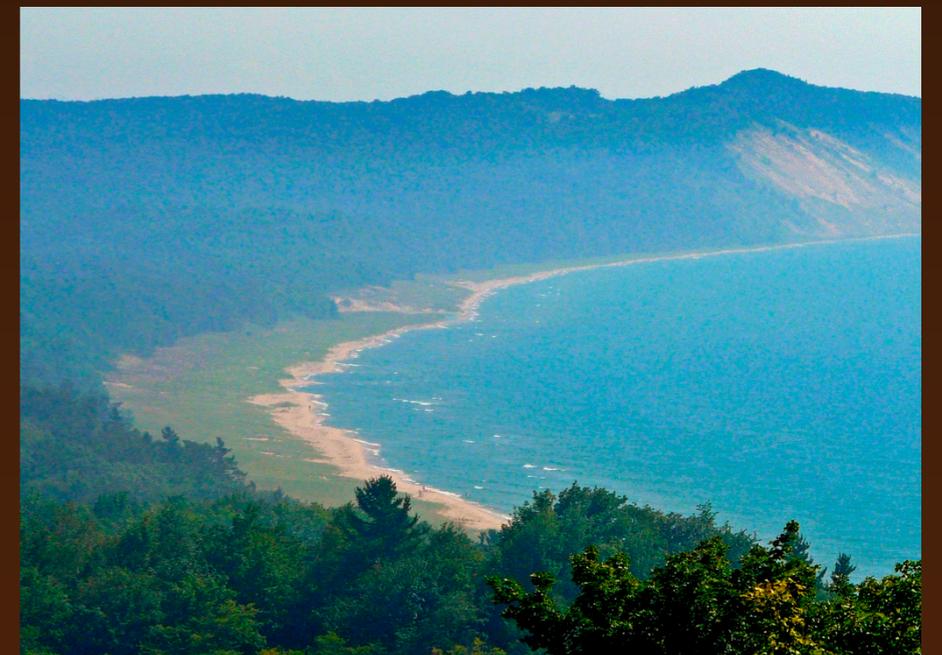


CASPER MOUNTAIN TRAIL MANAGEMENT 2.0

***Change Management For A
Sustainable Trail Program***

Backcountry Recreation



Recreation Opportunity Spectrum

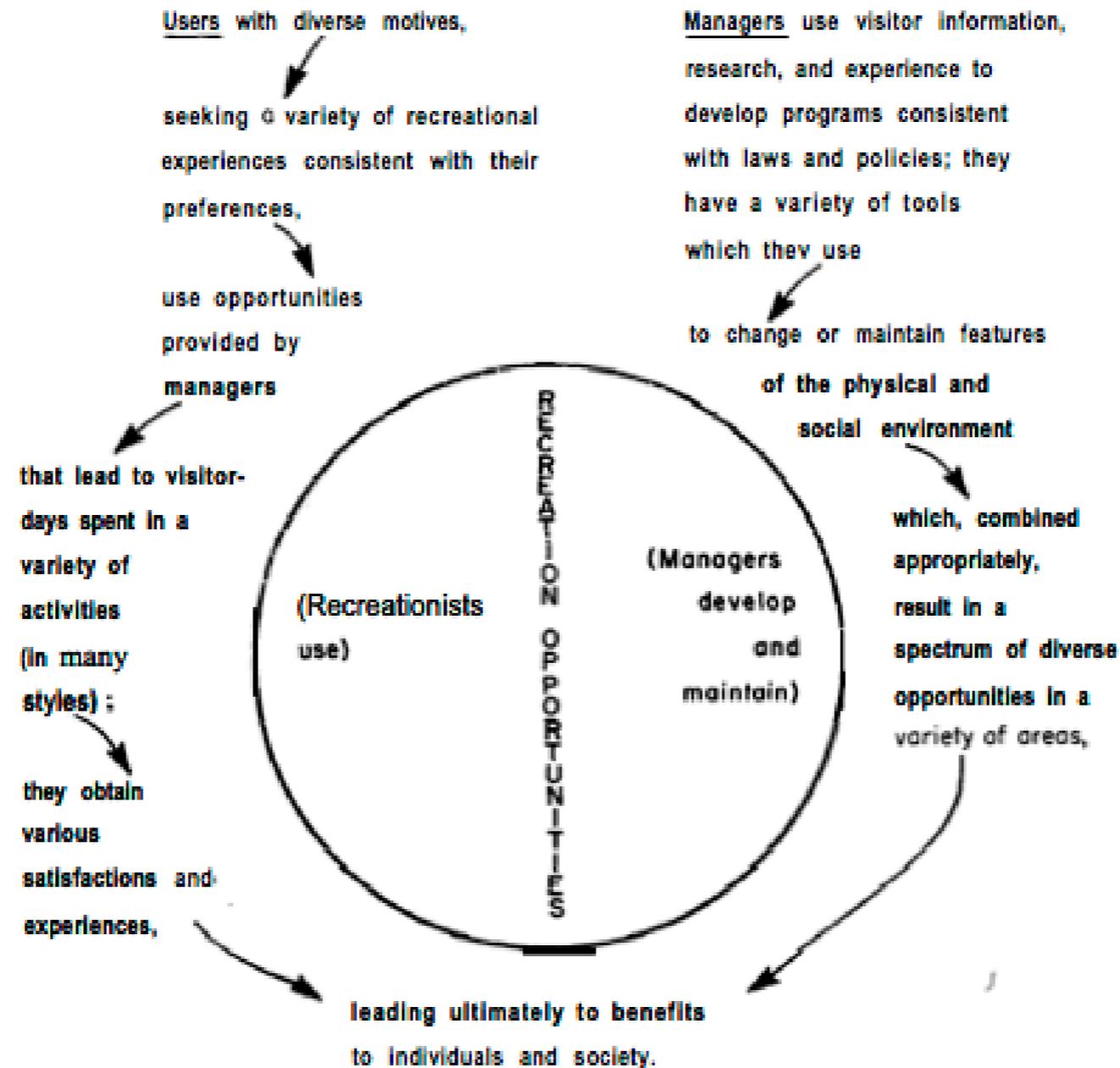
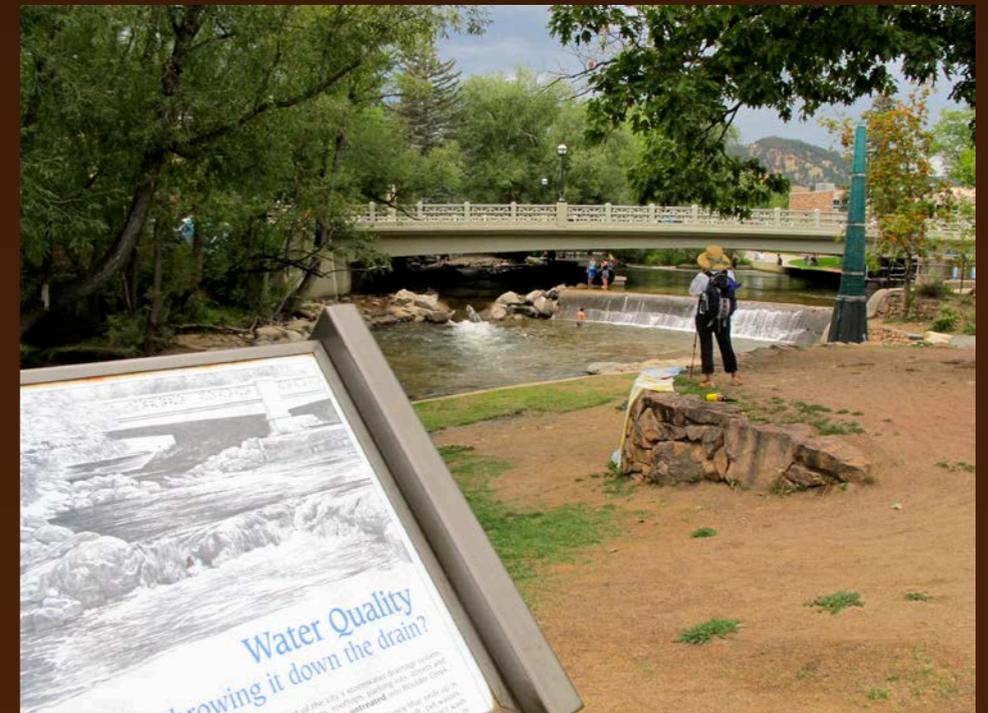


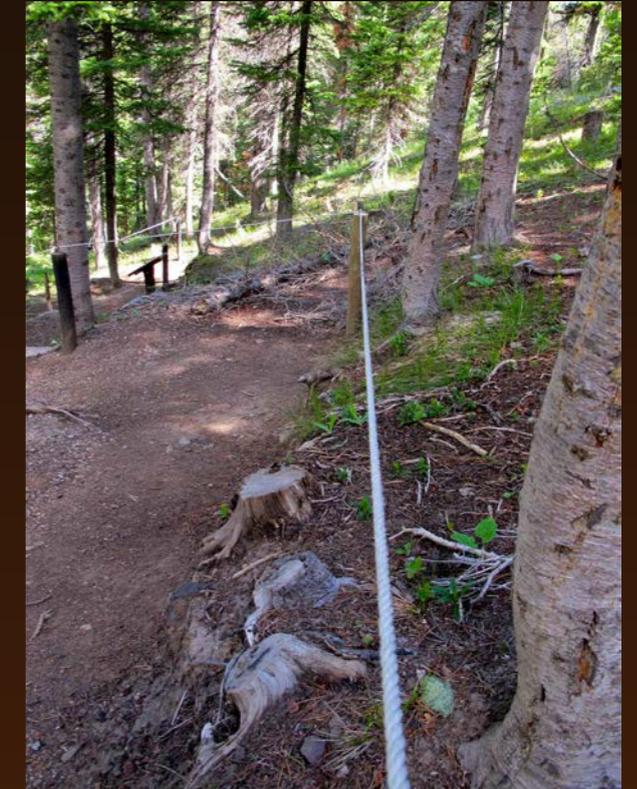
Figure 4. --Link between recreationists' desires and the opportunities provided by managers.

Reality-country Recreation



Realizing Change

- More visitors that are closer to trails, but not necessarily experienced
- Emerging uses
- New regulations
- Dwindling agency resources



Negative Reactions

- Do “nothing”
- Use restrictions due to “carrying capacity”
- Travel Management inventory and closure-binary process
- Land reclassification



Physical Sustainability

- Physical robustness of trails
- Maintenance and sustainability improvements
- Adding new trails
- Land acquisition





Social Sustainability

Visitor Desires

- Diverse motives
- Variety of recreational experiences
- Desiring a high quality experience
- Benefits to individuals and society



Understanding Motivations



Social Conflict

- Conflicts are opportunities
- Conflicts are incredibly inexpensive needs assessments
- Conflicts are relatively rare



Goal Interference



- Between groups with different goals
- Within groups where motivations are different
- Not related to trail use at all

Managerial Sustainability



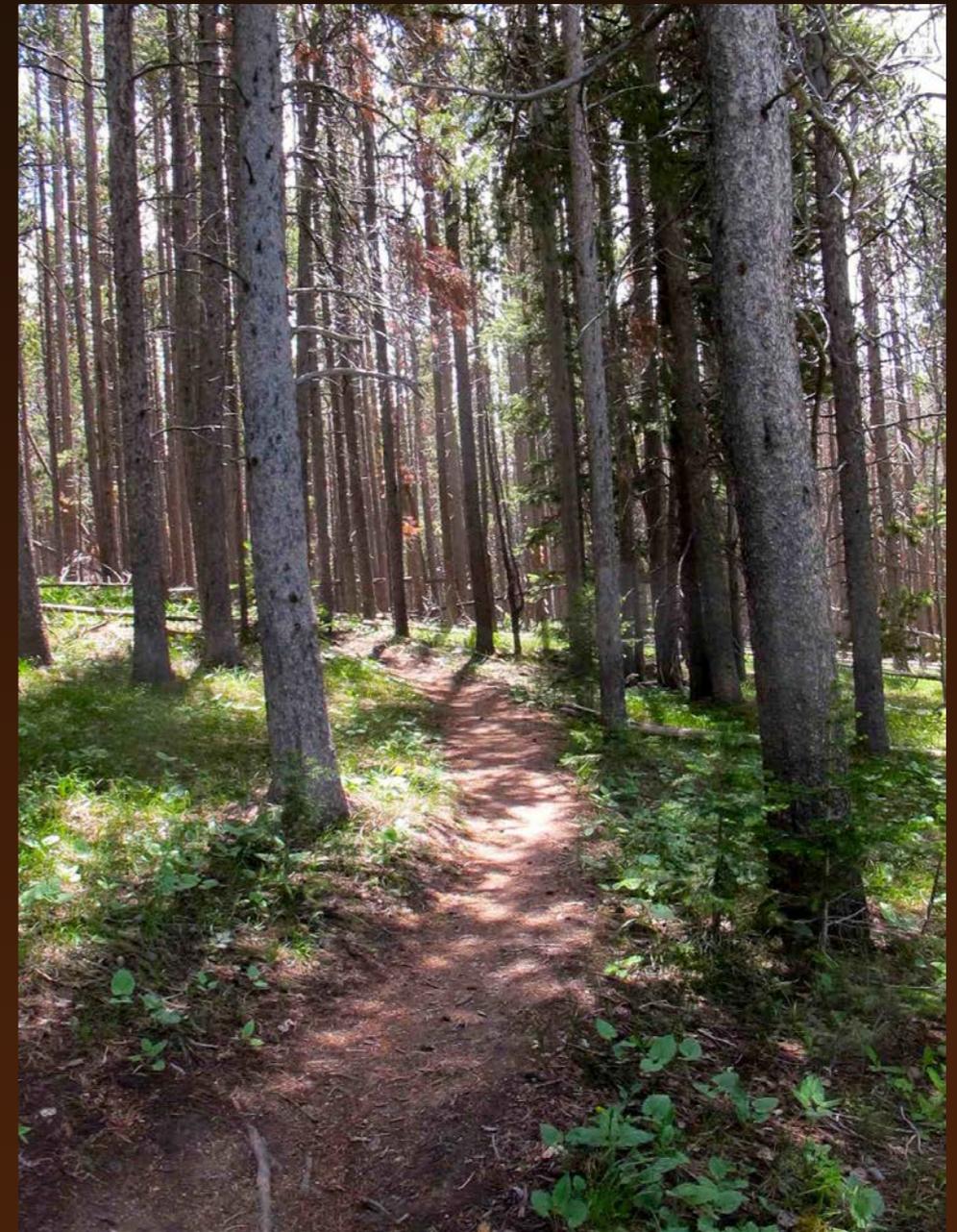
- Ability to maintain facilities to provide diverse, high-quality opportunities
- Using visitor information
- Employing research
- Staff knowledge
- Provide benefits to individuals and society

Physical Responses



Sustainable
trail design,
construction,
and
maintenance

Closure and
complete
restoration



Human Responses

- Encouraging interaction as soon as conflict arises
- Ongoing process that requires time, patience, effort, and sincere, active listening



Management Responses

- Employing the least intrusive physical manipulation as possible
- “Solutions” can often reduce opportunities or alter the experience being sought



Collaboration?

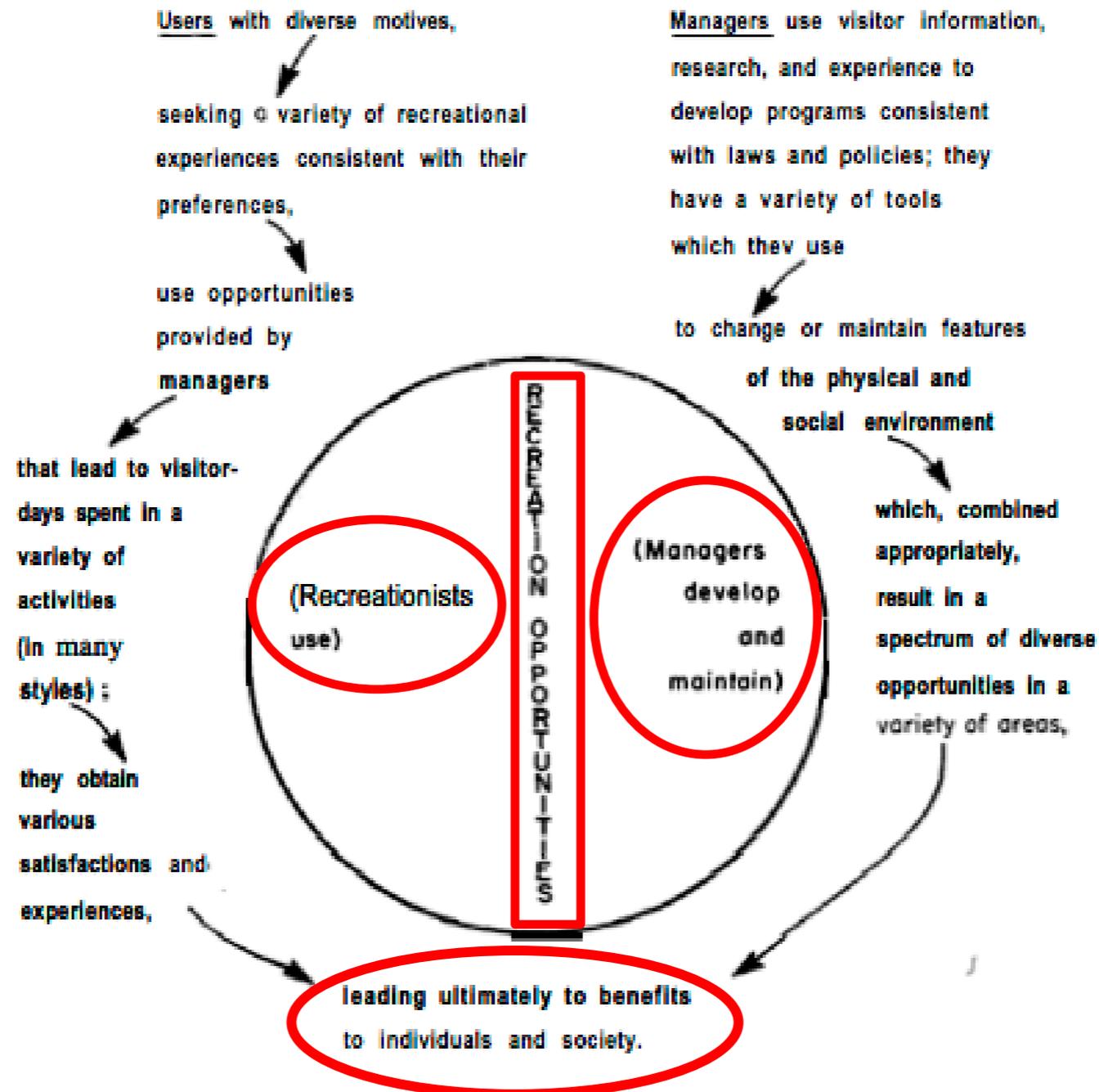


Figure 4. --Link between recreationists' desires and the opportunities provided by managers.

New Paradigm of Partnership



YOUR FAVORITE TRAILS ARE ABOUT TO GET BETTER

Some trails are closed to the public while we work on making them even better than before. As a public agency, it is the responsibility of Five Rivers MetroParks to connect the greatest number of people to nature via the best possible outdoor experiences. Trails are the best vehicle for this goal, so we've committed to constructing the trails in a sustainable manner. Not only will this make the trails more enjoyable, it will have a positive conservational impact, decreasing erosion and harmful rainwater runoff that can compromise the quality of our waterways. The sustainable trail project will (eventually) affect all trails in the MetroParks.

Building trails in a sustainable manner makes them less prone to damage from normal use. Sustainable trail building involves careful planning and working with the land rather than against it. Sustainable trails addresses the needs of a broad spectrum of users, protects the environment, reduces sharing issues between different users groups, and requires less maintenance. This is why sustainable trails are favorable over older models of trail building.

Each park will have a different portion of new trail, re-use of existing trail, and closed sections. Increased accessibility will allow more people to hike the trails, which we hope will lead people to engaging in active, healthy lifestyles, making Dayton a better place to live.

Five Rivers MetroParks has established a multi-year plan to assess the needs and address challenges presented in each of the agency's 25 facilities. We'll have updates posted online to keep you abreast of how your trail experience is improving in your MetroParks. Five Rivers MetroParks will try to accommodate as many trail users as possible during this upgrade period - only certain sections of trail are closed at a time. Look for a kiosk or bulletin board near trailheads at this park location to find out which sections of trail are closed. Visit metroparks.org/detours for news on trail upgrades. You can help improve the trail system through various volunteer opportunities such as user surveys or trail building. Call the Outdoor Recreation Department at (937) 277-4374 for more information.

METROPARKS.ORG

FIVE RIVERS METROPARKS

Education

- Common knowledge between managers and partners
- Must be sought out or cajoled- forced education rarely works
- Formal or informal- there's always more



Promote Understanding

- Aggressively advocate for trail etiquette and resource protection
- Encourage positive interactions
- Target educational efforts
- Present messages in a positive manner



Light-Handed Management

- Non-enforcement measures preserve freedom of choice-very important for high-quality experiences
- Enforcement of regulations is difficult, time-consuming, and can undermine management objectives



Thank You

- Scott Linnenburger
- scott@kay-linn.com

- Thomas McMurtry
- Thomas.mcmurtry@kljeng.com