



CASE STUDIES

OUTDOOR RECREATION: SUSTAINABILITY

STRATEGIES AND SOLUTIONS FOR A MORE RESILIENT, CARING, INCLUSIVE ECONOMY THAT CAN WITHSTAND, ADAPT, INNOVATE, AND TRANSFORM IN THE FACE OF NATURAL AND HUMAN DISASTERS.

WHAT TO EXPECT FROM THESE CASE STUDIES

The Climate Crisis is one of the most important issues of our time and has become an important part of our resiliency discussion as we experience extreme weather events, wetter and warmer winters, and unstable temperature shifts. This is a collection of sustainable best practices from organizations and corporations around the nation in the recreation industry. They are doing their part to help protect the very environment that supports them and allows them to recreate. During focus group conversations with the outdoor recreation industry in the North Country, participants expressed the need for the region and the State to adopt sustainability best practices and ensure sustainability standards for all new infrastructure as well as retrofits to existing infrastructure. This Case Study provides examples of sustainable best practices and guidance for adopting practices in the North Country.

Examples Of



Committees & Coalitions

Case studies showing how committees & coalitions have worked together to create sustainable practices for businesses

National Parks & Forest Service

Case studies showing how these organizations have helped parks and land managers with resources for creating more sustainability.

Non-Profit Organizations

Case studies showing how a non-profit organization brings awareness, education, and support to the climate crisis topic.





TO LEARN MORE...



SCAN ME

| MISSION & VISION

GUNNISON COUNTY IS A MECCA FOR OUTDOOR RECREATION, COMMUNITY, AND A SENSE OF PLACE. IN ORDER TO PROTECT THEIR PLACE, THEY HAVE SET OUT TO PRESERVE AND PROMOTE THE WELL-BEING OF THE COUNTY'S CITIZENS, NATURAL ENVIRONMENT, AND RURAL CHARACTER. STOR PLANS TO DELIVER SERVICES AND SET STANDARDS THAT REFLECT THEIR COMMUNITY'S VALUES AND PRESERVE THEIR UNIQUE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR PRESENT AND FUTURE GENERATIONS TO ENJOY.

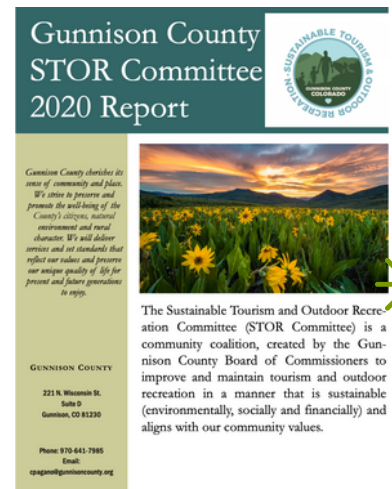
ABOUT THE PROGRAM:

The Sustainable Tourism and Outdoor Recreation Committee (STOR) is a community coalition, created by the Gunnison County Board of Commissioners to improve and maintain tourism and outdoor recreation in a manner that is sustainable (environmentally, socially, and financially) and aligns with their communities values. STOR committee was established in 2017. The committee has 22 members that represent a wide array of community stakeholders.

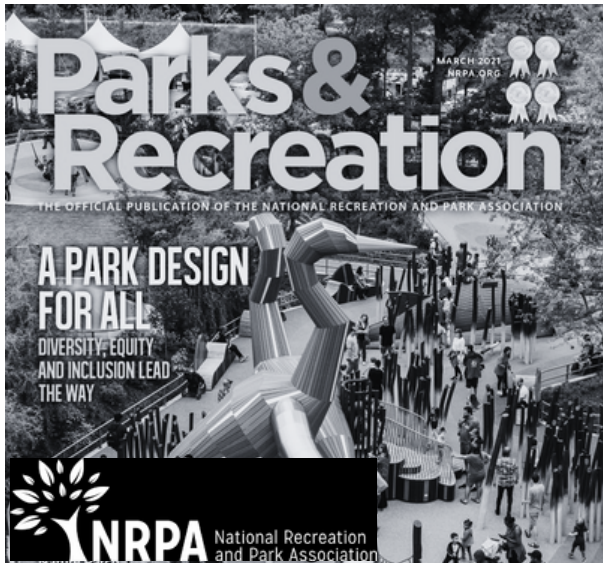
They have set forward these 4 Goals...

- **Ensure** that the valley's tourism sector of the economy is resilient, vibrant, and supports our community values.
- **Foster** a resident and visitor culture that demonstrates respect for our community, culture, and environmental stewardship.
- **Support** collaboration between federal land agencies, local government, nonprofit, and user groups to improve the management of recreation and natural resources.
- **Be Proactive** in the management of private and public natural and recreation assets to minimize degradation and enhance quality.

HOW IT WORKS:



Gunnison County STOR Committee 2020 Report

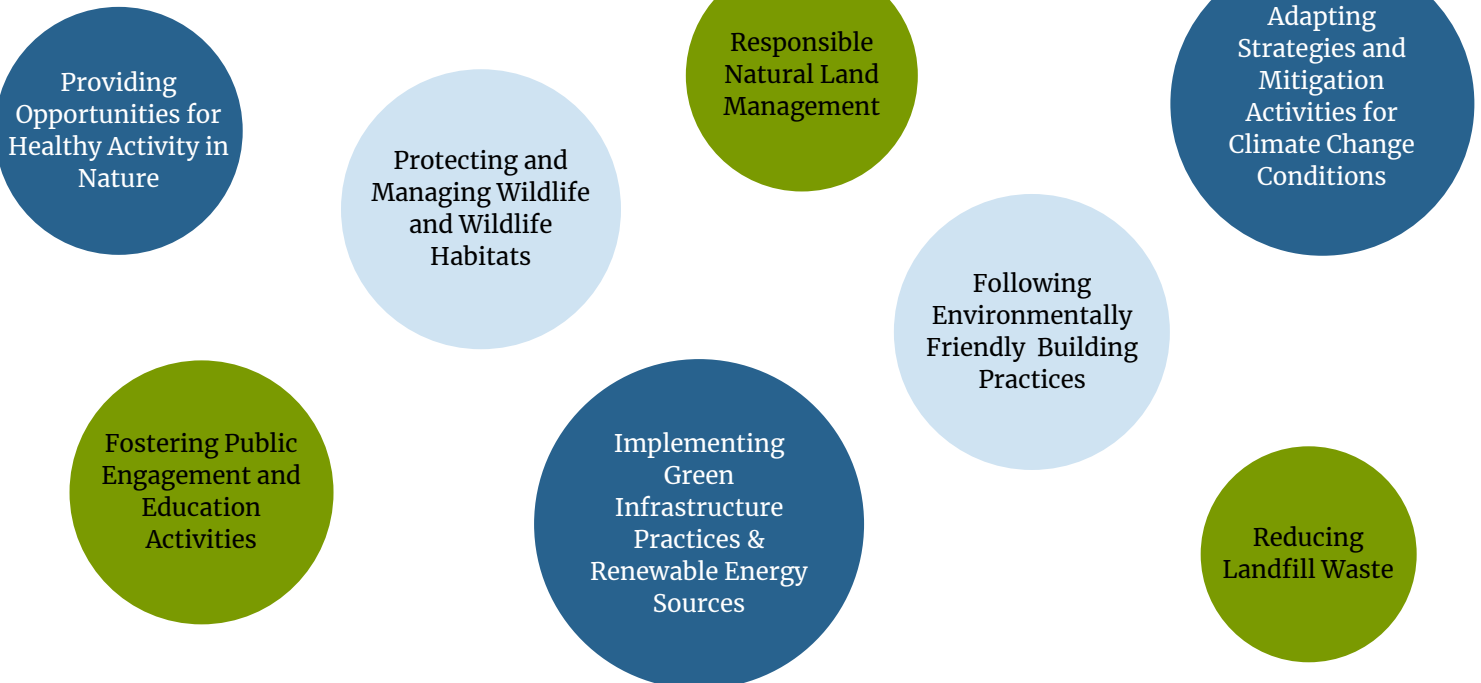


TO ADVANCE PARKS, RECREATION, AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION EFFORTS THAT ENHANCE THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR ALL PEOPLE. WE SEEK A FUTURE WHERE THE FULL POWER OF PARKS AND RECREATION IS WIDELY RECOGNIZED FOR CREATING A BETTER LIFE FOR EVERYONE BY BUILDING STRONG, HEALTHY, AND RESILIENT COMMUNITIES. WE ADVANCE THIS VISION BY INVESTING IN CHAMPIONING THE PROFESSION AS A CATALYST OF POSITIVE CHANGE FOR EQUITY, CLIMATE READINESS, AND OVERALL WELL-BEING.

ABOUT THE PROGRAM:

The National Recreation and Park Association is the leading not-for-profit organization dedicated to building strong healthy and resilient communities through the power of parks and recreation. NRPA advances this vision by investing in and championing the work of park and recreation professionals as a catalyst for positive change in service of equity, climate-readiness, and overall health and well-being. NRPA is a leading force in sustainability efforts in communities across the country, creating climate-ready parks and supporting equity and inclusion. 72% of park and recreation agencies have defined specific measures that gauge the success of their sustainability activities. Yet most park and recreation agencies do not closely track the cost savings that sustainable actions may generate, which allows barriers for agencies from implementing more sustainable measures due to lack of funding.

HOW IT WORKS:





TO LEARN MORE...



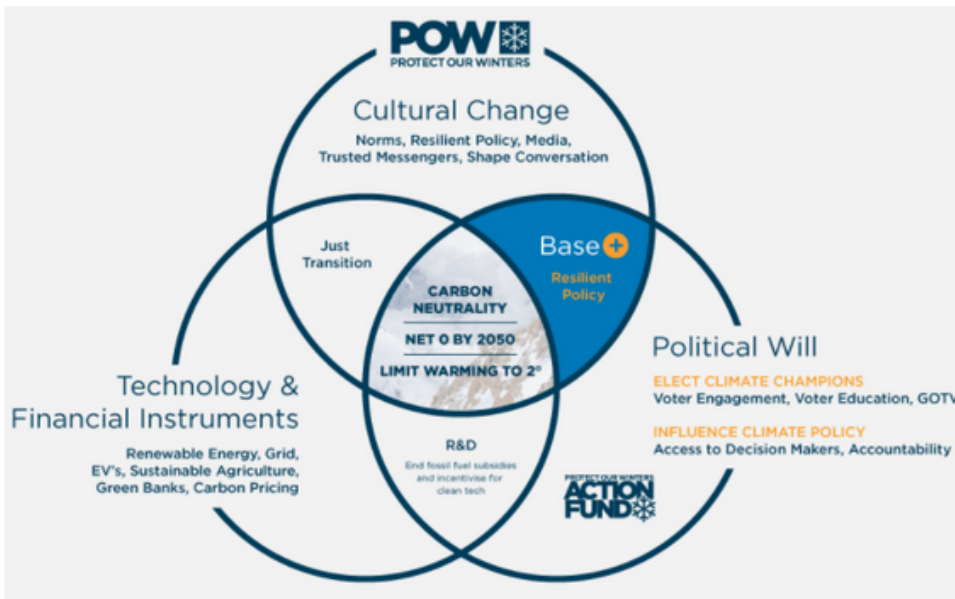
MISSION & VISION

THEORY OF CHANGE – IN THE FUTURE WE ENVISION, THE WORLD EMBRACES RENEWABLE ENERGY, ELECTRIC TRANSPORT, BREAKTHROUGH TECHNOLOGIES AND MARKET POLICIES TO ACHIEVE CARBON NEUTRALITY BY THE MID-CENTURY. WE DRIVE TO CRAGS, TRAILHEADS, AND RENEWABLE POWERED SKI AREAS IN ZERO EMISSION VEHICLES; AND ELECTED OFFICIALS FROM ALL PARTIES AT ALL LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT MAKE ADDRESSING CLIMATE THEIR TOP POLICY PRIORITY.

ABOUT THE PROGRAM:

This company brings awareness and leadership for the outdoor community to educate and help make changes for the betterment of our environment. Their theory of change hinges on the belief that the outdoor community can have disproportionate impact by driving civic participation at those thinner margins, in order to focus the efforts in critical geographies and create local activations. The belief and goal of POW is to educate, register, and turn out enough voters to shift the nations response to climate crisis. Acknowledging that in order to solve the climate crisis, the world needs this type of community and together the sum of all these small efforts—turning passion into purpose—will deliver climate victories where they are needed most.

HOW IT WORKS:



POW'S PLAN TO AFFECT CHANGE

- Supporting local/state legislation
- March for the #CRUSHIT4CLIMATE challenge
- Become a Member & Educate yourself
- Attend events
- Recognize your impact
- Volunteer
- Become a climate advocate



Sustainable
Apparel Coalition

TO LEARN
MORE...



SCAN ME

MISSION & VISION

TO TRANSFORM BUSINESS FOR EXPONENTIAL IMPACT THROUGH GROUNDBREAKING TOOLS, COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS, AND TRUSTED LEADERSHIP FOR SUSTAINABILITY. A GLOBAL CONSUMER GOODS INDUSTRY THAT GIVES MORE THAN IT TAKES - TO THE PLANET AND ITS PEOPLE.

ABOUT THE PROGRAM:

The sustainable Apparel Coalition develops the Higg Index, a standardized value chain measurement suite of tools for all industry participants. The tools measure the environmental, social, and labor impacts across the value chain. This data is critical to capture in order to ensure the industry can address inefficiencies, resolve damaging practices, and achieve the environmental and social transparency consumers are demanding and should be able to have access too. This universal tool will allow companies to join forces and address urgent, systemic challenges that are impossible to change alone. This is why Sustainable Apparel created this Coalition.

The Higg Index is comprised of a core set of five tools that together assess the social and environmental performance of the value chain and the environmental impacts of products. Consumers can then use the Higg Index to inform their individual sustainability strategies and drive collective industry transformation.

HOW IT WORKS:

- SUSTAINABILITY ANALYSTS
- MATERIAL & PRODUCT DEVELOPERS

Who uses them:



Purpose:

- TO UNDERSTAND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF DIFFERENT PRODUCTION CHOICES WHEN DESIGNING A PRODUCT

- 5 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENTS FOR FACILITIES, BRAND, AND RETAILERS

What they measure:

- [CLICK HERE FOR A VIDEO ON THE HIGG INDEX](#)



Creating Habits Today,
Conserving Resources for Tomorrow

TO LEARN
MORE...



SCAN ME

MISSION & VISION

THE USDA FOREST SERVICE IS A STEWARD OF MANY OF OUR NATION'S MOST TREASURED LANDSCAPES, AND WITHIN THOSE LANDSCAPES ARE RESOURCES THAT PEOPLE NEED AND WANT, SUCH AS CLEAN AIR AND WATER, RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES AND FOREST PRODUCTS. IMPACTS FROM CLIMATE CHANGE, EXTREME WEATHER, AND OTHER DISTURBANCES—ALONG WITH CHANGING HUMAN DEMANDS—CHALLENGE OUR ABILITY TO ENSURE THAT ECOSYSTEMS ARE HEALTHY RESILIENT, AND THUS MORE ADAPTABLE TO CHANGING CONDITIONS.

ABOUT THE PROGRAM:

Sustainability in the U.S. Forest Service goes beyond managing healthy, resilient forests. It's about investing in our natural infrastructure to protect clean air, healthy soils, and drinking water. Sustainability is about our commitment to reduce agency greenhouse gas emissions through innovation. The USFS fosters sustainability leadership while reducing daily consumption and costs in water, energy fleet, waste, and purchasing. The office of Sustainability and climate change works to help the agency adjust behaviors and actions by using the best available science and information to ensure our national forests and grasslands continue to deliver values, products, and services both now and in the future.

They also offer a Green Team Tool Kit for resources and guidelines to anyone looking to plan and manage their land in a greener way.

HOW IT WORKS:

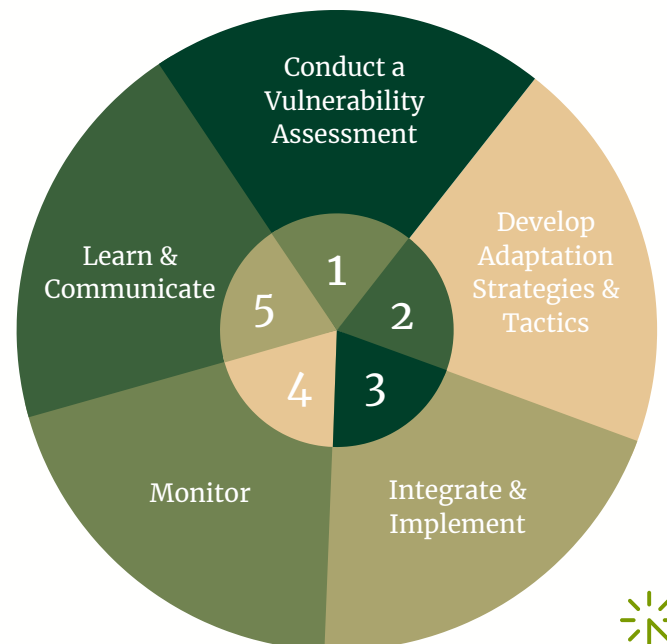


Assessing Vulnerability:

VULNERABILITY TO CLIMATE CHANGE IS DEFINED AS THE DEGREE TO WHICH A HUMAN OR NATURAL SYSTEM IS SUSCEPTIBLE TO, AND UNABLE TO COPE WITH, THE ADVERSE EFFECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE, INCLUDING CLIMATE VARIABILITY AND EXTREMES.

- Sensitivity: to which a system is sensitive to risks from climate changes
- Exposure: The degree to which a system is exposed to climatic changes, can include direct effect, indirect effects, and the interactions between these non-climate stressors such as development and invasive species.
- Adaptive Capacity: is the capacity of the system to adapt to changing conditions.

THE CLIMATE-INFORMED MANAGEMENT AND PLANNING FRAMEWORK



[CLICK HERE for Climate Change Vulnerability Assessments Across the Nation Resource from USFS](#)





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ABOUT THE PROGRAM:

The U.S. Forest Service is a leader in developing tools for carbon assessment, management, and forest carbon cycle science. The Forest service champions the principles of considering carbon and other benefits together, integrating climate adaptation and mitigation, and balancing carbon uptake and storage in a wide range of ecosystems services, some of which have trade-offs. Developed by the climate change resource center, this carbon infographic provides a quick overview of the carbon cycle, carbon measurement scales, equivalencies and carbon management activities.

HOW IT WORKS:

The Forest Service has developed regional carbon assessment reports to help forest managers and the public to understand how much carbon is stored in forest ecosystems and harvested wood products. The baseline forest carbon reports provide information from the Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA). These reports also provide estimates of carbon stored over longer time periods depending upon data availability. This is provided as a nationally consistent data set with which we can better understand geographic differences and important trends. This will help to begin being able to consider short and long-term carbon consequences of alternative forest management strategies.

[Click Here for the Green Team Toolkit Resources](#)



The Forest Service Focuses Net Zero Efforts on Energy, Fleet, Waste, and Water with Green Team Toolkit

- HOW TO START A GREEN TEAM
- RESOURCES BY FOOTPRINT AREA
- SUCCESS STORIES BY REGION/STATION/AREA
- POSTERS, SIGNS, AND LOGOS
- PICTURES