Acknowledgements

Thanks are due to the many in government agencies, organizations and all the individual citizens whose contributions made the development of the Nevada 2005 State Recreational Trails Plan possible. The following major contributors are recognized:

CITIZENS OF NEVADA

A special thanks to the 501 citizens across Nevada who responded to the mail survey titled Trail Activities in Nevada conducted by the Nevada Division of State Parks in 2003.

Thanks also goes out to the 113 people that responded to the mail survey titled Trail Issues in Nevada conducted in 2004 and to the many people that attended the public workshops to develop the recommended actions to address the identified issues.

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Executive Summary

Nevada’s 2005 State Recreational Trails Plan begins with an introduction to the document—chapter 1, and then presents the research results from the Trail Activities in Nevada study—chapter 2, the top thirteen (13) trail issues—chapter 3, the recommended actions to address the issues—chapter 4, and the Nevada Division of State Parks trail inventory and summary of Recreational Trails Program projects in Nevada—chapter 5. Also included are all issues identified in the Trails Issues in Nevada survey—Appendix A, potential funding sources for trails in Nevada—Appendix B, Recreational Trails Program project sponsor contact list—Appendix C, Historic trails in Nevada—Appendix D and the Recreational Trails Program evaluation criteria—Appendix E.

Plan Goal:
The goal of the Nevada 2005 State Recreational Trails Plan is to increase and improve the quality of recreational trail activity opportunities in Nevada.

Plan Objectives:

OBJECTIVE 1: Guide the allocation of Recreational Trails Program funds and other resources for appropriate trail uses and needs.

OBJECTIVE 2: Provide recommended actions to address the top priority trail activity issues in Nevada.

OBJECTIVE 3: Apply strategic planning principles in the conduct of research, with emphasis on support for the Nevada Division of State Parks.

OBJECTIVE 4: Encourage public and private cooperation and input in addressing the trail activity issues facing Nevada.
The Trail Activities in Nevada survey conducted by Nevada Division of State Parks found that:

- 61.3% of Nevada residents participated in a recreational trail activity in the twelve (12) months preceding the questionnaire
- Walking is the most popular trail activity, with 55% of Nevadans participating in the past twelve (12) months, and 41.5% expecting to participate in the future
- Trail users spend an average of 20.5 days on the trails per year
- The average party size for trail users is 4.2 people per outing
- Trail users travel an average of 10.7 miles per day
  - Non-motorized trail users travel an average of 6.68 miles per day
  - Motorized trail users travel an average of 30.02 miles per day
- There are 425,435 OHVs, ATVs, snowmobiles and dirt bikes in Nevada
- The number one limiting factor for participation in trail activities is lack of time
- 6.9% of respondents belong to a trail or riding club, or trail related organization
- The main source of information about trails in Nevada is word of mouth

The Nevada Division of State Parks inventory found that:

- One hundred thirty-nine (139) trails are identified in twenty (20) state parks
- The total length of trails is over 271 miles
- One hundred thirty-eight trails projects have received grant funds from the Recreational Trails Program
- The total grant amount from 1993 to 2004 was $4,061,184
- The total project cost from 1993 to 2004 was $7,500,480
- 58 different groups, organizations and agencies have received funding
The top trail issues in Nevada and the recommended actions to address each issue are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ISSUE</th>
<th>ACTION</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Loss of public access to trails</td>
<td>1a. Identify access points, plan for access and acquire easements for trails</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>1b. Coordinate trail access needs with stakeholders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of funding for trails</td>
<td>2a. Share resources for trails planning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2b. Identify existing and potential new resources to support trails</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Closure of trails and roads</td>
<td>3a. Preserve existing trails</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3b. Promote mitigation before closure</td>
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<tr>
<td>Not enough trails</td>
<td>4a. Increase the quantity and quality of trails in Nevada for multiple trail uses</td>
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<td></td>
<td>4b. Inform the public about existing trails</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4c. Increase funding devoted to expanding trail opportunities</td>
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<tr>
<td>Not enough support facilities near trails</td>
<td>5a. Enhance and expand support facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Erosion and deterioration of trails</td>
<td>6a. Use sustainable design techniques for new trail construction</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6b. Establish partnerships to augment trail budgets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not enough good information material about Nevada trails</td>
<td>7a. Provide current trail information and detailed maps</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lack of trail etiquette and ethics</td>
<td>8a. Expand trail etiquette and environmental ethic resources</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>8b. Share use and cooperate on trails</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inadequate trail maintenance</td>
<td>9a. Prioritize reconstruction over new development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9b. Establish partnerships to augment trail budgets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9c. Promote and support volunteer trail and trailhead maintenance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Too much litter and trash along trails</td>
<td>10a. Reduce litter and trash on trails and trailheads</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10b. Enforce/follow rules and regulations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of directional signs along trails</td>
<td>11a. Enhance and expand support facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>and at trailheads</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of trails close to home</td>
<td>12a. Establish trail opportunities close to home</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12b. Promote interagency coordination to address regional needs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Too many different types of users on trails</td>
<td>13a. Address user conflicts and safety issues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>13b. Share use and cooperate on trails</td>
</tr>
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List of Acronyms

ATV  All Terrain Vehicle
BLM  Bureau of Land Management
DCNR  Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
DMV  Department of Motor Vehicles
ESRI  Environmental Systems Research Institute
FHWA  Federal Highway Administration
GID  General Improvement District
GIS  Geographic Information System
GPS  Global Positioning System
ISTEA  Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act
LWCF  Land and Water Conservation Fund
NCA  Natural Conservation Area
NEPA  National Environmental Policy Act
NDOT  Nevada Department of Transportation
NDSP  Nevada Division of State Parks
NHS  National Highway System
NPS  National Park Service
OHV  Off Highway Vehicle
RTP  Recreational Trails Program
SCORP Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan
TEA-21 Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century
TRT  Tahoe Rim Trail
USC  United States Code
USFS  United States Forest Service
UTM  Universal Transverse Mercator