

Topic: Recreation Forum meeting

Time: December 15, 3:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Time	Agenda Item	Desired Outcomes
3:00	Join ZOOM and Roll Call Approval of September notes	Set expectations and clear goals for teleconference meeting. Join a little early if possible, so we can troubleshoot any tech issues people may have
3:10pm	Subcommittee updates and Other Business:	Winter Recreation Messaging: Nicky Pasi, Deb Kelly, Tonya Morrey, Bradley Gasawski, Eva Tyler, Ken Austin
3:25	Kittitas Stewardship Foundation VSP	Erin Krake
3:45	Celebrating 2020	A recap of what we managed to achieve despite 2020's best efforts to shut us all down!
4:00	Updates from Land Managers	Cle Elum and Naches Rec Programs 2021 Planning Efforts
4:30	Adjourn	HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/842158553?pwd=a1VwS3dyaUesySkIpc3hhS2cyMDJ4QT09>

Meeting ID: 842 158 553

Password: 848859

One tap mobile

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12/15/2020

Present: Ted Jackson, Bradley Gasawski, Eva Tyler, Susan Thomas, Karen Behm, Kathy Young, Gene Reed, Wayne Mohler, Doug Kilgore, Kevin Austin, Bryan Peterson

Land managers: Nicky Pasi, Deborah Kelly, Darcy Batura, Troy Watlamet, Larry Leach, Michelle Capp, John Meier, Pamela McConkey

Guests and presenters: Tonya Morrey, Erin Craig

Heidi Walker

- Note changes/updates
 - Wayne Mohler on previous Ross Huffman-WDFW update
 - Coal Creek Bridge: state parks and private contractor does grooming (not FS)
 - Two outstanding meetings to update – Aug/Sept
- Subcommittee updates
 - French Cabin Creek
 - Karen
 - Group has not met, area under snow
 - Finished another round of fire ring mapping and shared data with Brian
 - Swuak Five Fingers
 - No updates
 - Outreach/Comm
 - Winter recreation messaging
 - Interested members had a small meeting with Deb as FS can edit + distribute videos, also developed and assigned topics at this time
 - Why are we making these videos? SAR requests not tapering off as they usually do this time of year. Possibly because people anxious to get outside because of COVID but are unprepared for hazards of winter months
 - Coordinating with Recreate Responsibly as well as DNR and WDFW to make sure we aren't overlapping
 - Will be posted on ECRP website and Facebook, shared with partner organizations (FS, Greenway, WTA, TNC, etc.)
 - Video topics and presenters:
 - Eva – snowshoeing: one video on clothing, another on what's in your pack, and a third video on safety/locations
 - Bradley – One on emergency action plans, another on cross-country skiing, and a series on back country skiing
 - Ken – winter biking, fat tire biking, damage to muddy trails
 - Karen – fat tire biking not popular on Snoqualmie pass. People bike down center of ski trails and ruin the groomer work. Biking preferred on snowmobile trails
 - Pam – Signage about where not to winter bike does not exist yet. Similar signs do exist for snowshoes. Not illegal, but may receive a stern talking to if biking on ski

trails. Sled dog community accepts fat tire bikes on their trails with open arms

- Tonya – mapping apps; Gaia GPS, Avenza, and Caltopo
 - Karen Behm, Nicky Pasi, Susan Thomas: expect an email with slides to review
- Kittitas Stewardship Foundation VSP
 - Erin Craig - Roslyn resident with experience in community planning and fundraising
 - contracted with ECRP through funding provide by TNC via Discover NW
 - Establishing/researching a voluntary sur-charge program
 - Funding model to fund ECRP projects
 - Similar to Patagonia's "1% for the planet"
 - Works off idea that when people come to recreate, they often spend money at businesses at the same time
 - Business add a small sur-charge to bills that consumer can opt out of, proceeds from sur-charge benefits ECRP
 - Questions for forum members to consider
 - Is it feasible? What are our goals? How much money do we need to raise for this to be viable? What messages do we want to send out to partners and consumers?
 - Erin will be reaching out to have short conversations about this with forum members
 - Expect an email from her within the next couple of weeks to schedule a phone call
- Updates from Land Managers
 - DNR - Larry Leach
 - In 2021, DNR aims to..
 - Celebrate the grand opening of Teanaway West Fork Campground
 - Renovate and expand Indian Camp in the summer
 - Trail work will be continuing with Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance
 - Over the winter, DNR will be doing usual check in's with users for green dot road network
 - FS - John Meier
 - Visiting from Entiat Ranger District, doing work so Cle Elum staff can get more field work done. Here to help in anyway he can, mostly working on whatever Brian passes on to him.
 - Will re-engage with French Cabin Creek and Swuak Five Fingers groups in January
 - Still looking for letters of support for RCO grants
 - Winter trail maintenance and sani-cans specifically
 - Beginning grooming on closed roads
 - Sno-park passes out now
 - Discover pass, NW Forest pass, and the America the Beautiful pass do not work at sno-parks
 - Will groom Salmon La Sac Jan 8th
 - Snow rangers and groomers will both start their season Dec 26th
 - Winter signage complete at sno-parks
 - FS – Michelle Capp
 - Moving forward with GS 11 rec staff in Cle Elum
 - Eliminates need for Cle Elum to join rec departments with Naches

- Could be as late as June until person onboarded
 - Michelle is very grateful for constant participation in ECRP. Know you are genuinely appreciated
 - TNC – Tonya (in Darcy’s place)
 - Starting to develop an invasive plants management strategy for trails
 - We hope to build an approach that spans ownership for a larger impact
 - Conservation Forester position open through the end of this month
 - Partners; please help spread the word
 - MTSG – Nicky
 - Annual dinner went well
 - Shifting into winter mode; lots of collaborative work
 - WDFW – no updates
 - WTA – Eva Tyler
 - Hiking in time of COVID webpage with public land closure info
 - Land managers can send updates to this website
 - Winter advisory messages for specific hikes (i.e. closures, etc.)
 - Encouraging people to find new hikes to disperse impacts, avoid parking and other issues
 - Staff have completed review of trails in Teanaway and will start developing a plan in the spring
 - WA State Parks – Pamela, Winter Rec Program Manager
 - State Parks and FS has seen 160% increase in rec use this season = lots of trash left behind
 - These numbers are affected by the snow we received in winter, but also likely due to COVID and people wanting to get outside
- Celebrating 2020
 - See Nicky’s awesome info-graphic (attached to email and posted on website)
- Other
 - Kevin
 - Typically, after elk season ends the shrub-steppe empties out
 - This year, large groups of side by sides, quads, and 4x4s recreating
 - Often venture illegally on to closed roads from green dot roads
 - Getting their rigs stuck or broken down
 - Ted – social media/Face Book is the best method of communication for this rec group
 - Also, get WDFW involved
 - Volunteer reseeding of Evans Canyon Fire this Friday (12/18/2020)
 - Fall/winter best time of year to lay seed
 - 9 am at Umtanum Recreation Site (suspension bridge)
 - 50 acres to plant