# TRAIL SYSTEM ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT PILOT PROGRAM PHASES 1 + 2





### **PILOT PURPOSE**

- A sensible approach to engage community, measure acceptance of any proposed rule and policy changes
- Introduction of adaptive management as a systematic process to address issues inclusive of all user types (hiker, equestrian biker, e-biker)
- Gives members opportunity to participate in changes through experience and outreach input tools like field surveys and in person observations



### **PILOT PROGRAM OUTCOMES**

- Extensive member outreach and trail experiences to further inform decision making on any rule, policy, and management changes
- Improved understanding and experience relating to management of trail system
- Support of adaptive management approach to managing the trail system this is not a unique concept to managing TD amenities. Example: Dog trails at Cross Country



### WHAT IS ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT?



Adaptive management (AM) is the process of implementing land management activities in incremental steps and evaluating whether desired outcomes are being achieved at each step.

If conditions deviate substantially from predictions, management activities are adjusted to achieve the desired outcomes.

### WHY IS ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT SO IMPORTANT?

- Reduces uncertainty about the effectiveness of specific management decisions
- Provides flexibility to adapt to evolving conditions, trends, technology, and environmental changes
- Learning from and avoiding past mistakes, while documenting lessons that can be utilized elsewhere
- Achieves desired goals, projects and objectives more efficiently
- Increases confidence among TD's members, community partnerships and other stakeholders
- Adopts a best practice of ongoing learning and improvement



### VALUE OF PILOT PROGRAM FOR THE MEMBER

- Explores different ways to address issues members have expressed during the initial member outreach
- Improves understanding of member perspective and ideas for solutions
- Concepts introduced begins to test ways to enhance user experience
- Improves safety and trail flow
- Improves recreational options for more members



### **PILOT PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS**

#### When: Implementation in phases

- Phase 1: June through October 2021
  - Hiker, biker, equestrian trail changes
  - Directional only trail change
- Phase 2: August through October 2021
  - E-bike access in parallel with August Tahoe Donner News publication for member 45-day notice of proposed Off-Road Vehicle rule change



### **PILOT PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS**

#### What:

- Designated Hiker only trail(s)
- Some designated Equestrian/Hiker only trails: Equestrian specific trails already exist. Designated No biking trails
- Some E-bike Access: Class 1 e-bikes allowed temporary access on all double track (fire road) and designated single track trails
- Directional only trail(s): Trail designated for one-way only
- Maintain much of the trail system as multi-use trails



### **PILOT PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS**

#### How:

Operational

• On the ground implementation: signage and wayfinding, staff briefings, talking points

### Monitoring

- Trails department: Trail conditions evaluations
- Onsite volunteer stewards/ambassadors: observation reports, assistance with trail user surveys, docent
- Interdepartmental collaboration: Bikeworks, Alder Creek Cafe, Day Camps, Equestrian Center observation reports

### **Communication and Education**

- Stewards/ambassadors and kiosks
- Webpage
- Feedback form
- Tahoe Donner News
- Dedicated Eblasts
- Trails Community Event(s)
- Field Survey(s)



# PHASE 1 IMPLEMENATION JUNE – OCTOBER 2021





### TRAILS

- Equestrian/Hiker Only
  - Rawhide
  - EQ Wild West
  - Everest
  - Drifter Wall
- Hiker Only
  - Nature Loop S/W side
- Hiker/Biker Only
  - True Grit Lower
  - Cinnamon Twist
- Directional
  - Mother Lode (Upper + Lower)

### Determining Factors Highlights

- Enhancing user experience
- Connection & trail flow Providing options for route taking, recreationally advantageous
- Design & construction standards equestrian, hiker/biker, multi-use
- Environmentally sensitive zone wetlands, waterways
- Planned, designed, and constructed parallel or similar route for user type



### PILOT PROGRAM -DESIGNATED USE

#### TRAILS

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- Equestrian/Hiker Only (purple)
  - Rawhide
  - EQ Wild West
  - Everest
  - Drifter Wall
- Hiker Only (pink)
  - Nature Loop S/W side
- <u>Hiker/Biker Only (teal)</u>
  - True Grit Lower
  - Cinnamon Twist
- Directional (arrows)
  - Mother Lode (Upper + Lower)

# PHASE 2 IMPLEMENATION AUGUST – OCTOBER 2021

CONTINGENT ON AUGUST TAHOE DONNER NEWS PUBLICATION OF 45-DAY NOTICE TO MEMBERS FOR CHANGES TO THE OFF-ROAD VEHICLE RULE



### **PILOT PROGRAM – PHASE 2, E-BIKE ACCESS**

All double track / fire roads (22 out of 22 total miles available double track)

#### Designated single track (approx. 16 out of 38+ total miles available single track)

- Trails:
  - West + East Mustang Sally
  - Hawk's Peak
  - Mother Lode
  - True Grit
  - Cinnamon Twist
  - Sundance Cutoff
  - Willie's Wiggle
  - Eastern Perimeter

#### **Determining Factors Highlights**

- Design & construction standard hiker/biker
- Terrain & construction bike proficiency matters
- Destination access to destinations
- Connection & usage flow double track/fire roads, providing for looping, preferred directions, in some cases
  alternate routes available for other user types
- Trail user data E-bike survey, respondents who have/use e-bike are 50+ years
- Adjacent to USFS trails



# **PILOT PROGRAM – E-BIKE SPECIAL CONDITIONS**

Specific to E-bike temporary access, the following special conditions will be established:

- Only Class 1 e-bikes allowed on designate trails and fire roads
- Class 2 and 3 e-bikes not permitted
- E-bikes and all traditional bicycles should slow speed to less than 5 mph when passing
- Commercial e-bike operations are not authorized on TDA property except for management planned and invited representation/demo at pilot program event(s).
- Aftermarket kits installed are not permitted





# PILOT PROGRAM -E-BIKE ACCESS Single track

#### TRAILS (shown in orange)

- West + East Mustang
   Sally
- Hawk's Peak
- Mother Lode
- True Grit
- Cinnamon Twist
- Sundance Cutoff
- Willie's Wiggle
- Eastern Perimeter

Note: USFS Overland Emigrant allows e-bike use and is indicated on map in orange



### PILOT PROGRAM – E-BIKE ACCESS Double track

ALL DOUBLE TRACK/FIRE ROADS (shown in orange)



### PILOT PROGRAM SUMMARY

#### TRAILS

- E-bike access
  - All double track/fire roads
  - West + East Mustang Sally
  - Hawk's Peak
  - Mother Lode
  - True Grit
  - Cinnamon Twist
  - Sundance Cutoff
  - Willie's Wiggle
  - Eastern Perimeter
- Equestrian/Hiker Only
  - Rawhide
  - EQ Wild West
  - Everest
  - Drifter Wall
- Hiker Only
  - Nature Loop S/W side
- Hiker/Biker Only
  - True Grit Lower
  - Cinnamon Twist
- <u>Directional</u>

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• Mother Lode (Upper + Lower)