

Topic: Recreation Forum meeting

Partner Updates

Time: October 17, 3:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Time	Agenda Item	Speakers, and Desired Outcomes
3:00	Join Teams, and Roll Call	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introductions, goal setting
3:15	Subcommittees	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Green Dot Roads• Trail Option
3:25	Greenway: Kittitas Stewardship Coordinator season recap	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Activities• Suggestions for next season• Opportunities for Rec Forum engagement
3:35	Rec Forum Priority projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Revisit original list<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Update projects• New going into 2024
4:10	Land Manager Updates	All
4:30	Adjourn	

PLEASE NOTE: This meeting will be ONLINE ONLY via Microsoft Teams:

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer, mobile app or room device

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 240 025 146 587

Passcode: 4inGKD

Attending: Holly English (WDFW), Lindsey Pruett (USFS), Kevin Clements (RGS/KitCoField & Stream), Deb Essman (Field & Stream), Doug Kilgore (Roslyn), Karen Behm (CCWRC), Jared Treser (USFS), Eva Tyler (WTA), Wayne Mohler

- Introductions
 - Note: Crystal Smith has stepped away, and Deb Essman is filling in her role until someone else is nominated by the Field & Stream club
- Subcommittees:
 - Green Dot
 - Kevin is going to do a survey of work done this past year.
 - Anticipates most of that was southern Kittitas/mostly Yakima, because Hannah opted to start South in Wenas and work their way up
 - That will give us a sense of what \$300k was able to accomplish this year – we expect the same amount next year
 - Holly: As part of the new LT Murray Wildlife Area management plan, WDFW is contracting people to survey the roads, so they can collect data to prioritize repairs
 - Although WDFW is starting off with tackling KNOWN management issues, which is what Kevin refers to
 - Doug asking about Naneum St Forest access
 - Let's figure out what DNR's ask may be before the upcoming session
 - Trail Options group
 - Recreate Responsibly Coalition and WTA both had seasonal debriefs on other THA programs. Useful to hear lessons learned. Really emphasized the desire for these kinds of programs
 - Karen – even if we don't talk to everyone, the fact that there's a branded tent announcing a resource demonstrates care and investment in the trails
- Stewardship Coordinator season recap:
 - Position launched this year
 - Aim: engage larger volunteer community in trailwork, restoration, and coordinating official Greenway trailcrew on Kittitas project
 - 285 vol hours collected
 - 10 events
 - 3mi trail brushed
 - 389gal of trash removed
 - 190ft of buck and rail fencing installed at Peoh Pt
 - Pioneered Trailhead Ambassador Program
 - Worked primarily with USFS and TNC in Teanaway, Cle Elum Valley, and Cle Elum
- Looking back at previous Rec Forum priorities:
 - In 2021, members identified projects and needs of interest to the groups they represented. We listed all these, and distilled them down to:

- Implementation Projects:
 - Search for alternative trails to alleviate pressure in the I-90 corridor
 - This became the THA initiative
 - What about increasing assessment on trails that are deemed inaccessible due to blowdowns/old fire footprints?
 - USFS fire might have this information, if it exists at all
 - Support the Green Dot Road needs
 - Strong advocacy
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 - Advocacy Projects:
 - Evergreen SnowPark
 - Didn't make much progress – Kittitas Rec Commission in flux
 - Palouse to Cascades Connections
 - Larger statewide effort, we've supported but not been spearheads
 - Kevin: Do we know where this is still lacking?
 - Sidenote: we had stepped away from French Cabin Creek because it's been tangled up in NEPA/SEPA and USFS management decisions. Where does that sit?
 - Lindsey – USFS is looking at putting in guard rails, implementing low fee to install restrooms and dumpsters
 - Minimal development is the target
 - Much of this driven by the Cle Elum Pool Raise and tribal concerns about in-stream uses disrupting bulltrout and salmon
- Land Manager Updates:
 - USFS
 - Jared Treser will be the Trails and Wilderness Ranger!
 - Three new temp-to-permanent positions will be posted on Nov 19!
 - Forestry technicians
 - Trails technicians
 - Seasonal terms wrap up on Thursday
 - Setting up for Winter Rec
 - Rachel Lake toilet was set to be replaced (using GAOA funding) and there was a cement disaster! Kevin Clements came in and saved the day. Thank you Kevin!
 - ~15,000 volunteer hours (~\$450k value) for the past year
 - USFS is interested in really owning the THA program for next year – bringing volunteers in-house
 - Five Finger trails rehabilitation slated for May 2024
 - WDFW
 - Planning team is focused on implementing statewide rec strategy – focused on regional recreation planning

- Step 1: road/trail inventory condition assessments, to fuel travel management in the areas
- Also looking at rulemaking
 - Starting with rules around illegal trailmaking
 - Would enable LEOs to cite people for creating undesignated trails. But this means you need a known list of designated routes first!
- THA concluded for this season
 - Want to be more strategic on placement and timing of ambassadors
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- LT Murray has new Area Manager – Shaun Morrison
 - Hannah promoted to Regional Operations Manager. Shaun started in June
 - USFS and NPS background w/specialization in botany
- DNR
 - Heavy equipment crew has been working on Green Dots in Naneum Ridge State Forest
 - Mostly in Coleman
 - More work slated for coleman in spring
 - May work on Neely or Pierson if funds persist
 - SEPA for West Fork Teanaway trailhead is out! Permitting is underway so ground can be broken, probably spring 2024
 - Workparties for BST in West Fork Teanaway – EMBA and WTA cohosting
 - Nov 1 the maintenance and operations grant for Kittitas area will kick in, so rec techs will be busy soon
 - Naneum access update:
 - Last we heard, Commissioner Wright was working on reaching out to private landowners
- KSF
 - Grant application window closed October 13
 - A dozen projects! Recipients announced in November
- TCF
 - 10 year anniversary celebration on October 28!
 - Photocontest winners announced, along w/raffle, BBQ, community raffle
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