

Outdoor Adventure Commission Minutes

November 14, 2023

Meeting Location: Soldier Hollow Conference Room

Department of Natural Resources

Division of Outdoor Recreation

1594 W. North Temple, Suite 100

Salt Lake City, UT 84116

Virtual Meeting Information:

Outdoor Adventure Commission YouTube Playlist

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLWixD5-tnhxrwAb0osnucRKxne2LX0gQW>

Attendees

In Person: Dan Childs, Shane Stroud, Patrick Morrison, Carly Lansche, Tara McKee, Scott Strong, Vicki Varela, Cody Clark, Zach Maughan, Vicki Varela, Jordan Smith, Rep. Jeff Stenquist, Jason Curry, Chris Hartman, Renee Flanagan

Virtual: Jerry Taylor, Christa Hinton, Michelle McConkie, Jeff Hartley

Agenda

1. Welcome

Rep. Stenquist: Call meeting to order

2. Minute Approval

Scott Strong: Motion to approve

Pitt Grewe: Second

Unanimous minute approval

3. Vote - Final Utah Outdoor Recreation Strategic Plan - Dr. Jordan Smith

Rep. Jeff Stenquist: We had this next item on the last agenda but we had a few more changes to accommodate so we wanted to put the vote on for this agenda. Thanks for being here again Dr. Smith. I don't know if you want to cover any of the revisions that you made since our last meeting, why don't you go ahead.

Jordan Smith: There were just a couple of commissioners that requested more time. All the comments that we had received back since the last meeting were really minor editorial things that we hadn't caught yet or were more internal reflections on how those agencies could actualize some of the objectives and goals outlined in the plan. The only substantive comments that I had centered on yesterday, was one additional sentence on the possibility of the growth in

search and rescue needs being driven by population growth as well the increased interest in outdoor recreation across the state. And a request for more clarity on one figure, on page 22, weighed on the different uses of state and county funding related to outdoor recreation and tourism. We added a little bit more description to that figure just so people could interpret it by itself. So those are the only changes that we made, everything else is the same. We are looking forward to the completion and adoption of this plan.

Rep. Jeff Stenquist: Any further discussion or comments on the plan from the commission members? We had a good discussion last time about some of the things we want to do with this report, and make a living document and to get the word out. We want to have some positive PR from that and make as many people in the public as well as agencies aware of this strategic plan. We need to incorporate it into our future plans and resource planning, even the discussion we have today and future meetings in terms of making sure that we are aligning our activities and resource allocations to the goals set in this plan. We need to follow up with plans talked about in terms of the next phase of creating regional councils. Those recreation councils throughout the different regions can have more specific recreation plans in those regions. I am ready to entertain a motion to adopt the plan.

Vicki Varela : Motion to approve.

Jason Curry: Second

Rep. Jeff Stenquist: Any further discussion of that motion? Not seeing any online or in-person. All those in favor please say aye. Motion passes unanimously. Thank you to Utah State University and Jordan for your efforts. We will move to our next item on the agenda, The Outdoor Recreation Initiative, I'll turn it over to Patrick.

4. Outdoor Recreation Initiative - National Forest Presentations
 - a. Fishlake National Forest

Patrick Morrison: Thank you to our Forest Service staff that are here today, some traveled from far away to be here today. We will hear from three different forest service district representatives today. These are some of the projects that are up for that initiative. You should all have prioritization sheets in front of you, we will start with Fishlake. If you have questions please go ahead and ask. The presentations will be about 10 mins each with Q&A, but each forest will present more than one. So I will introduce Dan Childs and he will take us through the first two, but since they will be presenting multiple we will be giving them more time.

Dan Childs: I'm the public services staff officer with the Fishlake National Forest. If you have any questions, please ask. I'm from the Richfield Field Office, thank you for everything that you all do at the state, as a representative of the Forest Service and as a resident of the state. I have four projects to talk about. I'll begin with our most complex project and also the most expensive. That is the Meeks Mesa Campground, this is a need for a brand new campground in Wayne County. This is a high-use area that is creating a lot of impacts to the site. It would be our most expensive project. We don't build a lot of new campgrounds anymore but there is a need here. This is outside Capitol Reef National Park, it is a very popular dispersed camping area. If you go here during peak season this site is being impacted very heavily with dispersed camping as a result of increased visitation to Capital Reef. We want to create a designated campground to manage the unauthorized user created camping area. Jason Curry: Is that highway 24 that we are looking at?

Dan Childs: It is. We need to address overcrowding due to increasing visitation in Capitol Reef National Park. We also need to reduce the degradation and sanitation issues due to heavy dispersed camping in fragile desert ecosystems. We also have a large safety issue that needs to be addressed with a pull-out on highway 24. The forest service has convened a partner group to address the issue. We are in the middle of an environmental assessment right now, we began it in 2022 and will be completed in June 2024. A cultural inventory is underway. We still need to do a traffic study, and a

geotechnical analysis. Funding has been secured for both of these. It isn't quite shovel ready, we still have a little bit of work to do on it. We have a partner group that includes the Forest Service, Wayne County, the BLM, the National Park Service and UDOT. Two rounds of public scoping have been completed and we've received 33 letters from the public. We have quite a few partners that are interested in the project, the spillover of the issue is impacting BLM land as well so they have been involved as well. They haven't yet kicked off their NEPA project but plan to soon. Wayne County is a partner, they've committed to using some of their materials to assist with the project. UDOT has been involved as well through their analysis for geotechnical. Our estimate indicates that this will cost \$4.5 million to build this project. This project will go out to bid, the forest will develop the contract package. Any questions?

Rep. Jeff Stenquist: In addition to the \$379,000 match, does your agency have any match to add?

Chris Hartman: We've done a lot of in-kind work with the scope and prep information that ought to be considered.

Rep. Jeff Stenquist: So the 4.5 million ready would be for those construction costs.

Pitt Grewe: What was the capacity of the campground?

Dan Childs: Right now this will be 54 sites, most of our public comment is about the size. Some want smaller and others want as big as possible. We're not sure where we are going to land. Our cost estimate here today is based on that size.

Scott Strong: Is there any infrastructure in place? Water, power, sewer in place?

Dan Childs: Right now there is not, we haul out porter potties on busy weekends for sanitation, and this will be a dry campground. The forest doesn't have water rights here.

Scott Strong: What are the on-going operating costs for maintenance that you estimate?

Dan Childs: Probably in the neighborhood of \$15,000 a year. This will be a fee site and will be managed by a private concessionaire. The fees that will be generated will go back to maintain the site.

Scott Strong: What do you see as an average nightly fee?

Dan Childs: It would be in the range of \$15 a night or so.

Scott Strong: Occupancy range?

Dan Childs: We estimate an annual occupancy rate of about 50% between May and October.

Scott Strong: Where do the additional profits go when you contract it out to a private vendor?

Dan Childs: They would go to the site to improve it, otherwise the funds could go to additional supporting recreational sites in the area. New kiosks, expansion, things of that nature. Barring other needs the funds could go to other needs like trails or trail maintenance.

Pitt Grewe: Are there maintained trails near the sites?

Dan Childs: Yes, there is a trailhead at the site. They are quite popular, a lot of people go there just to hike the trails. There is a llama packing business that offers opportunities to the public near the site.

Pitt Grewe: How far away is the proposed area for the BLM?

Dan Childs: Three miles up the road towards Torrey. This site is about a quarter mile from the boundary of Capitol reef.

Vicki Varela: Does the trail go into Capitol Reef?

Dan Childs: No it stays in the Forest Service land.

Scott Strong: If you were to go back to your leadership team would it be problematic to ask for more funding?

Dan Childs: I think this would be problematic, there have been some opportunities through the Great American Outdoors Act to maintain existing infrastructures, not new infrastructures. Chris will be able to answer this better.

Chris Hartman: Yes, that is correct it is all about deferred maintenance on existing facilities. We are working on revising the GAOA to be utilized for new facilities but that may be years away.

Pitt Grewe: You don't think the Park Service would ever participate in this project? It is probably their visitors.

Dan Childs: They haven't offered that as something they could work on.

Scott Strong: What about a partnership with State Parks instead of a private contractor for operations?

Dan Childs: We have some examples of that with the Fremont Indian State Park and the Castle Rock campground. It has been done in the past and has been successfully operated for years. We are now in the process of transferring that land to State Parks.

Pitt Grewe: This is a question for the Commission, what class is Wayne county? I am guessing there is not any money from Wayne County.

Tara McKee: Wayne County has struggled because of PELT. They've received two UORG projects. Having something in Wayne county would be really helpful.

Rep. Jeff Stenquist: Some in-kind participation from them is a good thing.

Vicki Varela: If you did a lower volume of sites would you need the \$4.5?

Dan Childs: Probably not. This is based on the 54 site estimate that I've got so that is a possibility. I'm going off the best information available that I have right now.

Vicki Varela: What is our process in a situation like that? If we awarded you under \$4.5 would you build it smaller?

Pitt Grewe: I'm guessing that a lot of the project costs will be engineering and cost to add a turning lane to the road?

Dan Childs: The base infrastructure is what is going to cost the most, there will be some savings if we don't build the whole thing, at the same time these are present day numbers too. This is based on the present number of visits and this is the best estimate that we have, we have some contingency built into this cost if it is to be built in 2026. If it isn't going to cost the full \$4.5 we will want to have that open dialogue and transparency.

Rep. Jeff Stenquist: If there are road improvements and cost breakdowns? I wonder if some transportation dollars may be able to assist with this.

Pitt Grewe: We can ask you questions all day.

Dan Childs: I'll move to the Bowery Creek Campground. This is a gorgeous campground, it is a jewel in the Fishlake National Forest on the shores of the Fishlake. It is one of the most frequently visited sites at Fishlake. We have 57 campsites, and this is a modernization project. There are a number of things that need to be done to make it accessible to modern vehicles. There are 288,000 people who visit the lake every year based on 2018 numbers, it is probably higher now. It is 60 years old, the asphalt roads are in disrepair and need to be updated with campsite furnishings. Parking spurs don't accommodate modern RVs and trailers. We have a three mile corridor from one end to the other, there is a little urban strip on the north shore of the lake. There are a few resorts there and three forest service campgrounds. The Great American Outdoor Act secured \$6.7 million in 2019 to upgrade and modernize these campgrounds, unfortunately, due to inflation our funding is going to get us to update Doctors Creek for \$2.2 million and

Mackinaw campground for \$4.5 million but it won't get us to the Bowery creek campground. We've begun an environmental analysis that should be complete near the end of this year. We have tribal consultations and cultural surveys underway as well. The Forest still needs to develop engineering plans, specs, and a contract package which will be done by the Forest Service in 2024. The state has invested a lot in the Fishlake basin in recent years. I'm going to go over each project. Each project that has been done connects to the others, for instance, the UORG funded boardwalk is typically utilized by Bowery campground users. We are in the middle of public scoping right now so far we have received only three comments. Other investments have been made by DNR to maintain all three marinas. DNR has plans to construct a fishing pier near the campground. The forest is also building a new dump station with GAOA funding. We are requesting \$3.1 million in funding for a construction contract to update and modernize the Bowery Creek campground. Just like the previous one, the forest service will prepare the contract package, solicit the contract and then select a bidder. The Forest Service will administer the contract.

TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES

Scott Strong: What are the revenues that were generated last year at the three campgrounds?

Dan Childs: I would have to look up and send you that information, but I can look it up and get it to you before I leave.

Pitt Grewe: Of the three sites, which one is the largest?

Dan Childs: Machinaw is the largest.

Dan Childs: The forest service is investing \$1.2 million dollars of GAOA into this area to update site furnishings, replace an existing toilet, improve campground roads and drainage, and install fencing around the site. On the shores of Kent's Lake, this is the same as the last project, the fundings did not go as far as anticipated. We are looking for \$400,000 to \$500,000. What we are looking to do now is to fix some campground sites and some spurs. This is a high priority corridor that is economically important to the county of Beaver. It gets a lot of visitors from a lot of places in the state and from Nevada. There has been significant investment in the area. In addition to that shared stewardship funding. Beaver County is a significant party. They will provide significant contributions to the site through kiosks and site furnishings. Cultural inventory has been completed and a lot of work has been done to improve accessibility, the forest service and our partners have invested significant funding this year and last year to improve Kent's Lake Road. One unique thing about this project is we can have it completed by 2024, there has been an enormous improvement in the Beaver Canyon area in shared stewardship. Beaver County is a significant partner, they have provided \$70,000 in-kind contributions. To finish off this project \$500,000 is required.

Pitt Grewe: Is there pavement in this campground? What is the season?

Dan Childs: Its mostly natural surface, the season is early June through Labor day.

Scott Strong: What is the camping fee per night?

Dan Childs: For a single site it is between \$15 and \$20.

Scott Strong: You said a lot of folks from Nevada visit here? Do you charge an out of state fee?

Dan Childs: No, we can't do that because all forest service campgrounds are equal opportunity. The next project that we will look at is the Big Flat Dispersed Camping management. If nothing else, my intent for presenting multiple projects while it may not be likely to fund them all, is to let you know that there is a high need. This is located about eight miles from the Kents Lake Campground I just talked about. The purpose of this project is to improve existing roads and dispersed campsites and protect sensitive areas from unauthorized vehicle use. The area is popular with OHVs in the area, it is difficult to manage, especially in terrain like this. We've been taking a number of actions to try and manage

that use and we need to do additional use. Because this is such a flat area, it is very scenic and popular to camp. There is a need to manage the use of the OHVs to reduce damage. The project will help better the visitor experience by designating areas to camp. It is about a four square mile area that is very popular with dispersed recreationists. The cultural inventory has been done, and there were some road improvements completed in 2022. We did a lot of work to relocate and haul boulders into the area to help encourage people to stay on roads and encourage them to camp in the right areas. We need to do some minor road realignment and in order to get that road done we need to develop plans, specs, and contract packages. That can be done in 2024 and the work can be done in 2025. There are some partnerships worth mentioning, the Utah Forestry Fire and State Lands have partnered through Shared Stewardship, with more than \$8 million to improve forest conditions, with an additional \$4-6 million planned. Then \$70,000 of Shared Stewardship funding was spent to rotomill the area's Buck Ridge Road in 2022, and \$135,000 of GAOA was spent on strategic boulder placement this year. We are requesting \$700,000 in funding for a construction contract to import road base material, perform minor road realignment, and perform strategic boulder placement work. The forest service will provide contract administration and oversight.

Jason Curry: How many people visit this area each year?

Dan Childs: We don't have exact numbers on dispersed areas but I can pull up our 2018 National Visitors Use Monitoring Data and give you the best numbers for the general area.

Pitt Grewe: On top of that do you have an idea of a good amount of people you would want to have camped up there.

Dan Childs: We would defer back to our Forest Plan because it would determine our ideal number of visitors that you should encounter in various areas when recreating. It's a big area, and can accommodate a lot of people. I haven't done that analysis but it would be pretty high.

Jason Curry: Is there a cold storage or old historic ice house in this area?

Dan Childs: There is one not here but right down at the Fremont Indian State Park in the Beaver Ranger District.

Jason Curry: No, it would be closer to this.

Dan Childs: There is a historic guard station. We excavated a bunch of rocks to manage the use and import gravel to the road and road realignment in bad spots in short segments. We really want to focus on managing OHV use.

Dan Childs: That would come from Great American Outdoor Act funding and some from shared stewardship.

b. Dixie National Forest

Cody Clark: I'm temporarily detailed as the recreation program manager in Dixie National Forest, when I am not there I am on the Fishlake normally. We are looking for funding for three projects, the Duck Creek Campground and the Spruces Campground have been partially funded by the Great American Outdoor Act. The Navajo campground could potentially be combined with Spruces for a UORG project or something similar. The Duck Creek Campground is similar to what has been happening at the fishlake, it will modernize the campground by lengthening pull outs, etc. We are short on funding, the design is complete and we could begin construction as soon as spring of 2024. We have already done the NEPA and the design is good to go. The contract is active. Community input took place during the NEPA process. We are requesting \$2million, the total project cost is \$3.5 million dollars the remaining amount will be covered by the Great American Outdoor Act. We've structured this project with minimal partners, we primarily need the state as a funding partner. This is located within about a 1.5 hour drive from approx 300 Utah residents. It also attracts visitors from Nevada and California. Our current group sites are severely underbuilt. There are no cross jurisdictional

components. If you want to have a group site that is reservable it is ideal for hosting large groups which is very difficult to do in the forest.

Pitt Grewe: Is this reservable on Rec.gov?

Cody Clark: Yes. It is managed by American Land and Leisure as a concessionaire. What we're looking for is funding for two group sites. This funding will pay for a restroom. Two group sites are currently funded, we're missing a few things that are included in this request such as a metal shade structure and a restroom. Any questions on Duck creek?

Jason Curry: What is the pressure at that sight?

Cody Clark: It is especially important to Nevada residents. There are about 65 sites right now.

Pitt Grewe: What is the size?

Cody Clark: It is a pretty big campground, around 65 sites.

Scott Strong: Are the fees similar at this campground? What is the draw for people to come from Nevada?

Cody Clark: It'll be the same fee as our other campgrounds, \$15, it has cooler temperatures compared to Nevada and lots of OHV recreation. There is a lot of recreation in the area. The Spruces campground, located on highway 14 at Navajo Lake closer to Cedar City. right now this has been rebuilt thanks to UORG and Kane County and American Land & Leisure. The lower loop has been updated, the spurs have been lengthened and widened, roads have been redone. This upper loop was completed by GAOA. What we are looking to fund is three walk-in sites that are currently walk-in access and parking.

Pitt Grewe: Is there water access?

Cody Clark: This is day use parking, there is no boat launch. We want to reconstruct the walk-in sites and add two new vault toilets. NEPA and design are complete. They could be constructed in spring of 2024. Community input took place during the NEPA process. American Land and Leisure, UORG and Kane County partners have already done work on that southern portion of the site. We are looking for state funding. We are requesting \$412,000 for a total project cost of \$2million for doing just that campground. Like I said, \$1.5 has already been implemented. This is a high use area. It addresses overcrowding just like Duck Creek. It is within an hour and a half drive from just over 300,000 Utah residents. This will help with dispersed overcrowding. We are shovel ready.

Pitt Grewe: Is this under a concessionaire?

Cody Clark: American Land & Leisure, they have the same concessionaire throughout the entire state through the Dixie National Forest.

Scott Strong: How can State Parks be a better partner to the Dixie National Forest?

Cody Clark: The state can go after the bid to be a concessionaire. Every five or ten years there is an opportunity to solicit bids on this contract. The state can be a bidder.

Chris Hartman: Not that I am aware but it can be done.

Cody Clark: So on the Fishlake we typically renew them every 5 years and I haven't seen them not renew, so for instance the Fishlake would be up in 2030 and we would only be soliciting bids in 2029. For the dixie we would be soliciting bids in 2028. I'm not sure how the state can get on that list.

Scott Strong: I think we'd like to get on that list. We've talked about Pineview before.

Cody Clark: That is useful information. So this is the plan for what we would like to implement, so all of this has already been done. We are looking to redo this parking area and walk-in sites and renew the bathroom with a double pit-vault toilet. Navajo Lake campground is just down the road from Spruces, it is a stones throw. It was on the list for GAOA but it didn't receive funding and no work has been done there. The NEPA has been completed, the design is 75% complete and we think that this design can be completed before the spring. We think we could start this project in spring 2024.

Tara McKee: Question, how old is this campground?

Cody Clark: It was built 50 or 60 years ago. We are requesting \$1.4 million, right now we have no partners but I'm sure we could find some if needed. The thing with Navajo is we've got Spruces halfway done so it would just be so much better to update it all. If we need to partner with the county I'm sure that we could. This funding will help us complete what we were able to get started in this area. Any questions? This is the design of the campground. The boat ramp is accessed at this site and it is in decent shape. There are two loops here.

Tara McKee: What is the quality of the boat ramp? I ask to see if it would make sense for the UORG project.

Cody Clark: From what I understand it is. There's also Navajo Lake Lodge which has a boat ramp.

Vicki Varela: I am interested, generally, if you had to prioritize your request what would you prioritize and why?

Cody Clark: We would prioritize Duck Creek first because it'll fit more people and it will complete the project that we've started. We still have an option to go for other grants on Spruces. Navajo Lake would be our second because it is \$1.5 million so it would be a little harder to figure around that cost.

Chirs Hartman: Can I go back to your question (Scott)? We have not partnered with the state to operate, but Nevada came to us recently and said that they invested \$30 million in the Spring Mountain National Recreation area by Vegas, so they were interested in coming to us because they don't have a state park in the southern end of Nevada. They came to us and wanted to help manage that area. We took them on a tour and they did their analysis and they ended up saying, "we can't run them any better than you are running them." So I know in other regions there are States and counties that are managing areas well.

c. Uinta Wasatch Cache National Forest

Renee Flanagan: Thank you to the Commission and Division for considering us as a partner. I am a recreation lands staff officer for the Uinta Wasatch Cache National Forest. I'm here today with Zach Maghan who is our forest Landscape Architect and our District Ranger Sean Harwood. They've been critical in this project. They may be able to answer some of your questions. So the planning phase of the Pineview Recreation Complex really started with these questions (What does it mean to look at Pineview Reservoir as a complex of developed recreation sites? How do we elevate those sites to a cohesive whole?) Today I will be discussing the overall planning process, four difference phases, and focusing on phase two which is the primary focus for today. I'll be going over our partnerships and how this fits the criteria you're looking for. This is Pineview reservoir, it is a popular destination for people all along the Wasatch Front. We want it to be a destination that celebrates the surrounding culture and scenic landscape. We want to have a variety of visitors and site types. We really want to connect with the local communities and culture. For the Pineview Recreation Complex we really want to have a comprehensive approach to redevelop recreation all around Pineview. Due to the scale of the project we really felt like we needed to talk about the phases. Phase one is complete and the most critical part of phase one was our partnership with Weber County and Utah State University's Environmental Planning department. They helped us to visualize what we can do in this space. They helped us with a study called "Pineview Forward," it was phenomenal and the students did it for us. It really looks at Pineview as a whole and it helped us change our mindset instead of putting out fires. It made us think about looking at our problems from a whole planning view of what we want Pineview to look

like in 20 years from now. That process through Weber County and Utah State kicked us off in the right direction. Special thanks to both of those partners. Phase two, our focus today, is primarily design and construction of our top six priority sites. Phase 3 addresses needs, functionality and deferred maintenance at three of our highest-used sites and phase 4 tackles the four remaining sites. So what does this mean for timing?

Pitt Grewe: These are all currently existing sites?

Renee: There is currently one new site. This is our 10 year timeline. Our goal was to get to a point where we were shovel ready. A lot of the time we can get hung up on the planning and design side. We don't have hard timelines because we aren't quite there yet. This is what Pineview will cost, phase 2-5 we are looking at around a \$53 million area to bring all of these up to standard, that is 15 sites across the reservoir. We think this would take place over 10 years, that is the earliest in the forest Service world.

Pitt Grewe: That is a lot of money.

Rep. Jeff Stenquist: I am sensing some transportation appropriations.

Renee Flanagan: Let's go to the next slide. I want to focus on these two because that is where we are at. It is partially complete, we did some reconstruction at cemetery point which is a very popular picnic area. We are requesting funding for 5 sites, the NEPA is done, archeological surveys are done, and the stamped drawings will be complete this month. We have five shovel ready sites that are ready to go. We partnered with Weber County to get these done. We are fixing a collapsed and failed sidewalk which we look at as critical health and safety. We will also replace these Green Jems and Pink ladies which are our oldest toilets in the forest. They are older than me, they should be replaced. The next thing is trash, we have a concessionaire and we want to look at everything as a whole. The last photo on the right is an example of what we are starting to accomplish at Cemetery point. We put a lot of money into bank stabilization for health and safety. There was about a 25 foot drop off. We've put in new fencing and curb stops to encourage the right flow of people and traffic.

Jeff Hartley (online): Are Pineview improvements intended to better manage current visitor levels or would it draw more visitors? And can it handle more or is it saturated on average weekends?

Renee Flanagan: Will this help manage visitor levels or draw more visitors? I think anytime you improve something you draw more visitors, we have some visitors that will go to non-fee sites no matter what they are like. So that is important to provide for the public. It is also important to have some fee sites where we have some representation there and where we keep them clean. No, it cannot handle a ton more (visitation) as far as saturation on the weekends. We are at full capacity. We aren't talking about decreasing visitation, we are talking about management and changing how people flow through the sites. The biggest example shows that we should have a one-way at Pineview trailhead. This will pull all of the traffic off of UDOT's road. Right now all of those boats back up off of the highway. They wait for one boat to come off so another can come on.

Renee Flanagan: No it can't handle a lot more, we can't handle too much more. It is primarily about how to handle and manage the direction and flow of visitors. This project will pull a lot of traffic off of the state highway.

Jason Curry: I've heard that Pineview is one of the busiest recreation sites in the state.

Renee Flanagan: I believe so, we have about 60 recreation staff members working at all times throughout the summer. We've done sign plans and kiosk plans throughout the area. Phase two is everything you can see in the yellow and gold. The reason you see it on all of them is because we did a site survey at all of the sites. We also did a site plan and kiosk design for all of the sites. That'll be consistent across everything. The five new sites that we talked about are going to help bring some flow and use over from Pineview trailhead where we have some conflicting uses. This will help access

some of our single track and motorized and equestrian trails. We want to be able to focus on that. View point also has better access so it will help with some of the congestion we're having in that area and also pelican beach and spring creek. There are two components of site planning and design, we are about 99% complete. Designs are completed and we are waiting to send out contract packages. We prioritized sites but site conditions. There was a lot of infrastructure in the 60s and it is now far outdated and needs to be updated. Partnership buy-in was a big factor for us, as well as public feedback. The Pineview working group has been very engaged with Weber County and other partners. Sean leads our ongoing Pineview working group. If you want to look at cost by site, these are current construction estimates that came from the architecture firm we're working with. This does not include the DWR dip-tank that the state will be supporting us with aquatic invasives. We're looking at \$22.6 million for phase two. The forest has secured \$7.5 million through GAOA and we've invested \$1.75 million between Cemetery Point and site surveys. We have been working with an architectural firm on this process. This provides different opportunities for you all to partner with us on this project. We are short funding-wise, so we have two alternative options for funding options. Alternative 1 identifies our top three sites and the second alternative looks at the Pineview trailhead. We want to provide different options and scale depending on what is available.

Rep. Jeff Stenquist: If we aren't able to commit a lot of funding but we could do a certain amount what would be the most scalable solution?

Renee Flanagan: The goal of this is to be scalable so that anywhere and everywhere we can find funding we'll be able to utilize it. Our agency isn't great at this. We do have the Great American Outdoor Act to look towards but it isn't currently authorized for new infrastructure. We can utilize up to \$ 2 million in 2025 which means 2026 construction. Those are our options and priorities.

Scott Strong: What is the average annual revenue?

Renee Flanagan: Because we are under a concessionaire they are under a contract that is protected so you would have to go through a FOIA. A lot of it is proprietary because they are competing with other concessionaires for campgrounds across the county. Weber County has been a great partner, they've helped us with design. Utah Outdoor Recreation Company has been an important partner as they manage the sites. They manage about a third of the sites that we have. The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources Trails Foundation of Northern Utah, and the Forest Service Intermountain Regional Office as well as the Weber Basin Job Corps Civilian Construction Crew. and hope you all. This is an on the job training so that people can get experience in the trades. We hope to include you all as a partner as well.

Jason Curry: What about Huntsville City? I know it is a small community.

Renee Flanagan: Yes, they are part of the Pineview working group.

Sean Harwood, Forest Service Ranger: They've been very involved. URC collects \$3 a day from the \$18 day-use fee that then goes back into a fund in Huntsville that they can then use to help pay for the needs that come from the traffic that goes through their community. They have helped with the reconstruction of Cemetery Point.

Jason Curry: I know there has been talks about incorporating the upper part of the valley.

Sean Harwood: We've been working with the Mayor and I am aware of that.

Renee Flanagan: We're used to addressing small sites, but we're looking at this as a regional system. This is one of the most popular sites in the states. We have a great need to increase the accessibility of the signage, we plan to have bilingual signage and provide on-the-job training through the Weber Basin Job Corps. This is a regionally significant project. Having consistent amenities across these sites is also important. We'll also have consistent signage throughout the state. . It is a major goal to address these needs and help educate. We will be providing bilingual signage. If we are

able to do all of this we will retire \$9 million in deferred maintenance. As you all talk about a strategic plan, the two I want to focus on is the economic benefit. Uinta-Wasatch-Cache generates just under \$1 billion to the state and Pineview. That number is from the value of priceless study and our national visitor use monitoring protocol. We don't have exact numbers at Pineview but it is an extrapolation. If you look at all of this data, it provides \$50 million plus a year. This provides a lot of benefit to the local community. It is phenomenal to look at the local uses and economies.

Pitt Grewe: No way. Is that number in a new report you can share?

Renee Flanagan: It is my number based on a national study which is how I figured that out, I did the math to estimate the impact. The last thing I want to talk about is our signing and kiosk program. The messaging will be consistent throughout the state and we've worked with our partners to educate about aquatic species, beach access, and boat launches. It will be great and consistent messaging all the way around the reservoir. Are there any questions?

Rep. Jeff Stenquist: Thank you all for your time.

Patrick Morrison: We will go through some more presentations in December and we'll come back in January to work through some of the plannings and you can have a consolidated packet with all of the information. So we can have enough time for a legitimate discussion and get us ready for the session.

Vicki Varela: I am feeling like I need some guiding principles to make these decisions. In January I just want to talk through some of these on how we prioritize economic benefits, how we prioritize regions of the state that have greater needs than others. Can you come to us with starting points?

Jason: These are starting points (holding up packet)

Patrick Morrison: This is a living work in progress, any suggestions, I am happy to pull out any of our grants program tools to help make these decisions.

Pitt Grewe: Motion to adjourn

Motion passes unanimously