

Topic: Recreation Forum meeting
 Partner Updates
 Time: February 21, 3:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Time	Agenda Item	Speakers, and Desired Outcomes
3:00	Join ZOOM/Conference and Roll Call	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introductions, goal setting • Approval of February notes • Update on legislative session
3:15	Subcommittees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green Dot Roads <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ March 14 meeting • Trail Option • French Cabin Creek <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Signage agreement • Website housekeeping
3:30	Local Conservation Profiles: Kittitas Conservation Trust	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • About KCT • Past and current projects
4:10	Land Manager Updates	All
4:30	Adjourn	

Greenway East is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: ECRP Rec Forum

Time: Every month on the Third Tue, 12 occurrence(s)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81401702628?pwd=L21Sd1p2bmZUZ05yNG9HSmQ4TVBXQT09>

Meeting ID: 814 0170 2628

Passcode: 185312

One tap mobile

+12532050468,,81401702628#,,,,*185312# US

+12532158782,,81401702628#,,,,*185312# US (Tacoma)

Notes: Swap to TEAMS for April

Attending: Kay Emery, Tonya Morrey, Eva Tyler, Karen Behm, Kevin Clements, Laura Osiadacz, Kurt Hellman, Doug Kilgore, Barbara Penniston, Gene Reed, Wayne Mohler

Land Managers: Lindsey Pruett, Jared Treser, Hannah Bates, Kelee Hodges, Darcy Batura

Guests: Mitch Long

Agenda:

- State Revenue Projection
 - Projection reduced by .7% since November – likely to impact operating, not capital
- Subcommittees
 - GDR
 - Were a little late, but were able to put in letters of support and statements of support for agency operating budgets
 - Last week (March 14) was GDR public meeting for the year
 - Strong turnout, presented map updates
 - Biggest change: Nealy Creek Rd addition
 - Closure of Stemilt Basin road (was scheduled for years)
 - Still unclear on access to the Naneum - follow up with DNR
 - Senate funded rec request at half of request, but did not include list of projects. That may come out in House capital budget proposal. As of right now we don't know what would be funded or not.
 - Proposed single track on Clockum had some questions, Hannah doing follow-up
 - CAMP (capital assets and maintenance program) gearing up to start work this week
 - Wenas road work
 - Trail Options
 - Group has not met, but Greenway and USFS have met to discuss priority trails in need of maintenance for summer 2023 (Most of this is brushing and retreading work)
 - Jungle Creek/West Fork
 - Table Mtn post-fire cleanup work
 - Gold Creek Pond loop
 - June 3 – National Trails Day
 - Thorp Creek
 - Knox Creek
 - Road access will need to be improved, or trail may not be accessible to volunteers!

- Will relocate Mineral Creek trailhead from floodplain, maintaining rec access
- Gold Creek Valley Restoration
 - Design and permitting underway
 - Will restore ~2 miles of river & floodplain
 - Restore natural ground and surface water hydrology, reduce chronic dewatering in ESA-listed bulltrout habitat
 - Improve wildlife connections between Norse Peak Wilderness and Alpine Lakes Wilderness, utilizing the I-90 passes
 - Partners will maintain recreational access, working with KCT on project design
- Hanson Ponds – City of Cle Elum
 - Restoring river & floodplain function
 - Improving habitat for spring chinook, salmon, and steelhead
 - Protecting local infrastructure (I-90, City of Cle Elum’s sewer outfall)
 - Better rec access!
 - City of Cle Elum is named for the river, but not many access points TO the river for the community!
 - Continue to reconnect floodplain with adjacent restored properties to improve wildlife connectivity
- Cle Elum Ridge Community Forest
 - RCO grant sponsor, securing \$3million for Phase I transfer
 - Conserve total of 9600ac adjacent to Upper Kit Co communities and Teanaway Community Forest
 - Preserve Towns to Teanaway trail network
 - Maintain working forest values for community safety, wildlife connectivity, watershed health
 - Major local checkerboard remnant consolidation effort
 - Working w/DNR, TNC, Greenway and others to transfer Phase I to DNR management
- Future Goals
 - Become Accredited land trust serving Kit Co
 - Partner with local stakeholders to further mutual conservation and restoration goals
 - Steward, own, and manage properties
 - Prioritize habitats to support target species, facilitate migration and diversity
 - Work with recreational interests
- KCT staff
 - Just one person, hiring a 2nd now (as in the next two weeks)
- Questions
 - Tonya – is Cottonwood Cove (15 acres) open to public?

- Yes, can be accessed from Palouse to Cascades trail. KCT has an easement on neighboring property to bring in vehicles, has removed some relic structures, but is accessible from trails
 - Laura – How can KCT be involved with people who see conservation issues on their own or other public properties
 - Ex: oil in Crystal Creek
 - KCT can help to connect citizens with staff at relevant departments (Ecology, etc) to help identify scope of the problem, potential funding sources, etc
 - Kevin – is KCT involved in Springwood acquisition?
 - Nope, YBIP project
 - Upcoming opportunities to engage:
 - Tours of Kachess projects
 - Revegetation work
 - Fish rescue efforts/pit tagging to help maintain viable populations – partnerships with Yakama Nation and WDFW
 - We've lost 2 of 5 distinct population of bull trout in Kittitas, trying to save remaining 3
- Website housekeeping
 - Removing the forums?
 - On one hand, generates a lot of spam and isn't utilized
 - BUT, also provided a way for folks to directly share information they saw on the ground
 - Karen – what about Slack?
 - Nicky to investigate
 - New calendar
 - Tonya – is this only for local groups to post things, or can anyone running an event include things here?
 - YES, so long as EVENT is in Kittitas, we can include it regardless of who is hosting
- Land Manager Updates
 - DNR
 - Education and Enforcement warden is on parental leave, won't have LEO out this spring
 - No updates on work parties at this time, but check DNR events calendar for additional information for ECRP website calendar
 - Wrapping up winter, planning work for spring
 - Installing kiosks at main GDR entrances
 - West Fork Trails Coalition momentum
 - Developing work party request forms – so users can contact managers to request opportunities to do work
 - This info can be passed along to Rec Forum calendar as well!
 - Questions/Comments:

- Green Dot Road public meeting outreach was much improved over previous years!
 - Note: Rec Comms person from DNR will be moving on end of the month
 - WDFW:
 - Seasonal ORV education specialist is back on board – Jason Schrauth (sp?)
 - Works with wildlife area managers, patrols roads and trails to communicate with users
 - Checks in on reports of damage or conflict
 - If users see anything like this, please contact Wildlife Area Managers, so they can alert Jason.
 - USFS
 - RCO presentations completed, hopefully ranked well.
 - Transition from winter rec to summer rec (seasonal staff ends, then comes back)
 - Winter rangers end this weekend.
 - One last groom at Salmon la Sac this weekend
 - Groups coming on board May 8 and early June
 - Grants and Agreements coming through for Title II and other programs in early April
 - Filling 19 positions between Oregon and WA via regional hiring panel
 - Kittitas County
 - Applied for a grant for vault toilet for the Brian Thompson memorial park, should know about this funding source in May
 - Looking for stakeholders for Snoqualmie Pass Comprehensive Safety Plan. If interested, reach out to Kelee.
 - With increase of recreation, safety risks increased in Snoqualmie Pass area. Working with King Co, WSDOT to look at ‘multimodal’ safety approach
 - Questions:
 - Karen – for the planning grant, what routes are included?
 - Focused mostly on recreator/vehicle interactions at SP
- Other
 - Kevin has two tickets to the Field and Stream Chukar Run banquet – paid for, need to go to a good home, as he has a conflict. Reach out if interested.
 - State Parks has closed the recreation drive access point to Whiskey Dick and Quilomene Wildlife Area
 - No public consultation?
 - Created CAMP process (different from WDFW’s) in 2020, to oversee access
 - This is the only year-round access point, due to restrictions in other areas due to elk closures
 - Kevin is heading a group to bring this to the attention of state elected officials. Public Lands Advisory Committee invited State Parks to speak, but SP declined
 - If interested in the public access through Ginko, contact Kevin
 - TNC planned restoration for 2023

- Mastication near Mixtape and Ewok, so likely some trail closures
- How Go logging operation to wrap up by Fall 2023
- Prescribed burn planning going ahead, pending conditions
- More information about the mastication work:
<https://www.washingtonnature.org/fieldnotes/2022/7/21/chewing-on-progress-in-the-central-cascades-forest>
- CCWRC
 - Contracts winding down, so Karen will be compiling notes about user volume, ongoing access points, etc
 - Karen – winter rec seems to have reached pre-Covid levels of use. So, less than past 3 years!
 - Operations were smoother this year, maybe due to lack of major storms
 - Grooming was more or less on schedule
 - CCWRC blog has piece on Crystal Springs and user protocol. Share this to Rec Forum site: <https://www.snowrec.org/post/crystal-springs-part-1>
- HOME RANGE WILDLIFE RESEARCH ORGANIZATION - Winthrop
 - Has worked with CNW to report on rec impacts on 15 species
 - Maybe a future presentation, or a report to review?