USDA Forest Service
Framework for Sustainable Recreation
Laurie Thorpe, USFS
Rachel Franchina, USFS
Robert Burns, WVU
Presentation Outline

• USFS Framework for Sustainable Recreation

• Case studies/examples of Sustainable Recreation
  ➢ Regional perspective
  ➢ Forest and community perspective

• Summary & Dialogue
Framework for Sustainable Recreation

Renewing body and spirit, inspiring passion for the land
Phase III
Deliver Innovation
- Allocate Resources
- Collective Leadership
- Scaling & Replication

Phase II
Create Collective Capacity
- Identity and Capability
- Transform Structures & Memory
- Build Collective Capacity
- Commit to Purpose

Phase I
Build Core Container
- Opening & Potential
- Mapping the System
- Create a Core Container
- Whole Systems Design
Core Principles

• Connect people with their natural and cultural heritage
• Promote healthy lifestyles
• Recognize interconnections of sustainability
• Cultivate community engagement
• Manage national forest and grasslands as part of a larger landscape
• Integrate recreation more deeply into Forest Service mission
Sustainable Recreation Program Components

Framework for Sustainable Recreation

- Community Engagement
- Strategy Building
- Evaluation & Learning
- Planning
- Operations

Local Context

National / Regional Guidance

Sustainable Recreation Program Components
Community Engagement

Tasks, Tools, & Questions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Tools</th>
<th>Questions</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Community Engagement through Recreation and Tourism (CERT)</td>
<td>Dialogue, community visioning</td>
<td>What is the community known for? What is my agency’s role in contributing to sustainability?</td>
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Go back
Future of Sustainable Recreation

- Each region develops guidance, identifies key tasks
- Forests may also develop key tasks tied to national/regional guidance and local context
Questions?
Eastern Region Approach

Framework for Sustainable Recreation
Community Engagement Through Recreation and Tourism (CERT) encourages forests to work with communities across broad landscapes toward a common vision of sustainability.
CERT Premises

- **Enduring benefits** accrue where social, economic, and environmental contributions overlap.

- **Sustainability** is achieved through collective actions toward a common vision.

- A **common vision** recognizes the importance of understanding each other’s role and contributions in a larger context.
CERT Premises

- Recreation provides a logical place to **join together** with **collective actions** across a broad landscape.

- **Collective actions** are most relevant when contributing toward a **common vision of sustainability**.

- Engaging with communities across a broad landscape places “us” among the “we” to **learn, evaluate and adapt together** for an “all lands-all hands” approach.
Lessons Learned

• The Forest Service role changes
• Forming a “we” sooner than later is important
• Engage where you’re at!
• The Engagement Model works best at a landscape scale
• Sustainability encompasses all resource areas
• Discovery and learning is part of the journey
Eastern Region
CERT Contact:

Claudia Mielke
(414) 297-3338
Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area
The Lay of the CRG
Mountains to River

GP NF
- Alone Again, Naturally
- Portland’s Back-Forty
- The Quiet National Forest
- In the Green Forest
- A Day to get Away
- Hot & Cold National Forest

CRGNSA
- Walls to Falls
- Portland’s Front-Yard
- Columbia River Gorgeous
- Play for the Day
- Afternoon Delight
- Accessibility

MTH NF
- Mountain Madness
- Portland’s Back-Yard
- Portland’s Psyche
- Play for the Whole Day
- Major Market Share
- East West Forest
R6 Forest Visits (in Thousands)
Recreation Settings Map

This map was produced by the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area (CRGNSA). It is compiled from many different data sources. The CRGNSA is not responsible for the use or misuse of any information represented here.

For additional information contact the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area office at: (541) 308-1700.
Columbia River – This internationally known broad ribbon of water – draining an immense watershed – ties Washington and Oregon together. A dominant scenic feature, the river and its banks serve as an East/West transportation corridor and only sea level pass through the Cascade Mountains. It provides electricity and river transportation and supports wetlands & riparian habitats for birds and fish. The river corridor and islands are rich in pre-historic and historic features.

Western Gateway – Distant views of steep gorge walls and a rolling, pastoral landscape dotted with small farms provide a physical sense of entry; where the urban lights go out and the natural character of the Gorge begins.

Skamania Highlands – Wild lands, woodlots, pastoral farms, small towns and the Columbia River exist in a unique balance. Lakes and wildlife refuges provide waterfowl habitat.
Walls and Falls – The precipitous Gorge walls, cascading waterfalls, and lush vegetation mark entry into the actual Columbia Gorge. This dramatic backdrop draws millions of people from the nearby Portland/Vancouver Metro area for short day trips. Features such as the Historic Columbia River Highway, Crown Point, Multnomah Falls Lodge and CCC era structures blend into the spectacular landscape and interpretation provides depth for those who seek it. The sites also serve as portals to the relatively wild upland section of this setting.

Oak Pine Flowers – This dry east side setting offers open views and sunshine. The oak woodlands, wildflowers, grassland, and Rowena Plateau present a breathtaking backdrop for day use recreations during the dreary days of winter. The unique combination of the Historic Columbia River Highway, important Native American areas, small farms & residential developments contribute to the areas rich culture.

Celilo Grasslands – Vast, open, treeless views, with rolling steep hills provide a striking setting for the eastern gateway to the CRGNSA. Miller Island, State Parks, Chenoweth Table and the mouth of the Deschutes represent unique physical features of the area. Lands outside the urban areas are dominated by large, privately owned farms and ranches. Celillo Falls and The Dalles were the center of Native American Commerce.
The 2012 CRGNSA Effort

• Task: Interagency Recreation Strategy to help with unmanaged recreation.
• Meta-Analysis
• Identify Opportunities/Desires
• Community engagement on dealing with unmanaged recreation use
• Develop Recreation Strategy
Questions?
Thank You!