

APPENDIX E, PART 11 – MINIMUM TOOL FLOW CHART

Wilderness Minimum-Requirement Worksheet

Introduction

The Minimum Requirement Analysis is designed to assist program managers in making appropriate decisions affecting wilderness that are consistent with the Wilderness Act and National Park Service Management Policies.

The worksheet is divided into two parts; 1) the Minimum Requirement Analysis to determine whether the action is necessary and consistent with wilderness goals, and 2) the Minimum Tool Determination that selects methods and tools that minimize environmental and aesthetic impacts. These concepts flow from the Wilderness Act and NPS Management Policies:

...except as specifically provided for in this Act, and subject to existing private rights, there shall be no commercial enterprise and no permanent road within any wilderness area designated by this Act and except as necessary to meet minimum requirements for the administration of the area for the purpose of this Act (including measures required in emergencies involving health and safety of persons within the area), there shall be no temporary road, no use of motor vehicles, motorized equipment or motorboats, no landing of aircraft, no other form of mechanical transport, and no structure or installation within any such area.

- *Wilderness Act: Section 4(c)*

All management decisions affecting wilderness must be consistent with a minimum requirement concept ... When determining minimum requirement, the potential disruption of wilderness character and resources will be considered before, and given significantly more weight than economic efficiency and convenience. If a compromise of wilderness resource or character is unavoidable, only those actions that preserve wilderness character and/or have localized, short-term adverse impacts will be acceptable. ...the method used must clearly weigh the benefits and impacts of the proposal, document the decision-making process and be supported by an appropriate environmental compliance document.

- *NPS Management Policies: 6.3.5*

Purpose

The Minimum Requirement process is implemented as a two-part process:

1. A determination of whether or not a proposed action is appropriate or necessary for the administration of the area as wilderness and does not pose significant impact to the wilderness resource or character
2. If the project is appropriate and necessary in wilderness, the selection of management tools and methods that cause the least amount of impacts to the physical environment or wilderness character.

Procedure

Step 1 - Complete Part 1 (Minimum Requirement Analysis). If the project is consistent with the minimum wilderness requirement, proceed to step 2.

Step 2 – Complete the Minimum Tool Determination to select the methods, tools and techniques to implement the proposal with the least impact to wilderness resources and values.

Minimum Requirement Analysis Worksheet Point Reyes National Seashore

Proposed Action:

Project Lead:

Date:

PART A: Minimum Requirement (Should the action be done in wilderness)

1

IS THE ACTION AN EMERGENCY?

YES

Act according to
established procedures

NO



Answer: Yes No

Explain:

2

Does the Action conflict with legislation,
wilderness goals or DFC?

YES

Do Not Undertake

NO



Answer: Yes No

Explain:

3

Can the action be accomplished with less
intrusive means?

YES

Do It

NO



Answer: Yes No

Explain:

4

Can the action be accomplished outside of
wilderness?

YES

Do it there

NO



Answer: Yes No

Explain:

5

Proceed to PART B

PART B: Minimum Tool (how the action should be done in wilderness)

What is Proposed:

Location:

When will the action occur:

Start:

End:

Method 1

Method 2

Method 3

Method 4

Use of motorized equipment or mechanical transport

Use of non-motorized equipment or non-mechanical transport

Combination of Methods 1 & 2

Other methods

Use extra sheets if needed

1

Rational for Method

(use additional sheets if needed)

2

Impacts to wilderness resources and wilderness character

3

Impact Mitigations

(use additional sheets if needed)

Resources Environment

Social Experiential Character

Health Safety

=

Superintendent Concurrence

Date

