

Topic: Recreation Forum meeting
 Partner Updates
 Time: January 18, 3:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Time	Agenda Item	Speakers, and Desired Outcomes
3:00	Join ZOOM and Roll Call Approval of November notes	Set expectations and clear goals for teleconference meeting.
3:10	News and Events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update from Green Dot group
3:30	Advocacy Opportunity: Reducing Maintenance Backlog on Public Lands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Andrea Imler – WTA • 2022 legislative proviso
4:00	Presentation: WDFW Statewide Recreation Strategy Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joel Sisolak – WDFW <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Overview ○ Opportunities for public input
4:15	Land Manager Updates Rec Group Updates	All
4:30	Adjourn	

Greenway Trust is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: ECRP Recreation Forum
 Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84759469746?pwd=MjhhVXgzVW9JMFdoS2tDcW9wZ0pLUT09>

Meeting ID: 847 5946 9746

Passcode: 536968

One tap mobile

+12532158782,,84759469746#,,,,*536968# US (Tacoma)

+13462487799,,84759469746#,,,,*536968# US (Houston)

Meeting ID: 847 5946 9746

Passcode: 536968

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84759469746?pwd=MjhhVXgzVW9JMFdoS2tDcW9wZ0pLUT09>

Attending: Gene Reed, Kevin Clements, Karen Behm, Eva Tyler, Kathy Young, Bradley Gasawski, Wayne Mohler, Doug Kilgore, Crystal Smith

Land Managers: Ross Huffman, Heide Anderson (new WDFW Rec Planner), Deb Kelly, Kurt Hellman, Stephanie Margheim, Joel Sisolak, Katie Pofahl, Larry Leach, Allie Tripp, Vince Pruis

- News and Updates
 - Green Dot Rd subcommittee
 - Met a few times to discuss Governor's Budget. Now drafting outreach plan to speak to legislators about improving funding for maintenance for GDR
 - Since this is a supplementary session, will mostly be supporting Education and Enforce
 - GDR also looking at actions to support DNR and WDFW in securing access to Naneum State Forest.
 - Fact finding mission recently, looking at roads and mapping out adjacent landowners
 - Also setting up to support WTA's budget proviso (see below)
 - Alternate trails subcommittee
 - No movement here because we've been under 6ft of snow
 - Eva would like to speak with Lindsey Pruett soon
 - Gather up Karen and Kathy
 - Note: Lindsey has accepted the Lead Rec Specialist position at the Cle Elum Ranger District
 - Pete Larned is the lead snow ranger, will be taking on winter rec role. Judi Sandretto continues to fill in with trail crew.
- WTA Budget proviso: Maintenance Backlog on Public Lands
 - Overview – will launch on the public level in February
 - WTA requesting \$15mil from operating budget – annually
 - Split 3-ways between DNR, WDFW, State Parks
 - Dedicated to Maintenance backlog
 - Agencies self-determine where the funding will go
 - Advocate-led request, though agencies provided input on what amount they are able to spend with current capacity
 - ADDITIVE to agencies' official budgets
 - Hope to increase this figure in future biennia
 - Status:
 - Lawmakers being asked to include this in their budget asks
 - Once added to budget request, we can move into public support mode
 - Questions:
 - Is there a number on the bill?
 - No, folding into the legislators budget requests
 - Nicky will include one-pager with notes, but WHEN should it be pushed?
 - "Not quite yet"

- WTA will release a full toolkit, which we will share
 - Next steps:
 - Utilizing WTA toolkit
 - Public signing onto a letter
- WDFW statewide rec strategy
 - 10 year strategy
 - Goals/measures for success:
 - Increase protection for habitat, fish, wildlife, and cultural/tribal resources
 - Enhance rec experiences on WDFW lands
 - Identifies WDFW's niche as "offering opportunities to have a more primitive outdoor experience, encountering nature in intact and recovering ecosystems"
 - Plan does not focus on WDFW's biggest niche – providing hunting and fishing.
 - Even though hunting and fishing is not as present in this guide, they are NOT going away or decreasing
 - Plan aimed at trail users, focused/less dispersed types of rec
 - Strategic priorities:
 - Use and Impact monitoring
 - Getting a better idea of how many people, where, why, and how that affects the resource
 - Area of particular emphasis – tribal governments in close consultation
 - Regional and Local Planning
 - Rec planning, land use planning across scales.
 - Regional: new model for water access area planning (WDFW manages 450-500 access points, need better funding)
 - Integrating rec planning into wildlife area planning
 - Taking a zoning approach to determine where rec is compatible with wildlife, in what seasons
 - Statewide and Local Rulemaking
 - Asking law enforcement officers what areas need strengthening
 - Use of illegal roads and trails
 - Streambank easements
 - Use of drones
 - Cutting standing trees
 - Local: not all regulations are applicable or appropriate everywhere
 - Developing mechanism for local rulemaking
 - Currently a lot of those laws are only made clear on local signage
 - Travel Management
 - Developing comprehensive road policy and trail policy
 - Determine categorization and maintenance levels of routes
 - Closing illegal routes that duplicate existing ones or run through sensitive/bad places
 - Planning for areas of high use and/or impact

- Changing designation of roads from ‘open unless posted closed’ to ‘closed unless posted open’
 - Outside of Green Dot system, roads are open unless a sign says otherwise
 - Does not synch with how other land managers operate their properties
 - Makes it difficult to close illegal routes, because under current rules anything that ‘looks or smells’ like a road will be used like a road, regardless of whether it crosses private property or sensitive habitat
- Education and Engagement
 - Efforts to make lands and programs more welcoming to diverse groups
 - Be more inclusive to audiences other than white males >35years old
 - Listening sessions coming up to determine barriers and plug historically marginalized groups into planning for future programming
 - Provide education about safe and responsible rec
- Capacity and Funding
 - Dealing with maintenance backlog will take time and resources
 - Acknowledge that existing staff have very full plates. Implementing this 10 year strategy will take more resources than we currently have
 - Funding
 - Strategic partnerships with tribal and nonprofit entities
- Near term actions
 - Plan is out for public comment until end of February
 - <https://wdfw.wa.gov/licenses/environmental/sepa/open-comments>
 - Next few biennia:
 - Collect and analyze data
 - Curtail illegal activity
 - Make land more welcoming through listening sessions, community engagement, website updates and signage
 - Increase capacity
 - Proviso
 - Governor’s budget
 - Addressing water access area maintenance
 - Provide support for rec coordination
 - Improving signage
 - Staff feels optimistic going into this session
 - Working rec planning into wildlife area planning – currently happening in the Methow, looking at Ginko
- Questions:
 - Karen – WDFW lands have always felt like a free for all, is encouraged to see some travel management happening in high impact areas

- WDFW tries to host a Green Dot Rd Management meeting every year. Was not able to do so in 2021. They're looking to distribute a survey in 2022 so people can provide comment and feedback. Ross will share a link in February.
 - Statewide, some bills have been introduced to do away with Discover Pass, change target shooting, etc. None have gone out of committee, but staff are tracking
 - Wayne – any sign that Discover Pass elimination has traction?
 - Staff not comfortable making predictions, but there's recognition that DP is an important source of revenue
 - Note that a bill has been introduced every year since 2011
 - USFS
 - Winter rec plowing has resumed! Temporary closure at Gold Creek Pond lifted
 - Plows still working on French Cabin Cr and Salmon la Sac. Should be cleared out this week
 - Blewett is plowed, but smaller sites (Swauk Creek, etc) are still blocked in
 - Karen: what about 29 Pines in Teanaway?
 - County rd is plowed to the end of the pavement, so 29 pines is accessible. Only plowed to 2 lanes, though, so have to drive down to turnaround, turn, and park in southbound lane
 - DNR
 - Greendot updates underway
 - See above notes about 29 Pines
 - Interviewing Education and Enforcement trail steward position! Hope to have someone on beginning of March
 - Mainly in Yakima, but will be on Kittitas Greendot rds
 - TNC
 - Alliance Rd has been and will be closed on the ridge, due to logging
 - <https://parks.state.wa.us/DocumentCenter/View/10415/Last-Resort->
 - Coal Mines Trail is still an active route
 - Areas up by Last Resort are also open to rec, so there's a loop
 - USFS realty group has given TNC a timeline on transferring Cabin Creek parcels. May happen within next calendar year.
 - Exciting for winter motorized rec, because lands will be in permanent protection status, and will consolidate trails in the area
 - May cause some disruption in rec access. Communication underway with USFS.
 - CNW
 - No updates from Laure!
 - Greenway
 - NHA Management Plan is out! Please provide feedback, or read to get a sense of what kinds of projects NHA can help support!
- Other:

- Bighorn boat launch in Yakima Canyon! Currently privately owned and held, but BLM is collecting LWCF dollars to purchase and operate as a public boat launch
 - Could be a good alternative for Ringer Loop, which is being taken back by the river
 - Question to the public: Can we live without access near Ringer.
 - Email Ross directly with thoughts/input
 - ross.huffman@dfw.wa.gov
 - No formal decision has been made, but Ross needs to make the call soon so they can assemble an RCO application