

Community Focus Statement C: Create affordable outdoor recreation activities that capitalize on the natural environment, attract visitors, and provide entertainment for residents while also reducing the associated impacts to the communities.

Action Statements C.2: Investigate opportunities to establish designated sledding areas with parking to avoid visitors establishing undesigned sledding and parking areas.

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Benchmark: Sanction areas for snow recreation with available parking and amenities, as well as a long-term plan for maintenance.

Champion: Volunteer group or person or can be identified by the community

Estimated Cost: \$250,000 to \$5 million dependent upon land acquisition costs and structure type.



Informal sledding areas can cause parking/littering issues. Photo source: [U.S. National Park Service \(NPS\)](#)

Sledding, tubing and snow play are popular activities in mountain areas for both locals and visitors. However, without proper precautions, these activities can cause damage to the environment, be dangerous to people, and cause significant safety issues in the area. The location of the Crest Forest communities is easily accessible to residents in the surrounding region to drive to the area for a day of snow play. Many times, visitors create quasi-sledding/tubing areas, resulting in motorists illegally parking in turnout areas or along the side of the road where adequate space is not available. These quasi-sledding/tubing areas often occur on private property or in natural areas, causing damage to habitat. Because amenities are unavailable, significant amounts of trash and debris are left behind. By designating areas for snow play activities with amenities such as parking, restrooms, and trash receptacles, sledding in dangerous or damaging locations and the aftermath of snow activities can be reduced or eliminated. A designated area could also include

installation of an ice skating rink, snow making and special lighting.

Local residents can help identify areas where snow play would be suitable, as well as areas which are often used but not ideal for the activities. Presenting information on these suitable areas to the San Bernardino County Regional Parks and the Rim of the World Recreation and Park District along with possible funding mechanisms can facilitate the establishment of appropriate locations for safe and fun snow play activities, and the provision of amenities such as parking and restrooms. The Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation (OHMVR) Division of California State Parks, the US Forest Service, the California Department of Transportation, and the California Highway Patrol can also be directly involved in coordinating and administering a winter recreation program that can provide safe recreation, as well as funding, through the administration of permits to access the designated recreation areas. Such funding can then go toward the maintenance of facilities and parking lots and wages for employees to staff the sites. For instance, the SNO-PARK program is coordinated and administered by the OHMVR Division of California State Parks, in conjunction with the various agencies and community agencies, to provide visitors access to snow-cleared

parking lots and accommodate self-guided activities such as snowmobiling, cross-country skiing, and general snow play.

Action	Action Leader	Timeline	Resources
1. Hold a meeting to create a group of interested parties	Champion	Month 1	Corporate sponsorship guidance http://mrsc.org/Home/Explore-Topics/Parks-and-Recreation/Parks-and-Recreation-Funding/Corporate-Sponsorship-and-Naming-Policies.aspx Federal grant funding resources http://reconnectingamerica.org/resource-center/federal-grant-opportunities/ California State Parks OHV, Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation SNO-PARKS http://ohv.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=1233
2. Identify areas suitable for sledding and other snow activities.	Group	Months 1 – 3	
3. Draft a winter recreation plan to establish, maintain, and provide amenities to the designated sledding areas.	Group	Months 3 – 12	
4. Coordinate with local parks jurisdictions to provide safe recreation areas through administration of permits to designated areas.	Group with Rim of the World Recreation and Park District, State Parks SNO-parks	Months 3 – 12	
5. Seek businesses and organizations to donate or sponsor the cost of amenities such as restrooms and water fountains.	Group, with support from local business community.	Months 9 – 12	
6. Apply for grant funding to go toward the operation and maintenance of amenities.	Group with Rim of the World Recreation and Park District, with support from San Bernardino County Regional Parks	Months 9 – 12	
7. Install amenities and access improvements.	Rim of the World Recreation and Park District, with support State Parks SNO-parks	Month 12 – Year 5	
8. Partner with local youth and volunteer groups to help with maintenance.	Group with Rim of the World Recreation and Park District, with State Parks SNO-parks	Years 2 – 5	