

SAFE TRAILS WORKSHOP
Thursday, September 26, 2013
Duck Club, Irvine, CA

Break Out Sessions 1 & 2:
Public Safety

What Works Well?

- Organized groups (trail users)
- Trail watch groups
- Proper maintenance (ticks, snakes, line of sight)
- Education
- Signage
- Enforcement
- Online outreach/social media

What Needs to Be Improved?

- Google Earth is wrong – trails not named, even when named/corrected it reverts
- Online misdirection to unauthorized trails and dangerous places
- Shortened and simple signage (mileage, fill in the gaps)
- IMBA and Sierra Club agreement (Park City) from the early 1990s is not being followed (<http://www.sierraclub.org/policy/conservation/mtnbike.aspx>)
- No managed night use (enforce the hours)
- Hard to reach land managers after hours
- Judges throw out tickets
- Sheriff skills differ from ranger skills
- Ranger hands out cards

Solutions:

- Regular users need to organize to take back the over-run parks
- Have “equestrian free” days or “mountain biker” free days (Alternate use strategies)
- Place restrictions on gear/equipment (i.e., head lamp lumens, amount of protective gear, width of bike tiers, shocks, etc.)
- Programming
- Funding for enforcement (speed gun)
- Design of trails (pinch points – include speed calming techniques during construction)
- Require a permit for trail use (like a driver’s license)
- Require a type of license plate on mountain bikes for identification and enforcement
- Education
- Targeted (speed traps) stings
- Public education – volunteer presence days (volunteers at many trailheads handout educational materials)
- Separate the “resource-based” mountain biker from the “adventure” rider

