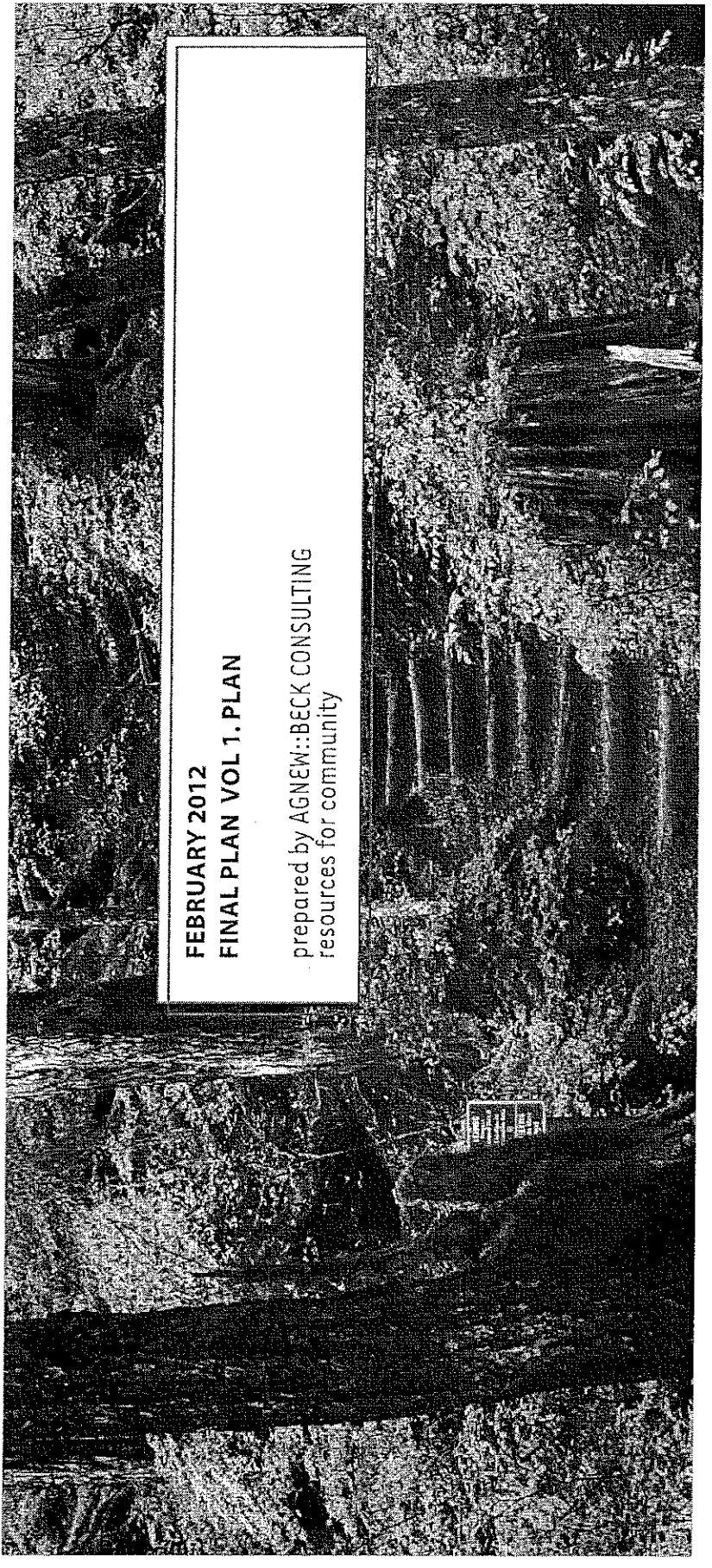
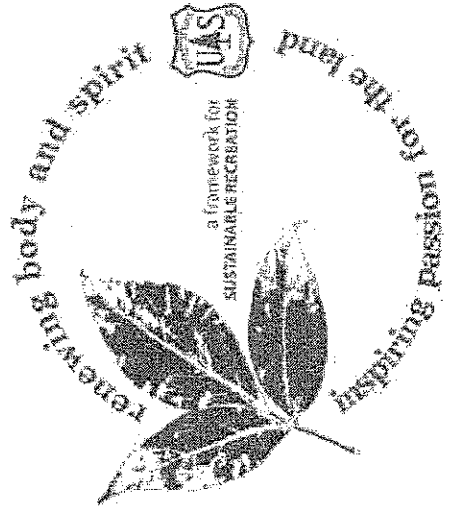


Sitka

sustainable outdoor recreation action plan



FEBRUARY 2012
FINAL PLAN VOL 1. PLAN
prepared by AGNEW::BECK CONSULTING
resources for community

Agnew:Beck Consulting, LLC prepared this report under subcontract to CHM
Government Services under Task Order AG-344V-D-10-0023 in direct support
of an CHM Government Services IDIQ Contract AG-02NV-C-09-004.

Acknowledgements

Many thanks to all the dedicated individuals who helped make this plan a success.

Particular thanks to the members of the Sitka Outdoor Recreation Action Plan Steering Committee, who put in many long hours to guide the planning process:

- Nicholas True, State Parks and Recreation
- Clarence Wadkins, National Park Service
- Mim McConnell, City of Sitka and Sitka Assembly
- Alison Dunlap, local business owner
- Nancy Yaw Davis, vintage Sitkans
- Garry White, SEDA Executive Director
- Clint Simic, Raven's Way SEARHC Hospital
- Lynne McGowan, City of Sitka Recreation Department
- Carol Goularte, USFS Tongass National Forest, Sitka District Ranger
- Andrew Thoms, Sitka Conservation Society
- Deborah Lyons, Sitka Trail Works
- Jon Martin, USFS Tongass National Forest, Recreation Staff Officer
- Michelle Putz, USFS Recreation
- Peggy Marcus, USFS Sitka Ranger District Recreation Staff

- The Sitka, Sustainable Outdoor Recreation Plan is the product of more than a year of active, community-wide planning. The plan builds from a spectrum of community perspectives, including:
- views expressed in resident and visitor surveys
 - focus groups with community leaders, youth and “vintage” residents
 - interviews with individuals, businesses and organizations
 - Assembly briefings
 - a series of well-attended community workshops

The plan presents two main products: an ambitious, comprehensive set of outdoor recreation projects, and a subset of this full list identifying first tier priorities. While the process was sponsored by the US Forest Service, the final implementation of the plan rests with the plan partners and the public. Support for this plan does not establish a rigid obligation to carry out these projects, but the signatures do indicate support for the plan and the intent to work in good faith to implement these projects. By agreeing to continue to work together, these parties are expanding the community’s capability to implement projects, and helping Sitka to be a better place to live, visit, work and play.

Mike Eberhardt, Southeast Alaska Superintendent
Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation
Alaska Department of Natural Resources

Jim Dimley, Municipal Administrator
City and Borough of Sitka

Marcel LaPerriere, President
Sitka Conservation Society

Randy Larson, Superintendent
Sitka National Historical Park

Brian Hanson, President
Sitka Trail Works, Inc.

Lawrence Widmark, Tribal Chairman
Sitka Tribe of Alaska

Charles Clement, CEO
Southeast Alaska Regional Health Consortium

Carol Goularte, District Ranger
Sitka Ranger District
Tongass National Forest

Letter of Support: Greater Sitka Chamber of Commerce

Letter of Support: Sitka Convention and Visitors Bureau

Sitka Sustainable Outdoor Recreation Action Plan

FINAL PLAN

Table of Contents

Acknowledgements	i
Letter of Support: Greater Sitka Chamber of Commerce.....	iii
Letter of Support: Sitka Convention and Visitors Bureau	iv
Table of Contents	v
Summary: Why, How, Who, What Next?	vii
1. Project Background and Process.....	1
USFS Sustainable Recreation Framework	1
Sitka Outdoor Recreation Action Plan	2
Key Steps in the Project Process	2
2. Goals and Criteria for Identifying Sustainable Outdoor Recreation Priorities	5
Overall Goals	5
Criteria for Evaluating Proposed Projects.....	5
3. First Tier Projects	8
Introduction	8
Center of Town First Tier Projects	10
Road System First Tier Projects.....	12
Out of Town First Tier Projects.....	14
Special Uses First Tier Projects.....	16
Special Users First Tier Projects	18
4. Project Implementation	21

Vol2. Appendices

Appendix A: All Identified Projects 1
 Project Implementation Table..... 2
 List of projects by type and priority level.....42
Appendix B: Get Out Sitka Programs and Projects.....49
Appendix C: Recreation and Visitor Industry Trends67
Appendix D: Summary of Past Plans75
Appendix E: Inventory of Existing Facilities, Programs and Services.....80
Appendix F: Focus Group Meeting Notes.....90
Appendix G: Survey Results..... 104

Sitka Sustainable Outdoor Recreation Action Plan

SUMMARY: WHY, HOW, WHO, WHAT NEXT?

"You know, we could actually get a lot of this done, but only if we do it together as part of a unified plan."

— (Previously skeptical) Sitka Convention and Visitors Bureau Board Member

This is a plan about building partnerships and setting priorities. The Sustainable Outdoor Recreation Action Plan was developed to improve Sitka's outdoor recreation system, with a focus on filling key gaps in the community's existing set of trails, parks, day use facilities, maps and other recreation resources. Because Sitka has seen plenty of previous planning efforts, this plan could build from past work and focus on action: what projects are most important, and how do we make them happen?

The product of this plan is a set of community agreements on specific priorities for action, in the three recreational categories listed below:

- Facilities: e.g., trails, cabins/campgrounds, boat launch sites
- Programs: e.g., outdoor education, activities for youth
- Information: e.g., marketing, maps, signage and interpretation

Several features distinguish this action plan:

Extensive Community Input. Priority projects were identified through a wide-ranging, ten month-long community involvement process. This process included collecting surveys from over 250 individual recreation users, recreation businesses, and visitors; three sets of well attended public workshops; feedback on draft materials circulated for community review; and the work of a partners' steering committee that met monthly throughout the process.

Diverse Beneficiaries. The plan sets the stage for outdoor recreation improvements serving a wide spectrum of users and uses: residents and visitors, young and old (or

"vintage" as older participants chose to be called for this project), day use and overnight, in town and out, rigorous and relaxed, winter and summer, motorized and non-motorized.

Focus on Sustainability. "Sustainability" is the overarching theme of this plan. For this project, the notion of sustainability was tied to several primary objectives:

- *Balance.* Find projects that simultaneously contribute to three goals: 1) a strong, durable local economy, 2) a vital community, and 3) a healthy natural environment. (See Chapter 2 for details under each category.)
- *Partnerships and Community Support.* Recognize that construction and maintenance dollars are always tight. To maximize the odds that priorities will be implemented and sustained, the plan identified projects with strong support by both individual partners and the full community.
- *Existing versus New.* Recognize that Sitka already has a good collection of cabins, campsites, trails, etc. As a result, proposals for new facilities must be balanced against the need to maintain existing facilities. Likewise, high priority should be placed on doing more to get out the word on what already exists (e.g., through maps, websites).

Collaboration. Like many of Sitka's trails, responsibility for outdoor recreation in the community freely crosses agency and organizational lines. Consequently, this plan was produced through a collaborative partnership of the major recreational entities in the town, including the City and Borough of Sitka, the US Forest Service, the National Park Service, the State of Alaska, the Sitka Tribe, the Sitka Chamber of Commerce, and Sitka Trail Works.

"I liked this process because we all worked together, and everybody got a fair say"

— October 2010 Workshop Participant

Implementation – A Two Step Process

Step 1: This Plan

This action plan represents a major first step in improving recreation in three primary ways:

1. Reaching agreement on “first tier” priorities based on community and partner input.
2. Increasing the capacity of Sitka to carry out projects by solidifying partnerships between Sitka’s primary recreation players, and by promoting projects that can increase visitor spending, which in turn can expand local revenue (such as sales tax) to support further improvements.
3. Providing an approved plan that documents community support and can be used to leverage resources from outside funders.

Step 2: After this Plan

This plan establishes a list of priorities; carrying out the priority projects requires the additional steps below. It is important to note that individual organizations and agencies maintain responsibility for their own missions and needs. The signatures associated with this plan creates a “good will commitment to work together on projects,” not a rigid obligation.

- The project partners (and any interested parties) will need to continue to work together to discuss:
 - What would be a sustainable recreation program for your land base?
 - Develop a calendar for accomplishing priority projects.

Improving information about outdoor recreation options emerged as the “priority among priorities”. A better website, associated hard copy maps, brochures and on-the-ground interpretive information can benefit residents and attract visitors, and do so for a relatively little money. “The focus on better information is a perfect example of the value of this plan, because today no one entity is responsible for carrying out this vital project – it’s just not going to happen unless we work together.”

— Project Steering Group member

- Develop a calendar for partner/stakeholder meetings.
- Develop a strategy for seeking grants, leveraging funding and developing partnerships.
- Identify lead stakeholders for each project.
- “Sustainability filter” process. As individual projects are considered for implementation, additional analysis will be needed to ensure that the projects are practical, feasible, and sustainable. For example, while this plan identifies a new downtown visitor information center as a worthy project, more investigation will be needed to sort out the specifics of the site, programming, design, management, and funding. Only after this additional evaluation is complete will it be possible to conclude if, in reality, this is a sensible, sustainable project.

USFS Role. The US Forest Service has supported this community-driven effort with other Sitka-based organizations, agencies, businesses and individuals. Since 2008, the Forest Service has been working on a new, national “Framework for Sustainable Recreation.” This framework places new emphasis on recreation and on a more community-focused, collaborative approach. This Sitka Sustainable Outdoor Recreation Plan is a pilot project for this new national program. While helping to organize and fund this process, and participating actively in the steps along the way, the Forest Service has been just one of the groups at the table as the plan was developed. The USFS looks forward to working with other partners and the community as a whole to carry out the plan projects, and remains open to considering a wide range of public and commercial uses on the land it manages.

Final Notes – Work Not Fully Completed:

On a handful of topics, this planning process did not get as far as would have ideally been the case. Three specific areas are noted below:

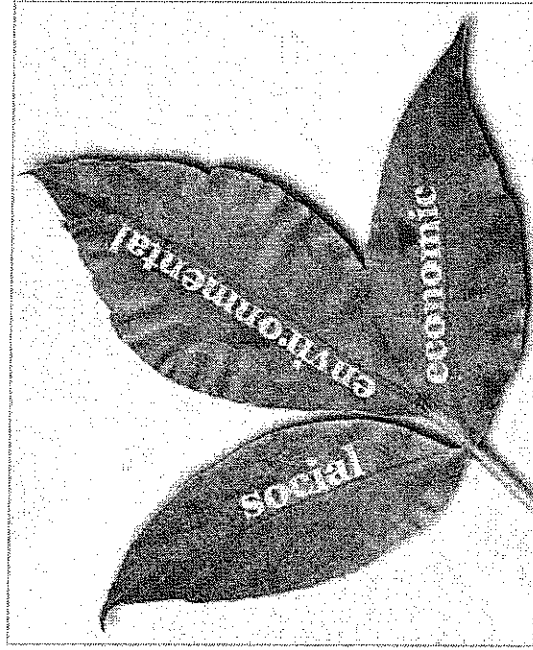
- *Cultural/Historical Resources.* In deference to the Sitka Tribe and other Native residents and organizations in the community, this plan has not pushed too hard into the specifics of actions to develop, celebrate and/or protect cultural and historical resources. More work is needed in this area, at a minimum, to ensure that proposed recreation projects do not impact areas important for subsistence, or areas of particular cultural significance. Wherever possible, future recreation projects should reference Native place names and traditions (e.g., names for facilities or trails).
- *Implementation Capacity.* The Sitka community could expand its capacity to develop and maintain recreation resources. Work is needed to investigate new tools and strategies that will allow the community to be more ambitious in providing recreation opportunities. Options discussed (but not refined) during this project include: expanded volunteer programs (i.e., working with high school youth to build or maintain trails), establishing a Park and Recreation Service District (like the Chugiak/Eagle River/Birchwood Park Service area, which is a very successful program that was voted into existence by residents and businesses), the creation of a new non-profit local recreation foundation (like the Anchorage Park Foundation), and expanding partnerships (e.g., bringing a stronger, revitalized Sitka Tourism Commission into the process).
- *Recreation Programs.* Much more work is needed to expand outdoor recreation programs (e.g., after school hiking or camping). One promising option is the creation of a new community-wide coordinator of outdoor recreation programs. The lack of progress on

this topic is the biggest unfilled gap in this project.

Thank you for your interest and active participation in creating Sitka Sustainable Outdoor Recreation Action Plan. We couldn't have done it without your help! We hope to see you out on the trail, the water, the slope, or at the park.

Chapter 1: Project Background and Process

“Sitka has good recreation opportunities today. But if we’re smart we can fill key gaps in the system, and Sitka will be both a better, healthier place to live and we’ll attract more visitors to strengthen our economy.”
(Comment at June 2010 Workshop)



USFS Sustainable Recreation Framework:

A New Focus on Recreation, and a New Way of Working

“The challenges and opportunities that the Forest Service and nearby communities face today call for innovation and sustainable solutions. The Forest Service is issuing a call to action for ourselves and our partners to support local economies, promote healthy lifestyles, and reconnect our citizens to their public lands through outdoor recreation. Our new approach, a Framework for Sustainable Recreation, emphasizes a community focus, a collaborative approach and connections across the landscape.”

(Excerpt from USFS brochure describing the Sustainable Recreation Framework – See Appendix for more information)

The US Forest Service is in the midst of an ambitious national transition. While recreation and tourism have always been important uses on our nation’s Forest Service land, the Forest Service is recognizing the need to place new emphasis on these familiar activities, and bring a new approach to the opportunities and challenges tied to these uses. With this new Framework, the Forest Service will aim to provide benefits that respond to societal concerns at the community level and result in economic vitality, social stability and environmental integrity.

Broad principles that guide the Sustainable Recreation Framework include:

- Connecting people with their natural and cultural heritage
- Promoting healthy lifestyles
- Balancing societal, economic and environmental needs
- Cultivating community engagement
- Managing national forests as part of a larger landscape
- Integrating recreation more deeply into the Forest Service mission

The Sustainable Recreation Framework sets out broad national goals and principles; equally important is the USFS’s intent to operate in new ways. Key elements of this new approach include:

- **Collaboration:** an emphasis on partnerships, with communities, businesses and recreation users; this strategy can help ensure the Forest Service understands and responds to public interests. In addition, this approach can help bring in needed new resources, for example, a partnership with a community to build or maintain a trail.
- **Across Landscapes:** the need to work beyond the limits of National Forest boundaries; this approach is particularly relevant for the National Forest system as forests are often “right out the backdoor” of towns both small and large, and the use of USFS resources is key part of local economies and local quality of life.

Sitka Outdoor Recreation Action Plan: A Pilot Project of the Sustainable Recreation Framework

This Sitka project grew out of the intersection of community and Forest Service interests. Sitka already has good outdoor recreation and tourism opportunities, but many people saw the need for improvements, to benefit residents and strengthen the local economy. The Forest Service wanted to support this interest in recreation, and test the Sustainable Recreation Framework approach. The result is this roughly year-long, community-driven Sitka recreation “pilot project.” The project was inspired by this still evolving USFS approach, and consistent with that approach the project was very much a community-driven effort, tied to the specific challenges and opportunities of Sitka and the specific interests of a range of community interests. The Sitka Ranger District played three key roles. The Forest Service helped convene community interests, funded the project consultant, and as a major local handowner, sat at the table with other partners.

Key Steps in the Project Process

This plan is the product of sustained, proactive effort to ask about and then listen to Sitka views on recreation and tourism. This “listening” was consciously designed to happen in an iterative manner. Initial results were documented, shared, refined, and then further refined. The process reached out in a variety of ways, including public meetings, steering committee meetings, individual interviews, a broad set of surveys.

Another major theme of the project was its focus on tangible, specific outcomes. Sitka is a community with a robust history of planning and discussion; participants in this process were on one mind about the need to focus on tangible, achievable actions. Together these two strategies helped bring in and sustain the interest of a diverse cross-section of community interests. An overview of key steps follows.

Situation Assessment

Past Work

Sitka is an energetic community with many active non-profit organizations, business groups, civic-minded individuals and robust local, state and national agencies. As a result this project was able to build on a strong foundation of past and ongoing recreation and tourism actions and plans.

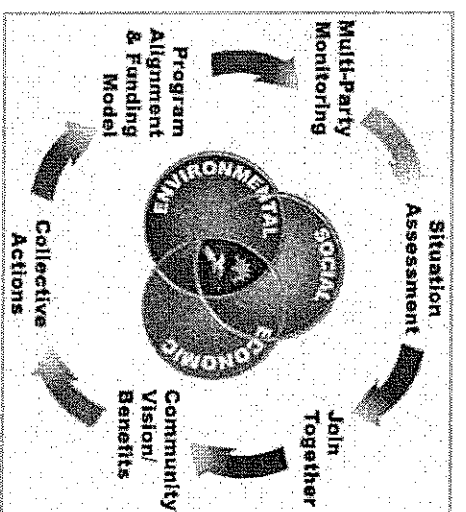
Winter 2010: Getting Started

This project was sparked by a USFS-sponsored Sustainable Recreation Workshop, in Juneau in February 2010. This workshop shared principles of the national program, and invited participants to begin applying these ideas in Alaskan communities. This led to the creation of an informal, local recreation working group, who met multiple times over the course of late winter and spring. This group identified local recreation and tourism issues, outlined the possible need for a plan, and brought in a growing circle of community interests to create a steering committee.

Join Together

June 2010: Public Workshop/Steering Committee Meeting

The project steering committee and the local ranger district set up an initial project public meeting, facilitated by a consultant familiar with Sitka and the Sustainable Recreation Framework. The Sustainable Recreation Framework was introduced at this meeting, and was quickly embraced as a helpful set of guiding goals and principles. This meeting acted as “coming out” event, further widening community interest and solidifying the desire of the community to move forward with a



“Recreation Action Plan.” The general process and goals of the project were sorted out at the meeting, including identifying the need for an inventory of existing recreation resources and a survey.¹

July 2010: Structuring the Project

Based on the enthusiastic response at the June meeting, and the desire to test out the Sustainable Recreation Framework, the USFS found funding for a consultant (Agnew:Beck) to work with the community to prepare the plan. An ambitious schedule was set – aiming to get a draft action plan done by the end of 2010, with an approved plan early in 2011. This step included coordination between several branches of the USFS: the District Ranger office, the Tongass Forest regional office, and the national USFS “Enterprise Team” (who is helping to guide development of the Sustainable Recreation Framework).

Ongoing: Steering committee meetings

Over the course of the project, the steering committee continued to meet to fine tune the project process and review and provide direction on project products. Meetings occurred approximately once per month.

Community Vision/Benefits

Summer: Background Research and Surveys

The Steering Committee and the consultant worked together to define responsibilities for collecting needed background information. The consultant took the lead on an inventory of existing local outdoor recreation facilities, resources and programs, as well as a compiling the

¹ An important product of this meeting was a clarification of the name and intent of the plan. One conclusion, mentioned above, was to focus on identifying a list of specific tangible projects and programs (hence the term “Action” in the name of the plan). Another important conclusion was resolution of questions about the importance of tourism in the process. The conclusion was to focus on outdoor recreation, recognizing this would cover both interests of residents and visitors, while avoiding potential to get bogged down in issues like the need for a new cruise ship dock. While such issues are clearly important, the group concluded that raising such topics could jeopardize what would otherwise be a project with wide support, and that a narrower scope was still valuable and perhaps would create new relationships that could set the stage for tackling harder issues.

relevant commendations of past plans. Community members on the steering committee took the lead on designing and carrying out a survey. The USFS national Enterprise Team stepped in (thanks Laurie!) and helped with the compilation and analysis of the surveys.

Early October: Focus Groups

Over a concentrated two day period, a series of “focus group” meetings were held, to further discuss outdoor recreation issues. These groups included recreation/tourism users, youth, “vintage”, business leaders, and a community leaders group. In addition, one-on-one interviews were held with key individuals unable to participate in the focus groups, including representatives of cruise lines who bring visitors to Sitka. Topics discussed included views on priority recreation needs, criteria for setting priorities, and options for/barriers to implementation. A key part of these meetings was exploration of the idea of “sustainability”, leading to clarification of the meaning of that broad term as applied to this project.

Mid October: Facts, Issues and Opinions Report

Working together, the steering committee and the consultant produced a compilation of work to date, which was widely circulated prior to holding a set of public workshops. Material from that report is incorporated into this draft plan.

October 27-28: Community Workshops on Back to Back nights

Well attended workshops were held on back to back nights, following the agendas shown below. The meetings built from all the previous steps, and resulted in both an ambitious list of recommended projects and programs, and an initial identification of “first tier” priorities.

Night One – Big Ideas-Big Goals

- Review community survey and background info.
- Confirm goals/project selection criteria.
- Case studies – lessons from other locations.
- Identify a broad list of promising, possible projects.

Night Two – Making it Real

- Implementation strategies: resources, partners,
- Identify priorities among specific projects.

Collective Actions

November and December 2010: “Trolling for Partners”

The workshops above produced a list of recommended projects and programs; this step focused on refining the details of those projects including implementation responsibilities and priorities. Steering committee members shared information about the projects around town, for example, in meetings with business groups, the school district, Native tribe, etc. Higher priorities emerged through a combination of expressions of community support (in workshops, focus groups and the survey) and as entities (e.g. Sitka Trail Works, the Sitka Convention and Visitors Bureau (SCVB)) stepped forward and committed to take responsibility to work for implementation.

One important step in this process has been the emergence of an associated effort – the Sitka Outdoor Recreation Coalition (“Get Out, Sitka!” <http://getoutsitka.wordpress.com/>). This group has been working in parallel with the Outdoor Recreation Action Plan. To maximize the impact of both groups, and avoid duplication of effort, an agreement has been made to have the Outdoor Recreation Coalition focus on outdoor recreation programs, which are covered, but not in great detail, as part of this plan. Appendix B summarizes the Get Out Sitka contributions.

January and February 2011: Further Refinement, Release of Revised Draft Plan

This step is currently in progress. Revised versions of the full set of projects and programs as well as “first tier” projects are being reviewed. Over the next 6 weeks final agreements will be secured from project partners and this stage of the process will be completed.

Project Approval

Once this draft plan goes through an additional round of review and refinement, the intent is to have it signed by all the major parties represented on the Steering Committee. These signatures do not represent an obligation to act on all the projects in this plan. Instead, these signatures indicate that the affected party supports the plan’s recommendations and will make a good faith commitment to work towards implementing these projects, particularly those where it is indicated as having a role on a particular program or facility.

Program Alignment and Funding Model

Project Implementation: Next Steps and Sustainability

This action plan project is moving towards completion. But it is critical to be clear that the process of meeting Sitka’s outdoor recreation goals will continue. Once this plan is adopted:

- Evaluate the costs and benefits of individual projects in detail (see Chapter 3 for details).
- Add more information, perhaps as a future appendix or chapter of this plan, on outdoor recreation programs, working with “Sitka Outdoor Recreation Council.”
- Continue to evaluate Sitka’s outdoor recreation needs, and update and revised this plan as necessary (see more below).

Multi-Party Monitoring and Plan Revisions

Project Implementation

Monitor progress towards community goals, and continue to update and refine recommendations in this plan, as conditions and community goals inevitably change. As the chart at the beginning of this section taken from the national “Sustainable Recreation Framework” explains, this is a process that continues into the future.

Chapter 2: Goals and Criteria for Identifying Sustainable Outdoor Recreation Priorities

This chapter presents overarching goals for this Sitka Sustainable Outdoor Recreation Action Plan and criteria for evaluating and prioritizing possible recreation projects. These criteria were developed by the community over the course of the project. To a significant degree priorities will be implemented based on available funding.

Overall Goals

Build a stronger, more durable local economy:

- More reasons to visit Sitka; more independent overnight travelers; reverse decline in cruise ship visitors;
- Better marketing of existing, future attractions;
- Open up new markets (e.g., mountain biking, diving, active seniors);
- More revenues to existing businesses; new business opportunities;
- Smart choices on use of finite funding resources;
- More benefit from recreation and tourism-related activities.

Maintain and improve quality of life and the Sitka natural environment:

- Healthy community – e.g., more activities for kids, “vintage;”
- More reasons to move to Sitka, to continue living in Sitka;
- Healthy natural environment;
- Stronger environmental stewardship, through more use and more understanding of the out-of-doors.

Expand community capacity to carry out priority projects (both current and new):

- Partnerships, e.g., between agencies, volunteers, non-profits;
- Increased visitor spending to expand local revenue, e.g., sales tax;
- A plan that can be used to demonstrate community support; this is often needed to bring in resources from outside funders;
- An active role in recreation and tourism decisions for local residents and businesses.

Criteria for Selecting and Evaluating Proposed Projects

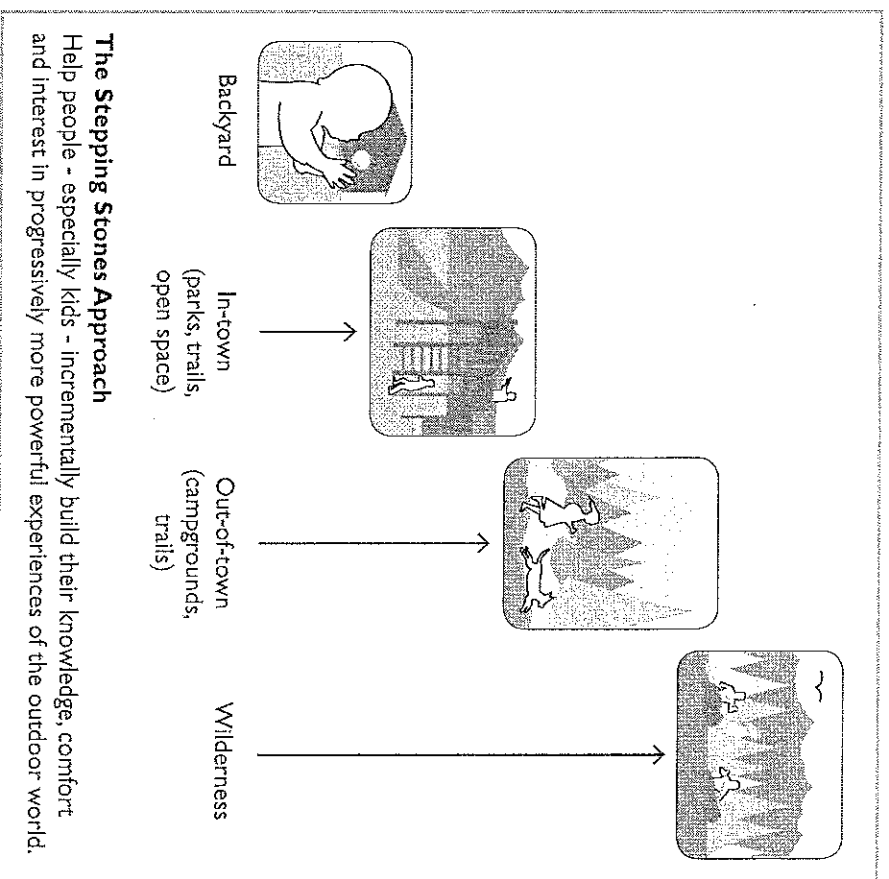
Continue to diversify and improve outdoor recreation opportunities in Sitka and the surrounding region.

Focus on projects (facilities, programs, information) that best meet the following criteria:

Economic Sustainability:

- Strengthen the local economy by attracting a diverse suite of visitors, particularly high value overnight travelers.
- Strengthen the ability of local businesses to attract and retain employees by showcasing Sitka’s outdoor recreation opportunities and quality of life.
- Help create a stronger “brand” for Sitka, by providing and marketing unique outdoor experiences and facilities that distinguish Sitka from competing visitor destinations.
- Take greater advantage of existing recreation resources (e.g., through providing better information about existing opportunities, or new programs).

- Funding/access to funding mechanisms.
 - Aim for mix of smaller “do-able” near term and larger, but still attainable longer term projects.
- Environmental Sustainability:**
- Strengthen a sense of stewardship for Sitka’s natural and cultural resources; link outdoor recreation with enjoyable ways to learn and deepen individual understanding of Sitka, its natural environment, cultural heritage and current life.



Social Sustainability:

- Improve local quality of life for the enjoyment of residents; make it easier for Sitka residents and visitors to lead an active, healthy life.
- Focus on improvements that benefit both residents and visitors.
- Develop and provide information that so residents can continue to find opportunities for peaceful hikes, picnics or other outdoor activities. Be selective in sharing information about recreation attractions.
- Provide recreation opportunities that serve a wide range of users:
 - Different ages: youth, families with young children; older “vintage” residents and visitors;
 - Diverse interests: from hiking and biking, hunting and fishing to kayaking, boating, ATV’s and scuba diving;
 - Diverse locations: throughout the community, edge of town, and wild places away from town;
 - Activities accessible to people at a wide range of skill and income levels;
 - Facilities that comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act;
 - Diverse seasons: activities throughout the year.
- Provide more than just facilities: include outdoor activity programs, marketing, interpretation and way finding, and cultural-related projects and experiences (e.g, Kiksadi Survival Trail).
- Encourage mainstream activities (e.g, hiking, fishing) and also newer/less typical recreational pursuits; appeal to new and different types of visitors (e.g, diving, mountain biking, disk golf).
- Aim for multiple benefits from the same resources (e.g, health, education, fun).

General Sustainability: The concept of sustainability has been an important one throughout this planning effort. Community members agreed that it will be important to ensure that Sitka's system of outdoor recreation facilities and programs is sustainable over the long term. Community dialogue included a discussion of what, in addition to the broader economic and community considerations outlined in this chapter, is meant by the term sustainable. For Sitkans, this concept encompasses the following:

- **Durability.** Projects with physical characteristics - materials, grades, locations, etc. - that minimize maintenance costs.
- **Longevity.** Projects that are will endure because they are useful, meet community needs and therefore are projects people care about.
- **Community Resources.** Projects that attract local resources for construction and maintenance; e.g. volunteers, donated materials and equipment, local materials.
- **Environmental Impact.** Projects and locations that have minimal environmental impact.
- **Outcome.** Projects with greatest "bang for the buck", e.g. a short trail connection that adds value to a whole system of trails.
- **Community Support.** Prioritize projects that have strong community support, have been vetted through community boards and commissions and bring community resources to the project.
- **Right Scale.** Be ambitious about the scale and character of the system, but be realistic about resources available to build and maintain trails, cabins, campgrounds, and other facilities.
- **Limits.** Recognize possible need to close or reduce maintenance of some existing facilities in order to shift finite resources to facilities with greatest benefit.

Sustainability will prove to be as much a guiding principle during project implementation as during this plan: a project could become more or less sustainable depending on how the project is implemented. Factors that would affect sustainability during this phase might include: materials used in construction, scale of facility/program, location of facility/program,

the degree of user/visitor education or training (e.g. a trail might be a minimal impact to the natural and social environment if trail users show respect to their surroundings and other users by carrying out whatever trash they generate and disposing of it in town, or by refraining from any activities that would damage the natural environment or facilities, etc.).

This extensive list was distilled into seven key criteria that were used to help prioritize the many project ideas included in this action plan. The seven key criteria include indicators for all three spheres of the sustainability trinity: social (benefits residents, diversification, community support), economic (attracts visitors, bang for the buck, financial sustainability), and environmental (minimal adverse impact). These are explained in the table below and again in Appendix A: All Identified Projects, where they are included in the implementation tables.

Guide to Sustainability Criteria	Criteria represent particular aspects of the three branches of sustainability: Economic (Ec), Environmental (En), Social (So).
Benefits Residents (So)	Improves quality of life: opportunities for healthy enjoyable activity; chances for interaction with friends and neighbors, contributes to overall positive community character.
Attracts Visitors (Ec)	Strengthens reasons for visitors - overnight and day visitors - to spend time and money in Sitka; improves Sitka "brand"; this in turn creates local jobs, business opportunities, & revenue for community services.
Diversification (So)	Expands access in underserved portions of town, expand access to diversity of skill levels, to range of income levels).
Community Support (So)	Based on public input to date, recommendations of previous plans.
"Bang for the Buck" (Ec)	Significant positive impact, modest price.
Financially Sustainable (Ec)	Does the project have a plan for funding? What are the cost/benefits? Are project funds leveraged through partners is there a plan for maintenance? Etc.
Min. Adverse Impact (En)	Impacts are small, actually positive and/or can be readily mitigated; on community character, natural environment, resident recreational activities.

Chapter 3: First Tier Projects

Introduction

The Recreation Action Plan process began by generating an ambitious list of desired projects, including facilities, information resources and programs. This list was then honed down to projects most important to the community. This chapter presents these priority first tier projects, including a brief description of each and a map showing their general location or geographic scope. The full list of all the project ideas generated during the planning process is included in Appendix A.

Process to Select First Tier Projects

Prioritization was not a precise, mechanistic process; instead it involved a synthesis of inputs from multiple sources. One of the goals of this draft is to continue that community discussion - to share results to date and get another round of feedback. Factors that went into project priorities included:

- the priorities identified by community members and community organizations at a series of public workshops and focus groups,
- an analysis of surveys of community members, visitors and visitor industry professionals,
- the priorities previously identified in other approved community plans,
- the degree to which the projects meet criteria for sustainability and the community goals set out by the community (see Chapter 2),
- and finally, the most important criterion for prioritization, was that partners were willing to commit in good faith to make a project go forward.

Clarifications, Caveats and Notes:

What is meant by "Partner Commitments"?

This chapter and Appendix A both refer to the partners that will work on any given project. By signing this plan, these partners are not stating their obligation to implement these projects. Instead, as noted above, the partners are committing to work together in good faith to try to carry out these projects. It is recognized that each partner (be it an agency like the City and Borough, the Forest Service or School District, or a local non-profit like Sitka Trail Works or the Science Center) has its own internal mission, needs and capabilities. A signature on this action plan and a listing as a partner in no way reduces the ability of any organization or agency to pursue its own interests, or creates any financial obligations. The significance and value of this plan is its expression of shared interests and goals, and the intent to work together to reach those ends.

Preliminary, Conceptual Cost Estimates

Each of the first tier projects includes a rough, preliminary estimate of the order of magnitude of project development costs. These estimates are primarily valuable as a quick way to consider the comparative costs of the first tier projects. Actual cost estimates will require analysis of project specifics at level of detail beyond the reach of this project.

- \$ = under \$10,000
- \$\$ = \$ tens of thousands
- \$\$\$ = \$ hundreds of thousands
- \$\$\$\$ = \$ millions

What is the significance of "First Tier" status?

This list of first tier projects represents reconnaissance-level analysis – a thorough pass at identifying priorities that meet community goals. It is recognized that some of these projects, upon further scrutiny, may turn out to not be feasible. For example: a visitor information center downtown is an identified first tier priority, and would clearly be an asset. But before this project could be deemed as feasible and desirable, much more work is required to assess its specific costs and benefits, and to examine how these compare to other community priorities. This would include due diligence analysis to determine in more detail how this project meets the criteria outlined in Chapter 2, including the ability to support its ongoing operations costs.

It is important to note that the same general project could be more or less feasible, depending on how it is implemented. Sticking with a visitor center as an example, a facility in the wrong location, that isn't particularly energy efficient, that uses construction materials shipped from around the world, and does not have a solid business plan may be less sustainable than, for example, renovating or reusing an existing building, a building located in an area of town that is easily accessed on foot, and/or a facility created with a hard, conservative look at how the operations and management of the facility will be funded into the future.

What is the Status of "Other Projects"?

This plan is intended to be a helpful look to the future, but not a straightjacket. Opportunities may arise for a project not currently seen as first tier, or a project not even on the full list of projects in Appendix A. The process of identifying and pursuing community projects is dynamic and will continue to evolve over time. Priorities can shift, even in a relatively short amount of time, due to changes in political and financial support. Consequently this plan needs to be updated and modified as conditions change.

Use of this Plan

One of the values of this plan is it documents community support and thereby helps project partners to respond quickly when funding or other resource opportunities become available. For example, if a health grant is available that could support an afterschool program identified in this plan, it is helpful to be able to point at this document and say, "The community supports this; it's a priority that deserves funding." The availability of a community approved plan can make the difference between getting or not getting resources needed to move forward on a community project.

New versus Existing Projects

This section focuses on needs for new and/or improved facilities, programs and information resources. It is important to note that maintenance of established facilities is also a critical goal. Surveys done as part of this process made clear that the community wants to see new and improved facilities, but understands that resources are finite and as a result, any new projects need to be evaluated considering the need for and availability of resources to maintain what already exists.

Key to Project Partners

Organization or Entity	Abbreviation
Chamber of Commerce	Chamber
City and Borough of Sitka	C&BS
US Forest Service	USFS
National Park Service	NPS
US Coast Guard	USCG
State Troopers	St. Troopers
State of Alaska, Department of Natural Resources, Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation	AK Parks
State of Alaska, Department of Transportation and Public Facilities	DOT/PF
Sitka Tribe of Alaska	STA
Sitka School District	SSD
Sitka Community Schools	CS
Sitka Sound Science Center	SSSC
Southeast Alaska Regional Health Consortium	SEARHC
Sitka Trail Works	STW
Sitka Convention and Visitors Bureau	SCVB
Sitka Historic Society	Hist.Soc.
Southeast Alaska Independent Living	SAIL

Center of Town First Tier Projects

Moller and Swan Lake Park Improvements

“Why should we have the worst track in SE Alaska?” (Sitka HS student) This project calls for a set of overdue improvements to Moller Park sports fields and the running track, as well as expanded sports programs.

Lead: SSD. Primary Partners: C&BS, local sports groups.

Also needed are associated improvements in the adjoining Swan Lake area and an improved connection via a Lake Street Boardwalk. Residents, especially youth, are the prime beneficiaries of this project.

Lead: C&BS. Primary Partners: Adjacent neighborhoods, SSD, STW. **\$\$\$\$**

Recreation Information Website and Map (program)

Visitors and residents would both benefit from a single, comprehensive outdoor recreation website providing a compelling overview of the area’s remarkable recreation opportunities; an expansion of the “Sitka Brand”, details of in- and out-of-town trails and facilities; an up-to-date description of available programs and current events; links to other sites; and a beautiful, illustrated map of trails, cabins, parks and other outdoor recreation attractions (online and hardcopy).

Lead: short-term working group representing primary partners.

Primary Partners: USFS, AK Parks, STW, NPS, C&BS, Chamber, SCVB, CS, SEARHC, user groups (eg. mountain bikers). **\$\$**

“Bucket List” (program)

This inexpensive but valuable item should be added to the website: a simple, fun list of Sitka “must dos” and sample itineraries, to attract, inspire and challenge a range of users (including youth and “vintage”).

Lead: SCVB. **\$**

Remaining projects on this page were priorities identified through this planning process and were also all “Sitka Passenger Fee Fund Implementation Plan” projects.

Sea Walk Pathway

Construct an eight foot wide, waterfront pedestrian pathway with view points and seating, linking the O’Connell lighting area, Crescent Harbor and ultimately the NPS museum area. This would provide both a functional connection and an enjoyable experience for visitors and residents. Potential future extension to ANB Harbor.

Lead: C&BS. Primary Partners: SSSC, NPS. **\$\$\$\$**

Downtown Comprehensive “Wayfinding Plan” (program)

Past plans and recent interviews all confirm the need for an integrated, thorough package of signs, information kiosks, hardcopy maps, on-line maps and related materials so visitors (and residents) can easily find attractions and comfortably explore downtown Sitka.

Lead: C&BS. Primary Partners: Tourism Commission, SSSC, NPS, Hist.Soc., SCVB, STA. **\$**

Circulation Improvements/Public Amenities Within Town

Easy, safe walking is critical to the success of downtown, for residents and visitors. Needed sidewalk improvements include widening and removing barriers, and creating new walks where none exist or there are gaps. Priorities include sidewalks along Katlian and Jeff Davis. Provide better information for amenities such as public restrooms; add additional restrooms if needed. Improve downtown parking (amount, location, accessibility, and signage).

Lead: C&BS. Primary Partners: Downtown businesses, Chamber, SCVB, DOT/PF. **\$\$-\$\$\$\$**

Improved Access through Sitka National Historic Park

Improve the trail from downtown to the Raptor Center, a popular visitor destination, including creating a safe way across Sawmill Creek Road.

Primary Partners: C&BS, NPS, STW, DOT/PF. **\$\$\$\$**

Fishing Pier

Develop a new, convenient fishing dock, for residents and visitors. A downtown location at moderate cost (perhaps as part of the proposed seawall project or kayak launch/storage facility) would provide an activity for youth and visitors. The USFS identified a site at Starinagan for more serious fishing.

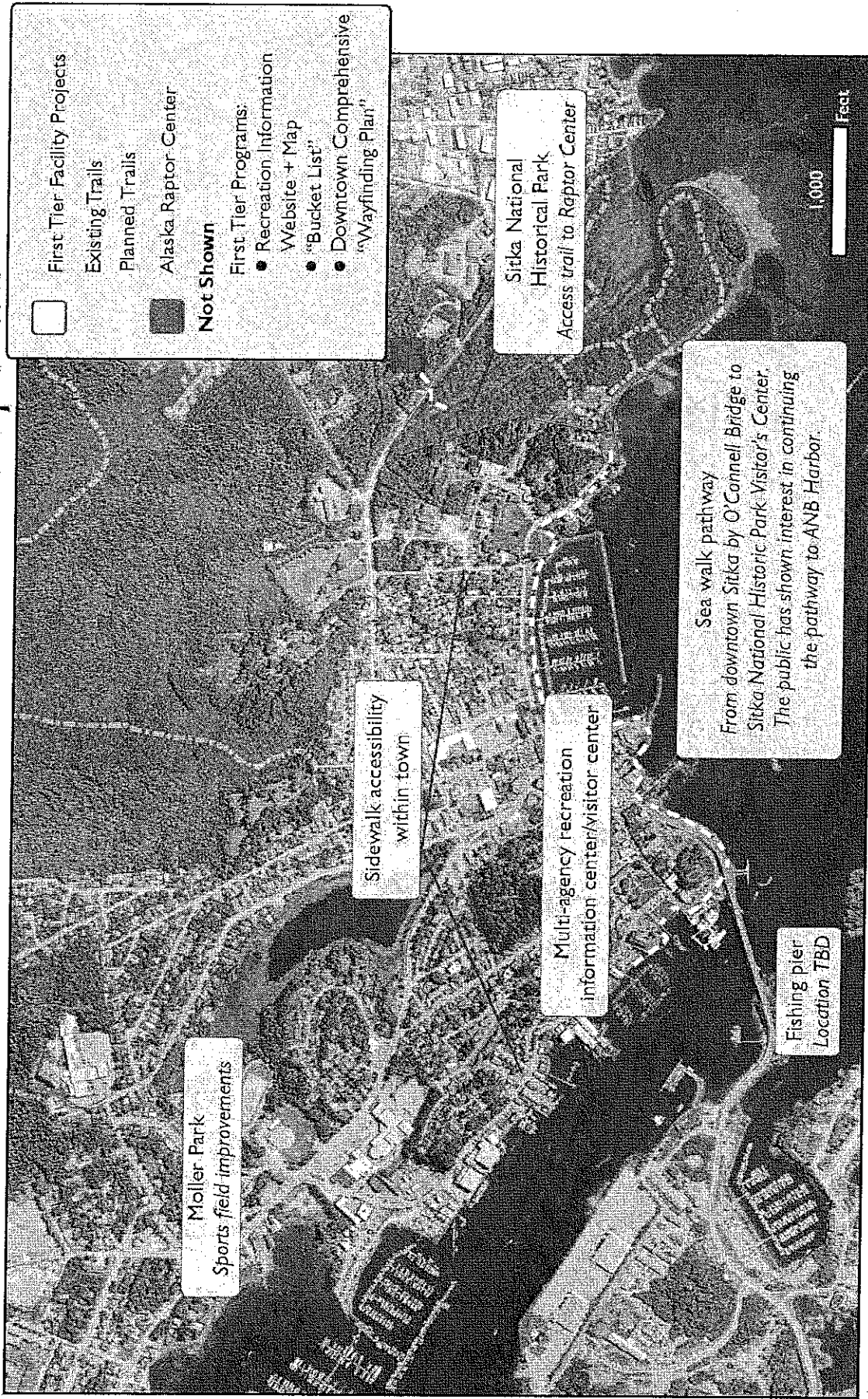
Lead: C&BS. Primary Partners: SSSC, SAL. **\$\$\$**

Multi-agency recreation information center/visitor center

Develop a multi-function/multi agency information center, with three key objectives: 1) a central point for information about outdoor recreation opportunities in Sitka and surrounding areas (routes, weather, permits), 2) a central orientation point for visitors, to answer questions about Sitka services and facilities, and 3) a meeting place for programs, such as guided hikes. Specific program and location decisions require much more analysis; the general goal should be a facility that is affordable to construct and operate.

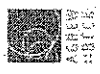
Lead: C&BS, USFS. Primary Partners: SCVB, Chamber, NPS, AK Parks, SSSC. **\$\$\$\$**

Sitka Outdoor Recreation Plan Center of Town



Data courtesy of the USFS, BLM, City + Borough of Sitka and Agnew-Beek. This map was compiled for the USFS and the City + Borough of Sitka with assistance from Agnew-Beek.

Alaska State Plans, Zone 4, NAD, 1983
File: Sitka_Downtown.mxd 2/10/11



Road System First Tier Projects

Harbor Mountain Area - Summer Facilities

More should be done to take advantage of this valuable, but underdeveloped, road accessible recreation area, taking care to maintain existing motorized recreation uses. Specific actions include: completing the upgrade of the road (in progress) and upgrading one or more day use/picnic sites. A particular opportunity is to provide an improved scenic overlook, and perhaps ultimately a raised viewing platform, to make it easier for residents and visitors to enjoy the spectacular vista overlooking Sitka Sound. The overlook and day use areas should be ADA accessible. See winter section for specific recommendations regarding winter activities.

Lead: USFS, Primary Partners: C&BS, SCVB. **\$\$-\$\$\$\$**

Hike-in Cabins and Shelters

Provide more rentable, public use cabins located just past the edge of town, in locations that can be reached by hiking from the road system. Hike-in locations help minimize vandalism and provide options to get into the wilderness without the cost and logistics of a plane or boat. Possible locations: Indian River Trail, Beaver Lake Trail, Medvejeje, Startigavan area. Include one larger capacity overnight cabin, to accommodate bigger groups (for example in the Startigavan area).

Lead: USFS, Primary Partners: AK Parks, local business or user groups (e.g. assisting with maintenance). **\$\$\$**

Mountain Bike Trails

Sitka is ripe for creating new, dedicated mountain bike trails, taking advantage of local (and visitor) interests in riding, and a group of motivated individuals willing to help build and maintain the system. Information is now available about locations where soils ensure well-built trails will last and be low impact. A range of trails is needed, from moderate to very challenging. Harbor Mountain and Granite Creek areas offer two primary locations.

Lead: STW, Primary Partners: C&BS, USFS, Mountain Biker organization, USCG. **\$\$-\$\$\$\$**

Complete the Cross Trail

The Cross Trail is a long standing community priority with four of five phases scheduled for completion in 2012. It joins with the SMC Road separated pathway and will make it possible to walk or bike a continuous 15 mile route from the ANMHS Ferry Terminal to the Sawmill Cove Industrial Park.

Lead: C&BS, Partners: STW, USFS, Baranof Island Housing Authority. **\$\$-\$\$\$\$**

Activity programs to build on fitness, skills, health

"Each semester we get 70-80 people signed up for the outdoor recreation class - and we only have 20 slots." (Sitka high school teacher)

In addition to facilities, there is a strong public interest in a range of new and continuing outdoor recreation programs. Programs are needed to serve adults, seniors and youth; residents and visitors. Proposals include guided walks, wildlife viewing, bear awareness, and a range of exercise and fitness activities, focused on getting youth out-of-doors. The Sitka Outdoor Recreation Coalition (Get Out Sitka!) has a website (<http://getoutsitka.wordpress.com>) intended to expand local knowledge of existing outdoor recreation programs in Sitka. (See Appendix B for more information about programs and Get Out Sitka!)

Lead: Sitka Outdoor Recreation Coalition (Get Out Sitka!). Partners: C&BS, SCVB, NPS, USFS, School District, user groups. **\$\$-\$\$\$**

Day Use Recreation Areas

Residents and visitors are both seeking more places that support in-town day use recreational activities - for individuals, small and larger groups. Needed are new and improved shelters, fire pit/grills, tables, restrooms, a covered gathering space for large groups, and space for disc golf and a dirt bike track. Promising locations include the waterfront areas at Eagle and Sandy Beaches and at Herring Cove.

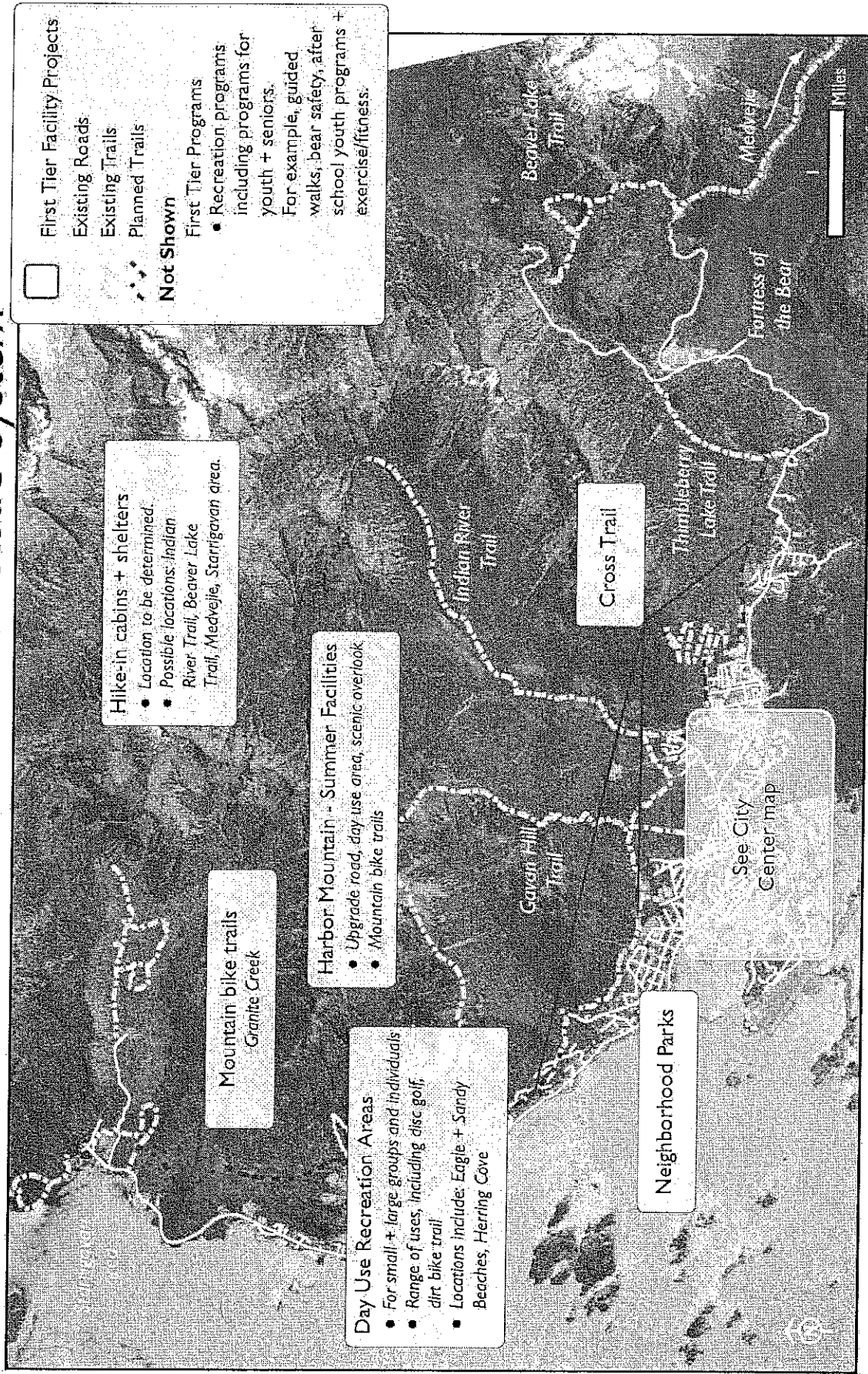
Lead: C&BS, USFS, Primary Partners: DNR, AK Parks. **\$\$-\$\$\$\$**

Neighborhood-accessible Outdoor Recreation Spaces

There is strong community interest in creating more neighborhood-accessible outdoor recreation spaces in Sitka to make it easier for children and young families to spend more time outside. The City as a whole is seen to be deficient in neighborhood parks, with some very under-served neighborhoods. Desired improvements include additional neighborhood play spaces, more and safer crosswalks, and covered playground equipment. The City and Borough of Sitka's subdivision ordinance strongly encourages tot lots and pocket parks. The main challenges are a lack of land and funding. (See also Youth section).

Lead: C&BS, Primary Partners: Neighborhood Associations, volunteers. **\$\$-\$\$\$\$**

Sitka Outdoor Recreation Plan Road System



Data courtesy of the USFS, BLM, and Agnew:Beck. This map was compiled for the USFS and the City + Borough of Sitka with assistance from Agnew:Beck.

Alaska State Plane, Zone 4, NAD 1983
File: Sitka_Overview.mxd 1/30/11



Out of Town First Tier Projects

Lucky Chance/South Sitka Sound Trail System

A multi-day loop backpacking trail system that provides access to coastal hiking trails is a very high priority for residents and also offer a strong draw for visitors. This project would create the 36 mile world class "alpine-waterfront" Lucky Chance/South Sitka Sound trail system, building from the existing Goddard/Redoubt and Salmon Lake Trails. Elements of the project include huts or shelters (new and restored), a water link across Redoubt Lake, ultimately a bridge over the Green Lake Dam outfall. A complete design study is needed to assess trail issues and to guide development of this major project (see Trails Plan for details).

Lead: USFS, STW, Primary Partners: C&BS, \$\$-\$\$\$\$

Upgrade Goddard Hot Springs, Fish Bay Hot Springs

Goddard Hot Springs is associated with but separate from the South Sitka Sound Trail project above. Improvements are needed at both Goddard and Fish Bay Hot Springs, including providing the option for both natural and bathhouse experiences. With even modest improvements these springs could be much more enjoyable, for both boaters and hikers.

Lead (Goddard Hot Springs): C&BS, Lead (Fish Bay Hot Springs): USFS, Primary Partners (Both): Rotary, CBS, \$\$-\$\$\$\$

Search and Rescue

Improve As more people participate in outdoor recreation additional resources will need to be allocated to and consideration given to facilitating and accommodating search and rescue emergency responses.

Lead: Sitka Mountain Rescue (SMR), Primary Partners: USCG, USFS, State Troopers, USCG, community volunteers, \$\$

Below are a set of related projects, all tied to the theme of marine and coastal recreation.

Marine Access Points

Improve accessibility, pleasure and safety of marine-based recreation options, by providing an expanded range of facilities. Specific needs include: better mooring buoys; and in-town ramps, storage facilities and haul out for skiffs and kayaks. Specific priority location include Japonski Island.

Lead: USFS, AK Parks, C&BS, Harbor Dept, Primary Partners: C&BS, user groups, \$\$-\$\$\$\$

Improved Marine Recreation Maps and Information

Develop better maps showing public vs. private lands, camping beaches, trip routes. Better information would benefit residents and visitors, including small private yachts and commercial tours.

Lead: AK Parks, Primary Partners: USFS, local businesses, \$-\$-\$

Coastal Cabins, Shelters, Campsites

A place to spend the night or get out of the weather is a critical element of improving the safety and enjoyment of the spectacular marine environment surrounding Sitka. A system of places to stay is needed on select coastal routes, for both kayaks and skiffs (whalers). These could range from cabins to shelters, to tent platforms.

Lead: USFS, Primary Partners: AK Parks, community users, \$\$-\$\$\$\$

Improve State Marine Parks

The State of Alaska has what are in effect in-holdings with the broad reach of National Forest Lands in the greater Sitka area. These sites have the potential to provide for improvements such as camping areas or cabins that might not be allowed on USFS lands, particularly in areas designated for wilderness, or wilderness study areas. Improvements are needed to take advantage of this opportunity. One very good suggestion coming from this project was the proposal for Marine Parks "Friends of " group.

Lead: AK Parks, Primary Partners: Local users/residents, USFS, STW, \$-\$\$\$\$

"Sitka Outdoors Club"

This proposal continues in the same direction as the call for more recreation programs cited in the "road system" section. "We need to create a Sitka Outdoors Club" to help like minded people find partners for hiking, skiing and other outings."

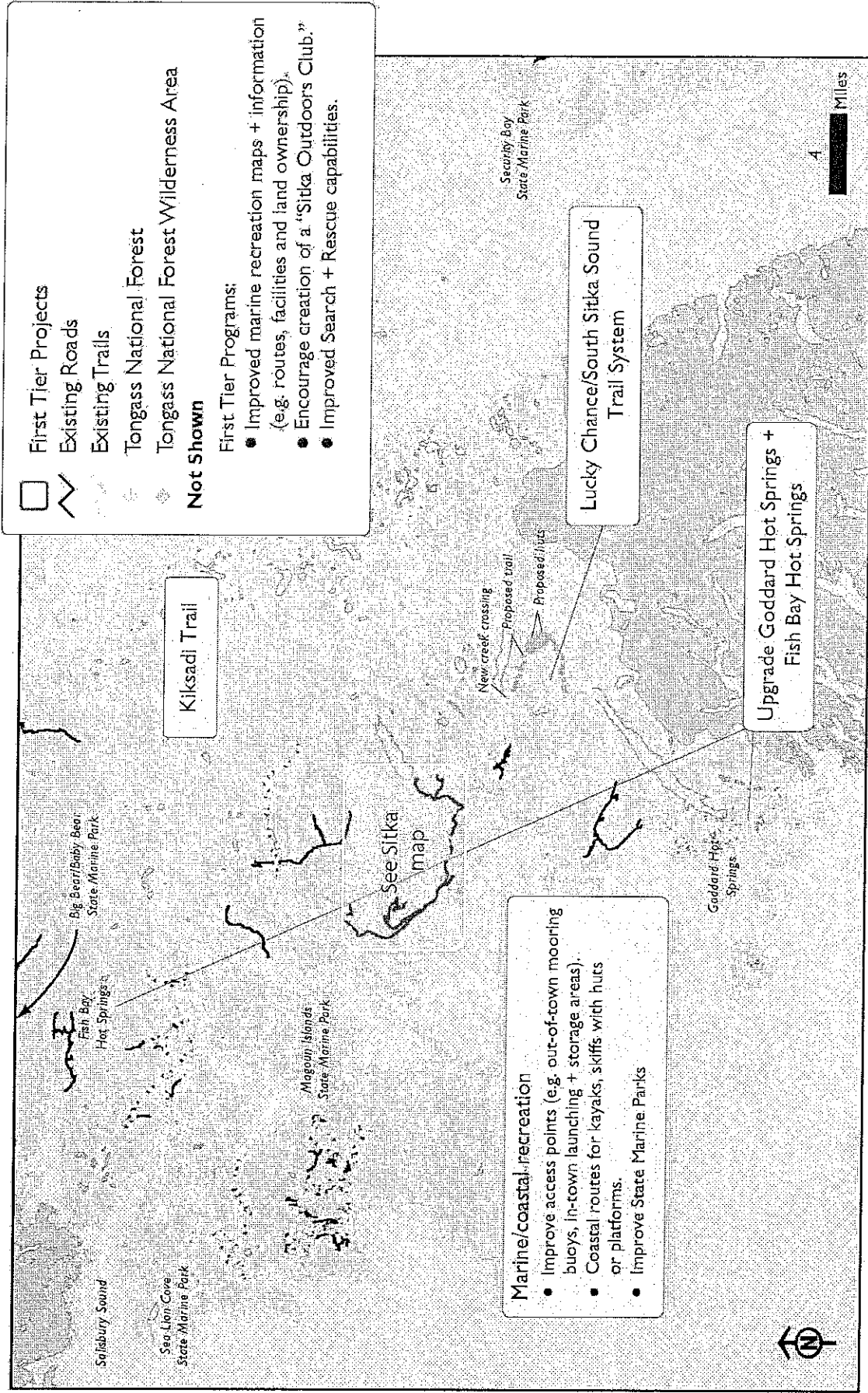
Primary Partners: C&BS, SSSC, USFS, SSD, NPS, SEARHC, STA, \$-\$\$\$

Kiksadi Survival March Trail

Further explore options to improve the Kiksadi Survival March Trail, working cooperatively with the Sitka Tribe.

Lead: USFS, Primary Partners: Sitka Tribe, STW, \$\$

Sitka Outdoor Recreation Plan Out of Town



Data courtesy of the USFS, BLM, and Agnew:Beck.
 This map was compiled for the USFS and the City + Borough of Sitka with assistance from Agnew:Beck.
 Alaska State Plane, Zone 4, NAD 1983
 File: Sitka_Overview.mxd 2/10/11

Special Uses First Tier Projects

Starrigavan Motorized Summer Sports

"Improve Starrigavan - people can't afford more distant, more costly destinations" "Need a fast track for ATVs - not the parking lot." A new design narrative is needed to improve the Starrigavan multi use trails to manage for impacts and to integrate the trail head area with the Recreational Shooting range. The design would incorporate new routes, and improvements to signing, staging, parking, and training areas. New construction will follow the design phase.

Lead: USFS, Primary Partners: STW, local ATV group. **\$\$-\$\$\$**

Winter Recreation - Non Motorized

Better access to backcountry ski terrain, to snow line for winter sports: e.g. at Bear Mtn, Starrigavan; Extend Harbor Mountain road connection, aim to provide for "ridge to ridge" skiing;

Lead: USFS, Primary Partners: STW. **\$\$-\$\$\$\$**

Sledding spots and a mini- ski/snowboard hill ("we currently poach the golf course; recognize there isn't always snow, doesn't have to be fancy, but want an accessible in-town location").

Lead: CBS, Primary Partners: local users/high school boarders. **\$\$-\$\$\$**

Better XC skiing on Green Lake and Blue Lake road: "institutionalize creative plowing" to allow for Cross Country ski use.

Lead: CBS. **\$\$-\$\$**

Harbor Mountain Winter Use

Harbor Mountain Ski/Mountain Bike trail; winter warming shelter; option for casual use area for snow machines and a strategy to avoid conflicts between snow machines and skiers.

Lead: USFS. **\$\$-\$\$\$**

Diving Opportunities

Magic Island Dive Trail/Dive park.

Lead: AK Parks, Primary Partners: user groups. **\$\$**

Sunken "wrecks" placed for diving.

Lead: Dive group/business, Primary Partners: user groups. **\$\$-\$\$**

Cultural Outdoor Recreation Facilities and Programs

Ft. Rouseau Causeway State Historical Park: Several Years of pre-construction surveys, environmental remediation and planning have recently occurred and this fascinating historic property will soon be ready for constructing a dock, pathways and interpretive signage. Close proximity of the World War II era structures to downtown Sitka will allow residents and summer visitors an interactive glimpse into Alaska's role defending the US coastline in 1945 and the cultural and natural history of the Causeway Islands.

Lead: AK Parks, Primary Partners: STW, BLM. **\$\$-\$\$\$\$**

Historic Walking Tour of Downtown Sitka: In general provide a range of interpretive walking tours, covering history, art, math/science.

Lead: CBS, Historical Society, Primary Partners: STA, Hist. Soc., Commission. **\$\$-\$\$**

Historical itineraries: Web based/hardcopy information setting out short or multiday activity itineraries, e.g., Native history; WWII history; "Current Life in Sitka"; Russian history - could be included in website.

Lead: Hist.Soc., SSSC, Primary Partners: SCVB, C&BS, NPS, Hist.Soc., STA. **\$**

Mountain Bikes (See "Road System" Section)

Establish new mountain bike trails, ranging from moderate and very challenging where soil conditions permit. Locations currently under investigation include Harbor Mountain and Granite Creek areas.

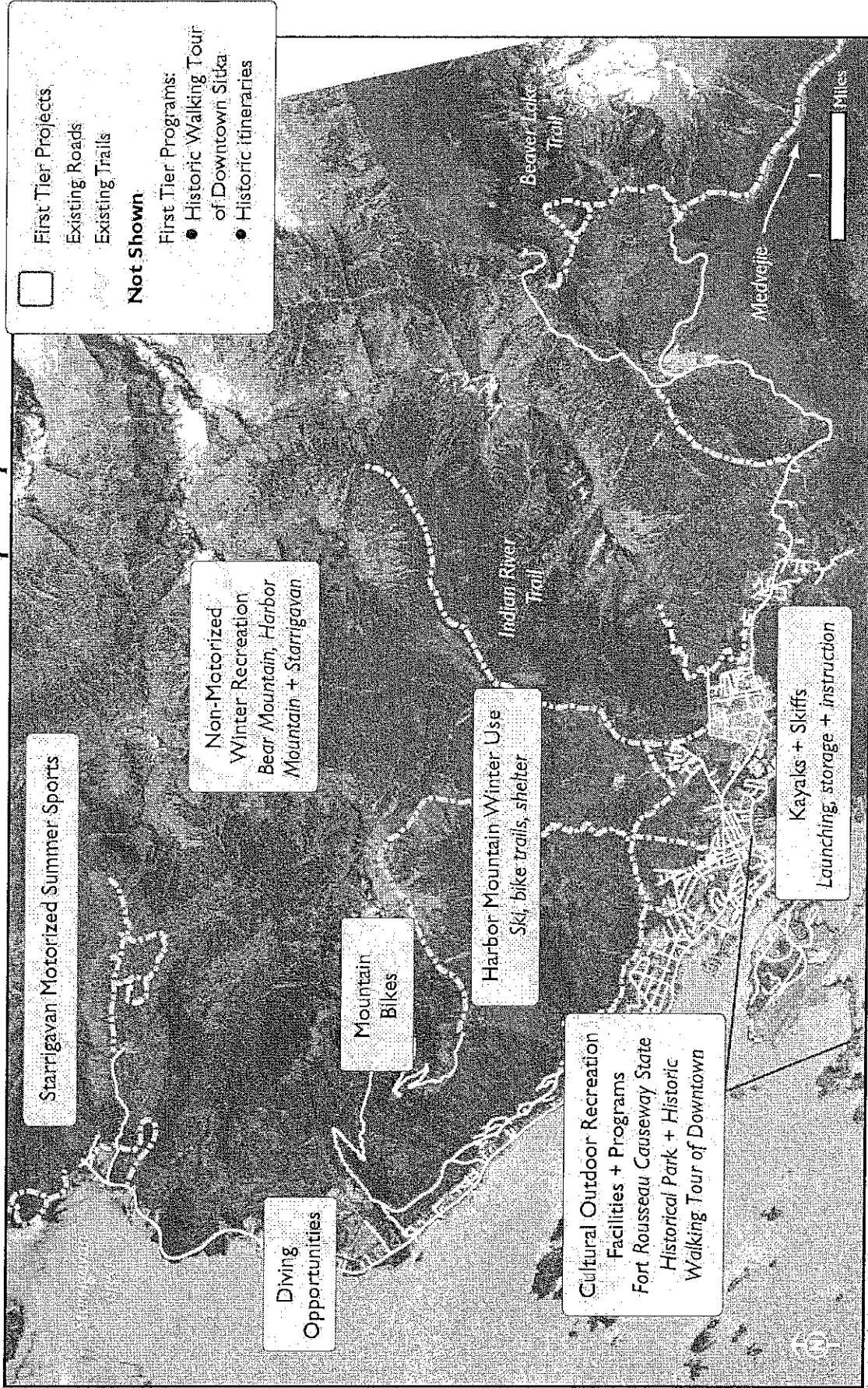
Lead: STW, Primary Partners: local mountain bike volunteers, CBS, USFS. **\$\$-\$\$\$**

Kayak and Skiffs (Launching, Storage)

Develop a convenient, in-town kayak launching point and storage racks, including a place for rentals and instruction programs. The waterfront area on Japonski Island, just past the bridge is a candidate.

Lead: CBS, user group, Primary Partners: local businesses, user groups. **\$\$-\$\$\$**

Sitka Outdoor Recreation Plan Specific Uses



Data courtesy of the USFS, BLM, and Agnew:Beck. This map was compiled for the USFS and the City + Borough of Sitka with assistance from Agnew:Beck.

Alaska State Plane, Zone 4, NAD 1983
File: Sitka_Overview.mxd 2/10/11



Special Users First Tier Projects

YOUTH

Outdoor Sports

- Disc Golf (e.g. at/near high school). Lead: C&BS. Primary Partners: Disc golf volunteers. \$
- Beach volleyball court. Lead: C&BS. Primary Partners: volleyball volunteers. \$
- Covered recreation areas: playground, basketball court, skateboard areas (for the skateboard area: add lights, cut the alders to get rid of leaves on surface). Lead: C&BS. Primary Partners: community volunteers. **\$\$-\$\$\$**
- Better tennis courts (existing court loses net in winter, slick when wet). Lead: C&BS. Primary Partners: SSD. **\$\$-\$\$\$**
- More pocket/neighborhood playgrounds – not connected to schools. Lead: C&BS. Primary Partners: Neighborhood Associations; volunteers. **\$\$-\$\$\$\$**

Recreation Programs

- Start youth outdoor clubs at all grades to start kids outside; offer outdoor recreation programs; e.g. biking, rock climbing; after school program combining recreation participation and leadership. Lead: SEARHC, CS. Primary Partners: BGC, SSD, SCS, NPS, SSSC. **\$\$**
- Kayak storage at water's edge, with convenient launching point (Japonski Boat House?); rentals for residents and for visitors. Lead: CBS, Maritime Heritage. Primary Partners: private business. **\$**
- Youth camping opportunities: expand, overnight for youth groups, help with culture camp. Better publicize existing programs, e.g. SCORE (Summer Camping Outdoor Recreation Education, for kids 8-14). Lead: CS. Primary Partners: NPS, STA, SSD, USFS, SEARHC. **\$\$**
- Group Hikes and Trail Maintenance/Construction Volunteer Days: STW should continue sponsoring the weekend hikes, trails training in the schools and volunteer work on the trail system. Lead: STW. **\$**

Covered in other sections:

- *Improve Moller tracks, better equipment (see center of town)*
- *Better mountain biking (see road system section)*
- *Access to backcountry ski/snowboard (see special uses, winter section)*
- *Sliding spots: Mini- ski/ snowboard hill (see special uses, winter section)*

VINTAGE

Recreation Destinations

- Better access to Sandy Beach (path, parking). Lead: USFS, CBS; Primary Partners: STW. **\$\$-\$\$\$**
- Develop “north side” underutilized area of Sitka National Historic Park. Lead: NPS. **\$\$**
- Scenic overlooks to drive to, for those who may not walk. Lead: CBS. Primary Partners: DOT/PF, USFS. **\$\$-\$\$\$**

Trails, Trail-Related

Need more benches along trails (e.g. Muskeg trail needs a bench); work with existing donation program for installation of benches. Seek out new partners for ongoing trail maintenance: use non-slip surfaces on new/rehabilitated trails; add restrooms at trail heads.

Lead: USFS, AK Parks, CBS. Primary Partners: STW. **\$**

Halibut Point Road Pedestrian Walkway: Future opportunities may exist to provide a separated pathway and/or improved pedestrian facilities along Halibut Point Road, similar to that on SMC Road. Development is complicated by existing private property and would occur within the State ROW or on CBS lands.

Lead: CBS. Primary Partners: DOT/PF, STW. **\$\$-\$\$\$**

Programs to encourage outdoor activity

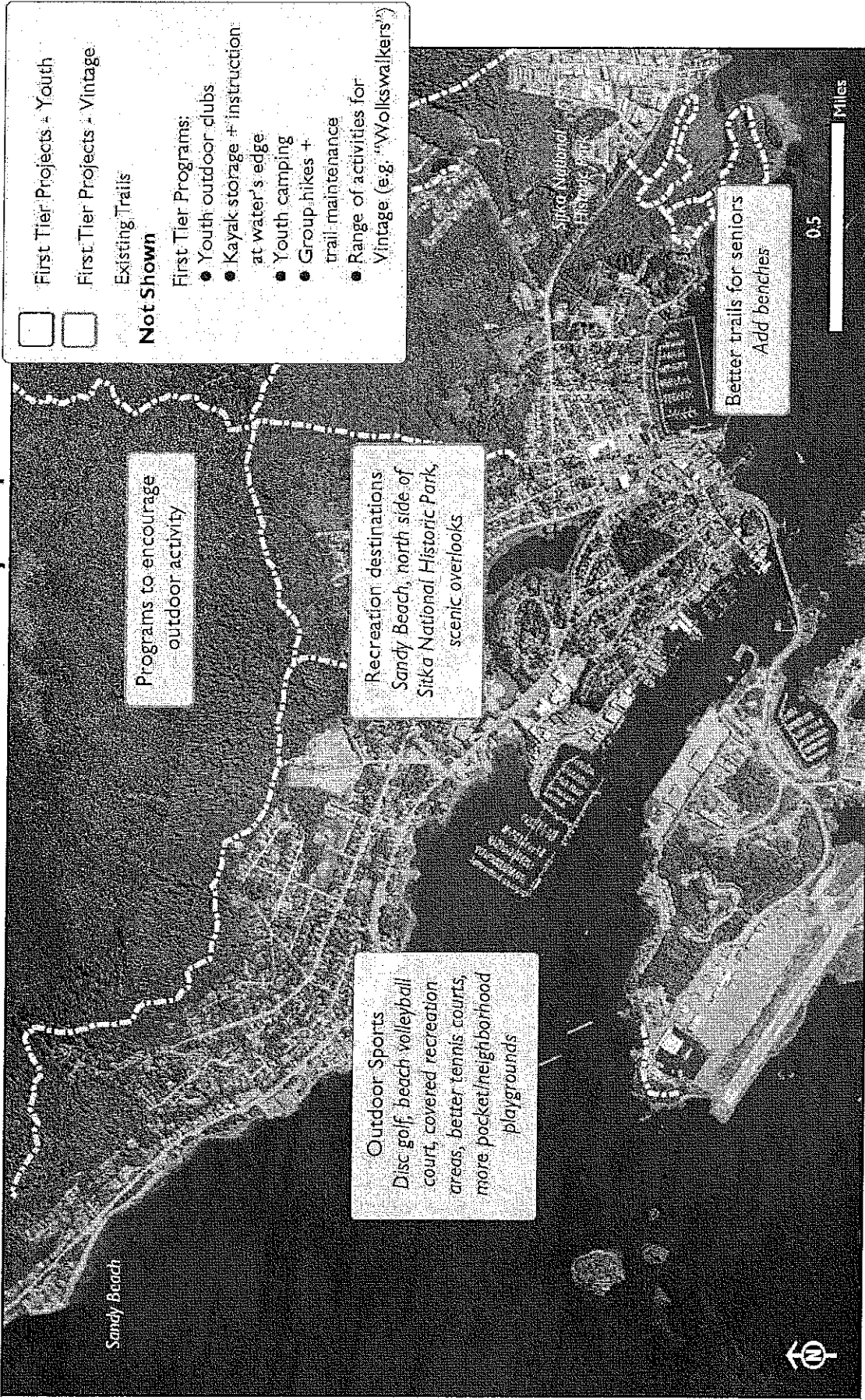
Work with the newly formed Get Out Sitka group to establish a range of new outdoor programs. Examples include small walking groups (longer, shorter – residents and visitors) and/or walking programs with rewards (e.g. “Volkswalkers” groups who get a pin for completing the walk). An outdoor recreation group for seniors is forming as of the writing of this plan.

Lead: Get Out Sitka, CS. Primary Partners: Sitka Senior Center, STW, SSD, SCS (see also discussion of programs in the Road System section). **\$**

Covered in other sections:

- *Better information for locals about outdoor recreation (see center of town)*
- *Information on trail bike times (see center of town)*
- *Signage: degree of difficulty, what you'll see, map at trailheads (see center of town)*
- *Better marketing (and info for residents) focused on senior travelers (see center of town)*

Sitka Outdoor Recreation Plan Specific Users



Data courtesy of the USFS, BLM, City + Borough of Sitka and Agnew::Beck. This map was compiled for the USFS and the City + Borough of Sitka with assistance from Agnew::Beck.

Alaska State Plane, Zone 4, NAD 1983
File: Sitka_Downtown.mxd 2/10/11

Chapter 4: Project Implementation

“The fun part - the easy part - is listing what we want. What we really need is a practical way to get these projects to actually happen.”
(Comment at October 2010 Workshops)

As described in previous chapters, this project has gone through the set of major steps outlined below:

1. Inventory Sitka's existing system of outdoor recreation facilities and programs
2. Gather background information on proposed improvements (based on previous plans, community surveys and interviews)
3. Prepare an updated, ambitious list of proposed projects (facilities, programs, information resources)
4. Establish priorities - “first tier projects” - from the full list of projects
5. “Trolling for partners” - confirm support for specific projects
6. Develop more specific implementation strategies for individual first tier projects.

As the quote above makes clear, developing a list of outdoor recreation projects is only the first step in improving Sitka's outdoor recreation system. That process - steps 1-3 above - took place for this project in the summer and fall of 2010. This plan is designed to increase the odds that priority projects will be developed. Key implementation steps and strategies are outlined below:

- **Establish priorities - “first tier projects” - from the full list of projects.** This step (step 4 above) occurred in fall 2010. Chapter 3 outlines the considerations that went into this important step in the implementation process, which narrowed an extensive list to a more manageable, focused set of priorities
- **“Trolling for partners” - Help develop implementation partnerships, e.g., between agencies, volunteers, non-profits.** This step (step 5 above) has been underway for the last several

months. The intent is to secure commitments to work further on specific projects. As noted above, these commitments aren't obligations, but do indicate the intent of the partners to work in good faith to implement the projects. Lead and supporting partners are listed for first tier projects in Chapter 3; Appendix A gives more details.

Sitka Trails Plan - A Successful Lesson in the Power of a Plan



The Sitka Trails Plan, completed in 2003, was developed over 3 years, working diligently with community residents, businesses and organizations. Deborah Lyons is the Executive Director of Sitka Trail Works and the person who guided the plan to completion. As Deborah says, “the plan provides a flexible blueprint for action. With the plan in hand we've been able to secure funding and partners for a wide range of projects. What seemed very ambitious at the time has turned into a series of successful built projects”.

- **Develop more specific implementation strategies for individual first tier projects.** This step (step 6 above) will continue into the future, following the completion of this plan. Actual implementation steps required vary greatly depending on the nature of the project. Some illustrative examples, for center of town projects:
 - Develop the Sea Walk project - this project already has significant funding and is being actively pursued by the City and Borough of Sitka, working with the Sitka Sound Science Center and the NPS. Including this project in the plan has already helped explain the value of the project to community members and may help with securing additional funding.
 - Prepare a “bucket list” of Sitka must-do activities - this can be done at very low cost and then be posted on the City and SCVB website.
 - Visitor Information Center - as noted earlier in this plan, this project will require extensive analysis to determine if this desirable project is also feasible. Key steps will include: form a team of committed partners, define a program of uses and based on the agreed upon program define project size and character; evaluate options for and secure an appropriate site; develop a detailed business plan/feasibility assessment; develop a fund raising strategy; refine intentions regarding project management and ownership. Only at that point would it be possible to move into more detailed building design, site improvements, and ultimately construction
- **Conclude this process with a formal signing ceremony among key partners.** The ceremony formalizes agreement to work together; share expertise, and otherwise strive to move forward on a set of identified priority projects. The signees do not take on any financial obligations as a result of signing.
- **Approve a plan that can be used to demonstrate the community support needed to bring in resources from outside funders.** Many resources are available for outdoor recreation programs and facilities, if a community has reached agreement on priorities, and can

Does this Plan create financial obligations for the City and Borough of Sitka, the USFS or other Partners?

The short answer - and the long answer - is no. This plan is a guide for developing partnerships, combining resources, seeking funding opportunities, and strategically leveraging our resources. It is recognized that each partner - be it an agency like the City and Borough, the Forest Service or School District, or a local non-profit like Sitka Trail Works or the Science Center - has its own internal mission, needs and capabilities. A signature on this action plan and a listing as a partner in no way reduces the ability of any organization or agency to pursue its own interests. The significance and value of this plan is its expression of shared interests and goals, and the intent to work together to reach those ends.

document those agreements in a widely-endorsed plan. This plan, like the Sitka Trails Plan, is intended to provide that document.

- **Expand Community Resources.** Initial progress to improve outdoor recreation projects can set the stage for still more progress. For example, if better marketing and a Lucky Chance/South Sitka Sound Trail system are developed, these could increase the numbers of visitors to Sitka, which could increase visitor spending, which could in turn expand local government revenues such as sales tax, and also increase profits to local businesses. Portions of this new increment of revenue could then be used for additional public and private improvements.

Quotes from the community on expanding community resources are below:

- “I would, and so would a lot of people, volunteer time if they knew work was needed, and the process was well managed and fun”

- "We need to link locals with passion to leadership with vision"
- "We need a shared grantwriter, someone who could write grants for many different groups would more than return the investment of the cost of their services"
- "Partnerships can accomplish together what people and organizations can't do on their own - each partner brings a different set of skills and ideas"
- "Need more emphasis on business side, youth, and vintage"
- "Let businesses know how it can benefit them, sell them on it"
- "Need to get more partners to bring in every prospective and group; tribal organizations, schools and hospitals"
- "Unifying projects and not placing them under a single category makes for more partners and support"
- "We need what this plan is bringing: helps to get the full community to buy in"
- "The plan helps people to see the big picture, not just the tip of the iceberg; to get projects done you have to let people know the whole process, all the steps"
- "Create "buy in" with surveys - so people know they're being heard"
- "Combine economic development with projects that will also benefit the local community, keeping everyone happy"

- **Identify a champion.** As the list of partners in this action planning process indicates, there is a great deal of organized support for the spectrum of outdoor recreation activities and infrastructure in Sitka. To make the most of existing resources (e.g., human resources,

funding opportunities) and accomplish some of the more ambitious projects identified in this plan, some form of central leadership will be needed. This leadership could be as loose as a coalition of the primary partners that would meet two to four times a year to set and implement priorities, but it will need a clear sense of mission and responsibilities (especially vis a vis other organizations with an interest in outdoor recreation). Building from this coalition, the group could investigate several models for expanding local capacity to raise and leverage funding, such as:

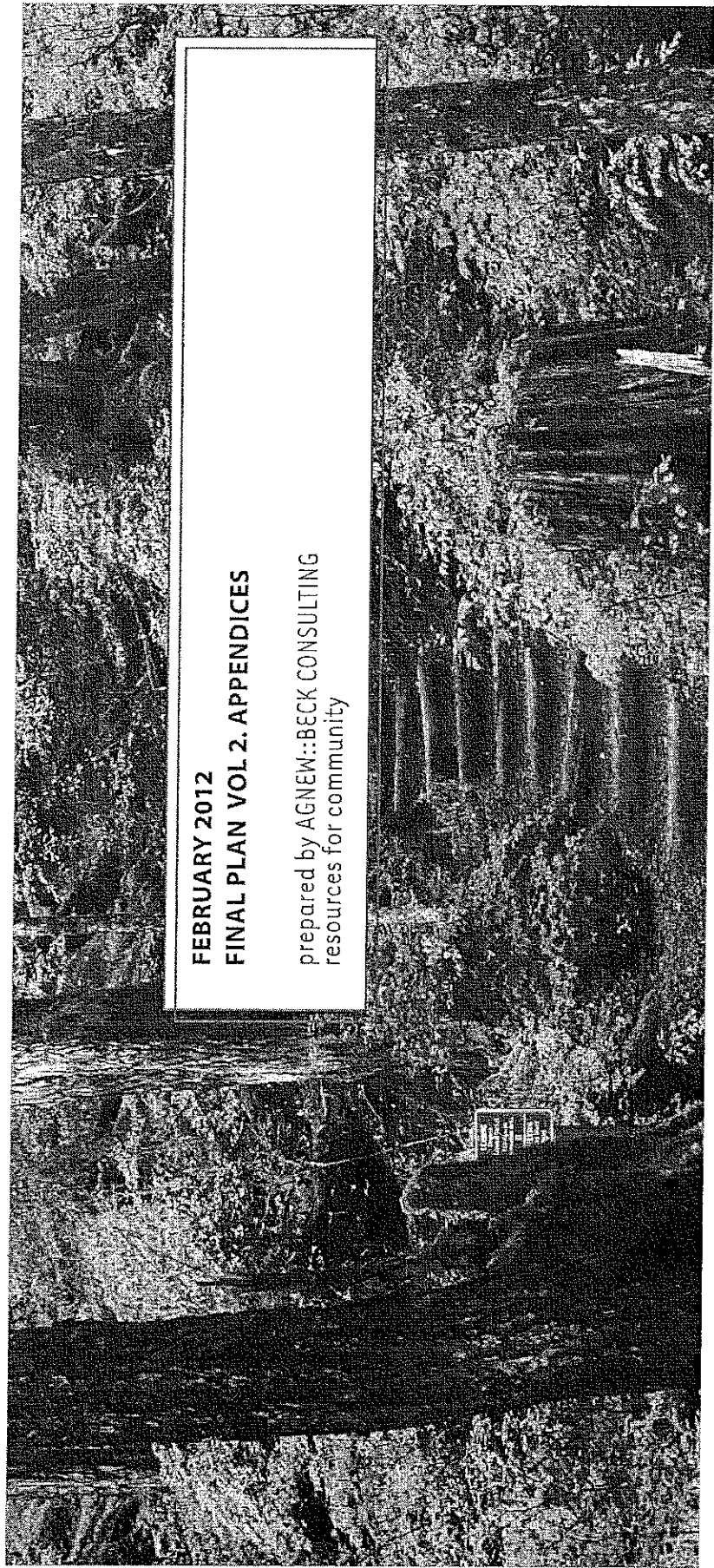
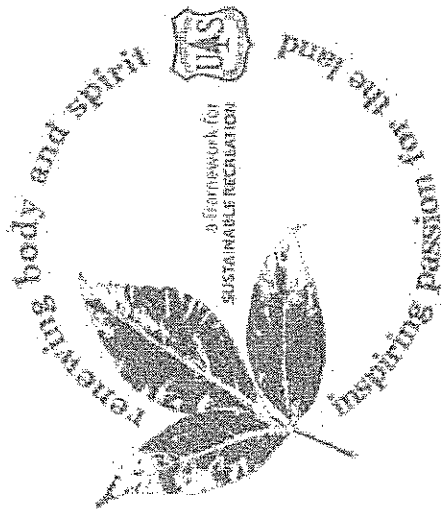
- Park Service District: modeled on the Eagle River Birchwood Park Service Area, which was voted into existence by residents and businesses, and has been successful in amassing funds to implement the community's recreation priorities.
- Recreation Foundation: modeled on the Anchorage Park Foundation, which supplements public funding for recreation projects in the Municipality of Anchorage.



sustainable outdoor recreation action plan

Stikza

sustainable outdoor recreation action plan



FEBRUARY 2012
FINAL PLAN VOL 2. APPENDICES
prepared by AGNEW::BECK CONSULTING
resources for community

Agnew::Beck Consulting, LLC prepared this report under subcontract to CHM Government Services under Task Order AG-344V-D-10-0023 in direct support of an CHM Government Services IDIQ Contract AG-02NV-C-09-004.

Appendix A: All Identified Projects

Project Implementation Table

The first part of Appendix A contains implementation tables for all projects, by geographic area and user type. The following table explains the sustainability criteria that were identified during the planning process to help distinguish priorities as partners move forward with carrying out the plan.

Guide to Sustainability Criteria	Criteria represent particular aspects of the three branches of sustainability: Economic (Ec), Environmental (En), Social (So).
Benefits Residents (So)	Improves quality of life: opportunities for healthy enjoyable activity; chances for interaction with friends and neighbors, contributes to overall positive community character.
Attracts Visitors (Ec)	Strengthens reasons for visitors - overnight and day visitors - to spend time and money in Sitka; improves Sitka "brand"; this in turn creates local jobs, business opportunities, & revenue for community services.
Diversification (So)	Expands access in underserved portions of town, expand access to diversity of skill levels, to range of income levels).
Community Support (So)	Based on public input to date, recommendations of previous plans.
"Bang for the Buck" (Ec)	Significant positive impact, modest price.
Financially Sustainable (Ec)	Does the project have a plan for funding? What are the cost/benefits? Are project funds leveraged through partners is there a plan for maintenance? Etc.
Min. Adverse Impact (En)	Impacts are small, actually positive and/or can be readily mitigated; on community character, natural environment, resident recreational activities.

List of projects by type and priority level

The second part of Appendix A lists all projects by type (e.g., policy, information, facility or program) and priority level (e.g., First Tier, Second Tier).

Center of Town Projects

Project	Project Type				Sustainability Criteria Economic (Ec), Environmental (En), Social (So). (Only marked if project "hits one out of the park" on that criterion)						
	General Policy (G)	Facility (F)	Program (P)	Information (I)	Benefits Residents (So)	Attracts Visitors (Ec)	Diversification (So)	Community Support (So)	"Bang for the Buck" (Ec)	Financially Sustainable (Ec)	Min. Adverse Impact (En)
FIRST TIER											
<i>Moller Park Improvements:</i>											
Sports fields, running track, circuit fitness loop, programs & activities		X	X		X		X	X			
Related projects: Moller to Lake Street Boardwalk, Swan Lake improvements		X									
Website - central outdoor recreation info source for visitors, residents (adults and kids); great map of trails and attractions, listing of programs, activities, events; information on trail difficulty & time required; link to SCVB website with suggestions for trips, for trip planning			X	X	X	X			X		X
Bucket list - a list of local "must see" attractions and/or sample itineraries for visitors			X	X					X		
<i>Identified Passenger Fee Fund Projects</i>											
Sea Walk Pathway		X			X	X					X
Downtown wayfinding plan: signs, information kiosks, hardcopy maps, virtual maps			X	X	X	X		X	X		
Sidewalk accessibility within town: Katlian, Jeff Davis	X	X			X	X					
Trail through SNHP to the Raptor Center including a safe way across Sawmill Ck Rd		X									
Downtown fishing pier (part of seawall project or kayak launch/storage facility?)		X									
Multi-agency recreation information center/visitor center		X	X	X	X	X					

Notes on responsibilities indicated in the following tables:

Asterisk (*) indicates lead partner/agency

Sitka Trail Plan: 2003 Sitka Trail Plan with Memorandum of Understanding

between Sitka Trail Works, Inc. City and Borough of Sitka, USDA Forest Service Region 10 Sitka District, Alaska Dept. of Natural Resources Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation, USDI National Park Service, Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program and Sitka National Historical Park

Public Support	Other Plans				Implementation Notes				
	Sitka Trail Plan	CPET Master Plan	Tour Plan	Non-motorized Plan	Affected Landowners	Partners (Lead(s)shown with *)	timeframe (years)	Status, Cost	Option to use Special Funds (e.g. cruise tax)
workshop + survey priority									
Very High					cbs, SSD	SSD*, CBS	3 TO 6	PRELIM. PLNNIN	GO BOND, LEG. GRANT
Very High					CBS				
Med						SCVB, SEARHC, Comm Schools, CS, CON/VIS*, CBS, CHAMBER	IMMED		CPET?
High	X	X	X	X	cbs, sssc	CBS*,NPS,SSSC	IMMED	P and D	CPET, GRANTS
Med		X	X	X	cbs, DOT	CBS*, STA, HIST.SOC and COMMISS, ETC	IMMED	PLANNING	CPET
High		X	X	X	CBS*		1 TO 5		CPET
	X	X	X	X					
Med		X			CBS, SSSC*, USFS*	ACCESSIBILITY GROUPS	3 TO 5		CPET, GRANTS
High		X			USFS/AKDPOR/CBS/NPS	USFS, CBS*, CON/VIS/	5 TO 10		CPET, USFS

CPET Master Plan: MRV Architects, Jones + Jones, and the McDowell Group for the City and Borough of Sitka (April 2010), Sitka Passenger Fee Fund Implementation Plan

Tourism Plan: Agnew;;Beck Consulting for the City and Borough of Sitka (May 2007), Sitka Visitor Industry Framework Plan Draft
 Non-motorized Plan: Sitka Non-Motorized Transportation Plan Assessment of Deficiencies and/or Needs (Spring 2002)

Center of Town Projects	Project Type				Sustainability Criteria Economic (Ec), Environmental (En), Social (So). (Only marked if project "hits one out of the park" on that criterion)						
	General Policy (G)	Facility (F)	Program (P)	Information (I)	Benefits Residents (So)	Attracts Visitors (Ec)	Diversification (So)	Community Support (So)	"Bang for the Buck" (Ec)	Financially Sustainable (Ec)	Min. Adverse Impact (En)
Project											
Covered in Other Sections											
Mountain Bike trails - see "Road System, Out of Town & Other Users/Uses sections"											
Sandy Beach - see "Other Users/Uses section"											
SECOND TIER											
Establish outdoor recreation foundation/endowment			X								
Start Klksadi Trail near town: Indian River another route along HPR. If not a new physical trail, at least add improved signage and route markers.		X									
Renew City bicycle friendly status			X								
Downtown Physical Improvements:											
Center of town activity center: camp? hike, kayak launching point, rentals, instruction											
Prepare a comprehensive downtown improvement plan - address urban design, comfort/convenience, circulation, walkable, open space	X										
Hands-on, interpretive nature art			X								
Flags, fabric covers for lightening facilities		X	X								
Improve and interpret Crescent net shed		X		X							
Place for kids to create art - wall for kids to chalk (draw), for paint, pottery			X								
Community-sponsored bike borrowing											
More bike racks and bike paths	X	X									

Public Support	Other Plans				Implementation Notes				
	Sitka Trail Plan	CPET Master Plan	Tour Plan	Non-motorized Plan	Affected Landowners	Partners (Lead(s)shown with *)	timeframe (years)	Status, Cost	Option to use Special Funds (e.g. cruise tax)
workshop + survey priority									
					CBS				
					CBS*, NPS, BIHA, ARC	STW, CBS	5+		GRANTS
Med						CBS*, SEARHC, BIKE GROUP	IMMED		
Med				X	CBS*, DOE	USCG, AMSEA, SSOA*, UAS, SEARHC	3 TO 5		CPET, GRANTS
Med		X	X		AMHTA				
Med									
Med									
Med									
Med									
Med				X	CBS	bike groups, SEARHC			

Center of Town Projects

Project	Project Type				Sustainability Criteria Economic (Ec), Environmental (En), Social (So). (Only marked if project "hits one out of the park" on that criterion)						
	General Policy (G)	Facility (F)	Program (P)	Information (I)	Benefits Residents (So)	Attracts Visitors (Ec)	Diversification (So)	Community Support (So)	"Bang for the Buck" (Ec)	Financially Sustainable (Ec)	Min. Adverse Impact (En)
<i>Sitka National Historic Park:</i>											
Integrate SNHP, Raptor Center and Indian River Trailhead along river		X									
More nature walks at Sitka National Historic Park			X								
<i>Day Use Recreation Areas</i>											
Gathering spot for kids where activity not limited		X									
Crescent Park basketball/tennis court upgrade		X									
Cover skatepark, remove alders		X									
Dog park at Sheldon Jackson College Commons (Sitka Fine Arts Camp)		X									
Bergman Park by O'Connell Bridge		X									
Expand tai chi behind library or other areas			X								
Water fountains!											
Better utilize library for outdoor rec information				X							
OTHER:											
NEW OR EXPANDED EVENTS											
Herring Roe Festival			X		X	X	X				X
Freedom from Fossil Fuel Friday			X								
Winter season event(s) - motorized, non-motorized			X								

Public Support		Other Plans				Implementation Notes				
workshop + survey priority		Sitka Trail Plan	CPET Master Plan	Tour Plan	Non-motorized Plan	Affected Landowners	Partners (Lead(s)shown with *)	timeframe (years)	Status, Cost	Option to use Special Funds (e.g. cruise tax)
		x			x	CBS*, NPS, BIHA, ARC	STW, CBS	5+		GRANTS
						CBS*, NPS, BIHA, ARC	STW, CBS	5+		GRANTS
			x			CBS				
	Med					SFAC AMHTA	DOG GROUP			
			x				SSSC, CON/VIS*, STACHAMBER, SSSC*, ETC.	1 TO 5		

Center of Town Projects

Project	Project Type				Sustainability Criteria Economic (Ec), Environmental (En), Social (So). (Only marked if project "hits one out of the park" on that criterion)						
	General Policy (G)	Facility (F)	Program (P)	Information (I)	Benefits Residents (So)	Attracts Visitors (Ec)	Diversification (So)	Community Support (So)	"Bang for the Buck" (Ec)	Financially Sustainable (Ec)	Min. Adverse Impact (En)
VENDOR OPPORTUNITY											
Historical walk, with interpretive signage, hardcopy/smart phone info		X									
Gear for use outdoors: umbrellas, binoculars			X								
PROJECTS SUGGESTED BUT JUDGED IMPRACTICAL											
Camps within neighborhood blocks		X									
Continue outdoor recreation emphasis at Sheldon Jackson College			X								
<i>Sitka National/ Historic Park (suggested but inconsistent with NPS mgt policy)</i>											
Bicycle cut-through trail		X									
Improve accessibility by paving trails		X									
Cooking shelters		X									

Public Support	Other Plans				Implementation Notes				
	Sitka Trail Plan	CPET Master Plan	Tour Plan	Non-motorized Plan	Affected Landowners	Partners (Lead(s) shown with *)	timeframe (years)	Status, Cost	Option to use Special Funds (e.g. cruise tax)
workshop + survey priority									
Med	x		x			CBS*, STA, HIST.SOC and COMMISS, ETC	1 TO 5	PLANNING	CPET

Road System Projects

Project	Project Type				Sustainability Criteria Economic (Ec), Environmental (En), Social (So). (Only marked if project "fits one out of the park" on that criterion)						
	General Policy (G)	Facility (F)	Program (P)	Information (I)	Benefits Residents (So)	Attracts Visitors (Ec)	Diversification (So)	Community Support (So)	"Bang for the Buck" (Ec)	Financially Sustainable (Ec)	Min. Adverse Impact (En)
FIRST TIER											
<i>Harbor Mountain Area Projects (See also "other users/uses" for winter projects)</i>											
Harbor Mtn: upgrade road & picnic area; ADA accessible areas; scenic overlook		X			X	X	X				
<i>Hike-in cabins and shelters</i>											
Provide more nearby, but still hike-in cabins & shelters; locations: Indian River Trail, Beaver Lake Trail, Medveje, Starigavan area (larger capacity overnight cabin); "provide accessible shelters like the one between Harbor Mountain and Gavan"	X	X			X	X	X				
<i>Mountain bike trails</i>											
Establish a range of mountain bike trails, moderate and very challenging possible locations Harbor Mountain and Granite Creek areas	X	X			X	X	X				
Mountain bike single track in-town, near batting cage, different levels of difficulty		X									
<i>Activity programs to build on fitness, skills, health</i>											
Priorities as selected by Sitka Outdoor Recreation Coalition			X					X	X		X
<i>Day Use Recreation Areas (more/better: shelters, fire pit/grills, tables, restrooms)</i>											
Space for specialized recreation, e.g., disk golf e.g., dirt bike track (circle with jumps, bumps)		X				X	X	X			X
Better spaces for outdoor gathering spots for families and groups, including a large outdoor community shelter like Petersburg (location to be determined)											

Notes on responsibilities indicated in the following tables:

Asterisk (*) indicates lead partner/agency
 Sitka Trail Plan, 2003 Sitka Trail Plan with Memorandum of Understanding

between Sitka Trail Works, Inc. City and Borough of Sitka, USDA Forest Service Region 10 Sitka District, Alaska Dept. of Natural Resources Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation, USDI National Park Service, Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program and Sitka National Historical Park

Public Support	Other Plans				Implementation Notes				
	Sitka Trail Plan	CPET Master Plan	Tour Plan	Non-motorized Plan	Affected Landowners	Partners (Lead(s) shown with *)	timeframe (years)	Status, Cost	Option to use Special Funds (e.g. cruise tax)
workshop + survey priority									
					USFS*	USFS	1 TO 5	PLANNING	USFS
med					USFS*,ADPOR		1 TO 5	PLANNING	
Very high	x				USFS*, CBS*	STW, MTN BIKER	IMMED	PLANNING	GRANTS, FUNDRAISERS
med						USFS*, CBS*	STW, MTN BIKER, USCG	IMMED	PLANNING
very high						SSD,CS*,SEARHC	IMMED	STAFF TIME	GRANTS
Very High					CBS*	CBS, BIKE GROUP, USCG	3 TO 5		GRANTS

CPET Master Plan: MRV Architects, Jones + Jones, and the McDowell Group for the City and Borough of Sitka (April 2010), Sitka Passenger Fee Fund Implementation Plan

Tourism Plan: Agnew::Beck Consulting for the City and Borough of Sitka (May 2007), Sitka Visitor Industry Framework Plan Draft

Non-motorized Plan: Sitka Non-Motorized Transportation Plan Assessment of Deficiencies and/or Needs (Spring 2002)

Road System Projects		Project Type				Sustainability Criteria Economic (Ec), Environmental (En), Social (So). (Only marked if project "hits one out of the park" on that criterion)						
		General Policy (G)	Facility (F)	Program (P)	Information (I)	Benefits Residents (So)	Attracts Visitors (Ec)	Diversification (So)	Community Support (So)	"Bang for the Buck" (Ec)	Financially Sustainable (Ec)	Min. Adverse Impact (En)
Project												
Priority day use locations: Eagle & Sandy beaches, Herring Cove (more below)			X						X			
Complete Cross Trail from Ferry Terminal to Yaw Drive			X									
SECOND TIER												
Comprehensive Trail Sign Plan; links downtown with mile markers on near-town trails; Interpretive signs too (environment, culture, history)		X	X		X							
<i>Trails</i>												
Trails on Japonski Island links to John Brown Beach Area			X									
Japonski Fitness Trail			X									
Upper Cross trail - running trail			X									
Sawmill Creek Road separated pathway to SMCIP			X									
<i>Day Use Recreation Areas (more/better shelters, fire pit/grills, tables, restrooms)</i>			X									
Areas to improve: Herring Cove, Industrial Park, SMC Old Dairy Road, SNHP, John Brown's Beach, Turnaround, Kimsnam/Cross Trail area, Pioneer Park,												
Improve Pioneer Park shelters												
Improve Verstovia trailhead facilities (link to adjoining waterfront?)												
Improve Hallbut Point Recreation Area and Old Sitka State Parks; complete Hallbut Pt Rd upgrade, improve parking & pedestrian facilities; add historic interpretation information		X	X									
Whale Park - add a pavillion close to water (e.g., for dive logistics)		X	X	X								
Totem Park cooking shelters other side of bridge												
<i>Mountain bike trails (see also "first tier" projects above</i>		X	X									
Indian River area mountain bike trail		X	X									

Public Support	Other Plans				Implementation Notes				
	Sitka Trail Plan	CPT Master Plan	Tour Plan	Non-motorized Plan	Affected Landowners	Partners (Lead(s) shown with *)	timeframe (years)	Status, Cost	Option to use Special Funds (e.g. cruise tax)
workshop + survey priority									
high	x			x	CBS,	USFS, STW	1 TO 5	Planning	
med				x	CBS, USFS, ADOR	STW*	IMMED	PLANNING	CBS, USFS
	x			x	AK State Parks	USFS	1 TO 5	PLANNING	USFS
	x				CBS*	BIKERS, USCG	3 TO 5		GRANTS

Road System Projects

Project	Project Type				Sustainability Criteria Economic (Ec), Environmental (En), Social (So). (Only marked if project "hits one out of the park" on that criterion)						
	General Policy (G)	Facility (F)	Program (P)	Information (I)	Benefits Residents (So)	Attracts Visitors (Ec)	Diversification (So)	Community Support (So)	"Bang for the Buck" (Ec)	Financially Sustainable (Ec)	Min. Adverse Impact (En)
Combined mountain bike dirt jump park, free-ride area, BMX track, downhill and single track areas; close to town, kid accessible		X									
Multi-day camping/backpacking trails easily accessible from town, for example, Kruzof, Cross-Baranof Cultural Trail (Kiksadi), Rodman Bay	X	X									
<i>Programs</i>											
Youth camping; facilities, programs; tie to culture camp			X								
Keep and expand locals and visitors group hikes; Saturdays, different locations		X									
Add bus and transit to provide link to trails and rec areas											
100 mile walking club (incentives for activity)			X								
<i>Covered in other Sections</i>											
<i>New road system-accessible fishing areas, fishing pier - saltwater, freshwater show on maps; potential examples Starrigavan, Eagle Beach, Sawmill Creek</i>			X								
<i>Day Use Recreation Areas - see road system section</i>											
<i>Diving sites - see "Special Uses/Users" section</i>											
OTHER											
Improved Thimbleberry loop											
Pedestrian path from Whale park to Green Lake											
Kimshaw Cross Trail											
Trails, camping in locations near ferry terminal (in Starrigavan area)					X		X	X			X
Verstovia trail, trailhead upgrade											
Kiksadi trail extended/signed to begin near town; Indian River another route along HPR. If not trail - route markers.	X		X			X	X	X			X

Public Support		Other Plans		Implementation Notes						
		Sitka Trail Plan	CPT Master Plan	Tour Plan	Non-motorized Plan	Affected Landowners	Partners (Lead(s)shown with *)	timeframe (years)	Status, Cost	Option to use Special Funds (e.g. cruise tax)
workshop + survey priority										
med						USFS				
		x					STW, SCS*, CS, SSD	IMMED		STAFF TIME
			x							
med							NPS, STA, SSD, CS*, SEARHC	1 TO 5		GRANTS, STAFF TIME
						USFS, CBS*		IMMED	STAFF TIME	

Out of Town Projects

Project	Project Type				Sustainability Criteria						
	General Policy (G)	Facility (F)	Program (P)	Information (I)	Benefits Residents (So)	Attracts Visitors (Ec)	Diversification (So)	Community Support (So)	"Bang for the Buck" (Ec)	Financially Sustainable (Ec)	Min. Adverse Impact (En)
PROJECT											
<i>Lucky Chance/Goddard area</i>											
Link to road system/ better access (bridge over Votapah)		X			X	X	X	X			
Improve Lucky Chance Mine Historic/South Sitka Sound trail system; provide huts or shelters		X			X	X	X	X			
Improve Salmon Lake to Redoubt to Goddard; fishing/hiking route		X			X	X	X	X			
Upgrade Goddard Hot Springs		X									
<i>Marine Recreation</i>											
Expanded hut to hut (or tent pad) coastal routes for kayaks and skiffs (whalers)		X			X	X	X				
Maps showing public vs. private islands; camping beaches; trip routes				X				X			
Improve accessibility of water based recreation sites; cabins and camping areas; provide better mooring buoys; ramps for skiffs and kayaks; launch and haul out areas; maps; shelters/cabins.		X	X		X	X					
Improve State marine parks facilities; establish a "Friends of Marine Parks"	X	X	X							X	X
Sitka Outdoor Club ("programs to get people outside")			X		X	X	X				

Notes on responsibilities indicated in the following tables:

Asterisk (*) indicates lead partner/agency

Sitka Trail Plan: 2003 Sitka Trail Plan with Memorandum of Understanding

between Sitka Trail Works, Inc. City and Borough of Sitka, USDA Forest Service Region 10 Sitka District, Alaska Dept. of Natural Resources Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation, USDI National Park Service, Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program and Sitka National Historical Park

Public Support	Other Plans				Implementation Notes				
	Sitka Trail Plan	CPET Master Plan	Tour Plan	Non-motorized Plan	Affected Landowners	Partners (Lead(s) shown with *)	timeframe (years)	Status, Cost	Option to use Special Funds (e.g. cruise tax)
workshop + survey priority									
very high	x				USFS*, CBS,	stw	3 to 10	PLANNING	GRANTS, USFS
very high	x				USFS*, CBS,	stw	3 to 10	PLANNING	GRANTS, USFS
very high	x				USFS*, CBS,	stw	3 to 10	PLANNING	GRANTS, USFS
high					CBS*	ROTARY, USCG,	IMMED	PandD	
high					ADPOR* MARINE PARKS	USFS	5 TO 10		
					ADPOR*				
	x				ADPOR* MARINE PARKS	USFS	5 TO 10		
med					ADPOR*	ADPOR	5 TO 10		
high						NPS*, CS,SSSC, USFS, SCS*, STA, SEARHC	IMMED		STAFF TIME

CPET Master Plan: MRV Architects, Jones + Jones, and the McDowell Group for the City and Borough of Sitka (April 2010), Sitka Passenger Fee Fund Implementation Plan

Tourism Plan: Agnew::Beck Consulting for the City and Borough of Sitka (May 2007), Sitka Visitor Industry Framework Plan Draft
 Non-motorized Plan: Sitka Non-Motorized Transportation Plan Assessment of Deficiencies and/or Needs (Spring 2002)

Out of Town Projects

Project	Project Type				Sustainability Criteria Economic (Ec), Environmental (En), Social (So). (Only marked if project "hits one out of the park" on that criterion)						
	General Policy (G)	Facility (F)	Program (P)	Information (I)	Benefits Residents (So)	Attracts Visitors (Ec)	Diversification (So)	Community Support (So)	"Bang for the Buck" (Ec)	Financially Sustainable (Ec)	Min. Adverse Impact (En)
SECOND LIER											
Trails											
Long distance coastal hiking trail; tent pad to tent pad hike		X									
Develop Trail to Fish Bay Hot Springs -North Baranof		X									
Maintrain/Improve Baranof/Warm Springs trail and Saddle Lake Trail		X									
Establish cross-Baranof GPS route to Warm Springs		X									
Port Alexander to Cape Decision Light House water trail; support Port Alexander community goals for tourism, fishing	X	X									
Improve maintenance of the Sealion Cove Trail - Kruzof Island		X	X								
Maintain and Improve Bear Cove to Camp Lake Trail (Medveje)		X	X								
Plan and build recreational trail to Hanus Bay (North Baranof Island)		X									
Investigate options for historic Katlian route/trail (work with Native community)	X	X									
Eagle Creek Trail		X									
Kizuchia Creek Mountain Bike trail (on the way to Redoubt, road crosses allotment)		X									
Marine Recreation											
Kayaking classes / instruction + advertisement			X	X							
Camping pads on Causeway		X									
Dispersed, unimproved campsites	X	X									

Public Support	Other Plans				Implementation Notes				
	Sitka Trail Plan	CPET Master Plan	Tour Plan	Non-motorized Plan	Affected Landowners	Partners (Lead(s) shown with *)	timeframe (years)	Status, Cost	Option to use Special Funds (e.g. cruise tax)
workshop + survey priority									
high									
high					USFS*	USFS	5 TO 10		
high	x				USFS*, CBS, DNR	USFS	1 TO 5	PLANNING	
					USFS*				
					State*				
	x				State*				
	x				USFS*				
					USFS*				
					USFS*				
					USFS*				
					USFS*, CBS*	STW, MTN BIKER, USCG	IMMED	PLANNING	GRANTS, FUNDRAISERS

Out of Town Projects

Project	Project Type				Sustainability Criteria Economic (Ec), Environmental (En), Social (So). (Only marked if project "fits one out of the park" on that criterion)						
	General Policy (G)	Facility (F)	Program (P)	Information (I)	Benefits Residents (So)	Attracts Visitors (Ec)	Diversification (So)	Community Support (So)	"Bang for the Buck" (Ec)	Financially Sustainable (Ec)	Min. Adverse Impact (En)
<i>Programs</i>											
Improve options for commercial use of USFS cabins (e.g., 2-week permits ?)	X		X								
Fire hall check outs: spots + radios			X								
More recognition for stewardship/volunteer work from local fisherman			X								
Conduct programs for bear/hiker safety (one suggestion: "more bear recipes")			X								
See Special Uses/Users section re dive sites											

Public Support	Other Plans				Implementation Notes				
	Sitka Trail Plan	CPET Master Plan	Tour Plan	Non-motorized Plan	Affected Landowners	Partners (Lead(s) shown with *)	timeframe (years)	Status, Cost	Option to use Special Funds (e.g. cruise tax)
workshop + survey priority									
					USFS*			ongoing	
					CBS*			ongoing	
					CBS*, USFS, State				

Special Uses Projects

Project	Project Type				Sustainability Criteria							
	General Policy (G)	Facility (F)	Program (P)	Information (I)	Benefits Residents (So)	Attracts Visitors (Ec)	Diversification (So)	Community Support (So)	"Bang for the Buck" (Ec)	Financially Sustainable (Ec)	Min. Adverse Impact (En)	
MOTORIZED SUMMER RECREATION (ATV'S)												
<i>Starrigavan Motorized Recreation Area</i>												
Create improved ATV trails ("people can't afford more distant, more costly locations"); designate area/design trails to manage impacts	X	X					X					
"Need a fast track for ATVs - not the Starrigavan parking lot"		X					X					
Better staging, parking area		X					X					
Arrange for training, education programs	X		X	X			X					
Provide improved places for loading 4-wheelers onto skiffs	X	X										
(WINTER RECREATION (MOTORIZED AND NON-MOTORIZED))												
Better XC skiing on Green Lake and Blue Lake road: collaborate with Public Works department to plow the road in a way that still allows for skiers ("Institutionalize creative plowing")	X		X						X		X	
Better access to backcountry ski terrain, to snow line for winter sports: Bear Mountain, Starrigavan, Extend Harbor Mountain connection, Ridge to ridge	X	X						X				
Sledding spots: Mini-ski/snowboard hill (currently poach golf course); but accept limited snow (see special uses, winter section)	X	X			X				X			
<i>Motorized Winter Use</i>												
Allow ATV/snowmobile access on Green Lake Road -- do some cooperative thinking/management to allow use	X	X							X			

Notes on responsibilities indicated in the following tables:

Asterisk (*) indicates lead partner/agency

Sitka Trail Plan: 2003 Sitka Trail Plan with Memorandum of Understanding

between Sitka Trail Works, Inc. City and Borough of Sitka, USDA Forest Service Region 10 Sitka District, Alaska Dept. of Natural Resources Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation, USDI National Park Service, Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program and Sitka National Historical Park

Public Support	Other Plans				Implementation Notes				
	Sitka Trail Plan	CPET Master Plan	Tour Plan	Non-motorized Plan	Affected Landowners	Partners (Lead(s) shown with *)	timeframe (years)	Status, Cost	Option to use Special Funds (e.g. cruise tax)
workshop + survey priority									
high					USFS	STW, ATV'ers	1 to 5	Planning	RAC, TRAK (State Parks)
high					USFS	STW, ATV'ers	1 to 5	Planning	RAC, TRAK (State Parks)
high					USFS	STW, ATV'ers	1 to 5	Planning	RAC, TRAK (State Parks)
high	x				USFS	STW, ATV'ers	1 to 5	Planning	RAC, TRAK (State Parks)
					ADPOR*/CBS		5 to 10	new idea	unknown
very high					USFS, CBS*	stw#	IMMED	STAFF TIME	
high					USFS*, CBS*	STW, MTN BIKER, USCG	IMMED	PLANNING	GRANTS, FUNDRAISERS
med					CBS*, USFS	CBS*			
					CBS*				not an option

CPET Master Plan: MRV Architects, Jones + Jones, and the McDowell Group for the City and Borough of Sitka (April 2010), Sitka Passenger Fee Fund Implementation Plan

Tourism Plan: Agnew::Beck Consulting for the City and Borough of Sitka (May 2007), Sitka Visitor Industry Framework Plan Draft

Non-motorized Plan: Sitka Non-Motorized Transportation Plan Assessment of Deficiencies and/or Needs (Spring 2002)

Special Uses Projects	Project Type				Sustainability Criteria Economic (Ec), Environmental (En), Social (So). (Only marked if project "hits one out of the park" on that criterion)						
	General Policy (G)	Facility (F)	Program (P)	Information (I)	Benefits Residents (So)	Attracts Visitors (Ec)	Diversification (So)	Community Support (So)	"Bang for the Buck" (Ec)	Financially Sustainable (Ec)	Min. Adverse Impact (En)
Project											
Open a trail on Cascade Creek for snowmobile/ATV		X									
Need to separate snow machines from skiers	X	X		X							
<i>Harbor Mountain Winter Use</i>											
Harbor Mountain Ski/Mountain Bike Trail		X			X	X					
Harbor Mountain casual use area for snow machines		X									
Winter warming shelter on Harbor		X									
Lift on Harbor Mountain		X									
Goddard trail (link through Cascade Valley; backside of Gavan Hill)		X									
Winter/summer shelter on Verstovia		X									
CULTURE TRAILS - CULTURAL RECREATION											
Ft. Rousseau State Historical Park (Causeway Trail)		X			X	X	X	X			X
Harbor Mountain: road, trail with historic cultural information		X		X					X		
Walking tours: history, science, art, math/science "			X			X			X		
Historic Walking Tour of Downtown Sitka			X	X	X				X		X
Historical itineraries - web based/hardcopy information setting out short or multiday activity itineraries				X	X				X		X
Lucky Chance/Goddard Trail (one of Alaska's first mining areas)		X			X	X	X	X			

Public Support	Other Plans				Implementation Notes				
	Sitka Trail Plan	CPET Master Plan	Tour Plan	Non-motorized Plan	Affected Landowners	Partners (Lead(s) shown with *)	timeframe (years)	Status, Cost	Option to use Special Funds (e.g. cruise tax)
workshop + survey priority					USFS*				will take into consideration
med					USFS HARBOR MTN. ??	Sitka Riders	1 to 5	new idea	
high	x				USFS*		5 to 10	new idea	
					USFS*				
					USFS*				
					USFS*				
					USFS*, CBS				
					USFS*				
high	x	x	x		ADPOR*	STW,	IMMED	P and D	ACOE, ATI, ADPOR, LEG. GRANTS
	x	x			USFS*				
						CBS*, STA, HIST.SOC and COMMISS, ETC	1 TO 5	PLNNING	CPET
	x					CBS*, STA, HIST.SOC and COMMISS, ETC	1 TO 5	PLNNING	CPET
			x			CBS*, STA, HIST.SOC and COMMISS, ETC	1 TO 5	PLNNING	CPET
	x				USFS, CBS,	stw*	3 to 10	PLANNING	GRANTS, USFS

Special Uses Projects	Project Type				Sustainability Criteria Economic (Ec), Environmental (En), Social (So). (Only marked if project "hits one out of the park" on that criterion)							
	General Policy (G)	Facility (F)	Program (P)	Information (I)	Benefits Residents (So)	Attracts Visitors (Ec)	Diversification (So)	Community Support (So)	"Bang for the Buck" (Ec)	Financially Sustainable (Ec)	Min. Adverse Impact (En)	
Project												
Recreate the old ice road/trail from Swan Lake to downtown		X										
Re-creations of historical points of interest, e.g., Old Sitka, Tingit Fort; mining activities at Lucky Chance		X			X		X	X			X	
Restore/maintain cemeteries		X	X									
Tell cultural/historic stories? Clan's role? Signs, maps?												
Protect and preserve cultural artifacts											X	
DIVING AREAS												
Magic Island Dive Trail/Dive park		X		X								
Sunken "wrecks" placed for diving on		X										
MOUNTAIN BIKES												
Establish a range of mountain bike trails, moderate and very challenging possible locations Harbor Mountain and Granite Creek areas	X	X			X	X	X					
Mountain bike single track in-town, near bathing cage, different levels of difficulty		X										
BMX track		X										
Renew City bicycle friendly status (See also Center of Town)			X									
KAYAK + SKIFFS												
Kayak launching point, rentals, instruction downtown (see also Center of Town)					X	X						
See also Out of Town, Marine Recreation												

Public Support	Other Plans				Implementation Notes				
	Sitka Trail Plan	CPET Master Plan	Tour Plan	Non-motorized Plan	Affected Landowners	Partners (Lead(s)shown with *)	timeframe (years)	Status, Cost	Option to use Special Funds (e.g. cruise tax)
workshop + survey priority									
		X			USFS, CBS	STW*	3 to 10	PLANNING	GRANTS, USFS
		X			CBS	STA			
						STA			
						STA, Historical Society, USFS			
	X								
Very high	X				USFS*, CBS*	STW, MTN BIKER	IMMED	PLANNING	GRANTS, FUNDRAISERS
med					CBS*	USFS*, CBS*	STW, MTN BIKER, USCG	IMMED	PLANNING
Med					CBS*	CBS, BIKE GROUP, USCG	3 TO 5		GRANTS
Med					CBS*	CBS*, SEARHC, BIKE GROUP	IMMED		
Med			X		CBS*, DOE	USCG, AMSEA, SSOA*, UAS, SEARHC	3 TO 5		CPET, GRANTS

Vintage Projects

Project	Project Type				Sustainability Criteria Economic (Ec), Environmental (En), Social (So). (Only marked if project "hits one out of the park" on that criterion)						
	General Policy (G)	Facility (F)	Program (P)	Information (I)	Benefits Residents (So)	Attracts Visitors (Ec)	Diversification (So)	Community Support (So)	"Bang for the Buck" (Ec)	Financially Sustainable (Ec)	Min. Adverse Impact (En)
FIRST TIER											
Better access to Sandy Beach (path, parking)	X	X			X			X	X		
Develop "north side" underutilized area of Sitka National Historic Park		X			X	X			X		
Scenic overlooks – drive to, for those who may not walk		X			X	X					
Need more benches, bathrooms along trails (e.g. Muskeg trail needs a bench)	X	X									
Hallbut Point pedestrian walkway											
Programs to encourage outdoor activity:											
Small walking groups (longer, shorter – residents & visitors)			X		X	X		X	X		X
Walking programs with rewards (e.g. Volkswagen/Volkswalkers groups get a pin for completing the walk)			X		X	X		X	X		X
Covered in other sections											
Better information for locals about outdoor recreation - see center of town											
Information on trail hike times											
Signage-degree of difficulty, what you'll see, map at beginning of trails											
Better marketing - focused on senior travelers (and info for residents)				X							
SECOND TIER											
Hut-to-hut trail system for seniors											

Notes on responsibilities indicated in the following tables:

Asterisk (*) indicates lead partner/agency

Sitka Trail Plan: 2003 Sitka Trail Plan with Memorandum of Understanding

between Sitka Trail Works, Inc. City and Borough of Sitka, USDA Forest Service Region 10 Sitka District, Alaska Dept. of Natural Resources Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation, USDI National Park Service, Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program and Sitka National Historical Park

Public Support	Other Plans				Implementation Notes				
	Sitka Trail Plan	CPET Master Plan	Tour Plan	Non-motorized Plan	Affected Landowners	Partners (Lead(s) shown with *)	timeframe (years)	Status, Cost	Option to use Special Funds (e.g. cruise tax)
workshop + survey priority									
very high					USFS,	CBS, STW			
high					NPS	STW	2 TO 5	PLANNING	
med					DOT	USFS, CBS			
med					USFS, CBS, ADPOR	STW			
	X				DOT	CBS, STW			
med						STW, SCS*, CS, SSD	IMMED		STAFF TIME
med						STW, SCS*, CS, SSD	IMMED		STAFF TIME

CPET Master Plan: MRV Architects, Jones + Jones, and the McDowell Group for the City and Borough of Sitka (April 2010), Sitka Passenger Fee Fund Implementation Plan

Tourism Plan: Agnew::Beck Consulting for the City and Borough of Sitka (May 2007), Sitka Visitor Industry Framework Plan Draft

Non-motorized Plan: Sitka Non-Motorized Transportation Plan Assessment of Deficiencies and/or Needs (Spring 2002)

Vintage Projects

	Project Type				Sustainability Criteria Economic (Ec), Environmental (En), Social (So). (Only marked if project "hits one out of the park" on that criterion)						
	General Policy (G)	Facility (F)	Program (P)	Information (I)	Benefits Residents (So)	Attracts Visitors (Ec)	Diversification (So)	Community Support (So)	"Bang for the Buck" (Ec)	Financially Sustainable (Ec)	Min. Adverse Impact (En)
Project											
Picnic area (Hallbut is always booked)											
wheelchair access to parks + trails + info											
Encourage elder hostel programs											
<i>Improvements to trails</i>											
Design standards for trail accessibility, use by seniors											
More access to trails suited for older walkers (low angle, but interesting, loops)											
More loop trails (e.g. new trail along road back from Heart Lake);											
More trails like Herring; good walking, interesting											
Paved trails for wheelchairs; people with trouble walking; walking (not hiking)											
More crosswalks (eg. by Alaska Raptor Center)											
Reduce slippery trail surfaces											
Trails that in effect, replicate "mall walk" - hand rails, social aspect, coffee											
<i>Programs</i>											
Programs (open to public) on trails, environment			X								
Programs for people who want to join a group hike (for shorter/easier trails)											
Guided walks for vintage + youth			X								
transportation information - ways to get to trailheads, to activity areas											

Public Support	Other Plans				Implementation Notes				
	Sitka Trail Plan	CPET Master Plan	Tour Plan	Non-motorized Plan	Affected Landowners	Partners (Lead(s) shown with *)	timeframe (years)	Status, Cost	Option to use Special Funds (e.g. cruise tax)
workshop + survey priority					USFS, CBS, State				
					USFS, NPS, State				
					USFS, NPS, CBS				
					USFS, NPS, CBS				
					USFS				
					CBS				
					CBS				
					CBS				
					CBS				
					CBS				
						STW, SCS*, CS, SSD	IMMED		STAFF TIME

Vintage Projects

Project	Project Type				Sustainability Criteria Economic (Ec), Environmental (En), Social (So). (Only marked if project "hits one out of the park" on that criterion)						
	General Policy (G)	Facility (F)	Program (P)	Information (I)	Benefits Residents (So)	Attracts Visitors (Ec)	Diversification (So)	Community Support (So)	"Bang for the Buck" (Ec)	Financially Sustainable (Ec)	Min. Adverse Impact (En)
Covered in other sections											
<i>Fishing areas, fishing pier - saltwater, freshwater - "In around town"</i>	X	X									
<i>Interpretive signs on trails (environment, culture, history)</i>				X							
<i>Improve causeway trail for seniors, access</i>											
<i>Sidewalk accessibility within town - in "center of town"</i>	X	X									

Public Support	Other Plans				Implementation Notes				
	Sitka Trail Plan	CPET Master Plan	Tour Plan	Non-motorized Plan	Affected Landowners	Partners (Lead(s)shown with *)	timeframe (years)	Status, Cost	Option to use Special Funds (e.g. cruise tax)
workshop + survey priority									
med					CBS, State				
					CBS, USFS, NPS				
					CBS, State				
med					CBS				

Youth Projects

Project	Project Type				Sustainability Criteria Economic (Ec), Environmental (En), Social (So). (Only marked if project "hits one out of the park" on that criterion)						
	General Policy (G)	Facility (F)	Program (P)	Information (I)	Benefits Residents (So)	Attracts Visitors (Ec)	Diversification (So)	Community Support (So)	"Bang for the Buck" (Ec)	Financially Sustainable (Ec)	Min. Adverse Impact (En)
FIRST TIER											
Disc Golf (e.g. at/near high school)		X			X			X			
Beach volleyball court		X						X			
Better tennis courts (existing court loses net in winter, very slick when wet)		X									X
More pocket/neighborhood playgrounds – not connected to schools		X	X				X				
Covered recreation areas: playground, basketball court, skateboard areas (for the skateboard area: add lights, cut the alders to get rid of leaves on surface)	X	X			X		X		X		
Programs											
Start youth outdoor clubs at all grades to start kids outside: offer outdoor recreation programs e.g., hiking, rock climbing ; after school program combining recreation participation and leadership			X		X		X				X
Kayak storage at water 's edge, with convenient launching point, rentals for residents and for visitors		X				X					X
Youth camping opportunities: expand, overnight for youth groups, help with culture camp		X	X								X

Notes on responsibilities indicated in the following tables:

Asterisk (*) Indicates lead partner/agency

Sitka Trail Plan: 2003 Sitka Trail Plan with Memorandum of Understanding

between Sitka Trail Works, Inc. City and Borough of Sitka, USDA Forest Service Region 10 Sitka District, Alaska Dept. of Natural Resources Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation, USDI National Park Service, Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program and Sitka National Historical Park

Public Support	Other Plans				Implementation Notes				
	Sitka Trail Plan	CPET Master Plan	Tour Plan	Non-motorized Plan	Affected Landowners	Partners (Lead(s) shown with *)	timeframe (years)	Status, Cost	Option to use Special Funds (e.g. cruise tax)
workshop + survey priority									
very high					CBS*	DISC GOLF GROUP	IMMED	PLANNING	FUNDRAISERS,
high					CBS	VOLLEYBALL VOLUNTEERS*	1 TO 5	MATERIALS COST, SITE ID'ED	GRANTS
med					CBS*				
high					CBS	neighborhood assoc.*	0 TO 50	Planned in major subdivisions in comp. plan	GRANTS
med					CBS	SSD	IMMED TO 10	PLANNING FOR SKATEPARK	FUNDING MAY NOT BE ADEQUATE
very high						SEARHC*, CS*, BGC SSD, SCS, NPS, SSSC,	IMMED		
med					CBS	SSOA*, JAPONSKI BOATHOUSE	1 TO 5		GRANTS, CPET
med						NPS, STA, SSD, CS*, SEARHC	1 TO 5		GRANTS, STAFF TIME

CPET Master Plan: MRV Architects, Jones + Jones, and the McDowell Group for the City and Borough of Sitka (April 2010), Sitka Passenger Fee Fund Implementation Plan

Tourism Plan: Agnew::Beck Consulting for the City and Borough of Sitka (May 2007), Sitka Visitor Industry Framework Plan Draft

Non-motorized Plan: Sitka Non-Motorized Transportation Plan Assessment of Deficiencies and/or Needs (Spring 2002)

Youth Projects

Project	Project Type				Sustainability Criteria Economic (Ec), Environmental (En), Social (So). (Only marked if project "hits one out of the park" on that criterion)							
	General Policy (G)	Facility (F)	Program (P)	Information (I)	Benefits Residents (So)	Attracts Visitors (Ec)	Diversification (So)	Community Support (So)	"Bang for the Buck" (Ec)	Financially Sustainable (Ec)	Min. Adverse Impact (En)	
Covered in other sections												
Improve Moller track, better equipment (see center of town)		X										
Better mountain biking: "we share dirt roads today, it's not safe; Thimbleberry open but conflicts with walkers" (see road system section)		X										
Access to backcountry ski/snowboard (see special uses, winter section)	X	X										
Slidding spots: Mini- ski/snowboard hill (see special uses, winter section)												
SECOND TIER												
Places for kids to have bonfires	X	X										
Rock Quarry, Rock climbing – indoor wall ok, but closing with close of Sheldon Jackson		X										
Trails												
Loop trails (hike, ski, walk)		X										
Road system accessible, longer backcountry trails, huts (affordable)		X										
More interactive trails		X	X									
Safe routes to schools		X										
More trails up to tops of mountains, e.g. up to Sisters (solution to evacuation safety)		X										
More 4-wheeler roads – used to be able to use area by airport, now closed		X										
Outdoor Sports												
Sheldon Jackson Lawn – ultimate Frisbee today, need a field for future		X										
Location for paintball (state park?)												

Public Support	Other Plans				Implementation Notes				
	Sitka Trail Plan	CPET Master Plan	Tour Plan	Non-motorized Plan	Affected Landowners	Partners (Lead(s) shown with *)	timeframe (years)	Status, Cost	Option to use Special Funds (e.g. cruise tax)
workshop + survey priority									
very high					CBS				
med					CBS, USFS				
med					USFS*, CBS*	STW, MTN BIKER, USCG	IMMED	PLANNING	GRANTS, FUNDRAISERS
med					CBS*				
					CBS				
					USFS				
					CBS, USFS				
					USFS				
					CBS				
					CBS				
					CBS, USFS				
					State				

Youth Projects

Project	Project Type				Sustainability Criteria Economic (Ec), Environmental (En), Social (So). (Only marked if project "hits one out of the park" on that criterion)						
	General Policy (G)	Facility (F)	Program (P)	Information (I)	Benefits Residents (So)	Attracts Visitors (Ec)	Diversification (So)	Community Support (So)	"Bang for the Buck" (Ec)	Financially Sustainable (Ec)	Min. Adverse Impact (En)
Kid-designed playground			X								
Losing Sheldon Jackson - need to find replacement activity areas											
Open use, multiuse fields (see Moller - center of town)		X									
Playground in Indian River/BHA area diverse activities											
Archery area		X	X								
<i>Outdoor Programs:</i>											
Educational geocaching/letterboxing			X								
Fine Arts Camp: outdoor art (arts in the park)			X								
Information sharing: bring together rec providers/stakeholders - Example: Discover Southeast in Juneau, getoutsitka.wordpress.com			X								
Interpretive/education programs by agencies			X								
Partner with Mount Edgecumbe school			X								
More safety training			X								
More social/outdoor unsupervised areas			X								
More teachers/more outdoor recreation classes			X								
Organized survival training – high school. In addition or next step to Community Schools Middle School program			X								

Public Support	Other Plans				Implementation Notes				
	Sitka Trail Plan	CPT Master Plan	Tour Plan	Non-motorized Plan	Affected Landowners	Partners (Lead(s) shown with *)	timeframe (years)	Status, Cost	Option to use Special Funds (e.g. cruise tax)
workshop + survey priority									
					CBS				

Youth Projects	Project Type				Sustainability Criteria Economic (Ec), Environmental (En), Social (So). (Only marked if project "fits one out of the park" on that criterion)						
	General Policy (G)	Facility (F)	Program (P)	Information (I)	Benefits Residents (So)	Attracts Visitors (Ec)	Diversification (So)	Community Support (So)	"Bang for the Buck" (Ec)	Financially Sustainable (Ec)	Min. Adverse Impact (En)
Project											
School partnership in kids kayak programs: gear, information, resident rentals, leading center			X								
Guided walks for vintage + youth			X								
Youth employment (Anchorage, SAGA, leading recreation hikes etc. and building and maintaining facilities)			X								
Outdoor media programs: film, photo, video, reporting, youtube, radio, audio			X								
Outdoors in the afternoons?											

Public Support	Other Plans				Implementation Notes				
	Sitka Trail Plan	CPET Master Plan	Tour Plan	Non-motorized Plan	Affected Landowners	Partners (Lead(s) shown with *)	timeframe (years)	Status, Cost	Option to use Special Funds (e.g. cruise tax)
workshop + survey priority									

Projects by Type and Priority (some projects fall under multiple categories)

GENERAL POLICIES

First Tier General Policies

Out of Town

- Improve accessibility of water based recreation sites, cabins and camping areas, provide better mooring buoys, ramps for skiffs and kayaks, launch and haul out areas, maps, shelters/cabins.
- Improve State marine parks facilities, establish a "Friends of Marine Parks"

Special Users: Youth

- More pocket/neighborhood playgrounds – not connected to schools
- Covered recreation areas: playground, basketball court, skateboard areas (for the skateboard area: add lights, cut the alders to get rid of leaves on surface)
- Kayak storage at water's edge, with convenient launching point; rentals for residents and for visitors
- Access to backcountry ski/snowboard (also listed under "Special Uses")

Second Tier General Policies

Center of Town

- Downtown Physical Improvements: Prepare a comprehensive downtown improvement plan - address urban design, comfort/convenience, circulation, walkable, open space

Out of Town

- Port Alexander to Cape Decision Light House water trail; support Port Alexander community goals for tourism, fishing
 - Investigate options for historic Katlian route/trail (work with Native community)
 - Improve options for commercial use of USFS cabins (e.g., 2-week permits?)
- Special Users: Youth

- Places for kids to have bonfires

- Outdoor Programs: Educational geocaching/letterboxing

Special Users: Vintage

- Design standards for trail accessibility, use by seniors

Other General Policies

Special Uses: Culture Trails + Cultural Recreation

- Protect and preserve cultural artifacts

Special Uses: Motorized Summer Recreation (ATV's)

- Starigavan Motorized Recreation Area: Create improved ATV trails ("people can't afford more distant, more costly locations?"); designate area/design trails to manage impacts

Special Uses: Winter Recreation, motorized and non-motorized

- Better XC skiing on Green Lake and Blue Lake road; collaborate with Public Works department to plow the road in a way that still allows for skiers ("institutionalize creative plowing")
- Better access to backcountry ski terrain, to snow line for winter sports: Bear Mountain, Starigavan, Extend Harbor Mountain connection, Ridge to ridge
- Allow ATV/snowmobile access on Green Lake Road – do some cooperative thinking/management to allow use
- Need to separate snow machines from skiers

FACILITIES

First Tier Facility Projects

Center of Town

- Moller Park Improvements: Sports fields, running track, circuit fitness loop, programs & activities
- Moller Park Related projects: Moller to Lake Street Boardwalk, Swan Lake

- Improvements
 - Sea Walk Pathway (Identified Passenger Fee Fund Project)
 - Downtown wayfinding plan: signs, information kiosks, hardcopy maps, virtual maps (Identified Passenger Fee Fund Project)
 - Sidewalk accessibility within town: Katlian, Jeff Davis (Identified Passenger Fee Fund Project)
 - Trail through SNHP to the Raptor Center including a safe way across Sawmill Ck Rd (Identified Passenger Fee Fund Project)
 - Downtown fishing pier (part of seawall project or kayak launch/storage facility?) (Identified Passenger Fee Fund Project)
 - Multi-agency recreation information center/visitor center (Identified Passenger Fee Fund Project)
- Road System
 - Harbor Mountain: upgrade road & picnic area; ADA accessible areas, scenic overlook (see also "other users/uses" for winter projects)
 - Provide more nearby, but still hike-in cabins & shelters; locations: Indian River Trail, Beaver Lake Trail, Medvejje, Starrigavan area (larger capacity overnight cabin; trails + camping near ferry terminal); "provide accessible shelters like the one between Harbor Mountain and Gavan"
 - Establish a range of mountain bike trails, moderate and very challenging possible locations Harbor Mountain and Granite Creek areas
 - Mountain bike single track in-town, near batting cage, different levels of difficulty
 - Day Use Recreation Areas: Space for specialized recreation, e.g., disk golf
 - Day Use Recreation Areas: e.g., dirt bike track (circle with jumps, bumps)
 - Day Use Recreation Areas: Better spaces for outdoor gathering spots for families and groups, including a large outdoor community shelter like Petersburg (location to be determined)
 - Priority day use locations: Eagle & Sandy beaches, Herring Cove
 - Complete Cross Trail from Ferry Terminal to Yaw Drive
 - Improved Thimbleberry loop (also listed under "Special Users: Youth")
 - Out of Town
 - Lucky Chance/Goddard area: Link to road system/ better access (bridge over Votapah)
 - Lucky Chance/Goddard area: Improve Lucky Chance Mine Historic/South Sitka
- Sound trail system; provide huts or shelters
 - Lucky Chance/Goddard area: Improve Salmon Lake to Redoubt to Goddard; fishing/hiking route
 - Lucky Chance/Goddard area: Upgrade Goddard Hot Springs
 - Expanded hut to hut (or tent pad) coastal routes for kayaks and skiffs (whalers)
 - Improve accessibility of water based recreation sites, cabins and camping areas, provide better mooring buoys, ramps for skiffs and kayaks, launch and haul out areas, maps, shelters/cabins.
 - Improve State marine parks facilities, establish a "Friends of Marine Parks"
- Special Users: Youth
 - Disc Golf (e.g. at/near high school)
 - Beach volleyball court
 - Better tennis courts (existing court loses net in winter, very slick when wet)
 - More pocket/neighborhood playgrounds – not connected to schools
 - Covered recreation areas: playground, basketball court, skateboard areas (for the skateboard area: add lights, cut the alders to get rid of leaves on surface)
 - Kayak storage at water's edge, with convenient launching point; rentals for residents and for visitors
 - Improve Moller track, better equipment (also listed under "Center of Town")
 - Better mountain biking: "we share dirt roads today, it's not safe, Thimbleberry open but conflicts with walkers" (also listed under "Road System")
 - Access to backcountry ski/snowboard (also listed under "Special Uses")
 - Slidding spots; Mini- ski/snowboard hill (also listed under "Special Uses")
- Special Users: Vintage
 - Better access to Sandy Beach (path, parking)
 - Develop "north side" underutilized area of Sitka National Historic Park
 - Scenic overlooks – drive to, for those who may not walk
 - Need more benches, bathrooms along trails (e.g. Muskeg trail needs a bench)
 - Halibut Point pedestrian walkway

Second Tier Facility Projects

Center of Town

- Start Kiksadi Trail near town: Indian River another route along HPR. If not a new physical trail, at least add improved signage and route markers.
 - Downtown Physical Improvements: Hands-on, interpretive nature art
 - Downtown Physical Improvements: Flags, fabric covers for lightening facilities
 - Downtown Physical Improvements: Improve and interpret Crescent net shed
 - Downtown Physical Improvements: Place for kids to create art - wall for kids to chalk (draw), for paint, pottery
 - Downtown Physical Improvements: More bike racks and bike paths
 - Sitka National Historic Park: Integrate SNHP, Raptor Center and Indian River Trailhead along river
 - Day Use Recreation Areas: Gathering spot for kids where activity not limited
 - Day Use Recreation Areas: Crescent Park basketball/tennis court upgrade
 - Day Use Recreation Areas: Cover skatepark, remove alders
 - Day Use Recreation Areas: Dog park at Sheldon Jackson College Commons (Sitka Fine Arts Camp)
 - Day Use Recreation Areas: Bergman Park by O'Connell Bridge
 - Water fountains!
- Road System
- Comprehensive Trail Sign Plan; links downtown with mile markers on near-town trails; interpretive signs too (environment, culture, history)
 - Trails on Japonski Island links to John Brown Beach Area
 - Japonski Fitness Trail
 - Upper Cross trail - running trail
 - Sawmill Creek Road separated pathway to SMCIP
 - Day Use Recreation Areas: Improve Pioneer Park shelters
 - Day Use Recreation Areas: Improved Veretovia trail + trailhead facilities (link to adjoining waterfront?)
 - Day Use Recreation Areas: Improve Hallbut Point Recreation Area and Old Sitka State Parks; complete Hallbut Pt Rd upgrade, improve parking & pedestrian facilities; add historic interpretation information
 - Day Use Recreation Areas: Whale Park - add a pavillion close to water (e.g., for
- dive logistics)
 - Day Use Recreation Areas: Totem Park cooking shelters other side of bridge
 - Indian River area mountain bike trail
 - Combined mountain bike dirt jump park, free-ride area, BMX track, downhill and single track areas; close to town, kid accessible
 - Multi-day camping/backpacking trails easily accessible from town, for example, Kruzof, Cross-Baranof Cultural Trail (Kiksadi), Rodman Bay
 - Keep and expand locals and visitors group hikes, Saturdays, different locations
 - Add bus and transit to provide link to trails and rec areas
 - (Additional Day Use Recreation Areas listed under "Center of Town")
 - Diving sites (listed under "Special Uses")
- Out of Town
- Long distance coastal hiking trail; tent pad to tent pad hike
 - Develop Trail to Fish Bay Hot Springs -North Baranof
 - Maintain/improve Baranof Warm Springs trail and Sadie Lake Trail
 - Establish cross-Baranof GPS route to Warm Springs
 - Port Alexander to Cape Decision Light House water trail; support Port Alexander community goals for tourism, fishing
 - Improve maintenance of the Sealion Cove Trail - Kruzof Island
 - Maintain and improve Bear Cove to Camp Lake Trail (Medvejie)
 - Plan and build recreational trail to Hanus Bay (North Baranof Island)
 - Investigate options for historic Katlian route/trail (work with Native community)
 - Eagle Creek Trail
 - Kizuchia Creek Mountain Bike trail (on the way to Redoubt, road crosses allotment)
 - Camping pads on Causeway
 - Dispersed, unimproved campsites
- Special Users: Youth
- Places for kids to have bonfires
 - Rock Quarry, Rock climbing – indoor wall ok, but closing with close of Sheldon Jackson
 - Loop trails (hike, ski, walk)

- Road system accessible, longer backcountry trails, huts (affordable)
- More interactive trails
- Safe routes to schools
- More trails up to tops of mountains, e.g. up to Sisters (solution to evacuation safety)
- More 4-wheeler roads – used to be able to use area by airport, now closed
- Outdoor Sports: Sheldon Jackson Lawn – ultimate Frisbee today, need a field for future
- Outdoor Sports: Location for paintball (state park?)
- Outdoor Sports: Kid-designed playground
- Outdoor Sports: Losing Sheldon Jackson - need to find replacement activity areas
- Outdoor Sports: Open use, multiuse fields (also listed under “Center of Town,” Moller Park)
- Outdoor Sports: Playground in Indian River/BIHA area diverse activities
- Outdoor Sports: Archery area

Special Users: Vintage

- Hut-to-hut trail system for seniors
- Picnic area (Halibut is always booked)
- wheelchair access to parks + trails + info
- More access to trails suited for older walkers (low angle, but interesting, loops)
- More loop trails (e.g. new trail along road back from Heart Lake)
- More trails like Herring; good walking, interesting
- Paved trails for wheelchairs; people with trouble walking; walking (not hiking)
- More crosswalks (e.g. by Alaska Raptor Center)
- Reduce slippery trail surfaces
- Trails that in effect, replicate “mall walk” - hand rails, social aspect, coffee
- Fishing areas, fishing pier - saltwater, freshwater (also listed under “road system”)
- Improve causeway trail for seniors, access (also listed under “Culture Trails + Cultural Recreation”)
- Sidewalk accessibility within town (also listed under “center of town”)

Other Facility Projects

Special Uses: Culture Trails + Cultural Recreation

- Ft. Rousseau State Historical Park (Causeway Trail)
- Harbor Mountain: road, trail with historic cultural information
- Lucky Chance/Goddard Trail (one of Alaska’s first mining areas)
- Recreate the old ice road/trail from Swan Lake to downtown
- Re-creations of historical points of interest, e.g., Old Sitka, Tlingit Fort; mining activities at Lucky Chance
- Restore/maintain cemeteries

Special Uses: Diving Areas

- Magic Island Dive Trail/Dive park
- Sunken “wrecks” placed for diving on

Special Uses: Motorized Summer Recreation (ATV’s)

- Starrigavan Motorized Recreation Area: Create improved ATV trails (“people can’t afford more distant, more costly locations”); designate area/design trails to manage impacts
- Starrigavan Motorized Recreation Area: “Need a fast track for ATVs - not the Starrigavan parking lot”
- Starrigavan Motorized Recreation Area: Better staging, parking area
- Provide improved places for loading 4-wheelers onto skiffs

Special Uses: Mountain Bikes

- Establish a range of mountain bike trails, moderate and very challenging possible locations Harbor Mountain and Granite Creek areas
- Mountain bike single track in-town, near batting cage, different levels of difficulty
- BMX track

Special Uses: Winter Recreation, motorized and non-motorized

- Better access to backcountry ski terrain, to snow line for winter sports: Bear Mountain, Starrigavan, Extend Harbor Mountain connection, Ridge to ridge
- Sledding spots; Mini- ski/snowboard hill (currently poach golf course); but accept limited snow (see special uses, winter section)
- Allow ATV/snowmobile access on Green Lake Road – do some cooperative thinking/management to allow use

- Open a trail on Cascade Creek for snowmobile/ATV
 - Need to separate snow machines from skiers
 - Harbor Mountain Ski/Mountain Bike Trail
 - Harbor Mountain casual use area for snow machines
 - Harbor Mountain: winter warming shelter
 - Harbor Mountain ski lift
 - Goddard trail (link through Cascade Valley; backside of Gavan Hill)
 - Winter/summer shelter on Verstovia
- Center of Town
- Historical walk, with interpretive signage, hardcopy/smart phone info (vendor opportunity)
 - Camps within neighborhood blocks (suggested but judged impractical)
 - Sitka National Historic Park: Bicycle cut-through trail (suggested but inconsistent with NPS management policy)
 - Sitka National Historic Park: Improve accessibility by paving trails (suggested but inconsistent with NPS management policy)
 - Sitka National Historic Park: Cooking shelters (suggested but inconsistent with NPS management policy)
- Road System
- Pedestrian path from Whale park to Green Lake (redundant?)
 - Kimshaw Cross Trail (redundant?)
 - Kiksadi trail extended/signed to begin near town: Indian River another route along HPR. If not trail – route markers. (redundant?)

PROGRAMS

First Tier Program Projects

- Road System
- Priorities for activity programs to build on fitness, skills, health as selected by Sitka Outdoor Recreation Coalition

- Out of Town
- Improve State marine parks facilities, establish a “Friends of Marine Parks”
 - Sitka Outdoor Club (“programs to get people outside”)
- Special Users: Youth
- Start youth outdoor clubs at all grades to start kids outside: offer outdoor recreation programs e.g., hiking, rock climbing; after school program combining recreation participation and leadership
 - Youth camping opportunities: expand, overnight for youth groups, help with culture camp
- Special Users: “Vintage”
- Programs to encourage outdoor activity: Small walking groups (longer, shorter – residents & visitors)
 - Programs to encourage outdoor activity: Walking programs with rewards (e.g., Volkswagen/Volkswalkers groups get a pin for completing the walk)

Second Tier Program Projects

- Center of Town
- Establish outdoor recreation foundation/endowment
 - Renew City bicycle friendly status
 - Downtown Physical Improvements: Hands-on, interpretive nature art
 - Downtown Physical Improvements: Community-sponsored bike borrowing
 - Sitka National Historic Park: More nature walks at Sitka National Historic Park
 - Day Use Recreation Areas: Expand tai chi behind library or other areas
- Road System
- Youth camping: facilities, programs, tie to culture camp
 - 100 mile walking club (incentives for activity)
 - New road system-accessible fishing areas, fishing pier - saltwater, freshwater show on maps: potential examples Starrigavan, Eagle Beach, Sawmill Creek (also listed under “Center of Town,” “Out of Town” and “Special Users: Vintage”)
- Out of Town
- Kayaking classes / instruction + advertisement
 - Fire hall check outs: spots + radios

- More recognition for stewardship/volunteer work from local fisherman
- Conduct programs for bear/hiker safety (one suggestion: "more bear recipes")

Special Users: Youth

- Outdoor Sports: Kid-designed playground
- Outdoor Programs: Educational geocaching/letterboxing
- Outdoor Programs: Fine Arts Camp: outdoor art (arts in the park)
- Outdoor Programs: Information sharing: bring together rec providers/stakeholders - Example: Discover Southeast in Juneau, getoutsitka.wordpress.com
- Outdoor Programs: Interpretive/education programs by agencies
- Outdoor Programs: Partner with Mount Edgecumbe school
- Outdoor Programs: More safety training
- Outdoor Programs: More social/outdoor unsupervised areas
- Outdoor Programs: More teachers/more outdoor recreation classes
- Outdoor Programs: Organized survival training – high school. In addition or next step to Community Schools Middle School program
- Outdoor Programs: School partnership in kids kayak programs: gear, information, resident rentals, leading center
- Outdoor Programs: Guided walks for vintage + youth
- Outdoor Programs: Youth employment (Anchorage, SAGA, leading recreation hikes etc. and building and maintaining facilities)
- Outdoor Programs: Outdoor media programs: film, photo, video, reporting, youtube, radio, audio

Special Users: "Vintage"

- Encourage elder hostel programs
- Programs (open to public) on trails, environment
- Programs for people who want to join a group hike (for shorter/easier trails)
- Guided walks for vintage + youth

Other Program Projects

- Special Uses: Culture Trails + Cultural Recreation**
- Restore/maintain cemeteries

Special Uses: Motorized Summer Recreation (ATV's)

- Starrigavan Motorized Recreation Area: Arrange for training, education programs

Special Uses: Mountain Bikes

- Renew City bicycle friendly status (See also Center of Town)

Center of Town

- Herring Roe Festival (new/expanded event)
- Freedom from Fossil Fuel Friday (new/expanded event)
- Winter season event(s) - motorized, non-motorized (new/expanded event)
- Gear for use outdoors: umbrellas, binoculars (vendor opportunity)
- Continue outdoor recreation emphasis at Sheldon Jackson College (suggested but judged impractical)

INFORMATION RESOURCES

First Tier Information Resource Projects

Center of Town

- Website: central outdoor recreation info source for visitors, residents (adults and kids); great map of trails and attractions, listing of programs, activities, events; information on trail difficulty & time required; link to SCVB website with suggestions for trips, for trip planning
 - Bucket list: a list of local "must see" attractions and/or sample itineraries for visitors
 - Downtown wayfinding plan: signs, information kiosks, hardcopy maps, virtual maps (Identified Passenger Fee Fund Project)
 - Multi-agency recreation information center/visitor center (Identified Passenger Fee Fund Project)
 - Maps showing public vs. private islands, camping beaches, trip routes
- Special Users: "Vintage"**
- Better information for locals about outdoor recreation (also listed under "Center of Town")

- Information on trail hike times (also listed under "Center of Town")
- Signage-degree of difficulty; what you'll see, map at beginning of trails (also listed under "Road System")
- Better marketing - focused on senior travelers and info for residents (also listed under "Center of Town")

Second Tier Information Resource Projects

Center of Town

- Downtown Physical Improvements: Improve and interpret Crescent net shed
- Better utilize library for outdoor rec information

Road System

- Comprehensive Trail Sign Plan; links downtown with mile markers on near-town trails; interpretive signs too (environment, culture, history)

Special Users: Youth

- Safe routes to schools

Special Users: "Vintage"

- transportation information - ways to get to trailheads, to activity areas
- Interpretive signs (environment, culture, history) on trails (also listed under "Road System" and "Center of Town")

Other Information Resource Projects

Special Uses: Culture Trails + Cultural Recreation

- Walking tours: history, science, art, math/science "
- Historic Walking Tour of Downtown Sitka
- Historical itineraries - web based/hardcopy information setting out short or multiday activity itineraries
- Tell cultural/historic stories? Clan's role? Signs, maps?

Special Uses: Diving Areas

- Magic Island Dive Trail/Dive park

Special Uses: Kayak + Skiffs

- Kayak launching point, rentals, instruction downtown (also listed under "Center of Town" and "Out of Town")

Special Uses: Motorized Summer Recreation (ATV's)

- Starrigavan Motorized Recreation Area: Arrange for training, education programs

Special Uses: Winter Recreation, motorized and non-motorized

- Need to separate snow machines from skiers

Appendix B: Get Out Sitka! Programs and Projects

The Sitka Outdoor Recreation Coalition (Get Out Sitka!)

The Sitka Outdoor Recreation Coalition (Get Out Sitka!) was created at the 2010 Sitka Health Summit to find ways to encourage and support people (especially children and families) to get outdoors more often for recreation. The Get Out Sitka! website will gather resources from around the community to help people find ways to get outdoors and play. Visit the site at: <http://getoutsitka.wordpress.com/>

New and Existing Outdoor Recreation Programs

The Sitka Outdoor Recreation Coalition worked in parallel to the Sustainable Outdoor Recreation Action Plan, focusing efforts on taking inventory of Sitka's existing outdoor recreation programs and proposed new programs; these are listed in the following tables. In developing the following inventory, it became clear that Sitka will need a "champion" to provide leadership and coordinate improvements to outdoor recreation programs. There are many needs and many opportunities to improve, expand, and/or consolidate outdoor recreation programs. A recreation program champion can bring together providers, forge partnerships, and provide a central conduit for funding outdoor recreation programs. The following appendix provides a starting point for identifying key partners and programs, but more work is needed. Possible key partners include: Sitka School District, SEARHC, Sitka Community Schools.

Existing Projects from Get Out Sitka!

	Run by	Project Type			
		General Policy (G)	Facility (F)	Program (P)	Information (I)
Existing Project					
Sitka Mountain Rescue provides wilderness safety education to kids and adults. We conduct multiple presentations each year in the Sitka School District.	Sitka Mountain Rescue			X	
6 ACR Personal Locator Beacon that we loan out to anyone heading to the backcountry who may wish to have a PLB in case of emergency	Sitka Mountain Rescue			X	
Wilderness travel plans to be filled out and our administrative office provides that service to visitors or locals who wish to leave a trip plan	Sitka Mountain Rescue			X	
3 times a year we provide a 5 day cultural camp at our traditional fish camp site, near Dog Point. It is accessible only by boat. The students camp out, learn traditional Tlingit values and skills, gather, eat and process wild foods.	NATIVE Program, Inc.			X	
Outdoor play in our playground every school day unless the weather is very bad.	3 to 5 Preschool			X	
We are a preschool and we incorporate outdoor activity as a key component of our curriculum. Our outdoor activities include regular play on our playground, and occasional harbor walks, beach trips, or neighborhood walks.	Mt. Edgcumbe Preschool			X	
Naa Kahidi Dancers -Not outdoors	Sitka Tribal Enterprise			X	
We have adult walking and hiking tours	Sitka Tribal Enterprise			X	
Walking programs involving families like Just Move It	SEARHC			X	
In the past (like 10 years ago) Extension In Sitka had a 4-H outdoor activities club that eventually merged with the Community Schools outdoor activities.	UAF Cooperative Extension Service			X	

Potential Partners	Needs?	Geographic Area / User Group																	
		Center of Town	Road System	Out of Town	Youth	Adults	Vintage	Motorized Summer Rec	Winter Recreation	Cultural Recreation	Marine Recreation	Mountain Bikes	Trails	Day Use Recreation Areas					
	Rescue Boat, Equipment, Storage Space, Public Support				X	X													
					X	X													
				X	X														
	Need funding sources, volunteers, materials of all kinds, fresh foods, safety equipment, tools, fuel and propane.			X	X														
	We need funding for a partially covered playground at our new school location.				X														
	Volunteers				X														
					X	X													
						X													
					X	X													

Existing Projects from Get Out Sitka!		Project Type			
		General Policy (G)	Facility (F)	Program (P)	Information (I)
Existing Project		Run by			
We currently do only one on one activities with clients who are generally people with disabilities. These are rarely group activities, but rather one client with one staff person.		Center for Community		X	
Totem Park, Indian River Trail, Herring Cove Trail, daily physical exercise.		Raven's Way/SEARHC		X	
High and low ropes course on site		Raven's Way/SEARHC		X	
Sea kayak trips (single and multi-day), certified sea kayak instruction, kayak rentals, natural history trips (including camping). We have no regular schedule. All activities occur upon request		Latitude Adventures		X	
Girls on the Run is a 12 week, 24 lesson program that serves to educate and prepare girls for a lifetime of self-respect and healthy living.		Sitkans Against Family Violence		X	
One on one mentoring		Big Brothers Big Sisters		X	
We have a summer science camp for two weeks in July. The camp takes kids on field activities such as snorkeling, beach observing, kayaking and collecting samples for the aquarium.		Sitka Sound Science Center		X	
We also host K-8 classrooms here at the hatchery/aquarium facility		Sitka Sound Science Center		X	
Basic Boating Safety		Alaska Marine Safety Organization (AMSEA)		X	
Boating Without the Boys – Basic Boating Safety for Women		Alaska Marine Safety Organization (AMSEA)		X	

	Needs?	Geographic Area / User Group																	
		Center of Town	Road System	Out of Town	Youth	Adults	Vintage	Motorized Summer Rec	Winter Recreation	Cultural Recreation	Marine Recreation	Mountain Bikes	Trails	Day Use Recreation Areas					
Potential Partners																			
SAIL has some outdoor programming for people with disabilities but it is very limited. Ideally, people with disabilities would recreate outdoors with people of similar interests and similar ages. CFC would be interested in integrated programs that would welcome and support people with disabilities.					X	X													
					X														
					X	X													
					X	X													
					X	X													
willing to partner					X	X													
willing to partner					X	X													
AMSEA is available to provide training for outdoor enthusiasts or for people who want to recreate on land or on the water.					X	X													

Existing Projects from Get Out Sitka!

Existing Project	Run by	Project Type			
		General Policy (G)	Facility (F)	Program (P)	Information (I)
Basic Boating Safety Incorporating Alaska Water Wise	Alaska Marine Safety Organization (AMSEA)			X	
Coastal Navigation	Alaska Marine Safety Organization (AMSEA)			X	
Emergency Procedures for Recreational Boaters (EPRB)	Alaska Marine Safety Organization (AMSEA)			X	
AMSEA also works with school teachers and groups to provide marine and boating safety classes and outdoor survival skills.	Alaska Marine Safety Organization (AMSEA)			X	
Commercially operated sea kayak day-tours and multi-day expeditions. We also conduct sea kayak skills training (with pool sessions) in the spring and fall.	Sitka Sound Ocean Adventures			X	
The Russian American Historic Garden Program is directed at kindergarteners and first graders-- they plant and then harvest the garden in front of the Russian Bishop's House. This program is offered yearly.	Sitka National Historical Park			X	X
Public Lands Day program encourages children to get outside, pick up trash, care for their public spaces, etc.... This is offered every September.	Sitka National Historical Park			X	X
The SCORE (Sitka Camping Outdoor Recreation Experience) Program brings youth to park to do trash cleanup.	Sitka National Historical Park			X	X
Girl Scouts have participated in trash cleanup, exotic weeds removal.	Sitka National Historical Park			X	X
Stream Team (for middle school)	Sitka National Historical Park			X	X
Sea Week (kindergarteners, first graders).	Sitka National Historical Park			X	X
Information / Education	USDA Forest Service				X
Swan Lake Kids Fishing Day – The Sitka Ranger District co-sponsors this event each year along with the Sitka Rotary Club and Alaska Department of Fish and Game. The event was held on June 12 involving hands on fishing mixed with education for the youth of Sitka. Learning stations provided information on fish species, different aspects of healthy fish streams and good sportsmanship.	USDA Forest Service			X	X

Potential Partners	Needs?	Geographic Area / User Group																
		Center of Town	Road System	Out of Town	Youth	Adults	Vintage	Motorized Summer Rec	Winter Recreation	Cultural Recreation	Marine Recreation	Mountain Bikes	Trails	Day Use Recreation Areas				
					X	X					X							
					X	X												
					X	X												
					X	X												
					X	X												
					X	X												
					X	X												
					X	X												
					X	X												
					X	X												
					X	X												
					X	X												
					X	X												
					X	X												
					X	X												

Existing Projects from Get Out Sitka!

	Project Type	Project Type			
		General Policy (G)	Facility (F)	Program (P)	Information (I)
Existing Project	Run by				
Earth Day Awareness at Keet Gooshi Heen Elementary School – 3rd graders learned about stream health and its influence on fish. This was a cooperative educational project with Sitka National Historic Park, Alaska Department of Fish and Game and Sitka Conversation Society.	USDA Forest Service			X	X
Classroom Archaeology - implemented a classroom program on Archaeology visiting one Kindergarten classroom, one first grade classroom, and one fourth grade classroom.	USDA Forest Service			X	X
5th Grade Forest Education Day – annual event for local 5th graders sponsored by the Sitka Chapter of the Society of American Foresters to promote an awareness of natural resource management and careers. Learning stations provide youth with information on recreation, fish, wildlife, water, soil and tree management and engage students in a logging simulation. Station instructors were from the Sitka Chapter, Forest Service personnel and U.S. Army Corp of Engineers.	USDA Forest Service			X	X
Starigavan Classroom – annual project with Blatchley Middle School 7th graders. Students learn about careers, stream ecology and stream restoration work through hands on work. This is a cooperative education project with Sitka National Historic Park, Sitka Conversation Society, Alaska Department of Fish and Game and Sitka Tribe of Alaska.	USDA Forest Service			X	X
High School and Public Career Fair – various district employees staffed an information booth at this fair held in February at the Harrigan Centennial Hall; provided over 500 students and individuals with natural resource career information and application process for applying for Forest Service jobs.	USDA Forest Service			X	X
Informational Talks With University of Alaska Southeast – provided presentations at the University of Alaska discussing the management of the Nakwasina watershed and other projects in the area.	USDA Forest Service				X
Native Youth Olympics, Cross Country, Outdoor rec staff=variety of outdoor activities like kayaking, hiking, camping,...	MEHS			X	
As part of our mission to promote the use of the trail system, STW offers free guided community hikes every Saturday from April through August. Hikes are lead by the all volunteer Board of Directors.	Sitka Trail Works, Inc.			X	
Sitka Trail Works sponsors and facilitates student volunteer trail maintenance days with the former Sheldon Jackson Outdoor Leadership program, currently with Blatchley Middle School Orientation and the SHS Outdoor Recreation class.	Sitka Trail Works, Inc.			X	

Potential Partners	Needs?	Geographic Area / User Group															
		Center of Town	Road System	Out of Town	Youth	Adults	Vintage	Motorized Summer Rec	Winter Recreation	Cultural Recreation	Marine Recreation	Mountain Bikes	Trails	Day Use Recreation Areas			
					x												
	Hope to increase the classroom visits in 2011.				x												
					x												
					x												
					x												
					x												
					x												
willing to partner	Cooperation from local tour leaders				x												x
willing to partner					x												

Existing Projects from Get Out Sitka!

	Run by	Project Type			
		General Policy (G)	Facility (F)	Program (P)	Information (I)
Existing Project					
STW has partnered to control invasive weeds with volunteer weed pulling with the USFS Invasive plants group.	Sitka Trail Works, Inc.			X	X
STW offers discount off-island hikes to members in partnership with Allen Marine. Three annually.	Sitka Trail Works, Inc.			X	
STW offers winter hikes and special event hikes as determined by the Board of Directors on an annual basis.	Sitka Trail Works, Inc.			X	
STW offers assistance in trail planning and trail project development to Sitka Mountain Bike and ATV users, in partnership with the CBS and USFS.	Sitka Trail Works, Inc.			X	
STW sponsors special hikes in conjunction with trail grand opening events.	Sitka Trail Works, Inc.			X	
STW Sponsors slideshows and media events like the Feb 4th Ride the Divide MTB film festival and Annual meeting slideshows on hiking the Sierra Nevada's etc. to promote Outdoor Recreation.	Sitka Trail Works, Inc.			X	
STW works with the Community Service program directing volunteers to outdoor tasks improving area trails and parks.	Sitka Trail Works, Inc.			X	
Will offer mountain bike skills clinics.	Harbor MTB			X	
Will offer an opportunity to give back to the community and participate in trail building events.	Harbor MTB			X	
Ventures is for students ages 5-12. We spend a great deal outdoors, hiking, biking, fishing, golfing and going to the beach. We also spend over an hour a day (Mon-Fri) having physical fitness and playing on the playground. Our activities are both educational and recreational.	Ventures School-Age Program			X	
Summer Boat Cruises	sitka conservation society			X	
Beach Clean-ups	sitka conservation society			X	
Salmon research projects	sitka conservation society			X	X
Nature club	sitka conservation society			X	X
Occasional youth trail work parties.	Sitka Trail Works			X	

	Needs?	Geographic Area / User Group															
		Center of Town	Road System	Out of Town	Youth	Adults	Vintage	Motorized Summer Rec	Winter Recreation	Cultural Recreation	Marine Recreation	Mountain Bikes	Trails	Day Use Recreation Areas			
					X	X											
Potential Partners					X	X											
willing to partner	Cooperation from local tour leaders				X	X											
willing to partner	Cooperation from local tour leaders				X	X											
willing to partner					X	X											
willing to partner					X	X											
willing to partner					X	X											
willing to partner					X	X											
willing to partner					X	X											
Sitka Trail Works, City of Sitka, USFS	Volunteers				X	X											
Sitka Trail Works, City of Sitka, USFS	Volunteers				X	X											
					X	X											
					X	X											
					X	X											
					X	X											
					X	X											
					X	X											

Existing Projects from Get Out Sitka!

	Run by	Project Type			
		General Policy (G)	Facility (F)	Program (P)	Information (I)
Existing Project					
Currently working with Sitka HS Outdoor Rec Class on Sustainable Trail Design.	Sitka Trail Works			X	X
Numerous hikes for all ages and abilities during winter and summer.	Sitka Trail Works			X	
Local hire of youth for summer trail projects.	Sitka Trail Works			X	
We run a consortium based child care center where we offer educational activities for children 2 months through 11 years. Our center is a year round facility with closure days for holidays. Our program offers a mixture of inside and outside times. We take the children out in any weather except extreme cold or extreme rain. Several years ago our outside playground was remodeled with parent help, fundraising money and a grant written to the Crossett Foundation. The grant was written as a physical activity for young children with an emphasis on our native population increasing incidents of juvenile diabetes and Type II diabetes in Alaska.	SEARHC Child Care Center				
Recurring "Sunny Day Plan" hikes- a spontaneously planned activity when we see there is a window of sunny days ahead. Sporadic camping trips.	Pacific High School				
Outdoor Adventure Courses throughout the year	Pacific High School				
Rock Climbing, camping, subsistence fishing, berry picking, all school hikes, Friday Get Fit class, Yoga, swimming instruction, hackysack	Pacific High School				
I teach an Outdoor Rec class for one 90-minute period of the day. Students are allowed to take it for one semester only because it is a very popular class with a long wait list.	SHS - Outdoor Recreation				
Marine boating for sport fishing and wildlife viewing, from March through September	Sitka's Secrets Boat Charters				
Naturopathic medical services to families, this includes counseling and planning concerning the areas of exercise.	One Healing Integrative Medical Center				

Potential Partners	Needs?	Geographic Area / User Group															
		Center of Town	Road System	Out of Town	Youth	Adults	Vintage	Motorized Summer Rec	Winter Recreation	Cultural Recreation	Marine Recreation	Mountain Bikes	Trails	Day Use Recreation Areas			
					X												
					X	X											
					X												
	We would like to build a basketball court on campus.																
	Public Programs																
	Need a second van for transporting more than a few students at one time.																
	Used gear and possible volunteers would also allow me open the class(es) to more than just 18 students at a time.																
	need to increase annual revenue to compensate taking out people with limited means															X	

New Projects from Get Out Sitka!

	Proposed by	Project Type			
		General Policy (G)	Facility (F)	Program (P)	Information (I)
New Project					
Sitka Mountain Rescue can assist with providing wilderness safety education to groups.	Sitka Mountain Rescue			X	
Expand our VHF radio loaner program.	Sitka Mountain Rescue			X	
A new preschool building and a great outdoor playground beside that building.	3 to 5 Preschool		X		
Culture camp in Sitka	SEARHC			X	
When I was a kid we lived outdoors after school year around. Perhaps focus on kids, not families. If you want societal change work with the kids, the families will follow.	UAF Cooperative Extension Service	X			
Single adults who would go outdoors more if there was someone else to go with, not groups. Adults want to play with adults and kids want to play with kids. Families want to be with families.	UAF Cooperative Extension Service			X	
Community Schools after school programs for kids to get them outdoors, such as nature club. It has to get the parents involved, although they may not get out, we need to get the kids out.	Raven's Way/SEARHC			X	
USFS educator. They eliminated that position. They should bring it back.	Latitude Adventures	X			X
A program for boys that is similar to Girls on the Run.	Sitkans Against Family Violence			X	
Organized activities	Big Brothers Big Sisters			X	
Outing Club at the grade school, middle school, and high school level. A once a week thing that gets kids hiking, camping, boating etc.	Sitka Sound Science Center			X	
Kayak skills classes conducted specifically for participation by local teens.	Sitka Sound Ocean Adventures				
A dedicated location for local folks and visitors to store and launch kayaks.	Sitka Sound Ocean Adventures		X		
Fishing programs, some kids have never been fishing.	USDA Forest Service			X	
Outdoors clubs/mentoring program.	MEHS				
Outdoor education like survival courses, edible plants, outdoor appreciation clubs	MEHS			X	

Partners	Needs?	Geographic Area / User Group																
		Road System	Out of Town	Youth	Adults	Vintage	Motorized Summer Rec	Winter Recreation	Cultural Recreation	Marine Recreation	Mountain Bikes	Trails	Day Use Recreation Areas					
				X	X													
	Funding			X	X						X			X				
we would like to partner with STA																		
A connection with forest resources (FS), Sitka Science Center, local schools (and home schoolers) or SEARHC.				X														
A connection with forest resources (FS), Sitka Science Center, local schools (and home schoolers) or SEARHC.					X													
	Funding			X	X													
	Planned for 2011/2012			X														
				X	X													
				X														
	Funding (advertising, pool rental, instructor time and materials)																	
	Funding, Land	X		X	X									X				X
				X														
				X	X													
				X	X													

New Projects from Get Out Sitka!

	Proposed by	Project Type			
		General Policy (G)	Facility (F)	Program (P)	Information (I)
New Project					
A good fun place to mountain bike	Harbor MTB		X	X	
Activities on the weekends and for older students	Ventures School-Age Program			X	
Lodge-assisted kayak tours	Sitka Trail Works			X	
Long-distance hiking opportunities at Lucky Chance area.	Sitka Trail Works			X	
Mountain biking demo day.	Sitka Trail Works			X	
Kayak/canoe demos.	Sitka Trail Works			X	
Introduction to Sailing class/ rowing club.	Sitka Trail Works			X	
Increased areas people can get to by car. Keeping in mind about offering more areas for people to hike that are close by our town.	SEARHC Child Care Center		X		
Cover the skateboard park.	Pacific High School		X		
No more ball parks.	Pacific High School		X		
Bike paths and lanes when new roads are built.	Pacific High School		X		
Covered picnic areas.	Pacific High School		X		
Herbal Medicine walks	One Healing Integrative Medical Center			X	

Partners	Needs?	Geographic Area / User Group												
		Road System	Out of Town	Youth	Adults	Vintage	Motorized Summer Rec	Winter Recreation	Cultural Recreation	Marine Recreation	Mountain Bikes	Trails	Day Use Recreation Areas	
	Funding, Land, Volunteers	X		X	X						X			X
				X	X									
			X	X	X									
		X		X	X						X			X
				X	X									
				X	X									
		X		X	X									
				X	X									
				X	X									
		X		X	X									X
				X	X									
				X	X									X

