

1 **Chapter 5: IMPLEMENTATION**

2 **Recommended Regulation Changes**

3 The trail management recommendations made in this plan represent the desired future
4 condition for trails within the park and the general trail policies provide the direction for
5 achieving the desired future condition. Many of the Design Uses identified for a particular
6 trail or trail segment in this plan represent a standard that may require a change in park
7 regulations to fully facilitate. Where a regulation change is known to be needed, a notation is
8 made in the “Comments” section of the trail matrix. Other unanticipated changes to
9 regulations may also be needed to implement this plan. These regulation changes will be
10 promulgated over time as the Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation updates park
11 regulations.

12 **Phasing**

13 When trails are part of a phased project, the phasing of various trail segments will follow a
14 logical sequence. Some trail construction may be required through an entire project to
15 provide completed trail connections at an early phase in the project. Further improvements
16 can be made as funding and staffing allow.

17 **Plan Review and Modification Information**

18 The guidelines in this plan are intended to be flexible so as to respond to changing
19 conditions, shifts in demand and use patterns, and availability of funds. Implementation of
20 the management recommendations should begin immediately and are intended to proceed in
21 phases over the years as opportunities, staffing and funding allow.

22 Due to changes in use patterns and demands, as well as changes in data associated with
23 specific plan recommendations, adjustments to the plan will have to be made over time. If
24 proposed adjustments are a major departure from the plan’s intent, the director may
25 determine the need to initiate a public review process. This plan reflects the best efforts of
26 the Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation to analyze park resources and provide trail
27 opportunities that do not significantly compromise the park’s cultural and natural resources
28 or character.

29 The planned outlook for this document is 20 years, with the realization that intermediate
30 reviews and modifications may be warranted and are appropriate. The director may initiate a
31 review at any time and it is strongly recommended that the plan be reviewed via a public
32 process at least every 10 years. The following procedures will be used for plan deviations
33 and modifications:

- 1 1. Periodic Review- The division will coordinate periodic review of the trail plan when
2 the director considers it necessary and so directs. The decision to review the trail plan
3 may be triggered by:

- 4 • Written public or agency requests for review;
5 • Policy changes within the Division or Department;
6 • Changes in land status or management agreements;
7 • Changes in use or new types of uses;
8 • Availability of new data or technology; or
9 • Changing social or economic conditions that place different demands on the park
10 or affect the Division's capabilities.

11 The trail plan review will include meetings, as appropriate, with the park advisory
12 board, interested groups, the general public, affected agencies, the park
13 superintendent, and other Division personnel. The periodic review will lead to one of
14 the following actions:

- 15 • No modification to the plan;
16 • Modification of the plan; or
17 • Granting a special exception.
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20 2. Modification of the Plan- There are two types of plan modifications:

- 21 • Minor changes- These are changes which, if accomplished, would not cause a
22 deviation from the original intent of the trail plan. Minor changes may be
23 necessary for clarification, consistency, or to facilitate plan implementation.
24 Minor changes do not require public review but should be coordinated with the
25 park superintendent and appropriate staff.
26 • Major changes- These are changes which, if accomplished, would cause a
27 deviation from the original intent of the trail plan. Major changes require public
28 notice and review prior to adoption.
29

- 30 3. Granting of a Special Exception- Exceptions to the provisions of the trail plan may be
31 made without modification to the plan. Special exceptions shall occur only when
32 compliance with the plan is excessively difficult or impractical and an alternative
33 procedure can be implemented which adheres to the purposes and spirit of the plan.
34 The Division may make a special exception in the implementation of the plan through
35 the following procedure:

36
37 A. The person or agency requesting the special exception shall prepare a written
38 finding which specifies:

- 39 • The nature of the special exception requested;
40 • The extenuating circumstances which require a special exception;
41 • The alternative course of action to be followed; and
42 • How the intent of the plan will be met by the alternative.
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- 1 B. The Director will review the findings and issue a determination. If warranted by
- 2 the degree of controversy or the potential impact, the director will hold a public
- 3 hearing before reaching a decision.
- 4
- 5 C. The decision of the director may be appealed to the Commissioner of the
- 6 Department of Natural Resources, whose decision will be final.