

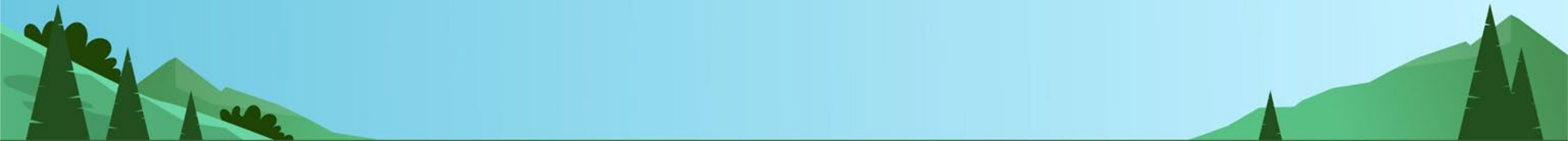


TRAILS MANAGER REPORT

Winter 2024

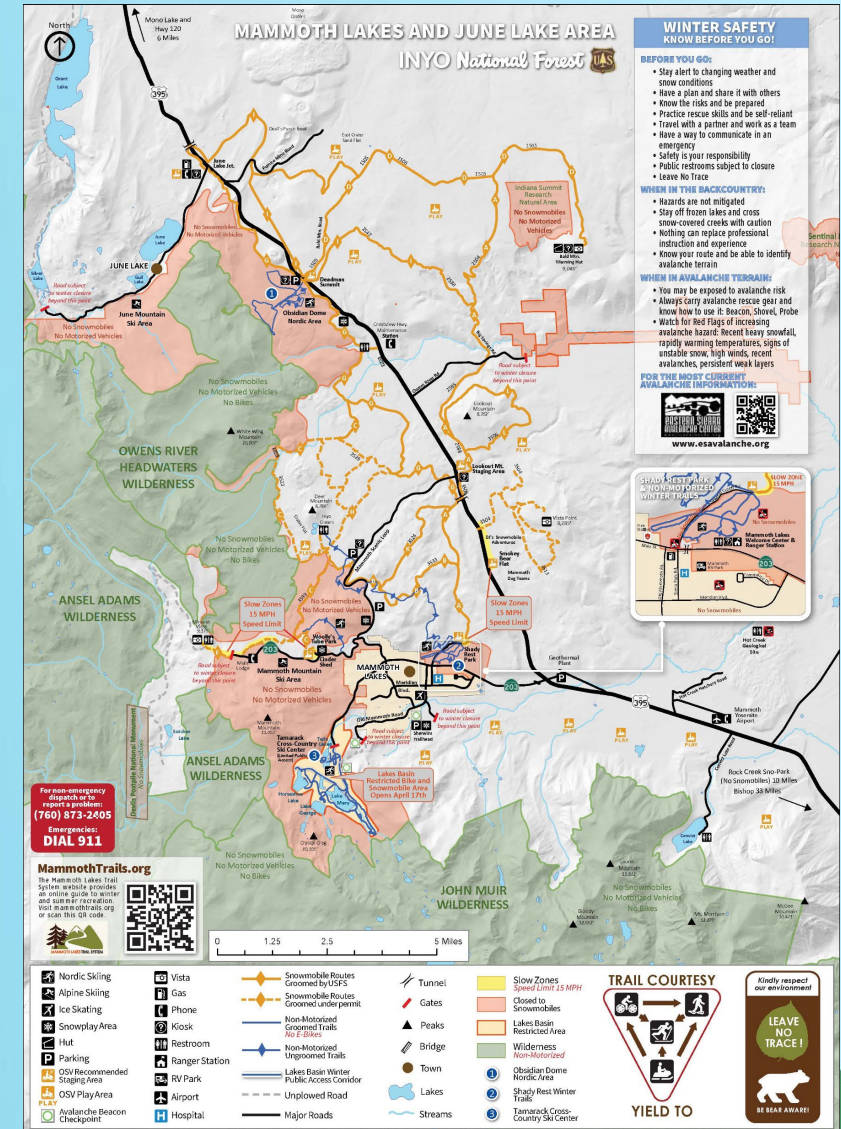
CONTENTS

1. **Grooming Update**
2. **SHARP Trail Planning Update**
3. **SHARP Trailhead Update**
4. **Summer Preview**
5. **SRIC Trail Planning**



OSV Grooming Program

- Approximately 20 junction signs installed with maps and “you are here” markings.
- Reassurance markers installed in areas that will be hard to navigate during storm weather.
- Staff:
 - Andrew M – Lead Groomer
 - Rick Laborde – Trainer and assistant Groomer
 - Devyn Durham - Groomer
- Equipment and Staff ready and waiting for snow



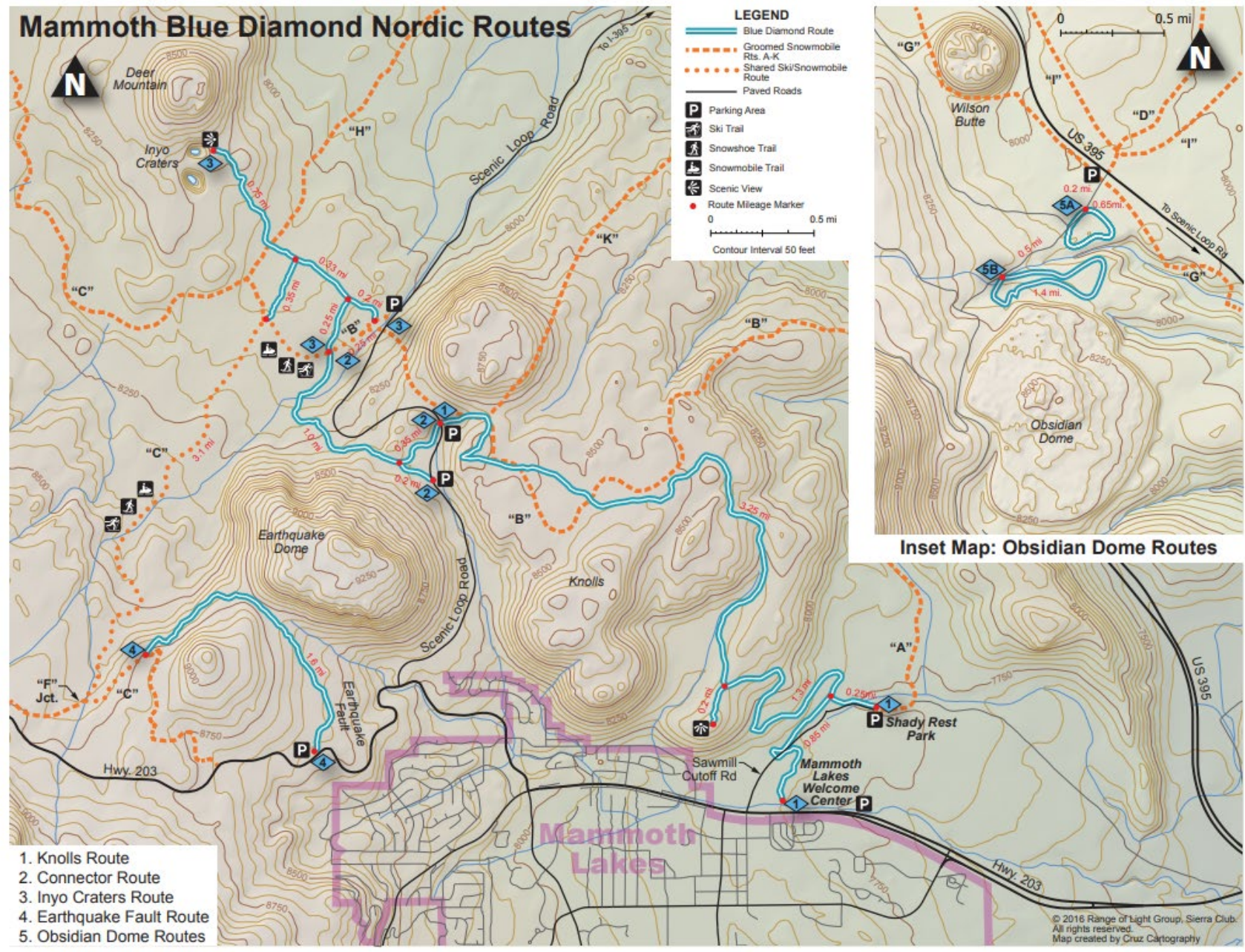
Non-Motorized Grooming Program

- Cleared boulders and ensured route was free of obstacles
- Staff:
 - Lawson Reif –Project Lead
 - Jennifer Burrows – Groomer
 - Summer – Groomer



Non-Motorized Grooming Program

- Mike and Mary Shore handed off the maintenance of these ungroomed – signed routes to Joel Rathje
- No work has been done to reestablish signage
- What is the priority level for this work?



SHARP Trailhead Update

- Paving complete
- Bathroom installed
- Signs – Install date TBD



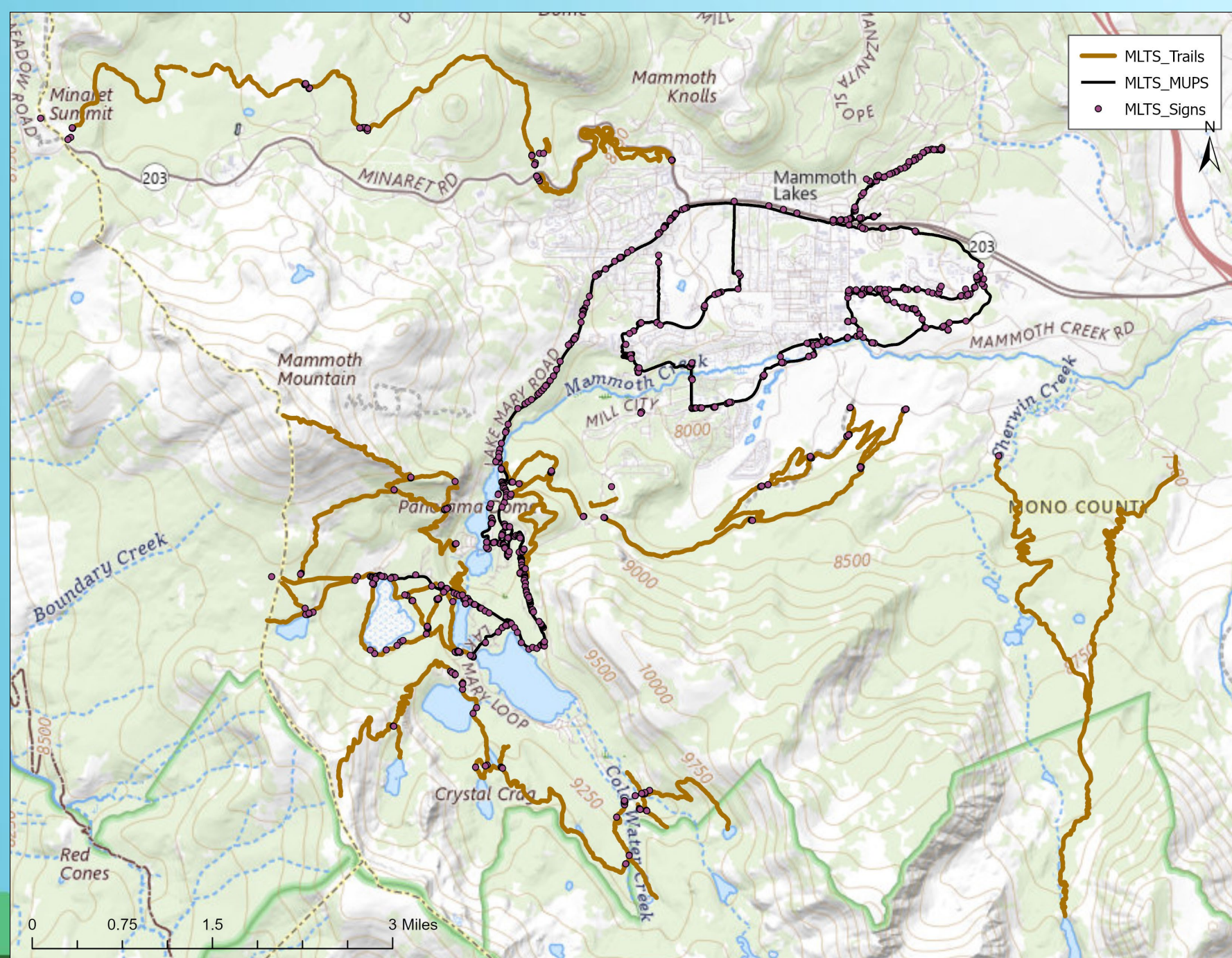
SHARP Update

- Next Interdisciplinary Team Meeting scheduled for 12/12/2024
- Heritage/Archaeological report complete and delivered to USFS
- Developing final proposed action



Summer Preview

- 43 Miles of Soft Surface Trail
- 18 Miles of Multi Use Path – Our trail crew is responsible for signage, hazard tree removal, bollard removal and installation as well as railing maintenance
- 917 Signs – from wayfinding to regulatory and everything in between



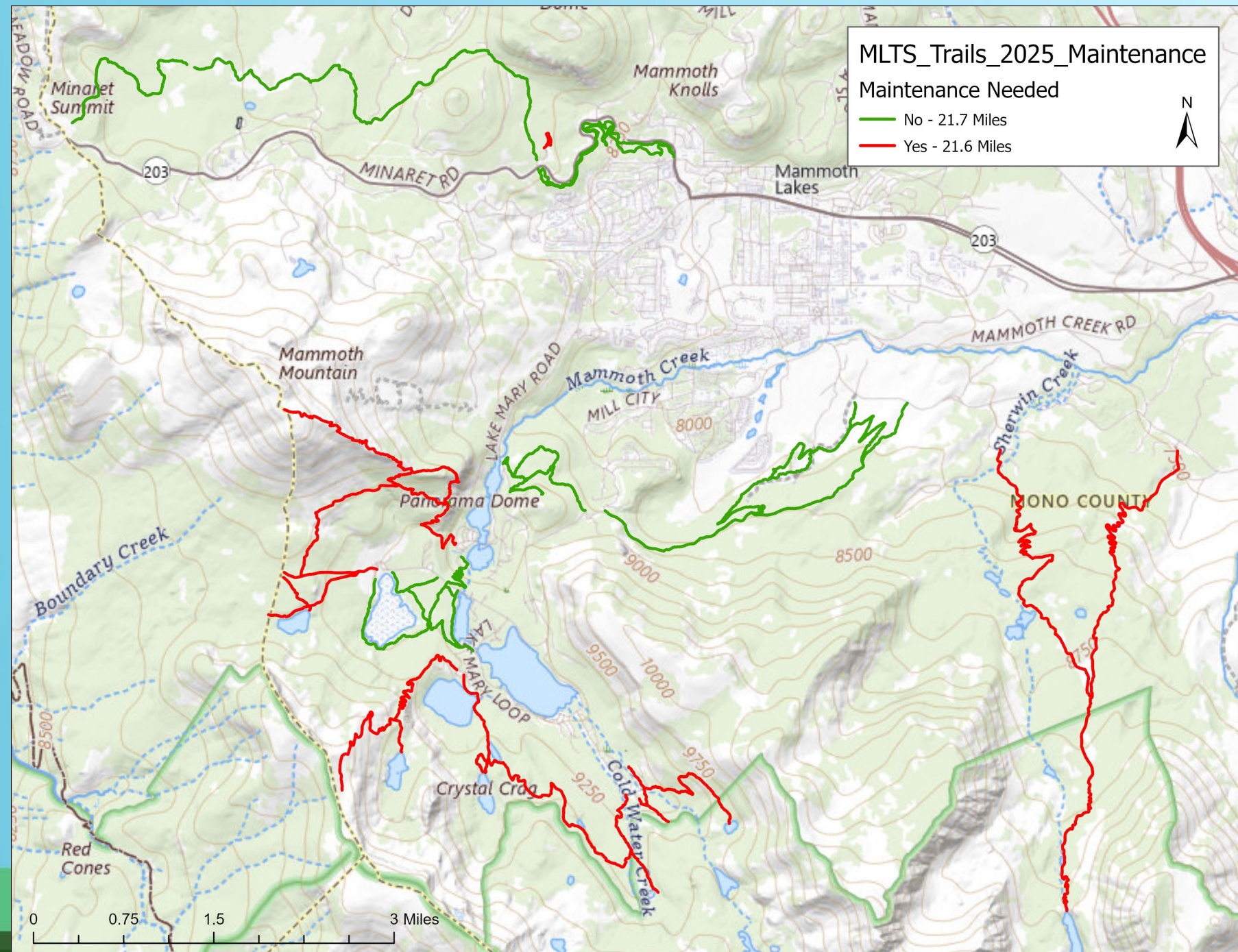
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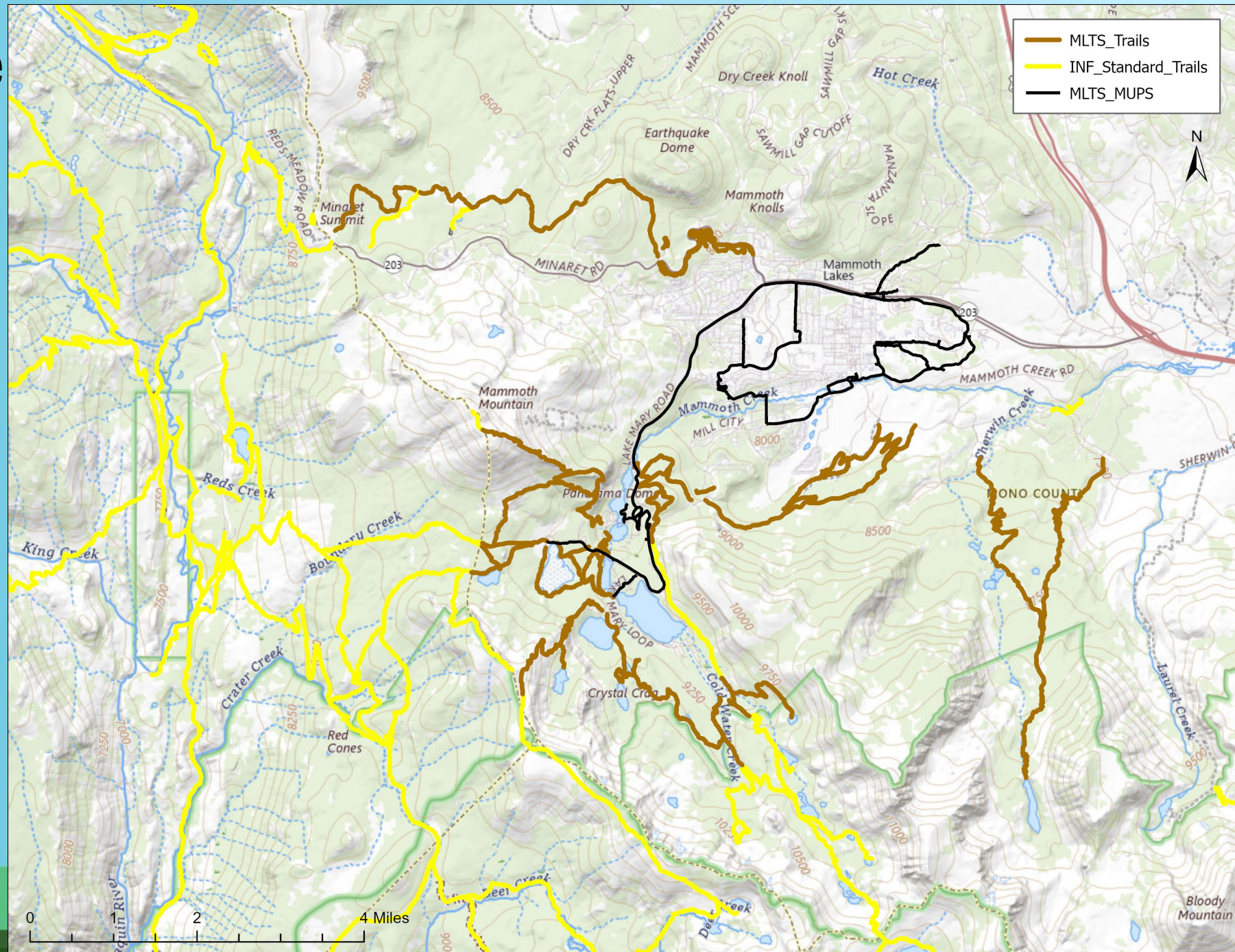
Soft Surface

- 43 Miles of trail in total that we are responsible for maintaining
- Half of these are in excellent condition and have received significant maintenance and hardening against erosion damage
- Half of these could use major rehabilitation work



Expanded Scope

- USFS will not be able to hire seasonal staff for this season
- INF Trail staff has requested assistance specifically around logout of trails including Mammoth Pass, Starkweather, Sherwin Lake, Valentine Lake, Duck Pass.



SRIC

- In an effort to engage with OHV users and opportunities in the Shady Rest Inyo Craters sub-region, TOML applied for and was awarded a three-year planning grant from the California State Parks Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Division Grant Program in 2020. The TOML, in partnership with Inyo National Forest – Mammoth Ranger District and Mono County, is using the California OHV planning grant funds for on-the-ground planning and environmental review (NEPA/CEQA) in order to optimize existing OHV trail facilities that serve a wide spectrum of user groups and to consider enhanced opportunities for trails and sustainable recreation in the Shady Rest Inyo Craters sub-region.

File Code: 1900
Date: February 14, 2019

California State Parks
Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division
1725 23rd Street, Suite 210
Sacramento CA, 95816

Dear Sirs

The Inyo National Forest staff have been coordinating with the Town of Mammoth Lakes (TOML), as they develop a grant application being submitted during the 2019 grant cycle. Their project is designed to assist the Forest in providing for quality opportunities for motorcyclists and other off-highway vehicle users on trails and roads in the Mammoth area, as well as planning for future projects.

The town has committed to a long-term planning effort of the Forest's motorized trail systems. The TOML, in coordination with the Inyo National Forest, will collaboratively work together to identify and plan future Off Highway Vehicle projects on the forest. The applicant will participate in the development and planning of future sustainable trail systems that will help resolve issues that have developed over time.

The Inyo National Forest supports the goals of the Town of Mammoth Lakes application, and will continue to work closely with the town towards its implementation.

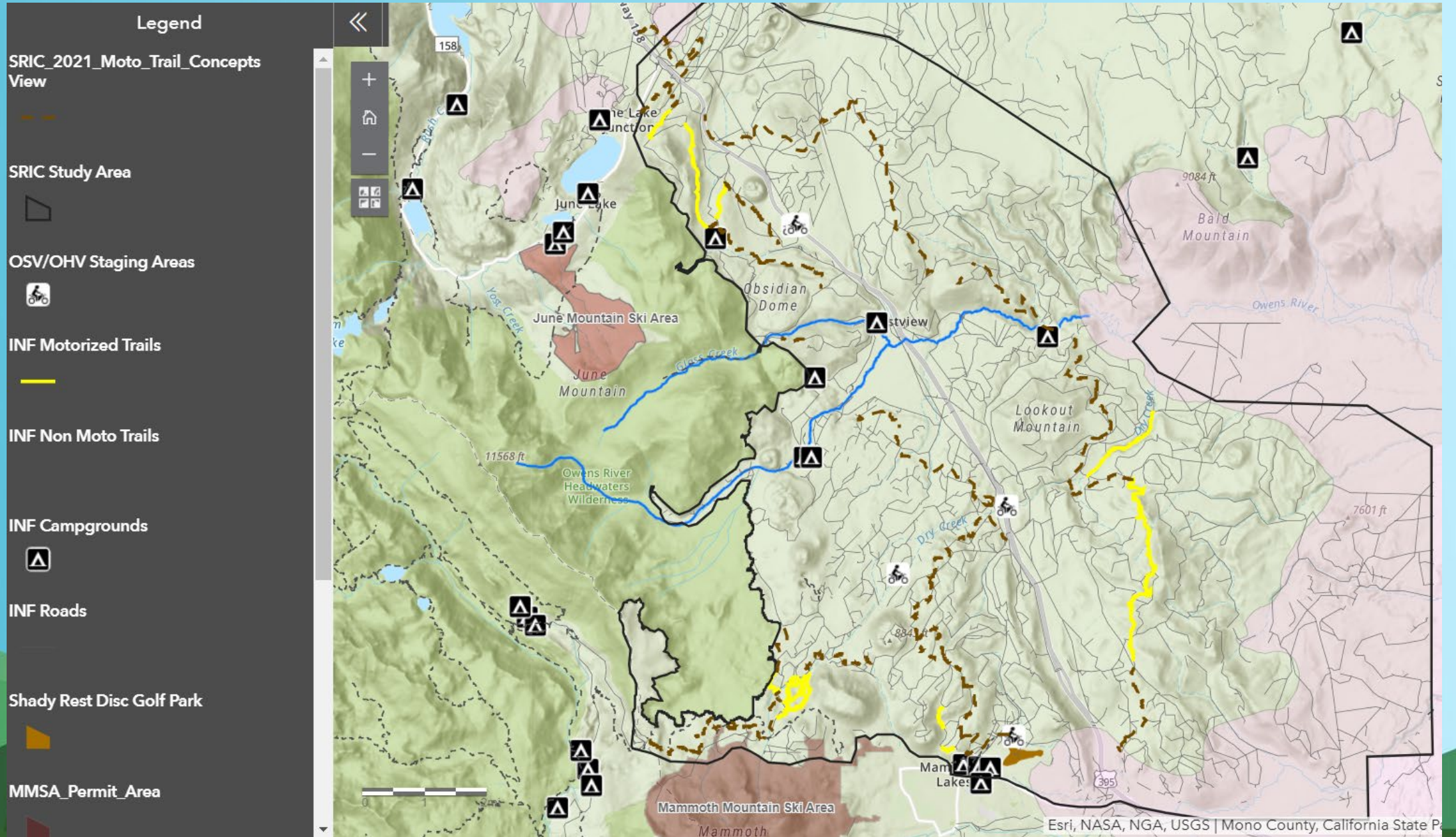
Sincerely,



Gordon P. Martin
District Ranger



SRIC



SRIC

- This is an excerpt from a letter from acting District Ranger Leeann Murphy to the TOML explaining the current rationale for identifying projects for the FY22 INF Program of Work
- Note the suggestion to work on a mountain bike park on USFS land

Projects not included on the Inyo National Forest FY22 Program of Work

Shady Rest/Inyo Crater (SIRC) Project

This TOML project is part of a planning grant from the California State Parks Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Division Grant Program. The project will enhance the existing Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) trail network and devise new OHV trail facilities, to mitigate resource concerns while providing a more enjoyable and safer experience for OHV users. This is a partnership between the TOML and OHV user groups. The project includes the Shady Rest and Inyo Crater areas north to June Lake, along the west side of Highway 395. The TOML did receive a support letter from former District Ranger Gordon Martin when this project was proposed to the State of California.

I understand the TOML has put a lot of effort in working with partners and the public into this project and will develop a proposal for moving forward at the end of this planning grant. If an additional planning grant is requested to move into the formal NEPA process and have a final decision, the Forest will not have the capacity to provide guidance, oversight, or review for this project. With the larger priority planning projects noted above, the Forest does not have the capacity to take on another Travel Management decision. Although the TOML has identified issues with the OHV use in this area, the Forest has many other areas that have been identified for future restoration or planning grants. This includes the Laurel Lakes road on the Mammoth Ranger District, and several others across the Forest. This will be where the Forest will focus on OHV efforts for the next several years.

The Forest appreciates the efforts the TOML puts into these types of projects and especially in working with all users and the public in developing these planning products. I would like to encourage the TOML to work with Fred Wong when he arrives to better understand the areas the Forest needs to focus on for providing sustainable recreation. For example, with the amount of mountain bike use in this area, would there be interest in working together on a plan for a mountain bike park or use area? These are the types of issues the District is seeing that need to be addressed and we look forward to continuing work on this issue in partnership with the TOML.

SRIC

- TOML OOR has developed a reduced scope draft recreation study area
- Potential funding opportunities through Ormatt
- USFS has been slow to engage on their willingness to support renewed recreation planning in this area

