

Appendix 17

Natural Resource Recreation Setting: Range, Condition, and Trend for the GMCA

Bold Type = setting range
= dominant setting
Bold Italic Type = setting decreasing in availability
Red Type = setting increasing in availability

Physical - Resources and facilities: character of the natural landscape.

	Pristine	Primitive	Transition	Back Country	Middle Country	Front Country	Rural	Urban
a. Remoteness:	More than 10 miles from any road.		More than 3 miles from any road.	<i>More than 1/2 mi. from any road, but not as distant as 3 miles, and no road in sight.</i>	<i>On or near 4-wheel drive roads, but at least 1/2 mile from all improved roads, though they may be in sight.</i>	On or near improved country roads, but at least 1/2 mile from any highway.	On or near primary highways, but still within a rural area.	On or near primary highways, municipal streets, and roads within towns or cities.
b. Naturalness:	Undisturbed natural landscape			<i>Naturally appearing landscape having modifications not readily noticeable.</i>	<i>Naturally appearing landscape except for obvious primitive roads.</i>	Landscape partially modified by roads, utility lines, fencelines, etc., but none that overpower natural landscape features.	Natural landscape substantially modified by agriculture or industrial development.	Urbanized developments dominate this landscape.
c. Facilities:	No facilities			<i>Some primitive trails made of native materials, such as log bridges and carved wooden signs.</i>	Maintained and marked trails, simple trailhead developments, improved signs, and very basic toilets.	Improved yet modest, rustic facilities such as campsites, restrooms, trails, and interpretive signs.	Modern facilities such as campgrounds, group shelters, boat launches, and occasional exhibits.	Elaborate, full-service facilities such as laundry, groceries, and book sales.

Social - Visitor use and users: character of recreation and tourism use.

	Pristine	Primitive	Transition	Back Country	Middle Country	Front Country	Rural	Urban
d. Contacts (with other groups):	<i>Fewer than 3 encounters/day at campsites, and fewer than 6 encounters/day on travel routes.</i>			<i>3-6 encounters/day off travel routes (e.g., campsites), and 7-15 encounters/day on travel routes.</i>	<i>7-14 encounters/day off travel routes (e.g., staging areas), and 15-29 encounters/day en route.</i>	15-29 encounters/day off travel routes (e.g., campgrounds), and 30 or more encounters/day en route.	People seem to be everywhere, but human contact remains intermittent.	Other people constantly in view.
e. Group Size:	<i>Fewer than or equal to 3 people/group.</i>			<i>4-6 people/group.</i>	<i>7-12 people/group.</i>	13-25 people/group.	26-50 people/group.	Greater than 50 people/group.
f. Evidence of Use:	<i>Only footprints observed</i>			<i>Footprints and slight vegetation trampling at campsites and travel routes; litter only infrequent.</i>	Vehicle tracks and occasional litter and soil erosion; vegetation becoming worn.	Well-worn soils and vegetation, but often gravel-surfaced for erosion control. Litter may be frequent.	Paved routes protect soils and vegetation, but noise, litter, and facility impacts are pervasive.	A busy place with what seems like constant noise. Unavoidable litter seems to be a lifestyle choice.

Administrative - Management controls and service setting: how public land agencies, county commissioners, private sector service providers, and open space managers care for the area and manage public use.

	Pristine	Primitive	Transition	Back Country	Middle Country	Front Country	Rural	Urban
g. Mechanized Use:	<i>None whatsoever.</i>			<i>Mountain bikes and perhaps other mechanized use, but all is non-motorized.</i>	<i>4-wheel drive vehicles, ATVs, dirt bikes, or snowmobiles in addition to non-motorized mechanized use.</i>	2-wheel drive vehicles predominant, but also 4-wheel drive vehicles and non-motorized mechanized use	Ordinary highway auto and truck traffic is characteristic.	Wide variety of street vehicles and highway traffic is ever-present.
h. Visitor Services:	<i>None available on-site</i>			<i>Basic maps, but area personnel seldom available to provide on-site assistance.</i>	<i>Area brochures and maps, plus area personnel occasionally present to provide on-site assistance.</i>	Information materials describe recreation areas and activities. Area personnel are periodically available.	Information described to the left, plus experience and benefit descriptions. Area personnel interpret on-site education	Information described to the left, plus regularly scheduled, on-site outdoor skills demonstrations and clinics.
i. Management Controls:	<i>No visitor controls apparent. No use limits. Enforcement presence very rare.</i>			<i>Signs at key access points, on basic user ethics. May have Back Country use restrictions. Enforcement presence rare.</i>	<i>Occasional regulatory signing. Motorized and mechanized use restrictions. Random enforcement presence.</i>	Rules clearly posted with some seasonal or day-of-week use restrictions. Periodic enforcement presence.	Regulations prominent. Total use limited by permit, reservation, etc. Routine enforcement presence.	continuous enforcement to redistribute use and reduce user conflicts, hazards, and resource damage