Trail Terminology +
Overview

- Recreational Trails Policy
  - Primary Guidelines
  - Primary Management Objectives (PMOs)
  - Trail Management Objectives (TMOs)
  - Recreational Trail Development and Evaluation Criteria

- USFS Trail Documents
  - Trail Fundamentals
  - Design Parameters, Trail Class, & TMOs
  - Trail Standard Plans & Specifications

- Beyond the USFS
  - When USFS are inadequate - Adopting or Developing our own
Recreational Trails Policy
Trail Standards and Primary Guidelines

“DNR should use trail standards developed by the United States Forest Service as primary guidelines for trail design, construction, and maintenance.”

• DNR may adopt guidelines, standards, best practices, etc. from other organizations, when appropriate, as additional primary guidelines

• DNR will develop its own when others are insufficient or inapplicable
DNR will use PMOs to indicate the principle recreation type(s) for which a designated recreation area is managed.
Recreational Trails Policy
Secondary/Allowed Uses - what are they?

• All other uses that are allowed (or NOT prohibited) in the area

• The area may not necessarily be designed for that use.

(In the event of conflict, secondary use(s) may lose privileges)
Example 1 of Designated PMOs:

Green Mountain State Forest

PMO = Non Motorized Recreation
Secondary use = motorized

Within Green Mountain there were designated Motorized and Nonmotorized ‘zones’
Example 2 of PMO designation:

Tiger Mountain and Raging River State Forests

Forests were separated into ‘zones’ and each zone had a PMO and secondary use

PMO - Mountain Biking
Secondary-Hiking and Equestrian
5 concepts for USFS trail management

- Trail Type
- Trail Class*
- Managed Use
- Designed Use
- Design Parameters**
What is the USFS Trail Class* Matrix?

• Trail Classes 1 - 5
  (Minimally Developed to Fully Developed)
• Varies based upon the use type
• Covers the following Trail Attributes:
  • Tread & Traffic Flow
  • Obstacles
  • Constructed Features & Trail Elements
  • Signage
  • Typical Recreation Environment & Experience
Trail Class* Examples
Trail terminology?

- From our user survey
Signs and Trail Standards

Developing signs to support additional guidelines