

## 9.5.3 Seasonal Activities

If the City were to support developing recreation and tourism based businesses in the area, it would be necessary to create year round recreation opportunities. The City should explore opportunities to expand activities beyond traditional warm weather activities to include winter-based recreation. This would provide year round activity on local trails and more consistent revenue to local businesses.

### 9.5.3.1 Motorized

Snowmobiling has the greatest motorized winter recreation potential in Eureka due to the region's well established motorized trail network and available open space. The trail dimensions and recommended slopes are roughly the same, making it

easier to switch over between the seasons. Signage and maps at trailhead access points should indicate where snowmobile uses would be allowed.

### 9.5.3.2 Non-motorized

There are a couple seasonal recreation activities that would be considered a non-motorized use. Such uses should be clearly marked on trails and at trailhead access points as only for non-motorized purposes.

#### 9.5.3.2.1 Cross-country Skiing

Eureka does not have the proper terrain or facilities to support alpine, or downhill, skiing activities. However, its extensive trail system makes it ideal for cross country skiing. Key partnerships with regional and state skiing recreation associations should be established to increase awareness of the cross-country skiing opportunities. Non-motorized trails that are used for other activities during the summer would essentially be converted over for cross-country skiing use during the winter.



## 9.5.3.2.2 Other

Some members of the community expressed a desire to establish sledding courses on the hills directly to the north and south of Eureka. Sledding and other similar activities that can be done within Eureka municipal boundaries should be pursued. Establishing a clearly demarcated course and advertising it as such would help increase the number and type of winter recreation activities that occur within or directly adjacent to Eureka municipal boundaries. Such proximity would allow for easier access for recreation users and also increase the number of customers that could patronize businesses in Eureka.

## 9.5.4 Other Activities

While the trails system is probably Eureka's greatest asset with regard to recreation uses, there are a number of other activities that should be pursued as viable alternatives to the trails system. Such alternatives will help balance Eureka's recreation system and attract more regional visitors as well.

### 9.5.4.1 Rockhounding

Rockhounding is defined as the hobby of collecting rocks

and mineral specimens from their natural habitat. The far west sections of Millard and Juab counties have traditionally been identified as some of the most bountiful areas in terms of unique rocks, minerals, and fossil specimens. Eureka should seek to determine if this is a comparative advantage as well. Marketing outreach should also be done to portray Eureka as the gateway to these mineral and fossil-rich locations in western Utah.

### 9.5.4.2 Climbing

Rock climbing has a strong following in Utah, particularly in the nearby Salt Lake and Utah counties whose residents have access to canyon climbing areas and are always seeking for new rock climbing opportunities. Such desires for new rock climbing courses are an opportunity for Eureka. The City should extend outreach to local rock climbing associations such as the Salt Lake Climbers Alliance and Access Fund to receive feedback on the potential rock climbing opportunities. One of the first places to investigate as a potential option for rock climbing would be a rock face on the southern slope of Packard Peak, northwest of Eureka about a half-mile.

Similarly related is the recreation activity of spelunking, a form of rock climbing that is done underground in natural





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caves. While there is no known inventory of naturally existing caves surrounding Eureka, mines could be a possible alternative. The City would need to coordinate with the mining companies, property owners, and relevant industry professionals to analyze this possibility.

## 9.5.4.3 Archery/Target Shooting

Eureka should seek to encourage a variety of target shooting courses as an alternative recreation use. Both an outdoor shooting range and a gun shop used to operate within the City limits a few years ago but are no longer active. It is not recommended that an outdoor target range be reactivated in City limits due to noise and safety concerns. However, indoor facilities within the City or target ranges that are near City limits should be encouraged as another recreation use. Such facilities would help to attract gun and bow enthusiasts and therefore more business patrons to Eureka. Businesses that offer products and services for the target shooting industry should also be encouraged.

## 9.5.4.4 Hunting

Hunting is a common recreation sport in Utah and should be an opportunity for recreation expansion. Eureka should seek to provide and improve facilities, such as trailhead access points, that support hunting activities. Other crucial facilities that cater to the needs of hunting enthusiasts include restaurants and hospitality services. As Eureka expands these services and facilities within City limits, Eureka should seek to

enlist hunting associations in spreading awareness to its members of the opportunities and services available in Eureka and protect access to open space and public lands for hunting.

Some local citizens expressed concern in the public meetings about the hunting recreation presence becoming too large. The expansion of hunting recreation activities in and surrounding Eureka should be done in a responsible, sustainable manner that respects the privileges and desires of the local citizens of Eureka.

## 9.6 Opportunity Prioritization

### 9.6.1 Priority List and Timeline

The following list represents action items the City should undertake to further develop trails and other recreation opportunities in the Eureka area in a timeline outlining when such actions should be taken. Such priorities include:

1 - 2 years:

1. Develop a Recreation and Trails Master Plan.
2. Formalize agreements with the local property owners and mining companies to delineate public recreation access on trails which may exist on or pass through their

formalize agreements with private property owners for trails

zone trail access locations

partner with government agencies

sponsor recreation events

1-2 YEARS

2-6 YEARS

create Recreation & Trails Master Plan

create trails classification system

engage stakeholders



property. This will support the development of orderly recreational uses and limit liability to the Eureka City and private property owners.

3. Zone trail access locations for Public Facilities (PF) use.
4. Develop a classification system of the trails specifying between motorized and non-motorized use.
5. Engage key user group stakeholders, such as ATV, equestrian, or mountain bike users, to raise awareness of and obtain support for maintenance of the trails surrounding Eureka.
6. Develop partnerships with relevant government agencies to secure funding for trail, trailhead, and trail connection improvements.

## 2 - 6 years:

7. Sponsor regional recreation events in Eureka to attract recreation enthusiasts from across the state.
8. Coordinate with the local chamber of commerce to attract recreation, hospitality, and accommodation related businesses.
9. Purchase land for trailhead access and construct trailhead access facilities on each location.
10. Develop recreation wayfinding signage on trails and trailhead access locations.

## 6 - 10 years:

11. Develop a marketing plan to secure funding for branding and marketing of recreational opportunities in Eureka.
12. Continue to coordinate and expand partnerships with recreation associations and government agencies to obtain support for maintenance and upkeep of trails.

Some task items are not singular events, but should be continually developed, such as building relationships with key stakeholders and government agencies to develop and maintain recreation facilities.

## 9.6.2 Model Guidelines

This section of the chapter is intended to provide examples of how these recreation improvements should and can look like. The City should strive to ensure that all recreation facilities are of superior quality and aesthetics to provide a comfortable and attractive environment for recreation enthusiasts.

### 9.6.2.1 Model Trailheads and Restroom Facilities

While Eureka should seek to minimize the cost for the construction and maintenance of trailhead facilities, effort should be made to ensure that such facilities are aesthetically pleasing and effectively planned. There are many resources the City can utilize when developing these facilities, includ-

develop recreation wayfinding signage

develop recreation marketing plan

6-10 YEARS

coordinate with Chamber of Commerce

purchase land for trailhead access

continue to coordinate & expand partnerships

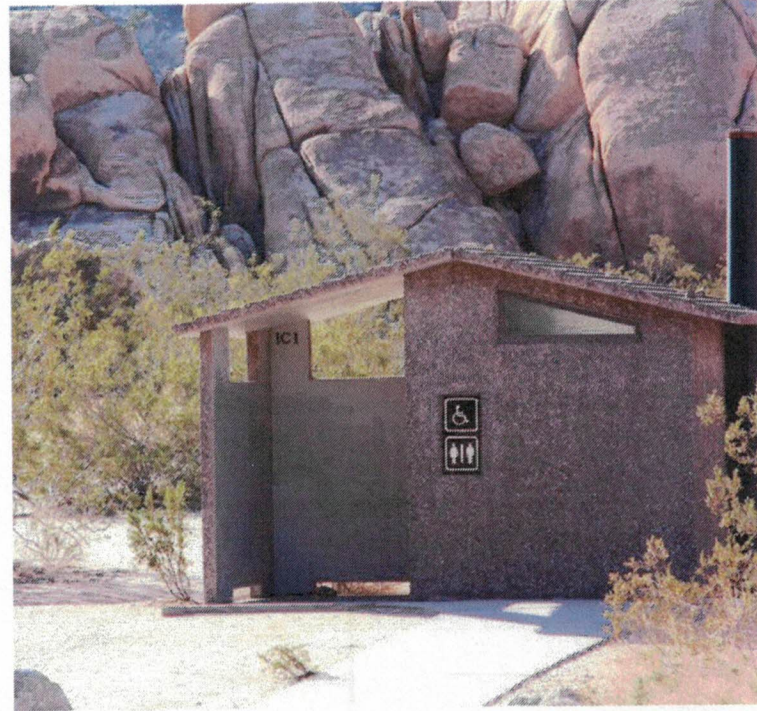


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ing standards set by Utah State Parks, the U.S. National Park Service, the U.S. Bureau of Land Management, or the U.S. Forest Service.

## 9.6.2.2 Signage and Wayfinding

The City should develop a comprehensive wayfinding and signage plan. Signage can represent a significant cost for installation and maintenance of a trail system and having a signage plan can reduce costs and redundancies, establish maintenance responsibilities, and identify funding sources for signage. In the future, the City could provide maps and other online material as part of its marketing and branding efforts. Signage should provide information such as trail and trailhead locations; amenities such as restrooms and trailer facilities; and trail difficulty, limitations, or directions.



## 9.7 Partnership and Funding Opportunities

The development of a comprehensive trail system and associated amenities represents a significant investment from the local community. While this investment would seek to improve the local quality of life and develop business opportunities, financial constraints can limit the City's ability to develop such a system. External partnerships, grant funding, and volunteer support would all assist Eureka in developing these opportunities.

### 9.7.1 Potential Partners

#### 9.7.1.1 Government

There are numerous state, federal, and non-government based grants available for the development of local businesses, recreation amenities, and other facilities that would be available to Eureka City in developing these facilities. Furthermore,





government partnerships provide opportunities to learn best practices, leverage support, and develop long term maintenance agreements for recreation facilities. These partnerships may provide initial support to start recreation improvements in Eureka and the building of future partnerships. Examples of potential government resources and partnerships include:

- Juab, Tooele, and Utah Counties
- Six County Association of Governments
- Utah Rural Planning Group
- Utah State Parks
- Utah Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands
- Utah Office of Outdoor Recreation
- Utah State Historic Preservation Office
- US Bureau of Land Management
- U.S. National Parks Service, Rivers, Trails & Conservation Assistance Program

## 9.7.1.2 Non-profit

Non-profit partnerships generally include recreation associations that are interested in maintaining the future viability of their particular recreation activity. This includes providing support for trails systems and other recreation uses, spreading awareness of recreation events to their members, and much more. As such, they are ideal partners to assist in raising awareness of recreation opportunities in Eureka as well as providing maintenance support of recreation systems. Such partners include:

- Utah ATV Association
- Back Country Horsemen of Utah
- Wasatch Trails Alliance
- Salt Lake City Climbers Alliance
- International Mountain Bicycling Association

- Utah High School Cycling League
- Utah Snowmobile Association
- Utah State Rifle and Pistol Association
- Utah Bowmen's Association
- The Utah Nordic Alliance

## 9.7.1.3 Business

Eureka should work with local and regional recreation based businesses to develop partnerships and opportunities for business growth, improved user experience, and the protection of recreation opportunities. Many businesses, such as REI and Patagonia encourage corporate partnerships in achieving these goals through sponsorship and volunteering campaigns. These businesses offer one of the most effective means of spreading awareness of the recreation opportunities in Eureka. They can also be very helpful in organizing recreation events that attract large numbers of people. Fur-

potential  
partners:

government  
business  
non-profit



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thermore, a robust system of recreation opportunities can provide opportunities for new business growth in Eureka.

## 9.7.2 Potential Funding Sources

There are many government and private grant sources available to assist with the development of recreation facilities and trails. Two significant funding sources available in Utah include the Utah Outdoor Recreation Grant and the Recreational Trails Program Grant.

The Governor's Office of Outdoor Recreation was created in 2013 to support the booming recreation industry within Utah and provides annual Outdoor Recreation Grants that range in size from \$10,000 - \$150,000. Applications for these grants must prove that they will offer economic development opportunities for the City and that the grant funding will only be used for the building of recreation infrastructure, such as trails, kiosks, trailheads, etc.

The Recreational Trails Program grant is a federally funded program administered by Utah State Parks to provide funding for motorized and non-motorized trail and facility improvements. Grants are awarded on an annual basis with funding up to \$100,000 per applicant.

A technical assistance program called the Rivers, Trails, and

Conservation Assistance Program is operated by the National Park Service to assist local communities in conservation and recreation based planning programs. The grant operates on an annual cycle and provides no cost technical assistance to communities in efforts such as trail planning, open space design, and signage planning. The City may utilize this program in the further development of other recreation plans in the area.

Many other government and private funding opportunities are available to Eureka. The City may wish to allocate resources such as City staff or councilmembers' time or duties to pursue future grant opportunities.

## 9.7.3 Future Studies

This chapter provides an initial assessment of current recreation facilities and develops some recommendations for future improvements and opportunities. Many of the recommendations within this chapter will require more detailed analysis and planning to develop these systems. It is recommended that the City develop a comprehensive Recreation and Trails Master Plan better delineate future trail improvements. Such a step would significantly impact the ability of Eureka to see these suggested improvements in the General Plan become a reality.





# Goals & Strategies:

## Improve existing trails, trailheads and connections

Create a Eureka trails and outdoor recreation citizens committee

*Mayor, City Council, and City Staff*

Improve partnerships between federal, state, and local agencies to collaborate on trail planning and maintenance processes

*Planning Commission, Mayor, City Council, and City Staff*

Identify key locations in Eureka that can serve as trailhead and parking facilities. Seek facilities that can accommodate multiple user groups, including motorized, non-motorized, equestrian, and day use hikers

*Planning Commission, Mayor, City Council, and City Staff*

Improve existing trailheads with restrooms, signage, maps, and improved parking facilities

*Planning Commission, Mayor, City Council, and City Staff*

Develop a partnerships with agencies and user groups, such as the Back Country Horsemen of Utah, to obtain support for the development and maintenance of equestrian trails

*Mayor, City Council, and City Staff*

Explore opportunities and partnerships between local property owners, government agencies, and user groups to develop a comprehensive mountain bike trail system

*Planning Commission, Mayor, City Council, and City Staff*



## Increase the number of regional trails and connections surrounding Eureka

Incorporate trail design and maintenance best practices to reduce user conflict, resource degradation, and maintenance costs to Eureka City

*Mayor, City Council, and City Staff*

Develop a comprehensive trail signage plan

*Planning Commission, Mayor, City Council, and City Staff*

Work with Utah State Parks Off-Highway Vehicles program, Toole County, Utah County, and Juab County to improve the Tintic ATV Trail system and increase connections to the Prospector Trail System

*Planning Commission, Mayor, City Council, and City Staff*

Work with the Utah ATV Association to improve ATV trail maintenance

*Mayor, City Council, and City Staff*

Work with UDOT and the Utah Office of Tourism to explore designation of US Highway 6 as a Utah State Scenic Byway to attract new tourism and improve facilities for touring and road cyclists

*Planning Commission, Mayor, City Council, and City Staff*

## Increase overnight recreation facilities within Eureka municipal boundaries

Support a local chamber of commerce to attract hospitality based businesses to Eureka, such as restaurants, recreation-based services, overnight accommodation, and bed and breakfasts

*Mayor, City Council, and City Staff*

Enact land use policies to support the development of camping and recreational vehicle site development and improvements

*Planning Commission, Mayor, City Council, and City Staff*



Market the recreational opportunities and facilities available in Eureka

Work with the Utah Office of Tourism to promote Eureka as a recreation destination

*Mayor, City Council, and City Staff*

Establish Eureka as the "Gateway to Little Sahara Recreation Area"

*Planning Commission, Mayor, City Council, and City Staff*

Increase partnerships to promote Eureka events and outdoor recreation opportunities through various mediums, including websites, newsletters, conferences, etc

*Mayor, City Council, and City Staff*

Work with the Utah State Parks and Utah Department of Natural Resources to promote awareness of Eureka's recreational opportunities on their website and maps

*Planning Commission, Mayor, City Council, and City Staff*