especially supportive of your recommendation to establish the Middle Fork of the San Joaquin River as a Wild & Scenic River.	Comment noted