

ART Chart

Authority of the Resource Technique (ART), Common Impacts and Discussion Points



Four steps for using a ART

1. The Intro: Introduce yourself and IPWA then begin with an ice breaking question or statement.
 - a. "Howdy!," "Beautiful day today," "How was the overnight?" "How was the permitting process through rec.gov?" "What's your destination for today?"
 - b. Introduction - "I'm _____, a volunteer for the Indian Peaks Wilderness Alliance..."
2. The Observation: Give an objective description of the undesirable behavior observed
 - a. "I've noticed..."- not singling them out
 - b. "I'm not sure if you're aware" - gives them an out
 - c. "One of the things I do out here as a volunteer is.... Dismantle fire rings... educate the public on Wilderness regulations... and that's because...." - explains our mission & why we're here
3. The Why: Reveal and interpret the implications of the desirable behavior. Focus on how the behavior impacts the resource or the experience of others
 - a. "There are many moose in this area and they can become easily startled by and aggressive towards dogs off-leash. Keeping dogs on leash helps to protect the wildlife, visitors and their pets."
4. The Fix: Describe the desired behavior. Communicate your appreciation for the resource and model the desired behavior whenever possible
 - a. The Fix: "We appreciate it if visitors can keep their pets on leash and help us protect all the wonderful wildlife here in the Indian Peaks Wilderness as well as other visitors."

Violation / Undesirable Behavior	Potential Negative Impact	Implications & Discussion Points
Dog off leash	Harm to wildlife	Wildlife view loose dogs as predators, causing them stress.
	Respect for other visitors	Dogs running on trails flush wildlife, reducing wildlife that visitors see. The presence of a dog creates a large perimeter that wildlife avoid.
	Respect for other visitors	Some trails are used by stock riders. _Stock can react to loose dogs in dangerous ways.
	Respect for other visitors	Dogs can be aggressive to other visitors. Some trail users are intimidated by loose dogs and intentionally select trails with dog leash rules.
	Risk to dogs	Unleashed dogs can get lost and will struggle to survive in the wild. Every year several are lost forever in our district.
	Risk to dogs	Unleashed dogs can contract diseases - including rabies and tapeworm - by contacting or eating dead animals. Drinking water can cause giardiasis.
	Risk to dogs	Unleashed dogs may get injured by wildlife such as moose and rattlesnakes.
	Risk to visitors	Dogs can transfer poison ivy to humans if they get oil from a poison ivy plant on their coat.
Camping / fire rings too close to water	Damage to environment	The fragile habitats on the banks of streams and lakes are easily damaged.
	Damage to environment	Increases contamination of the water from wash water, food scraps, and human waste. Camping further from water protects these fragile areas.
	Respect for other visitors	Respect for other visitors impairs the natural vista for other visitors, reducing visitors' sense of solitude.
	Harm to wildlife	Wildlife depends on this habitat for water and now avoids it, stressing them; now you won't see them, either.

Camping or fire rings too close to trail	Respect for other visitors	Camping away from trails reduces the visual impact on other visitors who also seek out pristine areas.
	Respect for other visitors	Even in popular areas, the sense of solitude can be enhanced by screening campsites and choosing an out-of-the-way site
	Damage to environment	Rocks from fire rings become unsightly. The ground below the fire becomes sterilized. Damage lasts for years.
Fire in restricted area or during fire ban	Damage to environment	Risk of Forest Fire, endangering others, damage to property.
Cyclist in Wilderness or on prohibited trails	Not Wilderness character	Designated Wilderness areas were established to preserve their natural Wilderness character. Mechanical transport violates this concept.
	Respect for other visitors	Bikes allow riders to travel faster and further into the backcountry, flushing wildlife and reducing wildlife sightings for everyone.
	Respect for other visitors	Other trail users may choose these trails specifically because they do not allow bikes.
Groups larger than 12 in Wilderness	Damage to environment	Can cause concentrated damage at campsites.
	Respect for other visitors	Additional noise and social contact reduce the sense of solitude other visitors may seek.
	Harm to wildlife	Large groups and their noise cause more stress to wildlife than small, quiet groups.
Hiking off trail, shortcuts/social trails	Damage to environment	Destroys vegetation beyond recovery; diminishes the natural beauty that most visitors desire.
	Damage to environment	Barren areas lead to soil erosion and the development of undesirable trails.
	Respect for other visitors	Multiple routes will develop and scar the landscape, possibly misleading trail users.
Littering and foodscraps	Harm to wildlife	Wildlife is attracted to garbage and can become habituated to it.
	Harm to wildlife	Some litter (plastic bags, fishing line, cigarette butts, plastic tampon applicators) is deadly to wildlife and contaminates the environment.
	Risk to visitors	Wildlife, such as bears, learn to return to these food sources, endangering both you and future visitors.
	Respect for other visitors	Visitors want to view nature, not orange peels, cigarette butts or dog poo bags. Food scraps can take months to decompose.
Removing artifacts, plants, or flowers	Damage to environment	The accumulated impact of many visitors each picking a few flowers becomes detrimental.
	Damage to environment	Picking one composite flower head with many seeds removes hundreds of potential future plants - as well as food for seed foragers.
	Respect for other visitors	Reduces other visitors' thrill of seeing historical artifacts. Removing an artifact takes it out of its context, reducing learning opportunities.
Intentionally feeding wildlife	Harm to wildlife	Animals can get habituated, resulting in a poor diet and the dulling of natural foraging skills.
	Risk to visitors	Visitors can be bitten and contract diseases - such as rabies, neurovirus and bubonic plague - from wildlife when feeding them.

Excessive noise	Respect for other visitors	Most visitors come to the forest for nature experiences and solitude. Playing music along the trail or boisterous talking interferes with that.
	Harm to wildlife	Excessive noise stresses wildlife.