

**Pinedale Ranger District
Fremont Lake Recreation Enhancement Project**

Comparison of 2007 Proposed Action and 2009 Modified Proposed Action

Primary differences between the 2007 Proposed Action and the 2009 Modified Proposed Action for this project are described as follows:

A. Fremont Lake Campground:

In the 2007 Proposed Action, a 70-person group site (or two 35-person group sites) would be constructed in the Fremont Lake Campground.

In the Modified Proposed Action, a group site would not be constructed in this campground or analysis area. Instead, an overflow parking area for 10 vehicles with trailers would be constructed within or near the south end of the campground to address overcrowded parking issues at the Upper Fremont Lake Boat Site. These proposed actions are described in the “Modified Proposed Action Summary”, action items A-3 and A-10.

B. Sandy Beach Swim & Picnic Area:

There are no changes between the 2007 Proposed Action and the Modified Proposed Action for this site.

C. Fremont Lake Boat Sites:

Lower Fremont Lake Boat Site:

In the 2007 Proposed Action, a breakwater would be constructed, the parking area would be slightly enlarged and resurfaced, additional screening would be provided for the existing vault toilet, ADA access would be provided to various facilities, and drainage structures would be designed for the ramp and parking area.

In the Modified Proposed Action, in addition to the above actions, the existing vault toilet would be replaced and moved or screened, and the existing boat ramps would be reconstructed to provide three usable lanes with two floating docks. These actions are considered necessary to improve functionality, water quality, visual quality, usability, and safety of this boat site. These proposed actions are described in the “Modified Proposed Action Summary”, action items C-4, C5, and C-6.

Upper Fremont Lake Boat Site:

In the 2007 Proposed Action, the existing access to this boat site would be improved by converting the current one-way access through the campground to two-way access, eliminating extra vehicular traffic through the campground. In addition, the existing boat site parking area would be slightly enlarged, ADA access would be provided to various facilities, drainage structures would be designed for the ramp and parking area, overnight parking at the parking area would be prohibited, and a day-use

parking fee would be charged for use of the Upper Fremont Lake Boat Site parking area.

In the Modified Proposed Action, the above actions would be implemented for the Upper Fremont Lake Boat Site except that no day-use parking fee would be charged. In addition, the fishing pier would be reconstructed, the vault toilet would be replaced, the boat ramp would be reconstructed, an overflow parking area would be constructed within or near the campground entrance and additional parking within the campground would be provided for registered campers. These proposed actions are considered necessary to improve functionality at this site, particularly related to overcrowded parking conditions at the existing parking area, and are described in the “Modified Proposed Action Summary”, action items C-7 through C-14.

Fremont Lake Recreation Residence & Yacht Club Boat Facilities:

In the 2007 Proposed Action, the existing boat docks serving the Fremont Lake Recreation Residence Tract and Fremont Lake Yacht Club at the south end of the lake would be required to be removed or consolidated to address visual concerns.

In the Modified Proposed Action, this topic is removed from analysis in this assessment and deferred for NEPA assessment at a later date. Until further review and analysis of this topic is completed, existing docks authorized under Special Use Permit will be allowed to remain but may not be substantially reconstructed or replaced. This item is described in the “Modified Proposed Action Summary”, item C-15.

D. General Fremont Lake Area:

Campfires & Camping:

In the 2007 Proposed Action, campfires and overnight camping would be prohibited within 200 feet of Fremont Lake (except within the Fremont Lake Campground), and would also be prohibited within the Stuart Flat/Pine Creek area.

In the Modified Proposed Action, campfires and overnight camping would be prohibited within 200 feet of Fremont Lake (except within the Fremont Lake Campground) and the entire area south and east of Fremont Lake within the National Forest boundary, including Pine Creek, Stuart Flat, and the eastern side of the lake extending north to include Beaver Bay. This additional closure was developed to address potential impacts to water quality, mule deer migration, visual quality, and recreation experiences for visitors, all of which are negatively affected by dispersed camping/living on the National Forest on the south and east sides of the lake. These actions are described in the “Modified Proposed Action Summary”, action item D-3.

Canoe/Kayak Access:

In the Proposed Action, a canoe/kayak access site would be developed above Fremont Lake Dam on Pine Creek. In the Modified Proposed Action, this access would not be developed because there is no demonstrated need to develop formal access for this use at this time. This action is described in the “Modified Proposed Action Summary”, action item D-6.

Interpretive Hiking/Biking Trail:

In the Proposed Action, a non-motorized, paved interpretive hiking/biking trail would be constructed to replace an existing 2-track road along Pine Creek from Fremont Lake Dam north to the Lower Fremont Lake Boat Site parking area. In the Modified Proposed Action, this trail would be developed but would not be paved to minimize effects to mule deer within the migration corridor. This action is described in the “Modified Proposed Action Summary”, action item D-7.

Crucial Moose Winter Range:

Crucial moose winter range was not addressed in the 2007 Proposed Action. In the Modified Proposed Action, motorized vehicle use would be restricted to designated routes within crucial moose winter range within the Analysis Area from December 1 to April 30 annually. This action is described in the “Modified Proposed Action Summary”, action item D-11.

Groomed Cross-Country Ski Trail:

In the Proposed Action, a new groomed cross-country ski trail would be added to connect the existing groomed trails at the south end of Fremont Lake to existing groomed trails on Skyline Drive. In the Modified Proposed Action, this trail would not be added to the groomed trail system because it would negatively affect crucial moose winter range. This action is described in the “Modified Proposed Action Summary”, action item D-9.

Sylvan Bay Day-Use Site:

In the 2007 Proposed Action, roaded access to the Sylvan Bay day-use site through the Sylvan Bay Recreation Residence Tract would be closed. In the Modified Proposed Action, roaded access to this site would continue to be provided, in addition to boater and hiker access. There was no demonstrated need to close the motorized access to this site. This action is described in the “Modified Proposed Action Summary”, action item D-12.

Mechanical or Wildland Fire Use Treatment:

In the 2007 Proposed Action, mechanical or Wildland Fire Use would be utilized on the west side of Fremont Lake for visual quality improvement. In the Modified Action, this item was removed from further analysis in this EA. This item is described in the “Modified Proposed Action Summary”, item D-15.