

TOWN OF MAMMOTH LAKES STAFF REPORT

Title: Recommendation to pursue inclusion of “Minaret Vista Trail” to USFS system

Meeting Date: April 11, 2024

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It has come to our attention that the “Minaret Vista Trail” which connects Mammoth Mountain Inn to the Minaret Vista is not part of the USFS trail system. This lack of designation means that it could be closed and rehabilitated as a non-system trail. We believe that this trail should be included in the USFS trail system as well as the Mammoth Lakes Trail System. This 1.5 mile trail follows sustainable design principles with subtle grades typically in the 5% range and no major maintenance issues. During discussions with the Inyo National Forest about the recreation infrastructure adjacent to the Main Lodge Redevelopment project this trail was brought up and the USFS confirmed that it is not part of their system of legal trails. We would like to advocate for the legalization of this trail facility so that it is preserved for future use. This process could require funding for 3rd party environmental review to ensure that the USFS is able to move forward with including it in their legal trail network.