

Community Focus Statement F: Improve resources to support seasonal visitors and tourist activities in the Lake Arrowhead communities.

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Action Statement F.7: Partner with the US Forest Service to provide information materials and services focused on hiking trails, fire cutting permits, camping, and associated activities.

Benchmark: Partnership with the US Forest Service to provide additional informational materials and services to visitors and recreational users related to outdoor recreation (hiking trails, camping, fuelwood, fire cutting permits, etc.) in the National Forest. Continually update materials, and provide them to local public services providers, health providers, and community groups in the area to educate visitors on things they should know before their visit.

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

Estimated Cost: \$500–\$1,000

The San Bernardino National Forest serves as Southern California’s outdoor year-round recreation destination. With high visitation throughout the forest, it is essential that visitors follow the rules designed to protect the forest and the natural environment. High-quality information materials with effective educational programming would provide a road map and a valuable resource for visitors and users to navigate the recreational areas properly.

Currently, the US Forest Service provides visitors with recreational maps for the Lake Arrowhead, Lake Silverwood, Crestline, Running Springs, Green Valley Lake, and Keller Peak areas. Visitors can stop by the Big Bear Discovery Center for more information and a large selection of maps and hiking trail guides, and they can obtain expert advice and assistance from staff and volunteers. However, because of the distance from the Discovery Center, the Lake Arrowhead communities can partner with the San Bernardino National Forest to offer additional informational materials to local public services providers and health care providers (for example, Mountains Community Hospital, fire stations, San Bernardino County Sheriff’s Department’s Twin Peaks station, Rebuilding Together Mountain Communities group, Lake Arrowhead Rotary Club, and Mountain Top Hiking Club) to ensure these materials are available locally.



US Forest Service has a website devoted to visitor education on wide range of topics. Photo source: US Forest Service

Visitors can be reminded to enjoy a safe visit to the San Bernardino National Forest by following typical rules including but not limited to:

- Use picnic sites and other day use areas only between the hours of 6 a.m. and 10 p.m.
- Use campgrounds and other recreation sites only for recreation purposes.
- In campgrounds, camp only in those places specifically marked or provided.
- Do not leave camping equipment unattended for more than 24 hours without permission from the Forest Service.
- Remember that the federal government is not responsible for any loss or damage to personal property.
- Preserve the wilderness: “Leave only footprints, take only pictures.”
- Use of a trail, campsite, or other area of the wilderness area by a group of more than 12 members is prohibited except by special-use authorization.
- Be aware that one personal fuelwood permit is available per household at one time. Permit holders are required to contact the Forest Service in advance of cutting to determine the fire restrictions in effect for that day. Permit issuance and use may be restricted due to conditions and fuelwood availability.



Action	Action Leader	Timeline	Resources
1. Contact residents and recruit volunteer group to assist the US Forest Service in promoting distribution of informational materials and services related to outdoor recreation education.	Champion, with support from US Forest Service	Months 1–2	US Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Conservation Education http://www.fs.usda.gov/main/conservationeducation/programs/program-development
2. Select a volunteer to serve as the program lead to assist with coordination between organizations and information management.	Volunteer group	Month 2	Central Sierra Environmental Resource Center, Education Programs http://www.cserc.org/education-programs/
3. Establish communication between the US Forest Service and local public services providers, health providers, and community groups to provide recreational users and visitors in the Lake Arrowhead communities' informational materials and services for outdoor recreation education.	Volunteer group, with support from local public services providers, health providers, community groups, US Forest Service	Months 3–4, on-going	Lake Arrowhead, Hiking in Lake Arrowhead and Surrounding Areas http://www.lakearrowhead.com/hiking.html
4. Hold regular meetings or conference calls with the US Forest Service and local providers/groups to discuss updates to materials and ensure procedures for information sharing are effective.	Volunteer group, with support from local public services providers, health providers, community groups, US Forest Service	Months 3–5, on-going	US Department of Agriculture Forest Service Pacific Southwest Region, San Bernardino National Forest Visitors Guide, 2014–2015
5. Encourage additional community groups, businesses, and members to regularly display and distribute informational materials and offer services. These tools can educate visitors on things they should know while visiting the National Forest and the surrounding Lake Arrowhead communities.	Volunteer group, with support from local community groups, businesses, community members, US Forest Service	On-going	US Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Fuelwood and Forest Wood Products http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/sbnf/about-forest/districts/?cid=stelprdb5251314 US Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Know Before You Go http://www.fs.fed.us/visit/know-before-you-go