



Washington Trails Association

705 Second Avenue, Suite 300, Seattle WA 98104 • 206.625.1367 • wta.org

November 2, 2020

Washington Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Snoqualmie Ranger District Grant Requests

Dear RCO Grant Review Committee:

I am writing on behalf of Washington Trails Association to express our enthusiastic support of the following grant applications from the Snoqualmie Ranger District in the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest:

- Snoqualmie USFS & Mt. Rainier NPS Trails Alliance #20-2320 RTP
- Snoqualmie USFS & Mt. Rainier NPS Trails Alliance #20-2320 NOVA
- Snoqualmie R. D. Front Country Patrol 2022-2023 #20-2292 NOVA
- Snoqualmie R. D. Front Country Maintenance #20-2350 NOVA
- Snoqualmie Ranger District OHV & Motorized Rec #20-2194 NOVA
- Snoqualmie RD Winter Recreation Program #20-2233 NOVA
- Alpine Lakes Trail Maintenance 22-23 #20-2349 NOVA
- Alpine Lakes Trail Maintenance 22-23 #20-2308 RTP
- Denny Creek/Franklin Falls Parking Lot Expansion #20-2355 NOVA
- Middlefork Snoqualmie Recreation Hub Improvements #20-2307 NOVA

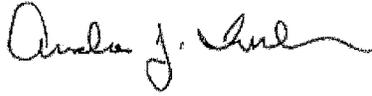
Washington Trails Association has a more than 50-year legacy of engaging the hiking community. WTA enhances hiking experiences in Washington state by empowering a diverse and growing community of hikers to explore, steward and protect trails and public lands. WTA is the nation's largest state-based trail maintenance and hiking advocacy nonprofit organization, with more than 24,000 member households and an online community of more than 100,000. Each year almost 4,500 WTA volunteers perform over 160,000 hours of trail maintenance across the state.

We are very supportive of the Snoqualmie Ranger District and their efforts to improve recreation access, maintenance and education and enforcement for the trails in the district. The Snoqualmie Ranger District encompasses some of Washington's most popular trails and recreation opportunities, including trails in the Alpine Lakes Wilderness.

The grants above will allow for the Snoqualmie Ranger District to conduct a robust trail maintenance program and address the need for further access to things like parking at Franklin Falls. Further, as the outdoors see more visitors than ever due to the pandemic and population growth in Washington, it is integral that places like the Snoqualmie Ranger District are equipped to educate new users on recreating safely and build a welcoming outdoors.

We are excited at the opportunity these projects hold, and look forward to working on them for years to come. Thank you for consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrea J. Imler". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Andrea Imler
Advocacy Director

October 28th, 2020

Recreation and Conservation Office

1111 Washington St. S.E.

Olympia, WA 98501

Dear Recreation and Conservation Office / Funding Board,

As a member of the Fringe Motorcycle Club and long time recreationist and volunteer, I would like express my full support and endorsement of grant funding to the Snoqualmie Ranger District and convey the benefits it would provide the district, and all of us as proud Washington citizens, volunteers, and recreational users.

I'm aware that the Snoqualmie Ranger District is applying for grants for Front & Backcountry Trail Maintenance, Wilderness Patrols, Snoqualmie Ranger District Front Country Ranger, Maintenance, Education, and Enforcement Measures for Evans Creek ORV, additional winter recreation support, as well as funding for other very important needs that will benefit our recreational areas, user groups, families, and ultimately our community.

I/we are very fortunate to be able to work with the Snoqualmie Ranger district and look forward to more cooperation. They have always been available and ready to listen and help in any way they can, or provide appropriate resources for preservation, enforcement and education to keep our forests beautiful and thriving. They also help us coordinate our recreation / volunteer group efforts, towards thousands of volunteer hours to continue the forward progress and stewardship of our forest. This in turn also helps bring revenue into the districts communities from visiting recreationist's. Having done many projects with the Snoqualmie Ranger District, these grants are so very important to our families, future recreation, and preservation of the beautiful Pacific Northwest.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Sincerely,

Shay Schakel
253-569-9597



November 2, 2020

Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Letter of support for Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Snoqualmie Ranger District grant applications

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Advisory Committee,

I am writing on behalf of the more than 13,500-member Pacific Crest Trail Association (PCTA) to express support for various grant applications submitted by the Snoqualmie Ranger District.

It is PCTA's privilege to partner with the Snoqualmie Ranger District to maintain outstanding recreation opportunities in the Central Cascades. The Snoqualmie Ranger District and their dedicated staff are valued partners of our organization. They host a PCTA tool cache, support our volunteer trainings, and provide outstanding public services. District staff have alerted PCTA that they have several grants supporting front country improvements through the NOVA program. Places like Denny Creek and the Middle Fork Snoqualmie Valley provide excellent recreation opportunities to the public. These proposals do not have a direct connection to the Pacific Crest Trail, but PCTA supports the expansion of recreation opportunities in western Washington. Thank you for your consideration of these various grants.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or would like any additional information about public benefits from specific proposals.

Sincerely,

Michael DeCramer
Pacific Crest Trail Association
North Cascades Regional Representative



October 28th, 2020

Recreation and Conservation Office
1111 Washington St. S.E.
Olympia, WA 98501

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Thank you for your time and consideration,

Sincerely,

Jeremy Schakel
253-569-8222



President
Doug McClelland (*), Former Assistant Region Manager
Washington State Department of Natural Resources

Secretary
Josh M. Lipsky(*), Partner, Cascadia Law Group PLLC

Treasurer, Operations Committee Chair
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Fundraising Committee Chair
Ken Krivanec (*), President, Quadrant Homes

Board Engagement Committee Chair
Marie Quasius(*), Senior Port Counsel, Port of Seattle

Program Committee Chair
Cora Johnson (*), Geotechnical Engineer, GeoEngineers

Executive Director
Jon Hoekstra (*), Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust

November 3, 2020

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

RE: Support for Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest 2020 RTP and NOVA grant application proposals

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust enthusiastically endorses the Snoqualmie Ranger District' and the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest's proposals to the RCO through the NOVA and RTP programs to maintain, improve, build, and relocate hiking, backcountry, and multi-use trails and facilities in the District and to provide ranger patrols and user education.

The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust leads and inspires action to conserve and enhance 1.5 million acres between Puget Sound and Ellensburg. Our work connects natural areas, trails, working farm and forests, communities, wildlife habitat and recreation opportunities along the I-90 corridor. We also strive to support partners who own and manage the lands within the Greenway's boundaries, and recognize the immense value of their recreation infrastructure, education programs, and restoration activities in creating opportunities to connect people with the outdoors.

Unfortunately, the very crowds that are drawn to the beauty and challenge of the District's unique terrain threaten to destroy the wilderness experience they are seeking at popular destinations such as the Alpine Lakes Wilderness, the Middle Fork of the Snoqualmie River Valley, and the many popular trails along the Interstate 90 corridor.

Trail maintenance efforts, the creation and maintenance of new recreational ADA-accessible day use facilities, and increased education and enforcement via front- and backcountry rangers is critical to the long-term sustainability of the trails and natural resources within the Greenway, allowing the recreational resources to meet increased demand without negatively impacting the landscape.

With the impacts of COVID-19 felt across the landscape and the region, the importance of high-quality and well-maintained recreation infrastructure has become more and more apparent. The accessibility of trails and recreational facilities in the Greenway, and in the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest provide a critical source of respite and a means for people to connect with nature, and the need to care for these areas is greater than ever.

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The Mountaineers Foothills Branch
Bob Ellis, Lifetime Educator and Cyclist,
Karl Forsgaard, Manager of Implementations, Thomson Reuters;
Alpine Lakes Protection Society
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Program Services, Puget Sound Energy
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Interim Executive Director
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Ben Mayer, Associate, K&L Gates
Tod McDonald (*), Co-Founder, Valid8 Financial
Roger Millar (X), Secretary of Transportation, WSDOT
Chad Nesland, Director, Microsoft Procurement, Microsoft
Thomas O'Keefe, Pacific Northwest Stewardship Director,
American Whitewater
Amanda O'Rourke, CPA, Partner, Greenwood Ohlund & Co.
David Patton, Northwest Area Director, The Trust for Public Land
Kizz Prusia, Project Associate, Triangle Associates
Charles Raines, Director Cascade Checkerboard Project, Sierra Club,
Washington State Chapter
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AAA Washington
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Alison Washburn, Bellevue Store Manager, REI Co-op
Jody Weil (X), Supervisor, Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest
Joel Yoker, President, Snoqualmie Valley Youth Activities and
Community Center

(*): Executive Committee Member
(X): Ex Officio (non-voting) Director

MTSGREENWAY.ORG



The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust convenes a diverse coalition of public and private partners working to ensure a long-term balance between people and nature, across the watersheds between Seattle and Ellensburg. We work to connect and enhance wildlife habitat, improve outdoor recreation, enhance outdoor education, preserve working farms and forests, and ensure thriving communities.

The Greenway Trust is working with a broad coalition of partners including the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, the Washington State Dept. of Natural Resources and many other agencies, nonprofits, businesses, and citizens to support long-term stewardship of the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River Valley and to responsibly accommodate increased visitation expected to occur after a federal road improvement project paves the main access to the Valley. The projects put forth within these multiple grant proposals will help to ensure that trails and facilities in the Middle Fork Valley and in the Greenway are up to a standard that can sustainably support higher public visitation, and that recreational users are aware and educated about the natural world around them. The completion of the paving of the Middle Fork Road (Forest Road 56) in 2016-17 has increased the importance of this work, enabling more recreational users to connect with the many opportunities this landscape has to offer.

Funding the U.S. Forest Service's trail, infrastructure, restoration and educational programs not only enhances the local economy, it also provides a valuable public service to local and regional visitors. The Greenway boundary was designated a National Heritage Area in 2019, and is sure to see more visitors as the area's profile continues to grow. In light of this increased use, the Forest Service's efforts to keep its trails, safe, well-maintained, and of limited impact to the surrounding natural resources will be key.

The Greenway Trust has long partnered with the MBS on trail and recreation projects, and we strongly support these proposals. If you have any questions, please contact Mackenzie Dolstad, Stewardship Program Manager, at 206-503-0683 or mackenzie.dolstad@mtsgreenway.org. Thank you for the opportunity to share our support for these important projects.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jon Hoekstra". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jon" being particularly prominent.

Jon Hoekstra
Executive Director

October 25 , 2020

Recreation and Conservation Office

1111 Washington Street S.E. #2

Olympia, Wa 98501

Dear Recreation and Conservation funding board:

As President of the Hi- Country Snowmobile club, are aware that the Snoqualmie Ranger District is applying for a number of grants from both the RTP and the NOVA categories. We endorse and support these grant applications. As a long time recreational user and volunteer, (literally hundreds of volunteer hours) We are very aware of the benefit these grants would provide to the Snoqualmie Ranger District.

We have done many projects working side by side with the great people out at the Enumclaw Forest Service office.

Aside from the usual grants for trail maintenance, front country patrol, Evans Creek O.R.V. Campground volunteer coordinator and back country patrol, the District is also applying for grants to assist with fire recovery efforts for Corral Pass Campground. The entire Corral Pass campground was destroyed by the Norse Peak fire in 2017. I personally have been up there and inspected the fire damage, In addition, the Middle Fork Trail has a severe washout during the fall of 2017 and the popular Asehel Curtis picnic site off I-90 is in need of restoration.

The District recreation staff coordinate thousands of volunteer hours annually that subsidize their efforts to provide a continued and valued recreation experience. Grants from the Recreation Conservation Office ensure that resources continue to be available for these efforts. With the many "cut backs" of Federal money, these Grants are Extremely important to the Snoqualmie Ranger District to keep areas open, maintance , repair and Law Enforcement. We feel very fortunate to work with such great people who are always available and listen to all our concerns, We have a great "working relationship " with the Snoqualmie Ranger District.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sincerely,

Dan Johnson President

Hi-Country Snowmobile Club

3670 53rd st se

Auburn wa. 98092

253-606-0108

Members with

PNW4DA (Pacific North West 4 wheel drive association)

Washington State Snowmobile association

Washington State Parks and Recreation , Grooming Council

Pacific North West Motorcycle Association

Blue Ribbon Coalition

Avid Hiker , Sportsman and all around Outdoor Enthusiast.



BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF WASHINGTON
PO Box 1132
ELLENSBURG, WA 98926
WWW.BCHW.ORG

October 30, 2020
Recreation and Conservation Office
1111 Washington Street S.E. #2
Olympia, WA 98501

Dear Recreation and Conservation funding board:

Back Country Horsemen of Washington is aware that the Snoqualmie Ranger District is applying for a number of grants from both the RTP and the NOVA categories. We endorse and support these grant applications. As long time recreation users and as an organization that does volunteer trail maintenance in the Snoqualmie Ranger District we are aware of the benefit these grants would provide.

The Snoqualmie Ranger District is currently applying for grants that include funding for front country and back country trail maintenance, Wilderness patrols and Snoqualmie Ranger District front country rangers. They also have submissions for the Evans Creek ORV area for maintenance and education and enforcement and are putting a grant proposal together for additional winter recreation support.

The Snoqualmie District recreation staff manages and coordinates volunteer hours annually that subsidize their efforts to provide a continued and valued recreation experience. Grants from the Recreation Conservation Office ensure that resources continue to be available for these efforts.

Thank you for your consideration,
Sincerely,

Kathy Young

Kathy Young
Public Lands Chairman
Back Country Horsemen of Washington
public_lands@bchw.org



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(†) Executive Committee Member
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MTSGREENWAY.ORG

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Program Committee Chair
 Cora Johnson (†), Geotechnical Engineer, GeoEngineers

Executive Director
 Jon Hoekstra (†), Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust

November 3, 2020

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,
 P.O. Box 40917
 Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

RE: Support for Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest 2020 RTP and NOVA
 grant application proposals

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 Snoqualmie Ranger District' and the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest's
 proposals to the RCO through the NOVA and RTP programs to maintain,
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 and enhance 1.5 million acres between Puget Sound and Ellensburg. Our work
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Unfortunately, the very crowds that are drawn to the beauty and challenge of
 the District's unique terrain threaten to destroy the wilderness experience they
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 Middle Fork of the Snoqualmie River Valley, and the many popular trails along
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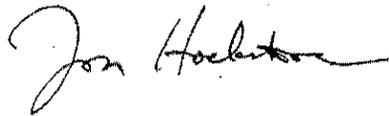
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Sincerely,



Jon Hoekstra
Executive Director



BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF WASHINGTON
PO Box 1132
ELLENSBURG, WA 98926
WWW.BCHW.ORG

October 30, 2020
Recreation and Conservation Office
1111 Washington Street S.E. #2
Olympia, WA 98501

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Thank you for your consideration,
Sincerely,

s/Kathy Young

Kathy Young
Public Lands Chairman
Back Country Horsemen of Washington
public_lands@bchw.org



Pacific Crest Trail Association

North Cascades Regional Office

November 2, 2020

Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Letter of support for Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Snoqualmie Ranger District grant applications

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Sincerely,

Michael DeCramer
Pacific Crest Trail Association
North Cascades Regional Representative



RCO Review Committee

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office

P.O. Box 40917

Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Dear RCO Review Committee,

On behalf of Byron Kibler Elementary I am writing to express support for the Snoqualmie Ranger District's 2020 education grant applications. Specifically, for their 20-2334 Alpine Lakes Backcountry Patrol and 20-2292 Snoqualmie R.D. Front Country Patrol grants applications. These grants have allowed outdoor recreational opportunities for many students and their families that they may not have otherwise had.

Over the past few years, Snoqualmie Ranger District recreation staff have organized outstanding outdoor education events for our school's 4th grade students. Our staff, students and parents look forward to this event each spring and the students especially love the opportunity to walk through old growth as they learn about leave no trace techniques, fire prevention, the salmon lifecycle, and forest ecology principles. These stations provide meaningful and lasting education about our forests and the ecosystems within. I am always amazed by the number of students in my classrooms each year that have never had an opportunity to hike or recreate in the forest beyond these fieldtrips. It is critical that we are able to maintain our partnership in order to provide these valuable outings for students. Perhaps more importantly the program teaches our youth to become responsible stewards of natural areas as they recreate in the future.

We understand that the Snoqualmie Ranger District relies on RCO grant contributions in order to host this amazing youth education opportunity, so Byron Kibler Elementary strongly supports their grant applications. Without these critical opportunities many students would not know the joy of spending time in the forest or how to better care for their public lands.

Sincerely,

Kelly McNeil

4th Grade Teacher, Byron Kibler Elementary

2057 Kibler Ave

Enumclaw, WA 98022



NOVA Grant Committee

c/o Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office

PO Box 40917

Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Dear NOVA Committee Members,

The Washington Off-Highway Vehicle Alliance (WOHVA) is a statewide organization representing 13,000 off-highway vehicle enthusiasts. Our members donate thousands of hours each year to maintaining and enhancing off-highway vehicle trails and facilities on public land in Washington. We have strong relationships with land managers and decision makers across the state.

One of our strongest relationships is with the Cle Elum Ranger District of the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest. Mikki Douglass and her staff do an outstanding job maintaining trails and facilities and work tirelessly to create stronger partnerships with the recreating public. I write today to support the District's application for Maintenance and Operation Grant Funds in the upcoming grant cycle. Mikki and her staff will use these funds in a manner that provides the most benefit to those that recreate on the District.

I understand that these grants are extremely competitive, and I believe that the track record of the Cle Elum Ranger District speaks to why they should be prioritized for funding. I appreciate your consideration of this letter and the District's grant request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Marc Hildesheim', is located below the 'Sincerely,' text.

Marc Hildesheim

Vice President, WOHVA

marc@wohva.org



Northwest Motorcycle Association
269 Green Mountain Road
Missoula, WA 98564

October 12, 2020

Re: Grant Support Letter 20-2124 E-EDU. Cle Elum RD ORV E&E 2022 -2023

Dear RCO Grant Review Committee,

I am pleased to write a letter of support on behalf of the Northwest Motorcycle Association. I work closely with the US Forest Service promoting volunteerism and stewardship on National Forest Trails in Central Washington. The forest service recreation program is sadly underfunded. The trails and campgrounds see an increasing amount of use as maintenance falls further and further behind. The US Forest Service depends on RCO grant support to fund education and enforcement and maintenance programs on the national forest. As a volunteer coordinator and trails advocate I collaborate closely with the recreation managers in the Entiat, Methow, Cle Elum and Wenatchee River Ranger Districts. To date this year Northwest Motorcycle Association Volunteers have recorded 4160 volunteer hours. 1276 if these hours were recorded for the Cle Elum Ranger District. The volunteer hours collected is largely due to the support the Cle Elum District has under Mikki Douglas. Mikki supports the volunteer movement with tools and administrative cooperation. As volunteers we use the tools and cooperation to make an impact on trails. We also create volunteer hours to support matching grant funds. The Forest Service was created to protect and maintain land for everyone's enjoyment. With ever shrinking budgets the amount of money available to properly maintain the trail systems is just not available. It is sad to see our trails going away from lack of maintenance. Working together in partnership with RCO funding and volunteers is the way we can keep our trails open and maintained to all users.

Thank you for your consideration

Sincerely,

Sean Clarke

Northwest Motorcycle Association

Sean Clarke - Central Washington Trails Project

Marc Toenyan - President

Dale Williams - Vice President

Tod Petersen - Land Use/Legislative Coordinator



10/6/2020

To whom it may concern,

I'm writing to express enthusiastic support for the Cle Elum Ranger District ORV Trail Program on behalf of the Bikepacking Roots organization and our 5,000+ members of the bikepacking community.

Bikepacking Roots is a national 501(c)(3) non-profit dedicated to supporting the rapidly growing bikepacking community and advocating for the wild places and public lands through which we ride. While trail conflicts can always happen, we find that bikepackers and motorized users can coexist in trail systems and bikepackers appreciate the countless hours and thousands of hours motorized users have dedicated to this area's trail systems. If it wasn't for the ongoing stewardship efforts of these people, made possible by grant funding, bikepackers would struggle to find safe, fun, and scenic connectivity between more mountain bike specific areas.

Beyond that, this particular OHV area is an important connection for our ongoing Orogenesis long-distance backcountry mountain bike route project linking Canada to Mexico. It's akin to the Pacific Crest Trail, but Orogenesis is being created specifically with mountain bike travel in mind.

Thanks so much for the energy you're putting into trails projects. If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to us.

Best,

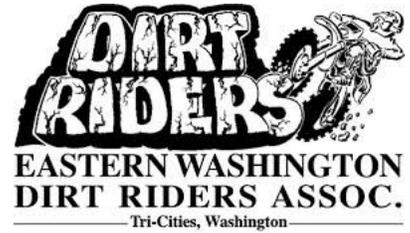
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gabriel Tiller".

Gabriel Tiller

Board Member

Bikepacking Roots

bikepackingroots.org/orogenesis.html



dualsprt@charter.net

To whom it may concern;

The Eastern Washington Dirt Riders Association supports the Cle Elum Ranger Districts ORV program. The Cle Elum Ranger District is right in the middle of the state and sees a huge amount of use because of it's location and excellent trails.

The Eastern Washington Dirt Rides Association has always supported the Cle Elum ORV program with donations of material and volunteer labor. We recognize and appreciate the importance of this excellent trail system.

Besides the volunteer work the Cle Elum District counts on grants to maintain the quality their trails. There for the Eastern Washington Dirt Riders Association supports the Cle Elum Ranger Districts request for Education and M&O grants.

Sincerely

Doug Conner

Eastern Washington Dirt Riders Association

P.O. Box 5392

Pasco, WA 99302

To whom it may concern, I support the motorized trail system in the Cle Elum ranger district. I belong to the Hurtin Units Jeep club and volunteer my services to motorized trail maintenance, both jeep and motorcycle,

These trails are the gem of Washington state!

My club works closely with rangers like Mikki Douglass and Scott to make sure the Liberty & Manastash trail systems are maintained. I cannot tell you how much our club enjoys these trail systems. The Cle Elum district has our continued support of this system.

Terry Mitchell

Outside Sales

Columbia Bearing Company

A Division of BDI

[721 East Broadway](#)

[Moses Lake, WA 98837](#)

Email: tmitchell@bdi-usa.com

Phone: [509-765-1203](tel:509-765-1203)

Fax: [509-765-1788](tel:509-765-1788)

Mobile: [509-771-1203](tel:509-771-1203)

<http://www.bdiexpress.com>

<http://www.bdiworldwide.com>

To whom it may concern

For over 10 years now my family has come to enjoy the woods surrounding Cle Elum. The trails we enjoy could not be maintained without the great work of Mikki and her ORV crew. The sheer beauty of this area, along with the explosive visitors coming from the West side, have made it more important than ever to keep the moto trail system maintained and readily open for motorized use. There exists a great voluntary element in this area, and with the guidance of the ORV crew, this scenic outdoor area can remain so, for my family and friends to safely enjoy for many years to come.

Thank You

Andrew Hirsch

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

andrewhirsch@comcast.net



October 15, 2020

Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

**RE: 20-2126: Methow Valley Climbing Rangers 2022-2023;
20-2137: MVRD Wilderness & Backcountry Rangers 2022-2023;
20-2134: MVRD Trail Maintenance 2022-2023; and
20-2133: MVRD Developed Rec Campground Maintenance 2022-23**

Dear evaluation committee members,

Please accept our joint letter of support from the seven undersigned climbing organizations and guide companies for the Methow Valley Ranger District (MVRD)'s proposals for 20-2126: Methow Valley Climbing Rangers 2022-2023, 20-2137: MVRD Wilderness & Backcountry Rangers 2022-2023, 20-2134: MVRD Trail Maintenance 2022-2023, and 20-2133: MVRD Developed Rec Campground Maintenance 2022-23. These proposals promote education of Washington's climbing community, improve the recreational experience, and help protect the climbing environment. We strongly support these projects and the value that they will bring to recreationalists in the Methow Valley.

The MVRD encompasses many rock climbing and mountaineering destinations of local, regional and international significance; a few of which are the Washington Pass Spires such as Liberty Bell, the Wine Spires of Silver Star Peak, Goat Wall, and dozens of crags and bouldering areas in the Mazama area, the North Cascades Scenic Corridor, and the Chewuch River Valley. Climbing history in this district dates back 70 years and, with over 400 published climbing routes, the popularity of climbing continues to grow. Climbers make up over 11,000 visitor use days in a single season on the MVRD.

The Methow Valley Climbing Rangers program has been successfully operating since 2016 and continues its important work of educating climbers on environmentally and socially responsible climbing practices, collecting use and resource data, identifying environmental impacts, building relationships within the community, and enforcing regulations. In 2018 and 2019, the program was a critical component of the collaborative Washington Pass Spires Access Trail Project, which brought together hundreds of community partners, \$130,000 in grassroots fundraising, and thousands of volunteer work hours to establish a sustainable trail system on the western slopes of the Liberty Bell group.

In conjunction with the Climbing Rangers program, the MVRD Wilderness and Backcountry Rangers proposal will fund three seasonal rangers and several volunteers to perform in-field visitor contacts to

promote leave-no-trace techniques and enforce regulations in high-use recreation areas along the North Cascades Scenic Corridor, Hart's Pass, Pasayten Wilderness and Lake Chelan-Sawtooth Wilderness areas.

In addition to the above, our recreational user group frequently use the extensive network of trails and campgrounds outlined in the MVRD Trail Maintenance and Developed Rec Campground Maintenance proposals. Use numbers at trailheads, campsites, and other facilities in the Methow Valley grew exponentially in the summer of 2020 as visitors sought out safe, outdoor activities in the midst of a global pandemic. It is more important than ever to support land managers in the maintenance of these high-use trails and facilities to minimize damage from human waste, litter, camping in environmentally fragile areas, and other unintended impacts.

The climbing and mountaineering community as a group is conscientious of access and environmental issues in the areas that they recreate. When resources are available to educate them, they can be one of the most thoughtful and proactive user groups in terms of preservation and impact minimization. We are excited about the potential of these programs to preserve the quality of outdoor experiences for all future users of the MVRD. We believe that the money granted for these programs would be very well spent preserving and improving the nature of our public lands and the experience one can get from it.

We look forward to supporting MVRD with volunteer, outreach, and educational support and we sincerely thank the MVRD for their collaboration and commitment to maintaining and improving the recreational experience in the Methow Valley.

Sincerely,

Joe Sambataro, Northwest Regional Director
Access Fund
joe@accessfund.org
accessfund.org

Chelsea Sweetin, President
Washington Alpine Club
wacboard@googlegroups.com
washingtonalpineclub.org

Andrew Puhl, Policy Volunteer
American Alpine Club - Cascade Section
cascade@americanalpineclub.org
americanalpineclub.org

Ashley Siple, President
Washington Climbers Coalition
ahsiple@gmail.com
washingtonclimbers.org

Matt Wade, Advocacy and Policy Director
American Mountain Guides Association
matt@amga.com
amga.com

Betsy Robblee, Conservation & Advocacy Director
The Mountaineers
betsyr@mountaineers.org
mountaineers.org

Mark Allen, Owner
The Mountain Bureau
markallen@mountainbureau.com
mountainbureau.com

North Cascades Mountain Hostel

209 Castle Ave • Winthrop, WA 98862 • Phone: 206-940-4507
E-Mail: info@ncascadesmtnhostel.com Web: www.ncascadesmtnhostel.com



Date: 10/16/2020

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA98504-0917

In support of:

- 20-2137: MVRD Wilderness & Backcountry Rangers 2022-2023
- 20-2126: Methow Valley Climbing Rangers 2022-2023
- 20-2134: MVRD Trail Maintenance 2022-2023
- 20-2135: MVRD Mixed Use Deferred Trail Maintenance 2022-2023
- 20-2133 MVRD Developed Rec Campground Maintenance 2022-23

To Whom It May Concern:

As a business member of the lodging community in the Methow Valley, our guests utilize a multitude of the FS resources including trailheads, parking, restrooms, campgrounds, and most importantly- trails. These invaluable resources allow our guests to explore the beauty and magnificence of the area we call home. Without them, it would make it difficult for the average American to enjoy our US Forest Service lands. The kind of work that these grants support allow our guests to access this land safely, tread lightly and open up forest access to folks that might not know about the region otherwise.

As an American, I believe our public lands are our greatest assets. The recreational opportunities that these lands provide is the lifeblood to any recreational based tourist town in the US. Our area was revitalized as a “theme” town in the 1970’s to help support a struggling area economy that was based on logging and mining that had slowed down to almost a halt. A tourist based replacement economy was created to provide a more sustainable economic option versus large-scale resource extraction. This is our legacy. With the neighboring National Park and State Lands, the Forest Service recreational assets forms the basis for our current economy and all the associated businesses such as mine that depend heavily on what these government lands provide recreationally.

As a representative of small business owners and other lodging operations, I would urge your office to strongly consider supporting the grants listed above. Not only do they provide access to this world-class recreational opportunity to the greater public; they provide the foundation for much of the revenue generated in this mountain town community.

Sincerely,

Paul Smotherman

Owner/Operator

North Cascades Mountain Hostel



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- Community Conservation
Coordinator
Daniel Senner
- Stewardship Associate
Johnnie Duguay

October 16, 2020

LETTER OF SUPPORT

Dear RCO Project Review Committee,

The Methow Conservancy serves as the Methow Valley's locally based land trust organization, with a Mission of 'Inspiring People to Care for the Land of the Methow Valley.' We represent over 1,000 members who support our work and programs here in the Methow watershed. It is my pleasure to submit this letter of support for the following projects for which our Methow Valley Ranger District is competing this round: **Projects #20-2137, 20-2126, 20-2134, 20-2135, 20-2136 and 20-2133.**

As has been reported in the regional Press, the Methow Valley is one of the State's recreation destinations that has seen an explosive increase in visitation over the past 9 months, building upon years of steady growth. In a watershed where over 91% of our land base is held by a public entity for the use and enjoyment of the public, our federal lands have seen a dramatic increase in use and visitation.

Each of the projects for which our local Ranger District is seeking funding will serve to address the real or potential negative impacts that can come from a very high level of use and/or allow our community to address deferred maintenance so that more access can be provided to help distribute the use.

We are fortunate here in the Methow Valley to have a good working relationship between the community, our local public land managers and a host of non-profit organizations focused upon recreation, conservation and salmon recovery. This foundation, combined with good communication, allows us to work as efficiently as possible to meet the needs of the resources we steward, and those who enjoy them recreationally. All that said, we absolutely are reliant upon programs like those managed by the State Recreation and Conservation Office to provide funding for many of these critical functions.

I thank you in advance for giving careful consideration to each of these requests, and look forward to our continued collaboration and coordination with the Methow Ranger District as they are able to staff critical needs, address maintenance priorities and provide safe places for the residents of our state to come, camp, and enjoy the beauty of the North Cascades!

Please feel free to contact me with any questions at (509) 996-5866 or Jason@methowconservancy.org

Sincerely,



Jason Paulsen
Executive Director





We connect people, nature and communities through a world-class trail system

October 2, 2020

To RCO Board and Staff Members,

Thank you for this opportunity to share our organizations enthusiasm for the following projects submitted by the USFS.

1. 20-2137 EDU, MVRD Wilderness & Backcountry Rangers 2022-2023 Category: NOVA Education & Enforcement
2. 20-2126 E Methow Valley Climbing Rangers 2022-2023 Category: NOVA Education & Enforcement
3. 20-2133 MNT, MVRD DEVELOPED REC CAMPGROUND MAINTENANCE 2022-23 Category: NOVA Non-Highway
4. 20-2134: MVRD Trail Maintenance 2022-2023 Category: NOVA Non-Motorized, Maintenance
5. 20-2135: MVRD Mixed Use Deferred Trail Maintenance 2022-2023 Category: Recreation Trails Program, Maintenance
6. 20-2136: MVRD Motorized Trail Maintenance 2022-2023 Category: NOVA Off Road Vehicle, Maintenance & Operation

As a 44 year old non-profit organization in the Methow Valley in Okanogan County that supports \$12.4 million annually into the local economy, over 150 FTE jobs, and 250,000 recreational experiences annually that inspire care and stewardship for the land, I am writing to express my strong support for these projects.

This projects builds upon significant previous public and private investments in trails and recreation in iconic landscapes here in the Methow Valley. I encourage RCO to support these projects for the benefit of the local economy, people and wildlife of Washington State.

Sincerely,

James DeSalvo
Executive Director



October 12, 2020

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

RE: Support for 2022-2023 Methow Valley Climbing Rangers Grant Applications:

- MVRD Wilderness and Backcountry Rangers
- MV Climbing Rangers
- MVRD Trail Maintenance
- MVRD Mixed use Deferred Trail Maintenance
- MVRD Motorized Trail Maintenance
- MVRD Developed Rec Campsite Maintenance

To Whom it May Concern:

Okanogan County Search and Rescue Association (OCSAR) writes this letter to express support of the Methow Valley Ranger District (MVRD)'s proposals referenced above. All of these proposals assist OCSAR with our mission of assisting the Okanogan County Sheriff's Department on Search and Rescue (SAR) missions.

The MVRD encompasses a huge amount of both designated wilderness (the Pasayten and the Lake Chelan-Sawtooth wilderness) and non-wilderness area in Okanogan County. OSCAR, during SAR missions, will be able to reap the benefits of these grants by the work of the Methow Valley Ranger District.

With COVID-19, the Methow Valley area has seen a huge influx of recreation visitors from urban areas. These grants are now needed more than ever.

Specifically, the grants will assist OCSAR the following ways.

MVRD Wilderness and Backcountry Rangers – This grant continues the Wilderness and Backcountry program to perform in-field visitor contacts to promote and enforce regulations in high-use recreation areas by horseback, day-

OKANOGAN COUNTY



hiking and backpack patrols. With the before mentioned influx of new visitors to the area, this program is needed more than ever. With more in-field visitor contacts, this reduces the likelihood of SAR services needed for these visitors.

MV Climbing Rangers - This grant continues the MVRD Climbing Ranger program at education about good climbing practices. OCSAR does have a high-angle rescue team that is trained in vertical rescues on the local climbing walls. Needless to say, the education program aimed at climbers provided by the MV climbing rangers helps ensure that our services will be needed less frequently.

MVRD Trail Maintenance – OCSAR during our search and rescue missions benefits immensely from the work provided by these grants as part of the trail maintenance program.

MVRD Mixed Use Deferred Trail Maintenance - Having personally been on a lot of trails, I can attest that there is a huge backlog of needed trail maintenance. OCSAR benefits from this grant by making it easier to access the different parts of our coverage area in a timelier manner.

MVRD Motorized Trail Maintenance - OCSAR has an ATV team that specializes in search and rescue in non-wilderness portions of the backcountry and as such the trail maintenance provided by this grant will help OCSAR in our missions.

MVRD Developed Rec Campsite Maintenance – OSCAR will use the trailheads as a base of operations on search and rescue missions. This maintenance provided by this grant help us do our mission.

When a recreational visitor is lost, cold, hungry, or injured, hours seem like days, and days seem like a lifetime. These grants directly impact Okanogan County Search and Rescue in the timely performance of our mission of incident response in search and rescue operations and as such OCSAR supports MVRD proposals.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Gottula".

David Gottula

President – Okanogan County Search and Rescue Association



NORTHWEST OUTWARD BOUND SCHOOL

20-2137 NOVA EE #5
20-2126 NOVA EE #17

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing in support of the grant applications by the Methow Valley Ranger District of the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest. The Northwest Outward Bound School (NWOBS) has been operating on National Forest Lands in North Central Washington for over 50 years; our ability to serve our mission is dependent on well maintained forest lands. We strive to build leadership skills, develop character, and instill a sense of service in about 500 students each year through wilderness adventure. Our students leave course feeling more prepared to be leaders in our society and regularly cite the amazing public lands they traveled on when describing their experience.

The Three grants that most align with the NWOBS mission and practices are listed below.

20-2137: MVRD Wilderness & Backcountry Rangers 2022-2023

Backcountry patrols are vital to the management of public lands. There has been a recent surge in backcountry users and without rangers I fear that Leave-No-Trace practices and other regulations will go unchecked, as well as practices that could lead to more serious incidents. We always appreciate running into backcountry rangers feel that they are absolutely essential for the health of our lands and visitors.

20-2126: Methow Valley Climbing Rangers 2022-2023

Rock climbing is one of the highest impact activities that we use at NWOBS to inspire personal growth in individuals, we incorporate the activity into many of our courses. The Methow Valley Ranger District has some of the best climbing in the state and the use reflects that. We rely on climbing rangers to help to inform a public that often times isn't familiar with many backcountry travel and Leave-No-Trace practices. The access provided in this district means that many people can experience the life changing experience of climbing. This all requires the proper education and support from the Climbing Rangers to keep people safe, protect our access, and ensure users have a positive experience.

20-2134: MVRD Trail Maintenance 2022-2023

The Methow Valley Ranger District has a trail network that is ideally suited to meet our needs and serve our students. From Devil's Dome to Cathedral Peak to The Oval Lakes, thousands of our students have had the opportunity to access spectacular areas via trails. One of the biggest factors that influences where an NWOBS course will travel is trail conditions. Many times our courses have had to re-route or significantly change their plans due to poor trail conditions. It is a monumental task to keep trails open and in good repair that can't be sacrificed. As use of public lands increases, more open trails will be essential to spread out use over the region. We hope to be able to return to some of the wonderful trails we have used in the past that are no longer usable.

Thank you for considering these grants for the Methow Valley Ranger District. We are incredibly grateful for all of their support over the years, from clearing trails to visiting with our groups and educating them on healthy land use.

Sincerely,

Joel Reid
Washington Program Director

As a 501(c)(3) educational organization, contributions may be tax deductible according to IRS regulations.

EIN/Tax ID #: 45-3463744. No goods or services were received in return for this gift.



October 14, 2020

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office

Subject: Support for RCO Grants for Methow Valley Ranger District

I am writing as a small business and resident of the Methow Valley in support of the following RCO Grant applications:

20-2137 EDU, MVRD Wilderness & Backcountry Rangers 2022-2023

20-2126 E Methow Valley Climbing Rangers 2022-2023

20-2133 MNT, MVRD DEVELOPED REC CAMPGROUND MAINTENANCE 2022-23

20-2134: MVRD Trail Maintenance 2022-2023

20-2135: MVRD Mixed Use Deferred Trail Maintenance 2022-2023

20-2136: MVRD Motorized Trail Maintenance 2022-2023

The Methow Valley is a majestic place primarily because of the wild lands that surround us. My business exists solely because of the visitors who come to hike, bike, and climb in and around these Forest Service lands. Over the past several years, we have seen exponential growth in USFS land users. Campgrounds are full as are trailhead parking lots as well as the trails themselves. These assets must be maintained to continue to provide value to those who visit our valley for its diverse beauty.

During this past year, I have had the pleasure of seeing the previous RCO Grant money in action. I've walked past countless trees that were cleared from trails across the Valley. In particular, I was thrilled to be able to hike the West Fork Methow Trail and see the awesome tread work and clearing that was completed. The crew is within 2 miles of connecting to the PCT which will re-open amazing loop options that do not currently exist. Campgrounds were full this whole COVID summer and are in dire need of maintenance. I saw a crew of USFS staff near the Maple Pass Trail and they were doing an amazing job of educating visitors on trail etiquette on an over-loved trail.

Maybe my most heartfelt support goes to the Climbing Ranger Program. My business benefits directly from having a vibrant climbing community in the Valley. This past year, the Climbing Rangers were out in force at the local crags and in the Alpine near Washington Pass. The climbing community received excellent value from the RCO Grant dollars through educating climbers on safety and sustainable practices on the rock. They also were seen doing some incredible work near Fun Rock to create a safe and long lasting area from which to recreate.

I also had the opportunity to ride my bike on the Angel's Staircase loop east of the Sawtooth Chelan Wilderness and saw firsthand the need for trail work in that area. Trails are trenched and loose from years of motorized travel without adequate maintenance. That area is spectacular for its beauty and the diverse opportunities for motorized riders, hikers, equestrians, and bikers. It needs help soon before the damage becomes worse.

With the large increase in visitors during this COVID summer, we can only expect to see more visitors next summer. These RCO Grants are incredibly important to the local economy and, even more important, to the environment that makes this valley so special to so many.

Sincerely,

CB Thomas – Goat's Beard Mountain Supplies



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9249 17th Ave SW, Seattle, WA 98106
206-937-8389 • 1-800-328-5925 • FAX: 206-937-1772
info@mountainmadness.com / www.mountainmadness.com

Since 1984

RE: 20-2126: Methow Valley Climbing Rangers 2022-2023

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express our support of the Methow Valley Ranger District (MVRD)'s proposals for Methow Valley Climbing Rangers **20-2126: Methow Valley Climbing Rangers 2022-2023**. These two proposals promote education of Washington's climbing community, improve the recreational experience, and help protect the climbing environment. We strongly support these projects and the value that they will bring to recreationalists in the Methow Valley.

The MVRD encompasses many rock climbing and mountaineering destinations of local, regional and international significance; a few of which are the Washington Pass Spires such as Liberty Bell, the Wine Spires of Silver Star Peak, Goat Wall, and dozens of crags and bouldering areas in the Mazama area, the North Cascades Scenic Corridor, and the Chewuch River Valley. Climbing history in this district dates back 70 years and, with over 400 published climbing routes, the popularity of climbing continues to grow. Climbers make up about 10,800 visitor use days in a single season on the MVRD.

The Methow Valley Climbing Rangers 20202-2023 proposal is built upon a prior grant and continues its important work of educating climbers on environmentally and socially responsible climbing practices, collecting use and resource data, identifying environmental impacts, building relationships within the community, and enforcing regulations. This grant will fund two paid and two volunteer climbing rangers to make contacts with visitors on popular climbing routes in the Methow Valley. In previous seasons, the Climbing Ranger Program made significant progress on planning trail improvement projects, improving sustainability of existing access routes, managing human waste, data collection, and making educational contacts with hundreds of climbing parties. In conjunction with the Climbing Rangers proposal, the Methow Valley E&E proposal will fund three seasonal rangers and several volunteers to perform in-field visitor contacts to promote leave-no-trace techniques and enforce regulations in high-use recreation areas along the North Cascades Scenic Corridor, Hart's Pass, Pasayten Wilderness and Lake Chelan-Sawtooth Wilderness areas.

In the past few years, the Climbing Ranger Program and MVRD planning team made significant investments in trail assessment, planning, and review of the Washington Pass Spires Access Trail Project (Liberty Bell Conservation Initiative). Building upon the success of this planning, our organizations raised over \$100,000 in 2018 for professional trail crews to work with the MVRD in implementing the Liberty Bell Conservative Initiative to create a sustainable and safe network

of climbing access trails on the western slopes of the Liberty Bell group of Washington Pass. This project addresses issues that have arisen due to the increased popularity of the region, focusing on erosion issues and deteriorating trail conditions. We sincerely thank them for their collaboration and commitment to maintaining and improving the recreational experience in the Methow Valley.

The climbing community as a group is conscientious of access and environmental issues in the areas that they recreate. When resources are available to educate them, they can be one of the most thoughtful and proactive user groups in terms of preservation and impact minimization. We are excited about the potential of these programs to preserve the quality of outdoor experiences for all future users of the MVRD, including climbers. We believe that the money granted for these programs would be very well spent preserving and improving the nature of our public lands and the experience one can get from it. We look forward to supporting MVRD with volunteer, outreach, and educational support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jaime", written in a cursive style.

Jaime Pollitte

North American Program Director: Mountain Madness



THURSTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

WASHINGTON
SINCE 1852

JOHN D. SNAZA
Sheriff

2000 Lakeridge Drive SW • Olympia, Washington 98502-6045 • (360) 786-5500

TIMOTHY P. BRANIFF
Undersheriff

November 2, 2020

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia WA 98504

RE: Letter of Support – Capitol Forest Education and Enforcement Grant

I would like to express my support for the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) application for the #20-2159 Capitol State Forest Education and Enforcement grant.

The Thurston County Sheriff's Office (TCSO) has an excellent working relationship with DNR and we highly support any opportunity to provide education and enforcement in the Capitol State Forest. This grant would afford DNR the ability to maintain one full-time and one half-time Education and Enforcement Warden to patrol 168 miles of trails, four campgrounds, six trailheads, and over 610 miles of open forest roads. These wardens will support ORV use compliance, identify and correct safety issues for all trail, campground, trailhead, and road users. In addition, the wardens will support Forest Watch volunteers who assist in education efforts to promote safety and proper forest use. The wardens and volunteers will also assist with event management. DNR Police Services will provide additional patrols and funds will be used to acquire surveillance equipment to aid in the investigation of criminal activity at high use areas.

This additional education and enforcement presence will result in safer and more sustainable recreation facilities in the Capitol State Forest. These efforts are of great value to me and my staff in ensuring the safety of all Thurston County citizens. I fully support this request and hope they can continue this great program.

Sincerely,

JOHN D. SNAZA
SHERIFF

JDS/tdg

"People First; Public Safety Always"



January 10, 2021

NOVA Advisory Committee,

I am pleased to provide support for the following Department of Natural Resources NOVA grant applications benefitting Capital Forest:

20-2159	Capital Education and Enforcement
20-2097	Capital Forest Non-motorized Trail and Facility Maintenance
20-2161	Capital Forest Motorized Trail and Facility Maintenance
20-2306	Capital Forest ORV Trail Bridge Replacement
20-2011	Capital and Yacolt Forest and Facilities Maintenance and Operations

Capital Forest provides excellent, close-to-home motorized and nonmotorized recreation opportunities for many in south Puget Sound. Because of its close proximity to populated areas and easy access, the road system, campgrounds, trailheads and trails are heavily used in a typical year. Due to the restrictions in place for other activities, the demand at these facilities was exceptionally high in 2020.

I can attest to the demand and high-use the Capital Forest received in 2020. Since May 2020, I personally logged over sixty hiking, mountain biking and ATV riding trips in Capital Forest and witnessed first-hand the amount of use these facilities received. I have also observed how past NOVA funding has drastically improved trails. Several years ago, the popular Mima Falls and Mima Falls Tie trails were in poor condition due to water and poor drainage, even during the summer. Today, those trails are enjoyable and in good condition even in the middle of winter after significant rainfall.

DNR relies upon this user-generated funding source to protect, maintain and enhance recreation facilities. Adequately maintaining facilities is responsible stewardship and fundamental to keeping recreation sites and facilities open and from falling into disrepair. NOVA grant funding is critically needed to ensure this work continues and these important facilities are preserved and I urge your support.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony for these grant requests.

Sincerely,



Darrell Jennings



December 24, 2020

Dear RCO Funding Board Members,

Friends of Capitol Forest is a mountain bike and trails advocacy group based in Olympia, Washington. Collectively, our members perform thousands of hours of volunteer work in the Capitol State Forest and the greater Olympia area, building and maintaining trails, partnering with land managers, and ensuring quality off-road experiences throughout the far South Sound. While we are primarily mountain bikers, our volunteer work parties in Capitol Forest are attended by many other user groups, including hikers, equestrians, and trail runners.

We rely heavily on DNR for support with the work we do to make Capitol Forest a premiere outdoor recreation destination. In recent years, those efforts have not only provided users incredible recreational opportunities, but also positive financial benefits for the community at large. Capitol Forest has become a recognized and well publicized mountain biking destination in the Pacific Northwest. We are seeing greater numbers of recreational users coming to Capitol Forest and 2020 showed how important access to Capitol Forest was for our community.

DNR needs additional resources for Capitol Forest to keep up with the demands of this increased use. RCO grant funding is a critical source of funding for this work, and we urge you to approve the grants DNR has submitted for Capitol Forest improvements. In particular, we write to express our wholehearted support for:

RCO # 20-2097 Capitol Forest Non-Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

RCO # 20-2159 Capitol Education & Enforcement

RCO # 20-2306 Capitol Forest ORV Trail Bridge Replacement

RCO # 20-2011 Capitol & Yacolt Forest & Facilities Maintenance and Operations

RCO # 20-2161 Capitol Forest Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

These grants, especially RCO 20-2097, are critical to maintaining high-quality access to this extremely large forest. Each mile of trail maintained or patrolled by DNR frees up volunteer resources to work on other projects, effectively doubling our reach.

Thank you for your work on the RCO committee. I know in this upcoming funding cycle some very difficult decisions will have to be made due to the difficult financial climate of 2020. But,

Capitol Forest, in general, has become so well known now for outdoor recreation that it is spoken under the same breadth as many popular areas around Washington. Areas that historically have had more resources provided for them. It is critical that Capitol Forest be supported on the same level as other popular areas. The time and effort put into Capitol Forest deserves top level support as it not only provides recreational opportunities, but we are seeing the economic benefits as well. More work needs to be done, and we are looking for your full support.

Sincerely,



Oliver Wu
Interim President, Friends of Capitol Forest
(951)961-0420
oliverdwu@gmail.com
617 Rosewood Dr SW
Olympia, WA 98502



January 12, 2021

Dear Recreation & Conservation NOVA grant funding board members,

My name is Herb Reeves

I am the President of the Non-Profit, Olytrailrunners running club and a recreation user in Capitol Forest. Our members appreciate the efforts of DNR providing recreational opportunities in Capitol Forest. We sponsor events in Capitol Forest and donate goods and money to DNR and other non-profits to benefit all recreational users.

I and our 300 members, support the following grants. Capitol Forest DNR needs these grants in order to effectively manage the many existing, and the many new challenges we face to keep Capitol Forest on the trajectory of a safe and high-quality Washington State outdoor recreation destination.

- RCO # 20-2097 Capitol Forest Non-Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance
- RCO # 20-2159 Capitol Education & Enforcement
- RCO # 20-2306 Capitol Forest ORV Trail Bridge Replacement
- RCO # 20-2011 Capitol & Yacolt Forest & Facilities Maintenance and Operations
- RCO # 20-2161 Capitol Forest Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

I sincerely thank you for your time and for your consideration,

Herb Reeves
President

Steve and Dee Tjelde
253 640 8270
sndtjelde@comcast.net



To Whom It May Concern,

We, **Tacoma Trail Cruisers** would like to express my sincere and enthusiastic support for the following RCO grants. These grants will help insure Capitol State Forest is able to continue to function safely and effectively for the many and diverse recreation visitors who come here from all over the Pacific Northwest. .

Capitol Forest is a very large recreation area that is in need of trail & facility maintenance and bridge replacement.. With the heavy recreation use that Capitol Forest experiences, these RCO grants will go a long way towards necessary maintenance and ensuring trail connectivity.

Education & Enforcement is an important component for off road vehicle management especially with the over 600 miles of open road and over 80 miles of trail which are open for off road vehicles.

One important point in consideration of awarding this funding, is that Capitol Forest recreation opportunities are on an almost entirely shared use trail and facilities system. So as far as these dollars are concerned, if awarded, they will likely have the greatest impact across the largest cross section of different recreational user types as possible for a DNR managed recreation area. These RCO grants, if awarded to Capitol Forest will be a significant and important investment for all of Washington State's DNR managed land recreational users.

20-2161 Capitol Forest Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

20-2306 Capitol Forest ORV Trail Bridge Replacement

20-2011 Capitol & Yacolt Forest Facilities M&O

20-2159 Capitol Education & Enforcement

Thank you for your consideration of these proposals.

Tacoma Trail Cruisers

Steve and Denise Tjelde

253 640 8270

sndtjelde@comcast.net tacomatrailcruisers@gmail.com

<http://www.tacomatrailcruisers.org/>



Capitol Riders

Dear Mr Wolff & the Recreational and Conservation Office citizen committee,

I am writing this letter in support of the below listed grants. I am a member of several horse organizations that use the trails in Thurston County. I am secretary of the Capitol Riders chapter, as well as, a member of the Scatter Creek Riders and Nisqually chapter of Back Country Horsemen of Washington (BCHW). Capitol Forest is in my backyard. I ride my horse, bike and hike the trails almost daily. The trails are very popular with many horseback riders as well as hikers, mountain bikers and other recreation users. Our BCH chapter members who ride these trails are very engaged and dedicated to maintaining safe and passable trails. These grants contribute to a healthy environment.

Capitol Education & Enforcement 20-2159

Capitol Forest Non-Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance # 20-2097

Capitol Forest Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance 20-2161

Capitol Forest ORV Trail Bridge Replacement 20-2306

PROJECT: 20-2011 Capitol & Yacolt Forest & Facilities Maintenance and Operations

Please award these grants for Capitol Forest maintenance.

Respectfully,

Sue Beall sfbeall@comcast.net



ROCK CANDY RUNNING

360-401-9308 mathias@einmaleins.co 1704 Glass Ave NE Olympia, WA 98506

November 18, 2020

To:

Recreation and Conservation office citizen committee

Dear RCO citizen committee members,

The Capitol Forest offers incredible recreation opportunities for people living in Thurston County and beyond. Having access to a multi-use trail system so close to town plays an important role in allowing environmentally responsible outdoor recreation by reducing the need for long car trips.

As an avid trail runner I find myself on the trails of the Capitol Forest during all seasons of the year.

Recreation events bring people together and introduce many to the outdoors for the first time and help create safe spaces to enjoy the outdoor responsibly.

On behalf of the trail running community and as owner of Rock Candy Running I urge you to continue funding the grants for the Capitol Forest to ensure safe recreation and give the DNR the ability to grow, oversee and manage recreation in the Capitol Forest.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mathias Eichler".

Mathias Eichler

**ROCK CANDY RUNNING
EINMALEINS
THE OUTDOOR SOCIETY**



October 29, 2020

Recreation & Conservation Office

To: RCO Funding Review Committee

Subject: DNR Grant #20-2159 – Capitol Forest – Education & Enforcement

The members of the Scatter Creek Riders chapter of Back Country Washington of Washington supports RCO grant #20-2159 to continue funding 1.5 wardens in this Education & Enforcement grant in Capitol State Forest.

As horseback riders and trail maintenance participants, we greatly appreciate having the opportunity to safely recreate and work on the trails in the Capitol Forest. The problems that we have experienced with target shooting – such as shooting from roads across trails – and other illegal activities have lessened since the wardens have been in place in the forest.

Sincerely,

Joan Fleming 360-273-8266
Scatter Creek Riders Chapter Director
Flemingjoan01@gmail.com
P.O. Box 1016
Rochester, WA 98579



**THE
MOUNTAINEERS**

7700 Sand Point Way NE
Seattle, WA 98115

www.mountaineers.org

January 13, 2021

Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

RE: Support for grant application 20-2159 Capitol Forest Education & Enforcement

Dear evaluation committee members,

The Mountaineers write to express our support for the Washington State Department of Natural Resources' (DNR) proposal to fund an education and enforcement program in the Capitol State Forest. These efforts are essential to identify and correct safety issues for all forest users.

The Mountaineers, based in Seattle, Washington and founded in 1906, is a nonprofit outdoor education, conservation, and recreation organization whose mission is "to enrich the community by helping people explore, conserve, learn about and enjoy the lands and waters of the Pacific Northwest and beyond." 1,600 skilled volunteers lead 3,200 outdoor education trips and courses annually for 14,000 members. Our youth programs provide over 10,000 opportunities each year for children to get outside. We are a passionate, engaged, and knowledgeable community that cares about the outdoors, and protects the outdoor experience for current and future generations.

The Capitol State Forest is a very important area to our members, especially those in our Olympia Branch. The close proximity of the Forest makes it a popular location for training and physical conditioning for mountaineering, alpine scrambling, hiking, and backpacking. Many of our Mountaineers youth programs visit the Forest to build outdoor skills, learn about nature, and foster a lifelong love of the outdoors. These programs help create future stewards and conservationists. Members of our Olympia Branch are also active stewards in the Capitol Forest and help maintain trails, lead work parties, and communicate trail conditions to DNR staff.

Mountaineers members and the general public alike rely on DNR education and enforcement to improve safety in the Forest and help educate the recreating public. These efforts promote high quality and sustainable recreation in the Forest as well as protect investments and access for future generations. Thank you for considering this important proposal.

Sincerely,

Betsy Robblee
Conservation & Advocacy Director
betsyr@mountaineers.org

October 22, 2020

Recreation & Conservation Office

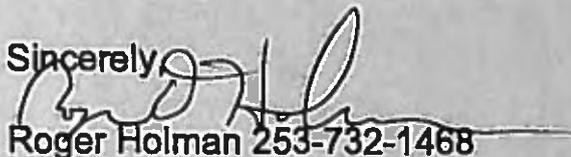
To RCO Funding Review Committee,

I support RCO grant #20-2159 on continue funding for the Education & Enforcement Wardens in Capitol State Forest.

I understand this grant will include continued funding for 2 wardens in Capitol State Forest.

As a mountain biker I greatly appreciate having the opportunity to safely ride in the Capitol Forest. The problems associated with target shooting have been reduced since the wardens have been in place in the forest.

Sincerely,



Roger Holman 253-732-1468

roger.d.holman@gmail.com

242 N Lenore

Tacoma WA 98406



NORTH THURSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Bower Learning Center

4111 6th Avenue N.E. Lacey, WA 98516
(360) 412-4473 • Fax (360) 412-4564

January 7th, 2021

RCO Funding Board
Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia WA 98504-0917

Dear Grant Review Committee,

This is a letter in support of RCO grants to Washington Department of Natural Resources for Capitol Education and Enforcement (#20-2159) and Capitol & Yacolt Forest and Facilities Maintenance and Operations (#20-2011).

North Thurston Public Schools is the largest and most diverse school district in the South Sound. A key goal in our districts strategic plan is an increase percentage of students applying learning to collaboratively engage in solving relevant challenges and real-world, inter-disciplinary problems. As a core science learning experience for middle school ecology, we have incorporated the McLane Creek trail as a district wide STEM field study for all students from 5 middle schools to observe salmon spawning in early November. Their field journal includes a habitat assessment, data collection around spawning behaviors, sketching of native plants and a salmon food web, reflective writing, and an analysis of how to support local salmon populations that are on the decline.

We have worked closely with our community partners-South Sound Green, Nisqually River Education Project, and Thurston County Water Resources and have coordinated trips based on the small window of spawning time so that all of our classrooms have the support and opportunity to be out at McLane over a 2 year rotation bringing hundreds of students in class groups over the past decade. Our students and teachers have told me many times that their experience observing salmon spawning and witnessing nature in such a beautiful pristine site is one of the most powerful and inspiring field experiences they have ever had.

By maintaining high-quality access to McLane's trails, and support to sustain sanitary restroom conditions for our teachers and students this will continue to broaden access to students of all abilities and continue to bridge the opportunity gap for our 14,500 students, the most ethnically diverse school district in the South Sound region, where over 42% come to us economically disadvantaged. Many of our students return with their families throughout the year to visit the trail and learn about the relationships that exist in the natural world. We fully support the funding for these programs so that we can safely continue to offer this meaningful field experiences to all our students, teachers, and their families.

Sincerely,


Dixie Reimer

Secondary Science Instructional Specialist
North Thurston Public Schools
(360) 412-4473 dreimer@nthurston.k12.wa.us

October 23, 2020

Recreation & Conservation Office

To RCO Funding Review Committee,

I support RCO grant #20-2159 on continue funding for the Education & Enforcement Wardens in Capitol State Forest.

I understand this grant will include continued funding for 2 wardens in Capitol State Forest.

As a mountain biker I greatly appreciate having the opportunity to safely ride in the Capitol Forest. The problems associated with target shooting have been reduced since the wardens have been in place in the forest. Illegal dumping of vehicles and trash has reduced which saves money for the State.

Safety in the woods is very important and we need Wardens to accomplish that.

Sincerely,

Mark Fisher 

fisher_mark@msn.com



South Sound GREEN

Connecting Community and Schools for Watershed Protection

Water Quality Monitoring • Student GREEN Congress • Nearshore Education • Action Projects

January 12, 2021

RCO Funding Board
Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia WA 98504-0917

To Whom It May Concern,

This is a letter in support of RCO grants to Washington Department of Natural Resources for Capitol Education and Enforcement (#20-2159) and Capitol & Yacolt Forest and Facilities Maintenance and Operations (#20-2011).

South Sound Global Rivers Environment Education Network (GREEN) strives to connect communities and schools for watershed protection. McLane Creek Nature Trail is the perfect example of the type of outdoor classroom that allows us to engage students in hands-on science and connection to place. McLane Creek Nature Trail is utilized by students and teachers participating in South Sound GREEN as a water quality monitoring site as well as a place to view native chum salmon spawning in their natural habitat. These connections help students think more critically about their actions and home and how they can prevent stormwater runoff and protect these unique ecosystems.

With improved trails and boardwalk and sanitary restroom conditions, this project will broaden access to students of all abilities and ages, encouraging more members of our community to visit the trail and learn about the relationships that exist in the natural world. I strongly support DNR's proposal for this work.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Bishop

South Sound GREEN Program Manager
sbishop@thurstoncd.com
southsoundgreen.org



evergreen

RCO Funding Board
Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia WA 98504-0917

January 11, 2021

Dear RCO Funding Board,

This is a letter in support of RCO grants to Washington Department of Natural Resources for Capitol Education and Enforcement (#20-2159) and Capitol & Yacolt Forest and Facilities Maintenance and Operations (#20-2011).

I have been a college professor at The Evergreen State College for 15 years. In that time, I have used the McLane Creek Nature Trail as a field trip site many times, with introductory, intermediate, and advanced college students (about twice per year). In addition, I have collaborated with WA DNR to perform ecological research in McLane Creek downstream of the beaver dam complex. Access to this field site is invaluable and I support all maintenance and improvements that create equitable access to the site and allow both people and native organisms to enjoy the habitat.

Project #20-2159 will improve use of the site for all individuals. Having stewards and wardens available to visit the site more frequently and provide a presence will improve stewardship by all visitors. Outreach and education improvements will be a positive outcome, as will law enforcement outcomes. Trail maintenance and the maintenance of the beautiful covered area and picnic tables will be beneficial outcomes for visitors, neighbors, and school children.

Project #20-2011 will provide needed routine maintenance and restroom facilities at this high visit site.

As both an educator, and a parent of a school-aged child in the Olympia School District, I know that this site is valuable for environmental education in the K-12 system as well as the higher education system.

I strongly support funding for these programs, which will maintain high-quality access to McLane's trails, and also sustain sanitary restroom conditions for your user-groups.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Carri J. LeRoy, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
Freshwater Ecology
The Evergreen State College
2700 Evergreen Parkway NW
Olympia, WA 98502

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY



THURSTON COUNTY EXTENSION

TO: RCO Funding Board, Recreation & Conservation Office
 FROM: Erica Guttman, WSU Senior Extension Coordinator/Educator
 DATE: January 13, 2021
 RE: Support for #20-2159 & #20-2011

I am writing in support of RCO grants to Washington Department of Natural Resources for Capitol Education and Enforcement (#20-2159) and Capitol & Yacolt Forest and Facilities Maintenance and Operations (#20-2011).

WSU Extension and our non-profit educational affiliate, the Native Plant Salvage Foundation, greatly rely on the rich educational opportunities provided by McLane Creek Nature Trail. This DNR property is an ecological gem in and of itself, but its close proximity to the urban core of Thurston County makes it an even more critical public resource. Our programs take advantage of the **astounding diversity of both flora and fauna** for educating people of all ages throughout the year about our local species and how individuals can do their part to protect local habitat.

We teach multi-season plant identification (including winter-twig identification skills) to lay audiences using the large numbers of species of the ever-changing array of native plants of all types. In non-Covid times, we used (and will again!) this site to teach winter-twig identification skills for woody plants to Washington Conservation Corps members and other ecological professionals from the Departments of Fish & Wildlife, DNR, Ecology, local jurisdictions, and NGOs who need these skills to carry out habitat-protection activities.

Between the classes we offer to the public at large and the specialized workshops for agencies, an annual average of 200-300 adult learners receive this **critical training** by using this amazing trail system. For many, this is their first introduction to this site, and they return subsequently to learn about the salmon, the ecosystem overall, and simply to enjoy nature.

This site is so critical to our work that **we have made a commitment** with our Stream Team partners to maintain the vegetation along the trails during the growing season by recruiting local volunteers seeking service to the environment, and we host additional annual revegetation service events at McLane to reduce social trails and enhance the salmon-bearing stream. **Dozens of volunteers donate hundreds of hours annually** to maintain the trails to prevent trail-widening/invasive species colonization, as well as complete the larger restoration projects.

This investment in the infrastructure and DNR staff support of this recreation site will be money well spent! Sanitary toilets allow users to spend more time on site (and discourage human waste in the woods). The provision of even a moderate level of DNR staff presence on the trails will help enforce rules, especially with regard to picking up dog waste that contaminates the stream—which supports a diverse food web, including salmon. DNR staff will further be able to enforce Discover Pass use, prevent conflicts between trail users, and educate the public about the trail system and other recreation opportunities in the area.

Financial support will greatly expand public access and enjoyment—while protecting the ecosystem—allowing the public to learn about and engage with nature within minutes of our urban centers. **We urge funding** for this very worthwhile proposal, and I welcome inquiries about our ongoing support of this site.

WSU Thurston County Water Resources Program &
 Native Plant Salvage Foundation
 3054 Carpenter Road SE * Olympia, WA 98503
 360.402.8879 * ericag@wsu.edu



A Washington State Chapter of the National Audubon Society
 P.O. Box 2524, Olympia, WA 98507
 (360) 352-7299 www.blackhills-audubon.org

Black Hills Audubon Society is a volunteer, non-profit organization of more than 1,300 members in Thurston, Mason, and Lewis Counties whose goals are to promote environmental education and protect our ecosystems for future generations.

January 7, 2021

RCO Funding Board
 Recreation and Conservation Office
 PO Box 40917
 Olympia WA 98504-0917

This is a letter in support of RCO WWRP grants to Washington Department of Natural Resources for Capitol Education and Enforcement (#20-2159) and Capitol & Yacolt Forest and Facilities Maintenance and Operations (#20-2011).

Black Hills Audubon is a chapter of the National Audubon Society and represents approximately 1300 members in Thurston, Mason, and Lewis Counties. Our mission is to provide education and recreation concerning birds and other wildlife and to preserve our ecosystems for future generations. The McLane Creek Nature Trail and the preserve in which it lies is one of the gems of wildlife habitat preservation and educational opportunity in the Black Hills area.

In addition to organized, educational walks on the Trail – which we conduct several times each year (except during the COVID-19 crisis) – many of our members go there with family, friends, or school groups for both wildlife-oriented recreation and educational purposes. The McLane ecosystem – comprising a mixed hardwood and coniferous forest, beaver pond, and associated wetlands, as well as the salmon-bearing McLane Creek – is of great value in preserving wildlife and important in the lives of us human visitors, including friends and members of Black Hills Audubon.

One of the best bird-viewing trails in Thurston County, the McLane Creek Trail is very close to the wetland but associated shrubs and trees provide excellent cover for birders to walk there with only minimal disturbance to birdlife. It's one of the best teaching settings in the region because of the trails' access to the diverse habitats in the McLane trail complex.

Black Hills Audubon strongly supports funding of the programs named above and for continued funding from 11/2021 to 11/2023. Among other factors, they will maintain high-quality access to McLane's trails, and also sustain sanitary restroom conditions.

Sincerely,

Sam Merrill, Chair Conservation Committee

Sam Merrill

Elizabeth Rodrick, Vice President

Elizabeth Rodrick



12/29/2020

Re: Grant Support

To whom it may concern,

As an event promoter and avid recreational user of Capitol Forest I support the following grant proposals:

RCO # 20-2097 Capitol Forest Non-Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

RCO # 20-2159 Capitol Education & Enforcement

RCO # 20-2306 Capitol Forest ORV Trail Bridge Replacement

RCO # 20-2011 Capitol & Yacolt Forest & Facilities Maintenance and Operations

RCO # 20-2161 Capitol Forest Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

It is vital that these grants be funded for Capitol Forest. Capitol Forest is a recreational hotspot and DNR needs additional resources and funding for increased impact on trails and safety within the forest. These RCO grants will make a significant and important investment for Capitol Forest and it's recreational users.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Trey Wilson".

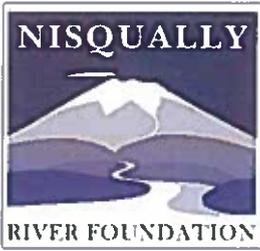
Trey Wilson

Race Cascadia

1239 37th Ave SE

Olympia, WA 98501

ph. 360-402-0967



Nisqually River Foundation

620 Old Pacific Hwy SE □ Olympia WA 98513 □ (360)
438-8715

Board Members
David Troutt, *Chair*

RCO Funding Board
Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia WA 98504-0917

Bill Bryant

Phyllis Farrell

January 13, 2021

Leif Hatlen

Dear Grants Review Committee,

Fred Michelson

This is a letter in support of RCO grants to Washington Department of Natural Resources for Capitol Education and Enforcement (#20-2159) and Capitol & Yacolt Forest and Facilities Maintenance and Operations (#20-2011).

Jim Wilcox

Nisqually River Education Project (NREP) works to engage students and teachers throughout the watershed in service learning activities that link Washington learning standards to local environmental issues, fostering stewardship of the Nisqually watershed and the world. NREP implements watershed education with a network of 50 teachers in seven school districts from Mount Rainier to Puget Sound. We engage more than 1,000 students each year in water quality monitoring, habitat restoration, salmon carcass tossing, field investigations on Puget Sound beaches, at the Billy Frank Jr. Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge and at McLane Nature trail.

Staff
Justin Hall
Executive Director

Sheila Wilson
*Education Project
Director*

Emily McCartan
*Nisqually River
Council Program
Coordinator*

Brandon Bywater
*Water Quality
Program Coordinator*

McLane Nature Trail is a community treasure. It enables us to bring large numbers of students to view one of our most spectacular local, natural phenomena - the spawning Chum salmon. In a typical year we bring 230+ students over 2-3 weeks to McLane to teach them the value of wetlands, water quality, and habitat to foster the lifecycle of our native salmon. It would be fantastic to see these proposed improvements completed so we could continue this traditional field trip without causing harm to the nearby aquatic ecosystems.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sheila Wilson

Sheila Wilson
Program Director
sheila@nisquallyriver.org
360.561.0203



www.oldtownbicycle.com

01/08/2021

Re: Grant Support

To whom it may concern,

As a bicycle retailer in the Olympia area, we support the following grant proposals:

Capitol Education & Enforcement 20-2159

Capitol Forest Non-Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance 20-2097

Capitol Forest Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance 20-2161

Capitol Forest ORV Trail Bridge Replacement 20-2306

Capitol & Yacolt Forest & Facilities Maintenance and Operations 20-2011

The trails in the Capitol State Forest and other DNR lands are an invaluable resource for the public at large. This wonderful network of trails sees a high amount of use from several user groups and activities. Because of this use the trails require consistent and ongoing maintenance to continue to provide quality and sustainable recreation, to protect ecological function of water flow, and to produce timber and other valuable resources.

The projects funded by these grants are valuable by themselves; however, will also help to provide a culture of stewardship for the public lands and provide understanding, cooperation, and respect among the user groups involved.

We urge you to support these grant applications and we look forward too many more years of quality trails on DNR lands.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "D Keating". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dmitri Keating
V.P. / Co-founder
Old Town Bicycle
253-851-2189
dkeating@oldtownbicycle.com

Tacoma
3009 N McCarver St
Tacoma WA 98403
253.573.9400

Gig Harbor
6820 Kimball Drive B1
Gig Harbor WA 98335
253.858.8040

Olympia
420 Capitol Way South
Olympia WA 98501
360.943.7661

October 28, 2020

Recreation & Conservation Office

To RCO Funding Review Committee,

I support RCO grant #20-2159 on continue funding for the Education & Enforcement Wardens in Capital State Forest.

I understand this grant will include continued funding for 1 and a half wardens in Capital State Forest.

As a trail user I greatly appreciate having the opportunity to safely be in the Capital State Forest. The problems associated with unsafe target shooting have been reduced since the wardens have been in place in the forest.

Sincerely,

Ronald Spalding, 360-789-5684

rocknronni@aol.com

157 Babcock LN.

Centralia, WA. 98531

Dear Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) Grant Committee,

This letter is in support of DNR proposals for funding of *Capitol Forest Non-Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance 20-2097*, *Capitol Forest Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance 20-2161*, *Capitol Forest ORV Trail Bridge Replacement 20-2306*, and *Capitol Education & Enforcement 20-2159 proposals*.

As an avid volunteer, mountain biker, hiker, fungi gatherer and general fanatic of Capitol Forest, I strongly support the above proposals and highlight my support for *Non-Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance 20-2097* and *Capitol Education & Enforcement 20-2159 proposals* below.

Non-Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

I have witnessed increased non-motorized use of Capitol Forest by users from the greater Olympia area, Tacoma, Grays Harbor, and Kitsap Peninsula who regularly visit the forest to experience the fresh air and incredible mountain biking among other activities. As a result, increased routine trail maintenance by DNR is needed to preserve this incredible network of trails for all users. I have lead monthly volunteer work parties (Friends of Capitol Forest) at the Capitol Forest North Slope Mountain Bike Trail System for the last four years. While volunteer efforts are important to trail maintenance in Captiol Forest, we absolutely rely on the expertise of South Puget Sound DNR staff to lead and direct our efforts.

Capitol Education & Enforcement

While user conflict is relatively low in Capitol Forest, I have had several near accidents with speeding Off Road Vehicles (ORVs) on forest roads. It is critical to fund enforcement and education programs to better educate all users on forest rules and reduce potentially dangerous interactions between user groups. I support this proposal which will continue to educate user groups in Capitol Forest.

Truly,
Andrew Claiborne
Capitol Forest Fanatic
2010 28th LN NE
Olympia, WA 98506

January 13, 2021
3110 Hampton Drive SW
Tumwater, WA 98512

Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-09171

RE: Support for Capitol Forest Education & Enforcement -- NOVA Funding Application

Dear Recreation and Conservation Funding Board:

I am writing in support of the Department of Natural Resources' grant application for Education and Enforcement funding for the Capitol Forest. The application is intended to fund Recreation Wardens to promote safety and ensure proper forest use with a focus on forest trails, campgrounds, trailheads and road users. I am writing as a frequent Capitol Forest visitor and on behalf of the Olympia Branch of The Mountaineers, where I serve as the Stewardship and Conservation Committee Co-Chair.

The Capitol Forest is a most impressive resource with 110,000 acres (amounting to over 1/3 the acreage of the entire State Park system), road inventory, number of trails, trail miles, multiple use options and natural attractions. The close proximity of the Forest to the state capitol provides a large visitor base that can easily access the Forest's recreation capacity. I am writing because I believe that I and my Mountaineer colleagues have witnessed the impacts of outdoor enthusiasts who either don't understand or don't care that their behavior can leave a scar on the land that lasts more than a lifetime. Sustaining the Recreation Warden positions, devoted to educating the public on Outdoor Ethics and enforcing forest regulations, will have a long-term positive impact on the forest.

The Mountaineers is one of the nation's oldest and largest volunteer-led nonprofit organizations devoted to helping people explore, conserve, learn about, and enjoy the lands and waters of the Pacific Northwest and beyond. In regard to the E & E Grant, perhaps our most relevant experience is our role in educating outdoor enthusiasts. We offer a variety of public courses from novice to the advanced mountaineer because we understand the importance of educating all outdoor users for their own safety and for their personal satisfaction in mastering outdoor skills. Most importantly, we believe that by teaching every student responsible recreation practices, our students learn how to enjoy public lands without impacting the natural resources that make the outdoors so attractive.

Sincerely,



Jim French
The Mountaineers – Olympia Branch
Conservation and Stewardship Committee Co-Chair

WOLFF, PHILIP (DNR)

Subject: Capitol Education & Enforcement 20-2159 Grant

Letter of Support For Recreation & Conservation Office Grant Capitol Forest Education and Enforcement # 18-2463

I am a horseback rider and have ridden Capitol Forest for several years, during this time I have seen the population of recreationists grow. There is a need for safety on the many miles of trail and road users. To insure this safety, people have to be educated on the use of the forest between the shareholders.

Forest Wardens concentrate on: ORV use compliance, identifying and correcting safety issues. Wardens support Forest Watch volunteers who assist in education efforts to promote safety and proper forest use, and assist in event management as well.

Funding from the grant will be used to acquire surveillance equipment to aid in investigations of criminal activity at high use areas in the forest.

I recommend that this grant be funded for these reasons!

Bob Bacon 360-264-4528
kelsoride@gmail.com

October 31, 2020

Recreation & Conservation Office

To RCO Funding Review Committee,

I support RCO grant #20-2159 on continue funding for the Education & Enforcement Wardens in Capitol State Forest.

I understand this grant will include continued funding for 2 wardens in Capitol State Forest.

As an equestrian, I greatly appreciate having the opportunity to safely ride in the Capitol Forest. The problems associated with target shooting have been reduced since the wardens have been in place in the forest.

Sincerely,

Laura Dell
redhorserider@ywave.com
13125 Reo Rd
Rainier, WA 98576
3604465572



NW Epic Series



January 8, 2021

Dear RCO Funding Board Members –

NW Epic Series is an endurance mountain bike racing company. We have several races throughout Washington State. We work directly with the DNR for our Capitol Forest race that we hold in August of each year. Over the years we have seen a great deal of work that goes into the trails in the Capitol Forest Recreation area. These trails have always been professionally managed and safe for all riders, hikers, horseback riders and motorized riders.

A trail system the size of Capitol Forest takes a great deal of resources to maintain for public use. The DNR needs and relies on grant funding to keep up with the trail use at Capitol Forest. RCO grant funding is a critical source of funding for all the work that the DNR does to keep the trails maintained. We urge you to approve the grants that the DNR has submitted for Capitol Forest improvements.

Capitol Forest is one of the only trail systems that allow such a large variety of trail usage. Monies put towards supporting the DNR in maintaining the Capitol Forest trails, roads and campground facilities will in turn help and support a wide range of families and individuals that use all that Capitol Forest has to offer.

We write to express our support for:

Capitol Forest Non-Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance # 20-2097

Capitol Education & Enforcement 20-2159

Capitol Forest Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance 20-2161

Capitol Forest ORV Trail Bridge Replacement 20-2306

PROJECT: Capitol & Yacolt Forest Facilities Maintenance 20-2011

Dana Anderson

Dana Anderson
Owner / RD NW Epic Series
dana@wamulti-sport.com
PO Box 5549
Everett, WA 98206

October 28, 2020

To the RCO Funding Review Committee
RE: Grant #20-2159

I am writing in support of RCO Grant #20-2159 to fund two Education and Enforcement officers in Capitol Forest. I'm a horseback rider and frequent the trails in Capitol Forest, and also volunteer with trail and campground maintenance. Over the years I have been witness to illegal dumping, unauthorized shooting, and transient inhabitants in Capitol Forest that raise concerns for my safety on the trails and the security of my vehicle at the trailheads. This is why there is a need for an Education and Enforcement Officer in Capitol Forest.

Since the Education and Enforcement position was created, there is a noticeable decline in illegal activities in Capitol Forest. Just the presence of DNR associates and the thought that persons may be "watched" while performing illegal actions has greatly curtailed these activities in Capitol Forest. I urge you to award this grant to Capitol Forest, so these good works can continue.

Sincerely
Kim Habel
Member of Scatter Creek Riders
Back Country Horsemen of Washington

WOLFF, PHILIP (DNR)

Subject: Support Recreation in Capitol Forest!

From: jocelyn rae finch <jocelynfinch@yahoo.com>

Subject: Support Recreation in Capitol Forest!

Dear RCO Funding Board Members,

My name is Jocelyn Finch.

I am a member of the Olytrailrunners running club and a recreation user in Capitol Forest.

I support the following grants. Capitol Forest DNR needs these grants in order to effectively manage the many existing, and the many new challenges we face to keep Capitol Forest on the trajectory of a safe and high-quality Washington State outdoor recreation destination.

RCO # 20-2097 Capitol Forest Non-Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

RCO # 20-2159 Capitol Education & Enforcement

RCO # 20-2306 Capitol Forest ORV Trail Bridge Replacement

RCO # 20-2011 Capitol & Yacolt Forest & Facilities Maintenance and Operations

RCO # 20-2161 Capitol Forest Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

I sincerely thank you for your time and for your consideration

jocelyn rae finch
1028 76th Ave NE
Olympia, WA 98506
(303) 898-4733
jocelynfinch@yahoo.com

January 13, 2021

Dear RCO NOVA Grant Funding Board

My name is Michael Scholl

I am a bicycle/hiker/volunteer recreation user in Capitol Forest.

I have been recreating in Capitol Forest for over 20years since I moved to Olympia. The network of trails has improved immeasurably in that time. I would like to see that continue.

I also have worked with a non-profit, Friends of Capitol Forest, spending hundreds of hours volunteering to help maintain the recreation areas over the last 12-13years.

I fully support the following grants. Capitol Forest DNR needs these grants in order to effectively manage the many existing, and the many new challenges we face to keep Capitol Forest on the trajectory of a safe and high-quality Washington State outdoor recreation destination.

RCO # 20-2097 Capitol Forest Non-Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

RCO # 20-2159 Capitol Education & Enforcement

RCO # 20-2306 Capitol Forest ORV Trail Bridge Replacement

RCO # 20-2011 Capitol & Yacolt Forest & Facilities Maintenance and Operations

RCO # 20-2161 Capitol Forest Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

I sincerely thank you for your time and for your consideration,

Michael Scholl
1329 Tullis St NE
Olympia WA 98506
360 250 0882
coldh20diver@gmail.com

January 11, 2021

Dear RCO Funding Board Members,

I am a bicyclist, motorcyclist, hiker and general recreation user in Capitol Forest. I am in the Forest many days each year (more than 36 bicycle rides in the Forest in the 2020) for the past 17 years. I appreciate the access our state provides to public lands and recognize the significant effort it takes to maintain and protect this resource. For many years I've participated with the Friends of Capitol Forest as a volunteer, helping to maintain the forest I recreate in regularly.

I support the following grants. Capitol Forest DNR needs these grants in order to effectively manage the many existing, and the many new challenges we face to keep Capitol Forest on the trajectory of a safe and high-quality Washington State outdoor recreation destination.

RCO # 20-2097 Capitol Forest Non-Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance
RCO # 20-2159 Capitol Education & Enforcement
RCO # 20-2306 Capitol Forest ORV Trail Bridge Replacement
RCO # 20-2011 Capitol & Yacolt Forest & Facilities Maintenance and Operations
RCO # 20-2161 Capitol Forest Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

Thank you for your time and for your consideration,

Josh Morse
2216 Nut Tree Loop SE
Olympia, WA 98501
Morse_josh@comcast.net

October 29, 2020

To RCO Funding Review Committee,

I support RCO grant #20-2159 on continue funding for the Education & Enforcement Wardens in Capitol State Forest.

I understand this grant will include continued funding for 2 wardens in Capitol State Forest.

As an avid recreator and volunteer trail builder in Capitol Forest, having wardens to monitor activity of users greatly increases safety and the experience of all users. For example, the work of wardens in Capitol Forest has greatly reduced illegal and unsafe target shooting as well as trash dumping near the trail heads I regularly use.

Sincerely,

Andrew Claiborne 360 927 3247
Andrewclaiborne74@gmail.com
2010 28th LN NE
Olympia WA 98506

WOLFF, PHILIP (DNR)

Subject: grant support E&E / Facilities

From: RICHARD POELKER <rpoelker@comcast.net>
Sent: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 11:33 AM
To: WOLFF, PHILIP (DNR) <PHILIP.WOLFF@dnr.wa.gov>
Subject: grant support

This message is in support of RCO grants to Washington Dept.of Natural Resources for Capital Education and Enforcement(#20-2159) and Capital& Yacolt Forest and Facilities Maintenance and Operations(#20-2011).. Ihave walked McLane for over 20 years and enjoy all it has to offer close to Olympia.

I support funding for these programs which will maintain high- quality access to McLanes trails and also support sanitary restroom conditions for the public.

Richard Poelker
2211 Blossomwood Dr NW
Olympia, WA 98502

rpoelker@comcast.net

WOLFF, PHILIP (DNR)

Subject: Support of RCO Grants for Capitol Forest Joel

From: Joel McCune <knu2xs@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 6:03 AM
To: WOLFF, PHILIP (DNR) <PHILIP.WOLFF@dnr.wa.gov>
Subject: Support of RCO Grants for Capitol Forest

Dear RCO Funding Board Members,

My name is Joel McCune. In college I ran for the University of Missouri. The mile was my race, and yes, I went under four minutes. That was a long time ago. Now, I am in my early 40's, and a father of two rambunctious young boys trying to hold together a normal life in a household with two professionals through this unprecedented year. Running, especially long runs on trails in Capitol Forest, has been the one thing allowing me to hold on to the shreds of sanity remaining throughout this year. While definitely valuable in any time, during this past year these trials have proven a lifesaver.

I support the following grants. Capitol Forest DNR needs these grants in order to effectively manage the many existing, and the many new challenges we face to keep Capitol Forest on the trajectory of a safe and high-quality Washington State outdoor recreation destination.

RCO # 20-2097 Capitol Forest Non-Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

RCO # 20-2159 Capitol Education & Enforcement

RCO # 20-2306 Capitol Forest ORV Trail Bridge Replacement

RCO # 20-2011 Capitol & Yacolt Forest & Facilities Maintenance and Operations

RCO # 20-2161 Capitol Forest Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

I sincerely thank you for your time and for your consideration,

Respectfully,

Joel McCune

Adversity cause some men to break; others to break records. -William Arthur Ward

WOLFF, PHILIP (DNR)

Subject: I support Capitol Forest DNR grants

From: Jihan Grettenberger <jihangrett@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 12, 2021 7:37 PM
To: WOLFF, PHILIP (DNR) <PHILIP.WOLFF@dnr.wa.gov>
Subject: Capitol Forest DNR grants.

Dear RCO Funding Board Members,

My name is Jihan Grettenberger. I am a member of the Olytrailrunners Running Club and a recreation user in Capitol Forest. I spend at least one day a week either running or biking in Capitol Forest. The forest is mini oasis from urbanization and has been even more valuable these past 8 months as people distance to protect themselves from COVID and not travel too far beyond the community.

I support the following grants. Capitol Forest DNR needs these grants in order to effectively manage the many existing, and the many new challenges we face to keep Capitol Forest on the trajectory of a safe and high-quality Washington State outdoor recreation destination.

RCO # 20-2097 Capitol Forest Non-Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

RCO # 20-2159 Capitol Education & Enforcement

RCO # 20-2306 Capitol Forest ORV Trail Bridge Replacement

RCO # 20-2011 Capitol & Yacolt Forest & Facilities Maintenance and Operations

RCO # 20-2161 Capitol Forest Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

I sincerely thank you for your time and for your consideration,

Jihan Grettenberger
360-790-9848

December 3, 2020

To RCO Funding Review Committee,

I support RCO grant #20-2159 on continue funding for the Education & Enforcement Wardens in Capitol State Forest.

I understand this grant will include continued funding for 2 wardens in Capitol State Forest.

As a Camphost at Middle Waddell Campground and as a Forest Watch volunteer in Capitol Forest, having wardens to monitor activity of users greatly increases safety and the experience of all users. For example, the work of wardens in Capitol Forest has greatly reduced illegal and unsafe target shooting as well as helping us maintain a wonderful campground for all to enjoy

Sincerely,

Diana and Steve Hope
Campground Hosts Middle Waddell Campground

(206) 200-9471

January 11, 2021

Recreation & Conservation Office

I am an avid mountain biking recreational user in Capitol Forest and I feel fortunate to have such an inspiring resource so close to my home in Oakville. I use the MTB system in particular at least once a week, all year round.

I support the following grants. Capitol Forest DNR needs these grants in order to effectively manage the many existing, and the many new challenges we face to keep Capitol Forest on the trajectory of a safe and high-quality Washington State outdoor recreation destination.

RCO # 20-2097 Capitol Forest Non-Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance
RCO # 20-2159 Capitol Education & Enforcement
RCO # 20-2306 Capitol Forest ORV Trail Bridge Replacement
RCO # 20-2011 Capitol & Yacolt Forest & Facilities Maintenance and Operations
RCO # 20-2161 Capitol Forest Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

I sincerely thank you for your time and for your consideration,

Steve Crocker
103 E Harris #114
Oakville WA 98568

Scrockern8r@gmail.com

January 11, 2021

Dear RCO Funding Board Members,

I am a Bicycle/Hiking recreation user in Capitol Forest.

Group or club association CBC Racing

I support the following grants. Capitol Forest DNR needs these grants in order to effectively manage the many existing, and the many new challenges we face to keep Capitol Forest on the trajectory of a safe and high-quality Washington State outdoor recreation destination.

RCO # 20-2097 Capitol Forest Non-Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance
RCO # 20-2159 Capitol Education & Enforcement
RCO # 20-2306 Capitol Forest ORV Trail Bridge Replacement
RCO # 20-2011 Capitol & Yacolt Forest & Facilities Maintenance and Operations
RCO # 20-2161 Capitol Forest Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

I sincerely thank you for your time and for your consideration,

Wade M. Gifford
217 Rogers St NW Olympia, WA 98502
goride934@yahoo.com

October 31, 2020

Recreation & Conservation Office

To RCO Funding Review Committee,

I support RCO grant #20-2159 on continue funding for the Education & Enforcement Wardens in Capitol State Forest.

I understand this grant will include continued funding for 2 wardens in Capitol State Forest.

As an equestrian user, I greatly appreciate having the opportunity to safely ride in the Capitol Forest. The problems associated with target shooting have been reduced since the wardens have been in place in the forest.

Sincerely,

Kristine Thompson 360-894-7652
rainydayrider@aol.com
14611 Mountain Vista Drive SE
Yelm, WA 98597

October 29, 2020

Recreation & Conservation Office

To: RCO Funding Review Committee

Subject: DNR Grant #20-2159 – Capitol Forest – Education & Enforcement

I support RCO grant #20-2159 to continue funding the Education & Enforcement Wardens in Capitol State Forest.

I understand this grant will include continued funding for 1.5 wardens in Capitol State Forest.

As a horseback rider and hiker, I greatly appreciate having the opportunity to safely recreate in the Capitol Forest. The problems that I have experienced with target shooting – such as shooting from roads across trails- have lessened since the wardens have been in place in the forest.

Sincerely,

Joan Fleming 360-273-8266
Flemingjoan01@gmail.com
17528 Albany Street SW
Rochester, WA 98579

January 11, 2021

Dear RCO Funding Board Members,

I am a past and current mountain bike recreation user in Capitol Forest.

I am also affiliated with FOCF (Friends of Capitol Forest)

I support the following grants. Capitol Forest DNR needs these grants in order to effectively manage the many existing, and the many new challenges we face to keep Capitol Forest on the trajectory of a safe and high-quality Washington State outdoor recreation destination.

RCO # 20-2097 Capitol Forest Non-Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance
RCO # 20-2159 Capitol Education & Enforcement
RCO # 20-2306 Capitol Forest ORV Trail Bridge Replacement
RCO # 20-2011 Capitol & Yacolt Forest & Facilities Maintenance and Operations
RCO # 20-2161 Capitol Forest Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

I sincerely thank you for your time and for your consideration

Rachel DeLateur
5830 Armour Lp Se #1, Lacey WA 98513
mtnbikefun@yahoo.com

WOLFF, PHILIP (DNR)

Subject: FW: Capitol Forest grants support

From: Shawn Thomas <shawn.c.thomas@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 12, 2021 9:54 PM
To: WOLFF, PHILIP (DNR) <PHILIP.WOLFF@dnr.wa.gov>
Subject: Capitol Forest grants support

Dear RCO Funding Board Members,

My name is Shawn Thomas. I am a local Olympia resident and am affiliated with the Olytrailrunners running club. I'm writing to express my support for several grants that are important to the future of Capitol Forest.

Capitol Forest is arguably the most important outdoor recreation resource in the South Sound area. I frequently visit Capitol Forest to run on the excellent developed trail network, and I have relied on these trails to introduce my toddler to hiking and appreciating our local forests. Countless other runners, cyclists, horse riders, photographers, nature enthusiasts, and more depend on this local resource. With urban growth and expansion threatening opportunities for outdoor recreation and for solace within and near city limits, the Capitol Forest trails are becoming more important than ever.

The following grants will help Capitol Forest DNR manage the trails and facilities that are critical to preserving Capitol Forest as a desperately needed resource for the local outdoor community. I strongly support these grants for the DNR:

RCO # 20-2097 Capitol Forest Non-Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

RCO # 20-2159 Capitol Education & Enforcement

RCO # 20-2306 Capitol Forest ORV Trail Bridge Replacement

RCO # 20-2011 Capitol & Yacolt Forest & Facilities Maintenance and Operations

RCO # 20-2161 Capitol Forest Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

Thanks for your time and consideration.

Shawn Thomas

530-925-4007

January 11, 2021

Dear RCO Funding Board Members,

I am a 10+ year mountain bike / recreation user in Capitol Forest.

Group or club association - Friends of Capitol Forest

I support the following grants. Capitol Forest DNR needs these grants in order to effectively manage the many existing, and the many new challenges we face to keep Capitol Forest on the trajectory of a safe and high-quality Washington State outdoor recreation destination.

RCO # 20-2097 Capitol Forest Non-Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance
RCO # 20-2159 Capitol Education & Enforcement
RCO # 20-2306 Capitol Forest ORV Trail Bridge Replacement
RCO # 20-2011 Capitol & Yacolt Forest & Facilities Maintenance and Operations
RCO # 20-2161 Capitol Forest Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

I sincerely thank you for your time and for your consideration,

Duncan Albright Jr
2218 122nd Average E, Edgewood, WA 98372
chip.albright@mail.com

WOLFF, PHILIP (DNR)

Subject: FW: Support to WADNR Grant Funding

From: Dave Molenaar <dc.molenaar@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 12, 2021 6:28 PM
To: WOLFF, PHILIP (DNR) <PHILIP.WOLFF@dnr.wa.gov>
Subject: Support to WADNR Grant Funding

Dear RCO Funding Board Members,

My name is David Molenaar

I am a member of the Olytrailrunners running club and a recreation user in Capitol Forest.

I support the following grants. Capitol Forest DNR needs these grants in order to effectively manage the many existing, and the many new challenges we face to keep Capitol Forest on the trajectory of a safe and high-quality Washington State outdoor recreation destination.

RCO # 20-2097 Capitol Forest Non-Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

RCO # 20-2159 Capitol Education & Enforcement

RCO # 20-2306 Capitol Forest ORV Trail Bridge Replacement

RCO # 20-2011 Capitol & Yacolt Forest & Facilities Maintenance and Operations

RCO # 20-2161 Capitol Forest Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

I sincerely thank you for your time and for your consideration,

David Molenaar

PO Box 6101

Olympia WA 98507

360-463-0574 dc.molenaar@yahoo.com

WOLFF, PHILIP (DNR)

From: Amy Louise Chance <bogeymutt@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, January 12, 2021 4:42 PM
To: WOLFF, PHILIP (DNR)
Subject: CSF grants

This message has originated from an External Source. Please use caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding to this email. Contact your desktop support or IT security staff for assistance and to report suspicious messages.

Dear RCO Funding Board Members,

My name is Amy Chance

I am a member of the Olytrailrunners running club and a recreation user in Capitol Forest.

I support the following grants. Capitol Forest DNR needs these grants in order to effectively manage the many existing, and the many new challenges we face to keep Capitol Forest on the trajectory of a safe and high-quality Washington State outdoor recreation destination.

RCO # 20-2097 Capitol Forest Non-Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

RCO # 20-2159 Capitol Education & Enforcement

RCO # 20-2306 Capitol Forest ORV Trail Bridge Replacement

RCO # 20-2011 Capitol & Yacolt Forest & Facilities Maintenance and Operations

RCO # 20-2161 Capitol Forest Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

I sincerely thank you for your time and for your consideration, Amy Chance

WOLFF, PHILIP (DNR)

Subject: Support for RCO grants for Capitol Forest

From: Jessica Brandt <jbrandt23@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 12, 2021 12:59 PM
To: WOLFF, PHILIP (DNR) <PHILIP.WOLFF@dnr.wa.gov>
Subject: Support for RCO grants for Capitol Forest

Dear RCO Funding Board Members,

My name is Jessica Brandt

I am a member of the Olytrailrunners running club, Trail Sisters running club, and a member of Friends of the Capitol Forest. I use the Capitol Forest for recreation as a runner, hiker, and mountain biker. I feel lucky to have such a wonderful place so close to Olympia, where I live.

I support the following grants. Capitol Forest DNR needs these grants in order to effectively manage the many existing, and the many new challenges we face to keep Capitol Forest on the trajectory of a safe and high-quality Washington State outdoor recreation destination. So many more people are getting outside and these projects will help keep them safe.

RCO # 20-2097 Capitol Forest Non-Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

RCO # 20-2159 Capitol Education & Enforcement

RCO # 20-2306 Capitol Forest ORV Trail Bridge Replacement

RCO # 20-2011 Capitol & Yacolt Forest & Facilities Maintenance and Operations

RCO # 20-2161 Capitol Forest Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

I sincerely thank you for your time and for your consideration,

Jessica Brandt jbrandt23@gmail.com

WOLFF, PHILIP (DNR)

Subject: : Capitol Forest RCO Grant ALL

From: Caitlin Craig-Mickel <caitlinek@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 12, 2021 5:36 PM
To: WOLFF, PHILIP (DNR) <PHILIP.WOLFF@dnr.wa.gov>
Subject: Capitol Forest RCO Grant

Dear RCO Funding Board Members,

My name is Caitlin Craig-Mickel.

I am a recreation user in Capitol Forest.

I wanted to write in support of the grants listed below. Capitol Forest DNR needs these grants in order to effectively manage the many existing, and the many new challenges we face to keep Capitol Forest on the trajectory of a safe and high-quality Washington State outdoor recreation destination. Capitol Forest is such an amazing trail system and beautiful area.

RCO # 20-2097 Capitol Forest Non-Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

RCO # 20-2159 Capitol Education & Enforcement

RCO # 20-2306 Capitol Forest ORV Trail Bridge Replacement

RCO # 20-2011 Capitol & Yacolt Forest & Facilities Maintenance and Operations

RCO # 20-2161 Capitol Forest Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

I sincerely thank you for your time and for your consideration,

--
Caitlin Craig-Mickel
360-269-5048 caitlinek@gmail.com

WOLFF, PHILIP (DNR)

Subject: Grants support

From: Amy Iverson <amyoutdoors@centurytel.net>
Sent: Tuesday, January 12, 2021 12:25 PM
To: WOLFF, PHILIP (DNR) <PHILIP.WOLFF@dnr.wa.gov>
Subject: Grants

Dear RCO Funding Board Members,

My name is Amy Iverson:

I am a member of the Olytrailrunners running club and a recreation user in Capitol Forest.

I support the following grants. Capitol Forest DNR needs these grants in order to effectively manage the many existing, and the many new challenges we face to keep Capitol Forest on the trajectory of a safe and high-quality Washington State outdoor recreation destination.

RCO # 20-2097 Capitol Forest Non-Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

RCO # 20-2159 Capitol Education & Enforcement

RCO # 20-2306 Capitol Forest ORV Trail Bridge Replacement

RCO # 20-2011 Capitol & Yacolt Forest & Facilities Maintenance and Operations

RCO # 20-2161 Capitol Forest Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

I sincerely thank you for your time and for your consideration,

Amy Iverson

WOLFF, PHILIP (DNR)

Subject: Capitol Forest Grants- All

From: Beth Le Mieux Glander <beth06glander@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 12, 2021 5:54 PM
To: WOLFF, PHILIP (DNR) <PHILIP.WOLFF@dnr.wa.gov>
Subject: Capitol Forest Grant

Dear RCO Funding Board Members,

My name is Beth Le Mieux Glander

I am a member of the Olytrailrunners running club and a recreation user in Capitol Forest.

I support the following grants. Capitol Forest DNR needs these grants in order to effectively manage the many existing, and the many new challenges we face to keep Capitol Forest on the trajectory of a safe and high-quality Washington State outdoor recreation destination.

RCO # 20-2097 Capitol Forest Non-Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

RCO # 20-2159 Capitol Education & Enforcement

RCO # 20-2306 Capitol Forest ORV Trail Bridge Replacement

RCO # 20-2011 Capitol & Yacolt Forest & Facilities Maintenance and Operations

RCO # 20-2161 Capitol Forest Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

I sincerely thank you for your time and for your consideration,

Beth Le Mieux Glander beth06glander@gmail.com

WOLFF, PHILIP (DNR)

Subject: FW: Capitol Forest grant support

From: Sarah Brooks <olympiagirl37@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, January 12, 2021 12:38 PM

Subject: Capitol Forest grant support

Attention Recreation & Conservation Office Funding Board Members,

My name is Sarah Brooks and I am a lifelong resident of Olympia.

I am a member of the Olytrailrunners running club and a recreation user in Capitol Forest. I rely on the trails in Capitol Forest for both my mental and physical health. Our continued ability to utilize this exceptional natural resource is vital to our community.

I support the following grants. Capitol Forest DNR needs these grants in order to effectively manage the many existing, and the many new challenges we face to keep Capitol Forest on the trajectory of a safe and high-quality Washington State outdoor recreation destination.

RCO # 20-2097 Capitol Forest Non-Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

RCO # 20-2159 Capitol Education & Enforcement

RCO # 20-2306 Capitol Forest ORV Trail Bridge Replacement

RCO # 20-2011 Capitol & Yacolt Forest & Facilities Maintenance and Operations

RCO # 20-2161 Capitol Forest Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

I sincerely thank you for your time and for your consideration,

Sarah Brooks olympiagirl37@gmail.com

To: Recreation & Conservation Office Funding Board
Date: December 26, 2020
Subject: Grant funding for Capitol Forest Recreation

I am writing to support Washington Department of Natural Resources' effort to secure grant funding for maintenance of trails and recreational facilities in Capitol Forest. I and my family have been horseback riding, hiking, and mountain biking in Capitol Forest for decades. Although we live close to the Forest, I have talked with people from around the state who were here enjoying the trail systems and recreational facilities managed by WDNR. This year, due to COVID, the number of people recreating in Capitol Forest has dramatically increased. This rise in users has also increased the need for education, enforcement, and maintenance.

As a member of Capitol Riders Chapter of Backcountry Horsemen of Washington, I participate in volunteer work parties to help maintain the trails and trailhead facilities we enjoy. But environmental conditions and high usage make maintenance and repairs a significant and on-going effort. WDNR needs adequate funding to support this effort.

Please award the Capitol Forest Trail & Facility Maintenance and Education & Enforcement grants to WDNR for the health and well-being of the people of Washington State.

Respectfully,



Sue Davis
sujdav2001@aol.com

January 12, 2021

Dear RCO Funding Board Members,

My name is Jack Ramsey and I am a recreation user in Capitol Forest and a long time member of Friends of Capitol Forest.

I would like to offer my support to the following grants. Capitol Forest DNR needs these grants in order to effectively manage the many existing, growing number of new challenges we face to keep Capitol Forest on the trajectory of a safe and high-quality Washington State outdoor recreation destination.

RCO # 20-2097 Capitol Forest Non-Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance
RCO # 20-2159 Capitol Education & Enforcement
RCO # 20-2306 Capitol Forest ORV Trail Bridge Replacement
RCO # 20-2011 Capitol & Yacolt Forest & Facilities Maintenance and Operations
RCO # 20-2161 Capitol Forest Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

I sincerely thank you for your time and for your consideration,

Jack Ramsey
315 Sherman St NW
Olympia, WA 98532
ramco@localaccess.com



Dear RCO funding members,

I am writing you as the owner of Down East Racing, and as a cyclist who calls Capitol Forest home, to express my support for the following grant proposals:

- RCO # 18-2464 Capitol State Forest Non-Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance**
- RCO # 18-2465 Capitol Forest ORV Trail and Facility Maintenance**
- RCO # 18-2463 Capitol Forest Education and Enforcement**
- RCO # 18-2466 New Capitol Forest Non - Motorized Trails**
- RCO # 18-2467 New Capitol Forest Off Road Vehicle Trails**
- RCO # 18-2512 Capitol & Yacolt Forest Facilities Maintenance**

Capitol Forest is somewhere that holds a place near to my heart, both as an event promoter for off road cycling events, as well as a community member who relies on recreation access to Capitol Forest as both a means of maintaining physical, and mental health. The ongoing Pandemic has shown that if nothing else, there is a phenomenal need for recreation amongst our populous.

Over this past year I have had the pleasure of seeing the Capitol Forest user base expand dramatically across spectrums, as more people have discovered this resource in their (seemingly more often than not) back yard. With the increase in traffic though, comes an increase in needs and it is imperative that funding is received to insure that this resource can remain open, and managed for all of us who rely on it, both professionally and personally.

While Capitol Forest serves as a professional hub for my work, it is truly my personal love for the recreational opportunities that finds me writing you. There is nowhere else in the state that offers such a wide variety of road and trail access for some many different types of recreation, and continuing to fund these efforts is essential to preserve these opportunities for myself, my friends and neighbors, and my family to share.

With respect,
Cameron J. Sloan

Owner, Down East Racing
Trail Builder, Friends of Capitol Forest
Compassionate Mountain Biker
Routine Dog Walker

WOLFF, PHILIP (DNR)

Subject: grant support letter Jeff Barrette

From: Jeff Barrette <JeffBarrette@msn.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 12, 2021 1:08 PM
To: WOLFF, PHILIP (DNR) <PHILIP.WOLFF@dnr.wa.gov>
Subject: Grant letter

Dear RCO Funding Board Members,

My name is Jeff Barrette

I am a member of the Olytrailrunners running club, FOCF, and a recreation user in Capitol Forest.

I support the following grants. Capitol Forest DNR needs these grants in order to effectively manage the many existing, and the many new challenges we face to keep Capitol Forest on the trajectory of a safe and high-quality Washington State outdoor recreation destination.

RCO # 20-2097 Capitol Forest Non-Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

RCO # 20-2159 Capitol Education & Enforcement

RCO # 20-2306 Capitol Forest ORV Trail Bridge Replacement

RCO # 20-2011 Capitol & Yacolt Forest & Facilities Maintenance and Operations

RCO # 20-2161 Capitol Forest Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

I sincerely thank you for your time and for your consideration,

Jeff Barrette
JeffBarrette@msn.com
1.360.481.2143
Olympia, WA

WOLFF, PHILIP (DNR)

Subject: FW: RCO Grant Support Z

From: Kristen O'Brien <kristenobrien9@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 12, 2021 10:37 PM
To: WOLFF, PHILIP (DNR) <PHILIP.WOLFF@dnr.wa.gov>
Subject: RCO Grant Support

Dear RCO Funding Board Members,

My name is Kristen O'Brien.

I am a member of the Olytrailrunners running club and a recreation user in Capitol Forest.

I support the following grants. Capitol Forest DNR needs these grants in order to effectively manage the many existing, and the many new challenges we face to keep Capitol Forest on the trajectory of a safe and high-quality Washington State outdoor recreation destination.

RCO # 20-2097 Capitol Forest Non-Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

RCO # 20-2159 Capitol Education & Enforcement

RCO # 20-2306 Capitol Forest ORV Trail Bridge Replacement

RCO # 20-2011 Capitol & Yacolt Forest & Facilities Maintenance and Operations

RCO # 20-2161 Capitol Forest Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

I sincerely thank you for your time and for your consideration,

Kristen O'Brien

WOLFF, PHILIP (DNR)

Subject: FW: Pick the Capital Forest!

From: Travis Schultz <schultzie20@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 8:15 AM
To: WOLFF, PHILIP (DNR) <PHILIP.WOLFF@dnr.wa.gov>
Subject: Pick the Capitol Forest!

Good morning,

My name is Travis Schultz and along with being an avid bike rider, I am a member of the Olytrailrunners running club and a recreation user in Capitol Forest. We currently adventure in the Capital Forest almost every weekend on foot or by bike. In fact, it is one of the reasons we have decided to stay in Olympia.

Capitol Forest DNR needs these grants in order to effectively manage the many existing, and the many new challenges we face to keep Capitol Forest on the trajectory of a safe and high-quality Washington State outdoor recreation destination.

I support the following funding proposals:

RCO # 20-2097 Capitol Forest Non-Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

RCO # 20-2159 Capitol Education & Enforcement

RCO # 20-2306 Capitol Forest ORV Trail Bridge Replacement

RCO # 20-2011 Capitol & Yacolt Forest & Facilities Maintenance and Operations

RCO # 20-2161 Capitol Forest Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

Thank you for your time and for your consideration,

Travis schultzie20@hotmail.com

WOLFF, PHILIP (DNR)

Subject: Capitol Forest recreation support of grants

From: Reg Rasmussen <regasmussen@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 12, 2021 12:57 PM
To: WOLFF, PHILIP (DNR) <PHILIP.WOLFF@dnr.wa.gov>
Subject: Capitol Forest recreation

Dear RCO NOVA Funding Board Members,

My name is Reg Rasmussen.

I am a member of the Olytrailrunners running club and a recreation user in Capitol Forest.

I support the following grants. Capitol Forest DNR needs these grants in order to effectively manage the many existing, and the many new challenges we face to keep Capitol Forest on the trajectory of a safe and high-quality Washington State outdoor recreation destination.

RCO # 20-2097 Capitol Forest Non-Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

RCO # 20-2159 Capitol Education & Enforcement

RCO # 20-2306 Capitol Forest ORV Trail Bridge Replacement

RCO # 20-2011 Capitol & Yacolt Forest & Facilities Maintenance and Operations

RCO # 20-2161 Capitol Forest Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

I sincerely thank you for your time and for your consideration,

Reg Rasmussen
360-890-7942
regasmussen@gmail.com

WOLFF, PHILIP (DNR)

Subject: FW: RCO Funding

From: Craig Emerson <guitbluer5000@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 12, 2021 12:44 PM
To: WOLFF, PHILIP (DNR) <PHILIP.WOLFF@dnr.wa.gov>
Subject: RCO Funding .

Dear RCO Funding Board Members,

My name is Craig Emerson

I am a member of the Olytrailrunners running club and a recreation user in Capitol Forest.

I support the following grants. Capitol Forest DNR needs these grants in order to effectively manage the many existing, and the many new challenges we face to keep Capitol Forest on the trajectory of a safe and high-quality Washington State outdoor recreation destination.

RCO # 20-2097 Capitol Forest Non-Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

RCO # 20-2159 Capitol Education & Enforcement

RCO # 20-2306 Capitol Forest ORV Trail Bridge Replacement

RCO # 20-2011 Capitol & Yacolt Forest & Facilities Maintenance and Operations

RCO # 20-2161 Capitol Forest Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

I sincerely thank you for your time and for your consideration,

Craig Emerson
Tenino, WA

Sent from my iPhone

WOLFF, PHILIP (DNR)

Subject: I support DNR recreation and the RCO grants they are applying for

Dear RCO Funding Board Members,

My name is Evan

I am a member of the Olytrailrunners running club and a recreation user in Capitol Forest.

I support the following grants. Capitol Forest DNR needs these grants in order to effectively manage the many existing, and the many new challenges we face to keep Capitol Forest on the trajectory of a safe and high-quality Washington State outdoor recreation destination.

RCO # 20-2097 Capitol Forest Non-Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

RCO # 20-2159 Capitol Education & Enforcement

RCO # 20-2306 Capitol Forest ORV Trail Bridge Replacement

RCO # 20-2011 Capitol & Yacolt Forest & Facilities Maintenance and Operations

RCO # 20-2161 Capitol Forest Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

I sincerely thank you for your time and for your consideration,

Respectfully,

-Evan Fischer ezfischer@gmail.com

January 12, 2021

Dear RCO Funding Board Members,

I am a Mountain biker/hiker/camper that uses Capitol Forest in Washington State.

I volunteer with Friends of Capitol Forest (FOCF) for trail work and maintenance. I also lead beginner/social rides on Monday evenings year round.

Capitol Forest provides a place of education, resources and recreation. It is a wonderful place that allows a plethora of multi-use recreation enthusiasts. I fully support the following grants, in order for DNR to meet and manage the existing and future challenges they face to keep Capitol Forest the safe and high-quality outdoor destination it has become.

RCO # 20-2097 Capitol Forest Non-Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

RCO # 20-2159 Capitol Education & Enforcement

RCO # 20-2306 Capitol Forest ORV Trail Bridge Replacement

RCO # 20-2161 Capitol Forest Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

I appreciate your time and consideration in this matter,

Corey Whiteman

3718 Wesley Loop NW

Olympia, WA 98502

C_Whiteman@yahoo.com

WOLFF, PHILIP (DNR)

Subject: grant support



Dear RCO NOVA Funding Committee

My name is Dan Saul and I am a member of the Olytrailrunners running club and a recreation user in Capitol Forest. The Capitol State Forest is a wonderful asset but with much underdeveloped opportunities.

Therefore I support the following grants. Capitol Forest DNR needs these grants in order to effectively manage the many existing, and the many new challenges we face to keep Capitol Forest on the trajectory of a safe and high-quality Washington State outdoor recreation destination.

RCO # 20-2097 Capitol Forest Non-Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

RCO # 20-2159 Capitol Education & Enforcement

RCO # 20-2306 Capitol Forest ORV Trail Bridge Replacement

RCO # 20-2011 Capitol & Yacolt Forest & Facilities Maintenance and Operations

RCO # 20-2161 Capitol Forest Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

I sincerely thank you for your time and for your consideration,

Dan

orcadan@gmail.com

WOLFF, PHILIP (DNR)

Subject: Jennie Husby letter of support grants

From: Jennie Husby <jenniehusby@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 6:22 AM
To: WOLFF, PHILIP (DNR) <PHILIP.WOLFF@dnr.wa.gov>

Dear RCO Funding Board Members,

My name is Jennie Husby

I am a member of the Olytrailrunners running club and a recreation user in Capitol Forest.

I support the following grants. Capitol Forest DNR needs these grants in order to effectively manage the many existing, and the many new challenges we face to keep Capitol Forest on the trajectory of a safe and high-quality Washington State outdoor recreation destination.

This is especially important with COVID as the number of people recreating on the trails has gone up dramatically with folks trying to safely exercise outdoors instead of in.

I appreciate all the work that goes into maintaining Capitol Forest for recreation!

RCO # 20-2097 Capitol Forest Non-Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

RCO # 20-2159 Capitol Education & Enforcement

RCO # 20-2306 Capitol Forest ORV Trail Bridge Replacement

RCO # 20-2011 Capitol & Yacolt Forest & Facilities Maintenance and Operations

RCO # 20-2161 Capitol Forest Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

I sincerely thank you for your time and for your consideration,

Jennie Husby

jenniehusby@gmail.com

WOLFF, PHILIP (DNR)

Subject: RCO grant funding

From: K C <one2velo@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 29, 2020 7:48 PM
To: WOLFF, PHILIP (DNR) <PHILIP.WOLFF@dnr.wa.gov>
Subject: RCO grant funding

Phil: Please forward this to the RCO funding board.

I'm writing in support of the following grant requests:

RCO # 20-2097 Capitol Forest Non-Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance
RCO # 20-2159 Capitol Education & Enforcement
RCO # 20-2011 Capitol & Yacolt Forest & Facilities Maintenance and Operations

As a Capitol Forest recreational user as well as a Friends of Capitol Forest (FOCF) trail worker I've observed a very significant increase in trail use this past year. When I'm doing trail maintenance I'm routinely thanked by the trail users for the work we do. These folks include hikers, trail runners, equestrians and mountain bikers, many of whom are unaware of the level of effort and resources required to maintain the trails and trailheads.

Capitol Forest has become a rewarding and thus very popular outdoor recreation destination, particularly for locals but also for people coming from a broader Pacific Northwest region. It goes without saying that maintaining these recreational opportunities provides great benefit to our overall social health and welfare as well as a financial benefit to the community.

FOCF is a group of very dedicated and enthusiastic volunteers who contribute extensive hours of labor, love and materials to the benefit of many, but we can't do this alone, and in particular without the resources and work of DNR staff. RCO grant funding is critical as it enables the provision of essential labor and materials needed to develop, improve and maintain these recreational resources for the community at large.

Ken Clauson
410-353-7944
one2velo@gmail.com

WOLFF, PHILIP (DNR)

Subject: Letter of support from a equestrian

From: Barb <ibriding@centurytel.net>
Sent: Thursday, January 14, 2021 9:19 AM
To: WOLFF, PHILIP (DNR) <PHILIP.WOLFF@dnr.wa.gov>

January 14th 2021

Dear RCO Funding Board Committee

My name is Barbara Paris

I am a equestrian recreation user in Capitol Forest.

I support the following grants. Capitol Forest DNR needs these grants in order to effectively manage the many existing, and the many new challenges we face to keep Capitol Forest on the trajectory of a safe and high-quality Washington State outdoor recreation destination.

RCO # 20-2097 Capitol Forest Non-Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance RCO # 20-2159 Capitol Education & Enforcement RCO # 20-2306 Capitol Forest ORV Trail Bridge Replacement RCO # 20-2011 Capitol & Yacolt Forest & Facilities Maintenance and Operations RCO # 20-2161 Capitol Forest Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

I sincerely thank you for your time and for your consideration,

Barbara Paris ibriding@centurytel.net

January 10, 2021

Dear RCO Funding Board Members,

My name is James Graham. I am an Olympia resident and Capitol Forest recreation and volunteer enthusiast. I first started recreating in Capitol Forest through camping, dirt bike riding and target shooting with my family in the 1980's. Since the 1990's, I have been actively mountain biking and volunteering in Capitol Forest. Today, my wife and daughter and I regularly hike, bike and run in Capitol Forest year-round. We are also close neighbors of Capitol Forest, and consider access to Capitol Forest a major contributor to our quality of life.

Capitol Forest is a very large and increasingly popular recreation area. With a dramatic increase in users in recent years, we are experiencing even more impact on trails and facilities as well as an increased need for education and enforcement of etiquette and laws for some of these new users and their practice of their respective recreation activities. Maintaining our 200 miles of trails and numerous facilities has always been a difficult task for Capitol Forest DNR staff, considering their limited resources and the size and scope of their work. The conditions for recreation in Capitol Forest have improved over the last decade – due to an increase in local DNR staff, as well as an increase in local, highly committed volunteers. But as far as we've come, there is still a enormous amount of work to do bring our trails, facilities and community up to the condition they should be in.

In my observation over my many years of active recreation and volunteer work in Capitol Forest, I have supported and seen how past grants have gone directly to work improving Capitol Forest in a thorough and also, quite importantly, cost-effective way. As a business owner who has to compete in an open market for my livelihood, I would like to stress how much I respect and appreciate how Capitol Forest DNR have delivered high value for the grant dollars they have had to compete for and earn over the years. Capitol Forest DNR has what I would consider to be a very high rate of return on investment through frugal capital use, smart staff hiring decisions, and well leveraged joint projects with local volunteers.

Additionally, Capitol Forest is a *true* multi-use area. Our motorized trails and non-motorized trails see high use from mountain bikers, horseback riders, atv riders, dirt bike riders, hikers and runners. True multi-use trails have a greater net benefit of user numbers than single use trails or multi-use trails that don't actually see multi-use. Capitol Forest grant dollars benefit more users, period.

I strongly support every one of the following grants. Capitol Forest DNR very seriously needs these grants in order to effectively manage the many existing, and the many new challenges they face to keep Capitol Forest on the trajectory of a safe and high-quality Washington State outdoor recreation destination.

RCO # 20-2097 Capitol Forest Non-Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

RCO # 20-2159 Capitol Education & Enforcement

RCO # 20-2306 Capitol Forest ORV Trail Bridge Replacement

RCO # 20-2011 Capitol & Yacolt Forest & Facilities Maintenance and Operations

RCO # 20-2161 Capitol Forest Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

I sincerely thank you for your time and your consideration. We are grateful for your support.

James Graham

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jim Graham', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Owner CapitolForest.com

Co-founder Friends of Capitol Forest

Neighbor

13323 Erskine RD SW Rochester WA 98579

3607013596

jim@capitolforest.com



December 8th, 2020

**Board
of
Directors**

The Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Bradley Copeland

Helen Haberman

Scott Halpert

Jane Kammerzelt

Erik Matissek

Judith McHugh

Patricia Sheppard

Devin Thompson

Greg Williams

Rose Wolfe

Dear Recreation and Conservation Office,

I am pleased to write on behalf of Northwest Youth Corps (NYC) in support of the Entiat Ranger District on the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest in submitting the following applications:

PROJECT: 20-1964 Entiat Campgrounds and Dispersed M&O

USFS OKWNF Entiat RD

PROJECT: 20-1965 Entiat & Chelan Multiple Use Trail M&O 2022-23

USFS OKWNF Entiat RD

PROJECT: 20-1966 CentralZoneBackcountry E&E 2022-23

USFS OKWNF Entiat RD

Through this partnership, both Entiat Ranger District and Northwest Youth Corps will be able to establish the efficacy of young people on Washington's outdoor recreation infrastructure while training to become future stewards.

NYC is a youth development and outdoor education organization that has provided opportunities to young people since its establishment in 1984. NYC employs over 900 youth and young adults annually to complete conservation projects throughout Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and California. Participants through our Washington state programs will experience their time through either our field office at Lake Wenatchee on the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest or out of Tacoma, WA with our agency partner, Metro Parks Tacoma.

NYC and Entiat Ranger District have worked in partnership to benefit our public lands and youth alike since the early 1990s. The applications mentioned above will help to further this partnership. A partnership in which Entiat Ranger District and Northwest Youth Corps can continue to complete necessary maintenance projects will also allow for young people to learn, grow, and experience success.

**Friends
and
Advisors**

Ken Maddox

Sam Naito

Arthur Pope

Barbara Roberts

Jean Tate

Yours in Outdoor Programs That Last a Lifetime,

Edison Velez III
Washington State Programs Manager
Phone – (253) 245-3724
Fax – (541) 349-5060
Edisonv@nwyouthcorps.org



Northwest Motorcycle Association
969 Green Mountain Road
Mossyrock, WA 98564

October 12, 2020

Re: Grant Support Letter for 20-1966 EDU, CENTRAL ZONE BACKCOUNTRY E&E , 20-1965 MNT, ENTIAT AND CHELAN MULTIPLE USE TRAIL M&O 2022-23, 20-1964 MNT, ENTIAT RD CAMPGROUNDS AND DISPERSED M&O 22-23

Dear RCO Grant Review Committee,

I am pleased to write a letter of support on behalf of the Northwest Motorcycle Association. The Forest Service recreation program is sadly underfunded. The trails and campgrounds see an increasing amount of use as maintenance falls further and further behind. The US Forest Service depends on RCO grant support to fund education, enforcement and maintenance programs on the National Forest. As a volunteer coordinator and trails advocate I collaborate closely with the recreation managers in the Entiat, Methow, Cle Elum and Wenatchee River Ranger Districts. This year NMA Volunteers have logged 4160 hrs of volunteer time to the date this is written. 944 hours have been logged for the Entiat Ranger District alone. The Entiat Ranger District has been very supportive of volunteer efforts and put together a cache of tools for volunteers to access. I strongly believe that when the Forest Service empowers the volunteers with tools and quite frankly gets out of the way volunteers can make a big impact on the trail systems. We have used the tools Entiat has provided us to rebuild trails that otherwise would not see maintenance. We also create volunteer hours to support matching grant funds. The Methow is also looking at doing a similar program. The Cle Elum Ranger District also has a very successful volunteer program. The Forest Service was created to protect and maintain land for citizens to enjoy and recreate. With ever shrinking budgets the amount of money available to properly maintain the trail systems is just not available. It is sad to see our trails going away from lack of maintenance. Working together in partnership with RCO funding and volunteers is the way we can keep our trails open and maintained for all users.

Thank you for your consideration

Sincerely

Sean Clarke

Northwest Motorcycle Association

Sean Clarke - Central Washington Trails Project Volunteer Coordinator

Marc Toenyan - President

Dale Williams - Vice President

Tod Petersen - Land Use/Legislative Coordinator



Washington Trails Association

705 Second Avenue, Suite 300, Seattle WA 98104 • 206.625.1367 • wta.org

December 7, 2020

Recreation and Conservation Office

P.O. Box 40917

Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Trail Maintenance Grant Projects on the Entiat Ranger Districts

To Whom It May Concern:

Washington Trails Association is pleased to submit this letter offering our strong support for the following trail maintenance grants on the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest:

- 20-1965 M Entiat and Chelan Multiple Use Trail M&O 2022-23
- 20-1964 M Entiat RD Campgrounds and Dispersed M&O 2022-23
- 20-1966 E Central Zone Backcountry E&E 2022-23

Washington Trails Association has a more than 50-year legacy of engaging the hiking community. WTA enhances hiking experiences in Washington State by empowering a diverse and growing community of hikers to explore, steward and protect trails and public lands. WTA is the nation's largest state-based trail maintenance and hiking advocacy nonprofit organization, with more than 15,500 member households and an online community of more than 100,000. Each year more than 5,000 WTA volunteers perform over 160,000 hours of trail maintenance across the state.

The Entiat and Chelan Ranger Districts provide diverse trail experiences for a multitude of trail enthusiasts in all seasons including many trails managed for hiking and backpacking as well as education programs and recreation site maintenance and operation. The Lakeshore Trail, Entiat River Trail, Myrtle Lake Trail, PCT, Hart Lyman Trail, Echo Ridge Trail System, and Silver Falls Trail are all destinations in need of continued maintenance to meet the needs of growing recreating public.

As an organization that provides countless hours of volunteer trail maintenance within the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, including several weeks on the Entiat and Chelan Ranger Districts, WTA heartily supports these projects.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrea J. Imler". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a light gray rectangular background.

Andrea Imler
Advocacy Director
Washington Trails Association



January 5, 2020

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
 P.O. Box 40917
 Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Chelan and Entiat Ranger Districts Grant Support
 20-1955 MNT, LOWER LAKE CHELAN SUMMER AND WINTER TRAILS
 20-1954 MNT, UPPER LAKE CHELAN BASIN TRAIL MAINTENANCE
 20-1964, Entiat Campgrounds and Dispersed M&O 2022-23
 20-1965, Entiat & Chelan Multiple Use Trail M&O 2022-23
 20-1966, Central Zone Backcountry E&E 2022-23

Dear Recreation and Conservation Funding Board:

On behalf of the 'Trails Recreation Education Advocacy and Development' organization (TREAD), I offer our strong support for grants on the Chelan Ranger District Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest. TREAD will provide coordination of a highly skilled trail maintenance volunteers, chainsaw certifications, coordination with Backcountry Horseman and limited financial support for these projects over the ensuing grant cycle. The Chelan and Entiat Districts provide a diverse range of trail experiences for a wide array of trail users in all seasons ranging from impeccably groomed Nordic trails at Echo Ridge, wilderness backpacking on the Pacific Crest Trail, Horseback riding in the North Fork of the Entiat, to the challenging alpine single-track motorcycle trails in the Sawtooth Backcountry. Please consider funding these grant requests to provided essential funding to sustain outdoor recreation opportunities.

As a results-based outdoor recreation organization in Chelan County of TREAD's key partners is the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest. We recently entered into a Challenge Cost Share Agreement with the Forest to work collaboratively as a shared stewardship partner in recreation planning, project prioritization, volunteer coordination, funding, NEPA analysis, and project implementation on the Chelan, Entiat, and Wenatchee River Ranger Districts. As part of the agreement TREAD has already developed and released a Chelan County recreation app called TREAD Map, obtained over \$150,000 to fund several Forest projects, and established a TREAD trail response team of high performing volunteers for the upcoming summer season. In our relatively short existence TREAD has demonstrated our commitment to produce results and advocate for all trail users and outdoor enthusiasts on Forest lands.

The '*Trails Recreation Education Advocacy and Development*' organization (TREAD) was started in the summer of 2017 as a 501c3 organization within Chelan County. TREAD's main goal is to bring diverse outdoor recreation stakeholders together (motorized, non-motorized, water, snow and land) to move forward in a coordinated fashion to thoughtfully and sustainability provide the best outdoor recreation experiences and improve the quality of life for Chelan County residents and visitors. We currently hold Ex-Officio meetings with about 40 different Outdoor Recreation organizations, land managers, and municipalities every quarter and are involved in multiple projects with different user groups and government organizations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mat Lyons". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mat Lyons
 Executive Director, TREAD

January 5, 2020

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917



RE: RCO Grant Projects on the Chelan, Wenatchee River, and Entiat Ranger Districts*

Dear Recreation and Conservation Funding Board:

As an organization that annually provides thousands of hours of volunteer trail planning, building, and maintenance within the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, the Central Washington Chapter of EMBA strongly supports the grant projects submitted for the Chelan, Wenatchee River, and Entiat Ranger Districts.

The Chelan, Wenatchee River, and Entiat Ranger Districts provide many unique trail based recreational opportunities for motorized and non-motorized trail enthusiasts. EMBA supports this wide array of opportunities and is especially supportive of trail building and maintenance at the Leavenworth Ski Hill, Devils Gulch, Echo Ridge, Sawtooth Backcountry, Number Two Canyon, and motorized trails on the Entiat Ranger District. These trail systems premier mountain biking opportunities in Central Washington. These destinations as well as other trails across these districts are in need of continued maintenance to meet the needs of growing diverse recreating public and to provide dependable access to public lands.

An example of our contributions includes the work we accomplished with the USFS, Northwest Motorcycle Association, and Transcascadia on the Pot Peak and North Fork of 25 Mile Creek trails over the last two years. The collaborative work has returned these trails to local and regional prominence and both motorized and non-motorized trail users have commended the condition of the trails.

On behalf of the Central Chapter of the Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance (EMBA), I am pleased to offer our strong support for several grants on the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest. The Chelan, Wenatchee River and Entiat Ranger Districts provide a diverse range of trail experiences for a wide array of trail users in all seasons including many trails managed for mountain biking as well as education programs and recreation site maintenance and operation. EMBA is the state's largest mountain bike trail maintenance and advocacy organization with a continual growing membership and chapters throughout the state. Each year EMBA volunteers donate thousands of hours of building and maintaining trails across Washington.

Sincerely,

Travis Hornby
President, Central Washington Chapter, Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Travis Hornby".

*Chelan, Wenatchee River, and Entiat Ranger Districts RCO Grant Proposals
20-1955 MNT, LOWER LAKE CHELAN SUMMER AND WINTER TRAILS
20-1954 MNT, UPPER LAKE CHELAN BASIN TRAIL MAINTENANCE
20-1964, Entiat Campgrounds and Dispersed M&O 2022-23
20-1965, Entiat & Chelan Multiple Use Trail M&O 2022-23
20-1966, Central Zone Backcountry E&E 2022-23



January 8 2021

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

Re: Application 20-2130 EDU Snoqualmie Corridor and Middle Fork Valley E&E

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board:

Alpine Lakes Protection Society (ALPS) is writing to express our very strong support for your grant application 20-2130, to fund one full time and one seasonal Education and Enforcement positions in the Snoqualmie Corridor and Middle Fork Snoqualmie River valley.

ALPS has been closely involved in all aspects of management of the Middle Fork valley for decades. We have seen it go from a forgotten place, to a place infested with dumping, shooting and lawlessness, and now to a place in danger of being loved to death by overwhelming levels of public use.

Although public use is obviously a good and desirable thing, the special circumstances of the Middle Fork Snoqualmie valley put it especially at risk. The road network on the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest is crumbling away at the same time that population and traffic in the Seattle area are growing. The result is that more and more people are looking for close-in places to recreate in the Snoqualmie Corridor and Middle Fork.

With the paving of the Middle Fork road, usage is skyrocketing. Land management agencies are facing an urgent need to have more people on the ground. If rules governing parking and overnight camping are not explained and enforced, it will degrade everyone's experience visiting the Middle Fork and other nearby public land areas.

The exploding level of usage in the Middle Fork is leading to crowding problems never before seen in this region. If cars park illegally along the road, it could lead to epic traffic jams and the inability for emergency access to the valley. It seems inevitable that private vehicle access will need to be restricted, and alternate ways found to get people in and out of the Middle Fork valley.

Until solutions to these problems can be found and implemented, it is critical that agencies' physical presence in the valley be increased. Thus we believe it is vital that grant application 20-2130 be approved, in order to get personnel on the ground to deal with the unprecedented crowding and the problems it will create.

An immense amount of work and investment has gone into the Middle Fork over the past few decades. That work and investment could now be undermined by overcrowding that was once unimaginable. Grant application 20-2130 is a necessary first step toward addressing and managing the ever increasing levels of use in the Middle Fork valley. We urge its approval.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Rick McGuire, President

Alpine Lakes Protection Society (ALPS)



BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF WASHINGTON
PO Box 1132
ELLENSBURG, WA 98926
WWW.BCHW.ORG

January 14, 2021

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

RE: Nonhighway and Off-Road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Education and Enforcement Snoqualmie Corridor and Middle Fork Valley E&E (#20-2130 EDU)

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

I am writing on behalf of the Back Country Horsemen of Washington (BCHW) to support DNR's proposal to the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office fund the successful education and enforcement program in the Snoqualmie Corridor and support the cross-commissioned Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and US Forest Service (USFS) seasonal staff person focused in the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River Valley.

The mission of BCHW is to keep trails open for all users, provide education on Leave No Trace practices, and provide volunteer service to partnering agencies and organizations that further our mission. BCHW has 32 chapters throughout Washington State with approximately 2,500 members.

The Snoqualmie Corridor includes some of the most popular and accessible outdoor recreational opportunities in Washington year-round. Important trails for our organization include the C.C.C trail, an easily accessible trail that leads to further opportunities in the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River Valley as well as the popular South Tiger Mountain trail network outside Issaquah. It is truly remarkable for these opportunities to be so close to a growing metropolitan Seattle area. Many consider the Alpine Lakes Wilderness as one of the most accessible wilderness areas in the county. The large federal Middle Fork road investment has brought more equestrians and others to enjoy the valley. Without consistent enforcement and education staff on the ground, many of our trail investments could suffer, leading to trail closures due to safety concerns.

We hope that this application is funded in order for DNR to provide a committed staff patrolling the Snoqualmie Corridor and Middle Fork Snoqualmie Valley. The Backcountry Horsemen of Washington is committed to partnering with the DNR and the USFS to ensure that visitors enjoy these incredible landscapes.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jason R. Ridlon". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Jason Ridlon
BCHW President, Trail Work Coordinator

Back Country Horsemen of Washington (BCHW), is a 501 (c) (3) organization with 32 chapters across the state dedicated to: keeping trails open for all users; educating horse users in Leave-No-Trace practices; and providing volunteer service to resource agencies.



January 11, 2021

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

RE: Nonhighway and Off-Road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Education and Enforcement
Snoqualmie Corridor and Middle Fork Valley E&E (#20-2130 EDU)

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

On behalf of the City of North Bend, I am writing to clearly state our support of the Department of Natural Resource's proposal to the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office fund the successful education and enforcement program in the Snoqualmie Corridor and support the cross-commissioned Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and US Forest Service (USFS) seasonal staff person focused in the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River Valley.

The Snoqualmie Corridor and Middle Fork Snoqualmie Valley include some of the most popular trail opportunities in the region, located just outside North Bend city limits. North Bend's economy and the quality of life for its residents are heavily driven by outdoor recreation. The hiking, mountain biking and equestrian communities represents a large portion of our residents and visitors. This grant opportunity will ensure that there is adequate enforcement and education staff for DNR and USFS to manage these recreation opportunities. The Middle Fork Snoqualmie Valley has experienced a dramatic increase in use with the completion of a federal road paving project. It is necessary for agencies to have adequate funding for official presence in the valley.

Increased education and enforcement staff patrolling trails will provide public safety, protect sensitive environmental resources, and improve user experience. All of these benefits will draw recreationists and bring more visitors into the City of North Bend. Thank you for the opportunity to support this project and we look forward to DNR and USFS being awarded this grant.

Thank you for the opportunity to support this important project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rebecca Deming". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a blue ink color.

Rebecca Deming
Community and Economic Development Director
City of North Bend



January 6, 2021

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Nonhighway and Off-Road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Education and Enforcement Snoqualmie Corridor and Middle Fork Valley E&E (#20-2130 EDU)

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

The Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance supports DNR's proposal to provide education service and educational resources in the Snoqualmie Corridor and Middle Fork Snoqualmie Valley. This grant funding will support a successful, full time staff person in the Snoqualmie Corridor and fund a unique cross-commissioned DNR and US Forest Service seasonal staff person, focused in the Middle Fork Snoqualmie Valley.

The Snoqualmie Corridor and Middle Fork Snoqualmie Valley are less than an hour from the growing Seattle area. The recent Middle Fork paving project has increased visitation to the Middle Fork Valley, which includes some of the most accessible designated wilderness area in the country. It is critical that there is adequate staff and support for the DNR and USFS to support visiting public. This funding is vital to promote safe and legal use of this important natural resource by the hundreds of thousands of visitors that enjoy it every year.

The Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance is involved with a multi-stakeholder recreation planning process in the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River Valley. Ensuring education and enforcement staff will help protect the public's investment in the recreational resources.

Evergreen is the nation's largest statewide mountain bike organization, with more than 7,900 members and over 65,000 social media followers. We are dedicated to trail building and maintenance, as well as volunteerism, education, advocacy, and youth participation. We are particularly supportive of this proposal since it includes a significant planning effort between multiple stakeholders to protect the incredible natural and recreational resources of the Middle Fork Snoqualmie Valley, yet make it accessible and safe for all non-motorized recreational user groups.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Yvonne Kraus", written over a horizontal line.

Yvonne Kraus
Executive Director
Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance



Issaquah Alps
TRAILS CLUB

— EST. 1979 —

January 6, 2021

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

RE: Nonhighway and Off-Road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Education and Enforcement
Snoqualmie Corridor and Middle Fork Valley E&E (#20-2130 EDU)

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

The Issaquah Alps Trails Club is dedicated to the protection of the mountains, valleys and rivers and streams in the Issaquah Alps region and beyond. We have partnered with DNR for over twenty years on key conservation acquisitions, recreation planning and volunteer stewardship.

We are writing on behalf of the Issaquah Alps Trails Club (IATC) to support DNR's proposal to the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office to fund the successful education and enforcement program in the Snoqualmie Corridor and support the cross-commissioned Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and US Forest Service (USFS) seasonal staff person focused in the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River Valley.

The Snoqualmie Corridor includes some of the most treasured hikes near Issaquah. This includes West Tiger No 3, Poo Poo Point and the lower elevation Tradition Plateau trail network, perfect for families and environmental education. In addition, the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River Valley is less than an hour from the greater Seattle area. The recent road pavement project has vastly improved primary access to the Middle Fork Snoqualmie Valley, both managed by DNR and USFS, increasing the number of visitors to this landscape.

We fully support this proposal and understand that without continued staff presence, especially on weekends, many of our trail investments are in jeopardy. IATC is committed to supporting DNR's mission to provide safe and sustainable recreation in the Snoqualmie Corridor.

Sincerely,

David Dunphy, President
Issaquah Alps Trails Club

david.dunphy@issaquahalps.org

Lindsay Frickle, Executive Director
Issaquah Alps Trails Club

exec@issaquahalps.org



King County

Department of Natural Resources and Parks
Parks and Recreation Division
King Street Center, KSC-NR-0700
201 South Jackson Street, Suite 700
Seattle, WA 98104-3855
206-477-4527 Fax 206-588-8011
TTY Relay: 711

January 5, 2021

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

RE: Nonhighway and Off-Road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Education and Enforcement
Snoqualmie Corridor and Middle Fork Valley E&E (#20-2130 EDU)

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

I am writing on behalf of King County to express our enthusiastic support of Washington Department of Natural Resources' (DNR) proposal to the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office to fund an education and enforcement program in the Snoqualmie Corridor and the cross-commissioned DNR and US Forest Service (USFS) seasonal staff person focused in the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River Valley.

The goal for this project is to provide education and enforcement staff year round in the Snoqualmie Corridor and a unique DNR/USFS cross-commissioned position in the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River Valley to patrol trails and distribute education materials throughout the spring and summer seasons. This project was identified as a high priority of the recently released Snoqualmie Corridor Recreation Plan.

DNR and King County have been working together in Middle Fork Snoqualmie River Valley for over twenty years. From conservation land acquisitions to recreation management, we have worked together to provide seamless management throughout the valley. Our day use sites are directly adjacent to DNR managed land and providing a DNR education and enforcement presence will directly benefit our sites.

Thank you for the opportunity to support this project.

Sincerely,

Kelly Heintz

Kelly Heintz

King County Parks and Recreation Division



MidFORC

Middle Fork Outdoor Recreation Coalition

6332 57th Ave. S.
Seattle, WA 98118

Dedicated to Recreation and Conservation on the Middle Fork of the Snoqualmie River

January 12, 2021

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Re: Nonhighway and Off-Road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Education and Enforcement
Snoqualmie Corridor and Middle Fork Valley E&E (#20-2130 EDU)

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

We strongly support this request for Education and Enforcement funds. Managing recreational activity on DNR lands with a barebones E&E program has long been a challenge; with the burst of visitors during the pandemic, it has been doubly so. These NOVA funds will allow DNR to maintain its existing Snoqualmie Corridor E&E position and a seasonal E&E position for the Middle Fork Snoqualmie Valley.

DNR's current E&E specialist has a daunting task: keeping tabs on lands from Tiger Mountain to the Middle Fork Valley. Over the past year, the need for E&E services in these areas has grown, but due to the pandemic resources have diminished. For example, in its first two seasons, King County Metro's popular Trailhead Direct service lowered pressure on trailheads. With the service on hold last year, trailheads were busier than ever.

We need a steady E&E presence throughout the Snoqualmie Corridor for trailhead safety, and to keep a lid on vandalism, garbage dumping, and other damaging activities. In addition, E&E staff are DNR's eyes and ears in the field; on-the-ground knowledge that supports effective coordination with other land managers, non-profit partners, and volunteers.

New trails and day-use areas in the Middle Fork Valley are attracting many visitors. Now that the Valley has been "discovered" it needs regular E&E attention that the seasonal position funded by this grant will provide.

This grant will allow DNR to protect public safety, our investments in recreation infrastructure, and fragile habitat in these beautiful landscapes.

Sincerely,

Mark Boyar



January 5, 2021

Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

RE: Nonhighway and Off-Road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Education and Enforcement Snoqualmie Corridor and Middle Fork Valley E&E (20-2130 EDU)

Dear evaluation committee members,

The Mountaineers write to express our support for the Washington State Department of Natural Resources' (DNR) proposal to fund an education and enforcement program in the Snoqualmie Corridor and the cross-jurisdictional DNR and US Forest Service (USFS) seasonal staff person focused in the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River Valley.

The Mountaineers, based in Seattle, Washington and founded in 1906, is a nonprofit outdoor education, conservation, and recreation organization whose mission is “to enrich the community by helping people explore, conserve, learn about and enjoy the lands and waters of the Pacific Northwest and beyond.” The Mountaineers Books publishing division expands the mission internationally through award-winning publications including instructional guides, adventure narratives, and conservation photography. 1,600 skilled volunteers lead 3,200 outdoor education trips and courses annually for 14,000 members. Our youth programs provide over 10,000 opportunities each year for children to get outside. We are a passionate, engaged, and knowledgeable community that cares about the outdoors, and protects the outdoor experience for current and future generations.

The Snoqualmie Corridor includes some of most popular accessible outdoor recreational opportunities in Washington year-round, including Mount Si, Little Si, Rattlesnake Mountain, Poo Poo Point, Tiger Mountain, and many others. The Middle Fork Snoqualmie Valley is a very important area to our members for our hiking, scrambling, trail running, and rock climbing trips and courses close to the greater Seattle area. Its mountain peaks, alpine lakes, old-growth forests, whitewater rivers, and strong native trout runs are all located within an hour's drive of downtown Seattle.

After the completion of the Middle Fork Road reconstruction project in the fall of 2017, the valley is now more accessible than ever before. These positions will provide high quality and sustainable recreation along the river, both up in the Middle Fork Valley and down near the Cities of North Bend and Snoqualmie, for users of all ages. The Mountaineers support this educational project in order for DNR to



THE
MOUNTAINEERS

7700 Sand Point Way NE
Seattle, WA 98115

www.mountaineers.org

provide year round education to the visiting public as well as protect investments and access for future generations.

Thank you for your consideration of this important proposal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Betsy Robblee'.

Betsy Robblee
Conservation & Advocacy Director
betsyr@mountaineers.org



President
Doug McClelland (*), Former Assistant Region Manager
Washington State Department of Natural Resources

Secretary
Josh M. Lipsky(*), Partner, Cascadia Law Group PLLC

Treasurer, Operations Committee Chair
Jason Broenneke (*), Partner, KPMG LLP

Fundraising Committee Chair
Ken Krivanec (*), President, Quadrant Homes

Board Engagement Committee Chair
Marie Quasius(*), Senior Port Counsel, Port of Seattle

20-2130 NOVA EE #8

Program Committee Chair
Cora Johnson (*), Geotechnical Engineer, GeoEngineers

Executive Director
Jon Hoekstra (*), Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

January 13, 2021

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Gary Berndt, Wildland Fire Liaison, WA State Dept. of Natural Resources
Mark Boyar (*), President, Middle Fork Outdoor Recreation Coalition
Kevin Brown, King County Parks and Recreation
Susan Carlson, Chair, E3 Washington
Bill Chapman (*), Past President, Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust
Dow Constantine (X), King County Executive
Kitty Craig, Deputy Director, Washington Program, The Wilderness Society
DeLoa Dalby, Savor Snoqualmie Valley Leadership Team; The Mountaineers Foothills Branch
Bob Ellis, Lifetime Educator and Cyclist,
Karl Forsgaard, Manager of Implementations, Thomson Reuters
Alpine Lakes Protection Society
Kurt Fraese (*), Fraese and Associates, LLC
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Janet Ray, Retired, Asst VP, Corporate Affairs and Publishing, AAA Washington
Jim Reinhardtsen (*), President, Laird Norton Properties
Vik Sahney, Board VP, E&I Committee Chair, The Mountaineers
Meredith Shank, Social Venture Partners
Jill Simmons, Executive Director, Washington Trails Association
Al Smith, Partner, Perkins Coie LLP
David Sturtevant, Retired, Vice President CH2M HILL
Chris Thomas, Senior Director, Public Policy, Lyft
Harry Thomas, Chief Marketing Officer, AAA Washington
Leah Tivoli, Manager, City of Seattle
Alison Washburn, Bellevue Store Manager, REI Co-op
Jody Weil (X), Supervisor, Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest
Joel Yoker, President, Snoqualmie Valley Youth Activities and Community Center

RE: Nonhighway and Off-Road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Education and Enforcement Snoqualmie Corridor and Middle Fork Valley E&E (#20-2130 EDU)

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

I am writing on behalf of the Mountain to Sound Greenway Trust to express our enthusiastic support of the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR's) proposal to the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office to continue funding the successful education and enforcement program in the Snoqualmie Corridor and to support the cross-commissioned Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and US Forest Service (USFS) seasonal staff person focused in the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River Valley.

The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust and partner organizations have worked in the Snoqualmie Corridor for 30 years to conserve lands for public ownership, build and maintain trails, and engage in community stewardship and youth programming. DNR helps to provide important opportunities for people to connect with nature in the ever-growing Seattle and east King County metropolitan areas.

A recent federal road improvement project vastly improved the primary access to the Middle Fork Snoqualmie Valley, managed primarily by DNR and the United States Forest Service (USFS), resulting in a considerable increase in visitation. It is critical to secure funds to ensure dedicated education and enforcement staff across this landscape to meet the increasing use of the area.

The Greenway Trust supports a broad coalition of partners, including DNR and USFS, to plan for the long-term stewardship of the Middle Fork of the Snoqualmie River Valley. DNR is a trusted partner and provides essential education and enforcement in this area, assisting in the maintaining safe and sustainable use of public lands in this beautiful area.

We strongly support this opportunity for uniformed education-and-enforcement personnel in the Middle Fork Valley to enhance public knowledge of the area and further the efforts to conserve public lands and improve recreational experiences for all.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice our support for this important project in the Mountains to Sound Greenway National Heritage Area.

Sincerely,

Jon Hoekstra, Executive Director

(*) Executive Committee Member
(X) Ex-Officio (non-voting) Director





Don Hoch
Director

STATE OF WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON STATE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

1111 Israel Road S.W. • P.O. Box 42650 • Olympia, WA 98504-2650 • (360) 902-8500
TDD Telecommunications Device for the Deaf: 800-833-6388
www.parks.state.wa.us

January 13, 2021

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

RE: Nonhighway and Off-Road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Education and Enforcement Snoqualmie Corridor and Middle Fork Valley E&E (20-2130 EDU)

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

I am writing on behalf of Olallie State Park and Washington State Parks to express our enthusiastic support of DNR's proposal to the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office to fund the successful education and enforcement program in the Snoqualmie Corridor and the cross-commissioned Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and US Forest Service (USFS) seasonal staff person focused in the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River Valley.

The Snoqualmie Corridor, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest and Alpine Lakes Wilderness are all adjacent to Olallie State Park and the Palouse to Cascades State Park Trail near North Bend. Many visitors park at our trailheads to access the expansive DNR and USFS landscape. We look forward to continuing our agencies' partnership and working together to ensure that there is adequate education staffing in the Middle Fork Snoqualmie Valley. The Far Side Trailhead is managed by Washington State Parks and leads hikers to the popular Dirty Harry's Peak trail on DNR-managed lands. An official presence on trails will ensure a better educated public and less resource damage for both agencies. Additionally, educating visitors at these popular trails will have a trickledown effect that will benefit all the recreation facilities in the Snoqualmie Corridor. For this reason alone, I whole heartily support this grant application.

USFS and DNR, among other agencies and non-profit recreation organizations, have been working together to plan recreation opportunities in the Snoqualmie Corridor and Middle Fork Snoqualmie River Valley. This specific grant opportunity was recommended by a multi-stakeholder committee process, which organizes recreation planning in the Middle Fork Snoqualmie Valley. We look forward to partnering with DNR and USFS in the future.

Sincerely,

Rick Oakley
Park Ranger
Olallie State Park
Palouse to Cascades State Park Trail



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie
National Forest
Snoqualmie Ranger District

902 S.E. North Bend Way, Bldg 1
North Bend, WA 98045
(425) 888-1421

File Code: 2300

Date: January 13, 2021

RCO Review Committee
Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Nonhighway and Off-Road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Education and Enforcement
Snoqualmie Corridor and Middle Fork Valley E&E (#20-2130 EDU)

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

I am writing on behalf of the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Snoqualmie Ranger District and U.S Forest Service to express our enthusiastic support of DNR's proposal to the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office to fund the successful education and enforcement program in the Snoqualmie Corridor and the cross-commissioned Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and US Forest Service (USFS) seasonal staff person focused in the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River Valley.

While the DNR is submitting the application, this is a truly a unique and collaborative application, in which both agencies will be better poised to manage the Middle Fork Snoqualmie Valley. Both the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest and Alpine Lakes Wilderness are adjacent to DNR's conservation lands in the Middle Fork Snoqualmie Valley. From conservation land acquisitions and recreation management, our agencies have been working together in this valley for more than 20 years. Many popular trails on DNR managed land eventually lead to USFS managed land. We look forward to continuing this partnership and ensure that there is adequate education staffing. DNR and USFS will not be able to manage the increased influx of population in the valley without this funding.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact myself or Alex Weinberg (I-90 Corridor Manager) 425-888-8770.

Thank you,

/s/ MARTIE SCHRAMM

MARTIE SCHRAMM
District Ranger





Washington Trails Association

705 Second Avenue, Suite 300, Seattle WA 98104 • 206.625.1367 • wta.org

January 14, 2021

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board

P.O. Box 40917

Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Non-Highway and Off-Road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Education and Enforcement
Snoqualmie Corridor and Middle Fork Valley E&E (#20-2130 EDU)

Dear RCO Board Members:

On behalf of Washington Trails Association (WTA), I am pleased to offer our strong support for the following Washington State Department of Natural Resource's NOVA project: Snoqualmie Corridor and Middle Fork Valley E&E #18-2330 EDU.

Washington Trails Association has a more than 50-year legacy of engaging the hiking community. WTA enhances hiking experiences in Washington state by empowering a diverse and growing community of hikers to explore, steward and protect trails and public lands. WTA is the nation's largest state-based trail maintenance and hiking advocacy nonprofit organization, with more than 24,000 member households and an online community of more than 100,000. Each year almost 4,500 WTA volunteers perform over 160,000 hours of trail maintenance across the state.

The Snoqualmie Corridor includes some of the most popular accessible outdoor recreation opportunities in Washington year-round, including Mount Si, Little Si, Rattlesnake Mountain, Poo Poo Point and Tiger Mountain. In the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River Valley, the Mailbox Peak trail is well-known as a challenging route with rewarding views. The multi-million dollar federal road improvement project vastly improved the primary access to the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River Valley, managed by DNR and the United States Forest Service. Since then, the valley has experienced a surge in visitation. Without a committed staff patrolling and educating the visiting public, much of these investments will not be viable for the long-term. Funding for these projects will provide safe, sustainable and accessible recreation in the Snoqualmie Corridor.

Thank you for your consideration. We hope you will support and fund this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrea J. Imler".

Andrea Imler

Advocacy Director



Pend Oreille County

Board of Commissioners

Karen Skoog
District #1

Mike Manus
District #2

Stephen Kiss
District # 3

Crystal Zieske
Clerk of the Board

Phone: 509-447-4119
FAX: 509 447-0595

PO Box 5025
625 W. 4th Street
Newport, WA 99156-5025

E-mail: commissionersoffice@pendoreille.org

October 26, 2020

Washington State Recreation Conservation Office (RCO)

Re: Colville National Forest Developed and Dispersed Site Maintenance RCO Grant 20-2229 & OHV Forest Ranger Program RCO Grant 20-2210

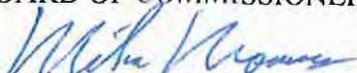
The Board of County Commissioners supports the pursuit of grant funding for the above referenced projects.

The Developed and Dispersed Site Maintenance project will support the operation and maintenance of 42 campgrounds, 92 trailheads and information sites, and 830 dispersed campsites across the Colville National Forest. The maintenance work to be completed consists of the following: trash removal; toilet cleaning; hazard tree removal; water system repairs and testing; general repairs of picnic tables, fire rings, signs, information boards; noxious weed removal; and visitor contacts. With funding from this project the forest would hire temporary employees to perform the needed maintenance work across the forest.

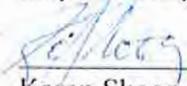
The OHV Forest Ranger project will hire OHV Rangers, purchase educational materials and provide OHV training. The goal of this project is to educate the public on State and Federal OHV regulations, responsible trail riding etiquette, resource protection and provide forest information related to other activities/uses. The Rangers will be working to improve the relationship between the multiple users and continue to lead the CNF OHV Ambassador Program established in 2015. This program and its volunteers continue to successfully partner with the Rangers to educate, self-patrol and build solid working relationships within the OHV community.

Thank you for your consideration.

PEND OREILLE COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS


Mike Manus, Chair


Stephen Kiss, Vice-Chair


Karen Skoog, Commissioner

Brad Manke
Interim Chairman of the Board

John Olson
Interim Commissioner

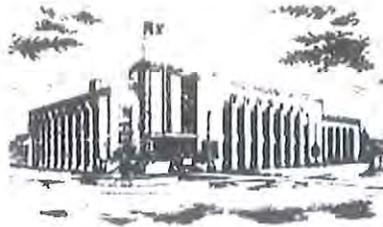
Lori Larsen
Interim Commissioner

Lorrie Sampson
Interim Commissioner

Julie James
Interim Commissioner

Leslie Valz
Interim Commissioner

Tim Rasmussen
Interim Commissioner



Michelle Enright
Clerk of the Board

Jonnie Brown
Assistant Clerk

Lois Haag
Assistant Clerk

Stevens County Commissioners

215 South Oak St, Colville, WA 99114-2861

Location: 230 East Birch, Colville WA
Phone: 509-684-3751 Fax: 509-684-8310
Email: commissioners@stevenscountywa.gov

October 21, 2020

Recreation and Conservation Office

Re: Colville National Forest Developed & Dispersed Site Maintenance and OHV Forest Ranger Program

The Board of County Commissioners support the pursuit of grant funding for the above-referenced projects.

Recreation sites are an important part of the effort to open the forest to the outdoor enthusiasts. These sites can be challenging to maintain, but it is crucial to deter illegal dumping and other public health concerns. The operation and maintenance of 42 campgrounds, 92 trailheads and information sites, and 830 dispersed campsites across the Colville National Forest will provide jobs in Stevens County and give a boost to our economy.

The hiring of OHV rangers is a very important component to the education of the public on state and federal OHV regulations, responsible trail riding etiquette, resource protection and providing forest information related to other activities/uses. With the implementation of rangers, this will assist in the solution to illegal use by educating those who utilize the trails and encouraging the protection of the landscape. Building solid relationships between the Forest Service and the OHV community will certainly lead to improved recreation experiences.

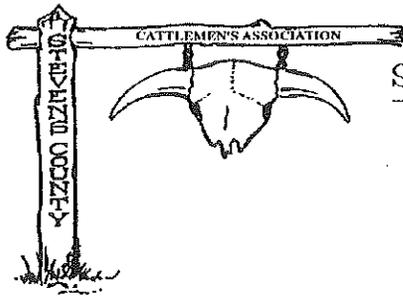
Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'B Manke', written over a horizontal line.

Interim Chairman Brad Manke

On behalf of the Interim Board of County Commissioners



Stevens County Cattlemen's Association

P.O. Box 763 • Chewelah, WA 99109

10/21/2020

To: Recreation Conservation Office

This letter comes to you in support of the Colville National Forests request for funding to support the CNF OHV Forest Ranger Program. The Stevens County Cattlemen work in partnership with the CNF through the Range Management Program that dovetails with the Recreation Program when it comes to successful multiple use on the Colville National Forest. With the noted increase of recreational use we are all experiencing on the Colville National Forest it is of great interest to the Stevens County Cattlemen and its permittees that a consistent presence of Forest Rangers continue to exist. The cattlemen partner with these Rangers to share information and find solutions that benefit not only the range permittees but the general forest user when it comes to any conflicts between the multiple uses that may occur.

The CNF OHV Rangers currently and continue to provide information on ORV rules and regulations to forest visitors which is proactive in keeping user conflicts to a minimum where cattle and motorized recreation meet on the landscape. It is our hope you continue to support the OHV Forest Ranger Program on the Colville as it has shown success in educating and building partnerships with ORV enthusiasts and other multiple use programs as well.

Thank you,

Scott Nielsen

Stevens County Cattlemen President.

(509) 675-2608

Cc. CNF Recreation Staff

Letter of Support, Colville National Forest OHV Ranger Program

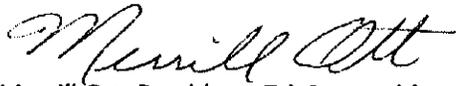
10/6/20

The Tri-County Motorized Recreation Association (TCMRA) fully supports the Colville National Forest's OHV Ranger Program and believes that expansion of this program for 2021 is vital to ensure safe, responsible motorized recreation in the forest as local recreation trends show dramatic increases in forest visitors on our roads and trails. TCMRA's volunteer work crews can provide trail maintenance, but signage, road and campground patrols, public education, and enforcement all require USFS personnel in the OHV Ranger Program to ensure public safety.

With a single OHV Ranger active in 2020, we've seen tremendous results in the road and campground patrols, plus enforcement areas, with dramatic improvement in campground maintenance, signage and barriers for unauthorized routes, and public education and enforcement. In addition, this OHV Ranger provided exceptional liaison between motorized and non-motorized user groups, resulting in TCMRA providing GPS mapping of routes for the local Backcountry Horsemen's association that gave the USFS mapping data files for packsaddle-designated trails in the Colville National Forest for the first time. But, a single OHV Ranger frequently can't adequately respond to the increase in forest visitors that we've seen as motorized recreation becomes more popular. Volunteer OHV Ambassadors can assist OHV Rangers, but have no enforcement capabilities and can only perform road patrols, trail maintenance, and provide limited public outreach and education which is ineffective without the enforcement portion of the educational model. The acquisition of the Tonasket Ranger District adds to this imperative of a fully-staffed OHV Ranger Program, as the Tonasket District is highly-travelled by visitors from the densely-populated Seattle area.

As the largest motorized recreation group in NE Washington with a rapidly growing segment of the recreation population in the region, we highly recommend not only continuation of the OHV Ranger Program, but expanding the program to include a minimum of 3 OHV Rangers. Proximity to a major regional population in the Spokane area, plus out-of-state and Canadian visitors, requires a full complement of regional Rangers to ensure adequate monitoring of roads and trails, and full public safety and educational outreach throughout the Colville National Forest.

Respectfully Submitted:



Merrill Ott, President, Tri-County Motorized Recreation Association (TCMRA)

Letter of Support, Colville National Forest OHV Ranger Program

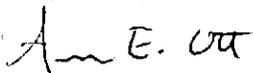
10/6/20

The volunteer Colville National Forest OHV Ambassador group fully supports the USFS OHV Ranger Program and believes that expansion of this program for 2021 is critical to reach our goals of providing public outreach and education on a fully-managed road and trail system within the National Forest. Without OHV Rangers, the limited volunteer work crews within the OHV Ambassador Program cannot managed the dramatically-increasing numbers of motorized recreation visitors in the Colville National Forest, especially with the addition of the Tonasket Ranger District.

With a single OHV Ranger active in 2020, the OHV Ambassador Program saw great improvement in enforcement, which is a piece of the program that we cannot influence as volunteers. In addition, this USFS OHV Ranger creatively managed limited resources to provide signage, barriers where necessary, and public outreach in key high-travel areas. Unfortunately, a single OHV Ranger can't begin to cover the entire forest, nor reach all of the more popular recreation sites, especially with the growing interest in NE Washington recreation with its proximity to major regional population centers such as Spokane and Seattle. Out-of-state and international forest visitors add to the population density in the forest, and the explosion of popularity in the motorized recreation community makes it critical to provide adequate signage, maps, trail and road maintenance, and enforcement of forest regulations. OHV Ambassadors can provide road patrols, limited public outreach and education, and trail maintenance, but the overwhelming size of the Colville National Forest and our volunteer status severely limits our effectiveness. In order to effectively provide a safe and enhanced recreation experience for motorized forest users, an expanded OHV Ranger Program is required, with a minimum of 3 OHV Rangers.

As the only fully-functioning OHV Ambassador Program in USFS Region 6, providing both public safety and outreach education, mapping and maintenance of trails, and establishment of the Green Dot OHV Sign System within the Colville National Forest, our organization can't adequately ensure a fully-operational motorized recreational program without USFS OHV Ranger support. This OHV Ranger Program has proven its worth in recent years, but cannot provide required public safety functions without program enhancement – it is vital that the Colville National Forest's OHV Ranger Program be enhanced for 2021 and beyond with additional personnel.

Respectfully submitted:



Anne Ott, Volunteer & Co-Chair, Colville National Forest OHV Ambassador Team



October 26, 2020

Recreation & Conservation Office

Re: Colville National Forest Grant Application

The Tri County Economic Development District supports applying for RCO grant funding to continue Colville National Forest OHV Ranger Program and Colville National Forest Recreation Site Maintenance.

The Colville National Forest (CNF) provides extensive outdoor recreation opportunities in Northeast Washington and is a key asset for economic development as the area transitions from a resource-based economy to an economy where tourism and recreation play an ever-growing role.

The Off-highway Vehicle (OHV) community are enthusiastic about the opportunities on the Colville National Forest, and the Rangers provide a much-needed conduit to provide information about which trails and areas are open to legal OHV use. It is important to build and foster positive relationships between the CNF and this rapidly growing segment of trail users.

Continued maintenance of forest recreation areas not only provides jobs, but also provides a safer and generally better experience for visitors. While protecting our natural resources, continued maintenance will ensure that users will return again and again.

As the pandemic continues, more and more people are seeking outdoor recreation on the Colville National Forest (CNF) as a way to escape restrictions in urban areas. Many are new to the protocols, etiquette and best practices of recreating outdoors and it is more important than ever for the CNF to be able to provide a safe and educational experience for these new outdoor enthusiasts. RCO funding will go a long way to insure that this is possible.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jeff Koffel", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Jeff Koffel
Executive Director

BUSINESS & FINANCE ASSISTANCE



NOVA Grant Committee

c/o Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office

PO Box 40917

Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Dear NOVA Committee Members,

The Washington Off-Highway Vehicle Alliance (WOHVA) is a statewide organization representing 13,000 off-highway vehicle enthusiasts. Our members donate thousands of hours each year to maintaining and enhancing off-highway vehicle trails and facilities on public land in Washington. We have strong relationships with land managers and decision makers across the state.

I write today to express WOHVA's support for the three grant projects that will benefit the trails and riders who recreate on the Capitol State Forest. These grants are:

- **20-2008 E PC Education and Enforcement**
- **20-2010 M Pacific Cascade Motorized Maintenance**
- **20-2039 D Jones Creek ORV Trailhead Expansion Project**

These grants will not only provide the needed maintenance and enforcement to keep the trails safe and enjoyable but will also allow for expansion and enhancement of the Jones Creek ORV Trailhead. The management and staff in the Pacific Cascade Region have developed strong partnerships with the local motorized community and work collaboratively with them to provide the highest quality recreation experience possible and to make the most responsible use of public funds.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Marc Hildesheim', is placed below the 'Sincerely,' text.

Marc Hildesheim

Vice President, WOHVA

marc@wohva.org



Stewardship in Recreational Shooting on Public Lands

11/7/2020

To the RCO Funding Board and Advisory Committee:

The Trash No Land organization promotes responsible recreation on our DNR managed lands throughout the State of Washington. Our primary focus is on education and information for recreational target shooting, (a type of recreation that has greatly expanded in recent years). We continuously strive to raise awareness of statewide target shooting rules, public safety, and fire prevention. Our efforts alone mean nothing without Law Enforcement and forest agencies to confirm these rules exist and are real. We value the presence of Law Enforcement in our forests, as it is THE primary means of achieving compliance and harmony withing the recreational communities.

We support the request for 20-2008 E PC Education and Enforcement (Dept. of Natural Resources) grant project, which will fund one full-time E&E recreation warden to patrol 770 active road miles, 96 miles of trail, 8 campgrounds, 11 trailheads, and 3 day-use areas on over 210,000 acres. This is a vital position that has proven to work well for the Pacific Cascade Region.

Throughout this past year, 2019-2020, I have enjoyed working with the current DNR Warden, Donald Meeks and officer Scott Essman. They are valuable assets to the PC Region and to our daily users of our state lands.

Our organization will continue to volunteer our time and talents in assisting and working with the recreation warden, law enforcement, and the Pacific Cascade Region staff, as we assist to achieve the strategic goal of quality recreation for all.

We support DNR in pursuing the 20-2008 E PC Education and Enforcement grant project to benefit the Pacific Cascades Regions' management team.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bill Cogley". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Bill Cogley

CEO/President, Trash No Land

December 23, 2020

Re: DNR grant application 20-2008 E PC Education and Enforcement

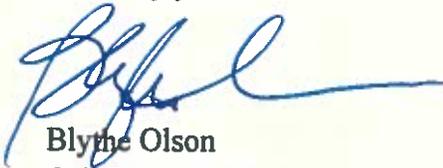
To Whom It May Concern:

My extended family and I are regular users of DNR-managed lands in the Yacolt Burn State Forest in southwest Washington. In fact, we live on our 20-acre plot in the middle of that state forest much of the time and hike and travel regularly throughout the DNR-managed area. For decades, we have worked with a multitude of DNR personnel on environmental, safety and maintenance issues and look forward to continuing to do so on a voluntary basis into the future. We are very encouraged by the improvements in the Yacolt Burn under the current management and are most appreciative of their responsiveness to public interests and concerns.

With this in mind, we strongly support the request for DNR grant application 20-2008 E PC Education and Enforcement. This grant will provide funds for a full-time Education and Enforcement warden in the Yacolt Burn State Forest, a DNR personnel position for which the importance cannot be understated, particularly for public safety. We know this from our personal experience over the years.

We will continue to volunteer our time and resources in meeting the requirements described in this grant application and we whole-heartedly support DNR in pursuing this grant request.

Sincerely yours,



Blythe Olson
Cell 503-849-9616



January 11, 2021

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
PO Box 40917, Olympia, WA 98504-0917
Re: Letter of support for 20-2008 E PC Education and Enforcement

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board:

The Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance strongly supports the Washington State Department of Natural Resources' (DNR's) request for funding to support one full-time Education and Enforcement Warden in the Pacific Cascade Region. This new position will patrol 580 miles of active roads, 125 miles of trail, 8 campgrounds, 11 trailheads, and 3 day-use areas on more than 210,000 acres of land.

This Education and Enforcement Warden will focus on identifying potential health, safety, and resource damage concerns, providing public outreach, engaging user groups, and providing an additional enforcement presence on the landscapes. This position will also support forest watch volunteers in efforts to educate recreational visitors about rules, regulations and principals of good stewardship. Funding will also be used to purchase education materials and electronic equipment intended to deter criminal activity and increase public safety.

The primary recreation opportunity provided by this program is the safe and sustainable use of trails and support facilities in the Yacolt Burn State Forest and other DNR-managed areas in southwest Washington. The Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance is currently working with DNR to build new trails and maintain the existing trail system in the Yacolt Burn State Forest. Funding for Education and Enforcement in this forest is vital to assure continued safe usage and to promote stewardship of this ever-growing recreation destination.

Evergreen is the nation's largest statewide mountain bike organization, with more than 7,900 members and over 65,000 social media followers. We are dedicated to trail building and maintenance, as well as volunteerism, education, and advocacy. We look forward to working with DNR in the Pacific Cascades Region and appreciate the opportunity to provide support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Yvonne Kraus", written over a horizontal line.

Yvonne Kraus, Executive Director
Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance



Dear Grant Committee:

I represent the Chinook Trail Association. Our members regularly use DNR lands and I support the Washington State Department of Natural Resources Pacific Cascade Region's grant requests.

I thank the DNR for constructing new trails and their partnering with volunteer organization such as Washington Trails Association and the Chinook Trail Association in the maintenance and construction of trails. I appreciate the DNR provides motorized trail opportunities because without motorized trails the non-motorized trails would be driven on more often.

With the great collaboration with trail organizations I firmly believe this grant money will be used efficiently and wisely.

On behalf of the recreational users in the Southwest Washington area and the Chinook Trail Association, please approve these grants for the Pacific Cascade Region.

20-2008 E PC Education and Enforcement

20-2010 M Pacific Cascade Motorized Maintenance

20-2009 M Pacific Cascade Non-Motorized Maintenance

20-2038 M Yacolt Burn Non-Motorized Trail Bridges

20-2011 M Capital & Yacolt Forest Facilities Maintenance

20-2039 D Jones Creek ORV Trailhead Expansion Project

Sincerely,

Steve Jones

President, Chinook Trail Association



January 20, 2021

Attention: RCO

Subject: Letter of Support to Washington DNR for RCO Grant Applications

To Whom It May Concern:

We, the Jones Creek Trail Riders Association (JCTRA,) are a club of users and caretakers of DNR managed lands in the Yacolt Burn, Jones Creek recreation area. Our club is organized around motorcycles, quads, and trail-legal side-by-sides; i.e., motorized use, but we also have and do support other user groups, both motorized and non-motorized. We have been partnering with DNR for many years in managing the Jones Creek area and look forward to working on a volunteer basis in support of the responsible use of the forest and in support of DNR's activities therein.

As a current grant holder, we support DNR's request for grants for improvements and maintenance of the Yacolt Burn State Forest area. Our support is not just verbal, as JCTRA expects to contribute volunteer labor and other participation for this purpose. In particular we support the following grant applications:

20-2008	E	PC Education and Enforcement (Dept. of Natural Resources)
20-2010	M	Pacific Cascade Motorized Maintenance (Dept. of Natural Resources)
20-2009	M	Pacific Cascade Non-Motorized Maintenance (Dept. of Natural Resources)
20-2038	M	Yacolt Burn Non-Motorized Trail Bridges (Dept. of Natural Resources)
20-2011	M	Capital & Yacolt Forest Facilities Maintenance (Dept. of Natural Resources)
20-2039	D	Jones Creek ORV Trailhead Expansion (Dept. of Natural Resources)

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

D9D22539B7654F7...
Edward R. Gillespie
Co-President
Jones Creek Trail Riders Assoc.



Washington Trails Association

705 Second Avenue, Suite 300, Seattle WA 98104 • 206.625.1367 • wta.org

November 4, 2020

Washington Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Grant #20-2008 E PC Education and Enforcement (Dept. of Natural Resources)

Dear RCO Review Committee :

I am writing on behalf of Washington Trails Association to express our support of the Education and Enforcement grant that would fund DNR staff to serve hikers and volunteers across several campgrounds and over 100 miles of trails. This pandemic has highlighted the importance of outdoor recreation to the mental and physical health of our community. An increasing number of people are discovering DNR managed recreation facilities for the first time making this a very important opportunity to educate visitors about rules, regulations and principles of good stewardship.

WTA enhances hiking experiences in Washington state by empowering a diverse and growing community of hikers to explore, steward and protect trails and public lands. WTA is the nation's largest state-based trail maintenance and hiking advocacy nonprofit organization, with more than 24,000 member households and an online community of more than 100,000. Each year almost 4,500 WTA volunteers perform over 160,000 hours of trail maintenance across the state.

Last year WTA's volunteer program invested over 4,000 hours in building and maintaining trails in the Yacolt Burn State Forest in partnership with DNR staff and other trail user groups. Having effective education and enforcement capacity on the forest helps to protect the facilities that we have invested in and enjoy so much. We hope you will support this grant and in doing so the partnership we have with DNR as well. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrea J. Imler".

Andrea Imler
Advocacy Director



January 7, 2021

Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Letter of support for Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest grant applications 20-2313 WRRD Climbing Ranger Education Program and 20-2301 WRRD Wilderness and Backcountry

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Advisory Committee,

I am writing to express support for the NOVA grant applications submitted by the Wenatchee River Ranger District.

It is PCTA's privilege to partner with the Wenatchee River Ranger District to tackle the challenges associated with maintaining trails in the popular Stevens Pass corridor. The Wenatchee River Ranger District manages the PCT in parts of the Alpine Lakes and Henry M. Jackson Wildernesses and protects the experience that the trail provides. These areas receive some of the highest PCT visitation in the state.

Grant applications 20-2313 and 20-2301 address important visitor use management priorities in the landscape that surround the PCT. The PCTA supports the Wenatchee River Ranger Districts proposals. Increasing the knowledge of LNT principles within the community of users in the Stevens Pass corridor will limit users impacts on the forest, and allow the public to enjoy recreating in the Central Cascades.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or would like any additional information.

Sincerely,

Michael DeCramer
Pacific Crest Trail Association
North Cascades Regional Representative





October 29, 2020

Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

RE: 20-2313 WRRD CLIMBING RANGER EDUCATION PROGRAM;
20-2301 WRRD WILDERNESS AND BACKCOUNTRY - ENCHANTMENTS EMPHASIS;
20-2316 WRRD DEVELOPED & DISPERSED RECREATION;
20-2250 TRAIL MAINTENANCE FRONTCOUNTRY; AND
20-2245 TRAIL MAINTENANCE WILDERNESS

To Whom It May Concern:

We write to express continued support of the Wenatchee River Ranger District (WRRD) Climbing Ranger Education Program (20-2313) and the Wilderness and Backcountry Education and Enforcement (20-2301), as well as critical maintenance proposals for frontcountry trails, Wilderness trails, and dispersed recreation sites (20-2250, 20-2245, and 20-2316). All five proposals promote education of Washington's climbing community and help protect the climbing environment.

The WRRD encompasses many rock climbing and mountaineering destinations of local, regional and international significance; a few of which are Mount Stuart and the massifs of Prusik, Dragontail, and Colchuck Peaks. There are also countless other smaller crags and rocks in the district that have climbing history dating back 70 years. Washington climbers visit WRRD every season of the year, whether to climb rock, ice, boulders, or alpine objectives across the district.

Since 2012, WRRD's climbing ranger education program has participated and co-hosted several volunteer events, taught climbing-specific Leave No Trace seminars, made hundreds of contacts in the field, cleaned up countless climbs and staging areas, worked with partners to install a climbing information bulletin board, fencing, and temporary toilet facilities at a popular parking and bouldering area, and developed a WRRD Climbing Education Plan. All of this is done in a collaborative process with Leavenworth Mountain Association, Access Fund, Washington Climbers Coalition, American Alpine Club, Northwest Mountain School, The Mountaineers, and the Forest Service. We hope the WRRD Climbing

Education Program will continue to produce positive results in protecting the environment, creating a safe, positive recreational experience, and protecting NOVA opportunities.

The Enchantments and Stuart Range of the Alpine Lakes Wilderness of the WRRD continue to grow in popularity and use across all Wilderness recreational users. As WRRD struggles to meet the growing demands of this cherished Wilderness area, continued support from RCO for the Wilderness and Backcountry Education proposal will provide critical education of climbers and other recreational user groups in popular wilderness recreational areas.

Critical maintenance of trails, trailheads, dispersed recreation, and Wilderness must accompany education and enforcement programs to effectively address the growing needs and impacts of recreational users. In 2020, the Access Fund Conservation Team, Leavenworth Mountain Association, Washington Climbers Coalition, Washington Alpine Club, Mountain Madness, She Jumps, and Never Stop Moving supported the WRRD with critical trail work on the Snow Lakes Trail above Nada Lake. The Forest Service blasting crew and our trail crews completed rock work to make this Wilderness trail passable by stock to Snow Lakes, which will enable the WRRD to conduct future critical stewardship in the Enchantments. We support the necessary maintenance proposals for WRRD trailheads, dispersed sites, Wilderness trails and frontcountry trails.

The climbing community as a group is conscientious of access and environmental issues in the areas that they recreate. When resources are available to educate them, they can be one of the most thoughtful and proactive user groups in terms of preservation and impact minimization. We are excited about the potential of these programs to preserve the quality of outdoor experiences for all future users of the WRRD, including climbers. We believe that the money granted for these programs would be very well spent preserving and improving the nature of our public lands and the experience one can get from it. We look forward to supporting WRRD with volunteer, outreach, and educational support.

Sincerely,

Joe Sambataro, Northwest Regional Director
Access Fund
joe@accessfund.org
accessfund.org

Andrew Puhl, Policy Volunteer
American Alpine Club - Cascade Section
cascade@americanalpineclub.org
americanalpineclub.org

Matt Wade, Advocacy and Policy Director
American Mountain Guides Association
matt@amga.com
amga.com

Alison Miller, President
Leavenworth Mountain Association
info@leavenworthma.org
leavenworthma.org

Betsy Robblee, Conservation & Advocacy Director
The Mountaineers
betsyr@mountaineers.org
mountaineers.org

Mark Gunlogson, President
Mountain Madness
markg@mountainmadness.com
mountainmadness.com

Megan Fritz, Executive Director
Never Stop Moving
info@neverstopmoving.org
neverstopmoving.org

John Race, Co-owner
Northwest Mountain School
jr@mountainschool.com
mountainschool.com

Krystin Norman, Program Manager
She Jumps
knorman@shejumps.org
shejumps.org

Chelsea Sweetin, President
Washington Alpine Club
wacboard@googlegroups.com
washingtionalpineclub.org

Ashley Siple, President
Washington Climbers Coalition
ahsiple@gmail.com
washingtonclimbers.org



NORTH CASCADES INSTITUTE

810 State Route 20, Sedro-Woolley, WA 98284
360-854-2599 www.ncascades.org

Date: December 17, 2020
To: Barbara Richey, Wilderness and Trails, Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest
cc: Erin Uloth, District Ranger, Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest
From: Saul Weisberg, Executive Director, North Cascades Institute
Re: Letter of Support for Mt. Baker Ranger District Wilderness and Trails Projects:

- NOVA 20-2181E Mt. Baker Backcountry and Climbing Rangers
- NOVA 20-2179M Non-Motorized Mt. Baker Ranger District Trail Maintenance
- NOVA 20-2179M Non-Motorized Mt. Baker Ranger District Trail Maintenance

North Cascades Institute is a conservation education organization focused on outdoor learning in the mountains, rivers, forests and communities of the North Cascades ecosystem. Since 1986, our students and adult participants have explored Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest in pursuit of our mission to inspire environmental stewardship through transformative learning experiences in nature. Our programs include place-based environmental education and outdoor recreation that promotes conservation, healthy lifestyles, environmental justice and community engagement.

The Institute, and more importantly, thousands of our students and participants, benefit directly from the Mt. Baker Ranger District's Wilderness and Trails Projects. Well maintained trails allow the Institute to offer popular courses and youth programs throughout the District. Young people deserve opportunities to explore, learn about, and care for, our public lands. These experiences are especially meaningful for students from marginalized communities who are often unable to visit the Forest due to barriers of economics, equipment and transportation.

There are also significant community benefits when the public can have direct interactions with USFS staff in the field in the person of backcountry rangers, climbing/winter rangers, and the Mountain Steward coordinator. They provide a human face to the agency and are one of the best ways to grow supporters for our wilderness and public lands.

I encourage your support of these three grants. I understand they are the mainstay of these exemplary programs of the Mt. Baker Ranger District as USFS budgets have declined. Without them, the Institute's programs in the Forest would be jeopardized.

NOVA 20-2181E Mt. Baker Backcountry and Climbing Rangers

The Institute was involved in the creation of the Mountain Stewards program over a decade ago. This mix of skilled backcountry and climbing rangers, field patrols, and education effectively promotes peer-based stewardship of public lands. Without the

authentic public contact this program provides, any purely regulatory or maintenance-based approach will fall short of the aspirations of the USFS for the lands in your care.

NOVA 20-2179M Non-Motorized Mt. Baker Ranger District Trail Maintenance

Trail maintenance by working with partners and volunteers, and supporting youth crews to work with trail crews, provides outcomes far beyond a well maintained and safe trail system and protection of natural resources. It connects the local community to their forest and builds ambassadors throughout the region.

RTP 20-2180 Heather Meadows Recreation Area Trail Maintenance

The trails of Heather Meadows are some of the most heavily visited in the Forest. As one of the easiest accessible subalpine regions in the Northwest, it attracts some of the greatest diversity of user groups. Heather Meadows is where students often return with their families to “show off” the National Forest. It’s an outstanding mix of community access coupled with the need for professional maintenance to protect the land.

These three grants will benefit all of us and the diverse communities we serve. North Cascades Institute is proud to partner with the Mt. Baker District and Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest. We have a shared responsibility to open the experience of wilderness to people of all ages, abilities and backgrounds to ensure their outdoor experiences are powerful and rewarding. When people connect with nature, communities are strengthened, nature is protected, and we all benefit.



PACIFIC NORTHWEST TRAIL
ASSOCIATION

December 5, 2020

RCO Funding Board
1111 Washington St SE
Olympia, WA 98501

To the Washington Recreation & Conservation Funding Board:

The Pacific Northwest Trail Association (PNTA) strongly supports Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest (MBS) - Mount Baker Ranger District's grant proposals RTP M 20-2180 Heather Meadows Recreation Area Trail Maintenance, NOVA 20-2181E Mt. Baker Backcountry and Climbing Rangers, and NOVA 20-2179M Non-Motorized Mt. Baker Ranger District Trail Maintenance. These proposals will have direct, positive impacts on the Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail (PNT) and a multitude of popular feeder trails and resources.

For 43 years, the Pacific Northwest Trail Association has served as the Pacific Northwest Trail's primary advocate and steward, shepherding the concept of a long distance trail across the Pacific Northwest from our founder's vision to a federally designated treasure for all. Today, the PNTA works alongside agency partners like the Mount Baker Ranger District to provide opportunities for youth and young adults from local communities to form lasting connections with Washington's public lands while engaging them in stewardship of the Trail.

With 900 of its 1200 miles in Washington, the PNT is the longest trail within the state. It and the association connect the people of Washington to their wild places every day, and offers unparalleled opportunities for extended adventure to a growing number of long distance hikers and equestrians who come from around the world each year.

MBS Mount Baker Ranger District is entrusted with over 70 miles of the PNT - which carries users down from rugged Hannegan Pass, through scenic Heather Meadows, around tranquil Baker Lake, up into the alpine to gaze at glaciers near iconic Park Butte Lookout, and down through lush old growth forests toward the South Fork of the Nooksack River.

Maintenance and management of the PNT and all the trails on the district are herculean tasks, but with partners like the Mount Baker Ranger District, who not only deliver high quality projects of their own, but also provide guidance and leadership to local stakeholders who can amplify the impact of available resources on the ground, the PNT continues to raise in stature among the world's premiere long distance trails.

I wholeheartedly support these projects, and hope you will choose to do the same.

Jeff Kish

Executive Director

Pacific Northwest Trail Association

America's Wildest Trail is Yours to Explore and Yours to Protect



Skagit, Whatcom, Island Trail Maintaining Organization

SWITMO

13595 Avon Allen Road

Mount Vernon WA 98273

www.SWITMO.org

360-424-0407

jdmelcher@comcast.net

08 December 2020

To RCO Review Committee,

This letter is in support of:

- **NOVA 20-2181E Mt. Baker Backcountry and Climbing Rangers**
- **NOVA 20-2179M Non-Motorized Mt. Baker Ranger District Trail Maintenance**
- **RTP 20-2180 Heather Meadows Recreation Area Trail Maintenance.**

This letter is from the Skagit, Whatcom, Island Trail Maintenance Organization, SWITMO. SWITMO is a 501(c)-3 non-profit corporation also registered with the State of Washington. SWITMO is made up of volunteers with no paid staff. Our mission is to "Pave the Way for Hikers" in Skagit, Whatcom and Island Counties. Most of our work is on sections of the Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail, the PNT. We have a maintaining-organization agreement with the Pacific Northwest Trail Association, the PNTA.

We support these maintenance projects because we want to keep existing trails in good shape for visitors and hikers, including ourselves. We support the NOVA Education and Enforcement project for the backcountry and climbing rangers so that the more venturesome hikers who go to the backcountry know the rules and know that rangers may be available there to help them if needed. Good trails benefit the local economy and benefit the community in many ways. People need places to go to get into nature, to get into the wilderness and to see expansive views in order to be refreshed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Douglas B. Shepherd". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Douglas B. Shepherd, President

Mark Jilk

Whatcom County Sheriff's Office

311 Grand Ave

Bellingham, WA 98226

12/17/20

To whom it may concern,

My name is Mark Jilk and I am a Deputy with the Whatcom County Sheriff's Office in Bellingham, WA. I am writing today in support of the Backcountry Snow Ranger and Climbing Ranger programs in the Mt. Baker Ranger District.

As a patrol Deputy with the Whatcom County Sheriff's Office I have also had the opportunity to work as a Search and Rescue Coordinator for the past 18 years. The majority of the SAR calls I respond to in the winter involve backcountry activity in the Mt Baker Snoqualmie National Forest. For the majority of the time I have been involved with the SAR program there has not been a Backcountry Snow Ranger in our area. That changed a couple of years ago. The addition of a Backcountry Snow Ranger has been an important addition that I would like to see continue.

Pete Durr has been working as the Backcountry Snow Ranger out of the Heather Meadows area the past winter seasons and the work he has done has been extremely important. Pete has a great knowledge of the general terrain and backcountry areas in Whatcom County as well as a great knowledge of winter travel. He has spent his time in the position interacting with the public and passing his knowledge on to them. In doing so Pete has helped to make the backcountry a safer place for many people who journey into it.

As numbers of people using the backcountry areas of the National Forest in Whatcom County continue to increase it is important that the Backcountry Snow Ranger position continues to be funded. The backcountry area around Heather Meadows on the Mt Baker Highway has some of the most beautiful scenery in the country. Unfortunately the area has some extremely dangerous areas that have claimed several lives over the years. Having someone in the position who is working in the area is a great asset for information, as well as someone who can act as a liaison with rescue workers who have to go into the area to assist people when they are in trouble. In the case of SAR it can literally make the difference between life and death. The position is extremely beneficial to both the public and the SAR community and over the past 2 seasons I believe the position has helped to keep SAR calls down in the area.

Climbing Rangers in the Mt Baker Snoqualmie National Forest in the Mt Baker area during the summer months have also been a valuable resource to the Whatcom County Sheriff's Office each year. Climbing Rangers provide educational information to the general public that helps keep them safe on hiking and climbing outings. Climbing Rangers also assist in SAR missions by helping to provide real time information on SAR missions to Deputies who normally aren't on scene. There have been many SAR missions over the years where Climbing Rangers have assisted by being on scene and assisting or simply providing information that allows us to get the proper resources to the scene.

The Heather Meadows backcountry experience would be a different place without Snow and Climbing Rangers helping to educate and assist the public. Funds supporting these programs are well spent and I am very supportive of the programs continuing.

Sincerely,

Deputy Mark Jilk

SAR Coordinator /Whatcom County Sheriff's Office

The following letter is in support of the following projects: The following letter is in support of the following projects: NOVA 20-2181E Mt. Baker Backcountry and Climbing Rangers

To Whom it May Concern,

I have worked under the supervision and even alongside Barb Richey through her Mountain Steward volunteer program over the previous decade, and came away awarded with a wealth of wilderness knowledge and ethics, not to mention improved social skills and excellent photographs I have sold outdoor enthusiasts down here in New Zealand and Australia on, making them want to explore to the fabulous North Cascades (once it's safe of course).

Barb Richey, on behalf of the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest Service, is seeking grant funding to conduct general trail maintenance in the Mt. Baker Ranger District, which includes the Mt. Baker Recreation Area, Mt. Baker Wilderness, and Noisy-Diobsod Wilderness. The district would be improving non-motorized trails by working with partners and volunteers, contracting out the heavy brushing, and supporting youth crews and our district trail crew. Well maintained trails don't just look nicer, they provide safety for hikers of all fitness levels so nobody is stepping on a large slippery root or loose rock and twisting an ankle. Such an incident happened with a former partner of my brother's on a trail in the North Cascades some years back.

And subsequently, trails that are safe enough to stay on keep hikers from creating a "new" trail immediately parallel to the original trail, thus trampling on sensitive alpine vegetation.

I have hiked on trails in New Zealand that were so poorly maintained that the trails themselves are deep in the bottom of these canyons carved out by rain and erosion, thus one must hop across these canyons many times over to continue up, and quite often leap into a bush or flatten a fern. Other trails were so savage and hardly resembling a trail in terms of maintenance, they destroyed a pair of sandals, hiking shoes, and a jacket, none of which I had for even a year yet.

It's in the best interest of both the Forest Service and local economies for the great outdoors to be accessible and provide an experience where one does not have to feel they are risking their lives just leaving their house and seeing their local mountains from a closer up perspective. In the Mountain Steward Program, we were encouraged to advise hikers to "know their limits" and decide when enough is enough, but that such a choice should not be made before even the sign in boxes near the trailheads. As somebody who has climbed paved, well-maintained gravel, and "climbers treads", I strongly recommend that this grant be granted, so the great outdoors may continue their popularity and keep up the case for keeping them as public recreation lands. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

James Andersson

December 11, 2020

To Whom It May Concern:

My husband and I are writing in support of the following programs for the Mt Baker Ranger District:

*RTP 20-2180 Heather Meadows Recreation Area Trail Maintenance

*NOVA 20-2179M Non-Motorized Mt. Baker Ranger District Trail Maintenance

*NOVA 20-2181E Mt. Baker Backcountry and Climbing Rangers

We have volunteered as Mountain Stewards in the Mount Baker region in the past and have thoroughly enjoyed our time. Mt Stewards offer a variety of skills to the public, including:

- General information about trails, trail conditions
- Information about leave no trace - wilderness ethics
- Providing supplies such as blue bags, maps
- Answering questions about plants, animals
- Providing information about hiking for first time hikers (how to find the trail, pacing speed, plant protection - LNT...)
- Information about safety (glacier and snow field travel)
- Helping them to locate their car after a busy day of hiking
- Where to find available camping spots
- Information about water purification

We received very positive feedback from people we met on the trail. Some were interested in becoming Mountain Stewards; others appreciated having someone on the trail with a two-way radio in case of need, one hiker really appreciated the first aid supplies we were able to share with her.

The training we received as Mountain Stewards was very valuable. The coordinator had a great variety of wilderness experience; we appreciated the richness of information given in our training sessions, along with ongoing support as needed.

We readily support the grant requests for Mt Baker Trail Maintenance (Heather Meadows and non-motorized District Trail Maintenance) and Backcountry and

Climbing Rangers. All programs encourage trail safety and hiker education; very important with increased hiker experiences in the wilderness

Sincerely,

Elaine Denny & Bert Oberembt
Blaine, Washington

4228 28th Place West
Seattle, WA 98199

**Re: NOVA 20-2181E Mt. Baker Backcountry and Climbing Rangers
NOVA 20-2179M Non-Motorized Mt. Baker Ranger District Trail Maintenance
RTP 20-2180 Heather Meadows Recreation Area Trail Maintenance**

I am writing in support of three very important projects of the Mt. Baker Ranger District, specifically, **NOVA 20-2181E Mt. Baker Backcountry and Climbing Rangers
NOVA 20-2179M Non-Motorized Mt. Baker Ranger District Trail Maintenance
RTP 20-2180 Heather Meadows Recreation Area Trail Maintenance**

As a volunteer with the Mountain Steward Program, I am especially aware of the necessity of the listed projects.

Education is crucial for enthusiasts of the out-of-doors for their safety and the safety of others as well as the full enjoyment of the experience, but especially for the stewardship of our public lands. **NOVA 20-2181E Mt. Baker Backcountry and Climbing Rangers** would provide that capability in the back country of the Mt. Baker Ranger District.

Specifically, this program would provide:

- 1) Leave No Trace Skills, and enforce regulations where needed through field patrols.
- 2) 3 summer backcountry rangers (one of which is the volunteer coordinator for the Mountain Stewards program)
- 3) 2 summer interns,
- 4) 2 Climbing Rangers and 1 part-time winter backcountry ranger to patrol the district's trails, climbing routes, and winter ski/snowshoe routes.

This non-motorized NOVA Education and Enforcement project is necessary to prevent the degradation of backcountry trails through education and the promotion of stewardship. The returns from the funding of field patrols engaging in education will pay in continuing thoughtful use of our public lands and their safekeeping for years to come.

Maintenance of trails is necessary just as the care of a garden requires. **NOVA 20-2179M Non-Motorized Mt. Baker Ranger District Trail Maintenance** is needed to fund staff for regular trail maintenance. In addition to the heavy use by hikers and climbers, the Mt. Baker region is impacted by weather conditions of freeze and thaw. Conditions ranging from torrential rains to heavy accumulation of snow contribute to erosion and overgrowth. Funding will allow for the contracting out the heavy brushing, and supporting youth crews and our district

trail crew. A maintained trail system provides a safer and more enjoyable recreational experience for visitors, and helps protect and minimize damage to the natural resources.

Heather Meadows is one of the most popular hiker and tourist areas of the Ranger District attracting thousands of visitors yearly. Due to this heavy use, Heather Meadows requires dedicated maintenance of trails. **RTP 20-2180 Heather Meadows Recreation Area Trail Maintenance** will provide funding to support the work done by the district trail crew, partners and volunteers, contractors, and youth crews. This fragile, sub-alpine environment is especially vulnerable to overuse and misuse. Maintaining these trails is necessary for the enjoyment and safety of all who use it, but even more necessary for the protection of this fragile landscape.

Ken Burns said that America's National Parks are America's best idea. I would expand that to the enjoyment and stewardship of all our public lands. These three projects will further that enjoyment by all who wish to explore these places and keep them flourishing for years to come.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Millie Magner".

Millie Magner, Mountain Steward

December 18, 2020

Kay McMurren, Mt. Steward
Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Mt. Baker Ranger District
3859 Cindy Lane
Bellingham, WA 98226

Re: RCO Grants; NOVA 20-2181E, NOVA 20-2179M, RTP 20-2180

To Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office,

As a Mt. Steward in the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Mt. Baker Ranger District, I'm writing in support of the above three grants which fund much needed personnel, trail maintenance projects and education in the Mt. Baker area.

Mt. Baker is a high traffic hiking and climbing area. The surrounding area continues to grow in population with more and more people coming up to the mountain to enjoy the trails. Visitors range from seasoned hikers and climbers to beginners who are new to the concept of "leave no trace" or may have little knowledge of regulations and backcountry safety.

When I'm out on the trail I see the benefit of maintenance, that keeps trails safe and enjoyable, especially on many of our steep slopes, minimizing damage to natural resources. When trails are valued and maintained, hikers are more apt to reflect that value and respect in their use of the trails. Maintenance and education can discourage "short-cuts" and other mis-use of trails that lead to erosion, damage to fragile environments, and other problems.

When hikers, particularly newcomers, learn about trails, backcountry tips, and the flora and fauna in the area it can enhance their experience, their safety, and interest in stewardship of the land, which they can pass on to others. When I first became a Mt. Steward I was pleasantly surprised by the number of hikers who appreciated tips about trails, mileage, plant or wildlife sightings.

The Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest has been my hiking home for 35 years, and over time I've witnessed the increase in trail use and climbing. Glaciers are melting, the landscape is changing. Rangers and other trained personnel are needed more than ever to monitor climbing routes for safety, maintain trails, and educate the public for their enjoyment and safety.

Its been a pleasure working with Barbara Richey, and other Rangers and personnel who have impressed me with their commitment to preserving and promoting the use of our national forests. Now, more than ever, ongoing support for their hard work, trail maintenance, and outreach for education is needed.

Thank you,
Kay McMurren

4135 Agate Road
Bellingham, WA 98226
Dec. 19, 2020

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in support of the following RCO grant applications for the Mount Baker Ranger District of the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest:

NOVA 20-2181E Mt. Baker Backcountry and Climbing Rangers

NOVA 20-2179M Non-Motorized Mt. Baker Ranger District Trail Maintenance

RTP 20-2180 Heather Meadows Recreation Area Trail Maintenance

For the past 45 years I have been a heavy user of the areas affected as a climber, hiker, backpacker, snowshoer, and skier. During this time there has been an enormous increase in the number of people using these areas and I have become acutely aware of the damage that can be caused by the large numbers of people, especially when many of them have had little education in how to leave no trace. In recent years I have acted as a Mountain Steward and have tried to help provide this education. It is critical that these applications be granted. The cost of not doing so is further deterioration of this precious resource.

Sincerely,
Kenneth H. Small

December 21, 2020

To: U.S. Forest Service Recreation and Conservation Office - Grant Evaluators

From: Catherine Wessels and Patrick McDaniel

My husband and I are writing in support of three RCO grants that are being requested by Barbara Richey, Wilderness & Trails Manager for the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Mt. Baker Ranger District. Specifically, these project numbers and titles are:

- NOVA 20-2181E Mt. Baker Backcountry and Climbing Rangers
- NOVA 20-2179M Non-Motorized Mt. Baker Ranger District Trail Maintenance
- RTP 20-2180 Heather Meadows Recreation Area Trail Maintenance.

We feel very fortunate to be able to enjoy the superb year-round recreational opportunities available in the Mt. Baker Ranger District. We particularly enjoy hiking the trails, and for the last decade, have served as volunteers with the Mt. Baker Ranger District's Mountain Stewards program, assisting and educating visitors and promoting stewardship of public lands.

Over this last decade, we have seen first-hand the growth in visitors to the trails and the challenges this presents, both in maintaining the trail system to provide a safe and enjoyable recreational experience for visitors and to protect and minimize damage to natural resources, particularly in the subalpine terrain.

The three projects to be funded by these grants are essential to support the efforts by backcountry and climbing rangers, trail maintenance crews, and volunteers. The thousands of visitors to the Mt. Baker Ranger District are only expected to increase in number: funding these projects will ensure the public continues to safely enjoy this premier destination in the Pacific Northwest.



December 18, 2020

Recreation and Conservation Office
 P.O. Box 40917
 Olympia, WA 98504

RE: NOVA 20-2181E Mt. Baker Backcountry and Climbing Rangers
NOVA 20-2179M Non-Motorized Mt. Baker Ranger District Trail Maintenance
RTP 20-2180 Heather Meadows Recreation Area Trail Maintenance

Dear evaluation committee members,

Please accept our joint letter of support from the 8 undersigned climbing organizations and guide companies for the Mt. Baker Ranger District (MBRD)'s proposals for NOVA 20-2181E Mt. Baker Backcountry and Climbing Rangers, NOVA 20-2179M Non-Motorized Mt. Baker Ranger District Trail Maintenance, and RTP 20-2180 Heather Meadows Recreation Area Trail Maintenance. These proposals promote education of Washington's climbing community, improve the recreational experience, and help protect the climbing environment. We strongly support these projects and the value they will bring to recreationalists in the Mt. Baker area.

The MBRD encompasses many mountaineering, scrambling, and climbing destinations of local, regional, and international significance. Foremost is Mt. Baker (Koma Kulshan), one of the most popular climbing destinations in the Cascades. Decades of beginner climbers have cut their teeth on the Easton and Coleman-Deming routes, and routes like the North Ridge and Park Glacier challenge seasoned alpinists. Other popular destinations include Mt. Shuksan, Ruth Mountain, Colfax Peak, and the Twin Sisters Range.

The Mt. Baker Climbing Rangers program conducts important work educating climbers on environmentally and socially responsible climbing practices, maintaining safe climbing access, collecting use and resource data, identifying environmental impacts, building relationships within the community, and enforcing regulations. In conjunction with the Climbing Rangers program, the MBRD project would allow for 3 summer backcountry rangers, 2 summer interns, and 1 part-time winter backcountry ranger to patrol the district's trails, climbing routes, and winter ski/snowshoe routes, all of which benefit our communities as well.

In addition to the above, our recreational user group frequently use the extensive network of trails outlined in the MBRD Non-Motorized Trail Maintenance and Heather Meadows Recreation Area Trail Maintenance proposals. In 2018, Access Fund provided a grant to help support MBRD's Human Waste Pack-Out Initiative on Mt. Baker. Use numbers at trailheads, campsites, and other facilities in the Mt.

Baker area grew exponentially in the summer of 2020 as visitors sought out safe, outdoor activities in the midst of a global pandemic. It is more important than ever to support land managers in the maintenance of these high-use trails and facilities to minimize damage from human waste, litter, camping in environmentally fragile areas, and other unintended impacts.

The climbing and mountaineering community as a group is conscientious of access and environmental issues in the areas they recreate. When resources are available to educate them, they can be one of the most thoughtful and proactive user groups in terms of preservation and impact minimization. We are excited about the potential of these programs to preserve the quality of outdoor experiences for all future users of the MBRD. We believe that the money granted for these programs would be very well spent preserving and improving the nature of our public lands and the experience one can get from it.

We sincerely thank the MBRD for their collaboration and commitment to maintaining and improving the recreational experience in the Mt. Baker area.

Sincerely,

Betsy Robblee, Conservation & Advocacy
Director
The Mountaineers
betsyr@mountaineers.org
mountaineers.org

Eddie Espinosa, National Volunteer Program Sr.
Manager
American Alpine Club - Cascade Section
eespinosa@americanalpineclub.org
americanalpineclub.org

Joe Sambataro, Northwest Regional Director
Access Fund
joe@accessfund.org
accessfund.org

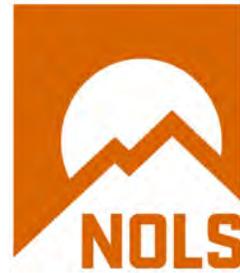
Mick Pearson, Owner/Founder
Kaf Adventures
mick@kafadventures.com
kafadventures.com

Jonathon Spitzer, Director of Field Operations
Alpine Ascents International
jspitzer@alpineascents.com
alpineascents.com

Mark Gunlogson, President
Mountain Madness
markg@mountainmadness.com
mountainmadness.com

John Race, Owner
Northwest Mountain School
jr@mountainschool.com
mountainschool.com

Chelsea Sweetin, President
Washington Alpine Club
wacboard@googlegroups.com
washingtionalpineclub.org



December 23, 2020

To Whom it May Concern,

We write today on behalf of the National Outdoor Leadership School (NOLS) to express our support for the use of Recreation and Conservation Office funding to support the following projects:

NOVA 20-2181E Mt. Baker Backcountry and Climbing Rangers
NOVA 20-2179M Non-Motorized Mt. Baker Ranger District Trail Maintenance
RTP 20-2180 Heather Meadows Recreation Area Trail Maintenance

This funding is critical to the long-term health of these popular areas. We strongly encourage you to support this funding request.

NOLS is a non-profit organization that teaches outdoor skills, leadership and wilderness ethics to 9,000 students each year. Our programs teach all age groups minimum-impact backcountry travel skills, natural history, hiking, rock climbing, skiing, whitewater and other skills as well as provide us an opportunity to build our students' appreciation for public lands.

From our Pacific Northwest location we operate in Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Olympic National Park, North Cascades National Park, Wenatchee National Forest, Okanogan National Forest and British Columbia.

We believe backcountry staff have a key role in resource management, trail and campsite repair, and most importantly, educating visitors. Without their presence in the backcountry, NOLS fears that resource impacts and visitor issues will worsen. NOLS instructors often find themselves educating other backcountry users on Leave No Trace practices and assisting these visitors in other ways.

NOLS believes it is imperative that the Mount Baker Ranger District seeks funding sources that can be used to increase the presence of backcountry rangers, trail crews, and volunteers in high-use areas. We have seen firsthand the important work that backcountry staff do. Our students have enjoyed meeting rangers and hearing them speak about the importance of public lands. Rangers have also assisted NOLS during times when we had to evacuate injured students, and we know they have assisted dozens of others in need.

NOLS hopes that you support funding these valuable projects.

Sincerely,

The NOLS Pacific Northwest Team



December 17, 2020

Recreation and Conservation Office
1111 Washington Street SE
PO BOX 40917
Olympia WA, 98507-0917

To the RCO Staff and Advisory Committee,

Greetings!

I am writing on behalf of the Seattle YMCA BOLD & GOLD (Boys & Girls Outdoor Leadership Development) program in support of grants for the following projects: *NOVA 20-2181E Mt. Baker Backcountry and Climbing Rangers*, *NOVA 20-2179M Non-Motorized Mt. Baker Ranger District Trail Maintenance*, and *RTP 20-2180 Heather Meadows Recreation Area Trail Maintenance*.

Every year BOLD & GOLD seeks to create outdoor opportunities for diverse youth from across Washington. We do this by sending small groups out into the backcountry on climbing, backpacking, and mountaineering expeditions. In 2021 we hope to field over 60 expeditions and serve over 480 youth. One of our capstone experiences is a summit attempt of Mount Baker. Imagine how accomplished a young person will feel standing atop one of the highest peaks in Washington State – is there anything that young person couldn't accomplish after achieving something so grand?

A trip like this could not be possible without the ranger teams and trail crews working in the Mount Baker Ranger District. Climbing and backcountry rangers provide invaluable education and expertise across a wide range of areas including climbing and backcountry safety and risk management, Leave No Trace, and environmental stewardship. Trail crews are vital in making sure that the areas we travel through are safe to navigate and have the necessary amenities to camp comfortably.

Our quality programming each summer depends on access to safe and navigable backcountry areas. We count on the continued presence of forest service rangers and the efforts of trail and maintenance crews. As such YMCA BOLD & GOLD stands in absolute and unqualified support of these grants and projects.

Best regards,

Jordan Bright
Senior Program Director
YMCA BOLD & GOLD, Seattle



SNOHOMISH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

INTEGRITY

DIGNITY

COMMITMENT

PRIDE

Adam Fortney, Sheriff

20-2103 NOVA EE #18

December 30, 2020

Mr. Benjamin Hale
Cascade District Recreation Manager
Washington State Department of Natural Resources

- RE: ***RCO Grant #20-2103 Education & Enforcement – South Zone DNR NW Region***
- ***RCO Grant #20-2104 Reiter Foothills Forest Maintenance and Operations***

To whom it may concern;

I am writing of behalf of the Snohomish County Sheriff's Office to express my support of the above grant programs which both affect the east and northern portions of Snohomish County, areas our staff patrol and serve.

I am supporting these applications both professionally and personally since I have been employed by the Snohomish County Sheriff's Office for thirty three years, much of that time working patrol assignments in east and north Snohomish County and because my family and I have lived in east Snohomish County for nearly thirty years, often frequenting Sultan Basin, Reiter Foothills and at times visiting the Mountain Loop Highway and Darrington areas, both on duty and off.

As you may know the Sheriff's Office East and North Precincts provide police service to all unincorporated Snohomish County as well as several incorporated cities, under police contracts for services. These two precincts cover more than 1,500 square miles and do not have adequate staffing to patrol the less developed areas of the county as much as we would like to.

As a new deputy, I often worked in the Reiter Pit Area and was involved in investigating several crimes, against people and property as well as off road vehicle violations which damaged much of the environment. That area became so problematic that in about 2012 the Foothills were closed which took away a major recreation area for people and led to other problems.

Thankfully the area was redeveloped and reopened, then patrolled by both our staff and members of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Law Enforcement group. Collectively our staffs have used education and enforcement to monitor all the recreation areas.



Adam Fortney, Sheriff

20-2103 NOVA EE #18

Several groups have continued working to enhance ORV and ATV activities as well as other tourism opportunities within the east and northern portions of Snohomish County with the desire to give citizens more chances to safely enjoy the natural beauty of our outdoors.

As a lifelong law enforcement officer, I know we will not be able to properly ensure the safety of citizens, property and the environment without the continued support of the DNR Education and Enforcement staff or the Maintenance and Operations Grant.

The Snohomish County Sheriff's Office is happy to be a partner both DNR and U.S. Forest Service within our County and ask for your continued support of these grants.

These grants will help us continue to increase safe tourism within our County and for our local communities.

Thank you for your consideration. Feel free to contact me via email at jeff.brand@snoco.org or call my office at (425) 388-3374.

Respectfully,
SHERIFF ADAM FORTNEY

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff Brand", is written over a white background.

Jeff Brand #1196
Undersheriff
Snohomish County Sheriff's Office

REP. SUZAN K. DELBENE

1ST DISTRICT, WASHINGTON

2330 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-6311

22121 17TH AVE SE, STE 220
BOTHELL, WA 98021
(425) 485-0085

204 W. MONTGOMERY ST.
MOUNT VERNON, WA 98273
(360) 416-7879

WWW.DELBENE.HOUSE.GOV

20-2103 NOVA EE #18

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON SELECT REVENUE MEASURES

SUBCOMMITTEE ON TRADE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

December 16, 2020

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: RCO Grant #20-2103 Education & Enforcement – South Zone DNR NW Region and RCO Grant #20-2104 Reiter Foothills Forest Maintenance and Operations

Dear members of the Recreation and Conservation Advisory Committee:

I write in support of the Washington State Department of Natural Resource's grant applications RCO Grant #20-2103 Education & Enforcement – South Zone DNR NW Region and RCO Grant #20-2104 Reiter Foothills Forest Maintenance and Operations. The two grants have been submitted to the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office. With increased visitation and recreational use of DNR managed lands, trail maintenance, operations, education and enforcement are more important than ever to support. Both grants will address major needs that keep public lands safe, open, and fun, and that will in-turn protect our natural resources and boost local economies through outdoor recreation.

Grant #20-2103 will provide essential education and enforcement services to Reiter Foothills Forest, a regional off-road vehicle (ORV) destination receiving close to 50,000 visits annually, and to Morningstar Natural Resource Conservation Area which protects over 40,000 acres and almost 30 miles of non-motorized trails. It also will serve North Mountain Bike Trails, a DNR developed bike park developed after the Oso Landslide in Darrington to boost the local outdoor recreation economy. This grant will also serve the Sultan Basin and Forest Glade forests that provide an array of outdoor recreation opportunities.

Grant #20-2104 will provide funding to properly maintain and operate the 30 miles of ORV trails within Reiter Foothills Forest. RCO has heavily invested in DNR to develop these trails over the last decade. Now that the ORV trail development is nearing completion of its phase 1 and annual visitation is higher than ever, proper maintenance will protect this investment.

I appreciate your full and fair consideration, consistent with applicable laws and regulations, of this grant application.

Sincerely,



Suzan DelBene
Member of Congress
Washington 1st District



Town of Darrington
1005 Cascade Street
P.O. Box 397
Darrington, WA 98241
ph. 360-436-1131
fax 360-436-0221

www.town.darrington.wa.us

To Whom It May Concern,

The Town of Darrington is in full support of the RCO Grant #20-2103 Education and Enforcement-South Zone, submitted by the Dept. of Natural Resources.

This Grant, if awarded, would bring much needed personnel and guidance to a popular recreation destination area. The North Mountain Bike Trail system is a phenomenal experience for bikers of all ages and abilities. Having a warden dedicated to the Trail System, engaging with these users will only improve those experiences through education, etiquette, and safety. 2020 has been a year like no other, we are seeing more and more people using our public lands for an escape during these trying times. These escapes have become discoveries for many new to the outdoor recreation world. More visitors results in greater impact on the environment and infrastructure, and support is needed to make sure that the visitors to our public lands are mindful of their actions and insures a quality experience for all of us. The opportunity for educating trail users about the benefits of public lands and user engagement will reduce maintenance, will increase longevity of infrastructure and increase positive visits to our public lands for users throughout our region.

We all rely on volunteers to aid and promote trail etiquette, maintain trails and other infrastructure and a lot of clean up. This warden position will foster volunteers for better outcomes and be a presence that discourages poor behavior that detracts from the volunteer spirit.

The Town appreciates the opportunity to support the Department of Natural Resources and encourage RCO to award Grant #20-2103.

Thank You

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dan Rankin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Dan Rankin

Mayor Town of Darrington



December 11th, 2020

**Board
of
Directors**

The Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Bradley Copeland

Helen Haberman

Scott Halpert

Jane Kammerzelt

Erik Matisek

Judith McHugh

Patricia Sheppard

Devin Thompson

Greg Williams

Rose Wolfe

Dear Recreation and Conservation Office,

I am pleased to write on behalf of Northwest Youth Corps (NYC) in support of the Reiter Foothills Forest Landscape and the Washington Department of Natural Resources to the NOVA Program in submitting the following applications:

RCO Grant #20-2103 Education and Enforcement – South Zone DNR NW Region

RCO Grant #20-2104 Reiter Foothills Forest Maintenance and Operations

Through this partnership, both The Department of Natural Resources and Northwest Youth Corps will be able to establish the efficacy of young people on Washington's outdoor recreation infrastructure while training to become future stewards. Doubly this will enhance and maintain the existing 30+ miles of ORV trails within the Reiter Foothills Forest that many user groups make great use of!

NYC is a youth development and outdoor education organization that has provided opportunities to young people since its establishment in 1984. NYC employs over 900 youth and young adults annually to complete conservation projects throughout Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and California. Participants through our Washington state programs will experience their time by working on outdoor projects around the state through programs that start from our field office at Lake Wenatchee on the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest or out of Tacoma, WA with our agency partner, Metro Parks Tacoma.

**Friends
and
Advisors**

Ken Maddox

Sam Naito

Arthur Pope

Barbara Roberts

Jean Tate

NYC and the Department of Natural Resources have worked in partnership to benefit our public lands and youth alike since the late 2000s. The applications mentioned above will help to further this partnership. A partnership in which the Department of Natural Resources and Northwest Youth Corps can continue to complete necessary maintenance projects will allow young people to learn, grow, and experience success.

Yours in Outdoor Programs That Last a Lifetime,

Edison Velez III
Washington State Programs Manager
Phone – (253) 245-3724
Fax – (541) 349-5060
Edisonv@nwyouthcorps.org

November 5, 2020

Cobi Seslar, M.Ed.
Everett Community College

Re: ***RCO Grant #20-2103 Education & Enforcement – South Zone DNR NW Region***
RCO Grant #20-2104 Reiter Foothills Forest Maintenance and Operations

To Recreation Conservation Office Funding Board and Staff,

Benjamin Hale of the DNR Recreation program has been very generous with his time with my college classes. For five years, I have brought an Everett Community College summer class (approx. 30 students per year) to spend a day with him and his colleagues (approx. 5 hours). For four years, Ben, John Moon, and Greg Anderson, DNR Unit Foresters, have come to my EVCC classes, giving DNR presentations. In these classroom presentations, they reach approximately 90 students each quarter. In the last two years, in both a campus setting and wilderness classroom, they have offered 960 face hours with my students alone. In this contact with students, they have the opportunity to educate the public on proper recreation usage, especially at Reiter Foothills Trail system.

What I love about having these guys come to my classes is a long list:

- Teach students what DNR is, their responsibilities, and land management law & practices
- Inform students about the revenue generating activities DNR does for its Washington state citizens and programs
- Teach students about their Forestry Management Plan
- Students learn the details of the Reiter Pit controversy, as well as their new management plan
- Students learn about the Habitat Conservation Plan that is upheld
- Students see a government agency that uphold laws concerning wildlife preservation and resource sustainability
- They inform students about how they work collaboratively within the agency, and with the various user groups of the community
- They offer examples of how they are collaborating and communicating with stakeholders.
- They showcase how safe and sustainable recreation can be provided within a working forest concept.



- Students learn about these types of careers that are outdoors, in the industry of natural resource management; they also learn about summer jobs like trail building and firefighting.

This presentation directly helps my students write a “Solution Argument essay”, I feel that the presentation Ben and John share is a perfect example of a Solution to an environmental issue. Environmental conservation concerns are addressed by maintaining high standards within the Habitat Conservation Plan, while they are managing natural resources for state income generation in a sustainable format.

Both Ben, John, and Greg have prioritized their relationship with me and my students. We plan for their presentation each quarter, and they generously give me an entire day in the summer.

I highly recommend they receive grants to support their continued education services to the community.

Sincerely,

Cobi Seslar, M. Ed.
English Professor
Everett Community College



Washington Trails Association

705 Second Avenue, Suite 300, Seattle WA 98104 • 206.625.1367 • wta.org

November 24, 2020

Washington Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: #20-2103 Education & Enforcement – South Zone DNR NW Region (Dept of Natural Resources)

Dear RCO Review Committee :

I am writing on behalf of Washington Trails Association to express our support of the Washington State Department of Natural Resource's Education and Enforcement grant. The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to fund one full-time Recreation Warden to conduct education and enforcement in some of the highest use DNR areas in Snohomish County.

WTA enhances hiking experiences in Washington state by empowering a diverse and growing community of hikers to explore, steward and protect trails and public lands. WTA is the nation's largest state-based trail maintenance and hiking advocacy nonprofit organization, with more than 24,000 member households and an online community of more than 100,000. Each year almost 4,500 WTA volunteers perform over 160,000 hours of trail maintenance across the state.

Through our Trails Rebooted campaign, WTA convened a cadre of user groups and the local community, creating a coalition that worked to identify education and enforcement needs in this area. Boulder Grieder and Gothic Basin have been identified as areas where increased focus on stewardship, signage and education would be beneficial.

The landscapes included in this grant are Reiter Foothills Forest, Morning Star Natural Resource Conservation Area and Sultan Basin, North Mountain Bike Trails and Forest Glade. This Recreation Warden will rotate between each area as needed to focus on identifying potential health, safety, and resource damage concerns; inform visitors about appropriate trail/recreation use and enforce Discover Pass and other laws within jurisdiction. Work in Morning Star will occur during high-use summer months and will consist of in person contacts, on trail and at trailheads and educating users about the NRCA.

We hope you will support this grant and in doing so the partnership we have with DNR as well. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrea J. Imler".

Andrea Imler
Advocacy Director

January 12, 2021

C/O: Benjamin Hale, PMP
Cascade District Recreation Manager
Washington Department of Natural Resources
919 N Township St
Sedro-Woolley, WA 98284

Seattle Administration Office
5601 6th Avenue South
Suite 150
Seattle, WA 98108
Phone: (800) 541-9852

DuPont Girl Scout Center
PO Box 770
1000 Davis Place
DuPont, WA 98327
Phone: (800) 541-9852

King County
Regional Office
13029 NE 20th
Bellevue, WA 98005
Phone: (800) 541-9852

North Regional Office
3224 Wetmore Avenue
Suite A
Everett, WA 98201
Phone: (800) 541-9852

Peninsula Regional Office
1600 NE Winters Rd
Bremerton, WA 98311
Phone: (800) 541-9852

To RCO Funding Board,

Girl Scouts of Western Washington is pleased to write this letter supporting the application for **RCO Grant #20-2103 Education & Enforcement – South Zone DNR NW Region**. We share the view that this program is not only essential for the safety of the public but the protection of natural resources used by people recreating on public lands. Additionally, the education component of the grant program has benefitted many Girl Scouts.

The DNR has participated with Girl Scouts STEM programming in the past providing Education & Enforcement Officers, Wildlife Biologists, Wildland Firefighters, Ecologists, and Foresters to help teach young girls the opportunities and responsibilities of being good stewards of the land.

This grant will continue a key funding source to continue this important work. Girl Scouts strongly supports this program's goals to protect the natural resources, ensure public safety, and educate continuing generations of Girl Scouts on how to be responsible stewards of the land.

Respectfully yours,



Megan Ferland
CEO
Girl Scouts of Western Washington

We urge you to support DNR grant #20-2103 for the health and wellbeing of Washington.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Debbie Copple". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Debbie Copple, Director

Sky Valley Chamber of Commerce & Visitor Information Center

320 Main Street –PO Box 46

Sultan, WA 98294

360-793-0983

debbie@skyvalleyvic.net



State of Washington
Department of Fish and Wildlife

PO Box 1100- 111 Sherman Street • La Conner, Washington 98257 • (360) 466-4345 FAX (360) 466-0515

RCO Grant #20-2103 Education & Enforcement – South Zone DNR NW Region

November 20, 2020

Washington Recreation and Conservation Office
WWRP Program
Olympia, Washington

Dear WWRP Selection Committee,

On behalf of the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, I am writing to express my strong support for grant application **#20-2103 Education & Enforcement – South Zone DNR NW Region** proposed for the southern portion of DNR Northwest Region. I have been a member of DNR's advisory committee for recreation in the Morning Star Natural Resources Conservation Area (NRCA) and the Sky Valley Recreation Coalition since these committees' inceptions, representing the interests of fish and wildlife. As such, I've seen the public's interest in accessing the lands within DNR's ownership expand dramatically. Unfortunately, the ability to keep the public safe and abiding by the rules has not kept pace with the number of people recreating in the woods today.

Balancing the public's desire to experience the natural world while protecting delicate ecosystems is becoming difficult for all natural resource managers. The Morning Star NRCA is a particularly popular destination and is under increasing pressure as more and more members of the public seek places to hike and camp. The Reiter Foothills Forest, will be managed for multiple uses that increase the potential for user conflicts, and biking skills at the North Mountain Bike Trails will vary from novice to expert. These factors highlight the need for a full-time Recreation Warden who can help the public learn to recreate safely, obeying the laws and rules for each site while respecting the rights of other users.

Sincerely,

Ruth Milner
District 13 Wildlife Biologist
Washington Department of Fish and wildlife

Hale, Benjamin (DNR)

From: Mike Kash <toyotacrashman@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 5, 2020 9:14 PM
To: Hale, Benjamin (DNR)
Subject: Grants

This message has originated from an External Source. Please use caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding to this email. Contact your desktop support or IT security staff for assistance and to report suspicious messages.

To whom it may concern,

I am an avid user and heavily volunteer at Reiter Foothills ORV.

RCO Grant #20-2103 Education & Enforcement

This grant is a very important aspect of the ORV area and surrounding DNR lands. Jacob our current Recreation Warden does an excellent job between enforcing what rules he can and educating those who need it. I consider that type of entity (Recreation Warden) a very critical aspect of ORV use in today's society. So much time and effort from both the DNR and volunteers has been put forth we need that protection that our current Recreation Warden gives us.

Thank you

RCO Grant #20-2104 Reiter Foothills Forest Maintenance and Operations

This grant is a VERY critical need of Reiter Foothills ORV. Reiter is a very unique area when compared to other ORV areas. With all the trails being engineered and built we require more maintenance and materials. Another aspect is the fact of how close to population density we are and with heavy use those needs rise and even more so with the increase usage due to more adverse trails. Having a person who can mitigate these needs is a very dire need up there.

Thank you

Hale, Benjamin (DNR)

From: Julie Langabeer <kjlanga@msn.com>
Sent: Saturday, January 9, 2021 12:06 PM
To: Hale, Benjamin (DNR)
Subject: Support for RCO Grants

This message has originated from an External Source. Please use caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding to this email. Contact your desktop support or IT security staff for assistance and to report suspicious messages.

SUPPORT for RCO GRANT #20-2103 EDUCATION and ENFORCEMENT - South Zone DNR NW Region

I speak for myself and an informal group of about 20 senior women from the Everett area who hike regularly. There is no doubt that regular enforcement and education is needed to help insure that the public uses these popular areas without damage to resources or endangering the health and safety of themselves and others. Without enforcement, there will be those who, out of either ignorance or the belief that they can get away with it, can spoil the experience for the the rest of us who respect the rules.

SUPPORT for RCO GRANT #20-2104 REITER FOOTHILLS FOREST MAINTENANCE and OPERATIONS

This is a no-brainer. Outdoor recreation is incredibly important to our personal well-being and to the economy. The Reiter Foothills trails are especially needed because they are accessible in winter when high-elevation trails are not. Trails, parking areas, restrooms and signs must be maintained to make the experience enjoyable and safe for all who use them. My friends and I who hike regularly try to do our part by picking up litter and removing small obstructions from the trails, but there is a lot of necessary work beyond the capabilities of a group of old ladies. The ORV trails, even though we don't use them, also require maintenance for the people who do.

Sincerely,

Julie Langabeer
1409 Grand Ave.
Everett, WA 98201

Hale, Benjamin (DNR)

From: Jim <neffj@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 7:42 PM
To: Hale, Benjamin (DNR)
Subject: RCO grants

This message has originated from an External Source. Please use caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding to this email. Contact your desktop support or IT security staff for assistance and to report suspicious messages.

To whom it may concern,

I am a member of the Puget Sound Trialers club and I am writing in strong support of the DNR application for RCO Grants #20-2103 and #20-2104. The DNR has been very supportive of both motorized and non-motorized recreation on its lands. For the Trials community in particular, this support has been crucial in providing the only remaining public land that welcomes our small footprint sport on the west side of the Cascades. We thoroughly appreciate the active and inclusive efforts that the DNR has devoted to maintaining public education and outreach for developing recreation opportunities of all types.

Respectfully,
James Neff
PST past president

Hale, Benjamin (DNR)

From: Mike Baker <olutleipuri@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, November 6, 2020 4:23 PM
To: Hale, Benjamin (DNR)
Subject: Reiter Foothills RCO Grant Submissions

This message has originated from an External Source. Please use caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding to this email. Contact your desktop support or IT security staff for assistance and to report suspicious messages.

RCO Grant #20-2103 Education & Enforcement - South Zone DNR NW Region
RCO Grant #20-2104 Reiter Foothills Forest Maintenance and Operations

I am writing to provide my support for RCO Grant #20-2103 and RCO Grant #20-2104. I have been an active user and volunteer at the Reiter ORV area for about 2 years. It is a very valuable resource to me and I want to see it grow and thrive in the future.

To quote probably our most active community member, Mike Cash, "Education and diligence are the two strongest cards we have in protecting what little piece of the pie we have."

In my time at the park, maybe the biggest issues I see is education on trail use and simple land stewardship, and lacking one's ability to learn, enforcement of the rules. A dedicated resource for patrol would be welcome.

Additionally as the usage at the park grows maintenance of wear and tear and deliberate damage can be difficult for our small group of volunteers with shovels and straps. Again, a resource for operations would also be appreciated.

Thank you for your time
Mike Baker
5602 147th Ave SE, Snohomish, WA 98290
206-456-5374

Hale, Benjamin (DNR)

From: Chris Long <chris@thelongs.org>
Sent: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 7:41 PM
To: Hale, Benjamin (DNR)
Subject: RCO Grants #20-2103 and #20-2104

This message has originated from an External Source. Please use caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding to this email. Contact your desktop support or IT security staff for assistance and to report suspicious messages.

Hello, and to whom it may concern,

I am a member of the Puget Sound Trialers club and I am writing in strong support of the DNR application for RCO Grants #20-2103 and #20-2104. The DNR has been very supportive of both motorized and non-motorized recreation on its lands. For the Trials community in particular, this support has been crucial in providing the only remaining public land that welcomes our small footprint sport on the west side of the Cascades. We thoroughly appreciate the active and inclusive efforts that the DNR has devoted to maintaining public education and outreach for developing recreation opportunities of all types.

Thank you!
Chris Long
303-521-3448

Hale, Benjamin (DNR)

From: troy messick <troymessick@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 4, 2020 9:28 PM
To: Hale, Benjamin (DNR)
Subject: Reiter trails orv grant

This message has originated from an External Source. Please use caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding to this email. Contact your desktop support or IT security staff for assistance and to report suspicious messages.

To whom it may concern.

I have been a user of Reiter trail orv for many years. I have seen the amazing progress with new trails and the growing popularity. This area is becoming more popular and with this comes a need for more trails and supporting facilities such as parking and maintenance. I have participated in many days helping with trail repair and educating new users to the trails .

The continued support with grants for this area is imperative to the success of this area as it becomes even more popular and is subject to more use.

Thank you for consideration.

Troy Messick
12933 53rd dr se
Everett wa 98208

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

Hale, Benjamin (DNR)

From: Gary Miller <garcol@comcast.net>
Sent: Saturday, October 31, 2020 11:39 AM
To: Hale, Benjamin (DNR)
Subject: Rieter foothills

This message has originated from an External Source. Please use caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding to this email. Contact your desktop support or IT security staff for assistance and to report suspicious messages.

I am writing this letter to inform you that I use the Reiter foothills recreation area with my 4 wheel drive vehicle on a regular basis. I belong to a club and we have regular trail runs on the trail system in Reiter area. We have always enjoyed this area and have found that it is well maintained and routinely kept up with people volunteering to maintain and upgrade the trails and eco system. We feel confident that trails systems in this area have been kept up for safety as well as the ecosystem to make it a safe and fun environment for family and friends to enjoy the sport of 4 wheeling whether it be hard core rock crawling or just a little trail running.

Than you
Gary D Miller
Timber Tamer Member

Hale, Benjamin (DNR)

From: steven yeager <blackzuk88@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 4, 2020 8:35 PM
To: Hale, Benjamin (DNR)
Subject: Reiter foothills grants

This message has originated from an External Source. Please use caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding to this email. Contact your desktop support or IT security staff for assistance and to report suspicious messages.

Hello, I like and support the idea of Reiter foothills getting the grant money for both enforcement and trail maintenance and building. The 4x4 trail system is top notch, clean, and very well designed. I really enjoy recreating there and volunteering my time to help when I can and really appreciate the park and its people.

Thanks,
Steve Yeager

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United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Olympic National Park
600 East Park Avenue
Port Angeles, Washington 98362-6798

October 20, 2020

Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia WA 98504-0917

Dear Grant Review Team,

I am writing to express support for two grant applications submitted to you by the Olympic Region of Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR). The two projects are the Straits Off Road Vehicle Trail & Facility Maintenance (1997 M) and Olympic Region Education and Enforcement (1998 E). The requested funding will provide the maintenance, visitor information, and education necessary to ensure a safe and enjoyable trail riding experience for all.

The high-quality recreation opportunities provided by these projects will benefit both visitors' to and employees of Olympic National Park. When our community thrives, our park thrives. Indeed, all public lands benefit when recreationists are well informed and supported. The Sadie Creek and the Foothills trail systems provide important opportunities for the recreation community. They are the only designated motorized off-road vehicle areas on the north end of the peninsula.

Olympic National Park supports the Straits Off Road Vehicle Trail and Facility Maintenance Project and the Olympic Region Education and Enforcement Project. The assistance provided by a grant from the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office will greatly benefit the communities of the Olympic Peninsula.

Sincerely,

M. Sarah Creachbaum
Superintendent
Olympic National Park



Clallam County Public Works/Road Department

223 E. Fourth St., Suite 6

Port Angeles, WA 98362-3000

360-417-2290 Fax: 360-417-2513 E-mail: sgray@co.clallam.wa.us

December 3, 2020

**Subject: Department of Natural Resources – Olympic Region
Recreation and Conservation Grant Applications:**
#20 –1997 M - Straits ORV Trail and Facility Maintenance (DNR)
#20 –1998 E – Olympic Region Education and Enforcement (DNR)

Dear Grant Review Team,

The Clallam County Public Works/Road Department supports the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Olympic Region's grant applications for the Straits Off-Road Vehicle (ORV) Trail and Facility Maintenance and the Olympic Region Education and Enforcement (E&E) projects. This requested funding would provide for the necessary maintenance and also support education and enforcement that will help ensure a safe and enjoyable trail riding experience for the public.

The DNR has been a partner with Clallam County to support the regional Olympic Discovery Trail (ODT) that when finished (~ 60% complete) will connect Port Townsend to La Push. Segments of the ODT cross DNR lands. The DNR Olympic Region E&E program grant request helps to protect the public's investment on the ODT in these locations. Trained Wardens provide information, support and education to recreationists and volunteers. They inspect trailheads and facilities during high use periods and assist the DNR Natural Resource Police Officers by enforcing rules and regulations when necessary.

In Clallam County, the DNR Sadie Creek and the Foothills trail systems provide an important service for the ORV recreation community as well as other trail users (e.g., hikers, bicyclists). They are the only designated motorized ORV areas on the north end of the Olympic Peninsula. Both the DNR Straits ORV Trail and Facility Maintenance and the Olympic Region E&E project grant requests will greatly benefit the community and support safe recreational use of these trail systems.

We endorse both of these projects and encourage the RCO to also support the valuable work proposed by DNR, Olympic Region. This assistance will greatly benefit the communities of the North Olympic Peninsula.

Sincerely,



Steve Gray

Transportation Program Manager



LOWER ELWHA KLALLAM TRIBE

ʔéʔtχ^waʔ nəx^wsʔáýəm' "Strong People"

Natural Resources Department (360) 452-4012
760 Stratton Rd.
Port Angeles, WA 98363

10.22.2020

Dear Grant Review Team,

Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe is in support Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Olympic Region's grant applications for the #20 –1997 M - Straits ORV Trail and Facility Maintenance and the #20 –1998 E Olympic Region Education and Enforcement (E&E) funding opportunities. These requested funds would provide for the necessary maintenance that will ensure a safe and enjoyable trail riding experience for the public.

LEKT Usual & Accustom hunting and fishing grounds overlaps with DNR land. Tribal members and LEKT staff utilizes many DNR trails and roads to access traditional hunting grounds and LEKT work sites. LEKT fisheries uses DNR access roads and trails to salmon bearing streams for annual fish surveys. Our revegetation program also uses these trails and roads to access areas under restoration for either native planting or invasive plant removal. Finally, wildlife research staff use DNR roads and trails for collaring and tracking Columbian black-tailed deer and cougars, and for deploying wildlife monitoring cameras.

Sadie Creek and the Foothills trail systems provide an important service for the recreation community, while also providing important access for our various activities. They are the only designated motorized ORV areas on the north end of the Olympic Peninsula. It is important to have this designated area for motorized vehicles. This helps to keep other areas with wildlife and important native plant communities intact and untouched by ORV activities.

The E&E program protects the public's investment in these locations. As the demand grows for outdoor recreation, education is the key to recreating responsibly. Trained Wardens provide information, support, and education to recreationists and volunteers. They inspect trailheads and facilities during high use periods and assist the DNR Natural Resource Police Officers by enforcing rules and regulations when necessary. Maintenance and regulation of these activities are so important to ensure safety and environmental responsibility with ORV's.

Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe endorses these projects and encourages the RCO to also support the valuable work proposed by DNR, Olympic Region. This assistance will greatly benefit the communities of the North Olympic Peninsula.

Sincerely,

Matt Beirne, Natural Resources Director



4x4 and Classic Car Club

1131 Highland Ave
Port Angeles, Wa 98362
(360) 460-4613

October 1, 2020

Department of Natural Resources – Olympic Region
Recreation and Conservation Grant Applications

#20 –1997 M - Straits ORV Trail and Facility Maintenance (DNR)

#20 –1998 E – Olympic Region Education and Enforcement (DNR)

To Whom It May Concern,

We, the members of the Strait Teq club, support the DNR Olympic Region's grant applications for the Straits District Maintenance & Operations and the Straits District Education and Enforcement programs.

Sadie Creek and the Foothills serve an important service for the recreation community. They are the only designated motorized ORV areas on the north end of the Olympic peninsula and draw in users from all over the Northwest.

This requested funding will provide for the necessary maintenance that will insure a safe trail riding experience for the general public. For example, our club has expanded the functionality and use of the Sadie Creek trail system through partnerships with the DNR that would not exist without these grants.

The Education and Enforcement program protects the general public's investment in this location. The education part helps to curb vandalism and littering and educates the public where to recreate and serves as a positive impact for the whole area, enforcement is secondary, but sometimes becomes necessary.

Sincerely,

Bill Vernon, President

Handwritten signature of Bill Vernon in blue ink.

Jeffery Heistand, Vice President

Handwritten signature of Jeffery Heistand in blue ink.



4x4 and Classic Car Club

1131 Highland Ave
Port Angeles, Wa 98362
(360) 460-4613

David Lewis, Secretary

Steven Lewis, Treasurer

Other Supporting Club Members and Volunteers:

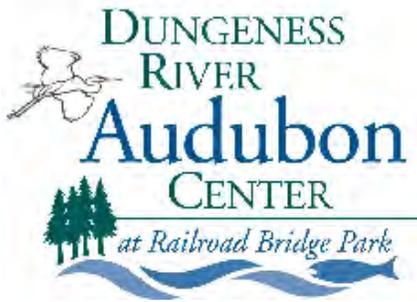
Name (print)

Signature

William Strohmeyer _____

Mike Vernon _____

17 _____



www.dungenessrivercenter.org
rivercenter@olympus.net

P.O. Box 2450, Sequim, WA 98382
360-681-4076

In partnership with the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe (JST), Olympic Peninsula Audubon Society (OPAS) and National Audubon Society

River Center Staff

Powell Jones, Executive Director & Park Manager
Vanessa Fuller, Admin. Services & Development Manager
Jenna Ziogas, Educational & Volunteer Coordinator
Jan Halliday, Donor & Sponsor Engagement
Roger Magee, Visitor Services

Board of Directors

Officers 2020 to July 2021

Laura Dubois, President
Tuttie Peetz, Vice President
Ann Sargent, Secretary, JST
Wanda Schneider, Treasurer

Members

Shirley Anderson
Tom Butler, OPAS
Sara Cendejas-Zarelli
Kendra Donaldson, OPAS
Laura Dubois
Annette Hanson-Poor
Neil Harrington, JST
Les Jones
Darcy McNamara
Mark Megahan
Lyn Muench
Annette Nesse, JST
Ally Simons, OPAS
Ken Wiersema, NAS

November 25, 2020

Department of Natural Resources – Olympic Region Recreation and Conservation Grant Applications:

#20 –1997 M – Straits ORV Trail and Facility Maintenance (DNR)
#20 –1998 E – Olympic Region Education and Enforcement (DNR)

Dear Grant Review Team,

The Dungeness River Audubon Center, and I as a volunteer, support the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR), the Olympic Region's grant applications for both Straits ORV Trail and Facility Maintenance, and the Olympic Region Education and Enforcement (E&E) projects. This requested funding would provide for the necessary maintenance that will ensure a safe and enjoyable trail riding experience for the public.

At both a professional and personal level I work on developing multi-use recreational trails in coordination with DNR, the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe, and Washington State Parks. Our community benefits immensely from the coordinated effort to build and maintain recreational opportunities for residents and from the sustainable economic potential these trails offer over the long term. The management of these public resources must be supported financially to provide public education, maintenance, and enforcement.

The E&E program in particular protects the public's investment in these locations. Trained Wardens provide information, support, and education to recreationists and volunteers. They inspect trailheads and facilities during high use periods and assist the DNR Natural Resource Police Officers by enforcing rules and regulations when necessary.

The Dungeness River Audubon Center and I, Powell Jones, endorse these projects and encourages the RCO to also support the invaluable work proposed by DNR, Olympic Region. This assistance will greatly benefit the communities of the North Olympic Peninsula.

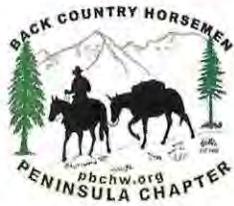
If you would like to speak with me further about my support for the DNR's Olympic Region grant request please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Powell Jones

Powell Jones
Director and Park Manager
Dungeness River Audubon Center
Powell@DungenessRiverCenter.org

*The Dungeness River Audubon Center is a charitable organization.
Membership fees and donations are tax deductible to the extent of the law.
For tax purposes, our 501©3 Federal EIN is 91-1632949.*



October 1, 2020

Recreation and Conservation Grant Applications
 Department of Natural Resources – Olympic Region
 #20 –1997 M - Straits ORV Trail and Facility Maintenance (DNR)
 #20 –1998 E – Olympic Region Education and Enforcement (DNR)

Dear Grant Review Team:

Peninsula Chapter Back Country Horsemen of Washington enthusiastically supports the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Olympic Region’s grant applications for the “Straits ORV Trail and Facility Maintenance” and the “Olympic Region Education and Enforcement” projects. This requested funding would provide for the necessary maintenance that will ensure a safe and enjoyable trail riding experience for the public.

Our organization represents the equestrian recreationalist and we are strong advocates of multi-use trails. We endeavor to keep trails clear and safe for all users, all year long, and our partnership with the Olympic Region’s DNR is one of the most productive and successful toward that end. We wish to preserve equestrian use and have experienced successful collaboration among bicyclists and hikers through education and shared trail projects. ORV users need trails that they can enjoy, too, and this requested funding, which will be used to maintain the Sadie Creek and Foothills trail systems, will enable DNR to maintain an area for them as well as the rest of us. These two trail systems are the only designated motorized ORV areas on the north end of the Olympic Peninsula!

The Education & Enforcement program is critical to successfully support the “multi-use trail society”. It is necessary to protect the public’s investment in these locations. Trained Wardens provide information, support, and education to recreationists and volunteers. They inspect trailheads and facilities during high use periods and assist the DNR Natural Resource Police Officers by enforcing rules and regulations when necessary. Awareness must be heightened, civility must be encouraged.

The Peninsula Chapter BCHW endorses these projects and encourages the RCO to embrace the value of the work proposed by DNR Olympic Region and provide funding. This assistance will greatly benefit the communities of the North Olympic Peninsula.

Sincerely,

Dan Dosey, President
 Peninsula Chapter Back Country Horsemen of Washington
 PO Box 451
 Carlsborg, WA 98324



Mike and Suzy Traband

September 24, 2020

**Department of Natural Resources – Olympic Region
Recreation and Conservation Grant Applications:**

#20 –1997 M - Straits ORV Trail and Facility Maintenance (DNR)

#20 –1998 E – Olympic Region Education and Enforcement (DNR)

Dear Grant Review Team,

Port Angeles Power Equipment, and Mike and Suzy Traband support Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Olympic Region's grant applications for the Straits ORV Trail and Facility Maintenance and the Olympic Region Education and Enforcement (E&E) projects. This requested funding would provide for the necessary maintenance that will ensure a safe and enjoyable trail riding experience for the public.

Mike and I are the owners of Port Angeles Power Equipment, and since our business is directly effected by wether or not the DNR has funding or not, it is important to us and the 25 families we support.

Sadie Creek and the Foothills trail systems provide an important service for the recreation community. They are the only designated motorized ORV areas on the north end of the Olympic peninsula.

The E&E program protects the public's investment in these locations. Trained Wardens provide information, support and education to recreationists and volunteers. They inspect trailheads and facilities during high use periods and assist the DNR Natural Resource Police Officers by enforcing rules and regulations when necessary.

Mike, myself, and Port Angeles Power Equipment endorse these projects and encourages the RCO to also support the valuable work proposed by DNR, Olympic Region. This assistance will greatly benefit the communities of the North Olympic Peninsula.

Sincerely,

Suzy and Mike Traband

Port Angeles Power Equipment

Two Tired Trail Riders - ttTr
Sequim, PortAngeles, Agnew WA

9/26/2020

Department of Natural Resources – Olympic Region
Recreation and Conservation Grant Applications:
#20 –1997 M - Straits ORV Trail and Facility Maintenance (DNR)
#20 –1998 E – Olympic Region Education and Enforcement (DNR)

Dear Grant Review Team,

Our group supports Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Olympic Region's grant applications for the Straits ORV Trail and Facility Maintenance and the Olympic Region Education and Enforcement (E&E) projects. This requested funding would provide for the necessary maintenance that will ensure a safe and enjoyable trail riding experience for the public.

The Two Tired Trail Riders are actively engaged in creating a trials specific riding area within the Foothills ORV Area. Trials riding is slow speed precise operation of purpose built motorbikes with an emphasis on rider balance and body position to clear a designated pathway. In competition a points system exists to track when a rider puts a foot on the ground and so incurs a "point". Trials riding has a large following in Europe and has been steadily gaining popularity in the USA and we are excited to have an opportunity to foster that activity here on the Olympic Peninsula.

Sadie Creek and the Foothills trail systems provide an important service for the ever growing recreation community. They are the only designated motorized ORV areas on the north end of the Olympic peninsula

The E&E program protects the public's investment in these locations. Trained Wardens provide information, support and education to recreationists and volunteers. They inspect trailheads and facilities during high use periods and assist the DNR Natural Resource Police Officers by enforcing rules and regulations when necessary.

Two Tired Trail Riders membership and I endorse these projects and encourages the RCO to also support the valuable work proposed by DNR, Olympic Region. This assistance will greatly benefit the communities of the North Olympic Peninsula.

Sincerely ~ Two Tired Trail Riders (ttTr)

Art Jenkins, Dean Mangiantini, Will Giese, Jeff Mofitt, Jon Rourke, Mark Hollingsworth, Scott Fitzgerald, Justin Snook

Benjamin W. Stanley
118 W. 4th St.
Port Angeles, WA 98362

September 23, 2020

**Department of Natural Resources – Olympic Region
Recreation and Conservation Grant Applications:**

#20 –1997 M - Straits ORV Trail and Facility Maintenance (DNR)

#20 –1998 E – Olympic Region Education and Enforcement (DNR)

Dear Grant Review Team,

I want to express my support for the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Olympic Region’s grant applications for the Straits ORV Trail and Facility Maintenance and the Olympic Region Education and Enforcement (E&E) projects. This requested funding would provide for the necessary maintenance that will ensure a safe and enjoyable trail riding experience for the public.

As the Vice-Chair of the City of Port Angeles Planning Commission, I can attest that the maintenance and expansion of a local and regional trail system connecting Port Angeles residents to recreational opportunities is an explicit priority in our City’s current Comprehensive Plan. The work proposed in these grant applications would help us as we work to satisfy these recreational priorities.

Sadie Creek and the Foothills trail systems provide an important service for the recreation community. They are the only designated motorized ORV areas on the north end of the Olympic peninsula. Further development of the Foothills trail system, in particular, is critical to connect local Port Angeles residents to the Olympic National Park trail system, as well as being an amenity in itself.

The E&E program protects the public’s investment in these locations. Trained Wardens provide information, support and education to recreationists and volunteers. They inspect trailheads and facilities during high use periods and assist the DNR Natural Resource Police Officers by enforcing rules and regulations when necessary. Education and rules enforcement are both critical to increasing the public’s trust in the safety of these resources and thus their ability to use them regularly.

I endorse these projects and encourages the RCO to also support the valuable work proposed by DNR, Olympic Region. This assistance will greatly benefit the communities of the North Olympic Peninsula.

Sincerely,

Benjamin W. Stanley
Vice-Chair, City of Port Angeles Planning Commission



9/23/2020

**Department of Natural Resources – Olympic Region
Recreation and Conservation Grant Applications:**

#20 –1997 M - Straits ORV Trail and Facility Maintenance (DNR)

#20 –1998 E – Olympic Region Education and Enforcement (DNR)

Dear Grant Review Team,

We are writing to indicate our support for Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Olympic Region's grant applications for the Straits ORV Trail and Facility Maintenance and the Olympic Region Education and Enforcement (E&E) projects. This requested funding would provide for the necessary maintenance that will ensure a safe and enjoyable trail riding experience for the public.

The Top Left Trails Co-op is a North Olympic Peninsula based non-profit working to expand mountain biking opportunities for youth, families and visitors to the region through trail building, primarily at the Colville Mountain Bike Skill Park. The NOP benefits from multi-use recreation sites and with that comes the need for Education and Enforcement Wardens to support and educate site users. Their work to inspect trailheads and facilities during high use periods and assist the DNR Natural Resource Police Officers by enforcing rules and regulations when necessary is a key part of keeping these facilities visitor friendly.

Sadie Creek and the Foothills trail systems provide an important service for the recreation community. They are the only designated motorized ORV areas on the north end of the Olympic peninsula. The Foothills trail system is also a great place to ride a mountain bike.

The Top Left Trails Co-op endorses these projects and encourages the RCO to support the work proposed by DNR, Olympic Region. These grants will greatly benefit the communities of the North Olympic Peninsula by keeping outdoor recreation trail systems, trails and facilities well maintained, clean and safe.

Sincerely,

Jeff Berry,
President, Top Left Trails Co-op

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeff Berry". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Two Tired Trail Riders, TTRs

9/19/2020

**Department of Natural Resources – Olympic Region
Recreation and Conservation Grant Applications:**

#20 –1997 M - Straits ORV Trail and Facility Maintenance (DNR)

#20 –1998 E – Olympic Region Education and Enforcement (DNR)

Dear Grant Review Team,

Members of TTRs support Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Olympic Region's grant applications for the Straits ORV Trail Maintenance and the Olympic Region Education and Enforcement (E&E) projects. This requested funding would provide for the necessary maintenance that will ensure a safe and enjoyable trail riding experience for the public.

TTRs volunteers work jointly with the DNR trail workers and independently, to maintain trails, to reduce erosion, and improve safety for trail users. In September 2020, DNR has granted an area in the Foothills trail system to be developed for trials specific use. TTRs members have volunteered to develop this designated area for trials vehicles, to include, gas, electric, and pedal powered. Limited to trials tire tread pattern. This tire tread pattern and the trials vehicles, and how they are ridden have reduced impact on vegetation and erosion concerns in the Foothills riding area. Trials use is a growing segment of off road recreation for the Olympic Peninsula community and will add to economic growth with the increase in trials specific riders and vehicles and hopefully draw trials riders from outside the community to visit and ride this trials area of Foothills ORV trails.

Sadie Creek and the Foothills trail systems provide an important service for the recreation community. They are the only designated motorized ORV areas on the north end of the Olympic peninsula.

The E&E program protects the public's investment in these locations. Trained Wardens provide information, support and education to recreationists and volunteers. They inspect trailheads and facilities during high use periods and assist the DNR Natural Resource Police Officers by enforcing rules and regulations when necessary.

TTRs members endorse these projects and encourages the RCO to also support the valuable work proposed by DNR, Olympic Region. This assistance will greatly benefit the communities of the North Olympic Peninsula.

Sincerely,

Arthur Jenkins
Arthur Jenkins

Two Tired Riders, TTRs, Volunteers

NORTH OLYMPIC Land Trust



Farms • Fish • Forests

602 E. Front St.
P.O. Box 2945 (mailing)
Port Angeles, WA 98362
Phone: (360) 417-1815
NorthOlympicLandTrust.org
info@nolt.org

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*John Willits, emeritus/in
memoriam*

November 3, 2020

Department of Natural Resources – Olympic Region
Recreation and Conservation Grant Application:
#20 –1998 E – Olympic Region Education and Enforcement (DNR)

Dear Grant Review Team,

The North Olympic Land Trust supports Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Olympic Region's grant application for the Olympic Region Education and Enforcement (E&E) project. This requested funding would provide for the necessary maintenance that will ensure a safe and enjoyable trail experience for the public.

North Olympic Land Trust is dedicated to the conservation of open spaces, local food, local resources, healthy watershed and recreational opportunities. We know that projects like this that improve and maintain opportunities to connect and interact with the lands that provide so much meaning to our lives, will only improve the quality of life for our entire community.

The E&E program protects the public's investment in these special places. Trained Wardens provide information and education to recreationists and volunteers. They inspect trailheads and facilities during high use periods and assist the DNR by enforcing rules and regulations when necessary.

North Olympic Land Trust endorses this project and encourages the RCO to also support the valuable work proposed by DNR, Olympic Region. This assistance will greatly benefit the communities of the North Olympic Peninsula.

Sincerely,

Michael Auger
Conservation Director

North Olympic Land Trust
is accountable:



- Sound Finances
- Ethical Conduct
- Responsible Governance
- Lasting Stewardship

Wayne A Fitzwater
1943 West 10th St
Port Angeles, WA 98363

October 15, 2020

Department of Natural Resources - Olympic Region
Recreation and Conservation Grant Applications:
#20-1997 M - Straits ORV Trail and Facility Maintenance (DNR)
#20-1998 E - Olympic Region Education and Enforcement (DNR)

Dear Grant Review Team,

As an independent mountain bike rider I support the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) grant applications: Straits ORV Trail and Facility Maintenance and the Olympic Region Education and Enforcement (E&E) projects. Funding the maintenance grant request would provide a safe and enjoyable trail riding experience through an established, successful long term maintenance program. While funding the E&E grant request will provide the public a safer recreation environment while protecting long term DNR and RCO investments.

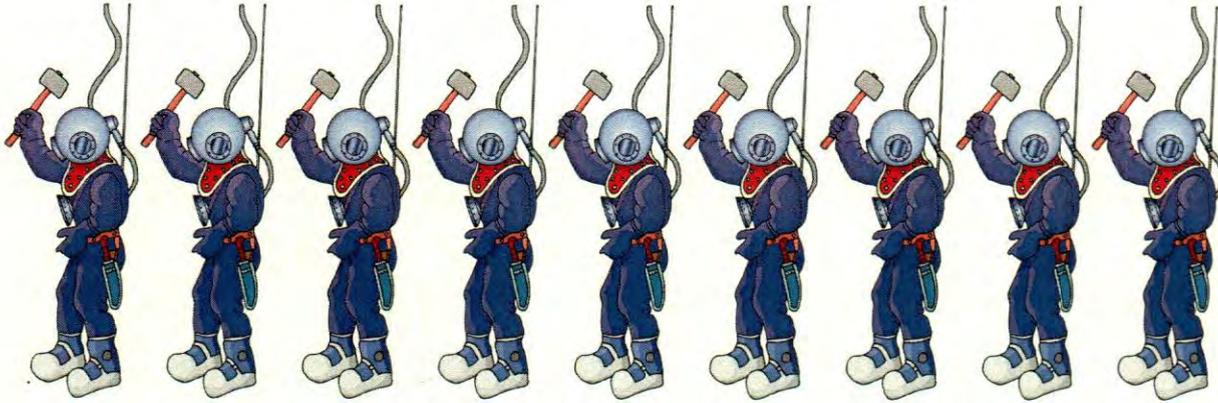
I have personally experienced greatly increased user numbers on the North Olympic Peninsula due to the the Covid pandemic. I have had conversations with trail riders from up and down the Puget trough and from as far away as California who had never ridden here. One couple in particular due to the shut downs and working from home situation were exploring the possibilities of moving to the Port Angeles area and continuing to telecommute. This pressure increases the need for continued maintenance and E&E programs.

Once again I support these grant requests by the DNR's Olympic Region and would encourage RCO's funding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Wayne A. Fitzwater". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Wayne A Fitzwater
Independent mountain bike rider - Port Angeles, WA
360-808-1273



Date: 9-28-2020

**Department of Natural Resources – Olympic Region
Recreation and Conservation Grant Applications:**

#20 –1997 M - Straits ORV Trail and Facility Maintenance (DNR)

#20 –1998 E – Olympic Region Education and Enforcement (DNR)

Dear Grant Review Team,

I, Larry V Gibbs, EX-HCDSDE, do support Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Olympic Region's grant applications for the: Straits ORV Trail and Facility Maintenance and the Olympic Region Education and Enforcement (E&E) projects. This requested funding would provide for the necessary maintenance that will ensure a safe and enjoyable trail riding experience for the public.

As a soon to be retired, EX-HCDSDE, (EX=Used to be) Hairy Chested Deep Sea Diver Extraordinaire, I've been volunteering for several years now, to go to a variety of the areas shooters use, and clean up as much trash & debris as we can... We travel all around the Puget Sound Areas, Sadie Creek and the Foothills trail systems provide an important service for the recreation community. They are the only designated motorized ORV areas on the north end of the Olympic peninsula.

The E&E program protects the public's investment in these locations. Trained Wardens provide information, support and education to recreationists and volunteers. They inspect trailheads and facilities during high use periods and assist the DNR Natural Resource Police Officers by enforcing rules and regulations when necessary.

I do endorse these projects and encourages the RCO to also support the valuable work proposed by DNR, Olympic Region. This assistance will greatly benefit the communities of the North Olympic Peninsula.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Larry V Gibbs

Larry V Gibbs



P.O. Box 372
Sequim, Washington 98382
971-704-1156
info@olympicpeninsulacycling.com

September 23, 2020

**Department of Natural Resources – Olympic Region
Recreation and Conservation Grant Applications:**

#20 –1997 M - Straits ORV Trail and Facility Maintenance (DNR)

#20 –1998 E – Olympic Region Education and Enforcement (DNR)

Dear Grant Review Team,

The Olympic Peninsula Bicycle Alliance (OPBA) supports Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Olympic Region's grant application for the Olympic Region Education and Enforcement (E&E) project. This requested funding would provide for the necessary maintenance that will ensure a safe and enjoyable trail riding experience for the public.

OPBA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit serving the needs and interests of cyclists on the Olympic Peninsula--whether they live here or are just visiting. Our partnership with the DNR Olympic Region has helped expand, improve, and maintain the kind of multi-use trails that cyclists--specifically mountain bikers--love to explore and enjoy.

The Dungeness Trails network in Sequim is just one example of how our members and the larger cycling community we represent have benefitted from this partnership. Just minutes from downtown Sequim, Dungeness Trails has become an extremely popular multi-use trail system and now attracts riders from across the Peninsula as well as the greater Seattle area and points east and south.

The E&E program protects the public's investment in Dungeness Trails as well as other multi-use trail networks in the region. Trained Wardens provide information, support and education to recreationists and volunteers. They inspect trailheads and facilities during high use periods and assist the DNR Natural Resource Police Officers by enforcing rules and regulations when necessary.

OPBA endorses this project and encourages the RCO to also support the valuable work proposed by DNR, Olympic Region. This assistance will greatly benefit the communities of the North Olympic Peninsula.

Sincerely,

Ken Stringer, President



P.O. Box 1836 • Port Angeles, WA 98362
 info@peninsulatrailscoalition.org
 PeninsulaTrailsCoalition.org

Spearheading the Olympic Discovery Trail since 1988
 OlympicDiscoveryTrail.com



9 November 2020

To: Department of Natural Resources – Olympic Region
 Recreation and Conservation Grant Applications
 #20-1997 M – Straits ORV Trail and Facility Maintenance (DNR)
 #20-1998 E – Olympic Region Education and Enforcement (DNR)

To Whom It May Concern,

The Peninsula Trails Coalition (PTC) fully supports the DNR Olympic Region's grant applications for the Straits ORV Trail and Facility Maintenance program and for the Olympic Region Education and Enforcement program. This requested funding would provide for the necessary maintenance that will ensure a safe and enjoyable trail riding experience for the public.

Sadie Creek and the Foothills serve an important role for the recreation community in our area in that they are the only designated motorized ORV areas on the north end of the Olympic Peninsula. While PTC's core mission is to pursue the completion of the Olympic Discovery Trail (ODT) as a non-motorized, multi-modal use trail, we are attuned to the need for trails supporting motorized use. And we believe it is an important form of protection of non-motorized trails to provide quality options elsewhere for motorized use. Further, to the extent that these areas also serve the needs of non-motorized users, we heartily support the critical maintenance required both to provide a quality trail and to ensure maintenance of trail elements that achieve important environmental protections such as slope stability, erosion protection, and similar outcomes.

The Education and Enforcement program protects the general public's investment in DNR-managed trails throughout the North Olympic Peninsula. And among those trails is a critically important single-track trail component of the ODT, the Olympic Adventure Trail (OAT). It is the only currently available version of the ODT from the Elwha River west to Lake Crescent. For many years, this trail has been exceptionally popular, including supporting running events that spin off financial support for the main ODT. And this will continue to be true into the future, even after a lowland ODT route also becomes available for the broader multi-modal use consistent with the overall ODT. Consequently, a meaningful education and enforcement program helps to curb vandalism and littering and educates the public where to recreate, serving as a positive impact for the whole area.

In sum, these two proposals support vitally important functions that are critical to the long-term integrity of major regional trail resources and to the thousands of annual users who enjoy these trails and related facilities. We wholeheartedly endorse them and urge their approval.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jeffrey R. Bohman".

Jeffrey R. Bohman, President

Rebecca Wanagel
Port Angeles, WA citizen and volunteer Chief Crew Leader for Washington Trails Association
October 13, 2020

Department of Natural Resources - Olympic Region
Recreation and Conservation Grant Applications:
#20 -1997 M - Straits ORV Trail and Facility Maintenance (DNR)
#20 -1998 E - Olympic Region Education and Enforcement (DNR)

Dear Grant Review Team:

As a citizen of Port Angeles, WA, and extremely avid user of the outdoor recreation scene, and as a volunteer Chief Crew Leader for Washington Trails Association, I support Washington State Department **of Natural Resources (DNR), Olympic Region's grant applications for the** Straits ORV Trail and Facility Maintenance and the Olympic Region Education and Enforcement (E&E) projects. This requested funding would provide for the necessary maintenance that will ensure a safe and enjoyable trail experience for the public. I feel public access to recreation and exercise in the outdoors is critical to the health and well-being of a community.

As a leader of volunteer trail crews, I am directly responsible for helping with the maintenance of existing trails and building of new ones. At this moment I have been leading crews on a long-term project to add about 2-1/2 miles of trail to DNR land to transform an existing one-way trail into a loop. There are not many loop trails available in this region. This will be an incredibly special experience for users when it's done. We are building this trail for multi-use: hikers, horse riders, mountain bikers and runners will enjoy this trail forevermore, as long as it gets maintained once it is completed. True to WTA form, we are building this trail to the highest standards. In that process, we get many new volunteers and we teach them all how to build quality trails and how important maintenance is down the road. So there is a lot of education involved with our trail work.

The E&E program **protects the public's investment in these locations. Trained Wardens provide** information, support and education to recreationists and volunteers. They inspect trailheads and facilities during high use periods and assist the DNR Natural Resource Police Officers by enforcing rules and regulations when necessary. Since I maintain trails all over the Olympic National Park and Olympic National Forest, I have seen firsthand what happens to trails when they get abused due to lack of education or investment in our recreational resources.

I endorse these projects and encourage the RCO to also support the valuable work proposed by DNR, Olympic Region. This assistance will greatly benefit the communities of the North Olympic Peninsula. And as a side note, I will say that throughout this project of building our new trail, I have been incredibly impressed by the unwavering support I get from DNR in creating this recreational opportunity. DNR also has our local gem of a trail, the Olympic Adventure Route, also going through public lands. That trail has become known nationwide and is one of the prides of our community. Projects like these allow trails like that to happen and strengthen our community immeasurably.

Sincerely,
Rebecca Wanagel

LLOYD WOESLAGLE
FOREST WATCH GROUP VOLUNTEER
STRIPED PEAK
PORT ANGELES, WA. 98363

10/9/20

Department of Natural Resources - Olympic Region Recreation and Conservation Grant Application:
#20 - 1997 M - Straits ORV Trail and Facility Maintenance (DNR)
#20 - 1998 E - Olympic Region Education and Enforcement (DNR)

Dear Grant Review Team,

My name is Lloyd Woieslagle and I am a Forest Watch Group Volunteer. I support the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Olympic Regions grant application for the Straits ORV Trail and Facility Maintenance and the Olympic Region Education and Enforcement (E&E) Projects. This requested funding would provide for the necessary maintenance that will ensure a safe and enjoyable trail riding experience for the public.

The Striped Peak Recreational Area provides access for hunting, horseback riding, ORV trails, hiking, automobile sightseeing and camping.

The Forest Watch Group Volunteers help maintain the following areas:

ACCESS: We report signage which needs repaired, replaced, or improved. We also replace locks on gates which block automobile access to trails reserved for ORV use.

SAFTEY: We report unsafe ORV operators. We also report shooting in areas which would endanger ORV operators. ORV operators are encouraged to wear bright clothing during hunting season. We have helped drivers with incapacitated ORV's by opening locked gates for their trucks and trailers, helping to load these for their safe return home.

COMMUNICATION: We communicate with Wardens and DNR Police Officers informing them of trailhead problems, laws, and or safety rules that are in the process of being violated.

I, Lloyd Woieslagle and the Forest Watch Group Volunteers endorse these projects and trust the RCO to also support the necessary work proposed by DNR, Olympic Region. The outdoor enthusiasts of the North Olympic Region will be grateful for the benefits they will receive.

Sincerely,



Lloyd Woieslagle
Forest Watch Group



October 28, 2020

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Letter of Support for USFS Olympic National Forest Hood Canal Ranger District's NOVA Grant Request

Dear RCO Review Committee:

Peninsula Chapter Back Country Horsemen of Washington strongly supports the **Olympic National Forest Hood Canal Ranger District's** bid for the **Education and Enforcement-Non-Highway and Off-Road Vehicle Activities Program** grant funding. This requested support will provide for new visitor education and enforcement here on the ONF. This new funding will fill ranger and intern positions dedicated to providing guidance in "Leave No Trace" and wilderness ethics, both in the field and in the classroom. Educating and supporting the recreating public is critical to the protection of the Forest.

Our organization is a strong advocate of multi-use trails. For many years, we have endeavored to keep ONF trails clear and safe for all users, including equestrians, all year long. This past year during our trail maintenance and pack trips, we have observed a shocking increase in litter and human waste in the wilderness. We recognize that this is a result of increased use but more significantly it is due to novice hikers and campers. These trail users need guidance—and toward that end, ONF needs staff to be present in order to provide instruction and support—and sometimes discipline. Funding for education and enforcement is fundamental to the preservation of the Forest and to the nurturing of civility in our out-of-doors. It is important to the surrounding communities for whom the Forest is an extension of their home. We applaud the Hood Canal Ranger District for their foresight and look forward to assisting them as they execute their plans.

Peninsula Chapter BCHW wholeheartedly endorses this project and encourages RCO to embrace the value of Hood Canal Ranger District's efforts to develop the public's abilities to safely and responsibly enjoy our Olympic National Forest front and back country resources.

Sincerely,

Tom Mix, Trail Project Director
Peninsula Chapter Back Country Horsemen of Washington
PO Box 451
Carlsborg, WA 98324

October 27, 2020

Nicholette Burtis
Olympic National Forest, Hood Canal and Pacific Ranger Districts
295142 Highway 101 S.
Quilcene, WA 98376

Dear Nicholette,

On behalf of Washington Trails Association, I am pleased to offer our strong support for your RCO funding application for both a community outreach coordinator and a wilderness ranger on the forest.

- 20-2162 EDU: Olympic National Forest Community Outreach and Education

Washington Trails Association has a more than 50-year legacy of engaging the hiking community. WTA enhances hiking experiences in Washington state by empowering a diverse and growing community of hikers to explore, steward and protect trails and public lands. WTA is the nation's largest state-based trail maintenance and hiking advocacy nonprofit organization, with more than 24,000 member households and an online community of more than 100,000. Each year almost 4,500 WTA volunteers perform over 160,000 hours of trail maintenance across the state.

The Olympic National Forest has many amazing and unique recreational opportunities that draw people from across the state and beyond. The Forest has seen a steady and rapid increase in both frontcountry and backcountry use. As the number of folks enjoying the outdoors has expanded so have the issues that can be detrimental to both user enjoyment and the natural resources of the Forest. Better educated visitors can help reduce environmental impacts and user conflicts. The two positions to be funded, community outreach coordinator and wilderness ranger, will both focus on user education and the result will be improvements to both the environment and user experience on the Forest. While WTA volunteers are committed to helping keep the Olympic National Forest trails in good shape, we are also supportive of your education program for both frontcountry and backcountry settings.

We know how important RCO funds are to your ongoing work to steward these public resources. WTA is once again pleased to support you - not only with the sweat equity of our volunteers, but also with this official endorsement.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrea J. Imler", written over a light blue rectangular background.

Andrea Imler, Advocacy Director



HUXLEY COLLEGE OF THE ENVIRONMENT
Environmental Science 539 • MS 9079
516 High Street, Bellingham, Washington 98225
360-650-3520 - Fax 360-650-2842 - www.wvu.edu/huxley

October 28, 2020

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office

Dear Funding Board Members,

It is with significant enthusiasm that Huxley College of the Environment at Western Washington University expresses support for the Olympic National Forest Hood Canal Ranger District in their application for a grant to support education and outreach efforts for wilderness and trails in the Olympic National Forest.

As a partner, Western Washington University commits to recruiting students for internship positions, allowing college students to play key roles in efforts to provide environmental outreach and education efforts in our State and National Parks. This partnership provides university students with hands-on educational field experiences and meaningful professional skill building opportunities working with local youth, teachers, school districts, and various other partners. We commit to continuing to partner in this grant application in hopes that they are awarded funds to continue to create active and knowledgeable citizens in our local forests, while offering real world experiences for young college professionals in their community-based environmental education program.

We fully support the Hood Canal Ranger Districts proposal. We greatly value our strategic partnership and long standing support for internship program by their organization.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Edward V. Weber".

Edward V. Weber
Huxley Graduate Program/Internship Advisor

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steven J. Hollenhorst".

Steven J. Hollenhorst
Professor and Dean

October 31, 2020
3110 Hampton Drive SW
Tumwater, WA 98512

Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-09171

RE: Support for Community Engagement and Education position within Olympic National Forest
Wilderness Ranger position for the NOVA-Education and the NOVA-Trails

Dear Recreation and Conservation Funding Board:

As the Conservation and Stewardship Committee Co-Chair for the Olympia Branch of The Mountaineers, I am very delighted and hearten to be writing in support of the Olympic National Forest pursuit of NOVA funding for a Community Engagement and Education position and for funding to support of a Wilderness Ranger position. I am writing because I believe that I and my Mountaineer colleagues have considerable firsthand knowledge on the need for such positions. A Community Engagement position could effectively mobilize untapped local community support for outdoor recreation and forest health projects. A Wilderness Ranger position could add much needed visitor education to prevent the emerging harmful impacts of increased recreational use.

The Mountaineers is one of the nation's oldest and largest volunteer-led nonprofit organizations devoted to helping people explore, conserve, learn about, and enjoy the lands and waters of the Pacific Northwest and beyond. Mountaineers travel and explore parts of the Olympic National Forest nearly every weekend. Our members appreciate that our nation's public lands offer ideal if not irreplaceable sites for mountaineering, alpine scrambling, hiking, backpacking, and exploring natural wonders. For this reason we gladly join and lead work parties that volunteer in the forest. There is considerable work that volunteers can and have shouldered. Equally noteworthy is the fact that we are frequently asked by forest visitors: ***"How can I volunteer here in the Forest?"***

Trail oriented organizations, such as The Mountaineers, WTA, BCHA and others eagerly seek out opportunities to volunteer. Recruiting any additional volunteers, however, will require far more time and resources than the ONF can devote. We are witness to lack the capacity to engage with and educate all these new visitors. Furthermore we are often witness to the impacts of outdoor enthusiasts who either don't understand or don't care that their behavior can leave a scar on the land that lasts more than a lifetime. A Wilderness Ranger, devoted to educating the public on Leave No Trace and wilderness ethics would have long-term positive impacts on the forest.

Sincerely,

Jim French

Jim French
The Mountaineers – Olympia Branch
Conservation Committee Co-Chair

October 28, 2020

To Whom It May Concern:

The Buckhorn Range Chapter of the Back Country Horsemen of Washington enthusiastically support the request by the Olympic National Forest (ONF) for a grant to fund staff assistance that would provide education and outreach including back country and Wilderness support.

Due to the changing habits of Americans seeking closer to home recreation as a result of the current health risks of long distance travel, the ONF has seen an increase in campers seeking public land places to stay, overflowing campgrounds and filling dispersed sites such as trailheads and turnarounds. This has led to issues for local trail users, particularly equestrians, who discovered their normal use areas are now crowded with inexperienced visitors. We strongly support efforts by the ONF to be able to meet increased visitation impacts while also being proactive with management of regular maintenance as well as trail and youth crews in both the front and back country.

Buckhorn Range Chapter members have been engaged in ONF trails maintenance and volunteerism on the north Olympic Peninsula since 2002. Our organization has a strong educational and Leave No Trace program that leads to good stewardship of our public lands. We are also active in the local county with events at community fairs and meetings that engage public participation. One significant desire we have is see the Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail completed across Jefferson County and through the Buckhorn Wilderness of the Olympic National Forest, the Olympic National Park, and out to the Pacific Ocean. This requires a collaborative process with all the agencies including those that manage the Olympic Discovery Trail which shares the route over part of the Olympic Peninsula. The ONF needs to have sufficient resources to be part of the public engagement process to address the many issues for this major trail across the Pacific Northwest and its mountains and forests.

We truly appreciate this and other efforts by the ONF to further build a safe and active recreation program on the Olympic Peninsula.

Thank you,
Jeff Chapman, Buckhorn Range Chapter Director
Back Country Horsemen of Washington
bbbranch@olympus.net 360-385-6364



BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF WASHINGTON
PO Box 1132
ELLENSBURG, WA 98926
WWW.BCHW.ORG

October 22, 2020

Hello NOVA Grant Committee,

The members of Tahoma Chapter of Back Country Horsemen of Washington (BCHW) are writing you to express our support for the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO), Non-Highway and Off-Road Vehicle Activities Program (NOVA) grant application Number 20-2061 EDU “SE Region Education and Enforcement North” submitted by the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Southeast Region. This grant request will authorize a full time position for a Recreation Warden to perform education and enforcement activities in Kittitas, Chelan and Grant Counties, in the State of Washington. This position and its’ associated materials and tools, is of great importance to the many users of the recreational resources in this area. We see and experience the backlogs created by inadequate funding, and appreciate that needed support can be made available through NOVA funded resources.

Although Tahoma Chapter BCHW is based in King County of Washington State, we actively recreate with our horses and mules regularly on DNR lands in the region. The Teanaway Community Forest and are some of our favorite places where we love to camp and ride.

Back Country Horsemen of Washington (BCHW) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit service organization established with the goal of keeping public lands open for recreational use with horses and mules. We are part of a national organization, Back Country Horsemen of America. By providing hands-on trail maintenance and education on the proper use of stock on public lands to horse and mule owners throughout the state, we support the recreational interests and goals of the Washington State Department of Natural Resources.

Please help us recreate safely with our horses and mules by approving this WADNR grant request.

Best regards,
 s/ Mary Kane
 Mary Kane
 Director, Tahoma Chapter
 Back Country Horsemen of Washington
ranchomariamv@gmail.com
 425 466 3840

Back Country Horsemen of Washington (BCHW), is a 501 (c) (3) organization with 33 chapters across the state dedicated to: keeping trails open for all users; educating horse users in Leave-No-Trace practices; and providing volunteer service to resource agencies.



Washington Trails Association

705 Second Avenue, Suite 300, Seattle WA 98104 • 206.625.1367 • wta.org

October 12, 2020

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Letter of Support for NOVA Grant #20-2061 EDU Southeast Region Education & Enforcement North & #20-2182 EDU Southeast Region Education & Enforcement South

Dear RCO Grant Review Committee:

I am writing on behalf of Washington Trails Association to express our enthusiastic support of Washington State Department of Natural Resources' (DNR's) NOVA Education & Enforcement proposals for Recreation Wardens that will patrol the Southeast Region for DNR.

Washington Trails Association has a more than 50-year legacy of engaging the hiking community. WTA enhances hiking experiences in Washington state by empowering a diverse and growing community of hikers to explore, steward and protect trails and public lands. WTA is the nation's largest state-based trail maintenance and hiking advocacy nonprofit organization, with more than 24,000 member households and an online community of more than 100,000. Each year almost 4,500 WTA volunteers perform over 160,000 hours of trail maintenance across the state.

Washington's public lands are experiencing tremendous growth in visitorship – the DNR lands in the Southeast Region, including Kittitas, Yakima, Grant and Chelan counties -- are no exception. With this growth in people heading out for their non-motorized and motorized recreation activities, there is a need for a larger DNR presence to help educate users on how to recreate responsibly, identify problem areas and mitigate the issues.

DNR's Recreation Wardens will patrol incredibly popular areas, including the Teanaway Community Forest, Naneum Ridge State Forest and Ahtanum State Forest. WTA is supportive of the two grants that cover the Southeast Region:

- **#20-2061 EDU Southeast Region Education & Enforcement North**
Teanaway Community Forest, Naneum Ridge State Forest, dispersed recreation on other DNR blocks
3 campgrounds, 3 day use areas, 1 trailhead, 11 miles trail
- **#20-2182 EDU Southeast Region Education & Enforcement South**
Ahtanum State Forest, dispersed recreation on other DNR blocks (Wenas, Rattlesnake, etc)
7 campgrounds, 2 day use areas, 3 trailheads, 23 miles trail

WTA considers DNR to be a vital partner in the stewardship of public lands. We fully support DNR in their ongoing work to provide enjoyable and sustainable recreation opportunities for a wide range of users.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice our support for this important project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrea J. Imler", written in a cursive style.

Andrea Imler
Advocacy Director
Washington trails Association
aimler@wta.org

FRIENDS OF THE TEANAWAY



October 10, 2020

To Whom It May Concern:

Friends of the Teanaway is a non-profit, community-based, volunteer organization devoted to encouraging responsible stewardship of the Teanaway River Valley.

<http://www.friendsoftheteanaway.org/>

Since the creation of the Teanaway Community Forest in 2013, we have witnessed the ever increasing popularity of this unique community resource with hikers, mountain bikers, horse riders, fishermen, hunters and snowmobilers. The popularity of the forest has resulted in increasing congestion and an increasing number of cases of bad behavior in campgrounds, in parking areas and on trails. Of particular concern are campers who do not fully appreciate the danger of wildfire in this heavily wooded area and sometimes do not heed the burn ban orders which are becoming more common here during summer months. FOTT members have sought to help protect against wildfire by informally patrolling camp grounds and watching for fire hazards, but we do not see this as an effective or sustainable long-term solution.

Friends of the Teanaway enthusiastically supports the Department of Natural Resources' application for funding of an Education & Enforcement Warden to patrol DNR lands in Kittitas, Grant and Chelan Counties, an area including the Teanaway Community Forest (TCF).

Sincerely;

The FOTT Board of Directors:

Pam Henry

Patrick McGowan

Chuck Adams

Barb Hamel

Pico Cantieni

Rocky Higgins



October 29, 2020

Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: 20-2061 EDU Southeast Region Education & Enforcement North

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

The Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance (Evergreen MBA) strongly supports DNR's request for funding to support the hiring of new Recreation Wardens. The Teanaway Community Forest and Naneum Ridge State Forests are important recreation destinations and have been experiencing significant growth in use in recent years. With funding from 20-2061 EDU, Recreation Wardens will focus on identifying potential health, safety and resource damage concerns, providing public outreach, engaging user groups and providing an additional enforcement presence on the landscapes. The position will also support Forest Watch volunteers in efforts to educate forest visitors about rules, regulations and principals of good stewardship. It is critical that DNR receives this funding, to continue to maintain and operate facilities to a high service level, to minimize environmental impact, and to ensure continued visitor safety.

DNR and Evergreen have partnered to build and maintain mountain bike trails in both the Teanaway Community Forest and the Naneum State Forest for years. The local Kittitas Chapter has provided thousands of valuable volunteer match hours within the corridor over the past decade. Without this funding, the much-loved public lands and recreational resources in these forests could fall into disrepair.

Evergreen is the nation's largest mountain bike organization with over 7,900 members and more than 65,000 social media followers. We are dedicated to trail building and maintenance, as well as volunteerism, education, advocacy, community building, and youth participation, and look forward to assisting DNR to maintain the unique and popular trails of the Southeast Region.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Yvonne Kraus", written over a horizontal line.

Yvonne Kraus
Executive Director



President
Tod McDonald (*), Co-Founder
Valid8 Financial

President-Elect
Eric Artz (*), EVP/COO
REI Co-op

Founding President
Jim Ellis, Chairman Emeritus
Washington State Convention Center

Immediate Past President
Kurt Fraese (*), Fraese and Associates

Secretary
Josh M. Lipsky(*), Partner
Cascadia Law Group PLLC

Treasurer, Operations Committee Chair
Jason Broenneke (*), Partner
KPMG LLP

Fundraising Committee Chair
Ken Krivanec (*), President
Quadrant Homes

Board Engagement Committee Chair
Marie Quasius(*), Attorney
K&L Gates LLP

Program Committee Chair
Doug McClelland (X*), Former Assistant Region Manager
Washington State Department of Natural Resources

Executive Director
Jon Hoekstra (*)
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust

20-2061 NOVA EE #25

October 15, 2020

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: DNR NOVA E&E Applications, 20-2061 EDU Southeast Region Education & Enforcement North and 20-2182 EDU Southeast Region Education & Enforcement South

To Whom it May Concern;

On behalf of the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust, we are writing in support of the Washington Department of Natural Resources, Southeast Regional Office's request for RCO NOVA E&E funding to hire year-round Recreational Wardens.

The Greenway Trust convenes and leads a broad coalition of conservation groups, community leaders, local governments, agencies, and businesses. We work to conserve and enhance the landscape from Seattle to Central Washington, and to engage people as stewards of these lands and waters. Our goals strongly align with those of our partners at DNR's SE Region: the health and resiliency of working forests, protection of habitat and its connectivity, and maintenance of public recreation opportunities.

Bringing on Recreation Wardens to perform education and enforcement activities serves all those goals. The mountains, trails, lakes, and rivers of Kittitas County attract thousands of visitors each year, providing human and machine-powered recreation opportunities for every season. In recent years, but particularly during COVID-19, local public lands have been flooded with new and returning users. Land managers and nonprofits alike have struggled to meet their needs. Recreation Wardens will not only identify potential health, safety, and resource damage concerns, they also serve as educators and points-of-contact for recreators. They are an important face for the agency, engaging users in conversation about rules, regulations, and the principals of stewardship. Their work complements the Greenway's own, and will both humanize DNR and strengthen its ties with the communities bordering its managed lands

For these and many other reasons, the Greenway Trust supports this important application. Please do not hesitate to reach out to us should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Jon Hoekstra
Executive Director

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Erin Anderson, Partner, Stoel Rives LLP
Sally Bagshaw (X), Councilmember, City of Seattle
Jim Becker, Retired, Founder, SmartLab Toys and becker&mayer!
Laurie Benson (X), South Puget Sound Assistant Region Manager for Conservation, Recreation, and Transactions, Washington State Department of Natural Resources
Gary Berndt, Wildland Fire Liaison, Washington State Department of Natural Resources
Mark Boyar (*), President, Middle Fork Outdoor Recreation Coalition
Kevin Brown, Director, King County Parks & Recreation
Susan Carlson, Board Chair, E3 Washington
Bill Chapman (*), Past President, Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust
Dow Constantine (X), King County Executive
Kitty Craig, Deputy Director, Washington Program, The Wilderness Society
Karl Forsgaard, Manager of Implementations, Thomson Reuters; Alpine Lakes Protection Society
Hilary Franz (X), Commissioner of Public Lands, Washington State Department of Natural Resources
Ava Frisinger, Former Mayor, City of Issaquah
Kari Glover, Retired, Global Integration Partner, K&L Gates
Don Hoch (X), Director, Washington State Parks & Recreation Commission
Laura Hoffman, Owner, Copper Ridge Farm; Senior Director, Microsoft
Angela Jin, Community Wrangler, Automattic Inc.
Cora Johnson, Geotechnical Engineer, GeoEngineers
Andrew Kenefick, Senior Legal Counsel, Waste Management of Washington, Inc.
Jamie Kingsbury (X), Supervisor, USFS Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest
Janet N. Knox, Principal Environmental Geochemist, Pacific Groundwater Group
Ken Konigsmark, Issaquah Alps Trails Club
Yvonne Kraus, Executive Director, Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance
Danny Levine, President, NationAd Communications
Sharon Linton, Marketing Consultant, SL Connects
Lorna Luebbe, Assistant General Counsel/Director Environment Program Services, Puget Sound Energy
Elizabeth Lunney, former Greenway Trust Executive Director
Robert Manelski, Senior Director, 787 Program, The Boeing Company
Gordon McHenry, Jr. (*), President & CEO, Solid Ground
Roger Millar (X), Secretary of Transportation, Washington State Department of Transportation
Chad Nesland, Director, Microsoft Procurement
Mary Norton, Meadowbrook Farm Preservation Association
Thomas O'Keefe, Pacific NW Stewardship Director, American Whitewater
David Patton, Northwest Area Director, The Trust for Public Land
Julia Parrish, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, College of Environment, University of Washington
Kizz Prusia, Project Associate, Triangle Associates
Charles Raines, Director Cascade Checkerboard Project, Sierra Club
Janet Ray, Retired, Assistant VP, Corporate Affairs & Publishing, AAA Washington
Jim Reinhardtsen (*), Principal & Senior Managing Director, HEARTLAND LLC
Floyd Rogers, Environmental Advocate
Vik Sahney, The Mountaineers; American Alpine Club
Jill Simmons, Executive Director, Washington Trails Association
Al Smith, Partner, Perkins Coie LLP
David Sturtevant, Retired, Vice President, CH2M Hill
Maryanne Tagney, Community at Large Representative
Chris Thomas, Senior Vice President, Government Market Head, Property & Buildings Sector, WSP USA
Harry Thomas, Chief Marketing Officer, AAA Washington
Leah Tivoll, Organizational Performance Manager, City Budget Office, Seattle
Mike Williams (X), Supervisor, USFS Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest
Kathy Williams, Retired, Former Senior Vice President, HomeStreet Bank
Joel Yoker, Principal Program Manager, Microsoft; Snoqualmie Valley Youth Activities and Community Center

(* Executive Committee Member
(X) Ex-Officio (non-voting) Director



Mountain to Sound Greenway Trust
(206) 890-1474
jon.hoekstra@mtsgreenway.org

and

Nicky Pasi

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nicky Pasi". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "N" and a distinct "Pasi" at the end.

Upper Yakima Basin Community Coordinator
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust
(509) 656-4073
nicky.pasi@mtsgreenway.org

Allen, Peter (DNR)

From: Lanz, Sam (DNR)
Sent: Saturday, November 21, 2020 7:08 AM
To: Allen, Peter (DNR)
Subject: Fwd: Grant funding

Sam Lanz
WA DNR, Belfair
360.801.0171

Begin forwarded message:

From: lynn holste <lisaholste@icloud.com>
Date: November 20, 2020 at 7:45:34 PM PST
To: "Lanz, Sam (DNR)" <Sam.Lanz@dnr.wa.gov>
Subject: Grant funding

This message has originated from an External Source. Please use caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding to this email. Contact your desktop support or IT security staff for assistance and to report suspicious messages.

11/20/2020

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Re: Grant Projects 20-1999 and 20-1957

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support of DNR's proposal to the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office to support Grant Projects 20-1999 and 20-1957.

Thank you and I hope that you will also support this project.

Sincerely,

Lisa Holste
Trail user

Sent from my iPhone

Allen, Peter (DNR)

From: "Hank or Susan Anderson" <hank-susan@wavecable.com>
Sent: Friday, December 18, 2020 4:43 PM
To: Allen, Peter (DNR)
Subject: Kitsap Peninsula Mycological Society Board supports 5 RCO grant applications

This message has originated from an External Source. Please use caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding to this email. Contact your desktop support or IT security staff for assistance and to report suspicious messages.

Washington State Recreation & Conservation Funding Board PO Box 40917 Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Grant Applications #20-1957, #20-1983, #20-1999, #20-2003, #20-2218

Dear Washington State Recreation & Conservation Funding Board,

The board of the Kitsap Peninsula Mycological Society fully supports all 5 of the grant submissions by the South Puget Sound District DNR Office & the KPMS board has requested us to submit this letter of endorsement. Currently, KPMS has a membership of 210 households. Members are avid outdoor enthusiasts who strongly believe in conservation & are not only interested in foraging & studying fungi, but are also hikers, runners, cyclists, campers, & photographers. The funding of these 5 grants will ensure the responsible, safe, continued operation, & maintenance of our local public lands entrusted to the staff of the SPS District Belfair office. Of special importance is that these grants will help to fund the salaries of vital DNR personnel. These persons provide a critical & increasingly important interface between the public & DNR policy. They are imperative to ensure safe, responsible public recreation which in turn supports conservation of treasured public lands.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Susan & Hank Anderson
Silverdale, WA
KPMS Representatives to the Green Mt/Tahuya Forests Recreation Focus Group



**KITSAP
PENINSULA
MYCOLOGICAL
SOCIETY**

November 7th, 2020

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Re: Grant Project # 20-1957, 20-1983, 20-1999, 20-2003, 20-2218

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

I am writing on behalf of **Kitsap Peninsula Mycological Society**, to express our enthusiastic support of DNR's proposal to the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office to support Grant Project # **20-1957, 20-1983, 20-1999, 20-2003, 20-2218**. Our club takes great pride in our forays onto green mountain. Not only are we taking advantage of the great fungi that are produced in the area but we also help with the cleaning of any trash and debris left by others. I've had some of my best days on green mountain with our club looking for chanterelles and other delicious mushrooms. My hope is to be able to go back to our favorite picking spots year after year and experience the same joys as the previous outing. With this grant that dream will become much closer to reality. Me and my mother also enjoy our hikes on the various trails and my dogs love hiking the mountain in the summer time for its great views.

Thank you and we hope that you will also support this project.

Sincerely,

Harper Hibbs

November 4th, 2020

To: Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Re: Grant Project # 20-1999 - Tahuya, Green Mountain Education and Enforcement

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

As the Land Use Advocate for the Bremerton Cruisers Motorcycle Club I would like to express our support for the 20-1999 - Tahuya, Green Mountain Education and Enforcement grant request. Without continued E&E support, it would be very difficult to keep this very popular and busy recreation area open.

Sadly this very popular area is receiving more and more traffic from an element of society that is not here to recreate and has little to no respect for the forest or its users. This makes the presence of E&E that much more important for both the safety of the users and the protection of the resources in these forests and facilities.

Also the education aspect is critical in educating the growing number of folks that are new to using public lands to get outdoors, they need to be educated how to enjoy the lands while respecting it and the other users.

This is the only public ORV recreation site open in the region during the winter, and it receives as many as 500 to 700 visitors a day during the weekends. Not only does this grant provide necessary support to the ORV community, it also provides safety to all of the other users of these forests. It also provides a very necessary level of law enforcement required to protect the state's assets that the forest contains.

Please support this very important grant for the long-term health and safety of the Tahuya/Green Mountain area and its users.

Thank you,
Steve DeCoy
Bremerton Cruisers Motorcycle Club Land Use Advocate
NMA Land Use Representative
Tahuya/Green Mountain Focus Group Member
Tahuya/Green Mountain Long Range Planning Team Member

Robert and Kirstin Johnston
4228 FIR DR NE
BREMERTON, WA 98310

12/11/2020

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Re: Grant Projects # 20-1957, 20-1983, 20-1999, 20-2003, 20-2218

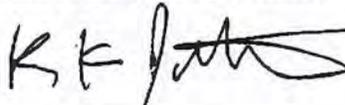
Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

I am writing to express our enthusiastic support of DNR's proposal to the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office to support Grant Projects # 20-1957, 20-1983, 20-1999, 20-2003, 20-2218 that will support the care and maintenance of Department of Natural Resource lands on the Kitsap Peninsula. We love the forests on the Kitsap Peninsula and cherish the time that we spend hiking, mushroom hunting, mountain biking, and enjoying the views of the landscape. These lands also provide invaluable natural capital that supports wildlife, clean air, clean water, and carbon storage.

Thank you and we hope that you will also support these projects.

Sincerely,

Robert K. and Kirstin D. Johnston

 & 
Member Board member (VP)
Kitsap Peninsula Mycology Society

20-1999 E Tahuya, Green Mountain Education and Enforcement

I support this "E & E" grant which funds the Education and Enforcement Trail Steward salary, as well as the purchase of materials and equipment for education activities, patrols and informational signage

Greg Foote
Quadra Paws 4x4 Club Member

Allen, Peter (DNR)

From: Lanz, Sam (DNR)
Sent: Thursday, November 19, 2020 10:38 AM
To: Allen, Peter (DNR); Aschenbrenner, Andy (DNR)
Subject: FW: Grant Project 20-1999 and 20-1957
Attachments: Hanging decorations.jpg

Sam Lanz
WA DNR, Belfair
360.801.0171

From: Denny Phillips <hiphippo1@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 7:29 PM
To: Lanz, Sam (DNR) <Sam.Lanz@dnr.wa.gov>
Subject: Re: Grant Project 20-1999 and 20-1957

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11/16/2020
Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
PO Box 40917
Olympia, Wa 98504-0917
Re: Grant Project 20-1999 and 20-1957

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,
I am writing to express my enthusiastic support of DNR's proposal to the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office to support Grant Projects 20-1999 and 20-1957.

Thank you and I hope that you will also support this project.

Sincerely

Nancy R. Phillips

Allen, Peter (DNR)

From: Lanz, Sam (DNR)
Sent: Thursday, November 19, 2020 10:38 AM
To: Aschenbrenner, Andy (DNR); Allen, Peter (DNR)
Subject: FW: Grant Projects 20-1999 and 20-1957

Sam Lanz
WA DNR, Belfair
360.801.0171

From: Erin Shea <eshea717@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 3:13 PM
To: Lanz, Sam (DNR) <Sam.Lanz@dnr.wa.gov>
Subject: Re: Grant Projects 20-1999 and 20-1957

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Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support of DNR's proposal to the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office to support Grant Projects 20-1999 and 20-1957. These grants help support some of my favorite local trails which are a huge asset to our community!

Thank you and I hope that you will also support this project.

Sincerely,
Erin Shea
Bremerton, WA

Allen, Peter (DNR)

From: Lanz, Sam (DNR)
Sent: Thursday, November 19, 2020 10:37 AM
To: Aschenbrenner, Andy (DNR); Allen, Peter (DNR)
Subject: FW: Grant Projects 20-1999 and 20-1957

Sam Lanz
WA DNR, Belfair
360.801.0171

From: Jessica Andrews <jessifer1130@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 9:54 AM
To: Lanz, Sam (DNR) <Sam.Lanz@dnr.wa.gov>
Subject: Grant Projects 20-1999 and 20-1957

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11/17/2020

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Re: Grant Projects 20-1999 and 20-1957

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support of DNR's proposal to the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office to support Grant Projects 20-1999 and 20-1957.

Thank you and I hope that you will also support this project.

Sincerely,

Jessica Andrews

Allen, Peter (DNR)

From: Lanz, Sam (DNR)
Sent: Thursday, November 19, 2020 10:38 AM
To: Allen, Peter (DNR); Aschenbrenner, Andy (DNR)
Subject: FW: Grant Projects 20-1999 and 20-1957

Sam Lanz
WA DNR, Belfair
360.801.0171

From: John F. <htlrsrvng@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 3:38 PM
To: Lanz, Sam (DNR) <Sam.Lanz@dnr.wa.gov>
Subject: Re: Grant Projects 20-1999 and 20-1957

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Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support of DNR's proposal to the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office to support Grant Projects 20-1999 and 20-1957.

Thank you and I hope that you will also support this project.

Sincerely,

John & Christina Fowler

Allen, Peter (DNR)

From: Lanz, Sam (DNR)
Sent: Thursday, December 3, 2020 8:23 AM
To: Allen, Peter (DNR)
Subject: FW: Grant Projects 20-1999 and 20-1957

Sam Lanz
WA DNR, Belfair
360.801.0171

From: Taran Family <TARAN621@msn.com>
Sent: Monday, November 23, 2020 6:05 PM
To: Lanz, Sam (DNR) <Sam.Lanz@dnr.wa.gov>
Subject: Re: Grant Projects 20-1999 and 20-1957

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11/23/2020

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support of DNR's proposal to the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office to support Grant Projects 20-1999 and 20-1957.

Thank you and I hope that you will also support this project.

Sincerely,

Matt Taran

Allen, Peter (DNR)

From: Lanz, Sam (DNR)
Sent: Thursday, November 19, 2020 10:37 AM
To: Aschenbrenner, Andy (DNR); Allen, Peter (DNR)
Subject: FW: Grant Projects 20-1999 and 20-1957

Sam Lanz
WA DNR, Belfair
360.801.0171

From: Ronnie Glover <thelandslide@live.com>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 9:21 PM
To: Lanz, Sam (DNR) <Sam.Lanz@dnr.wa.gov>
Subject: Re: Grant Projects 20-1999 and 20-1957

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11/16/2020

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Re: Grant Projects 20-1999 and 20-1957

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support of DNR's proposal to the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office to support Grant Projects 20-1999 and 20-1957.

Thank you and I hope that you will also support this project.

Sincerely,

Ronnie Glover

Allen, Peter (DNR)

From: Lanz, Sam (DNR)
Sent: Thursday, November 19, 2020 10:39 AM
To: Aschenbrenner, Andy (DNR); Allen, Peter (DNR)
Subject: FW: Grant Projects 20-1999 and 20-1957

Sam Lanz
WA DNR, Belfair
360.801.0171

From: T Gray <eat_more_jello@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 2:37 PM
To: Lanz, Sam (DNR) <Sam.Lanz@dnr.wa.gov>
Subject: Grant Projects 20-1999 and 20-1957

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11/16/2020

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Re: Grant Projects 20-1999 and 20-1957

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support of DNR's proposal to the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office to support Grant Projects 20-1999 and 20-1957.

Thank you and I hope that you will also support this project.

Sincerely,
Teri Gray

Allen, Peter (DNR)

From: Lanz, Sam (DNR)
Sent: Thursday, November 19, 2020 10:38 AM
To: Allen, Peter (DNR); Aschenbrenner, Andy (DNR)
Subject: FW: Grant Projects 20-1999 and 20-1957

Sam Lanz
WA DNR, Belfair
360.801.0171

From: Valorie Reed <valorienicolereed@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 5:57 PM
To: Lanz, Sam (DNR) <Sam.Lanz@dnr.wa.gov>
Subject: Grant Projects 20-1999 and 20-1957

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11/16/2020

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Re: Grant Projects 20-1999 and 20-1957

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support of DNR's proposal to the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office to support Grant Projects 20-1999 and 20-1957.

Thank you and I hope that you will also support this project.

Sincerely,
Valorie Reed

Allen, Peter (DNR)

From: Lanz, Sam (DNR)
Sent: Thursday, November 19, 2020 10:39 AM
To: Aschenbrenner, Andy (DNR); Allen, Peter (DNR)
Subject: FW: Grant Projects

Sam Lanz
WA DNR, Belfair
360.801.0171

From: Samantha Carrel <samanthacarrel13@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 2:04 PM
To: Lanz, Sam (DNR) <Sam.Lanz@dnr.wa.gov>
Subject: Grant Projects

This message has originated from an External Source. Please use caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding to this email. Contact your desktop support or IT security staff for assistance and to report suspicious messages.

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Re: Grant Projects 20-1999 and 20-1957

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support of DNR's proposal to the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office to support Grant Projects 20-1999 and 20-1957.

Thank you and I hope that you will also support this project.

Sincerely,

Samantha Carrel

Allen, Peter (DNR)

From: Lanz, Sam (DNR)
Sent: Thursday, December 3, 2020 7:59 AM
To: Allen, Peter (DNR)
Subject: FW: Grant support letter.
Attachments: 20200201_103330.jpg

Sam Lanz
WA DNR, Belfair
360.801.0171

From: zoomcjl@aol.com <zoomcjl@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, November 30, 2020 12:58 PM
To: Lanz, Sam (DNR) <Sam.Lanz@dnr.wa.gov>
Subject: Grant support letter.

This message has originated from an External Source. Please use caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding to this email. Contact your desktop support or IT security staff for assistance and to report suspicious messages.

To: DNR Recreation Grant Advisory Board.
From: CHRISTOPHER J Lemke

Subject: Annual Grant requests # 20-999 and 20-1957

I want to give my support for fore mentioned Grants.

As a member of the approved recreation plan team for this region and active DNR Forest Watch it is imperative to obtain this support.

More and more pressure is being exerted on these sites. With a skeleton crew of dedicated DNR employees and very active multiple user groups volunteers we are becoming overwhelmed. Of course we all know how difficult this year has been compounding maintenance efforts. We need your help funding these Grant's. The attached photo while a bit dated shows efforts at work to reestablish TinMine trail after logging operation. I patrolled this trail yesterday speaking with users. They were very thankful to have trail back. This would not have happened without a previous grant.

Very Respectfully,
Christopher J Lemke

Shared via the [AOL App](#)



Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Police Region 2- North Central Washington

Mission: "To protect our natural resources and the public we serve"

October 1, 2018

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
Olympia, WA

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to express my support for the The Grant County Sheriff's Office in obtaining funding through your agency for continued operations at the Moses Lake ORV Park. As you know, the Moses Lake and Beverly sand dunes in Grant County are a very popular and important source of public recreation for citizens all over the Pacific Northwest. Throughout the year, the Sheriff's Office continually strives to maintain a safe environment for the thousands of visitors who recreate here. Additionally, our local Officers work very closely with the Deputies to conduct joint law enforcement patrols, ensure the parks are well regulated, and coordinate resources for clean up and maintenance.

The funding the Sheriff's Office receives from RCO is crucial for ensuring these continued law enforcement services and I wholeheartedly support their efforts.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Jewell", written over a white background.

Captain Mike Jewell
WDFW Police- Region 2
1550 Alder Street NW
Ephrata, WA 98823

Sept. 19, 2018

I support the efforts of the Grant County Sheriff's Office in applying for an Education and Enforcement grant through the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO). The Grant County Sheriff's Dept. does a great job of patrolling the Moses Lake and Beverly Sand Dune areas and helping to keep people safe while they are there enjoying their off highway vehicles. Especially during holiday weekends, we have hundreds of ORV enthusiasts using these areas and a police presence is absolutely necessary. In addition, the ORV officers visit the schools and sportsman shows to spread the word about ORV safety and the need for environmental stewardship.

As a local business selling ORVs, we appreciate the positive effect their efforts have on our ability to market our products and keeping our customers safe. The ORV industry adds millions of dollars to the Grant County economy each year through vehicle sales and tourist visits. There are many dealerships in Grant County that rely on ORV enthusiasts business and we collect millions of dollars in sales tax monies each year. Additionally, we employ many local residents, and contribute to our local communities.

Thank you for considering the extension of the grant monies for the Grant County Sheriff's Office so they can continue their much needed efforts on behalf of the citizens of Grant County.

Sincerely,



Rob Sole

Chet's Honda/Polaris

17 H st. SW

Quincy, Wa. 98848

To Whom It May Concern.

10/06/2016

We are writing this letter on behalf of the Grant County Sheriffs Dept, and the ORV officers. They have been our managers since the 1970s and are vital in maintaining our area and providing enforcement and education to our ORV users , and inland water way users.

Our group The Sand Scorpions consists of over 1,000 families dedicated to preserving off road areas and promoting off road events. We have been registered with the state as a non-profit organization since 1990 and we are based in Moses Lake, Washington. Our members live primarily in Washington, Oregon, and Idaho. We even have some members from Canada!

We would like to see the Grant County Sheriffs ORV program continue with the Maintenance and Operation of the Moses Lake Sand Dunes ORV area. It is a unique ORV area with open sand dunes, swampy muddy areas, and sandy beaches. It is located between two large bodies of water, Moses Lake and O'Sullivan reservoir. This area is alcohol free and visited every day of the year by ORV'ers from all over the Nation. On a holiday weekend it is normal to see 10,000 + ATV, 4X4s, boaters, and campers using this area. The Grant County Sheriffs ORV Dept. has been vital in keeping the Sand Dunes ORV area a safe and fun place for all. We could not do it without them.

Moses Lake has been gifted with an ORV area that is different than any other in Washington State. We have 2800 acres of sand dunes, beaches, mud flats and trails that thousands of ORV users come to each year. The Off Road Area has been proclaimed the top ORV destination in WA State, featured in National and International Off Road magazines, and seen by millions through YouTube. The thousands of ORV users that visit us each year bring in revenue for many local businesses, hotels, restaurants, fuel stations, grocery stores, parts houses etc.

We also have a working relationship with the Department Of Wildlife where a portion of the ORV area approximately 1200 acres are voluntarily closed for 9 months each year to allow the hunters uninterrupted access to the swamp area for bird and deer hunting in the fall and wild life rearing habitat in the spring. This area is closed to ORV use from October 1st to July 1st each year. With the help of the Grant Co Sheriffs ORV officers and the local off road groups, at the end of the open season a clean up is performed to return the area to remove any trash left at the Mud Flats area.

Our events include, but are not limited to: Our annual Christmas Tree Bon Fire, Sand Drags, Night Time Poker Runs, Family Camp Outs, Off Road Races, Mud Bogs, Easter Egg Hunnts, Fireworks Sales, Off Road Fun Runs, Sand Dune Clean ups, Mountain Excursions, and most of all we work very hard to keep all off road areas open. All of our events are open to the public and are always Free. All of our events are financed by the sales from our Fireworks booths in Moses Lake and donations from our sponcers.

The Sand Scorpion members have raised over \$200,000 to help our community in times of need. donated thousands of man hours helping maintain off road areas with clean ups, maintenance, search and rescue, and promoting family off-road fun for everyone. We work closely with Grant County

To Those that are interested,

My name is Dave McMains, I am president of "The Hurtin' Units" four-wheel drive club. We are based out of Moses Lake Washington, the home of the Moses Lake sand dune recreation area. Most of this club has been active with the sand dunes since the inception of the ORV area. We very strongly support the Grant County sheriff's office in their application for funding both in the E&E funding and the M&O project also. Without the funding there would be more problems than the local law enforcement would be able to handle. The sheriff's office does a stellar job of protecting the public especially on large holiday weekends. I very much want to state my support and more so the support of my club!

Thank You ,

Dave McMains, President

The Hurtin Units Four-wheel drive club.

603 West Meridian Ave

Moses Lake, WA. 98837

509-989-2465

To whom it may concern (NOVA grant applications evaluating team):

We, The Midnite Muddlers, fully endorse and support the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) efforts to increase educational outreach and law enforcement presence for the Juniper Dunes and Saddle Mountains OHV areas. Subsequently, we support BLM Spokane District's application for a Washington State NOVA OHV Education and Enforcement grant # 20-227 EDU, BLM SPOKANE DISTRICT JUNIPER DUNES/SADDLE MOUNTAINS serving those two areas.

Additional OHV education and enforcement will benefit the health and safety of recreation visitors, reduce visitor conflicts, help minimize negative impacts to natural resources, and educate visitors about responsible and ethical recreational use.

In support of this effort, for the duration of the 2-year grant (if awarded),

The Midnite Muddlers pledges to provide non-governmental contributions. We understand that such contributions can be via provided labor, equipment, funding and/or materials. We understand that BLM is recommending from among the following, or similar contributions:

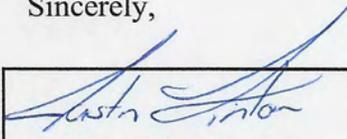
- Member organization self-policing activities to include:
 - Sharing BLM provided educational messages and information to members at our events and membership meetings.
 - Only when/if unlikely to lead to danger to oneself, reporting to law enforcement (county and/or BLM) sighted illegal activities.
 - Only when/if unlikely to lead to danger to oneself, engaging in educational contacts in the field when visibly appropriate, to share BLM educational messages in support of visitor health and safety, resources protection, and reduced user conflicts.
- Coordinating on a monthly or quarterly basis with BLM to help post educational/enforcement fliers and signs on BLM kiosks, and share them at events and other large gatherings.
- Coordinating with BLM on a monthly or quarterly basis to assist with installation and/or maintenance of educational and/or enforcement signage, via provided equipment and/or labor.
- Coordinating with BLM on a monthly or quarterly basis to assist with monitoring, including GPS and/or photographic data capture, for educational and/or enforcement related planning and management.

Considering the above options and any other similar options preferred by our group,

The Midnite Muddlers pledges to provide the following non-governmental contributions over the life of the grant, and recommends the following associated quarterly-reported milestones that will measure our success in providing them:

Our club will coordinate via call to BLM
once per quarter, to report club observations, and
otherwise help as described in above examples.

Sincerely,


Justin Linton
Club President

To whom it may concern (NOVA grant applications evaluating team):

We, The Sand Wizards, fully endorse and support the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) efforts to increase educational outreach and law enforcement presence for the Juniper Dunes and Saddle Mountains OHV areas. Subsequently, we support BLM Spokane District's application for a Washington State NOVA OHV Education and Enforcement grant # 20-227 EDU, BLM SPOKANE DISTRICT JUNIPER DUNES/SADDLE MOUNTAINS serving those two areas.

Additional OHV education and enforcement will benefit the health and safety of recreation visitors, reduce visitor conflicts, help minimize negative impacts to natural resources, and educate visitors about responsible and ethical recreational use.

~~In support of this effort, for the duration of the 2-year grant (if awarded),~~

The Sand Wizards pledges to provide non-governmental contributions. We understand that such contributions can be via provided labor, equipment, funding and/or materials. We understand that BLM is recommending from among the following, or similar contributions:

- Member organization self-policing activities to include:
 - Sharing BLM provided educational messages and information to members at our events and membership meetings.
 - Only when/if unlikely to lead to danger to oneself, reporting to law enforcement (county and/or BLM) sighted illegal activities.
 - Only when/if unlikely to lead to danger to oneself, engaging in educational contacts in the field when visibly appropriate, to share BLM educational messages in support of visitor health and safety, resources protection, and reduced user conflicts.
- Coordinating on a monthly or quarterly basis with BLM to help post educational/enforcement fliers and signs on BLM kiosks, and share them at events and other large gatherings.
- Coordinating with BLM on a monthly or quarterly basis to assist with installation and/or maintenance of educational and/or enforcement signage, via provided equipment and/or labor.
- Coordinating with BLM on a monthly or quarterly basis to assist with monitoring, including GPS and/or photographic data capture, for educational and/or enforcement related planning and management.

~~Considering the above options and any other similar options preferred by our group,~~

The Sand Wizards pledges to provide the following non-governmental contributions over the life of the grant, and recommends the following associated quarterly-reported milestones that will measure our success in providing them:

Our contribution will be to
work with BLM per the above
suggestions depending on
their needs.

Sincerely,

Sandy Lizards president
 Lindsey Holtzman-Groetch

[EXTERNAL] Letter of Support

dualsprt@charter.net <dualsprt@charter.net>

Tue 10/27/2020 2:45 PM

To: Priebe, Diane M <dpriebe@blm.gov>

This email has been received from outside of DOI - Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

To whom it may concern the Eastern Washington Dirt Riders Association support the BLM's grant request for educational outreach and enforcement for the Saddle Mountains/ Juniper Dunes areas.

We are a family oriented dirt motorcycle club based in the Tri-Cities Washington. We routinely recreate in both of the above mentioned areas. Our members pride themselves in being good stewards of the lands we recreate on. We have been involved with the well being of both these areas over the years.

We were involved for 19 years working towards legal access to Juniper Dunes which was finally realized in 2019. We have helped with numerous clean ups and work parties and will continue to do so.

With the increase of use in these areas these grants are vital to preserve these areas for recreation. The education is vital to protect the resources and help less experienced users recreate responsibly. The enforcement grants will help keep it safer for people recreating and will help protect the resources.

Sincerely

Doug Conner

For: Eastern Washington Dirt Riders Association

PO Box 5392

Pasco, WA 99302

www.easternwashingtondirriders.org

To whom it may concern (NOVA grant applications evaluating team):

We, Pacific N.W. Environmental Drive Association, fully endorse and support the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) efforts to increase educational outreach and law enforcement presence for the Juniper Dunes and Saddle Mountains OHV areas. Subsequently, we support BLM Spokane District's application for a Washington State NOVA OHV Education and Enforcement grant # 20-227 EDU, BLM SPOKANE DISTRICT JUNIPER DUNES/SADDLE MOUNTAINS serving those two areas.

Additional OHV education and enforcement will benefit the health and safety of recreation visitors, reduce visitor conflicts, help minimize negative impacts to natural resources, and educate visitors about responsible and ethical recreational use.

In support of this effort, for the duration of the 2-year grant (if awarded),

Pacific N.W. Environmental Drive Association pledges to provide non-governmental contributions. We understand that such contributions can be via provided labor, equipment, funding and/or materials. We understand that BLM is recommending from among the following, or similar contributions:

- Member organization self-policing activities to include:
 - Sharing BLM provided educational messages and information to members at our events and membership meetings.
 - Only when/if unlikely to lead to danger to oneself, reporting to law enforcement (county and/or BLM) sighted illegal activities.
 - Only when/if unlikely to lead to danger to oneself, engaging in educational contacts in the field when visibly appropriate, to share BLM educational messages in support of visitor health and safety, resources protection, and reduced user conflicts.
- Coordinating on a monthly or quarterly basis with BLM to help post educational/enforcement fliers and signs on BLM kiosks, and share them at events and other large gatherings.
- Coordinating with BLM on a monthly or quarterly basis to assist with installation and/or maintenance of educational and/or enforcement signage, via provided equipment and/or labor.
- Coordinating with BLM on a monthly or quarterly basis to assist with monitoring, including GPS and/or photographic data capture, for educational and/or enforcement related planning and management.

Considering the above options and any other similar options preferred by our group,

Pacific N.W. Environmental Drive Association pledges to provide the following non-governmental contributions over the life of the grant, and recommends the following associated quarterly-reported milestones that will measure our success in providing them:

We will operate as we have done in the past
Any project the BLM needs volunteers for
we will attend and help. we are very active
in educating people about off road rules &
regulations and attempt to educate others
in the dues & benefits of off road use.

Sincerely,

DAVE McMANIS
TREASURER
LAND MATTERS CHAIR 4

To whom it may concern (NOVA grant applications evaluating team):

We, THE HURTUN UNITS FOREWILDER DRIVE, fully endorse and support the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) efforts to increase educational outreach and law enforcement presence for the Juniper Dunes and Saddle Mountains OHV areas. Subsequently, we support BLM Spokane District's application for a Washington State NOVA OHV Education and Enforcement grant # 20-227 EDU, BLM SPOKANE DISTRICT JUNIPER DUNES/SADDLE MOUNTAINS serving those two areas.

Additional OHV education and enforcement will benefit the health and safety of recreation visitors, reduce visitor conflicts, help minimize negative impacts to natural resources, and educate visitors about responsible and ethical recreational use.

In support of this effort, for the duration of the 2-year grant (if awarded),

THE HURTUN UNITS FOREWILDER DRIVE pledges to provide non-governmental contributions. We understand that such contributions can be via provided labor, equipment, funding and/or materials. We understand that BLM is recommending from among the following, or similar contributions:

- Member organization self-policing activities to include:
 - Sharing BLM provided educational messages and information to members at our events and membership meetings.
 - Only when/if unlikely to lead to danger to oneself, reporting to law enforcement (county and/or BLM) sighted illegal activities.
 - Only when/if unlikely to lead to danger to oneself, engaging in educational contacts in the field when visibly appropriate, to share BLM educational messages in support of visitor health and safety, resources protection, and reduced user conflicts.
- Coordinating on a monthly or quarterly basis with BLM to help post educational/enforcement fliers and signs on BLM kiosks, and share them at events and other large gatherings.
- Coordinating with BLM on a monthly or quarterly basis to assist with installation and/or maintenance of educational and/or enforcement signage, via provided equipment and/or labor.
- Coordinating with BLM on a monthly or quarterly basis to assist with monitoring, including GPS and/or photographic data capture, for educational and/or enforcement related planning and management.

Considering the above options and any other similar options preferred by our group,

THE HURTUN UNITS FOREWILDER DRIVE pledges to provide the following non-governmental contributions over the life of the grant, and recommends the following associated quarterly-reported milestones that will measure our success in providing them:

We will operate as we have done in the past
Any project the BLM needs volunteers for
we will attend and help. We are very active
in educating people about off road rules +
regulations and attempt to educate others
in the Dues + Dents of off road use.

Sincerely,

DAVE MCMAINS
President

Pacific Northwest 4 Wheel Drive Association

Lisa Chissus
 29 Country Club Drive SW
 Lakewood, WA 98498
 Cell: 253 307 7777
waexec@pnw4wda.org



Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
 P.O. Box 40917
 Olympia, WA 98504-0917

October 27, 2020

Re: BLM Juniper Dunes NOVA Grant Applications

The Pacific Northwest 4 Wheel Drive Association endorses and supports the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) efforts to increase educational outreach and law enforcement presence for the Juniper Dunes and Saddle Mountains OHV areas. Subsequently, we support BLM Spokane District's application for a Washington State NOVA OHV Education and Enforcement grant # 20-227 EDU, BLM SPOKANE DISTRICT JUNIPER DUNES/SADDLE MOUNTAINS serving those two areas. Additional OHV education and enforcement will benefit the health and safety of recreation visitors, reduce visitor conflicts, help minimize negative impacts to natural resources, and educate visitors about responsible and ethical recreational use. In support of this effort, for the duration of the 2-year grant (if awarded), the Pacific Northwest 4 Wheel Drive Association pledges to provide nongovernmental contributions. We understand that such contributions can be via provided labor, equipment, funding and/or materials. We commit to the following support activities:

- Sharing BLM provided educational messages and information to members at our events and membership meetings.
 - o Only when/if unlikely to lead to danger to oneself, reporting to law enforcement (county and/or BLM) sighted illegal activities.
- Only when/if unlikely to lead to danger to oneself, engaging in educational contacts in the field when visibly appropriate, to share BLM educational messages in support of visitor health and safety, resources protection, and reduced user conflicts.
- Coordinating with BLM to help post educational/enforcement fliers and signs on BLM kiosks, and share them at events and other large gatherings.

The Pacific Northwest 4 Wheel Drive Association pledges to provide the following non-governmental contributions over the life of the grant

Sincerely,

Lisa Chissus
 WA State Exec Director
 Pacific Northwest 4 Wheel Drive Association

October 24, 2020

To whom it may concern:

The Kittitas County Field & Stream Club officers and board of directors are in support of WDFW Region 3's RCO Nova Education Grant 20-2150 application for green dot roads. Kittitas County has the L.T. Murray, Whiskey Dick, Skookumchuch, Quilomene; Part of the Colockum and Wenas Wildlife Areas and they all have Green Dot Road Management systems. There are only four enforcement officers to patrol these vast expanses.

Our club members serve on the Wildlife Area Advisory Groups and we have encouraged WDFW to make their reader boards more inviting.

Sincerely,

Bill Essman, President
Kittitas County Field & Stream Club
PO Box 522
Ellensburg, WA 98926



NOVA Grant Committee

c/o Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office

PO Box 40917

Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Dear NOVA Committee Members,

The Washington Off-Highway Vehicle Alliance (WOHVA) is a statewide organization representing 13,000 off-highway vehicle enthusiasts. Our members donate thousands of hours each year to maintaining and enhancing off-highway vehicle trails and facilities on public land in Washington. We have strong relationships with land managers and decision makers across the state.

I write today to express WOHVA's support for the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's (WDFW) application for Education and Enforcement funds in WDFW Region 3. This application would provide ORV Ranger Patrols which in turn would provide educational contacts along green dot roads in this area. This project would also update signs in the area to provide positive messaging and important information to riders.

The positive educational approach to enforcement is an effective measure to ensure that riders know where they are supposed to ride and enjoy a quality OHV experience. Riders who have the information they need make good choices and ensure that OHV opportunities remain open for public access. Responsible riders support education and enforcement, and the riders WOHVA represents fall into this category.

I understand that these grants are extremely competitive, but I hope that this important project will rise to the top of the applicant list.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Marc Hildesheim', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Marc Hildesheim

Vice President, WOHVA

marc@wohva.org



BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF WASHINGTON
PO Box 1132
ELLENSBURG, WA 98926
WWW.BCHW.ORG

October 30, 2020
Recreation and Conservation Office
1111 Washington Street S.E. #2
Olympia, WA 98501

Dear Recreation and Conservation funding board:

Back Country Horsemen of Washington is aware that the Snoqualmie Ranger District is applying for a number of grants from both the RTP and the NOVA categories. We endorse and support these grant applications. As long time recreation users and as an organization that does volunteer trail maintenance in the Snoqualmie Ranger District we are aware of the benefit these grants would provide.

The Snoqualmie Ranger District is currently applying for grants that include funding for front country and back country trail maintenance, Wilderness patrols and Snoqualmie Ranger District front country rangers. They also have submissions for the Evans Creek ORV area for maintenance and education and enforcement and are putting a grant proposal together for additional winter recreation support.

The Snoqualmie District recreation staff manages and coordinates volunteer hours annually that subsidize their efforts to provide a continued and valued recreation experience. Grants from the Recreation Conservation Office ensure that resources continue to be available for these efforts.

Thank you for your consideration,
Sincerely,

s/Kathy Young

Kathy Young
Public Lands Chairman
Back Country Horsemen of Washington
public_lands@bchw.org

October 28th, 2020

Recreation and Conservation Office
1111 Washington St. S.E.
Olympia, WA 98501

Dear Recreation and Conservation Office / Funding Board,

As a member of the Fringe Motorcycle Club and long time recreationist and volunteer, I would like express my full support and endorsement of grant funding to the Snoqualmie Ranger District and convey the benefits it would provide the district, and all of us as proud Washington citizens, volunteers, and recreational users.

I'm aware that the Snoqualmie Ranger District is applying for grants for Front & Backcountry Trail Maintenance, Wilderness Patrols, Snoqualmie Ranger District Front Country Ranger, Maintenance, Education, and Enforcement Measures for Evans Creek ORV, additional winter recreation support, as well as funding for other very important needs that will benefit our recreational areas, user groups, families, and ultimately our community.

I/we are very fortunate to be able to work with the Snoqualmie Ranger district and look forward to more cooperation. They have always been available and ready to listen and help in any way they can, or provide appropriate resources for preservation, enforcement and education to keep our forests beautiful and thriving. They also help us coordinate our recreation / volunteer group efforts, towards thousands of volunteer hours to continue the forward progress and stewardship of our forest. This in turn also helps bring revenue into the districts communities from visiting recreationist's. Having done many projects with the Snoqualmie Ranger District, these grants are so very important to our families, future recreation, and preservation of the beautiful Pacific Northwest.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Sincerely,

Jeremy Schakel
253-569-8222

October 28th, 2020

Recreation and Conservation Office

1111 Washington St. S.E.

Olympia, WA 98501

Dear Recreation and Conservation Office / Funding Board,

As a member of the Fringe Motorcycle Club and long time recreationist and volunteer, I would like express my full support and endorsement of grant funding to the Snoqualmie Ranger District and convey the benefits it would provide the district, and all of us as proud Washington citizens, volunteers, and recreational users.

I'm aware that the Snoqualmie Ranger District is applying for grants for Front & Backcountry Trail Maintenance, Wilderness Patrols, Snoqualmie Ranger District Front Country Ranger, Maintenance, Education, and Enforcement Measures for Evans Creek ORV, additional winter recreation support, as well as funding for other very important needs that will benefit our recreational areas, user groups, families, and ultimately our community.

I/we are very fortunate to be able to work with the Snoqualmie Ranger district and look forward to more cooperation. They have always been available and ready to listen and help in any way they can, or provide appropriate resources for preservation, enforcement and education to keep our forests beautiful and thriving. They also help us coordinate our recreation / volunteer group efforts, towards thousands of volunteer hours to continue the forward progress and stewardship of our forest. This in turn also helps bring revenue into the districts communities from visiting recreationist's. Having done many projects with the Snoqualmie Ranger District, these grants are so very important to our families, future recreation, and preservation of the beautiful Pacific Northwest.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Sincerely,

Shay Schakel
253-569-9597

October 25 , 2020

Recreation and Conservation Office

1111 Washington Street S.E. #2

Olympia, Wa 98501

Dear Recreation and Conservation funding board:

As President of the Hi- Country Snowmobile club, are aware that the Snoqualmie Ranger District is applying for a number of grants from both the RTP and the NOVA categories. We endorse and support these grant applications. As a long time recreational user and volunteer, (literally hundreds of volunteer hours) We are very aware of the benefit these grants would provide to the Snoqualmie Ranger District.

We have done many projects working side by side with the great people out at the Enumclaw Forest Service office.

Aside from the usual grants for trail maintenance, front country patrol, Evans Creek O.R.V. Campground volunteer coordinator and back country patrol, the District is also applying for grants to assist with fire recovery efforts for Corral Pass Campground. The entire Corral Pass campground was destroyed by the Norse Peak fire in 2017. I personally have been up there and inspected the fire damage, In addition, the Middle Fork Trail has a severe washout during the fall of 2017 and the popular Asehel Curtis picnic site off I-90 is in need of restoration.

The District recreation staff coordinate thousands of volunteer hours annually that subsidize their efforts to provide a continued and valued recreation experience. Grants from the Recreation Conservation Office ensure that resources continue to be available for these efforts. With the many "cut backs" of Federal money, these Grants are Extremely important to the Snoqualmie Ranger District to keep areas open, maintance , repair and Law Enforcement. We feel very fortunate to work with such great people who are always available and listen to all our concerns, We have a great "working relationship " with the Snoqualmie Ranger District.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sincerely,

Dan Johnson President

Hi-Country Snowmobile Club

3670 53rd st se

Auburn wa. 98092

253-606-0108

Members with

PNW4DA (Pacific North West 4 wheel drive association)

Washington State Snowmobile association

Washington State Parks and Recreation , Grooming Council

Pacific North West Motorcycle Association

Blue Ribbon Coalition

Avid Hiker , Sportsman and all around Outdoor Enthusiast.



November 2, 2020

Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Letter of support for Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Snoqualmie Ranger District grant applications

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Advisory Committee,

I am writing on behalf of the more than 13,500-member Pacific Crest Trail Association (PCTA) to express support for various grant applications submitted by the Snoqualmie Ranger District.

It is PCTA's privilege to partner with the Snoqualmie Ranger District to maintain outstanding recreation opportunities in the Central Cascades. The Snoqualmie Ranger District and their dedicated staff are valued partners of our organization. They host a PCTA tool cache, support our volunteer trainings, and provide outstanding public services. District staff have alerted PCTA that they have several grants supporting front country improvements through the NOVA program. Places like Denny Creek and the Middle Fork Snoqualmie Valley provide excellent recreation opportunities to the public. These proposals do not have a direct connection to the Pacific Crest Trail, but PCTA supports the expansion of recreation opportunities in western Washington. Thank you for your consideration of these various grants.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or would like any additional information about public benefits from specific proposals.

Sincerely,

Michael DeCramer
Pacific Crest Trail Association
North Cascades Regional Representative





October 29, 2020

US Forest Service – Mount Baker Snoqualmie National Forest, Snoqualmie Ranger District
Attn: Alex Weinberg, I-90 Corridor Manager

Alex,

On behalf of the Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance, I am writing to offer our support for the Snoqualmie Ranger District's various NOVA and RTP grant applications through the Recreation Conservation Office (RCO) of Washington State:

Snoqualmie USFS & Mt. Rainier NPS Trails Alliance #20-2320 RTP
Snoqualmie USFS & Mt. Rainier NPS Trails Alliance #20-2320 NOVA
Snoqualmie R. D. Front Country Patrol 2022-2023 #20-2292 NOVA
Snoqualmie R. D. Front Country Maintenance #20-2350 NOVA
Snoqualmie RD Winter Recreation Program #20-2233 NOVA
Alpine Lakes Trail Maintenance 22-23 #20-2349 NOVA
Alpine Lakes Trail Maintenance 22-23 #20-2308 RTP
Middlefork Snoqualmie Recreation Hub Improvements #20-2307 NOVA

The Snoqualmie Ranger District in the Mount Baker Snoqualmie National Forest is one of the busiest districts in the state, and experiences tremendous pressure from population growth in the Puget Sound region. As trail use and recreational activities in the 300,000-acre district continue to grow and diversify, education, enforcement and maintenance are becoming increasingly more urgent to protect 400+ miles of District trails, as well as 111,000 acres in the Alpine Lakes, Norse Peak, and Clearwater Wilderness areas.

Current funding is inadequate to pay professional rangers to provide law enforcement authority on Forest Service trails. The proposed E&E projects listed above for improved education and enforcement through field contacts will aid the district in better protecting resources and facilities, reducing vandalism and user conflict, and educating users who are new to the District and/or new to outdoor recreation.

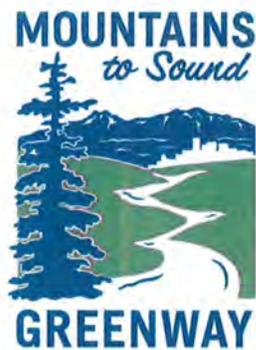
The above listed projects are imperative to maintaining existing recreational opportunities as well as addressing the need for more opportunities in the Snoqualmie Ranger District. The quickly growing Seattle area is creating a rapidly growing need for increased trail maintenance, construction and facilities rehabilitation.

Evergreen is Washington's largest mountain bike organization with over 7,900 members and 65,000+ followers. We are dedicated to trail building and maintenance, as well as volunteerism, education, advocacy, and youth participation. As a trusted partner with the USFS, we look forward to assisting the Snoqualmie Ranger District with both its new projects and future trail maintenance needs and support the District's efforts to improve outdoor recreation experiences for our community members and visitors.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Yvonne Kraus", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Yvonne Kraus, Executive Director



President
Doug McClelland (*), Former Assistant Region Manager
Washington State Department of Natural Resources

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Fundraising Committee Chair
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20-2350 NOVA NHR #1

Program Committee Chair
Cora Johnson (*), Geotechnical Engineer, GeoEngineers

Executive Director
Jon Hoekstra (*), Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust

November 3, 2020

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

RE: Support for Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest 2020 RTP and NOVA grant application proposals

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust enthusiastically endorses the Snoqualmie Ranger District' and the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest's proposals to the RCO through the NOVA and RTP programs to maintain, improve, build, and relocate hiking, backcountry, and multi-use trails and facilities in the District and to provide ranger patrols and user education.

The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust leads and inspires action to conserve and enhance 1.5 million acres between Puget Sound and Ellensburg. Our work connects natural areas, trails, working farm and forests, communities, wildlife habitat and recreation opportunities along the I-90 corridor. We also strive to support partners who own and manage the lands within the Greenway's boundaries, and recognize the immense value of their recreation infrastructure, education programs, and restoration activities in creating opportunities to connect people with the outdoors.

Unfortunately, the very crowds that are drawn to the beauty and challenge of the District's unique terrain threaten to destroy the wilderness experience they are seeking at popular destinations such as the Alpine Lakes Wilderness, the Middle Fork of the Snoqualmie River Valley, and the many popular trails along the Interstate 90 corridor.

Trail maintenance efforts, the creation and maintenance of new recreational ADA-accessible day use facilities, and increased education and enforcement via front- and backcountry rangers is critical to the long-term sustainability of the trails and natural resources within the Greenway, allowing the recreational resources to meet increased demand without negatively impacting the landscape.

With the impacts of COVID-19 felt across the landscape and the region, the importance of high-quality and well-maintained recreation infrastructure has become more and more apparent. The accessibility of trails and recreational facilities in the Greenway, and in the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest provide a critical source of respite and a means for people to connect with nature, and the need to care for these areas is greater than ever.

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The Mountaineers Foothills Branch
Bob Ellis, Lifetime Educator and Cyclist,
Karl Forsgaard, Manager of Implementations, Thomson Reuters;
Alpine Lakes Protection Society
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American Whitewater
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David Patton, Northwest Area Director, The Trust for Public Land
Kizz Prusia, Project Associate, Triangle Associates
Charles Raines, Director Cascade Checkerboard Project, Sierra Club,
Washington State Chapter
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Alison Washburn, Bellevue Store Manager, REI Co-op
Jody Weil (X), Supervisor, Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest
Joel Yoker, President, Snoqualmie Valley Youth Activities and
Community Center

(*), Executive Committee Member
(X) Ex-Officio (non-voting) Director

MTSGREENWAY.ORG

2701 FIRST AVENUE SUITE 240 SEATTLE, WA 98121 | 206.382.5565 | INFO@MTSGREENWAY.ORG



The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust convenes a diverse coalition of public and private partners working to ensure a long-term balance between people and nature, across the watersheds between Seattle and Ellensburg. We work to connect and enhance wildlife habitat, improve outdoor recreation, enhance outdoor education, preserve working farms and forests, and ensure thriving communities.

The Greenway Trust is working with a broad coalition of partners including the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, the Washington State Dept. of Natural Resources and many other agencies, nonprofits, businesses, and citizens to support long-term stewardship of the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River Valley and to responsibly accommodate increased visitation expected to occur after a federal road improvement project paves the main access to the Valley. The projects put forth within these multiple grant proposals will help to ensure that trails and facilities in the Middle Fork Valley and in the Greenway are up to a standard that can sustainably support higher public visitation, and that recreational users are aware and educated about the natural world around them. The completion of the paving of the Middle Fork Road (Forest Road 56) in 2016-17 has increased the importance of this work, enabling more recreational users to connect with the many opportunities this landscape has to offer.

Funding the U.S. Forest Service's trail, infrastructure, restoration and educational programs not only enhances the local economy, it also provides a valuable public service to local and regional visitors. The Greenway boundary was designated a National Heritage Area in 2019, and is sure to see more visitors as the area's profile continues to grow. In light of this increased use, the Forest Service's efforts to keep its trails, safe, well-maintained, and of limited impact to the surrounding natural resources will be key.

The Greenway Trust has long partnered with the MBS on trail and recreation projects, and we strongly support these proposals. If you have any questions, please contact Mackenzie Dolstad, Stewardship Program Manager, at 206-503-0683 or mackenzie.dolstad@mtsgreenway.org. Thank you for the opportunity to share our support for these important projects.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jon Hoekstra". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jon" being larger and more prominent than the last name "Hoekstra".

Jon Hoekstra
Executive Director



BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF WASHINGTON
PO Box 1132
ELLENSBURG, WA 98926
WWW.BCHW.ORG

October 30, 2020
Recreation and Conservation Office
1111 Washington Street S.E. #2
Olympia, WA 98501

Dear Recreation and Conservation funding board:

Back Country Horsemen of Washington is aware that the Snoqualmie Ranger District is applying for a number of grants from both the RTP and the NOVA categories. We endorse and support these grant applications. As long time recreation users and as an organization that does volunteer trail maintenance in the Snoqualmie Ranger District we are aware of the benefit these grants would provide.

The Snoqualmie Ranger District is currently applying for grants that include funding for front country and back country trail maintenance, Wilderness patrols and Snoqualmie Ranger District front country rangers. They also have submissions for the Evans Creek ORV area for maintenance and education and enforcement and are putting a grant proposal together for additional winter recreation support.

The Snoqualmie District recreation staff manages and coordinates volunteer hours annually that subsidize their efforts to provide a continued and valued recreation experience. Grants from the Recreation Conservation Office ensure that resources continue to be available for these efforts.

Thank you for your consideration,
Sincerely,

s/Kathy Young

Kathy Young
Public Lands Chairman
Back Country Horsemen of Washington
public_lands@bchw.org



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20-2350 NOVA NHR #1
20-2307 NOVA NHR #18

Program Committee Chair
Cora Johnson (*), Geotechnical Engineer, GeoEngineers

Executive Director
Jon Hoekstra (*), Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust

November 3, 2020

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

RE: Support for Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest 2020 RTP and NOVA
grant application proposals

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust enthusiastically endorses the
Snoqualmie Ranger District' and the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest's
proposals to the RCO through the NOVA and RTP programs to maintain,
improve, build, and relocate hiking, backcountry, and multi-use trails and
facilities in the District and to provide ranger patrols and user education.

The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust leads and inspires action to conserve
and enhance 1.5 million acres between Puget Sound and Ellensburg. Our work
connects natural areas, trails, working farm and forests, communities, wildlife
habitat and recreation opportunities along the I-90 corridor. We also strive to
support partners who own and manage the lands within the Greenway's
boundaries, and recognize the immense value of their recreation infrastructure,
education programs, and restoration activities in creating opportunities to
connect people with the outdoors.

Unfortunately, the very crowds that are drawn to the beauty and challenge of
the District's unique terrain threaten to destroy the wilderness experience they
are seeking at popular destinations such as the Alpine Lakes Wilderness, the
Middle Fork of the Snoqualmie River Valley, and the many popular trails along
the Interstate 90 corridor.

Trail maintenance efforts, the creation and maintenance of new recreational
ADA-accessible day use facilities, and increased education and enforcement via
front- and backcountry rangers is critical to the long-term sustainability of the
trails and natural resources within the Greenway, allowing the recreational
resources to meet increased demand without negatively impacting the
landscape.

With the impacts of COVID-19 felt across the landscape and the region, the
importance of high-quality and well-maintained recreation infrastructure has
become more and more apparent. The accessibility of trails and recreational
facilities in the Greenway, and in the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest
provide a critical source of respite and a means for people to connect with
nature, and the need to care for these areas is greater than ever.



The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust convenes a diverse coalition of public and private partners working to ensure a long-term balance between people and nature, across the watersheds between Seattle and Ellensburg. We work to connect and enhance wildlife habitat, improve outdoor recreation, enhance outdoor education, preserve working farms and forests, and ensure thriving communities.

The Greenway Trust is working with a broad coalition of partners including the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, the Washington State Dept. of Natural Resources and many other agencies, nonprofits, businesses, and citizens to support long-term stewardship of the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River Valley and to responsibly accommodate increased visitation expected to occur after a federal road improvement project paves the main access to the Valley. The projects put forth within these multiple grant proposals will help to ensure that trails and facilities in the Middle Fork Valley and in the Greenway are up to a standard that can sustainably support higher public visitation, and that recreational users are aware and educated about the natural world around them. The completion of the paving of the Middle Fork Road (Forest Road 56) in 2016-17 has increased the importance of this work, enabling more recreational users to connect with the many opportunities this landscape has to offer.

Funding the U.S. Forest Service's trail, infrastructure, restoration and educational programs not only enhances the local economy, it also provides a valuable public service to local and regional visitors. The Greenway boundary was designated a National Heritage Area in 2019, and is sure to see more visitors as the area's profile continues to grow. In light of this increased use, the Forest Service's efforts to keep its trails, safe, well-maintained, and of limited impact to the surrounding natural resources will be key.

The Greenway Trust has long partnered with the MBS on trail and recreation projects, and we strongly support these proposals. If you have any questions, please contact Mackenzie Dolstad, Stewardship Program Manager, at 206-503-0683 or mackenzie.dolstad@mtsgreenway.org. Thank you for the opportunity to share our support for these important projects.

Sincerely,



Jon Hoekstra
Executive Director



November 2, 2020

Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Letter of support for Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Snoqualmie Ranger District grant applications

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Advisory Committee,

I am writing on behalf of the more than 13,500-member Pacific Crest Trail Association (PCTA) to express support for various grant applications submitted by the Snoqualmie Ranger District.

It is PCTA's privilege to partner with the Snoqualmie Ranger District to maintain outstanding recreation opportunities in the Central Cascades. The Snoqualmie Ranger District and their dedicated staff are valued partners of our organization. They host a PCTA tool cache, support our volunteer trainings, and provide outstanding public services. District staff have alerted PCTA that they have several grants supporting front country improvements through the NOVA program. Places like Denny Creek and the Middle Fork Snoqualmie Valley provide excellent recreation opportunities to the public. These proposals do not have a direct connection to the Pacific Crest Trail, but PCTA supports the expansion of recreation opportunities in western Washington. Thank you for your consideration of these various grants.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or would like any additional information about public benefits from specific proposals.

Sincerely,

Michael DeCramer
Pacific Crest Trail Association
North Cascades Regional Representative





Washington Trails Association

705 Second Avenue, Suite 300, Seattle WA 98104 • 206.625.1367 • wta.org

20-2350 NOVA NHR #1
20-2307 NOVA NHR #18

November 2, 2020

Washington Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Snoqualmie Ranger District Grant Requests

Dear RCO Grant Review Committee:

I am writing on behalf of Washington Trails Association to express our enthusiastic support of the following grant applications from the Snoqualmie Ranger District in the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest:

- Snoqualmie USFS & Mt. Rainier NPS Trails Alliance #20-2320 RTP
- Snoqualmie USFS & Mt. Rainier NPS Trails Alliance #20-2320 NOVA
- Snoqualmie R. D. Front Country Patrol 2022-2023 #20-2292 NOVA
- Snoqualmie R. D. Front Country Maintenance #20-2350 NOVA
- Snoqualmie Ranger District OHV & Motorized Rec #20-2194 NOVA
- Snoqualmie RD Winter Recreation Program #20-2233 NOVA
- Alpine Lakes Trail Maintenance 22-23 #20-2349 NOVA
- Alpine Lakes Trail Maintenance 22-23 #20-2308 RTP
- Denny Creek/Franklin Falls Parking Lot Expansion #20-2355 NOVA
- Middlefork Snoqualmie Recreation Hub Improvements #20-2307 NOVA

Washington Trails Association has a more than 50-year legacy of engaging the hiking community. WTA enhances hiking experiences in Washington state by empowering a diverse and growing community of hikers to explore, steward and protect trails and public lands. WTA is the nation's largest state-based trail maintenance and hiking advocacy nonprofit organization, with more than 24,000 member households and an online community of more than 100,000. Each year almost 4,500 WTA volunteers perform over 160,000 hours of trail maintenance across the state.

We are very supportive of the Snoqualmie Ranger District and their efforts to improve recreation access, maintenance and education and enforcement for the trails in the district. The Snoqualmie Ranger District encompasses some of Washington's most popular trails and recreation opportunities, including trails in the Alpine Lakes Wilderness.

The grants above will allow for the Snoqualmie Ranger District to conduct a robust trail maintenance program and address the need for further access to things like parking at Franklin Falls. Further, as the outdoors see more visitors than ever due to the pandemic and population growth in Washington, it is integral that places like the Snoqualmie Ranger District are equipped to educate new users on recreating safely and build a welcoming outdoors.

We are excited at the opportunity these projects hold, and look forward to working on them for years to come. Thank you for consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrea J. Imler", written in a cursive style.

Andrea Imler
Advocacy Director



Pend Oreille County

Board of Commissioners

Karen Skoog
District #1

Mike Manus
District #2

Stephen Kiss
District #3

Crystal Zieske
Clerk of the Board

Phone: 509-447-4119
FAX: 509 447-0595

PO Box 5025
625 W. 4th Street
Newport, WA 99156-5025

E-mail: commissionersoffice@pendoreille.org

October 26, 2020

Washington State Recreation Conservation Office (RCO)

Re: Colville National Forest Developed and Dispersed Site Maintenance RCO Grant 20-2229 & OHV Forest Ranger Program RCO Grant 20-2210

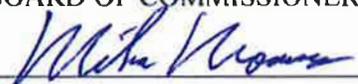
The Board of County Commissioners supports the pursuit of grant funding for the above referenced projects.

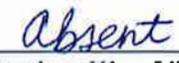
The Developed and Dispersed Site Maintenance project will support the operation and maintenance of 42 campgrounds, 92 trailheads and information sites, and 830 dispersed campsites across the Colville National Forest. The maintenance work to be completed consists of the following: trash removal; toilet cleaning; hazard tree removal; water system repairs and testing; general repairs of picnic tables, fire rings, signs, information boards; noxious weed removal; and visitor contacts. With funding from this project the forest would hire temporary employees to perform the needed maintenance work across the forest.

The OHV Forest Ranger project will hire OHV Rangers, purchase educational materials and provide OHV training. The goal of this project is to educate the public on State and Federal OHV regulations, responsible trail riding etiquette, resource protection and provide forest information related to other activities/uses. The Rangers will be working to improve the relationship between the multiple users and continue to lead the CNF OHV Ambassador Program established in 2015. This program and its volunteers continue to successfully partner with the Rangers to educate, self-patrol and build solid working relationships within the OHV community.

Thank you for your consideration.

PEND OREILLE COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS


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Stephen Kiss, Vice-Chair


Karen Skoog, Commissioner

Brad Manke
Interim Chairman of the Board

John Olson
Interim Commissioner

Lori Larsen
Interim Commissioner

Lorrie Sampson
Interim Commissioner

Julie James
Interim Commissioner

Leslie Valz
Interim Commissioner

Tim Rasmussen
Interim Commissioner



Michelle Enright
Clerk of the Board

Jonnie Brown
Assistant Clerk

Lois Haag
Assistant Clerk

Stevens County Commissioners

215 South Oak St, Colville, WA 99114-2861

Location: 230 East Birch, Colville WA

Phone: 509-684-3751 Fax: 509-684-8310

Email: commissioners@stevenscountywa.gov

October 21, 2020

Recreation and Conservation Office

Re: Colville National Forest Developed & Dispersed Site Maintenance and OHV Forest Ranger Program

The Board of County Commissioners support the pursuit of grant funding for the above-referenced projects.

Recreation sites are an important part of the effort to open the forest to the outdoor enthusiasts. These sites can be challenging to maintain, but it is crucial to deter illegal dumping and other public health concerns. The operation and maintenance of 42 campgrounds, 92 trailheads and information sites, and 830 dispersed campsites across the Colville National Forest will provide jobs in Stevens County and give a boost to our economy.

The hiring of OHV rangers is a very important component to the education of the public on state and federal OHV regulations, responsible trail riding etiquette, resource protection and providing forest information related to other activities/uses. With the implementation of rangers, this will assist in the solution to illegal use by educating those who utilize the trails and encouraging the protection of the landscape. Building solid relationships between the Forest Service and the OHV community will certainly lead to improved recreation experiences.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'B Manke', written over a horizontal line.

Interim Chairman Brad Manke

On behalf of the Interim Board of County Commissioners



October 26, 2020

Recreation & Conservation Office

Re: Colville National Forest Grant Application

The Tri County Economic Development District supports applying for RCO grant funding to continue Colville National Forest OHV Ranger Program and Colville National Forest Recreation Site Maintenance.

The Colville National Forest (CNF) provides extensive outdoor recreation opportunities in Northeast Washington and is a key asset for economic development as the area transitions from a resource-based economy to an economy where tourism and recreation play an ever-growing role.

The Off-highway Vehicle (OHV) community are enthusiastic about the opportunities on the Colville National Forest, and the Rangers provide a much-needed conduit to provide information about which trails and areas are open to legal OHV use. It is important to build and foster positive relationships between the CNF and this rapidly growing segment of trail users.

Continued maintenance of forest recreation areas not only provides jobs, but also provides a safer and generally better experience for visitors. While protecting our natural resources, continued maintenance will ensure that users will return again and again.

As the pandemic continues, more and more people are seeking outdoor recreation on the Colville National Forest (CNF) as a way to escape restrictions in urban areas. Many are new to the protocols, etiquette and best practices of recreating outdoors and it is more important than ever for the CNF to be able to provide a safe and educational experience for these new outdoor enthusiasts. RCO funding will go a long way to insure that this is possible.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jeff Koffel".

Jeff Koffel
Executive Director

BUSINESS & FINANCE ASSISTANCE



International Selkirk Loop

PO Box 920 ~ Bonners Ferry, ID 83805

PO Box 2079 ~ Creston, BC V0B 1G0

208 267 0822 ~ 888 823 2626

selkirkloop.org ~ selkirkloop@frontier.com

October 22, 2020

Recreation & Conservation Office

RE: Colville National Forest Grant Applications

Dear Sirs

On behalf of the International Selkirk Loop, I fully endorse the Colville National Forests' applications to receive funding for the operation and maintenance of the their Recreation Sites.

The International Selkirk Loop is a Scenic Byway located in Northern Idaho, Eastern Washington, and Southeastern British Columbia. Our mission is to enhance the economies of the communities along our route through the promotion of tourism, thereby creating opportunities for the communities to attract and serve visitors. Hiking, RV travel and camping have always been top requests from our travelers, but we have seen an additional increase due to COVID. The proposed projects will greatly enhance the visitors experience in the area and are also needed for safety. Eastern Washington is seeing an increase in tourism and these projects will exemplify and produce long-term strategic benefits for this region.

The ISL supports the proposed projects and recommends their full consideration.

Sincerely

Stephanie Sims
Executive Director



To Whom It May Concern,

I have had the pleasure of working with the recreation, lands, and special use staff from the Tonasket ranger district on a couple projects that really benefited my carpenter program here at the Curlew Job Corps, as well as the Concrete, Masonry, and Welding Programs who have also contributed to projects in the District Campgrounds. All of our projects have gone extremely well and the opportunity for our students to work off center on these projects is very educational. I think Elizabeth Peterson, Chris Williams and their staff do an exceptional job at designing, managing and finishing these jobs in a timely fashion, the students take a lot of pride in the work they are doing and is something they will remember for a long time. We hope to get more projects in the years to come.

We enjoyed working with Elizabeth, Chris and their crew and from my students and myself we can't wait till the next project .

Carpentry Program- Curlew Job Corps:
Instructors Bill Norwill and Dan Dobson

North Cascades Mountain Hostel

209 Castle Ave • Winthrop, WA 98862 • Phone: 206-940-4507
E-Mail: info@ncascadesmtnhostel.com Web: www.ncascadesmtnhostel.com



Date: 10/16/2020

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA98504-0917

In support of:

- 20-2137: MVRD Wilderness & Backcountry Rangers 2022-2023
- 20-2126: Methow Valley Climbing Rangers 2022-2023
- 20-2134: MVRD Trail Maintenance 2022-2023
- 20-2135: MVRD Mixed Use Deferred Trail Maintenance 2022-2023
- 20-2133 MVRD Developed Rec Campground Maintenance 2022-23

To Whom It May Concern:

As a business member of the lodging community in the Methow Valley, our guests utilize a multitude of the FS resources including trailheads, parking, restrooms, campgrounds, and most importantly- trails. These invaluable resources allow our guests to explore the beauty and magnificence of the area we call home. Without them, it would make it difficult for the average American to enjoy our US Forest Service lands. The kind of work that these grants support allow our guests to access this land safely, tread lightly and open up forest access to folks that might not know about the region otherwise.

As an American, I believe our public lands are our greatest assets. The recreational opportunities that these lands provide is the lifeblood to any recreational based tourist town in the US. Our area was revitalized as a "theme" town in the 1970's to help support a struggling area economy that was based on logging and mining that had slowed down to almost a halt. A tourist based replacement economy was created to provide a more sustainable economic option versus large-scale resource extraction. This is our legacy. With the neighboring National Park and State Lands, the Forest Service recreational assets forms the basis for our current economy and all the associated businesses such as mine that depend heavily on what these government lands provide recreationally.

As a representative of small business owners and other lodging operations, I would urge your office to strongly consider supporting the grants listed above. Not only do they provide access to this world-class recreational opportunity to the greater public; they provide the foundation for much of the revenue generated in this mountain town community.

Sincerely,

Paul Smotherman

Owner/Operator

North Cascades Mountain Hostel

October 12, 2020

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

RE: Support for 2022-2023 Methow Valley Climbing Rangers Grant Applications:

- MVRD Wilderness and Backcountry Rangers
- MV Climbing Rangers
- MVRD Trail Maintenance
- MVRD Mixed use Deferred Trail Maintenance
- MVRD Motorized Trail Maintenance
- MVRD Developed Rec Campsite Maintenance

To Whom it May Concern:

Okanogan County Search and Rescue Association (OCSAR) writes this letter to express support of the Methow Valley Ranger District (MVRD)'s proposals referenced above. All of these proposals assist OCSAR with our mission of assisting the Okanogan County Sheriff's Department on Search and Rescue (SAR) missions.

The MVRD encompasses a huge amount of both designated wilderness (the Pasayten and the Lake Chelan-Sawtooth wilderness) and non-wilderness area in Okanogan County. OSCAR, during SAR missions, will be able to reap the benefits of these grants by the work of the Methow Valley Ranger District.

With COVID-19, the Methow Valley area has seen a huge influx of recreation visitors from urban areas. These grants are now needed more than ever.

Specifically, the grants will assist OCSAR the following ways.

MVRD Wilderness and Backcountry Rangers – This grant continues the Wilderness and Backcountry program to perform in-field visitor contacts to promote and enforce regulations in high-use recreation areas by horseback, day-

OKANOGAN COUNTY

hiking and backpack patrols. With the before mentioned influx of new visitors to the area, this program is needed more than ever. With more in-field visitor contacts, this reduces the likelihood of SAR services needed for these visitors.

MV Climbing Rangers - This grant continues the MVRD Climbing Ranger program at education about good climbing practices. OCSAR does have a high-angle rescue team that is trained in vertical rescues on the local climbing walls. Needless to say, the education program aimed at climbers provided by the MV climbing rangers helps ensure that our services will be needed less frequently.

MVRD Trail Maintenance – OCSAR during our search and rescue missions benefits immensely from the work provided by these grants as part of the trail maintenance program.

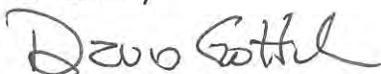
MVRD Mixed Use Deferred Trail Maintenance - Having personally been on a lot of trails, I can attest that there is a huge backlog of needed trail maintenance. OCSAR benefits from this grant by making it easier to access the different parts of our coverage area in a timelier manner.

MVRD Motorized Trail Maintenance - OCSAR has an ATV team that specializes in search and rescue in non-wilderness portions of the backcountry and as such the trail maintenance provided by this grant will help OCSAR in our missions.

MVRD Developed Rec Campsite Maintenance – OSCAR will use the trailheads as a base of operations on search and rescue missions. This maintenance provided by this grant help us do our mission.

When a recreational visitor is lost, cold, hungry, or injured, hours seem like days, and days seem like a lifetime. These grants directly impact Okanogan County Search and Rescue in the timely performance of our mission of incident response in search and rescue operations and as such OCSAR supports MVRD proposals.

Sincerely



David Gottula

President – Okanogan County Search and Rescue Association



We connect people, nature and communities through a world-class trail system

October 2, 2020

To RCO Board and Staff Members,

Thank you for this opportunity to share our organizations enthusiasm for the following projects submitted by the USFS.

1. 20-2137 EDU, MVRD Wilderness & Backcountry Rangers 2022-2023 Category: NOVA Education & Enforcement
2. 20-2126 E Methow Valley Climbing Rangers 2022-2023 Category: NOVA Education & Enforcement
3. 20-2133 MNT, MVRD DEVELOPED REC CAMPGROUND MAINTENANCE 2022-23 Category: NOVA Non-Highway
4. 20-2134: MVRD Trail Maintenance 2022-2023 Category: NOVA Non-Motorized, Maintenance
5. 20-2135: MVRD Mixed Use Deferred Trail Maintenance 2022-2023 Category: Recreation Trails Program, Maintenance
6. 20-2136: MVRD Motorized Trail Maintenance 2022-2023 Category: NOVA Off Road Vehicle, Maintenance & Operation

As a 44 year old non-profit organization in the Methow Valley in Okanogan County that supports \$12.4 million annually into the local economy, over 150 FTE jobs, and 250,000 recreational experiences annually that inspire care and stewardship for the land, I am writing to express my strong support for these projects.

This projects builds upon significant previous public and private investments in trails and recreation in iconic landscapes here in the Methow Valley. I encourage RCO to support these projects for the benefit of the local economy, people and wildlife of Washington State.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'James DeSalvo', is written over a horizontal line.

James DeSalvo
Executive Director
Methow Trails



October 14, 2020

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office

Subject: Support for RCO Grants for Methow Valley Ranger District

I am writing as a small business and resident of the Methow Valley in support of the following RCO Grant applications:

20-2137 EDU, MVRD Wilderness & Backcountry Rangers 2022-2023

20-2126 E Methow Valley Climbing Rangers 2022-2023

20-2133 MNT, MVRD DEVELOPED REC CAMPGROUND MAINTENANCE 2022-23

20-2134: MVRD Trail Maintenance 2022-2023

20-2135: MVRD Mixed Use Deferred Trail Maintenance 2022-2023

20-2136: MVRD Motorized Trail Maintenance 2022-2023

The Methow Valley is a majestic place primarily because of the wild lands that surround us. My business exists solely because of the visitors who come to hike, bike, and climb in and around these Forest Service lands. Over the past several years, we have seen exponential growth in USFS land users. Campgrounds are full as are trailhead parking lots as well as the trails themselves. These assets must be maintained to continue to provide value to those who visit our valley for its diverse beauty.

During this past year, I have had the pleasure of seeing the previous RCO Grant money in action. I've walked past countless trees that were cleared from trails across the Valley. In particular, I was thrilled to be able to hike the West Fork Methow Trail and see the awesome tread work and clearing that was completed. The crew is within 2 miles of connecting to the PCT which will re-open amazing loop options that do not currently exist. Campgrounds were full this whole COVID summer and are in dire need of maintenance. I saw a crew of USFS staff near the Maple Pass Trail and they were doing an amazing job of educating visitors on trail etiquette on an over-loved trail.

Maybe my most heartfelt support goes to the Climbing Ranger Program. My business benefits directly from having a vibrant climbing community in the Valley. This past year, the Climbing Rangers were out in force at the local crags and in the Alpine near Washington Pass. The climbing community received excellent value from the RCO Grant dollars through educating climbers on safety and sustainable practices on the rock. They also were seen doing some incredible work near Fun Rock to create a safe and long lasting area from which to recreate.

I also had the opportunity to ride my bike on the Angel's Staircase loop east of the Sawtooth Chelan Wilderness and saw firsthand the need for trail work in that area. Trails are trenched and loose from years of motorized travel without adequate maintenance. That area is spectacular for its beauty and the diverse opportunities for motorized riders, hikers, equestrians, and bikers. It needs help soon before the damage becomes worse.

With the large increase in visitors during this COVID summer, we can only expect to see more visitors next summer. These RCO Grants are incredibly important to the local economy and, even more important, to the environment that makes this valley so special to so many.

Sincerely,

CB Thomas – Goat's Beard Mountain Supplies


 The logo for Methow Valley Trails Collaborative features a green graphic of a trail leading to a double arrow pointing right, followed by the text "Methow Valley Trails Collaborative" in a green, sans-serif font.

Methow Valley Trails Collaborative

October 21, 2020

To whom it may concern,

We are writing to express our support and endorsement for following projects for the Methow Valley Ranger District. We support these project because it aligns with our mission to build and strengthen relationships among trail managers, advocates and user groups to support and enhance sustainable trail experiences in the Methow Valley. For more information on our organization, please visit our website: [Methow Valley Trails Collaborative](#).

Wilderness Grants: NOVA Education & Enforcement Category

20-2137 EDU, MVRD Wilderness & Backcountry Rangers 2022-2023

Category: NOVA Education & Enforcement

The Methow Valley Ranger District of the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest will use this grant to fund three seasonal rangers and several volunteers to provide education and enforcement activities during two field seasons. Rangers will perform in-field visitor contacts to promote leave-no-trace techniques and enforce regulations in high-use recreation areas along the North Cascades Scenic Corridor, Hart's Pass, Pasayten Wilderness and Lake Chelan-Sawtooth Wilderness areas. Patrols would be conducted by horseback using pack and saddle stock as well as day hiking and backpacking. The primary recreation opportunity provided by this project is education of non-motorized recreationists.

Climbing Grants: NOVA Education & Enforcement Category

20-2126 E Methow Valley Climbing Rangers 2022-2023

Category: NOVA Education & Enforcement

The Methow Valley Ranger District of the Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest will use this grant to fund the continuation of the MVRD Climbing Ranger Program, as funded by prior grants and successfully operated from 2016 to present. Climbing Rangers and volunteer Climber Stewards will make visitor contacts at the district's popular and renowned climbing areas of the North Cascades and Methow Valley. The goals of the program are to educate climbers on environmentally and socially responsible climbing practices, identify and manage environmental impacts and educational needs associated with climbing, continue building relationships within the community and with climbing organizations, collect visitor use and resource data, and enforce regulations. The primary recreational opportunity provided will be environmentally and socially responsible rock climbing and mountaineering.

Developed Recreation Grants: Maintenance & Operation Category

20-2133 MNT, MVRD DEVELOPED REC CAMPGROUND MAINTENANCE 2022-23

Category: NOVA Non-Highway

The Methow Valley Ranger District will use this grant to maintain 26 developed campgrounds, 29 trailheads, 2 picnic areas, and the Washington Pass Scenic Overlook, at sites located throughout the district. Maintenance activities include cleaning and servicing toilets, campsite cleaning and maintenance, noxious weed control, hazard tree removal, water system operation and maintenance, picnic table and fire grate repair and maintenance, bulletin board maintenance, visitor information, fee

collection, security patrols, mowing, garbage collection, and other miscellaneous duties. The goal is to provide clean, safe, well-maintained campgrounds and trailhead facilities for people engaging in a wide variety of recreation activities including camping, picnicking, sightseeing, scenic driving, and other types of recreation.

Trails Grants: NOVA and RTP Categories

20-2134: MVRD Trail Maintenance 2022-2023

Category: NOVA Non-Motorized, Maintenance

The Methow Valley Ranger District of the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest will use this grant to conduct trail maintenance including removing fallen trees, tread, drainage, erosion control, and brushing on the highest priority trails within the Pasayten Wilderness, portions of the Lake Chelan Sawtooth Wilderness, and surrounding backcountry areas. This includes the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail, Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail, the Rainy Lake ADA accessible trail, and popular hikes in the scenic North Cascades corridor. This grant will fund a full-time seasonal trail crew of 4 people plus pack support to work for two seasons and will be matched by over 2,500 hours of volunteer time. The primary recreation opportunity provided by this project is hiking, horseback riding, and some mountain biking.

20-2135: MVRD Mixed Use Deferred Trail Maintenance 2022-2023

Category: Recreation Trails Program, Maintenance

The Methow Valley Ranger District will use this funding to support trail maintenance activities and to address deferred maintenance needs on a diverse mix of summer trails, including: portions of the Lake Chelan Sawtooth Wilderness, portions of the Pasayten Wilderness, and trails in the Twisp River drainage, including many trails that have been heavily impacted by fires. The district will also work on restoring functionality to the Lone Fir trail which is an ADA accessible trail. This grant will focus on the trails with the highest need and those most at threat for being lost due to deferred maintenance. Maintenance activities include: clearing downfall from trails, addressing tread and drainage issues on priority sections of backlogged trails, performing erosion control on fire-affected trails, and replacing non-functional trail structures such as bridges and puncheon, as well as maintaining trails to standards for summer use. These trails support recreation for hikers, equestrians, mountain bikers, and ADA accessible trail users.

20-2136: MVRD Motorized Trail Maintenance 2022-2023

Category: NOVA Off Road Vehicle, Maintenance & Operation

The Methow Valley Ranger District will use this funding to maintain trails for primarily motorized trail users in the Sawtooth Backcountry and the Lightning / Beaver Creek drainages. This grant will fund three employees for summer trail maintenance, and will be matched by volunteers from the Northwest Motorcycle Association, and other partner groups. Trail maintenance will include: tread, drainage and logout on summer trails, and repair of damaged bridges to address trail maintenance backlogs. This project will primarily improve recreational opportunities for motorcycling recreation, along with some mountain biking, hiking, and equestrian opportunities.

Sincerely,

Adrienne Schaefer

Adrienne Schaefer

Communications Coordinator, Methow Valley Trails Collaborative



October 15, 2020

Recreation and Conservation Office
 P.O. Box 40917
 Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

**RE: 20-2126: Methow Valley Climbing Rangers 2022-2023;
 20-2137: MVRD Wilderness & Backcountry Rangers 2022-2023;
 20-2134: MVRD Trail Maintenance 2022-2023; and
 20-2133: MVRD Developed Rec Campground Maintenance 2022-23**

Dear evaluation committee members,

Please accept our joint letter of support from the seven undersigned climbing organizations and guide companies for the Methow Valley Ranger District (MVRD)'s proposals for 20-2126: Methow Valley Climbing Rangers 2022-2023, 20-2137: MVRD Wilderness & Backcountry Rangers 2022-2023, 20-2134: MVRD Trail Maintenance 2022-2023, and 20-2133: MVRD Developed Rec Campground Maintenance 2022-23. These proposals promote education of Washington's climbing community, improve the recreational experience, and help protect the climbing environment. We strongly support these projects and the value that they will bring to recreationalists in the Methow Valley.

The MVRD encompasses many rock climbing and mountaineering destinations of local, regional and international significance; a few of which are the Washington Pass Spires such as Liberty Bell, the Wine Spires of Silver Star Peak, Goat Wall, and dozens of crags and bouldering areas in the Mazama area, the North Cascades Scenic Corridor, and the Chewuch River Valley. Climbing history in this district dates back 70 years and, with over 400 published climbing routes, the popularity of climbing continues to grow. Climbers make up over 11,000 visitor use days in a single season on the MVRD.

The Methow Valley Climbing Rangers program has been successfully operating since 2016 and continues its important work of educating climbers on environmentally and socially responsible climbing practices, collecting use and resource data, identifying environmental impacts, building relationships within the community, and enforcing regulations. In 2018 and 2019, the program was a critical component of the collaborative Washington Pass Spires Access Trail Project, which brought together hundreds of community partners, \$130,000 in grassroots fundraising, and thousands of volunteer work hours to establish a sustainable trail system on the western slopes of the Liberty Bell group.

In conjunction with the Climbing Rangers program, the MVRD Wilderness and Backcountry Rangers proposal will fund three seasonal rangers and several volunteers to perform in-field visitor contacts to promote leave-no-trace techniques and enforce regulations in high-use recreation areas along the North

Cascades Scenic Corridor, Hart's Pass, Pasayten Wilderness and Lake Chelan-Sawtooth Wilderness areas.

In addition to the above, our recreational user group frequently use the extensive network of trails and campgrounds outlined in the MVRD Trail Maintenance and Developed Rec Campground Maintenance proposals. Use numbers at trailheads, campsites, and other facilities in the Methow Valley grew exponentially in the summer of 2020 as visitors sought out safe, outdoor activities in the midst of a global pandemic. It is more important than ever to support land managers in the maintenance of these high-use trails and facilities to minimize damage from human waste, litter, camping in environmentally fragile areas, and other unintended impacts.

The climbing and mountaineering community as a group is conscientious of access and environmental issues in the areas that they recreate. When resources are available to educate them, they can be one of the most thoughtful and proactive user groups in terms of preservation and impact minimization. We are excited about the potential of these programs to preserve the quality of outdoor experiences for all future users of the MVRD. We believe that the money granted for these programs would be very well spent preserving and improving the nature of our public lands and the experience one can get from it.

We look forward to supporting MVRD with volunteer, outreach, and educational support and we sincerely thank the MVRD for their collaboration and commitment to maintaining and improving the recreational experience in the Methow Valley.

Sincerely,

Joe Sambataro, Northwest Regional Director Chelsea Sweetin, President Access Fund Washington Alpine Club joe@accessfund.org wacboard@googlegroups.com accessfund.org washingtonalpineclub.org

Andrew Puhl, Policy Volunteer Ashley Siple, President American Alpine Club - Cascade Section Washington Climbers Coalition cascade@americanalpineclub.org ahsiple@gmail.com americanalpineclub.org washingtonclimbers.org

Matt Wade, Advocacy and Policy Director
American Mountain Guides Association
matt@amga.com
amga.com

Betsy Robblee, Conservation & Advocacy Director
The Mountaineers
betsyr@mountaineers.org
mountaineers.org

Mark Allen, Owner
The Mountain Bureau
markallen@mountainbureau.com
mountainbureau.com



Northwest Motorcycle Association
969 Green Mountain Road
Mossyrock, WA 98564

October 12, 2020

Re: Grant Support Letter Methow Valley Ranger Districts

20-2137 EDU, MVRD Wilderness & Backcountry Rangers 2022-23, 20-2133 MNT, MVRD DEVELOPED REC CAMPGROUND MAINTENANCE 2022-23, 20-2134 MVRD Trail maintenance, 20-2135; MVRD Mixed Use Deferred Trail Maintenance program, 20-2136: MVRD Motorized Trail Maintenance 2022-2023

Dear RCO Grant Review Committee,

I am pleased to write a letter of support on behalf of the Northwest Motorcycle Association. The Forest Service recreation program is sadly underfunded. The trails and campgrounds see an increasing amount of use as maintenance falls further and further behind. The US Forest Service depends on RCO grant support to fund education, enforcement and maintenance programs on the National Forest. As a volunteer coordinator and trails advocate I collaborate closely with the recreation managers in the Entiat, Methow, Cle Elum and Wenatchee River Ranger Districts. To date this year Northwest Motorcycle Association Volunteers have recorded 4160 volunteer hours Many of those hours on Central Washington Trails. The Methow district sees about 300 - 500 hours annually. Many of these hours are from Coulee Rider work parties. This group and other volunteers are responsible for all the log out on the sawtooth multi use trail system. I am working to get more of the volunteer hours in this area recorded as I know not all the hours are being accounted for. The Entiat Ranger District has been very supportive of volunteer efforts and put together a cache of tools for volunteers to access. We have used these tools to make an impact on trails that otherwise would not see maintenance. We also create volunteer hours to support matching grant funds. The Methow is also looking at doing a similar program. I strongly believe in getting tools in the hands of willing volunteers. The Cle Elum Ranger District also has a very successful volunteer program. The Forest Service was created to protect and maintain land for everyone's enjoyment. With ever shrinking budgets the amount of money available to properly maintain the trail systems is just not available. It is sad to see our trails going away from lack of maintenance. Working together in partnership with RCO funding and volunteers is the way we can keep our trails open and maintained to all users.

Thank you for your consideration

Sincerely,

Sean Clarke

Northwest Motorcycle Association

Sean Clarke - Central Washington Trails Project

Marc Toenyan - President

Dale Williams - Vice President

Tod Petersen - Land Use/Legislative Coordinator



State of Washington
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
South Central Region 3 • 1701 South 24th Avenue, Yakima, WA 98902-5720
Telephone: (509) 575-2740 • Fax: (509) 575-2474

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504

Dec. 8, 2020

RE. Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest letter of support

To Whom It May Concern:

I would like to express Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's support for the Cle Elum Ranger District's proposals to perform education and enforcement, maintain dispersed camping areas/trailheads/campgrounds, and perform trail maintenance in the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest. These applications will fund the stewardship of our public lands, protect natural resources, and educate the public on ways to responsibly use the forest and adjacent public lands.

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife manages over 1 million acres of land, some of which is in checkerboard with the Okanogan-Wenatchee Forest. The public uses these lands interchangeably and we must work together to meet our goals of proper land management. Funding the U.S. Forest Service's trail, infrastructure, and educational programs provides a valuable public service and protects habitat for wildlife. Land managers statewide are seeing a dramatic increase in the use of public lands and we must all work together to manage for sustainable recreation that protects proper habitat function.

We are pleased to support these projects and recommend them for funding. Should you have any questions about our endorsement of these projects please contact Melissa Babik at Melissa.babik@dfw.wa.gov. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Melissa Babik
L.T. Murray Wildlife Area Manager
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
509-899-9686
Melissa.babik@dfw.wa.gov



Making a difference for salmon

December 2, 2020

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Cle Elum Ranger District of the U.S. Forest Service's 2020 RTP and NOVA grant application proposals

Dear Members of the Review Committee:

I am writing in support for the Cle Elum Ranger District's proposal to the Recreation and Conservation Office's RTP and NOVA winter and summer grant programs. These applications request funding for the District to improve winter recreation, keep trails open and in safe condition, maintain campgrounds, protect natural resources, and educate recreationists to improve overall recreational experience on Forest Service managed lands within Kittitas County.

Mid-Columbia Fisheries works with partners to restore salmon, steelhead, and bull trout habitat in the watersheds of the Cle Elum Ranger District. Unmanaged recreation poses a significant threat to fish habitat. We have worked with the Cle Elum Ranger District to protect and restore riparian and in-stream habitat for more than 15 years. We are well-aware of the critical need for RCO funds to support outreach, maintenance, and sanitation. We are grateful for RCO's past support of this work.

Mid-Columbia Fisheries is pleased to recommend the Cle Elum Ranger District's proposals for funding. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rebecca Wassell". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Rebecca Wassell
Yakima Basin Program Director



Kittitas County, Washington
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

District One
Cory Wright

District Two
Laura Osiadacz

District Three
Brett Wachsmith

December 21, 2020

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Cle Elum Ranger District of the U.S. Forest Service's 2020 RTP and NOVA Grant Application Proposals

To Whom it may concern:

The Kittitas County Board of Commissioners strongly endorses the Cle Elum Ranger District's application for the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) NOVA and RTP winter and summer grant program. These funds are essential for the Cle Elum Ranger District's ability to preserve a wide range of recreational opportunities on USFS lands. Some examples of the types of work conducted on these forests which benefit not only the community, but also recreationalists from across the State of Washington include: ensuring trails are maintained, campgrounds remain open, and natural resources are protected.

Kittitas County and the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest have experienced a dramatic increase in the number of recreationalists enjoying the great outdoors. Keeping up with the demands on our public lands is becoming more challenging each year as funding is not keeping up with the rate of increased use. We are pleased to support this grant application and recommend full funding to ensure the Cle Elum Ranger District can continue to provide excellent recreation opportunities while being good stewards of the land.

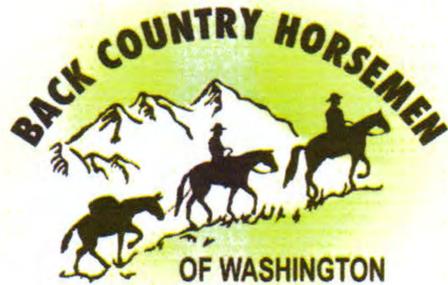
Sincerely,

Kittitas County Board of Commissioners


Brett Wachsmith, Chairman


Laura Osiadacz, Vice-Chair


Cory Wright, Commissioner



BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF WASHINGTON
PO Box 1132
ELLENSBURG, WA 98926
WWW.BCHW.ORG

December 7, 2020

Cle Elum Ranger District
802 West 2nd Street
Cle Elum, WA 98922

Re: Frontcountry Support

To Whom It May Concern,

I serve as the President of the Back Country Horsemen of Washington and I am writing this letter in support of the Cle Elum Ranger District's Frontcountry program.

Backcountry Horseman of Washington has a long history of working cooperatively with the Cle Elum Ranger District trail crews to improve trails and structures that provide service to both hikers and stock users. Frontcountry issues like education, enforcement, maintenance and operation, sanitation at trailheads and campgrounds and dispersed camping areas, are more important now than ever before.

Covid has led to a significant increase in frontcountry users, many of which are new to outdoor recreation. This past season has proven that there is much work to do on education, enforcement, and ongoing sanitation issues associated with frontcountry areas and we fully support the full implementation of the frontcountry program.

Thank you for your consideration and support.

Sincerely,

Jason Ridlon
President, Back Country Horseman of Washington, Trail Work Coordinator

Jason Ridlon
BCHW President
Trail Work Coordinator

Back Country Horsemen of Washington (BCHW), is a 501 (c) (3) organization with 32 chapters across the state dedicated to: keeping trails open for all users; educating horse users in Leave-No-Trace practices; and providing volunteer service to resource agencies.

KITTITAS COUNTY**SHERIFF'S OFFICE***Clay Myers, Sheriff*

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: USFS Cle Elum Ranger District's 2021 RCO and RTP/NOVA Grant Application Proposals

To whom it may concern:

The Kittitas County Sheriff's Office supports the US Forest Service Cle Elum Ranger District's applications for the Recreation and Conservation Office NOVA and RTP winter and summer grants. Much of the work that is done with this grant money; building trail bridges, trail maintenance, signage, constructing new motorized and non-motorized trails, winter snow grooming, removing known hazards, amongst other projects, really does help the citizens of Kittitas County, as well as it's visitors, stay safe in the outdoors. The Kittitas County Sheriff's Office is responsible for Search and Rescue missions within Kittitas County and the Cle Elum Ranger District and we are very busy with SAR Missions in both the winter and summer. The funding from these grants and subsequent projects help us with these SAR missions, as we know that most of the trails in Kittitas County are well marked, maintained, and routes groomed in the winter. Because of this, our SAR teams can access the injured or lost that much quicker.

Thank you,

Ellis Nale

Deputy Ellis Nale
SAR Coordinator
Kittitas County Sheriff's Office
307 W Umptanum Rd
Ellensburg, WA 98926
Phone: 509-962-7525
Email: james.nale@co.kittitas.wa.us

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

To whom it may concern:

Kittitas Conservation Trust strongly endorses grant funding for the Cle Elum Ranger District's RCO and RTP (winter and summer programs). These grants help fund programs such as trail/frontcountry maintenance and operation, wilderness/OHV/frontcountry education and enforcement, and sanitation rentals. These projects have a combined effect of enhancing recreation on public land in Kittitas County, but also contribute to the protection and enhancement of fish and wildlife habitat.

Field going Forest Service employees making education and enforcement contacts near critical fish habitat and within riparian areas helps to limit the negative impacts from recreationist in these areas.

Maintenance and operation grants help keep trails maintained preventing sediment from running into streams. Maintenance and operation grants also mean large scale dumpsites, nears lakes and streams and cleaned up and litter does not contaminate nearby waterways. In addition, the placement of porta-pots in the same areas helps improve water quality and sanitation.

We feel these grants align with the goal of Kittitas Conservation Truck to protect and enhance fish and wildlife habitat and recreational assest.

Sincerely,

Mitchell Long
Executive Director – Kittitas Conservation Trust
mlong@kittitasconservationtrust.org
509-649-2951



President
Tod McDonald (*), Co-Founder
Valid8 Financial

President-Elect
Eric Artz (*), EVP/COO
REI Co-op

Founding President
Jim Ellis, Chairman Emeritus
Washington State Convention Center

Immediate Past President
Kurt Fraese (*), Fraese and Associates

Secretary
Josh M. Lipsky (*), Partner
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Jason Broenneke (*), Partner
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Fundraising Committee Chair
Ken Krivanec (*), President
Quadrant Homes

Board Engagement Committee Chair
Marie Quasius (*), Attorney
K&L Gates LLP

20-2064 NOVA NHR #5

Program Committee Chair
Doug McClelland (X*), Former Assistant Region Manager
Washington State Department of Natural Resources

Executive Director
Jon Hoekstra (*)
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust

October 5, 2020

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Cle Elum Ranger District of the U.S. Forest Service's 2020 RTP and NOVA grant application proposals

To Whom it may concern:

On behalf of the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust, I would like to express our organization's enthusiastic support for the Cle Elum Ranger District's proposal to the Recreation and Conservation Office's RTP and NOVA winter and summer grant programs. These applications will provide funding for the District to improve winter recreation, keep trails open and in safe condition, maintain campgrounds, protect natural resources, and educate recreationists to improve overall recreational experience on Forest Service managed lands within Kittitas County.

The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust leads and inspires action to conserve and enhance 1.5 million acres between Puget Sound and Ellensburg. Our work connects natural areas, trails, working farm and forests, communities, wildlife habitat and recreation opportunities along the I-90 corridor. We also strive to support partners who own and manage the lands within the Greenways boundaries, and recognize the immense value of their recreation infrastructure, education programs, and restoration activities in creating opportunities to connect people with the outdoors.

Funding the U.S. Forest Service's trail, infrastructure, restoration and educational programs not only enhances the local economy, it also provides a valuable public service to local and regional visitors. The Greenway boundary was designated a National Heritage Area in 2019, and is sure to see more visitors as the area's profile continues to grow. In light of this increased use, the Forest Service's efforts to keep its trails, safe, well-maintained, and of limited impact to the surrounding natural resources will be key.

We are pleased to express support for this project and recommend it for funding. Please do not hesitate to reach out to our Upper Yakima Basin staff-person, Nicole Pasi, at nicky.pasi@mtsgreenway.org, should you have any questions about our endorsement of this important project. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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and becker@mayerl
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American Whitewater
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Julia Parrish, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs,
College of Environment, University of Washington
Kizz Prusia, Project Associate, Triangle Associates
Charles Raines, Director Cascade Checkerboard Project, Sierra Club
Janet Ray, Retired, Assistant VP, Corporate Affairs & Publishing,
AAA Washington
Jim Reinhardtsen (*), Principal & Senior Managing Director,
HEARTLAND LLC
Floyd Rogers, Environmental Advocate
Vik Sahney, The Mountaineers; American Alpine Club
Jill Simmons, Executive Director, Washington Trails Association
Al Smith, Partner, Perkins Coie LLP
David Sturtevant, Retired, Vice President, CH2M Hill
Maryanne Tagney, Community at Large Representative
Chris Thomas, Senior Vice President, Government Market Head,
Property & Buildings Sector, WSP USA
Harry Thomas, Chief Marketing Officer, AAA Washington
Leah Tivoli, Organizational Performance Manager,
City Budget Office, Seattle
Mike Williams (X), Supervisor,
USFS Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest
Kathy Williams, Retired, Former Senior Vice President,
HomeStreet Bank
Joel Yoker, Principal Program Manager, Microsoft;
Snoqualmie Valley Youth Activities and Community Center

(* Executive Committee Member
(X) Ex-Officio (non-voting) Director

MTSGREENWAY.ORG

2701 FIRST AVENUE SUITE 240 SEATTLE, WA 98121 | 206.382.5565 | INFO@MTSGREENWAY.ORG



Jon Hoekstra
Executive Director
Mountain to Sound Greenway Trust
(206) 890-1474
jon.hoekstra@mtsgreenway.org



CITY OF ROSLYN

National Historic District and Preserve America Community

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Cle Elum Ranger District of the U.S. Forest Service’s 2020 RTP and NOVA grant application proposals

To Whom it may concern:

The city of Roslyn strongly endorses Cle Elum Ranger District’s RCO winter and summer RTP and NOVA grant funding for the U.S. Forest Service Cle Elum Ranger District in its effort to improve winter recreation, keep trail open and maintained, maintain campgrounds, protect natural resources, and educate recreationists to improve the overall recreational experience on Forest Service managed land within Kittitas County.

Tourism in general and outdoor recreation are the major economic drivers for Kittitas County, which is responsible for thousands of jobs and hundreds of millions of dollars in annual revenue. Public land managed by the U.S. Forest Service is one of the most popular outdoor destinations for our visitors and we strongly urge you to support these valuable and needed public lands.

Please feel free to contact me for further questions or further details about the City of Roslyn support.

Sincerely,

Brent Hals
Mayor
City of Roslyn



Washington Outdoor School
P.O Box 327
Roslyn WA, 98941

Cle Elum Ranger District
803 W. 2nd St
Cle Elum, WA 98922
Attn Brian Speeg

October 14, 2020

Dear Members of the Review Committee:

I am writing to whole heartedly support funding the RCO grants for the USFS Cle Elum Ranger District. I am the Director of Washington Outdoor School, a nature-based education program in Kittitas County that serves children 0 to 13 in all outdoor settings, many of which are made safe and stewarded by the Cle Elum Ranger District. Our over 100 students are learning how they, too, can take care of the natural world they love to explore year-round. Not only do we benefit from immersion opportunities on forest service lands, USFS Biologists from the local district routinely visit our classes sharing their enthusiasm for and immense knowledge about the plants and animals who share our communities and are intricately tied to the health of the land and waters on which we all depend. Our region has definitely seen a rise in user ship over the past few years that has intensified even more with the current pandemic. Our local wild places need more protection now than ever before and I trust the local Ranger District to make thoughtful, well-reasoned and inclusive decisions on how best to meet the growing needs of our forest lands to both protect the integrity of the land to promote a healthy ecosystem and still allow use by people. There are fine lines that require deft communication and understanding from a variety of points of view. We are so grateful for the hard work and commitment of all the folks who work at the Cle Elum Ranger District and know these funds will be used in the best possible way for the most significant and substantial impacts.

Please contact me at (206) 898-2041 if I can provide any further information about our support.

Sincerely,

Sibyl Maer-Fillo
Founder/ Director/ Teacher
Washington Outdoor School



October 29, 2020

Recreation and Conservation Office
 P.O. Box 40917
 Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

RE: 20-2313 WRRD CLIMBING RANGER EDUCATION PROGRAM;
20-2301 WRRD WILDERNESS AND BACKCOUNTRY - ENCHANTMENTS EMPHASIS;
20-2316 WRRD DEVELOPED & DISPERSED RECREATION;
20-2250 TRAIL MAINTENANCE FRONTCOUNTRY; AND
20-2245 TRAIL MAINTENANCE WILDERNESS

To Whom It May Concern:

We write to express continued support of the Wenatchee River Ranger District (WRRD) Climbing Ranger Education Program (20-2313) and the Wilderness and Backcountry Education and Enforcement (20-2301), as well as critical maintenance proposals for frontcountry trails, Wilderness trails, and dispersed recreation sites (20-2250, 20-2245, and 20-2316). All five proposals promote education of Washington's climbing community and help protect the climbing environment.

The WRRD encompasses many rock climbing and mountaineering destinations of local, regional and international significance; a few of which are Mount Stuart and the massifs of Prusik, Dragontail, and Colchuck Peaks. There are also countless other smaller crags and rocks in the district that have climbing history dating back 70 years. Washington climbers visit WRRD every season of the year, whether to climb rock, ice, boulders, or alpine objectives across the district.

Since 2012, WRRD's climbing ranger education program has participated and co-hosted several volunteer events, taught climbing-specific Leave No Trace seminars, made hundreds of contacts in the field, cleaned up countless climbs and staging areas, worked with partners to install a climbing information bulletin board, fencing, and temporary toilet facilities at a popular parking and bouldering area, and developed a WRRD Climbing Education Plan. All of this is done in a collaborative process with Leavenworth Mountain Association, Access Fund, Washington Climbers Coalition, American Alpine Club, Northwest Mountain School, The Mountaineers, and the Forest Service. We hope the WRRD Climbing

Education Program will continue to produce positive results in protecting the environment, creating a safe, positive recreational experience, and protecting NOVA opportunities.

The Enchantments and Stuart Range of the Alpine Lakes Wilderness of the WRRD continue to grow in popularity and use across all Wilderness recreational users. As WRRD struggles to meet the growing demands of this cherished Wilderness area, continued support from RCO for the Wilderness and Backcountry Education proposal will provide critical education of climbers and other recreational user groups in popular wilderness recreational areas.

Critical maintenance of trails, trailheads, dispersed recreation, and Wilderness must accompany education and enforcement programs to effectively address the growing needs and impacts of recreational users. In 2020, the Access Fund Conservation Team, Leavenworth Mountain Association, Washington Climbers Coalition, Washington Alpine Club, Mountain Madness, She Jumps, and Never Stop Moving supported the WRRD with critical trail work on the Snow Lakes Trail above Nada Lake. The Forest Service blasting crew and our trail crews completed rock work to make this Wilderness trail passable by stock to Snow Lakes, which will enable the WRRD to conduct future critical stewardship in the Enchantments. We support the necessary maintenance proposals for WRRD trailheads, dispersed sites, Wilderness trails and frontcountry trails.

The climbing community as a group is conscientious of access and environmental issues in the areas that they recreate. When resources are available to educate them, they can be one of the most thoughtful and proactive user groups in terms of preservation and impact minimization. We are excited about the potential of these programs to preserve the quality of outdoor experiences for all future users of the WRRD, including climbers. We believe that the money granted for these programs would be very well spent preserving and improving the nature of our public lands and the experience one can get from it. We look forward to supporting WRRD with volunteer, outreach, and educational support.

Sincerely,

Joe Sambataro, Northwest Regional Director
Access Fund
joe@accessfund.org
accessfund.org

Andrew Puhl, Policy Volunteer
American Alpine Club - Cascade Section
cascade@americanalpineclub.org
americanalpineclub.org

Matt Wade, Advocacy and Policy Director
American Mountain Guides Association
matt@amga.com
amga.com

Alison Miller, President
Leavenworth Mountain Association
info@leavenworthma.org
leavenworthma.org

Betsy Robblee, Conservation & Advocacy Director
The Mountaineers
betsyr@mountaineers.org
mountaineers.org

Mark Gunlogson, President
Mountain Madness
markg@mountainmadness.com
mountainmadness.com

Megan Fritz, Executive Director
Never Stop Moving
info@neverstopmoving.org
neverstopmoving.org

John Race, Co-owner
Northwest Mountain School
jr@mountainschool.com
mountainschool.com

Krystin Norman, Program Manager
She Jumps
knorman@shejumps.org
shejumps.org

Chelsea Sweetin, President
Washington Alpine Club
wacboard@googlegroups.com
washingtonalpineclub.org

Ashley Siple, President
Washington Climbers Coalition
ahsiple@gmail.com
washingtonclimbers.org



BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF WASHINGTON
PO Box 1132
ELLENSBURG, WA 98926
WWW.BCHW.ORG

October 30, 2020
Recreation and Conservation Office
1111 Washington Street S.E. #2
Olympia, WA 98501

Dear Recreation and Conservation funding board:

Back Country Horsemen of Washington is aware that the Snoqualmie Ranger District is applying for a number of grants from both the RTP and the NOVA categories. We endorse and support these grant applications. As long time recreation users and as an organization that does volunteer trail maintenance in the Snoqualmie Ranger District we are aware of the benefit these grants would provide.

The Snoqualmie Ranger District is currently applying for grants that include funding for front country and back country trail maintenance, Wilderness patrols and Snoqualmie Ranger District front country rangers. They also have submissions for the Evans Creek ORV area for maintenance and education and enforcement and are putting a grant proposal together for additional winter recreation support.

The Snoqualmie District recreation staff manages and coordinates volunteer hours annually that subsidize their efforts to provide a continued and valued recreation experience. Grants from the Recreation Conservation Office ensure that resources continue to be available for these efforts.

Thank you for your consideration,
Sincerely,

Kathy Young

Kathy Young
Public Lands Chairman
Back Country Horsemen of Washington
public_lands@bchw.org

October 25 , 2020

Recreation and Conservation Office

1111 Washington Street S.E. #2

Olympia, Wa 98501

Dear Recreation and Conservation funding board:

As President of the Hi- Country Snowmobile club, are aware that the Snoqualmie Ranger District is applying for a number of grants from both the RTP and the NOVA categories. We endorse and support these grant applications. As a long time recreational user and volunteer, (literally hundreds of volunteer hours) We are very aware of the benefit these grants would provide to the Snoqualmie Ranger District.

We have done many projects working side by side with the great people out at the Enumclaw Forest Service office.

Aside from the usual grants for trail maintenance, front country patrol, Evans Creek O.R.V. Campground volunteer coordinator and back country patrol, the District is also applying for grants to assist with fire recovery efforts for Corral Pass Campground. The entire Corral Pass campground was destroyed by the Norse Peak fire in 2017. I personally have been up there and inspected the fire damage, In addition, the Middle Fork Trail has a severe washout during the fall of 2017 and the popular Asehel Curtis picnic site off I-90 is in need of restoration.

The District recreation staff coordinate thousands of volunteer hours annually that subsidize their efforts to provide a continued and valued recreation experience. Grants from the Recreation Conservation Office ensure that resources continue to be available for these efforts. With the many "cut backs" of Federal money, these Grants are Extremely important to the Snoqualmie Ranger District to keep areas open, maintance , repair and Law Enforcement. We feel very fortunate to work with such great people who are always available and listen to all our concerns, We have a great "working relationship " with the Snoqualmie Ranger District.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sincerely,

Dan Johnson President

Hi-Country Snowmobile Club

3670 53rd st se

Auburn wa. 98092

253-606-0108

Members with

PNW4DA (Pacific North West 4 wheel drive association)

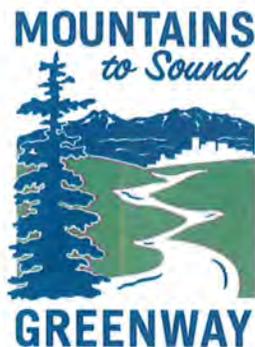
Washington State Snowmobile association

Washington State Parks and Recreation , Grooming Council

Pacific North West Motorcycle Association

Blue Ribbon Coalition

Avid Hiker , Sportsman and all around Outdoor Enthusiast.



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Executive Director
Jon Hoekstra (*), Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust

November 3, 2020

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

RE: Support for Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest 2020 RTP and NOVA grant application proposals

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust enthusiastically endorses the Snoqualmie Ranger District' and the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest's proposals to the RCO through the NOVA and RTP programs to maintain, improve, build, and relocate hiking, backcountry, and multi-use trails and facilities in the District and to provide ranger patrols and user education.

The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust leads and inspires action to conserve and enhance 1.5 million acres between Puget Sound and Ellensburg. Our work connects natural areas, trails, working farm and forests, communities, wildlife habitat and recreation opportunities along the I-90 corridor. We also strive to support partners who own and manage the lands within the Greenway's boundaries, and recognize the immense value of their recreation infrastructure, education programs, and restoration activities in creating opportunities to connect people with the outdoors.

Unfortunately, the very crowds that are drawn to the beauty and challenge of the District's unique terrain threaten to destroy the wilderness experience they are seeking at popular destinations such as the Alpine Lakes Wilderness, the Middle Fork of the Snoqualmie River Valley, and the many popular trails along the Interstate 90 corridor.

Trail maintenance efforts, the creation and maintenance of new recreational ADA-accessible day use facilities, and increased education and enforcement via front- and backcountry rangers is critical to the long-term sustainability of the trails and natural resources within the Greenway, allowing the recreational resources to meet increased demand without negatively impacting the landscape.

With the impacts of COVID-19 felt across the landscape and the region, the importance of high-quality and well-maintained recreation infrastructure has become more and more apparent. The accessibility of trails and recreational facilities in the Greenway, and in the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest provide a critical source of respite and a means for people to connect with nature, and the need to care for these areas is greater than ever.

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 - Mark Boyar (*), President, Middle Fork Outdoor Recreation Coalition
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 - Deloa Dalby, Savor Snoqualmie Valley Leadership Team; The Mountaineers Foothills Branch
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 - David Patton, Northwest Area Director, The Trust for Public Land
 - Kizz Prusia, Project Associate, Triangle Associates
 - Charles Raines, Director Cascade Checkerboard Project, Sierra Club, Washington State Chapter
 - Janet Ray, Retired, Asst VP, Corporate Affairs and Publishing, AAA Washington
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 - Jill Simmons, Executive Director, Washington Trails Association
 - Al Smith, Partner, Perkins Coie LLP
 - David Sturtevant, Retired, Vice President CH2M HILL
 - Chris Thomas, Senior Director, Public Policy, Lyft
 - Harry Thomas, Chief Marketing Officer, AAA Washington
 - Leah Tivoli, Manager, City of Seattle
 - Alison Washburn, Bellevue Store Manager, REI Co-op
 - Jody Weil (X), Supervisor, Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest
 - Joel Yoker, President, Snoqualmie Valley Youth Activities and Community Center

(* Executive Committee Member
(X) Ex-Officio (non-voting) Director



The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust convenes a diverse coalition of public and private partners working to ensure a long-term balance between people and nature, across the watersheds between Seattle and Ellensburg. We work to connect and enhance wildlife habitat, improve outdoor recreation, enhance outdoor education, preserve working farms and forests, and ensure thriving communities.

The Greenway Trust is working with a broad coalition of partners including the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, the Washington State Dept. of Natural Resources and many other agencies, nonprofits, businesses, and citizens to support long-term stewardship of the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River Valley and to responsibly accommodate increased visitation expected to occur after a federal road improvement project paves the main access to the Valley. The projects put forth within these multiple grant proposals will help to ensure that trails and facilities in the Middle Fork Valley and in the Greenway are up to a standard that can sustainably support higher public visitation, and that recreational users are aware and educated about the natural world around them. The completion of the paving of the Middle Fork Road (Forest Road 56) in 2016-17 has increased the importance of this work, enabling more recreational users to connect with the many opportunities this landscape has to offer.

Funding the U.S. Forest Service's trail, infrastructure, restoration and educational programs not only enhances the local economy, it also provides a valuable public service to local and regional visitors. The Greenway boundary was designated a National Heritage Area in 2019, and is sure to see more visitors as the area's profile continues to grow. In light of this increased use, the Forest Service's efforts to keep its trails, safe, well-maintained, and of limited impact to the surrounding natural resources will be key.

The Greenway Trust has long partnered with the MBS on trail and recreation projects, and we strongly support these proposals. If you have any questions, please contact Mackenzie Dolstad, Stewardship Program Manager, at 206-503-0683 or mackenzie.dolstad@mtsgreenway.org. Thank you for the opportunity to share our support for these important projects.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jon Hoekstra". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jon" being particularly prominent.

Jon Hoekstra
Executive Director

October 28th, 2020

Recreation and Conservation Office
1111 Washington St. S.E.
Olympia, WA 98501

Dear Recreation and Conservation Office / Funding Board,

As a member of the Fringe Motorcycle Club and long time recreationist and volunteer, I would like express my full support and endorsement of grant funding to the Snoqualmie Ranger District and convey the benefits it would provide the district, and all of us as proud Washington citizens, volunteers, and recreational users.

I'm aware that the Snoqualmie Ranger District is applying for grants for Front & Backcountry Trail Maintenance, Wilderness Patrols, Snoqualmie Ranger District Front Country Ranger, Maintenance, Education, and Enforcement Measures for Evans Creek ORV, additional winter recreation support, as well as funding for other very important needs that will benefit our recreational areas, user groups, families, and ultimately our community.

I/we are very fortunate to be able to work with the Snoqualmie Ranger district and look forward to more cooperation. They have always been available and ready to listen and help in any way they can, or provide appropriate resources for preservation, enforcement and education to keep our forests beautiful and thriving. They also help us coordinate our recreation / volunteer group efforts, towards thousands of volunteer hours to continue the forward progress and stewardship of our forest. This in turn also helps bring revenue into the districts communities from visiting recreationist's. Having done many projects with the Snoqualmie Ranger District, these grants are so very important to our families, future recreation, and preservation of the beautiful Pacific Northwest.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Sincerely,

Jeremy Schakel
253-569-8222

October 28th, 2020

Recreation and Conservation Office

1111 Washington St. S.E.

Olympia, WA 98501

Dear Recreation and Conservation Office / Funding Board,

As a member of the Fringe Motorcycle Club and long time recreationist and volunteer, I would like express my full support and endorsement of grant funding to the Snoqualmie Ranger District and convey the benefits it would provide the district, and all of us as proud Washington citizens, volunteers, and recreational users.

I'm aware that the Snoqualmie Ranger District is applying for grants for Front & Backcountry Trail Maintenance, Wilderness Patrols, Snoqualmie Ranger District Front Country Ranger, Maintenance, Education, and Enforcement Measures for Evans Creek ORV, additional winter recreation support, as well as funding for other very important needs that will benefit our recreational areas, user groups, families, and ultimately our community.

I/we are very fortunate to be able to work with the Snoqualmie Ranger district and look forward to more cooperation. They have always been available and ready to listen and help in any way they can, or provide appropriate resources for preservation, enforcement and education to keep our forests beautiful and thriving. They also help us coordinate our recreation / volunteer group efforts, towards thousands of volunteer hours to continue the forward progress and stewardship of our forest. This in turn also helps bring revenue into the districts communities from visiting recreationist's. Having done many projects with the Snoqualmie Ranger District, these grants are so very important to our families, future recreation, and preservation of the beautiful Pacific Northwest.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Sincerely,

20-2392 NOVA NHR #8
20-2278 NOVA NHR #17
20-2307 NOVA NHR #18

Shay Schakel
253-569-9597



Pacific Crest Trail Association

20-2392 NOVA NHR #8
20-2278 NOVA NHR #17
20-2307 NOVA NHR #18

North Cascades Regional Office

November 2, 2020

Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Letter of support for Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Snoqualmie Ranger District grant applications

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Advisory Committee,

I am writing on behalf of the more than 13,500-member Pacific Crest Trail Association (PCTA) to express support for various grant applications submitted by the Snoqualmie Ranger District.

It is PCTA's privilege to partner with the Snoqualmie Ranger District to maintain outstanding recreation opportunities in the Central Cascades. The Snoqualmie Ranger District and their dedicated staff are valued partners of our organization. They host a PCTA tool cache, support our volunteer trainings, and provide outstanding public services. District staff have alerted PCTA that they have several grants supporting front country improvements through the NOVA program. Places like Denny Creek and the Middle Fork Snoqualmie Valley provide excellent recreation opportunities to the public. These proposals do not have a direct connection to the Pacific Crest Trail, but PCTA supports the expansion of recreation opportunities in western Washington. Thank you for your consideration of these various grants.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or would like any additional information about public benefits from specific proposals.

Sincerely,

Michael DeCramer
Pacific Crest Trail Association
North Cascades Regional Representative





NORTH THURSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Bower Learning Center

4111 6th Avenue N.E. Lacey, WA 98516
(360) 412-4473 • Fax (360) 412-4564

January 7th, 2021

RCO Funding Board
Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia WA 98504-0917

Dear Grant Review Committee,

This is a letter in support of RCO grants to Washington Department of Natural Resources for Capitol Education and Enforcement (#20-2159) and Capitol & Yacolt Forest and Facilities Maintenance and Operations (#20-2011).

North Thurston Public Schools is the largest and most diverse school district in the South Sound. A key goal in our districts strategic plan is an increase percentage of students applying learning to collaboratively engage in solving relevant challenges and real-world, inter-disciplinary problems. As a core science learning experience for middle school ecology, we have incorporated the McLane Creek trail as a district wide STEM field study for all students from 5 middle schools to observe salmon spawning in early November. Their field journal includes a habitat assessment, data collection around spawning behaviors, sketching of native plants and a salmon food web, reflective writing, and an analysis of how to support local salmon populations that are on the decline.

We have worked closely with our community partners-South Sound Green, Nisqually River Education Project, and Thurston County Water Resources and have coordinated trips based on the small window of spawning time so that all of our classrooms have the support and opportunity to be out at McLane over a 2 year rotation bringing hundreds of students in class groups over the past decade. Our students and teachers have told me many times that their experience observing salmon spawning and witnessing nature in such a beautiful pristine site is one of the most powerful and inspiring field experiences they have ever had.

By maintaining high-quality access to McLane's trails, and support to sustain sanitary restroom conditions for our teachers and students this will continue to broaden access to students of all abilities and continue to bridge the opportunity gap for our 14,500 students, the most ethnically diverse school district in the South Sound region, where over 42% come to us economically disadvantaged. Many of our students return with their families throughout the year to visit the trail and learn about the relationships that exist in the natural world. We fully support the funding for these programs so that we can safely continue to offer this meaningful field experiences to all our students, teachers, and their families.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dixie Reimer". The signature is stylized with large, flowing letters.

Dixie Reimer
Secondary Science Instructional Specialist
North Thurston Public Schools
(360) 412-4473 dreimer@nthurston.k12.wa.us



Washington Trails Association

705 Second Avenue, Suite 300, Seattle WA 98104 • 206.625.1367 • wta.org

November 4, 2020

Washington Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Grant # 20-2011 M Capital & Yacolt Forest Facilities Maintenance (Dept. of Natural Resources)

Dear RCO Review Committee:

I am writing on behalf of Washington Trails Association to express our support of the Capitol & Yacolt Forest Facilities Maintenance grant to conduct routine maintenance on campgrounds and facilities within the Capitol and Yacolt Burn state forests near Olympia and Vancouver.

WTA enhances hiking experiences in Washington state by empowering a diverse and growing community of hikers to explore, steward and protect trails and public lands. WTA is the nation's largest state-based trail maintenance and hiking advocacy nonprofit organization, with more than 24,000 member households and an online community of more than 100,000. Each year almost 4,500 WTA volunteers perform over 160,000 hours of trail maintenance across the state.

Last year WTA's volunteer program invested over 4,000 hours in building and maintaining trails in the Pacific Cascade Region in partnership with DNR staff and other trail user groups. We routinely use trailheads as staging areas for our volunteer work parties and many volunteers also appreciate the opportunity to camp nearby. Clean, safe and enjoyable facilities are essential for volunteer satisfaction and retention. We hope you will support this grant and in doing so the partnership we have with DNR as well. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrea J. Imler".

Andrea Imler
Advocacy Director



South Sound GREEN

Connecting Community and Schools for Watershed Protection

Water Quality Monitoring • Student GREEN Congress • Nearshore Education • Action Projects

January 12, 2021

RCO Funding Board
Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia WA 98504-0917

To Whom It May Concern,

This is a letter in support of RCO grants to Washington Department of Natural Resources for Capitol Education and Enforcement (#20-2159) and Capitol & Yacolt Forest and Facilities Maintenance and Operations (#20-2011).

South Sound Global Rivers Environment Education Network (GREEN) strives to connect communities and schools for watershed protection. McLane Creek Nature Trail is the perfect example of the type of outdoor classroom that allows us to engage students in hands-on science and connection to place. McLane Creek Nature Trail is utilized by students and teachers participating in South Sound GREEN as a water quality monitoring site as well as a place to view native chum salmon spawning in their natural habitat. These connections help students think more critically about their actions and home and how they can prevent stormwater runoff and protect these unique ecosystems.

With improved trails and boardwalk and sanitary restroom conditions, this project will broaden access to students of all abilities and ages, encouraging more members of our community to visit the trail and learn about the relationships that exist in the natural world. I strong support DNR's proposal for this work.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Bishop

South Sound GREEN Program Manager
sbishop@thurstoncd.com
southsoundgreen.org

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY



THURSTON COUNTY EXTENSION

TO: RCO Funding Board, Recreation & Conservation Office
 FROM: Erica Guttman, WSU Senior Extension Coordinator/Educator
 DATE: January 13, 2021
 RE: Support for #20-2159 & #20-2011

I am writing in support of RCO grants to Washington Department of Natural Resources for Capitol Education and Enforcement (#20-2159) and Capitol & Yacolt Forest and Facilities Maintenance and Operations (#20-2011).

WSU Extension and our non-profit educational affiliate, the Native Plant Salvage Foundation, greatly rely on the rich educational opportunities provided by McLane Creek Nature Trail. This DNR property is an ecological gem in and of itself, but its close proximity to the urban core of Thurston County makes it an even more critical public resource. Our programs take advantage of the **astounding diversity of both flora and fauna** for educating people of all ages throughout the year about our local species and how individuals can do their part to protect local habitat.

We teach multi-season plant identification (including winter-twig identification skills) to lay audiences using the large numbers of species of the ever-changing array of native plants of all types. In non-Covid times, we used (and will again!) this site to teach winter-twig identification skills for woody plants to Washington Conservation Corps members and other ecological professionals from the Departments of Fish & Wildlife, DNR, Ecology, local jurisdictions, and NGOs who need these skills to carry out habitat-protection activities.

Between the classes we offer to the public at large and the specialized workshops for agencies, an annual average of 200-300 adult learners receive this **critical training** by using this amazing trail system. For many, this is their first introduction to this site, and they return subsequently to learn about the salmon, the ecosystem overall, and simply to enjoy nature.

This site is so critical to our work that we **have made a commitment** with our Stream Team partners to maintain the vegetation along the trails during the growing season by recruiting local volunteers seeking service to the environment, and we host additional annual revegetation service events at McLane to reduce social trails and enhance the salmon-bearing stream. **Dozens of volunteers donate hundreds of hours annually** to maintain the trails to prevent trail-widening/invasive species colonization, as well as complete the larger restoration projects.

This investment in the infrastructure and DNR staff support of this recreation site will be money well spent! Sanitary toilets allow users to spend more time on site (and discourage human waste in the woods). The provision of even a moderate level of DNR staff presence on the trails will help enforce rules, especially with regard to picking up dog waste that contaminates the stream—which supports a diverse food web, including salmon. DNR staff will further be able to enforce Discover Pass use, prevent conflicts between trail users, and educate the public about the trail system and other recreation opportunities in the area.

Financial support will greatly expand public access and enjoyment—while protecting the ecosystem—allowing the public to learn about and engage with nature within minutes of our urban centers. **We urge funding** for this very worthwhile proposal, and I welcome inquiries about our ongoing support of this site.

WSU Thurston County Water Resources Program &
 Native Plant Salvage Foundation
 3054 Carpenter Road SE * Olympia, WA 98503
 360.402.8879 * ericag@wsu.edu



January 11, 2021

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
PO Box 40917, Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Re: Letter of support for 20-2011 M Capital & Yacolt Forest Facilities Maintenance

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board:

The Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance strongly supports the Washington State Department of Natural Resources' (DNR's) request for funding to support routine maintenance on campgrounds and facilities within the Capitol and Yacolt Burn State Forests near Olympia and Vancouver.

This funding will help pay for a professional restroom cleaning contract and/or DNR services for facility maintenance, repairs, purchase of cleaning supplies and vault toilet pumping. Maintenance will include routine sanitary cleaning of restrooms and removal of litter in campgrounds, campsites, and trailheads. The primary recreation opportunity provided by this project will be safe and sustainable campground and trailhead facilities.

The Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance is currently working with DNR to build new trails and maintain existing trails throughout the region, and we understand the importance of clean restrooms, campgrounds, and trailheads. This funding is vital to keeping these facilities clean and sanitary, and to promote further good stewardship of these important resources.

Evergreen is the nation's largest statewide mountain bike organization, with more than 7,900 members and over 65,000 social media followers. We are dedicated to trail building and maintenance, as well as volunteerism, education, and advocacy. We look forward to working with DNR in the Pacific Cascades Region and appreciate the opportunity to provide support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Yvonne Kraus", written over a horizontal line.

Yvonne Kraus, Executive Director
Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance



A Washington State Chapter of the National Audubon Society
P.O. Box 2524, Olympia, WA 98507
(360) 352-7299 www.blackhills-audubon.org

Black Hills Audubon Society is a volunteer, non-profit organization of more than 1,300 members in Thurston, Mason, and Lewis Counties whose goals are to promote environmental education and protect our ecosystems for future generations.

January 7, 2021

RCO Funding Board
Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia WA 98504-0917

This is a letter in support of RCO WWRP grants to Washington Department of Natural Resources for Capitol Education and Enforcement (#20-2159) and Capitol & Yacolt Forest and Facilities Maintenance and Operations (#20-2011).

Black Hills Audubon is a chapter of the National Audubon Society and represents approximately 1300 members in Thurston, Mason, and Lewis Counties. Our mission is to provide education and recreation concerning birds and other wildlife and to preserve our ecosystems for future generations. The McLane Creek Nature Trail and the preserve in which it lies is one of the gems of wildlife habitat preservation and educational opportunity in the Black Hills area.

In addition to organized, educational walks on the Trail – which we conduct several times each year (except during the COVID-19 crisis) – many of our members go there with family, friends, or school groups for both wildlife-oriented recreation and educational purposes. The McLane ecosystem – comprising a mixed hardwood and coniferous forest, beaver pond, and associated wetlands, as well as the salmon-bearing McLane Creek – is of great value in preserving wildlife and important in the lives of us human visitors, including friends and members of Black Hills Audubon.

One of the best bird-viewing trails in Thurston County, the McLane Creek Trail is very close to the wetland but associated shrubs and trees provide excellent cover for birders to walk there with only minimal disturbance to birdlife. It's one of the best teaching settings in the region because of the trails' access to the diverse habitats in the McLane trail complex.

Black Hills Audubon strongly supports funding of the programs named above and for continued funding from 11/2021 to 11/2023. Among other factors, they will maintain high-quality access to McLane's trails, and also sustain sanitary restroom conditions.

Sincerely,

Sam Merrill, Chair Conservation Committee

Sam Merrill

Elizabeth Rodrick, Vice President

Elizabeth Rodrick

January 10, 2021

NOVA Advisory Committee,

I am pleased to provide support for the following Department of Natural Resources NOVA grant applications benefitting Capital Forest:

20-2159	Capital Education and Enforcement
20-2097	Capital Forest Non-motorized Trail and Facility Maintenance
20-2161	Capital Forest Motorized Trail and Facility Maintenance
20-2306	Capital Forest ORV Trail Bridge Replacement
20-2011	Capital and Yacolt Forest and Facilities Maintenance and Operations

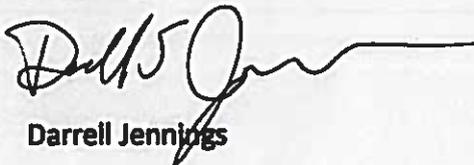
Capital Forest provides excellent, close-to-home motorized and nonmotorized recreation opportunities for many in south Puget Sound. Because of its close proximity to populated areas and easy access, the road system, campgrounds, trailheads and trails are heavily used in a typical year. Due to the restrictions in place for other activities, the demand at these facilities was exceptionally high in 2020.

I can attest to the demand and high-use the Capital Forest received in 2020. Since May 2020, I personally logged over sixty hiking, mountain biking and ATV riding trips in Capital Forest and witnessed first-hand the amount of use these facilities received. I have also observed how past NOVA funding has drastically improved trails. Several years ago, the popular Mima Falls and Mima Falls Tie trails were in poor condition due to water and poor drainage, even during the summer. Today, those trails are enjoyable and in good condition even in the middle of winter after significant rainfall.

DNR relies upon this user-generated funding source to protect, maintain and enhance recreation facilities. Adequately maintaining facilities is responsible stewardship and fundamental to keeping recreation sites and facilities open and from falling into disrepair. NOVA grant funding is critically needed to ensure this work continues and these important facilities are preserved and I urge your support.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony for these grant requests.

Sincerely,



Darrell Jennings



evergreen

RCO Funding Board
Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia WA 98504-0917

January 11, 2021

Dear RCO Funding Board,

This is a letter in support of RCO grants to Washington Department of Natural Resources for Capitol Education and Enforcement (#20-2159) and Capitol & Yacolt Forest and Facilities Maintenance and Operations (#20-2011).

I have been a college professor at The Evergreen State College for 15 years. In that time, I have used the McLane Creek Nature Trail as a field trip site many times, with introductory, intermediate, and advanced college students (about twice per year). In addition, I have collaborated with WA DNR to perform ecological research in McLane Creek downstream of the beaver dam complex. Access to this field site is invaluable and I support all maintenance and improvements that create equitable access to the site and allow both people and native organisms to enjoy the habitat.

Project #20-2159 will improve use of the site for all individuals. Having stewards and wardens available to visit the site more frequently and provide a presence will improve stewardship by all visitors. Outreach and education improvements will be a positive outcome, as will law enforcement outcomes. Trail maintenance and the maintenance of the beautiful covered area and picnic tables will be beneficial outcomes for visitors, neighbors, and school children.

Project #20-2011 will provide needed routine maintenance and restroom facilities at this high visit site.

As both an educator, and a parent of a school-aged child in the Olympia School District, I know that this site is valuable for environmental education in the K-12 system as well as the higher education system.

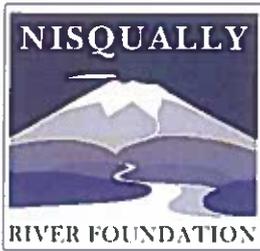
I strongly support funding for these programs, which will maintain high-quality access to McLane's trails, and also sustain sanitary restroom conditions for your user-groups.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carri J. LeRoy".

Carri J. LeRoy, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
Freshwater Ecology
The Evergreen State College
2700 Evergreen Parkway NW
Olympia, WA 98502



Nisqually River Foundation

620 Old Pacific Hwy SE □ Olympia WA 98513 □ (360) 488-8715

Board Members
David Troutt, *Chair*

RCO Funding Board
Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia WA 98504-0917

Bill Bryant

Phyllis Farrell

January 13, 2021

Leif Hatlen

Dear Grants Review Committee,

Fred Michelson

This is a letter in support of RCO grants to Washington Department of Natural Resources for Capitol Education and Enforcement (#20-2159) and Capitol & Yacolt Forest and Facilities Maintenance and Operations (#20-2011).

Jim Wilcox

Nisqually River Education Project (NREP) works to engage students and teachers throughout the watershed in service learning activities that link Washington learning standards to local environmental issues, fostering stewardship of the Nisqually watershed and the world. NREP implements watershed education with a network of 50 teachers in seven school districts from Mount Rainier to Puget Sound. We engage more than 1,000 students each year in water quality monitoring, habitat restoration, salmon carcass tossing, field investigations on Puget Sound beaches, at the Billy Frank Jr. Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge and at McLane Nature trail.

Staff
Justin Hall
Executive Director

Sheila Wilson
Education Project Director

Emily McCartan
Nisqually River Council Program Coordinator

Brandon Bywater
Water Quality Program Coordinator

McLane Nature Trail is a community treasure. It enables us to bring large numbers of students to view one of our most spectacular local, natural phenomena - the spawning Chum salmon. In a typical year we bring 230+ students over 2-3 weeks to McLane to teach them the value of wetlands, water quality, and habitat to foster the lifecycle of our native salmon. It would be fantastic to see these proposed improvements completed so we could continue this traditional field trip without causing harm to the nearby aquatic ecosystems.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sheila Wilson

Sheila Wilson
Program Director
sheila@nisquallyriver.org
360.561.0203

January 10, 2021

Dear RCO Funding Board Members,

My name is James Graham. I am an Olympia resident and Capitol Forest recreation and volunteer enthusiast. I first started recreating in Capitol Forest through camping, dirt bike riding and target shooting with my family in the 1980's. Since the 1990's, I have been actively mountain biking and volunteering in Capitol Forest. Today, my wife and daughter and I regularly hike, bike and run in Capitol Forest year-round. We are also close neighbors of Capitol Forest, and consider access to Capitol Forest a major contributor to our quality of life.

Capitol Forest is a very large and increasingly popular recreation area. With a dramatic increase in users in recent years, we are experiencing even more impact on trails and facilities as well as an increased need for education and enforcement of etiquette and laws for some of these new users and their practice of their respective recreation activities. Maintaining our 200 miles of trails and numerous facilities has always been a difficult task for Capitol Forest DNR staff, considering their limited resources and the size and scope of their work. The conditions for recreation in Capitol Forest have improved over the last decade – due to an increase in local DNR staff, as well as an increase in local, highly committed volunteers. But as far as we've come, there is still a enormous amount of work to do bring our trails, facilities and community up to the condition they should be in.

In my observation over my many years of active recreation and volunteer work in Capitol Forest, I have supported and seen how past grants have gone directly to work improving Capitol Forest in a thorough and also, quite importantly, cost-effective way. As a business owner who has to compete in an open market for my livelihood, I would like to stress how much I respect and appreciate how Capitol Forest DNR have delivered high value for the grant dollars they have had to compete for and earn over the years. Capitol Forest DNR has what I would consider to be a very high rate of return on investment through frugal capital use, smart staff hiring decisions, and well leveraged joint projects with local volunteers.

Additionally, Capitol Forest is a *true* multi-use area. Our motorized trails and non-motorized trails see high use from mountain bikers, horseback riders, atv riders, dirt bike riders, hikers and runners. True multi-use trails have a greater net benefit of user numbers than single use trails or multi-use trails that don't actually see multi-use. Capitol Forest grant dollars benefit more users, period.

I strongly support every one of the following grants. Capitol Forest DNR very seriously needs these grants in order to effectively manage the many existing, and the many new challenges they face to keep Capitol Forest on the trajectory of a safe and high-quality Washington State outdoor recreation destination.

RCO # 20-2097 Capitol Forest Non-Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance
RCO # 20-2159 Capitol Education & Enforcement
RCO # 20-2306 Capitol Forest ORV Trail Bridge Replacement
RCO # 20-2011 Capitol & Yacolt Forest & Facilities Maintenance and Operations
RCO # 20-2161 Capitol Forest Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

I sincerely thank you for your time and your consideration. We are grateful for your support.

James Graham

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James Graham', with a stylized, cursive script.

Owner CapitolForest.com
Co-founder Friends of Capitol Forest
Neighbor
13323 Erskine RD SW Rochester WA 98579
3607013596
jim@capitolforest.com

December 19, 2020

Recreation & Conservation Office Grant Funding Committee

I urge funding of Capitol & Yacolt Forest & Facilities Maintenance
20-2011.

My friends and I certainly appreciate clean bathrooms at McLane and
Fall Creek trailheads. Many people including children frequent McLane
Creek for the nature trails and I love to hike out of Fall Creek.

I support clean bathrooms at Capitol Forest trailheads

Thank you,



Teri Johnson 360-970-3538

tjma4950@gmail.com Tumwater WA

December 18, 2020

Recreation & Conservation Office

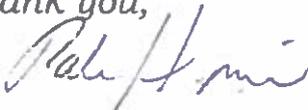
Please fund Capitol & Yacolt Forest & Facilities Maintenance
20-2011.

My wife and I surely appreciate having clean bathrooms especially in the era Covid 19. DNR has hired contractor to clean bathrooms on a frequent basis and by having a contractor perform the bathroom cleaning it has allowed staff to concentrate on maintaining the trails I love.

DNR has recently added new trails to the mountain biking system which is greatly appreciated.

I support clean bathrooms!

Thank you,



Roger Holman 253-732-1468 r.d.holman@gmail.com
242 N Lenore
Tacoma WA 98406



December 24, 2020

Dear RCO Funding Board Members,

Friends of Capitol Forest is a mountain bike and trails advocacy group based in Olympia, Washington. Collectively, our members perform thousands of hours of volunteer work in the Capitol State Forest and the greater Olympia area, building and maintaining trails, partnering with land managers, and ensuring quality off-road experiences throughout the far South Sound. While we are primarily mountain bikers, our volunteer work parties in Capitol Forest are attended by many other user groups, including hikers, equestrians, and trail runners.

We rely heavily on DNR for support with the work we do to make Capitol Forest a premiere outdoor recreation destination. In recent years, those efforts have not only provided users incredible recreational opportunities, but also positive financial benefits for the community at large. Capitol Forest has become a recognized and well publicized mountain biking destination in the Pacific Northwest. We are seeing greater numbers of recreational users coming to Capitol Forest and 2020 showed how important access to Capitol Forest was for our community.

DNR needs additional resources for Capitol Forest to keep up with the demands of this increased use. RCO grant funding is a critical source of funding for this work, and we urge you to approve the grants DNR has submitted for Capitol Forest improvements. In particular, we write to express our wholehearted support for:

RCO # 20-2097 Capitol Forest Non-Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

RCO # 20-2159 Capitol Education & Enforcement

RCO # 20-2306 Capitol Forest ORV Trail Bridge Replacement

RCO # 20-2011 Capitol & Yacolt Forest & Facilities Maintenance and Operations

RCO # 20-2161 Capitol Forest Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

These grants, especially RCO 20-2097, are critical to maintaining high-quality access to this extremely large forest. Each mile of trail maintained or patrolled by DNR frees up volunteer resources to work on other projects, effectively doubling our reach.

Thank you for your work on the RCO committee. I know in this upcoming funding cycle some very difficult decisions will have to be made due to the difficult financial climate of 2020. But,

Capitol Forest, in general, has become so well known now for outdoor recreation that it is spoken under the same breadth as many popular areas around Washington. Areas that historically have had more resources provided for them. It is critical that Capitol Forest be supported on the same level as other popular areas. The time and effort put into Capitol Forest deserves top level support as it not only provides recreational opportunities, but we are seeing the economic benefits as well. More work needs to be done, and we are looking for your full support.

Sincerely,



Oliver Wu
Interim President, Friends of Capitol Forest
(951)961-0420
oliverdwu@gmail.com
617 Rosewood Dr SW
Olympia, WA 98502

Steve and Dee Tjelde

253 640 8270

sndtjelde@comcast.net



To Whom It May Concern,

We, *Tacoma Trail Cruisers* would like to express my sincere and enthusiastic support for the following RCO grants. These grants will help insure Capitol State Forest is able to continue to function safely and effectively for the many and diverse recreation visitors who come here from all over the Pacific Northwest. .

Capitol Forest is a very large recreation area that is in need of trail & facility maintenance and bridge replacement.. With the heavy recreation use that Capitol Forest experiences, these RCO grants will go a long way towards necessary maintenance and ensuring trail connectivity.

Education & Enforcement is an important component for off road vehicle management especially with the over 600 miles of open road and over 80 miles of trail which are open for off road vehicles.

One important point in consideration of awarding this funding, is that Capitol Forest recreation opportunities are on an almost entirely shared use trail and facilities system. So as far as these dollars are concerned, if awarded, they will likely have the greatest impact across the largest cross section of different recreational user types as possible for a DNR managed recreation area. These RCO grants, if awarded to Capitol Forest will be a significant and important investment for all of Washington State's DNR managed land recreational users.

20-2161 *Capitol Forest Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance*

20-2306 *Capitol Forest ORV Trail Bridge Replacement*

20-2011 *Capitol & Yacolt Forest Facilities M&O*

20-2159 *Capitol Education & Enforcement*

Thank you for your consideration of these proposals.

Tacoma Trail Cruisers

Steve and Denise Tjelde

253 640 8270

sndtjelde@comcast.net tacomatrailcruisers@gmail.com

<http://www.tacomatrailcruisers.org/>



NOVA Grant Committee

c/o Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office

PO Box 40917

Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Dear NOVA Committee Members,

The Washington Off-Highway Vehicle Alliance (WOHVA) is a statewide organization representing 13,000 off-highway vehicle enthusiasts. Our members donate thousands of hours each year to maintaining and enhancing off-highway vehicle trails and facilities on public land in Washington. We have strong relationships with land managers and decision makers across the state.

I write today to express WOHVA's support for the three grant projects that will benefit the trails and riders who recreate on the Capitol State Forest. These grants are:

- Capitol Education & Enforcement 20-2159
- Capitol Forest ORV Trail Bridge Replacement 20-2306
- Capitol & Yacolt Forest & Facilities Maintenance and Operations 20-2011

These grants will not only provide the needed maintenance and enforcement to keep the trails safe and enjoyable but will also allow for the replacement of bridges that have degraded and may pose a threat to riders and fish migration. The management and staff at Capital State Forest have developed strong partnerships with the local motorized community and work collaboratively with them to provide the highest quality recreation experience possible and to make the most responsible use of public funds.

Sincerely,

Marc Hildesheim

Vice President, WOHVA

marc@wohva.org

PO Box 171, Auburn, WA 98071
www.wohva.org



www.oldtownbicycle.com

01/08/2021

Re: Grant Support

To whom it may concern,

As a bicycle retailer in the Olympia area, we support the following grant proposals:

Capitol Education & Enforcement 20-2159

Capitol Forest Non-Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance 20-2097

Capitol Forest Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance 20-2161

Capitol Forest ORV Trail Bridge Replacement 20-2306

Capitol & Yacolt Forest & Facilities Maintenance and Operations 20-2011

The trails in the Capitol State Forest and other DNR lands are an invaluable resource for the public at large. This wonderful network of trails sees a high amount of use from several user groups and activities. Because of this use the trails require consistent and ongoing maintenance to continue to provide quality and sustainable recreation, to protect ecological function of water flow, and to produce timber and other valuable resources.

The projects funded by these grants are valuable by themselves; however, will also help to provide a culture of stewardship for the public lands and provide understanding, cooperation, and respect among the user groups involved.

We urge you to support these grant applications and we look forward too many more years of quality trails on DNR lands.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "D Keating". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Dmitri Keating
V.P. / Co-founder
Old Town Bicycle
253-851-2189
dkeating@oldtownbicycle.com

Tacoma
3009 N McCarver St
Tacoma WA 98403
253.573.9400

Gig Harbor
6820 Kimball Drive B1
Gig Harbor WA 98335
253.858.8040

Olympia
420 Capitol Way South
Olympia WA 98501
360.943.7661



12/29/2020
Re: Grant Support

To whom it may concern,
As an event promoter and avid recreational user of Capitol Forest I support the following grant proposals:

- RCO # 20-2097 Capitol Forest Non-Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance
- RCO # 20-2159 Capitol Education & Enforcement
- RCO # 20-2306 Capitol Forest ORV Trail Bridge Replacement
- RCO # 20-2011 Capitol & Yacolt Forest & Facilities Maintenance and Operations
- RCO # 20-2161 Capitol Forest Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

It is vital that these grants be funded for Capitol Forest. Capitol Forest is a recreational hotspot and DNR needs additional resources and funding for increased impact on trails and safety within the forest. These RCO grants will make a significant and important investment for Capitol Forest and it's recreational users.

Sincerely,

Trey Wilson
Race Cascadia
1239 37th Ave SE
Olympia, WA 98501
ph. 360-402-0967



NW Epic Series



January 8, 2021

Dear RCO Funding Board Members –

NW Epic Series is an endurance mountain bike racing company. We have several races throughout Washington State. We work directly with the DNR for our Capitol Forest race that we hold in August of each year. Over the years we have seen a great deal of work that goes into the trails in the Capitol Forest Recreation area. These trails have always been professionally managed and safe for all riders, hikers, horseback riders and motorized riders.

A trail system the size of Capitol Forest takes a great deal of resources to maintain for public use. The DNR needs and relies on grant funding to keep up with the trail use at Capitol Forest. RCO grant funding is a critical source of funding for all the work that the DNR does to keep the trails maintained. We urge you to approve the grants that the DNR has submitted for Capitol Forest improvements.

Capitol Forest is one of the only trail systems that allow such a large variety of trail usage. Monies put towards supporting the DNR in maintaining the Capitol Forest trails, roads and campground facilities will in turn help and support a wide range of families and individuals that use all that Capitol Forest has to offer.

We write to express our support for:

Capitol Forest Non-Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance # 20-2097

Capitol Education & Enforcement 20-2159

Capitol Forest Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance 20-2161

Capitol Forest ORV Trail Bridge Replacement 20-2306

PROJECT: Capitol &Yacolt Forest Facilities Maintenance 20-2011

Dana Anderson

Dana Anderson
Owner / RD NW Epic Series
dana@wamulti-sport.com
PO Box 5549
Everett, WA 98206

WOLFF, PHILIP (DNR)

Subject: Jennie Husby letter of support grants

From: Jennie Husby <jenniehusby@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 6:22 AM
To: WOLFF, PHILIP (DNR) <PHILIP.WOLFF@dnr.wa.gov>

Dear RCO Funding Board Members,

My name is Jennie Husby

I am a member of the Olytrailrunners running club and a recreation user in Capitol Forest.

I support the following grants. Capitol Forest DNR needs these grants in order to effectively manage the many existing, and the many new challenges we face to keep Capitol Forest on the trajectory of a safe and high-quality Washington State outdoor recreation destination.

This is especially important with COVID as the number of people recreating on the trails has gone up dramatically with folks trying to safely exercise outdoors instead of in.

I appreciate all the work that goes into maintaining Capitol Forest for recreation!

RCO # 20-2097 Capitol Forest Non-Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

RCO # 20-2159 Capitol Education & Enforcement

RCO # 20-2306 Capitol Forest ORV Trail Bridge Replacement

RCO # 20-2011 Capitol & Yacolt Forest & Facilities Maintenance and Operations

RCO # 20-2161 Capitol Forest Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

I sincerely thank you for your time and for your consideration,

Jennie Husby

jenniehusby@gmail.com

WOLFF, PHILIP (DNR)

Subject: grant support letter Jeff Barrette

From: Jeff Barrette <JeffBarrette@msn.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 12, 2021 1:08 PM
To: WOLFF, PHILIP (DNR) <PHILIP.WOLFF@dnr.wa.gov>
Subject: Grant letter

Dear RCO Funding Board Members,

My name is Jeff Barrette

I am a member of the Olytrailrunners running club, FOCF, and a recreation user in Capitol Forest.

I support the following grants. Capitol Forest DNR needs these grants in order to effectively manage the many existing, and the many new challenges we face to keep Capitol Forest on the trajectory of a safe and high-quality Washington State outdoor recreation destination.

RCO # 20-2097 Capitol Forest Non-Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

RCO # 20-2159 Capitol Education & Enforcement

RCO # 20-2306 Capitol Forest ORV Trail Bridge Replacement

RCO # 20-2011 Capitol & Yacolt Forest & Facilities Maintenance and Operations

RCO # 20-2161 Capitol Forest Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

I sincerely thank you for your time and for your consideration,

Jeff Barrette
JeffBarrette@msn.com
1.360.481.2143
Olympia, WA

WOLFF, PHILIP (DNR)

Subject: RCO grant funding

From: K C <one2velo@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 29, 2020 7:48 PM
To: WOLFF, PHILIP (DNR) <PHILIP.WOLFF@dnr.wa.gov>
Subject: RCO grant funding

Phil: Please forward this to the RCO funding board.

I'm writing in support of the following grant requests:

RCO # 20-2097 Capitol Forest Non-Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance
RCO # 20-2159 Capitol Education & Enforcement
RCO # 20-2011 Capitol & Yacolt Forest & Facilities Maintenance and Operations

As a Capitol Forest recreational user as well as a Friends of Capitol Forest (FOCF) trail worker I've observed a very significant increase in trail use this past year. When I'm doing trail maintenance I'm routinely thanked by the trail users for the work we do. These folks include hikers, trail runners, equestrians and mountain bikers, many of whom are unaware of the level of effort and resources required to maintain the trails and trailheads.

Capitol Forest has become a rewarding and thus very popular outdoor recreation destination, particularly for locals but also for people coming from a broader Pacific Northwest region. It goes without saying that maintaining these recreational opportunities provides great benefit to our overall social health and welfare as well as a financial benefit to the community.

FOCF is a group of very dedicated and enthusiastic volunteers who contribute extensive hours of labor, love and materials to the benefit of many, but we can't do this alone, and in particular without the resources and work of DNR staff. RCO grant funding is critical as it enables the provision of essential labor and materials needed to develop, improve and maintain these recreational resources for the community at large.

Ken Clauson
410-353-7944
one2velo@gmail.com

January 12, 2021

Dear RCO Funding Board Members,

I am a Mountain biker/hiker/camper that uses Capitol Forest in Washington State.

I volunteer with Friends of Capitol Forest (FOCF) for trail work and maintenance. I also lead beginner/social rides on Monday evenings year round.

Capitol Forest provides a place of education, resources and recreation. It is a wonderful place that allows a plethora of multi-use recreation enthusiasts. I fully support the following grants, in order for DNR to meet and manage the existing and future challenges they face to keep Capitol Forest the safe and high-quality outdoor destination it has become.

RCO # 20-2097 Capitol Forest Non-Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

RCO # 20-2159 Capitol Education & Enforcement

RCO # 20-2306 Capitol Forest ORV Trail Bridge Replacement

RCO # 20-2161 Capitol Forest Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

I appreciate your time and consideration in this matter,

Corey Whiteman

3718 Wesley Loop NW

Olympia, WA 98502

C_Whiteman@yahoo.com

WOLFF, PHILIP (DNR)

Subject: FW: Capitol Forest grants support

From: Shawn Thomas <shawn.c.thomas@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 12, 2021 9:54 PM
To: WOLFF, PHILIP (DNR) <PHILIP.WOLFF@dnr.wa.gov>
Subject: Capitol Forest grants support

Dear RCO Funding Board Members,

My name is Shawn Thomas. I am a local Olympia resident and am affiliated with the Olytrailrunners running club. I'm writing to express my support for several grants that are important to the future of Capitol Forest.

Capitol Forest is arguably the most important outdoor recreation resource in the South Sound area. I frequently visit Capitol Forest to run on the excellent developed trail network, and I have relied on these trails to introduce my toddler to hiking and appreciating our local forests. Countless other runners, cyclists, horse riders, photographers, nature enthusiasts, and more depend on this local resource. With urban growth and expansion threatening opportunities for outdoor recreation and for solace within and near city limits, the Capitol Forest trails are becoming more important than ever.

The following grants will help Capitol Forest DNR manage the trails and facilities that are critical to preserving Capitol Forest as a desperately needed resource for the local outdoor community. I strongly support these grants for the DNR:

RCO # 20-2097 Capitol Forest Non-Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

RCO # 20-2159 Capitol Education & Enforcement

RCO # 20-2306 Capitol Forest ORV Trail Bridge Replacement

RCO # 20-2011 Capitol & Yacolt Forest & Facilities Maintenance and Operations

RCO # 20-2161 Capitol Forest Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

Thanks for your time and consideration.

Shawn Thomas

530-925-4007

January 11, 2021

Recreation & Conservation Office

I am an avid mountain biking recreational user in Capitol Forest and I feel fortunate to have such an inspiring resource so close to my home in Oakville. I use the MTB system in particular at least once a week, all year round.

I support the following grants. Capitol Forest DNR needs these grants in order to effectively manage the many existing, and the many new challenges we face to keep Capitol Forest on the trajectory of a safe and high-quality Washington State outdoor recreation destination.

RCO # 20-2097 Capitol Forest Non-Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance
RCO # 20-2159 Capitol Education & Enforcement
RCO # 20-2306 Capitol Forest ORV Trail Bridge Replacement
RCO # 20-2011 Capitol & Yacolt Forest & Facilities Maintenance and Operations
RCO # 20-2161 Capitol Forest Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

I sincerely thank you for your time and for your consideration,

Steve Crocker
103 E Harris #114
Oakville WA 98568

Scrockern8r@gmail.com



January 12, 2021

Dear Recreation & Conservation NOVA grant funding board members,

My name is Herb Reeves

I am the President of the Non-Profit, Olytrailrunners running club and a recreation user in Capitol Forest. Our members appreciate the efforts of DNR providing recreational opportunities in Capitol Forest. We sponsor events in Capitol Forest and donate goods and money to DNR and other non-profits to benefit all recreational users.

I and our 300 members, support the following grants. Capitol Forest DNR needs these grants in order to effectively manage the many existing, and the many new challenges we face to keep Capitol Forest on the trajectory of a safe and high-quality Washington State outdoor recreation destination.

- RCO # 20-2097 Capitol Forest Non-Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance
- RCO # 20-2159 Capitol Education & Enforcement
- RCO # 20-2306 Capitol Forest ORV Trail Bridge Replacement
- RCO # 20-2011 Capitol & Yacolt Forest & Facilities Maintenance and Operations
- RCO # 20-2161 Capitol Forest Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

I sincerely thank you for your time and for your consideration,

Herb Reeves
President

WOLFF, PHILIP (DNR)

Subject: Letter of support from a equestrian

From: Barb <ibriding@centurytel.net>
Sent: Thursday, January 14, 2021 9:19 AM
To: WOLFF, PHILIP (DNR) <PHILIP.WOLFF@dnr.wa.gov>

January 14th 2021

Dear RCO Funding Board Committee

My name is Barbara Paris

I am a equestrian recreation user in Capitol Forest.

I support the following grants. Capitol Forest DNR needs these grants in order to effectively manage the many existing, and the many new challenges we face to keep Capitol Forest on the trajectory of a safe and high-quality Washington State outdoor recreation destination.

RCO # 20-2097 Capitol Forest Non-Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance RCO # 20-2159 Capitol Education & Enforcement RCO # 20-2306 Capitol Forest ORV Trail Bridge Replacement RCO # 20-2011 Capitol & Yacolt Forest & Facilities Maintenance and Operations RCO # 20-2161 Capitol Forest Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

I sincerely thank you for your time and for your consideration,

Barbara Paris ibriding@centurytel.net

WOLFF, PHILIP (DNR)

Subject: FW: Capitol Forest grant support

From: Sarah Brooks <olympiagirl37@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, January 12, 2021 12:38 PM

Subject: Capitol Forest grant support

Attention Recreation & Conservation Office Funding Board Members,

My name is Sarah Brooks and I am a lifelong resident of Olympia.

I am a member of the Olytrailrunners running club and a recreation user in Capitol Forest. I rely on the trails in Capitol Forest for both my mental and physical health. Our continued ability to utilize this exceptional natural resource is vital to our community.

I support the following grants. Capitol Forest DNR needs these grants in order to effectively manage the many existing, and the many new challenges we face to keep Capitol Forest on the trajectory of a safe and high-quality Washington State outdoor recreation destination.

RCO # 20-2097 Capitol Forest Non-Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

RCO # 20-2159 Capitol Education & Enforcement

RCO # 20-2306 Capitol Forest ORV Trail Bridge Replacement

RCO # 20-2011 Capitol & Yacolt Forest & Facilities Maintenance and Operations

RCO # 20-2161 Capitol Forest Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

I sincerely thank you for your time and for your consideration,

Sarah Brooks olympiagirl37@gmail.com

January 12, 2021

Dear RCO Funding Board Members,

My name is Jack Ramsey and I am a recreation user in Capitol Forest and a long time member of Friends of Capitol Forest.

I would like to offer my support to the following grants. Capitol Forest DNR needs these grants in order to effectively manage the many existing, growing number of new challenges we face to keep Capitol Forest on the trajectory of a safe and high-quality Washington State outdoor recreation destination.

RCO # 20-2097 Capitol Forest Non-Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance
RCO # 20-2159 Capitol Education & Enforcement
RCO # 20-2306 Capitol Forest ORV Trail Bridge Replacement
RCO # 20-2011 Capitol & Yacolt Forest & Facilities Maintenance and Operations
RCO # 20-2161 Capitol Forest Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

I sincerely thank you for your time and for your consideration,

Jack Ramsey
315 Sherman St NW
Olympia, WA 98532
ramco@localaccess.com

January 11, 2021

Dear RCO Funding Board Members,

I am a past and current mountain bike recreation user in Capitol Forest.

I am also affiliated with FOCF (Friends of Capitol Forest)

I support the following grants. Capitol Forest DNR needs these grants in order to effectively manage the many existing, and the many new challenges we face to keep Capitol Forest on the trajectory of a safe and high-quality Washington State outdoor recreation destination.

RCO # 20-2097 Capitol Forest Non-Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance
RCO # 20-2159 Capitol Education & Enforcement
RCO # 20-2306 Capitol Forest ORV Trail Bridge Replacement
RCO # 20-2011 Capitol & Yacolt Forest & Facilities Maintenance and Operations
RCO # 20-2161 Capitol Forest Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

I sincerely thank you for your time and for your consideration

Rachel DeLateur
5830 Armour Lp Se #1, Lacey WA 98513
mtnbikefun@yahoo.com



Dear Grant Committee:

I represent the Chinook Trail Association. Our members regularly use DNR lands and I support the Washington State Department of Natural Resources Pacific Cascade Region's grant requests.

I thank the DNR for constructing new trails and their partnering with volunteer organization such as Washington Trails Association and the Chinook Trail Association in the maintenance and construction of trails. I appreciate the DNR provides motorized trail opportunities because without motorized trails the non-motorized trails would be driven on more often.

With the great collaboration with trail organizations I firmly believe this grant money will be used efficiently and wisely.

On behalf of the recreational users in the Southwest Washington area and the Chinook Trail Association, please approve these grants for the Pacific Cascade Region.

20-2008 E PC Education and Enforcement

20-2010 M Pacific Cascade Motorized Maintenance

20-2009 M Pacific Cascade Non-Motorized Maintenance

20-2038 M Yacolt Burn Non-Motorized Trail Bridges

20-2011 M Capital & Yacolt Forest Facilities Maintenance

20-2039 D Jones Creek ORV Trailhead Expansion Project

Sincerely,

Steve Jones

President, Chinook Trail Association

WOLFF, PHILIP (DNR)

Subject: I support Capitol Forest DNR grants

From: Jihan Grettenberger <jihangrett@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 12, 2021 7:37 PM
To: WOLFF, PHILIP (DNR) <PHILIP.WOLFF@dnr.wa.gov>
Subject: Capitol Forest DNR grants.

Dear RCO Funding Board Members,

My name is Jihan Grettenberger. I am a member of the Olytrailrunners Running Club and a recreation user in Capitol Forest. I spend at least one day a week either running or biking in Capitol Forest. The forest is mini oasis from urbanization and has been even more valuable these past 8 months as people distance to protect themselves from COVID and not travel too far beyond the community.

I support the following grants. Capitol Forest DNR needs these grants in order to effectively manage the many existing, and the many new challenges we face to keep Capitol Forest on the trajectory of a safe and high-quality Washington State outdoor recreation destination.

RCO # 20-2097 Capitol Forest Non-Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

RCO # 20-2159 Capitol Education & Enforcement

RCO # 20-2306 Capitol Forest ORV Trail Bridge Replacement

RCO # 20-2011 Capitol & Yacolt Forest & Facilities Maintenance and Operations

RCO # 20-2161 Capitol Forest Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

I sincerely thank you for your time and for your consideration,

Jihan Grettenberger
360-790-9848

WOLFF, PHILIP (DNR)

Subject: Support of RCO Grants for Capitol Forest Joel

From: Joel McCune <knu2xs@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 6:03 AM
To: WOLFF, PHILIP (DNR) <PHILIP.WOLFF@dnr.wa.gov>
Subject: Support of RCO Grants for Capitol Forest

Dear RCO Funding Board Members,

My name is Joel McCune. In college I ran for the University of Missouri. The mile was my race, and yes, I went under four minutes. That was a long time ago. Now, I am in my early 40's, and a father of two rambunctious young boys trying to hold together a normal life in a household with two professionals through this unprecedented year. Running, especially long runs on trails in Capitol Forest, has been the one thing allowing me to hold on to the shreds of sanity remaining throughout this year. While definitely valuable in any time, during this past year these trials have proven a lifesaver.

I support the following grants. Capitol Forest DNR needs these grants in order to effectively manage the many existing, and the many new challenges we face to keep Capitol Forest on the trajectory of a safe and high-quality Washington State outdoor recreation destination.

RCO # 20-2097 Capitol Forest Non-Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

RCO # 20-2159 Capitol Education & Enforcement

RCO # 20-2306 Capitol Forest ORV Trail Bridge Replacement

RCO # 20-2011 Capitol & Yacolt Forest & Facilities Maintenance and Operations

RCO # 20-2161 Capitol Forest Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

I sincerely thank you for your time and for your consideration,

Respectfully,

Joel McCune

Adversity cause some men to break; others to break records. -William Arthur Ward

January 11, 2021

Dear RCO Funding Board Members,

I am a bicyclist, motorcyclist, hiker and general recreation user in Capitol Forest. I am in the Forest many days each year (more than 36 bicycle rides in the Forest in the 2020) for the past 17 years. I appreciate the access our state provides to public lands and recognize the significant effort it takes to maintain and protect this resource. For many years I've participated with the Friends of Capitol Forest as a volunteer, helping to maintain the forest I recreate in regularly.

I support the following grants. Capitol Forest DNR needs these grants in order to effectively manage the many existing, and the many new challenges we face to keep Capitol Forest on the trajectory of a safe and high-quality Washington State outdoor recreation destination.

RCO # 20-2097 Capitol Forest Non-Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance
RCO # 20-2159 Capitol Education & Enforcement
RCO # 20-2306 Capitol Forest ORV Trail Bridge Replacement
RCO # 20-2011 Capitol & Yacolt Forest & Facilities Maintenance and Operations
RCO # 20-2161 Capitol Forest Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

Thank you for your time and for your consideration,

Josh Morse
2216 Nut Tree Loop SE
Olympia, WA 98501
Morse_josh@comcast.net

WOLFF, PHILIP (DNR)

Subject: : Capitol Forest RCO Grant ALL

From: Caitlin Craig-Mickel <caitlinek@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 12, 2021 5:36 PM
To: WOLFF, PHILIP (DNR) <PHILIP.WOLFF@dnr.wa.gov>
Subject: Capitol Forest RCO Grant

Dear RCO Funding Board Members,

My name is Caitlin Craig-Mickel.

I am a recreation user in Capitol Forest.

I wanted to write in support of the grants listed below. Capitol Forest DNR needs these grants in order to effectively manage the many existing, and the many new challenges we face to keep Capitol Forest on the trajectory of a safe and high-quality Washington State outdoor recreation destination. Capitol Forest is such an amazing trail system and beautiful area.

RCO # 20-2097 Capitol Forest Non-Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

RCO # 20-2159 Capitol Education & Enforcement

RCO # 20-2306 Capitol Forest ORV Trail Bridge Replacement

RCO # 20-2011 Capitol & Yacolt Forest & Facilities Maintenance and Operations

RCO # 20-2161 Capitol Forest Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

I sincerely thank you for your time and for your consideration,

--
Caitlin Craig-Mickel
360-269-5048 caitlinek@gmail.com

January 11, 2021

Dear RCO Funding Board Members,

I am a 10+ year mountain bike / recreation user in Capitol Forest.

Group or club association - Friends of Capitol Forest

I support the following grants. Capitol Forest DNR needs these grants in order to effectively manage the many existing, and the many new challenges we face to keep Capitol Forest on the trajectory of a safe and high-quality Washington State outdoor recreation destination.

RCO # 20-2097 Capitol Forest Non-Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance
RCO # 20-2159 Capitol Education & Enforcement
RCO # 20-2306 Capitol Forest ORV Trail Bridge Replacement
RCO # 20-2011 Capitol & Yacolt Forest & Facilities Maintenance and Operations
RCO # 20-2161 Capitol Forest Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

I sincerely thank you for your time and for your consideration,

Duncan Albright Jr
2218 122nd Average E, Edgewood, WA 98372
chip.albright@mail.com

January 11, 2021

Dear RCO Funding Board Members,

I am a Bicycle/Hiking recreation user in Capitol Forest.

Group or club association CBC Racing

I support the following grants. Capitol Forest DNR needs these grants in order to effectively manage the many existing, and the many new challenges we face to keep Capitol Forest on the trajectory of a safe and high-quality Washington State outdoor recreation destination.

RCO # 20-2097 Capitol Forest Non-Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance
RCO # 20-2159 Capitol Education & Enforcement
RCO # 20-2306 Capitol Forest ORV Trail Bridge Replacement
RCO # 20-2011 Capitol & Yacolt Forest & Facilities Maintenance and Operations
RCO # 20-2161 Capitol Forest Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

I sincerely thank you for your time and for your consideration,

Wade M. Gifford
217 Rogers St NW Olympia, WA 98502
goride934@yahoo.com

January 13, 2021

Dear RCO NOVA Grant Funding Board

My name is Michael Scholl

I am a bicycle/hiker/volunteer recreation user in Capitol Forest.

I have been recreating in Capitol Forest for over 20years since I moved to Olympia. The network of trails has improved immeasurably in that time. I would like to see that continue.

I also have worked with a non-profit, Friends of Capitol Forest, spending hundreds of hours volunteering to help maintain the recreation areas over the last 12-13years.

I fully support the following grants. Capitol Forest DNR needs these grants in order to effectively manage the many existing, and the many new challenges we face to keep Capitol Forest on the trajectory of a safe and high-quality Washington State outdoor recreation destination.

RCO # 20-2097 Capitol Forest Non-Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

RCO # 20-2159 Capitol Education & Enforcement

RCO # 20-2306 Capitol Forest ORV Trail Bridge Replacement

RCO # 20-2011 Capitol & Yacolt Forest & Facilities Maintenance and Operations

RCO # 20-2161 Capitol Forest Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

I sincerely thank you for your time and for your consideration,

Michael Scholl
1329 Tullis St NE
Olympia WA 98506
360 250 0882
coldh20diver@gmail.com

January 12, 2021

Dear RCO Funding Board Members,

I am an all-year-round mountain bike recreation user in Capitol Forest. This includes using an e-mtn bike with pedal assist.

Group or club association: None

I support the following grants. Capitol Forest DNR needs these grants in order to effectively manage the many existing, and the many new challenges we face to keep Capitol Forest on the trajectory of a safe and high-quality Washington State outdoor recreation destination.

RCO # 20-2097 Capitol Forest Non-Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance
RCO # 20-2159 Capitol Education & Enforcement
RCO # 20-2306 Capitol Forest ORV Trail Bridge Replacement
RCO # 20-2011 Capitol & Yacolt Forest & Facilities Maintenance and Operations
RCO # 20-2161 Capitol Forest Motorized Trail & Facility Maintenance

I sincerely thank you for your time and for your consideration,

Name: J Kent Rudeen
Address: 264 65TH CT SW, Tumwater 98501
Email: jkr_info@mac.com



January 20, 2021

Attention: RCO

Subject: Letter of Support to Washington DNR for RCO Grant Applications

To Whom It May Concern:

We, the Jones Creek Trail Riders Association (JCTRA,) are a club of users and caretakers of DNR managed lands in the Yacolt Burn, Jones Creek recreation area. Our club is organized around motorcycles, quads, and trail-legal side-by-sides; i.e., motorized use, but we also have and do support other user groups, both motorized and non-motorized. We have been partnering with DNR for many years in managing the Jones Creek area and look forward to working on a volunteer basis in support of the responsible use of the forest and in support of DNR's activities therein.

As a current grant holder, we support DNR's request for grants for improvements and maintenance of the Yacolt Burn State Forest area. Our support is not just verbal, as JCTRA expects to contribute volunteer labor and other participation for this purpose. In particular we support the following grant applications:

20-2008	E	PC Education and Enforcement (Dept. of Natural Resources)
20-2010	M	Pacific Cascade Motorized Maintenance (Dept. of Natural Resources)
20-2009	M	Pacific Cascade Non-Motorized Maintenance (Dept. of Natural Resources)
20-2038	M	Yacolt Burn Non-Motorized Trail Bridges (Dept. of Natural Resources)
20-2011	M	Capital & Yacolt Forest Facilities Maintenance (Dept. of Natural Resources)
20-2039	D	Jones Creek ORV Trailhead Expansion (Dept. of Natural Resources)

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

 D9D22539B7654F7...
 Edward R. Gillespie
 Co-President
 Jones Creek Trail Riders Assoc.



December 23, 2020

Attn: RCO Review Committee

Re: RCO Grant Application
Applicant: Washington Department of Natural Resources
**RCO application #20-2071 MNT, Samish Overlook and Lily Lizard
Lake Campgrounds**

Dear RCO Review Committee,

The Skagit Parks and Recreation Advisory Board enthusiastically supports the DNR grant application for a DNR Trail Stewardship position. This grant would fund the maintenance of the Samish Overlook Day Use Area and two backcountry campgrounds at Blanchard State Forest. The maintenance and coordination of WCC crews and volunteers at the Samish Overlook and Lily and Lizard Lake campgrounds provides a great value to the public and a great service to the people of Skagit County.

Skagit County recognizes the importance of campgrounds, water connectivity, and places to view the great scenery or special place in the northwest has to offer. The Skagit County Parks and Recreation Plan surveys indicate its constituents desire natural areas, wildlife viewing opportunities, and campgrounds. We believe DNR lands need a recreational component and are very supportive of funding the upkeep of these valuable places for leisure activities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "B. Adams", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Brian Adams, Director
Skagit County Parks and Recreation

1730 Continental Place
Mount Vernon, WA 98273

(360) 416-1350 phone

[http://skagitcounty.net/offices/
parks/index.htm](http://skagitcounty.net/offices/parks/index.htm)

To RCO Review Committee,

The members of the North Cascades Soaring Club would like to show support for the following grant applications.

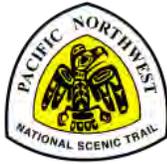
- RCO application #20-2070 Maintenance for Blanchard and Harry Osborne Trails and Facilities M&O
- RCO application #20-2071 Maintenance for the Samish Overlook and Lily and Lizard Lake Campgrounds
- RCO application #20-2032 Development of the Stewart Mt trail system and trailhead
- RCO application #22-2273 NW Region Education and Enforcement North Zone

The North Cascades Soaring Club actively supports the local DNR recreational management staff who have been incredible to work with. As consideration of these applications our club would like to pledge 100 volunteer hours in 2021 to maintain the Samish Overlook for all site users to enjoy. Our club is very passionate about recreation at Blanchard Mt and we are proud to work hand in hand with the DNR as the Adopt-A-Site group at the Samish Overlook.

Thank you for your consideration of these very worthy grant applications.

Jeff Beck

NCSC Board site chairman



**PACIFIC NORTHWEST TRAIL
ASSOCIATION**

November 5, 2020

RCO Funding Board
1111 Washington St SE
Olympia, WA 98501

To the Washington Recreation & Conservation Funding Board:

The Pacific Northwest Trail Association (PNTA) supports the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) - Baker District's grant proposals:

#20-2070 MNT Blanchard, Harry Osborne Trails and Facilities M&O

#20-2071 MNT, Samish Overlook and Lily and Lizard Lake Campgrounds

#20-2032 DEV, Stewart Mtn. Phase 1 Trail System & Trailhead Development

#22-2273 NW Region Education and Enforcement [Warden] North Zone

These proposals will have direct, positive impacts on the Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail (PNNST), popular feeder trails and resources along the greater PNNST corridor.

For 41 years, the Pacific Northwest Trail Association has served as the Pacific Northwest Trail's primary advocate and steward, shepherding the concept of a long distance trail across the Pacific Northwest from our founder's vision to a federally designated treasure for all. Today, the PNTA works alongside agency partners like DNR to serve the public's interest in protecting this unique natural resource and providing opportunities for local communities to form lasting connections with Washington's public lands. With 900 of its 1200 miles in Washington, the PNNST connects Washingtonians to their wild places every day, and offers unparalleled opportunities for extended adventures as well as those lasting just a few hours.

The DNR - Baker District is entrusted with about 20 miles of the PNNST, which carries users above the beautiful Skagit Valley and over the Chuckanut Mountains before reaching the iconic Samish Overlook. The continued development and maintenance of this the PNNST is a herculean task, but with partners like the Baker District, who not only deliver high quality projects of their own, but also provide guidance and leadership to local stakeholders who can amplify the impact of available resources on the ground, the PNNST continues to raise in stature among the world's premiere long distance trails.

I wholeheartedly support these projects, and hope you will choose to do the same.

Jeff Kish
Executive Director

Pacific Northwest Trail Association

America's Wildest Trail is Yours to Explore and Yours to Protect

Cowboy Campsite

www.cowboycampsite.com

December 16, 2020

RCO Review Committee
c/o Mr. Hyden McKown
Washington State Department of Natural Resources
919 North Township St.
Sedro-Woolley, WA 98284

Subject: RCO application #20-2071 MNT, Samish Overlook and Lily and Lizard Lake Campgrounds

To RCO Review Committee:

Background

Cowboy Campsite Members Association (CCMA) represents owners of 90 acres of Skagit County approved camping and trailhead at 6885 Medford Road, Sedro Woolley. The ownership group represents over 150 owners/families. All owners have horses and are users of the non-motorized roads and trails in the Harry Osborne State Forest. These trails are also central to the many equestrian users of the Lester Hilde Trailhead; this important recreation area is charted and restricted to horseback riding, hiking and bicycling. Those on horseback using these trails range from under age 10 to some well into their 80s. Also, a wide range of equestrian skills, both among the riders and horses, are represented, from the novice to the extremely experienced. CCMA has always strived to maintain excellent relations with DNR, and common stakeholders, such as the Backcountry Horseman. In this spirit, we have an easement agreement with the DNR, allowing equestrians and other non-motorized recreation users to directly access DNR lands from Lester Hilde Trailhead over CCMA property [DNR Easement No. 55-092343].

Also, the CCMA membership lives throughout the region, including Snohomish, Skagit and Whatcom Counties. In addition to using horse trailheads and riding trails adjacent to Cowboy Campsite, our members are also using similar recreation facilities throughout these three counties, including equestrian trails at Blanchard Mountain and Stewart Mountain.

Support for Samish Overlook and Lily and Lizard Lake Maintenance and Stewardship

The CCMA would like to express our support for funding maintenance and of the Samish Overlook Day Use Area and the two backcountry campgrounds at the lakes in Blanchard State

Forest. The Blanchard trail system offers a number of excellent trails for non-motorized use, including equestrian use. The Samish Overlook is a spectacular location and riding one's horse from the lower lot out to the Overlook is a wonderful experience. Both the lower and upper parking lots have plenty of space to accommodate horse trailers which helps make it an excellent trail riding location. Also, the ability to camp at Lily and Lizard lakes provides for great overnight adventure.

This relatively new, formal DNR recreation area is becoming increasingly popular, especially with the permanent protection of the core 1,600 acres in Blanchard State Forest. A quick google search of Samish Overlook, or Oyster Dome reveals this to be true. On holidays and weekends, the number of vehicles parked on Chuckanut Drive near the trailhead to the Overlook increases every year. The section of the trail from the Overlook to Oyster Dome is considered one of the best day hikes in the region. Ongoing support for maintenance of restrooms, campgrounds and trails is more important than ever. With the increasing diverse recreation usage of this area, a failure to invest in maintenance will quickly turn the spectacular into an unfortunate matter of safety and public health.

From a purely equestrian perspective, supporting this grant application is an extremely high priority for the CCMA. Moreover, the recreation value of this special location extends to users well beyond horseback riding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Schneider', written in a cursive style.

David Schneider
Board Chairman
Cowboy Campsite Members Association

cc. CCMA Board of Directors

Att: Hyden McKown
Baker District Recreation Manager (acting)
Washington Department of Natural Resources

RECEIVED

DEC 21 2020

NW REGION

Re: RCO Grant Application

Applicant: Washington Department of Natural Resources

RCO Project Numbers and Titles: #20-2071 Samish Overlook and Lily, Lizard Lake
Campgrounds NHR

Dear RCO Review Committee,

The members of the Skagit Back Country Horsemen support the Washington Department of Natural Resources effort to apply for grant funds through the Recreation and Conservation Office. Our members ride their horses and mules on the many miles of trails on Blanchard Mountain and the Harry Osborne Park and appreciate all efforts by the DNR staff who maintain and make them safe for recreational use. Our members know what effort it takes to secure grants and realize how important funds are to purchase tools and provide materials to maintain trails and campgrounds. Our members have logged hundreds of volunteer hours and have partnered with DNR on many trail projects.

Our Skagit Back Country chapter members were unanimous in their decision to support DNR's effort to secure funding for improvements at Blanchard and Harry Osborne. We can also guarantee volunteers from our chapter to participate in projects planned and organized by DNR personnel.

Sincerely,

Janine Fuzell
President, Skagit Backcountry Horsemen
12-20-2020



Skagit, Whatcom, Island Trail Maintaining Organization
SWITMO

13595 Avon Allen Road
Mount Vernon WA 98273

www.SWITMO.org

360-424-0407

jdmelcher@comcast.net

08 December 2020

Attn: Hyden McKown
Baker District Recreation Manager (acting)
Washington Department of Natural Resources.
Re: RCO Grant Application
Applicant: Washington Department of Natural Resources
RCO application #20-2071 Samish Overlook and Lily and Lizard Lake Campgrounds.

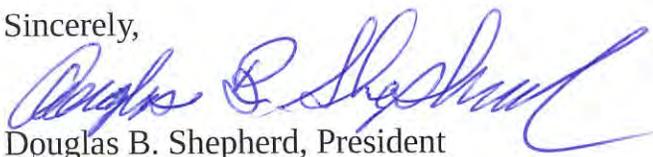
Dear RCO Review Committee,

This letter is from the Skagit, Whatcom, Island Trail Maintenance Organization, SWITMO. SWITMO is a 501(c)-3 non-profit corporation also registered with the State of Washington. SWITMO is made up of volunteers with no paid staff. Our mission is to “Pave the Way for Hikers” in Skagit, Whatcom and Island Counties. Most of our work is on sections of the Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail, the PNT. We have a maintaining-organization agreement with the Pacific Northwest Trail Association, the PNTA.

We support this maintenance project because we want to keep existing trails in good shape for visitors and hikers, including ourselves. The same is true for maintaining trailheads and restroom facilities. Good trails benefit the local economy and benefit the community in many ways. People need places to go to get into nature, to get into the wilderness and to see expansive views in order to be refreshed.

The Samish Overlook is a jewel in the Pacific Northwest. Maintaining it is critical.

Sincerely,


Douglas B. Shepherd, President

December 28th, 2020
501 Meador Ave., Suite 106
Bellingham, WA 98225



Washington Recreation and Conservation
Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: RCO application #20-2071 MNT, Samish Overlook and Lily and Lizard Lake Campgrounds.

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board:

On behalf of Whatcom Mountain Bike Coalition, I am pleased to offer our strong support for the Washington State Department of Natural Resource's grant proposal for Project #20-2071.

The WMBC's mission is to Preserve and Enhance non-motorized trail access in Whatcom County through Advocacy, Stewardship and Education. We have a 34-year history of recreating and building trails in Whatcom and Skagit Counties. In 2019, the WMBC had more than 8,000 volunteer hours and we are the stewards of the 65-mile trail network on Galbraith Mountain. Last year, our youth programs had more than 450 local kids participating in our after-school bike clubs and our bike rodeos had more than 5,000 kids ride bikes at their elementary schools.

This grant will help support safe and sustainable recreation on Blanchard Mountain which is an extremely popular area within Skagit County. The maintenance of the Samish Overlook which is popular for its views, trail access to Oyster Dome and Lily/Lizard Lake along with the Free-flight takeoff area. Lily and Lizard Lakes are a majestic part of the forest and their campgrounds are an awesome resource for a remote-feeling frontcountry camping experience.

Our members and other trail user groups already greatly benefit from the facilities on Blanchard Mountain as they provide a remote-feeling experience within a large population area in the frontcountry.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Eric J. Brown'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large 'E' and 'B'.

Eric Brown
Executive Director, WMBC
Phone: (206) 399-8347
Email: eric@wmbcmtb.org
Web: www.wmbcmtb.org



Washington Trails Association

705 Second Avenue, Suite 300, Seattle WA 98104 • 206.625.1367 • wta.org

November 11, 2020

Washington Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Grant #20-2071 MNT, Samish Overlook and Lily and Lizard Lake Campgrounds (Dept. of Natural Resources)

Dear RCO Review Committee :

I am writing on behalf of Washington Trails Association to express our support of the Washington State Department of Natural Resources grant to fund the maintenance of the Samish Overlook Day Use Area and two backcountry campgrounds at Blanchard State Forest. The grant would provide funding for 30% of a full time DNR Trail Steward position. This position performs maintenance and coordinates projects for Washington Conservation Corps crews and volunteers at the Samish Overlook and Lily and Lizard Lake campgrounds. The grant would be able to pay for sign replacement, purchasing of materials such as fire rings, tools, and the cleaning and pumping of our restrooms.

DNR staff are an integral part of collaborative efforts that steward these recreation facilities that have seen a sharp increase in use during the pandemic. While WTA volunteers do a great deal of work to maintain trails, we also rely on DNR staff to maintain and repair restrooms, signs and other facility structures.

WTA enhances hiking experiences in Washington state by empowering a diverse and growing community of hikers to explore, steward and protect trails and public lands. WTA is the nation's largest state-based trail maintenance and hiking advocacy nonprofit organization, with more than 24,000 member households and an online community of more than 100,000. Each year almost 4,500 WTA volunteers perform over 160,000 hours of trail maintenance across the state.

Last year WTA's volunteer program invested over 2,200 hours in building and maintaining trails in the Baker District in partnership with DNR staff and other trail user groups. This grant fills an essential niche in leveraging that capacity in the years to come. We hope you will support this grant and in doing so the partnership we have with DNR as well. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Andrea J. Imler".

Andrea Imler
Advocacy Director



BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF WASHINGTON
PO Box 1132
ELLENSBURG, WA 98926
WWW.BCHW.ORG

October 30, 2020
Recreation and Conservation Office
1111 Washington Street S.E. #2
Olympia, WA 98501

Dear Recreation and Conservation funding board:

Back Country Horsemen of Washington is aware that the Snoqualmie Ranger District is applying for a number of grants from both the RTP and the NOVA categories. We endorse and support these grant applications. As long time recreation users and as an organization that does volunteer trail maintenance in the Snoqualmie Ranger District we are aware of the benefit these grants would provide.

The Snoqualmie Ranger District is currently applying for grants that include funding for front country and back country trail maintenance, Wilderness patrols and Snoqualmie Ranger District front country rangers. They also have submissions for the Evans Creek ORV area for maintenance and education and enforcement and are putting a grant proposal together for additional winter recreation support.

The Snoqualmie District recreation staff manages and coordinates volunteer hours annually that subsidize their efforts to provide a continued and valued recreation experience. Grants from the Recreation Conservation Office ensure that resources continue to be available for these efforts.

Thank you for your consideration,
Sincerely,

s/Kathy Young

Kathy Young
Public Lands Chairman
Back Country Horsemen of Washington
public_lands@bchw.org



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Manager for Conservation, Recreation, and Transactions, WA Dept.
of Natural Resources
Gary Berndt, Wildland Fire Liaison, WA State Dept. of
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Mark Boyar (*), President, Middle Fork Outdoor Recreation Coalition
Kevin Brown, King County Parks and Recreation
Susan Carlson, Chair, E3 Washington
Bill Chapman (*), Past President, Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust
Dow Constantine (X), King County Executive
Kitty Craig, Deputy Director, Washington Program,
The Wilderness Society
Deloa Dalby, Savor Snoqualmie Valley Leadership Team;
The Mountaineers Foothills Branch
Bob Ellis, Lifetime Educator and Cyclist,
Karl Forsgaard, Manager of Implementations, Thomson Reuters;
Alpine Lakes Protection Society
Kurt Fraese (*), Fraese and Associates, LLC
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Pacific Groundwater Group
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Tod McDonald (*), Co-Founder, Valid8 Financial
Roger Millar (X), Secretary of Transportation, WSDOT
Chad Nesland, Director, Microsoft Procurement, Microsoft
Thomas O'Keefe, Pacific Northwest Stewardship Director,
American Whitewater
Amanda O'Rourke, CPA, Partner, Greenwood Ohlund & Co.
David Patton, Northwest Area Director, The Trust for Public Land
Kizz Prusia, Project Associate, Triangle Associates
Charles Raines, Director Cascade Checkerboard Project, Sierra Club,
Washington State Chapter
Janet Ray, Retired, Asst VP, Corporate Affairs and Publishing,
AAA Washington
Jim Reinhardtsen (*), President, Laird Norton Properties
Vik Sahney, Board VP, E&I Committee Chair, The Mountaineers
Meredith Shank, Social Venture Partners
Jill Simmons, Executive Director, Washington Trails Association
Al Smith, Partner, Perkins Coie LLP
David Sturtevant, Retired, Vice President CH2M HILL
Chris Thomas, Senior Director, Public Policy, Lyft
Harry Thomas, Chief Marketing Officer, AAA Washington
Leah Tivoli, Manager, City of Seattle
Alison Washburn, Bellevue Store Manager, REI Co-op
Jody Weil (X), Supervisor, Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest
Joel Yoker, President, Snoqualmie Valley Youth Activities and
Community Center

(* Executive Committee Member
(X) Ex-Officio (non-voting) Director

MTSGREENWAY.ORG

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Doug McClelland (*), Former Assistant Region Manager
Washington State Department of Natural Resources

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20-2355 NOVA NHR #12

Program Committee Chair
Cora Johnson (*), Geotechnical Engineer, GeoEngineers

Executive Director
Jon Hoekstra (*), Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust

November 3, 2020

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

RE: Support for Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest 2020 RTP and NOVA
grant application proposals

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust enthusiastically endorses the
Snoqualmie Ranger District' and the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest's
proposals to the RCO through the NOVA and RTP programs to maintain,
improve, build, and relocate hiking, backcountry, and multi-use trails and
facilities in the District and to provide ranger patrols and user education.

The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust leads and inspires action to conserve
and enhance 1.5 million acres between Puget Sound and Ellensburg. Our work
connects natural areas, trails, working farm and forests, communities, wildlife
habitat and recreation opportunities along the I-90 corridor. We also strive to
support partners who own and manage the lands within the Greenway's
boundaries, and recognize the immense value of their recreation infrastructure,
education programs, and restoration activities in creating opportunities to
connect people with the outdoors.

Unfortunately, the very crowds that are drawn to the beauty and challenge of
the District's unique terrain threaten to destroy the wilderness experience they
are seeking at popular destinations such as the Alpine Lakes Wilderness, the
Middle Fork of the Snoqualmie River Valley, and the many popular trails along
the Interstate 90 corridor.

Trail maintenance efforts, the creation and maintenance of new recreational
ADA-accessible day use facilities, and increased education and enforcement via
front- and backcountry rangers is critical to the long-term sustainability of the
trails and natural resources within the Greenway, allowing the recreational
resources to meet increased demand without negatively impacting the
landscape.

With the impacts of COVID-19 felt across the landscape and the region, the
importance of high-quality and well-maintained recreation infrastructure has
become more and more apparent. The accessibility of trails and recreational
facilities in the Greenway, and in the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest
provide a critical source of respite and a means for people to connect with
nature, and the need to care for these areas is greater than ever.



The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust convenes a diverse coalition of public and private partners working to ensure a long-term balance between people and nature, across the watersheds between Seattle and Ellensburg. We work to connect and enhance wildlife habitat, improve outdoor recreation, enhance outdoor education, preserve working farms and forests, and ensure thriving communities.

The Greenway Trust is working with a broad coalition of partners including the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, the Washington State Dept. of Natural Resources and many other agencies, nonprofits, businesses, and citizens to support long-term stewardship of the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River Valley and to responsibly accommodate increased visitation expected to occur after a federal road improvement project paves the main access to the Valley. The projects put forth within these multiple grant proposals will help to ensure that trails and facilities in the Middle Fork Valley and in the Greenway are up to a standard that can sustainably support higher public visitation, and that recreational users are aware and educated about the natural world around them. The completion of the paving of the Middle Fork Road (Forest Road 56) in 2016-17 has increased the importance of this work, enabling more recreational users to connect with the many opportunities this landscape has to offer.

Funding the U.S. Forest Service's trail, infrastructure, restoration and educational programs not only enhances the local economy, it also provides a valuable public service to local and regional visitors. The Greenway boundary was designated a National Heritage Area in 2019, and is sure to see more visitors as the area's profile continues to grow. In light of this increased use, the Forest Service's efforts to keep its trails, safe, well-maintained, and of limited impact to the surrounding natural resources will be key.

The Greenway Trust has long partnered with the MBS on trail and recreation projects, and we strongly support these proposals. If you have any questions, please contact Mackenzie Dolstad, Stewardship Program Manager, at 206-503-0683 or mackenzie.dolstad@mtsgreenway.org. Thank you for the opportunity to share our support for these important projects.

Sincerely,



Jon Hoekstra
Executive Director



November 2, 2020

Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Letter of support for Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Snoqualmie Ranger District grant applications

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Advisory Committee,

I am writing on behalf of the more than 13,500-member Pacific Crest Trail Association (PCTA) to express support for various grant applications submitted by the Snoqualmie Ranger District.

It is PCTA's privilege to partner with the Snoqualmie Ranger District to maintain outstanding recreation opportunities in the Central Cascades. The Snoqualmie Ranger District and their dedicated staff are valued partners of our organization. They host a PCTA tool cache, support our volunteer trainings, and provide outstanding public services. District staff have alerted PCTA that they have several grants supporting front country improvements through the NOVA program. Places like Denny Creek and the Middle Fork Snoqualmie Valley provide excellent recreation opportunities to the public. These proposals do not have a direct connection to the Pacific Crest Trail, but PCTA supports the expansion of recreation opportunities in western Washington. Thank you for your consideration of these various grants.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or would like any additional information about public benefits from specific proposals.

Sincerely,

Michael DeCramer
Pacific Crest Trail Association
North Cascades Regional Representative





Washington Trails Association

705 Second Avenue, Suite 300, Seattle WA 98104 • 206.625.1367 • wta.org

November 2, 2020

Washington Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Snoqualmie Ranger District Grant Requests

Dear RCO Grant Review Committee:

I am writing on behalf of Washington Trails Association to express our enthusiastic support of the following grant applications from the Snoqualmie Ranger District in the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest:

- Snoqualmie USFS & Mt. Rainier NPS Trails Alliance #20-2320 RTP
- Snoqualmie USFS & Mt. Rainier NPS Trails Alliance #20-2320 NOVA
- Snoqualmie R. D. Front Country Patrol 2022-2023 #20-2292 NOVA
- Snoqualmie R. D. Front Country Maintenance #20-2350 NOVA
- Snoqualmie Ranger District OHV & Motorized Rec #20-2194 NOVA
- Snoqualmie RD Winter Recreation Program #20-2233 NOVA
- Alpine Lakes Trail Maintenance 22-23 #20-2349 NOVA
- Alpine Lakes Trail Maintenance 22-23 #20-2308 RTP
- Denny Creek/Franklin Falls Parking Lot Expansion #20-2355 NOVA
- Middlefork Snoqualmie Recreation Hub Improvements #20-2307 NOVA

Washington Trails Association has a more than 50-year legacy of engaging the hiking community. WTA enhances hiking experiences in Washington state by empowering a diverse and growing community of hikers to explore, steward and protect trails and public lands. WTA is the nation's largest state-based trail maintenance and hiking advocacy nonprofit organization, with more than 24,000 member households and an online community of more than 100,000. Each year almost 4,500 WTA volunteers perform over 160,000 hours of trail maintenance across the state.

We are very supportive of the Snoqualmie Ranger District and their efforts to improve recreation access, maintenance and education and enforcement for the trails in the district. The Snoqualmie Ranger District encompasses some of Washington's most popular trails and recreation opportunities, including trails in the Alpine Lakes Wilderness.

The grants above will allow for the Snoqualmie Ranger District to conduct a robust trail maintenance program and address the need for further access to things like parking at Franklin Falls. Further, as the outdoors see more visitors than ever due to the pandemic and population growth in Washington, it is integral that places like the Snoqualmie Ranger District are equipped to educate new users on recreating safely and build a welcoming outdoors.

We are excited at the opportunity these projects hold, and look forward to working on them for years to come. Thank you for consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrea J. Imler". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping tail on the final letter.

Andrea Imler
Advocacy Director



BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF WASHINGTON
PO Box 1132
ELLENSBURG, WA 98926
WWW.BCHW.ORG

October 30, 2020
Recreation and Conservation Office
1111 Washington Street S.E. #2
Olympia, WA 98501

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The Snoqualmie District recreation staff manages and coordinates volunteer hours annually that subsidize their efforts to provide a continued and valued recreation experience. Grants from the Recreation Conservation Office ensure that resources continue to be available for these efforts.

Thank you for your consideration,
Sincerely,

s/Kathy Young

Kathy Young
Public Lands Chairman
Back Country Horsemen of Washington
public_lands@bchw.org



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Karl Forsgaard, Manager of Implementations, Thomson Reuters;
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Hilary Franz (X), Commissioner of Public Lands, WA State Dept. of
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Matt Grimm, Investment Professional, BMGI
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Lorna Luebke, Assistant General Counsel/Director Environment
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Roger Millar (X), Secretary of Transportation, WSDOT
Chad Nesland, Director, Microsoft Procurement, Microsoft
Thomas O'Keefe, Pacific Northwest Stewardship Director,
American Whitewater
Amanda O'Rourke, CPA, Partner, Greenwood Ohlund & Co.
David Patton, Northwest Area Director, The Trust for Public Land
Kizz Prusia, Project Associate, Triangle Associates
Charles Raines, Director Cascade Checkerboard Project, Sierra Club,
Washington State Chapter
Janet Ray, Retired, Asst VP, Corporate Affairs and Publishing,
AAA Washington
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Jill Simmons, Executive Director, Washington Trails Association
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Harry Thomas, Chief Marketing Officer, AAA Washington
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Alison Washburn, Bellevue Store Manager, REI Co-op
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(* Executive Committee Member
(X) Ex-Officio (non-voting) Director

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Marie Quasius(*), Senior Port Counsel, Port of Seattle

20-2355 NOVA NHR #12

Program Committee Chair
Cora Johnson (*), Geotechnical Engineer, GeoEngineers

Executive Director
Jon Hoekstra (*), Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust

November 3, 2020

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

RE: Support for Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest 2020 RTP and NOVA
grant application proposals

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

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the District's unique terrain threaten to destroy the wilderness experience they
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importance of high-quality and well-maintained recreation infrastructure has
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The Greenway Trust is working with a broad coalition of partners including the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, the Washington State Dept. of Natural Resources and many other agencies, nonprofits, businesses, and citizens to support long-term stewardship of the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River Valley and to responsibly accommodate increased visitation expected to occur after a federal road improvement project paves the main access to the Valley. The projects put forth within these multiple grant proposals will help to ensure that trails and facilities in the Middle Fork Valley and in the Greenway are up to a standard that can sustainably support higher public visitation, and that recreational users are aware and educated about the natural world around them. The completion of the paving of the Middle Fork Road (Forest Road 56) in 2016-17 has increased the importance of this work, enabling more recreational users to connect with the many opportunities this landscape has to offer.

Funding the U.S. Forest Service's trail, infrastructure, restoration and educational programs not only enhances the local economy, it also provides a valuable public service to local and regional visitors. The Greenway boundary was designated a National Heritage Area in 2019, and is sure to see more visitors as the area's profile continues to grow. In light of this increased use, the Forest Service's efforts to keep its trails, safe, well-maintained, and of limited impact to the surrounding natural resources will be key.

The Greenway Trust has long partnered with the MBS on trail and recreation projects, and we strongly support these proposals. If you have any questions, please contact Mackenzie Dolstad, Stewardship Program Manager, at 206-503-0683 or mackenzie.dolstad@mtsgreenway.org. Thank you for the opportunity to share our support for these important projects.

Sincerely,



Jon Hoekstra
Executive Director



November 2, 2020

Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Letter of support for Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Snoqualmie Ranger District grant applications

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Advisory Committee,

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Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or would like any additional information about public benefits from specific proposals.

Sincerely,

Michael DeCramer
Pacific Crest Trail Association
North Cascades Regional Representative





Washington Trails Association

705 Second Avenue, Suite 300, Seattle WA 98104 • 206.625.1367 • wta.org

November 2, 2020

Washington Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Snoqualmie Ranger District Grant Requests

Dear RCO Grant Review Committee:

I am writing on behalf of Washington Trails Association to express our enthusiastic support of the following grant applications from the Snoqualmie Ranger District in the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest:

- Snoqualmie USFS & Mt. Rainier NPS Trails Alliance #20-2320 RTP
- Snoqualmie USFS & Mt. Rainier NPS Trails Alliance #20-2320 NOVA
- Snoqualmie R. D. Front Country Patrol 2022-2023 #20-2292 NOVA
- Snoqualmie R. D. Front Country Maintenance #20-2350 NOVA
- Snoqualmie Ranger District OHV & Motorized Rec #20-2194 NOVA
- Snoqualmie RD Winter Recreation Program #20-2233 NOVA
- Alpine Lakes Trail Maintenance 22-23 #20-2349 NOVA
- Alpine Lakes Trail Maintenance 22-23 #20-2308 RTP
- Denny Creek/Franklin Falls Parking Lot Expansion #20-2355 NOVA
- Middlefork Snoqualmie Recreation Hub Improvements #20-2307 NOVA

Washington Trails Association has a more than 50-year legacy of engaging the hiking community. WTA enhances hiking experiences in Washington state by empowering a diverse and growing community of hikers to explore, steward and protect trails and public lands. WTA is the nation's largest state-based trail maintenance and hiking advocacy nonprofit organization, with more than 24,000 member households and an online community of more than 100,000. Each year almost 4,500 WTA volunteers perform over 160,000 hours of trail maintenance across the state.

We are very supportive of the Snoqualmie Ranger District and their efforts to improve recreation access, maintenance and education and enforcement for the trails in the district. The Snoqualmie Ranger District encompasses some of Washington's most popular trails and recreation opportunities, including trails in the Alpine Lakes Wilderness.

The grants above will allow for the Snoqualmie Ranger District to conduct a robust trail maintenance program and address the need for further access to things like parking at Franklin Falls. Further, as the outdoors see more visitors than ever due to the pandemic and population growth in Washington, it is integral that places like the Snoqualmie Ranger District are equipped to educate new users on recreating safely and build a welcoming outdoors.

We are excited at the opportunity these projects hold, and look forward to working on them for years to come. Thank you for consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrea J. Imler". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping tail on the final letter.

Andrea Imler
Advocacy Director



DREW W. HYER
GARFIELD COUNTY SHERIFF
P.O. BOX 338
POMEROY, WA 99347-0338

(509) 843-3494 * FAX (509) 843-1347

20-2020 NOVA NHR #13

Calvin Dansereau

Undersheriff

TINA MEIER
E911 COORDINATOR/
COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR

September 29, 2020

Recreation and Conservation Office
1111 Washington Street SE
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Re: Pomeroy R.D. Wilderness-Backcountry Trails M&O 20-2021M
Pomeroy R.D. OHV Motorized Trails M&O 20-2022M
Pomeroy R.D. Campgrounds/CUA's/Dispersed Sites M&O 20-2020M
Pomeroy R.D. Trail Grooming M&O 20-2019M
Pomeroy R.D. Winter Patrol 20-2018E

To Whom It May Concern:

The Garfield County Sheriff's Office continues to support the Pomeroy Ranger District in their endeavor to receive grants for the upkeep and improvements made to the Umatilla National Forest. With the proposed funds, we can ensure the people of Garfield County and surrounding areas a safe and enjoyable way to appreciate the great outdoors through the use of our campgrounds, roads and trail systems throughout the District.

With the damages caused by the 2005 School Fire, 2006 Columbia Complex Fire and the 2015 Grizzly Bear Fire these areas continue to need improvements to both wilderness and OHV trails. Ongoing maintenance and upkeep is vital for the safety of visitors to the forest. With the added funding this grant will provide, removal of dead trees and brush can be addressed, as well as drainage issues. Additionally this funding can be used for trail markers and snow pole installation in the winter for snowmobile users. All of these precautions will aid in the safety of those using the trails and help identify their location in the case of an emergency. For members of our agency, this is a key issue and something we strongly encourage and support.

As for winter trail patrol, Pomeroy Ranger District manages 138 miles of snowmobile trails and over 180,000 acres of back country. This grant would allow education to both motorized and non-motorized vehicles, enforce the "Leave No Trace" concept and ensure protection for both ski areas and winter ranges for elk. This would relieve club members from feeling responsible for enforcing their own sport and ensure a sense of security in the area.

The Sheriff's Office highly encourages the enjoyment of outdoor sports, camping and general recreation, with the goal to ensure the safety of everyone using the National Forest. We believe these added precautions will benefit all users as well as the natural resources we have been given.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Drew W. Hyer

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Drew W. Hyer", written over a blue horizontal line.

Wynne McCabe
Garfield County Commissioner
P O Box 700
Pomeroy WA 99347
(509) 843-1851
FAX (509) 843-1851

September 30, 2020

Recreation and Conservation Office
1111 Washington Street SE
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504 – 0917

Re: Pomeroy R.D. Wilderness-Backcountry Trails M&O 20-2021M
Pomeroy R.D. OHV Motorized Trails M&O 20-2022M
Pomeroy R.D. Campgrounds/CUA's/Dispersed Sites M&O 20-2020M
Pomeroy R.D. Trail Grooming M&O 20-2019M
Pomeroy R.D. Winter Trail Patrol 20-2018E

To whom it may concern,

On behalf of Garfield County, I offer our full and hearty support for the above grant applications submitted by the Pomeroy Ranger District of the Umatilla National Forest.

The County, with a population of about 2,200, is the smallest in the State. As such, we are considered “distressed” and our economy is in a stagnate state. To help mitigate that, we actively promote recreational and tourism activities, primarily, activities available in the “Blue Mountains” of the Umatilla National Forest. As an example of our efforts, in 2009 we adopted an ordinance allowing ORV travel on selected county roads, from the City of Pomeroy to the boundary of the UNF (20-2022M). We encourage staging in Pomeroy and, hopefully, money being spent here. Also, not often mentioned but of importance to me and others, maintenance of the ORV trail system encourages riders to stay on the trail so they’re not “an accident waiting to happen” on the heavily traveled main roads, and provides the added benefit of greatly reducing “off-roading” and the resulting damage to the terrain.

Spring, summer and fall bring campers, hikers, bicyclists, horseback riders and hunters who use Pomeroy as the springboard for their adventures. A well maintained trail system with appurtenant trailheads and campgrounds (20-2021M and 20-2020M) are essential in making it a memorable and an “I want to do that again” adventure.

As we all know, the great majority of participants abide by the rules and are well-intentioned, but sometimes ignorance will come into play, and, sadly at times, some individuals display outright disregard for rules, regulations and courteous conduct. Since it appears that usage continues to grow each year, the Grant for Winter Trail Patrol (20-2018E) would have a mitigating impact on safety, environmental, big game and enforcement issues, which has long been needed. This also supports the “pleasurable experience” that we want them to have and would improve on our opportunities derived from the benefit stated above.

Recreationists’ use of local businesses and services is actively pursued and greatly appreciated. For many, the Blue Mountains have become a favorite destination and well-maintained campgrounds, trailheads and trails, and fair and compassionate Law Enforcement are a big part of that. The more pleasurable their experience, the greater the likelihood they’ll return, and hopefully, by spreading the word, others will come for the first time and they too, will continue to return.

I’m a lifelong resident of the County, my Great Grandfather was camped outside of what is now Pomeroy, when Lincoln was assassinated, my Grandfather acquired the lease on our Cabin at Stentz Springs in the “Blues” in 1924, and I’ve personally witnessed the growth of four-season ORV riding in the area, and the good and the bad that accompany it. The projects they propose greatly enhance the “good” and help deter the “bad.” I also personally know the people who authored, will administer and work the projects funded by the grants. Not only are they very competent at their jobs, but very passionate about the stewardship of their “Blue Mountains.” The grant funds entrusted to them will be wisely and effectively spent.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Wynne McCabe
Garfield County Commissioner

POMEROY, WA

October 5, 2020

Re:

Pomeroy R.D. Wilderness & Backcountry Trails M&O 20-2021M

Pomeroy R.D. OHV Motorized Trails M&O 20-2022M

Pomeroy R.D. Campgrounds/CUA's/Dispersed Sites M&O 20-2020M

Pomeroy R.D. Trail Grooming M&O 20-2019M

Pomeroy R.D. Winter Trail Patrol 20-2018E

To Whom it May Concern:

On behalf of the Mt. Misery Snowdrifter's, I encourage you to provide any funding to the Pomeroy Ranger Station. We strongly believe that they will continue their excellent job of taking care of our trail system for all season recreation, the snowmobile groomer and operation, camping areas, parking lots, access points, forest and timber health, etc. with your financial assistance. Many of our members use the Forest Service ground year-round. We camp, mushroom hunt, huckleberry pick, hunt, and ride the trails.

We are a snowmobile club located in Garfield County, Washington. We help provide a safe, fun environment for the snowmobiling families in our area. We are a non-profit organization who has several fundraisers throughout the year. The money we earn goes directly into our community. We provide scholarships each year to high school seniors who are involved in outdoor activities and recreation. We also contribute to special organizations and local charities.

The Snowdrifters' members work very closely with the Pomeroy Ranger Station. We have a great relationship with the local staff. We have over 80 members that volunteer their time each year helping the Forest Service staff maintain our trail system, warm-up shelters, and outhouses. We spend our time cutting firewood, clearing trails, repairing the wood stoves in the shelters, and stocking them each year with firewood and emergency supplies. We also work closely with our local search and rescue team. Our local Forest Service staff provide us with some of the best groomed trails in the area. They help us out with our special events as well. Overall, we have a great partnership with our local Forest Service and we look forward to working with them in the future.

Sincerely,

Emily Ruchert, Secretary

Mt. Misery Snowdrifters
PO Box 808
Pomeroy, WA 99347

Mt. Misery Snowdrifters

Pomeroy Spinners Community Organization

699 Columbia Street
PO Box 745
Pomeroy, WA 99347

September 20, 2020

To: Recreation and Conservation Office
From: Larry Ledgerwood, President, Pomeroy Spinners Community Organization

Re: Pomeroy R.D. Wilderness & Backcountry Trails M&O 20-2021M
Pomeroy R.D. OHV Motorized Trails M&O 20-2022M
Pomeroy R.D. Campgrounds/CUA's/ Dispersed Sites M&O 20-2020M
Pomeroy R.D. Trail Grooming M&O 20-2019M
Pomeroy R.D. Winter Patrol 20-2018E

The Pomeroy Spinners Community Organization is a nonprofit men's group that seeks to enhance projects within our community and county. The Umatilla National Forest is a vital area for attracting recreational enthusiasts from hundreds of miles. These folks range from campers, snowmobilers, atv's, utv's, motorcycles, horseback riders, hunters and mushroom and huckleberry pickers. In addition to the named enthusiasts, many people enter the forest to enjoy a picnic or casual drive. These hobbies and activities are often a source for family time and entertainment.

Maintenance for the trails and facilities is crucial to create repeat visitors. First impressions are the most important thing when trying to draw people back and make the Pomeroy Ranger District a destination. Being able to enjoy the day rather than working to fix and clear trails will contribute heavily as people decide where they spend their free time.

Many Spinners members participate in multiple activities utilizing the campgrounds, trailheads, wilderness trails and motorized vehicle trails. We as an organization organize an ATV ride each summer on the motorized trails as a fun, family activity. Prior to the event members volunteer to navigate trails to ensure paths are open and after the event remove trash and repair any damage that may have been caused. On behalf of the entire Spinners Organization, we support the Pomeroy Ranger District's efforts to secure funds to maintain and enhance each type of trail system as well as patrolling to ensure the safety of everyone using the Pomeroy Ranger District as their playground. RCO should recognize the vast impact their allocations make as well as the value per dollar being allocated to the named focus areas.

Sincerely,



Larry Ledgerwood, President
Pomeroy Spinners Community Organization

Pomeroy Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 916, Pomeroy, WA 99347.
www.pomeroychamberofcommerce.com

TO: Recreation and Conservation Office
1111 Washington St SE
Olympia, WA 98501

September 24, 2020

To Whom It May Concern,

In an endeavor to sustain and increase visitor activity in both Garfield County and the City of Pomeroy through increased use of the Umatilla National Forest visitor attractions, the Pomeroy Chamber of Commerce is submitting this letter of support for:

POMEROY R.D. OHV MOTORIZED TRAILS M&O 20-2022M

POMEROY R.D. TRAIL GROOMING M&O 20-2019

POMEROY R.D. WILDERNESS & BACKCOUNTRY TRAILS M&O 20-2021M

POMEROY R.D. CAMPGROUNDS/CUA's/ DISPERSED SITES M&O 20-2020M

POMEROY R.D. WINTER TRAIL PATROL 20-2018E

The Chamber has long recognized and promoted the National Forest lands and outdoor recreational opportunities as an important component of the tourist activities that draw visitors to the community each year. Recent addition of the OHV routes has increased the number of recreationists coming to the forest, many of whom stop in Pomeroy to buy fuel, food and supplies before heading toward the scenic Blue Mountains to ride the trails with their families. Continued maintenance of these trails will help ensure that this increased usage will not decline, and will continue to provide a supplement to the local service and retail economy.

For this reason, the Chamber is happy to support the application for grant dollars that would fund the USFS Pomeroy Ranger District for trail maintenance activities which will include; log-out/brushing, trail surfacing, trail hardening, maintenance of culverts, drain-dips and ditch-outs as well as trail bridge inspection and maintenance. These maintenance efforts will not only ensure safety for the trail riders but also longevity of the trail system itself, again helping to ensure that OHV riders and their families return many times to the Umatilla National Forest, Garfield County and the City of Pomeroy.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Ashley Dixon, President
Pomeroy Chamber of Commerce

CITY OF POMEROY

G. Paul Miller - Mayor - 80 7th Street - P.O. Box 370 - Pomeroy, WA 99347
TDD relay: 1-800-833-6388
(509) 843-1601 - FAX (509) 843-1158

October 5, 2020

To: Recreation and Conservation Office

RE: Pomeroy R.D. Backcountry-Wilderness Trails M&O 20-2021M
Pomeroy R.D. Motorized Trails M&O 20-2022M
Pomeroy R.D. Campgrounds/CUA's/Dispersed Sites M&O 20-2020M
Pomeroy Ranger District Trail Grooming M&O 20-2019M
Pomeroy Ranger District Winter Trail Patrol 20-2018E

To Whom it May Concern:

The City of Pomeroy strongly supports the subject programs as the Umatilla National Forest is an integral part of our community.

The Umatilla National Forest provides enjoyment for both tourists and recreationalists alike. We rely on these programs in order to continue to attract visitors and local usage for such activities as camping, mushrooming, hiking, ATV and UTV use, huckleberry picking, horseback riding, hunting and casual enjoyment. Maintenance of the trails and campgrounds, as well as patrols, are essential services for the continued safety of visitors.

Please continue funding these programs as the Umatilla National Forest is a valued partner in our community.

There are

Sincerely,



G. P. Miller
Mayor, City of Pomeroy

GPM:sm

R & R Grooming Inc.

101 Rock Creek Rd
Naches, WA 98937

To whom it may Concern:

R & R Grooming has been doing the snowmobile grooming at the Ahtanum for some years now along with personally snowmobiling and recreating there in the summer months. I would like to express our support for the grant #2185 to improve the Eagle Nest location. This area is widely used by numerous user groups and is in serious need of repair.

The DNR has been struggling to keep Eagles Nest area open to the public and enjoyable to all however, with everything else it is in serious need have repair.

This area is loved and used my many people of all ages groups, it is a beautiful site and should be preserved in the manner it was intended.

DNR and Jeff Jones has our full support in this effort.

Sincerely,

Ron Lind & Shannon Lawler

R & R Grooming Inc.

**Yakima Ski Benders
PO Box 10537
Yakima, WA 98909**

To Whom It May Concern:

1/14/2021

This is in regards to grant # 20-2185

The Yakima Ski Benders (YSB) are in complete support of the Ahtanum Forest and DNR, making the area better for all user groups. DNR has bettered the area for the past decade and it is user friendly, looks amazing and we support their effort in improving the Eagles Nest area. This area is in need of improvement for all users. The wall is missing in some spots and needs improvement for safety reasons. This is a very heavily used area in the summer, and snowmobilers in the winter. YSB would recommend granting the funds for this project in the Ahtanum DNR area.

Thank you,

Liz Van Amburg

YSB Current President

Yakima County Grooming Council

Yakima Washington

December 9, 2020

To whom it may concern:

The YCGC fully supports the efforts of DNR and the efforts in the Ahtanum to make recreation better for all users of the forest.

The grant monies are easily seen ON THE GROUND and not just hidden in some obscure waste of valuable tax money.

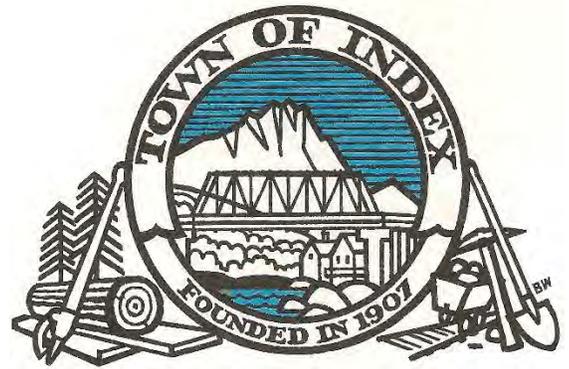
One of the planned projects this would help fund is the rebuilding of the safety barrier at Eagles Nest. This site is heavily visited by hundreds of people of all ages during the summer months, and the railing is actually missing in some places. The funds provided by this grant will help not only make it more attractive, but SAFE for the public.

The council would recommend granting the funds under grant # 20-2152 to DNR for use in the Ahtanum State Forest.

Respectively submitted,

Mark, J Tharp

YCGC Chair.



1.19.21

State of Washington
Recreation and Conservation Office
1111 Washington Street S.E.
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Re: Letter of Support for RCO Grant for Trailhead and Dispersed Site Maintenance (20-2246)

I write on behalf of Town of Index in support of the Skykomish Ranger District's grant proposal to the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office for a grant to fund Trailhead and Dispersed Recreation Maintenance. These efforts reduce environmental impacts and improve recreation opportunities. We strongly support this grant application and the focus on the continued efforts to mitigate the environmental impacts of recreation and preserve trailhead infrastructure to facilitate public access to public lands.

We support the efforts the Skykomish Ranger District is taking to obtain grant funding for trailhead and dispersed site maintenance in the Skykomish area.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me directly,

Sincerely,

Norm Johnson
Mayor
Town of Index



January 20, 2021

State of Washington
Recreation and Conservation Office
1111 Washington Street S.E.
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Re: Letter of support for 20-2246 Trailhead and Dispersed Site Maintenance

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board:

The Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance strongly supports the US Forest Service Skykomish Ranger District's request for funding to support ongoing maintenance at trailheads and dispersed camping sites within King and Snohomish Counties.

This funding will help pay for restroom cleaning and pumping, trash pickup and disposal, cleaning of campsites, and maintenance at trailheads. The 25 trailheads and nearly 300 dispersed campsites serviced by Skykomish Ranger Station provided important recreation opportunities to more than 100,000 users last year, and record usage in the Highway 2 corridor is only expected to increase in the years ahead. The Skykomish Ranger Station's ongoing maintenance at these sites is important to help mitigate damage from overuse and improper waste disposal.

The Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance has worked with the Skykomish Ranger District to build and maintain trails in the region, and we understand the importance of clean restrooms, campgrounds, and trailheads. This funding is vital to keeping these facilities clean and sanitary, and to promote further good stewardship of these important resources.

Evergreen is the nation's largest statewide mountain bike organization, with more than 8,000 members and over 65,000 social media followers. We are dedicated to trail building and maintenance, as well as volunteerism, education, and advocacy. We look forward to working with the Skykomish Ranger District and appreciate the opportunity to provide support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Yvonne Kraus", written over a horizontal line.

Yvonne Kraus, Executive Director
Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance



January 19, 2021

State of Washington
Recreation and Conservation Office
1111 Washington Street S.E.
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Re: Letter of Support for RCO Grant for Trailhead and Dispersed Site Maintenance (20-2246)

I write on behalf of the Sky Valley Chamber in support of the Skykomish Ranger District's grant proposal to the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office for a grant to fund Trailhead and Dispersed Recreation Maintenance. These efforts reduce environmental impacts and improve recreation opportunities. We strongly support this grant application and the focus on the continued efforts to mitigate the environmental impacts of recreation and preserve trailhead infrastructure to facilitate public access to public lands.

This past year has proven the importance of maintaining outdoor recreation for the benefit of all citizens. The mental and physical health of citizens also should factor into the planning for keeping these places open and safe for everyone. In our opinion it's one of the most important aspects of protecting outdoor assets. It's much for fun to build new things but maintaining previous investments for the public good makes more sense than anything.

Keeping assets open and accessible to all also supports the economy of the rural areas who depend on the value of tourism.

We support the efforts the Skykomish Ranger District is taking to obtain grant funding for trailhead and dispersed site maintenance in the Skykomish area.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me directly,

Sincerely,

Debbie Copple, Director
PO Box 46
Sultan, WA 98294
360-793-0983



20-2102 NOVA NHR #19

www.evergreenMTB.org
Sustainable trails. Rider powered.

October 29, 2020
Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Letter of Support: #20-2102 MNT SE Region Maintenance and Operations North

Dear Grant Review Committee,

The Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance (Evergreen) strongly supports the DNR's grant application #20-2102 MNT to fund operations and maintenance activities at throughout Kittitas, Chelan and Grant counties. With growing interest in camping and outdoor recreation activities in the SE Region, ongoing maintenance funds are crucial to supporting quality outdoor experiences and maintain environmental integrity as well as sanitary services in the region. DNR's funding request will ensure ongoing resources for staff, equipment and materials to the Cookie Cutter trail system and throughout the north part of DNR's Southeast Region.

DNR's maintenance services funded by this grant request include routine maintenance of restrooms, camp sites and day use areas. The primary recreation opportunity provided is safe and sustainable recreation support, on which our members rely as they enjoy trails, trailheads, and camping facilities.

The north area of DNR's SE region is becoming ever more popular and we have seen significant member growth in our Central and Kittitas chapters. Statewide, membership has been rapidly growing. Pressures from the fast-growing outdoor recreation economy is stressing existing systems and resources continue to be sparse to keep up with demand. It is critical that DNR receives funding to continue to maintain and operate facilities to a high service level, to minimize environmental impact, and to ensure continued visitor safety.

DNR and Evergreen have partnered to build and maintain new mountain bike trails in the region and Evergreen has provided valuable volunteer match hours within the region over the years. We continue to be committed to helping the DNR with volunteer services to keep up with demand, but without this funding these much-loved recreational amenities could fall into disrepair.

Evergreen is the nation's largest statewide mountain bike organization, with more than 7,900 members and over 65,000 social media followers. We are dedicated to trail building and maintenance, as well as volunteerism, education, advocacy, and youth participation. As a trusted partner with public land managers across the state, Evergreen's contributed over 25,000 hours of volunteer labor to date this year.

We look forward to assisting the Washington State Department of Natural Resources to maintain the popular recreation amenities and campgrounds in the North area of the DNR's SE region.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Yvonne Kraus". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Yvonne Kraus
Executive Director



BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF WASHINGTON
 PO Box 1132
 ELLENSBURG, WA 98926
 WWW.BCHW.ORG

December 29, 2020

Hello NOVA Grant Committee,

The members of Tahoma Chapter of Back Country Horsemen of Washington (BCHW) are writing you to express our support for the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO), Non-Highway and Off-Road Vehicle Activities Program (NOVA) grant application Number 20-2102 MNT "SE Region Maintenance & Operations - North" submitted by the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Southeast Region. This grant request will retain the position of a Recreation Maintenance Technician authorized by a previous successful grant, and a second position to further support DNR recreation sites across Kittitas, Chelan, and Grant Counties in the State of Washington. These personnel and additional tools to support the maintenance of campgrounds in these counties is of great importance to the many users of these recreational resources. We see and experience the backlogs created by inadequate funding, and appreciate that needed support can be made available through NOVA funded resources.

Although Tahoma Chapter BCHW is based in King County of Washington State, we actively recreate with our horses and mules regularly in the aforementioned Counties and on DNR lands. The Teanaway Community Forest and BBQ Flats in the Wenas/Selah Valley are some of our favorite places where we love to camp and ride.

Back Country Horsemen of Washington (BCHW) is a 501(c) (3) non-profit service organization established with the goal of keeping public lands open for recreational use with horses and mules. We are part of a national organization, Back Country Horsemen of America. By providing volunteer hands-on trail maintenance and education on the proper use of stock on public lands to horse and mule owners throughout the state, we support the recreational interests and goals of the Washington State Department of Natural Resources.

Please help us recreate safely with our horses and mules by approving this WADNR grant request.

Best regards,

Mary Kane
 2020/21 President,
 Tahoma Chapter
 Back Country Horsemen of Washington
ranchomariamv@gmail.com
 425 466 3840

Back Country Horsemen of Washington (BCHW), is a 501 (c) (3) organization with 33 chapters across the state dedicated to: keeping trails open for all users; educating horse users in Leave-No-Trace practices; and providing volunteer service to resource agencies.

FRIENDS OF THE TEANAWAY



<http://www.friendsoftheteanaway.org/>

PO Box 604 Cle Elum, WA 98922

Dec. 29, 2020

TO: Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office

Re. DNR grant application: 20-2102 SE Region Maintenance and Operations – North

To Whom It May Concern;

Friends of the Teanaway focuses on issues and concerns related to the Teanaway Valley. Since the establishment of the Teanaway Community Forest at the upper end of our valley, we have been pleased and impressed with the efforts by DNR to maintain and improve the three Teanaway Community Forest campgrounds, two of which were “inherited” from the previous owner, a private timber company, and were suffering from deferred maintenance. In recent years these campgrounds have become more and more popular for family camping as well as with mountain bikers, fishermen, hunters and back country horseback riders. We would like to see these campgrounds continue to be adequately maintained and we wholeheartedly support the RCO grant application (referenced above) to fund continuing DNR recreation site maintenance and operations.

Sincerely;

The Friends of the Teanaway board of directors.

Pam Henry, President

Patrick McGowan, Vice President

Pico Cantieni, Secretary/Treasurer

Rocky Higgins

Sonny Thomas

Barb Hamel

Chuck Adams



Kittitas County Field & Stream Club

ORGANIZED IN 1927 — INCORPORATED IN 1946

P.O. Box 522 • Ellensburg, WA 98926



December 30, 2020

RE: RCO NOVA Nonhighway Road Grant
SE Region Maintenance & Operations North
No. 20-2102 Maintenance and Operation N

To Whom It May Concern,

The Kittitas County Field and Stream Club would like to support this grant request to maintain and enhance DNR's Southeast Region recreation site maintenance operations. With this grant they will be able to serve recreation sites and dispersed recreation across Kittitas County.

It is important to keep the current position working as well as adding another position plus adding more tools to keep up on campground maintenance.

Kittitas County is one of the fastest growing counties in Washington State, despite over 70 % of the county being publically owned. Additionally, we are a major playground for the "Westiders" who flock to our county to recreate outside. Maintaining our DNR land for safe and sustainable outdoor recreation is imperative.

Please consider funding this important grant.

Sincerely,

W. R. Essman, President
Kittitas County Field and Stream Club





United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Inland Northwest National Wildlife Refuge Complex
Little Pend Oreille National Wildlife Refuge
1310 Bear Creek Road
Colville, Washington 99114
(509) 684-8384

December 5, 2020

To whom it may concern:

I am writing in support of the Washington Department of Natural Resource's proposed project to improve the Starvation Lake Campground. This campground is adjacent the Little Pend Oreille National Wildlife Refuge and we share many of the same visitors. Camping and fishing is a very popular family activity in this area; our campgrounds and fishing access points experience quite a bit of use and I've observed a similar level of activity at Starvation Lake. Its proximity to Colville makes it a popular site for local folks as well as for out of area visitors. The proposed upgrade of the trails and boat ramp to better accommodate visitors with mobility challenges would be particularly beneficial. Several years ago we installed an accessible fishing dock, parking area, paved or hardened trails and ADA compliant restrooms. As facility managers we often don't recognize the need for these types of facilities until they are available and being used. I praise the DNR for recognizing this and support their effort to secure funding for those and other planned improvements at Starvation Lake.

Respectfully,


Jerry Cline
Refuge Manager



Mason County Noxious Weed Control Board

303 N. 4th Street
Shelton, WA 98584
Coordinator – Patricia Grover
Phone: (360)427-9670 Ext. 592
Email: PatriciaG@co.mason.wa.us

11/17/2020

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Re: Grant Project #20-2218 – Hood Canal District NHR Maintenance and Operation

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

I am writing on behalf of the Mason County Noxious Weed Control Board to extend our support to DNR's proposal to the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office for Grant Project #20-2218 – Hood Canal District NHR Maintenance and Operation.

As a small program tasked with protecting the citizens, the natural resources and the agricultural resources of Mason county from the degrading impact of noxious weeds, our success is strengthened by the contributions of citizens and land managers.

With 23,000 acres of the Tahuya State Forest in Mason County drawing 200,000 visitors per year, the presence of local DNR staff members experienced in noxious weed identification, control methods and the value of "Early Detection, Rapid Response" will be instrumental in protecting the natural resources of this area.

The MCNWCB stands at the ready to assist with plant identification, provide management recommendations, and provide control assistance where practicable to stop the spread of invasive species on DNR managed lands.

Thank you and we hope that you will also support this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Patricia A. Grover".

Patricia A. Grover
Coordinator

Allen, Peter (DNR)

From: "Hank or Susan Anderson" <hank-susan@wavecable.com>
Sent: Friday, December 18, 2020 4:43 PM
To: Allen, Peter (DNR)
Subject: Kitsap Peninsula Mycological Society Board supports 5 RCO grant applications

This message has originated from an External Source. Please use caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding to this email. Contact your desktop support or IT security staff for assistance and to report suspicious messages.

Washington State Recreation & Conservation Funding Board PO Box 40917 Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Grant Applications #20-1957, #20-1983, #20-1999, #20-2003, #20-2218

Dear Washington State Recreation & Conservation Funding Board,

The board of the Kitsap Peninsula Mycological Society fully supports all 5 of the grant submissions by the South Puget Sound District DNR Office & the KPMS board has requested us to submit this letter of endorsement. Currently, KPMS has a membership of 210 households. Members are avid outdoor enthusiasts who strongly believe in conservation & are not only interested in foraging & studying fungi, but are also hikers, runners, cyclists, campers, & photographers. The funding of these 5 grants will ensure the responsible, safe, continued operation, & maintenance of our local public lands entrusted to the staff of the SPS District Belfair office. Of special importance is that these grants will help to fund the salaries of vital DNR personnel. These persons provide a critical & increasingly important interface between the public & DNR policy. They are imperative to ensure safe, responsible public recreation which in turn supports conservation of treasured public lands.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Susan & Hank Anderson
Silverdale, WA
KPMS Representatives to the Green Mt/Tahuya Forests Recreation Focus Group



**KITSAP
PENINSULA
MYCOLOGICAL
SOCIETY**

November 7th, 2020

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Re: Grant Project # 20-1957, 20-1983, 20-1999, 20-2003, 20-2218

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

I am writing on behalf of **Kitsap Peninsula Mycological Society**, to express our enthusiastic support of DNR's proposal to the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office to support Grant Project # **20-1957, 20-1983, 20-1999, 20-2003, 20-2218**. Our club takes great pride in our forays onto green mountain. Not only are we taking advantage of the great fungi that are produced in the area but we also help with the cleaning of any trash and debris left by others. I've had some of my best days on green mountain with our club looking for chanterelles and other delicious mushrooms. My hope is to be able to go back to our favorite picking spots year after year and experience the same joys as the previous outing. With this grant that dream will become much closer to reality. Me and my mother also enjoy our hikes on the various trails and my dogs love hiking the mountain in the summer time for its great views.

Thank you and we hope that you will also support this project.

Sincerely,

Harper Hibbs



Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
2315 North Discovery Place, Spokane Valley, Washington 99216-1566
Telephone (509) 892-1001 • Fax (509) 921-2440

February 25, 2021

Washington State Parks – Blue Mountains Region
36149 Highway 12
Dayton, WA 99328

Re: Washington State Parks Camp Wooten ELC Grant Application

Dear RCO Grant Committee Members:

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) enthusiastically supports the grant application by Washington State Parks for funding of a Maintenance Mechanic position at Camp Wooten Environmental Learning Center (ELC). The Camp Wooten ELC is in southeast Washington on land owned by WDFW and leased to Washington State Parks. The Maintenance Mechanic position will be responsible for much needed trail and road maintenance activities within Camp Wooten ELC.

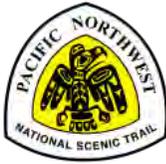
Camp Wooten ELC is a very popular group camp that is used by almost all the school districts in southeast Washington, as well as 4-H camps, church camps, and sports camps. Camp Wooten ELC has deep community ties to Columbia and Garfield Counties with several generations of local families having spent time constructing, using, and volunteering in the Camp. Camp Wooten ELC is a very special treasure in the Tucannon Valley and in all southeast Washington.

The WDFW hopes you will seriously consider funding the grant application submitted by Washington State Parks. Thanking you in advance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kari Dingman".

Kari Dingman
Assistant Wildlife Area Manager
Blue Mountains Wildlife Area Complex



**PACIFIC NORTHWEST TRAIL
ASSOCIATION**

December 5, 2020

RCO Funding Board
1111 Washington St SE
Olympia, WA 98501

To the Washington Recreation & Conservation Funding Board:

The Pacific Northwest Trail Association (PNTA) strongly supports Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest (MBS) - Mount Baker Ranger District's grant proposals RTP M 20-2180 Heather Meadows Recreation Area Trail Maintenance, NOVA 20-2181E Mt. Baker Backcountry and Climbing Rangers, and NOVA 20-2179M Non-Motorized Mt. Baker Ranger District Trail Maintenance. These proposals will have direct, positive impacts on the Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail (PNT) and a multitude of popular feeder trails and resources.

For 43 years, the Pacific Northwest Trail Association has served as the Pacific Northwest Trail's primary advocate and steward, shepherding the concept of a long distance trail across the Pacific Northwest from our founder's vision to a federally designated treasure for all. Today, the PNTA works alongside agency partners like the Mount Baker Ranger District to provide opportunities for youth and young adults from local communities to form lasting connections with Washington's public lands while engaging them in stewardship of the Trail.

With 900 of its 1200 miles in Washington, the PNT is the longest trail within the state. It and the association connect the people of Washington to their wild places every day, and offers unparalleled opportunities for extended adventure to a growing number of long distance hikers and equestrians who come from around the world each year.

MBS Mount Baker Ranger District is entrusted with over 70 miles of the PNT - which carries users down from rugged Hannegan Pass, through scenic Heather Meadows, around tranquil Baker Lake, up into the alpine to gaze at glaciers near iconic Park Butte Lookout, and down through lush old growth forests toward the South Fork of the Nooksack River.

Maintenance and management of the PNT and all the trails on the district are herculean tasks, but with partners like the Mount Baker Ranger District, who not only deliver high quality projects of their own, but also provide guidance and leadership to local stakeholders who can amplify the impact of available resources on the ground, the PNT continues to raise in stature among the world's premiere long distance trails.

I wholeheartedly support these projects, and hope you will choose to do the same.

Jeff Kish

Executive Director

Pacific Northwest Trail Association

America's Wildest Trail is Yours to Explore and Yours to Protect



Skagit, Whatcom, Island Trail Maintaining Organization

SWITMO

13595 Avon Allen Road

Mount Vernon WA 98273

www.SWITMO.org

360-424-0407

jdmelcher@comcast.net

08 December 2020

To RCO Review Committee,

This letter is in support of:

- **NOVA 20-2181E Mt. Baker Backcountry and Climbing Rangers**
- **NOVA 20-2179M Non-Motorized Mt. Baker Ranger District Trail Maintenance**
- **RTP 20-2180 Heather Meadows Recreation Area Trail Maintenance.**

This letter is from the Skagit, Whatcom, Island Trail Maintenance Organization, SWITMO. SWITMO is a 501(c)-3 non-profit corporation also registered with the State of Washington. SWITMO is made up of volunteers with no paid staff. Our mission is to "Pave the Way for Hikers" in Skagit, Whatcom and Island Counties. Most of our work is on sections of the Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail, the PNT. We have a maintaining-organization agreement with the Pacific Northwest Trail Association, the PNTA.

We support these maintenance projects because we want to keep existing trails in good shape for visitors and hikers, including ourselves. We support the NOVA Education and Enforcement project for the backcountry and climbing rangers so that the more venturesome hikers who go to the backcountry know the rules and know that rangers may be available there to help them if needed. Good trails benefit the local economy and benefit the community in many ways. People need places to go to get into nature, to get into the wilderness and to see expansive views in order to be refreshed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Douglas B. Shepherd". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Douglas B. Shepherd, President



December 23, 2020

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
1111 Washington St SE
Olympia, Washington 98501

Dear RCO,

REI Local Experiences in the Puget Sound has currently run local programs in Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest (Mt. Baker Ranger District) for the past two years. Helping people connect to responsible summer and winter recreation is a critical component of our programs. Since 2019, our market has guided both summer backpacking at Baker Lake and winter snowshoeing at Artist Point in this ranger district. We look forward to once again providing fun and informative outings in 2021 and beyond.

REI Experiences operates in over 110 national, state, and local parks around the country. We view our work on public lands as a partnership between REI and the land management agency, working to increase engagement, connection, and education through safe, low impact recreation in the outdoors. We often collaborate with our national forests through combining volunteer service and recreation on public lands.

We have greatly appreciated working with the Mt. Baker Ranger District and would like to extend this letter of support on their behalf. Both the NOVA 20-2179M Non-Motorized Mt. Baker Ranger District Trail Maintenance grant and the RTP 20-2180 Heather Meadows Recreation Area Trail Maintenance grant would directly support our programs and participants.

Sincerely,
REI Local Experiences – Puget Sound Team

REI Local Experiences – Puget Sound
222 Yale Avenue North
Seattle, Washington 98109
Phone (877) 475-1938
seattle-os@rei.com

To Whom it May Concern,

I have worked under the supervision and even alongside Barb Richey through her Mountain Steward volunteer program over the previous decade, and came away awarded with a wealth of wilderness knowledge and ethics, not to mention improved social skills and excellent photographs I have sold outdoor enthusiasts down here in New Zealand and Australia on, making them want to explore to the fabulous North Cascades (once it's safe of course).

Barb Richey, on behalf of the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest Service, is seeking grant funding to conduct general trail maintenance in the Mt. Baker Ranger District, which includes the Mt. Baker Recreation Area, Mt. Baker Wilderness, and Noisy-Diobsod Wilderness. The district would be improving non-motorized trails by working with partners and volunteers, contracting out the heavy brushing, and supporting youth crews and our district trail crew. Well maintained trails don't just look nicer, they provide safety for hikers of all fitness levels so nobody is stepping on a large slippery root or loose rock and twisting an ankle. Such an incident happened with a former partner of my brother's on a trail in the North Cascades some years back.

And subsequently, trails that are safe enough to stay on keep hikers from creating a "new" trail immediately parallel to the original trail, thus trampling on sensitive alpine vegetation.

I have hiked on trails in New Zealand that were so poorly maintained that the trails themselves are deep in the bottom of these canyons carved out by rain and erosion, thus one must hop across these canyons many times over to continue up, and quite often leap into a bush or flatten a fern. Other trails were so savage and hardly resembling a trail in terms of maintenance, they destroyed a pair of sandals, hiking shoes, and a jacket, none of which I had for even a year yet.

It's in the best interest of both the Forest Service and local economies for the great outdoors to be accessible and provide an experience where one does not have to feel they are risking their lives just leaving their house and seeing their local mountains from a closer up perspective. In the Mountain Steward Program, we were encouraged to advise hikers to "know their limits" and decide when enough is enough, but that such a choice should not be made before even the sign in boxes near the trailheads. As somebody who has climbed paved, well-maintained gravel, and "climbers treads", I strongly recommend that this grant be granted, so the great outdoors may continue their popularity and keep up the case for keeping them as public recreation lands. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

James Andersson

December 11, 2020

To Whom It May Concern:

My husband and I are writing in support of the following programs for the Mt Baker Ranger District:

*RTP 20-2180 Heather Meadows Recreation Area Trail Maintenance

*NOVA 20-2179M Non-Motorized Mt. Baker Ranger District Trail Maintenance

*NOVA 20-2181E Mt. Baker Backcountry and Climbing Rangers

We have volunteered as Mountain Stewards in the Mount Baker region in the past and have thoroughly enjoyed our time. Mt Stewards offer a variety of skills to the public, including:

- General information about trails, trail conditions
- Information about leave no trace - wilderness ethics
- Providing supplies such as blue bags, maps
- Answering questions about plants, animals
- Providing information about hiking for first time hikers (how to find the trail, pacing speed, plant protection - LNT...)
- Information about safety (glacier and snow field travel)
- Helping them to locate their car after a busy day of hiking
- Where to find available camping spots
- Information about water purification

We received very positive feedback from people we met on the trail. Some were interested in becoming Mountain Stewards; others appreciated having someone on the trail with a two-way radio in case of need, one hiker really appreciated the first aid supplies we were able to share with her.

The training we received as Mountain Stewards was very valuable. The coordinator had a great variety of wilderness experience; we appreciated the richness of information given in our training sessions, along with ongoing support as needed.

We readily support the grant requests for Mt Baker Trail Maintenance (Heather Meadows and non-motorized District Trail Maintenance) and Backcountry and

Climbing Rangers. All programs encourage trail safety and hiker education; very important with increased hiker experiences in the wilderness

Sincerely,

Elaine Denny & Bert Oberembt
Blaine, Washington

December 18, 2020

Kay McMurren, Mt. Steward
Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Mt. Baker Ranger District
3859 Cindy Lane
Bellingham, WA 98226

Re: RCO Grants; NOVA 20-2181E, NOVA 20-2179M, RTP 20-2180

To Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office,

As a Mt. Steward in the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Mt. Baker Ranger District, I'm writing in support of the above three grants which fund much needed personnel, trail maintenance projects and education in the Mt. Baker area.

Mt. Baker is a high traffic hiking and climbing area. The surrounding area continues to grow in population with more and more people coming up to the mountain to enjoy the trails. Visitors range from seasoned hikers and climbers to beginners who are new to the concept of "leave no trace" or may have little knowledge of regulations and backcountry safety.

When I'm out on the trail I see the benefit of maintenance, that keeps trails safe and enjoyable, especially on many of our steep slopes, minimizing damage to natural resources. When trails are valued and maintained, hikers are more apt to reflect that value and respect in their use of the trails. Maintenance and education can discourage "short-cuts" and other mis-use of trails that lead to erosion, damage to fragile environments, and other problems.

When hikers, particularly newcomers, learn about trails, backcountry tips, and the flora and fauna in the area it can enhance their experience, their safety, and interest in stewardship of the land, which they can pass on to others. When I first became a Mt. Steward I was pleasantly surprised by the number of hikers who appreciated tips about trails, mileage, plant or wildlife sightings.

The Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest has been my hiking home for 35 years, and over time I've witnessed the increase in trail use and climbing. Glaciers are melting, the landscape is changing. Rangers and other trained personnel are needed more than ever to monitor climbing routes for safety, maintain trails, and educate the public for their enjoyment and safety.

Its been a pleasure working with Barbara Richey, and other Rangers and personnel who have impressed me with their commitment to preserving and promoting the use of our national forests. Now, more than ever, ongoing support for their hard work, trail maintenance, and outreach for education is needed.

Thank you,
Kay McMurren

4135 Agate Road
Bellingham, WA 98226
Dec. 19, 2020

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in support of the following RCO grant applications for the Mount Baker Ranger District of the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest:

NOVA 20-2181E Mt. Baker Backcountry and Climbing Rangers

NOVA 20-2179M Non-Motorized Mt. Baker Ranger District Trail Maintenance

RTP 20-2180 Heather Meadows Recreation Area Trail Maintenance

For the past 45 years I have been a heavy user of the areas affected as a climber, hiker, backpacker, snowshoer, and skier. During this time there has been an enormous increase in the number of people using these areas and I have become acutely aware of the damage that can be caused by the large numbers of people, especially when many of them have had little education in how to leave no trace. In recent years I have acted as a Mountain Steward and have tried to help provide this education. It is critical that these applications be granted. The cost of not doing so is further deterioration of this precious resource.

Sincerely,
Kenneth H. Small

December 21, 2020

To: U.S. Forest Service Recreation and Conservation Office - Grant Evaluators

From: Catherine Wessels and Patrick McDaniel

My husband and I are writing in support of three RCO grants that are being requested by Barbara Richey, Wilderness & Trails Manager for the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Mt. Baker Ranger District. Specifically, these project numbers and titles are:

- NOVA 20-2181E Mt. Baker Backcountry and Climbing Rangers
- NOVA 20-2179M Non-Motorized Mt. Baker Ranger District Trail Maintenance
- RTP 20-2180 Heather Meadows Recreation Area Trail Maintenance.

We feel very fortunate to be able to enjoy the superb year-round recreational opportunities available in the Mt. Baker Ranger District. We particularly enjoy hiking the trails, and for the last decade, have served as volunteers with the Mt. Baker Ranger District's Mountain Stewards program, assisting and educating visitors and promoting stewardship of public lands.

Over this last decade, we have seen first-hand the growth in visitors to the trails and the challenges this presents, both in maintaining the trail system to provide a safe and enjoyable recreational experience for visitors and to protect and minimize damage to natural resources, particularly in the subalpine terrain.

The three projects to be funded by these grants are essential to support the efforts by backcountry and climbing rangers, trail maintenance crews, and volunteers. The thousands of visitors to the Mt. Baker Ranger District are only expected to increase in number: funding these projects will ensure the public continues to safely enjoy this premier destination in the Pacific Northwest.



December 18, 2020

Recreation and Conservation Office
 P.O. Box 40917
 Olympia, WA 98504

RE: NOVA 20-2181E Mt. Baker Backcountry and Climbing Rangers
NOVA 20-2179M Non-Motorized Mt. Baker Ranger District Trail Maintenance
RTP 20-2180 Heather Meadows Recreation Area Trail Maintenance

Dear evaluation committee members,

Please accept our joint letter of support from the 8 undersigned climbing organizations and guide companies for the Mt. Baker Ranger District (MBRD)'s proposals for NOVA 20-2181E Mt. Baker Backcountry and Climbing Rangers, NOVA 20-2179M Non-Motorized Mt. Baker Ranger District Trail Maintenance, and RTP 20-2180 Heather Meadows Recreation Area Trail Maintenance. These proposals promote education of Washington's climbing community, improve the recreational experience, and help protect the climbing environment. We strongly support these projects and the value they will bring to recreationalists in the Mt. Baker area.

The MBRD encompasses many mountaineering, scrambling, and climbing destinations of local, regional, and international significance. Foremost is Mt. Baker (Koma Kulshan), one of the most popular climbing destinations in the Cascades. Decades of beginner climbers have cut their teeth on the Easton and Coleman-Deming routes, and routes like the North Ridge and Park Glacier challenge seasoned alpinists. Other popular destinations include Mt. Shuksan, Ruth Mountain, Colfax Peak, and the Twin Sisters Range.

The Mt. Baker Climbing Rangers program conducts important work educating climbers on environmentally and socially responsible climbing practices, maintaining safe climbing access, collecting use and resource data, identifying environmental impacts, building relationships within the community, and enforcing regulations. In conjunction with the Climbing Rangers program, the MBRD project would allow for 3 summer backcountry rangers, 2 summer interns, and 1 part-time winter backcountry ranger to patrol the district's trails, climbing routes, and winter ski/snowshoe routes, all of which benefit our communities as well.

In addition to the above, our recreational user group frequently use the extensive network of trails outlined in the MBRD Non-Motorized Trail Maintenance and Heather Meadows Recreation Area Trail Maintenance proposals. In 2018, Access Fund provided a grant to help support MBRD's Human Waste Pack-Out Initiative on Mt. Baker. Use numbers at trailheads, campsites, and other facilities in the Mt.

Baker area grew exponentially in the summer of 2020 as visitors sought out safe, outdoor activities in the midst of a global pandemic. It is more important than ever to support land managers in the maintenance of these high-use trails and facilities to minimize damage from human waste, litter, camping in environmentally fragile areas, and other unintended impacts.

The climbing and mountaineering community as a group is conscientious of access and environmental issues in the areas they recreate. When resources are available to educate them, they can be one of the most thoughtful and proactive user groups in terms of preservation and impact minimization. We are excited about the potential of these programs to preserve the quality of outdoor experiences for all future users of the MBRD. We believe that the money granted for these programs would be very well spent preserving and improving the nature of our public lands and the experience one can get from it.

We sincerely thank the MBRD for their collaboration and commitment to maintaining and improving the recreational experience in the Mt. Baker area.

Sincerely,

Betsy Robblee, Conservation & Advocacy
Director
The Mountaineers
betsyr@mountaineers.org
mountaineers.org

Eddie Espinosa, National Volunteer Program Sr.
Manager
American Alpine Club - Cascade Section
eespinosa@americanalpineclub.org
americanalpineclub.org

Joe Sambataro, Northwest Regional Director
Access Fund
joe@accessfund.org
accessfund.org

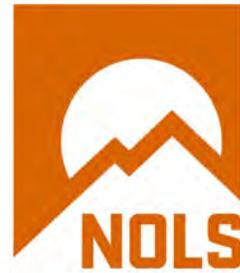
Mick Pearson, Owner/Founder
Kaf Adventures
mick@kafadventures.com
kafadventures.com

Jonathon Spitzer, Director of Field Operations
Alpine Ascents International
jspitzer@alpineascents.com
alpineascents.com

Mark Gunlogson, President
Mountain Madness
markg@mountainmadness.com
mountainmadness.com

John Race, Owner
Northwest Mountain School
jr@mountainschool.com
mountainschool.com

Chelsea Sweetin, President
Washington Alpine Club
wacboard@googlegroups.com
washingtionalpineclub.org



December 23, 2020

To Whom it May Concern,

We write today on behalf of the National Outdoor Leadership School (NOLS) to express our support for the use of Recreation and Conservation Office funding to support the following projects:

NOVA 20-2181E Mt. Baker Backcountry and Climbing Rangers
NOVA 20-2179M Non-Motorized Mt. Baker Ranger District Trail Maintenance
RTP 20-2180 Heather Meadows Recreation Area Trail Maintenance

This funding is critical to the long-term health of these popular areas. We strongly encourage you to support this funding request.

NOLS is a non-profit organization that teaches outdoor skills, leadership and wilderness ethics to 9,000 students each year. Our programs teach all age groups minimum-impact backcountry travel skills, natural history, hiking, rock climbing, skiing, whitewater and other skills as well as provide us an opportunity to build our students' appreciation for public lands.

From our Pacific Northwest location we operate in Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Olympic National Park, North Cascades National Park, Wenatchee National Forest, Okanogan National Forest and British Columbia.

We believe backcountry staff have a key role in resource management, trail and campsite repair, and most importantly, educating visitors. Without their presence in the backcountry, NOLS fears that resource impacts and visitor issues will worsen. NOLS instructors often find themselves educating other backcountry users on Leave No Trace practices and assisting these visitors in other ways.

NOLS believes it is imperative that the Mount Baker Ranger District seeks funding sources that can be used to increase the presence of backcountry rangers, trail crews, and volunteers in high-use areas. We have seen firsthand the important work that backcountry staff do. Our students have enjoyed meeting rangers and hearing them speak about the importance of public lands. Rangers have also assisted NOLS during times when we had to evacuate injured students, and we know they have assisted dozens of others in need.

NOLS hopes that you support funding these valuable projects.

Sincerely,

The NOLS Pacific Northwest Team



December 17, 2020

Recreation and Conservation Office
1111 Washington Street SE
PO BOX 40917
Olympia WA, 98507-0917

To the RCO Staff and Advisory Committee,

Greetings!

I am writing on behalf of the Seattle YMCA BOLD & GOLD (Boys & Girls Outdoor Leadership Development) program in support of grants for the following projects: *NOVA 20-2181E Mt. Baker Backcountry and Climbing Rangers*, *NOVA 20-2179M Non-Motorized Mt. Baker Ranger District Trail Maintenance*, and *RTP 20-2180 Heather Meadows Recreation Area Trail Maintenance*.

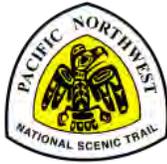
Every year BOLD & GOLD seeks to create outdoor opportunities for diverse youth from across Washington. We do this by sending small groups out into the backcountry on climbing, backpacking, and mountaineering expeditions. In 2021 we hope to field over 60 expeditions and serve over 480 youth. One of our capstone experiences is a summit attempt of Mount Baker. Imagine how accomplished a young person will feel standing atop one of the highest peaks in Washington State – is there anything that young person couldn't accomplish after achieving something so grand?

A trip like this could not be possible without the ranger teams and trail crews working in the Mount Baker Ranger District. Climbing and backcountry rangers provide invaluable education and expertise across a wide range of areas including climbing and backcountry safety and risk management, Leave No Trace, and environmental stewardship. Trail crews are vital in making sure that the areas we travel through are safe to navigate and have the necessary amenities to camp comfortably.

Our quality programming each summer depends on access to safe and navigable backcountry areas. We count on the continued presence of forest service rangers and the efforts of trail and maintenance crews. As such YMCA BOLD & GOLD stands in absolute and unqualified support of these grants and projects.

Best regards,

Jordan Bright
Senior Program Director
YMCA BOLD & GOLD, Seattle



**PACIFIC NORTHWEST TRAIL
ASSOCIATION**

December 5, 2020

RCO Funding Board
1111 Washington St SE
Olympia, WA 98501

To the Washington Recreation & Conservation Funding Board:

The Pacific Northwest Trail Association (PNTA) strongly supports Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest (MBS) - Mount Baker Ranger District's grant proposals RTP M 20-2180 Heather Meadows Recreation Area Trail Maintenance, NOVA 20-2181E Mt. Baker Backcountry and Climbing Rangers, and NOVA 20-2179M Non-Motorized Mt. Baker Ranger District Trail Maintenance. These proposals will have direct, positive impacts on the Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail (PNT) and a multitude of popular feeder trails and resources.

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MBS Mount Baker Ranger District is entrusted with over 70 miles of the PNT - which carries users down from rugged Hannegan Pass, through scenic Heather Meadows, around tranquil Baker Lake, up into the alpine to gaze at glaciers near iconic Park Butte Lookout, and down through lush old growth forests toward the South Fork of the Nooksack River.

Maintenance and management of the PNT and all the trails on the district are herculean tasks, but with partners like the Mount Baker Ranger District, who not only deliver high quality projects of their own, but also provide guidance and leadership to local stakeholders who can amplify the impact of available resources on the ground, the PNT continues to raise in stature among the world's premiere long distance trails.

I wholeheartedly support these projects, and hope you will choose to do the same.

Jeff Kish

Executive Director

Pacific Northwest Trail Association

America's Wildest Trail is Yours to Explore and Yours to Protect



Skagit, Whatcom, Island Trail Maintaining Organization

SWITMO

13595 Avon Allen Road

Mount Vernon WA 98273

www.SWITMO.org

360-424-0407

jdmelcher@comcast.net

08 December 2020

To RCO Review Committee,

This letter is in support of:

- **NOVA 20-2181E Mt. Baker Backcountry and Climbing Rangers**
- **NOVA 20-2179M Non-Motorized Mt. Baker Ranger District Trail Maintenance**
- **RTP 20-2180 Heather Meadows Recreation Area Trail Maintenance.**

This letter is from the Skagit, Whatcom, Island Trail Maintenance Organization, SWITMO. SWITMO is a 501(c)-3 non-profit corporation also registered with the State of Washington. SWITMO is made up of volunteers with no paid staff. Our mission is to "Pave the Way for Hikers" in Skagit, Whatcom and Island Counties. Most of our work is on sections of the Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail, the PNT. We have a maintaining-organization agreement with the Pacific Northwest Trail Association, the PNTA.

We support these maintenance projects because we want to keep existing trails in good shape for visitors and hikers, including ourselves. We support the NOVA Education and Enforcement project for the backcountry and climbing rangers so that the more venturesome hikers who go to the backcountry know the rules and know that rangers may be available there to help them if needed. Good trails benefit the local economy and benefit the community in many ways. People need places to go to get into nature, to get into the wilderness and to see expansive views in order to be refreshed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Douglas B. Shepherd". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Douglas B. Shepherd, President



December 23, 2020

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
1111 Washington St SE
Olympia, Washington 98501

Dear RCO,

REI Local Experiences in the Puget Sound has currently run local programs in Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest (Mt. Baker Ranger District) for the past two years. Helping people connect to responsible summer and winter recreation is a critical component of our programs. Since 2019, our market has guided both summer backpacking at Baker Lake and winter snowshoeing at Artist Point in this ranger district. We look forward to once again providing fun and informative outings in 2021 and beyond.

REI Experiences operates in over 110 national, state, and local parks around the country. We view our work on public lands as a partnership between REI and the land management agency, working to increase engagement, connection, and education through safe, low impact recreation in the outdoors. We often collaborate with our national forests through combining volunteer service and recreation on public lands.

We have greatly appreciated working with the Mt. Baker Ranger District and would like to extend this letter of support on their behalf. Both the NOVA 20-2179M Non-Motorized Mt. Baker Ranger District Trail Maintenance grant and the RTP 20-2180 Heather Meadows Recreation Area Trail Maintenance grant would directly support our programs and participants.

Sincerely,
REI Local Experiences – Puget Sound Team

REI Local Experiences – Puget Sound
222 Yale Avenue North
Seattle, Washington 98109
Phone (877) 475-1938
seattle-os@rei.com

To Whom it May Concern,

I have worked under the supervision and even alongside Barb Richey through her Mountain Steward volunteer program over the previous decade, and came away awarded with a wealth of wilderness knowledge and ethics, not to mention improved social skills and excellent photographs I have sold outdoor enthusiasts down here in New Zealand and Australia on, making them want to explore to the fabulous North Cascades (once it's safe of course).

Barb Richey, on behalf of the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest Service, is seeking grant funding to conduct general trail maintenance in the Mt. Baker Ranger District, which includes the Mt. Baker Recreation Area, Mt. Baker Wilderness, and Noisy-Diobsod Wilderness. The district would be improving non-motorized trails by working with partners and volunteers, contracting out the heavy brushing, and supporting youth crews and our district trail crew. Well maintained trails don't just look nicer, they provide safety for hikers of all fitness levels so nobody is stepping on a large slippery root or loose rock and twisting an ankle. Such an incident happened with a former partner of my brother's on a trail in the North Cascades some years back.

And subsequently, trails that are safe enough to stay on keep hikers from creating a "new" trail immediately parallel to the original trail, thus trampling on sensitive alpine vegetation.

I have hiked on trails in New Zealand that were so poorly maintained that the trails themselves are deep in the bottom of these canyons carved out by rain and erosion, thus one must hop across these canyons many times over to continue up, and quite often leap into a bush or flatten a fern. Other trails were so savage and hardly resembling a trail in terms of maintenance, they destroyed a pair of sandals, hiking shoes, and a jacket, none of which I had for even a year yet.

It's in the best interest of both the Forest Service and local economies for the great outdoors to be accessible and provide an experience where one does not have to feel they are risking their lives just leaving their house and seeing their local mountains from a closer up perspective. In the Mountain Steward Program, we were encouraged to advise hikers to "know their limits" and decide when enough is enough, but that such a choice should not be made before even the sign in boxes near the trailheads. As somebody who has climbed paved, well-maintained gravel, and "climbers treads", I strongly recommend that this grant be granted, so the great outdoors may continue their popularity and keep up the case for keeping them as public recreation lands. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

James Andersson

December 11, 2020

To Whom It May Concern:

My husband and I are writing in support of the following programs for the Mt Baker Ranger District:

*RTP 20-2180 Heather Meadows Recreation Area Trail Maintenance

*NOVA 20-2179M Non-Motorized Mt. Baker Ranger District Trail Maintenance

*NOVA 20-2181E Mt. Baker Backcountry and Climbing Rangers

We have volunteered as Mountain Stewards in the Mount Baker region in the past and have thoroughly enjoyed our time. Mt Stewards offer a variety of skills to the public, including:

- General information about trails, trail conditions
- Information about leave no trace - wilderness ethics
- Providing supplies such as blue bags, maps
- Answering questions about plants, animals
- Providing information about hiking for first time hikers (how to find the trail, pacing speed, plant protection - LNT...)
- Information about safety (glacier and snow field travel)
- Helping them to locate their car after a busy day of hiking
- Where to find available camping spots
- Information about water purification

We received very positive feedback from people we met on the trail. Some were interested in becoming Mountain Stewards; others appreciated having someone on the trail with a two-way radio in case of need, one hiker really appreciated the first aid supplies we were able to share with her.

The training we received as Mountain Stewards was very valuable. The coordinator had a great variety of wilderness experience; we appreciated the richness of information given in our training sessions, along with ongoing support as needed.

We readily support the grant requests for Mt Baker Trail Maintenance (Heather Meadows and non-motorized District Trail Maintenance) and Backcountry and

Climbing Rangers. All programs encourage trail safety and hiker education; very important with increased hiker experiences in the wilderness

Sincerely,

Elaine Denny & Bert Oberembt
Blaine, Washington

December 18, 2020

Kay McMurren, Mt. Steward
Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Mt. Baker Ranger District
3859 Cindy Lane
Bellingham, WA 98226

Re: RCO Grants; NOVA 20-2181E, NOVA 20-2179M, RTP 20-2180

To Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office,

As a Mt. Steward in the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Mt. Baker Ranger District, I'm writing in support of the above three grants which fund much needed personnel, trail maintenance projects and education in the Mt. Baker area.

Mt. Baker is a high traffic hiking and climbing area. The surrounding area continues to grow in population with more and more people coming up to the mountain to enjoy the trails. Visitors range from seasoned hikers and climbers to beginners who are new to the concept of "leave no trace" or may have little knowledge of regulations and backcountry safety.

When I'm out on the trail I see the benefit of maintenance, that keeps trails safe and enjoyable, especially on many of our steep slopes, minimizing damage to natural resources. When trails are valued and maintained, hikers are more apt to reflect that value and respect in their use of the trails. Maintenance and education can discourage "short-cuts" and other mis-use of trails that lead to erosion, damage to fragile environments, and other problems.

When hikers, particularly newcomers, learn about trails, backcountry tips, and the flora and fauna in the area it can enhance their experience, their safety, and interest in stewardship of the land, which they can pass on to others. When I first became a Mt. Steward I was pleasantly surprised by the number of hikers who appreciated tips about trails, mileage, plant or wildlife sightings.

The Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest has been my hiking home for 35 years, and over time I've witnessed the increase in trail use and climbing. Glaciers are melting, the landscape is changing. Rangers and other trained personnel are needed more than ever to monitor climbing routes for safety, maintain trails, and educate the public for their enjoyment and safety.

Its been a pleasure working with Barbara Richey, and other Rangers and personnel who have impressed me with their commitment to preserving and promoting the use of our national forests. Now, more than ever, ongoing support for their hard work, trail maintenance, and outreach for education is needed.

Thank you,
Kay McMurren

4135 Agate Road
Bellingham, WA 98226
Dec. 19, 2020

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in support of the following RCO grant applications for the Mount Baker Ranger District of the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest:

NOVA 20-2181E Mt. Baker Backcountry and Climbing Rangers

NOVA 20-2179M Non-Motorized Mt. Baker Ranger District Trail Maintenance

RTP 20-2180 Heather Meadows Recreation Area Trail Maintenance

For the past 45 years I have been a heavy user of the areas affected as a climber, hiker, backpacker, snowshoer, and skier. During this time there has been an enormous increase in the number of people using these areas and I have become acutely aware of the damage that can be caused by the large numbers of people, especially when many of them have had little education in how to leave no trace. In recent years I have acted as a Mountain Steward and have tried to help provide this education. It is critical that these applications be granted. The cost of not doing so is further deterioration of this precious resource.

Sincerely,
Kenneth H. Small

December 21, 2020

To: U.S. Forest Service Recreation and Conservation Office - Grant Evaluators

From: Catherine Wessels and Patrick McDaniel

My husband and I are writing in support of three RCO grants that are being requested by Barbara Richey, Wilderness & Trails Manager for the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Mt. Baker Ranger District. Specifically, these project numbers and titles are:

- NOVA 20-2181E Mt. Baker Backcountry and Climbing Rangers
- NOVA 20-2179M Non-Motorized Mt. Baker Ranger District Trail Maintenance
- RTP 20-2180 Heather Meadows Recreation Area Trail Maintenance.

We feel very fortunate to be able to enjoy the superb year-round recreational opportunities available in the Mt. Baker Ranger District. We particularly enjoy hiking the trails, and for the last decade, have served as volunteers with the Mt. Baker Ranger District's Mountain Stewards program, assisting and educating visitors and promoting stewardship of public lands.

Over this last decade, we have seen first-hand the growth in visitors to the trails and the challenges this presents, both in maintaining the trail system to provide a safe and enjoyable recreational experience for visitors and to protect and minimize damage to natural resources, particularly in the subalpine terrain.

The three projects to be funded by these grants are essential to support the efforts by backcountry and climbing rangers, trail maintenance crews, and volunteers. The thousands of visitors to the Mt. Baker Ranger District are only expected to increase in number: funding these projects will ensure the public continues to safely enjoy this premier destination in the Pacific Northwest.



December 18, 2020

Recreation and Conservation Office
 P.O. Box 40917
 Olympia, WA 98504

RE: NOVA 20-2181E Mt. Baker Backcountry and Climbing Rangers
NOVA 20-2179M Non-Motorized Mt. Baker Ranger District Trail Maintenance
RTP 20-2180 Heather Meadows Recreation Area Trail Maintenance

Dear evaluation committee members,

Please accept our joint letter of support from the 8 undersigned climbing organizations and guide companies for the Mt. Baker Ranger District (MBRD)'s proposals for NOVA 20-2181E Mt. Baker Backcountry and Climbing Rangers, NOVA 20-2179M Non-Motorized Mt. Baker Ranger District Trail Maintenance, and RTP 20-2180 Heather Meadows Recreation Area Trail Maintenance. These proposals promote education of Washington's climbing community, improve the recreational experience, and help protect the climbing environment. We strongly support these projects and the value they will bring to recreationalists in the Mt. Baker area.

The MBRD encompasses many mountaineering, scrambling, and climbing destinations of local, regional, and international significance. Foremost is Mt. Baker (Koma Kulshan), one of the most popular climbing destinations in the Cascades. Decades of beginner climbers have cut their teeth on the Easton and Coleman-Deming routes, and routes like the North Ridge and Park Glacier challenge seasoned alpinists. Other popular destinations include Mt. Shuksan, Ruth Mountain, Colfax Peak, and the Twin Sisters Range.

The Mt. Baker Climbing Rangers program conducts important work educating climbers on environmentally and socially responsible climbing practices, maintaining safe climbing access, collecting use and resource data, identifying environmental impacts, building relationships within the community, and enforcing regulations. In conjunction with the Climbing Rangers program, the MBRD project would allow for 3 summer backcountry rangers, 2 summer interns, and 1 part-time winter backcountry ranger to patrol the district's trails, climbing routes, and winter ski/snowshoe routes, all of which benefit our communities as well.

In addition to the above, our recreational user group frequently use the extensive network of trails outlined in the MBRD Non-Motorized Trail Maintenance and Heather Meadows Recreation Area Trail Maintenance proposals. In 2018, Access Fund provided a grant to help support MBRD's Human Waste Pack-Out Initiative on Mt. Baker. Use numbers at trailheads, campsites, and other facilities in the Mt.

Baker area grew exponentially in the summer of 2020 as visitors sought out safe, outdoor activities in the midst of a global pandemic. It is more important than ever to support land managers in the maintenance of these high-use trails and facilities to minimize damage from human waste, litter, camping in environmentally fragile areas, and other unintended impacts.

The climbing and mountaineering community as a group is conscientious of access and environmental issues in the areas they recreate. When resources are available to educate them, they can be one of the most thoughtful and proactive user groups in terms of preservation and impact minimization. We are excited about the potential of these programs to preserve the quality of outdoor experiences for all future users of the MBRD. We believe that the money granted for these programs would be very well spent preserving and improving the nature of our public lands and the experience one can get from it.

We sincerely thank the MBRD for their collaboration and commitment to maintaining and improving the recreational experience in the Mt. Baker area.

Sincerely,

Betsy Robblee, Conservation & Advocacy
Director
The Mountaineers
betsyr@mountaineers.org
mountaineers.org

Eddie Espinosa, National Volunteer Program Sr.
Manager
American Alpine Club - Cascade Section
eespinosa@americanalpineclub.org
americanalpineclub.org

Joe Sambataro, Northwest Regional Director
Access Fund
joe@accessfund.org
accessfund.org

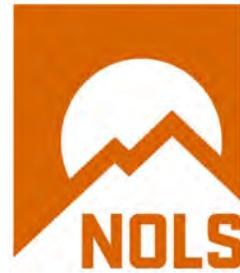
Mick Pearson, Owner/Founder
Kaf Adventures
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Jonathon Spitzer, Director of Field Operations
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John Race, Owner
Northwest Mountain School
jr@mountainschool.com
mountainschool.com

Chelsea Sweetin, President
Washington Alpine Club
wacboard@googlegroups.com
washingtionalpineclub.org



December 23, 2020

To Whom it May Concern,

We write today on behalf of the National Outdoor Leadership School (NOLS) to express our support for the use of Recreation and Conservation Office funding to support the following projects:

NOVA 20-2181E Mt. Baker Backcountry and Climbing Rangers
NOVA 20-2179M Non-Motorized Mt. Baker Ranger District Trail Maintenance
RTP 20-2180 Heather Meadows Recreation Area Trail Maintenance

This funding is critical to the long-term health of these popular areas. We strongly encourage you to support this funding request.

NOLS is a non-profit organization that teaches outdoor skills, leadership and wilderness ethics to 9,000 students each year. Our programs teach all age groups minimum-impact backcountry travel skills, natural history, hiking, rock climbing, skiing, whitewater and other skills as well as provide us an opportunity to build our students' appreciation for public lands.

From our Pacific Northwest location we operate in Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Olympic National Park, North Cascades National Park, Wenatchee National Forest, Okanogan National Forest and British Columbia.

We believe backcountry staff have a key role in resource management, trail and campsite repair, and most importantly, educating visitors. Without their presence in the backcountry, NOLS fears that resource impacts and visitor issues will worsen. NOLS instructors often find themselves educating other backcountry users on Leave No Trace practices and assisting these visitors in other ways.

NOLS believes it is imperative that the Mount Baker Ranger District seeks funding sources that can be used to increase the presence of backcountry rangers, trail crews, and volunteers in high-use areas. We have seen firsthand the important work that backcountry staff do. Our students have enjoyed meeting rangers and hearing them speak about the importance of public lands. Rangers have also assisted NOLS during times when we had to evacuate injured students, and we know they have assisted dozens of others in need.

NOLS hopes that you support funding these valuable projects.

Sincerely,

The NOLS Pacific Northwest Team



December 17, 2020

Recreation and Conservation Office
1111 Washington Street SE
PO BOX 40917
Olympia WA, 98507-0917

To the RCO Staff and Advisory Committee,

Greetings!

I am writing on behalf of the Seattle YMCA BOLD & GOLD (Boys & Girls Outdoor Leadership Development) program in support of grants for the following projects: *NOVA 20-2181E Mt. Baker Backcountry and Climbing Rangers*, *NOVA 20-2179M Non-Motorized Mt. Baker Ranger District Trail Maintenance*, and *RTP 20-2180 Heather Meadows Recreation Area Trail Maintenance*.

Every year BOLD & GOLD seeks to create outdoor opportunities for diverse youth from across Washington. We do this by sending small groups out into the backcountry on climbing, backpacking, and mountaineering expeditions. In 2021 we hope to field over 60 expeditions and serve over 480 youth. One of our capstone experiences is a summit attempt of Mount Baker. Imagine how accomplished a young person will feel standing atop one of the highest peaks in Washington State – is there anything that young person couldn't accomplish after achieving something so grand?

A trip like this could not be possible without the ranger teams and trail crews working in the Mount Baker Ranger District. Climbing and backcountry rangers provide invaluable education and expertise across a wide range of areas including climbing and backcountry safety and risk management, Leave No Trace, and environmental stewardship. Trail crews are vital in making sure that the areas we travel through are safe to navigate and have the necessary amenities to camp comfortably.

Our quality programming each summer depends on access to safe and navigable backcountry areas. We count on the continued presence of forest service rangers and the efforts of trail and maintenance crews. As such YMCA BOLD & GOLD stands in absolute and unqualified support of these grants and projects.

Best regards,

Jordan Bright
Senior Program Director
YMCA BOLD & GOLD, Seattle



PACIFIC NORTHWEST TRAIL
A S S O C I A T I O N

October 26, 2020

Recreation and Conservation Office
1111 Washington Street SE
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98507-0917

Dear RCO Staff and Advisory Committee,

The Pacific Northwest Trail Association (PNTA) supports the following grant proposals from Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest - Methow Valley Ranger District (MVRD):

- 20-2137: EDU, MVRD Wilderness & Backcountry Rangers 2022-2023**
- 20-2126: E Methow Valley Climbing Rangers 2022-2023**
- 20-2133: MNT, MVRD DEVELOPED REC CAMPGROUND MAINTENANCE 2022-23**
- 20-2134: MVRD Trail Maintenance 2022-2023**
- 20-2135: MVRD Mixed Use Deferred Trail Maintenance 2022-2023**
- 20-2136: MVRD Motorized Trail Maintenance 2022-2023**

For 43 years, the PNTA has been the primary advocate and steward of the Pacific Northwest Trail (PNT), growing the trail from the founder's vision in the 1970's to the federally designated national treasure that it is today. Each year, the PNTA works alongside partners like MVRD to maintain and improve the PNT corridor for the enjoyment of a growing number of local, national and international visitors who travel from across the globe to experience the exciting wild places that make the PNT corridor so special.

Our trail operations program breaks down traditional barriers to inclusion in outdoor spaces by providing youth and young adults with living-wage opportunities to engage in trail stewardship while creating formative connections with the land. The success of a program like ours is dependent on successful collaboration with managing agencies like the MVRD.

These proposals would help to ensure that MVRD has the resources and capacity to continue being a strong partner in the management of the Pacific Northwest Trail and the surrounding landscape, and I'm pleased to offer our support for this work, both on the ground and through this endorsement.

Sincerely,

Jeff Kish
Executive Director
Pacific Northwest Trail Association

America's Wildest Trail is Yours to Explore and Yours to Protect



October 20, 2020

Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Letter of support for Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest, Methow Valley Ranger District's RCO grant applications 20-2137 EDU, MVRD Wilderness & Backcountry Rangers 2022-2023, 20-2134: MVRD Trail Maintenance 2022-2023 and 20-2135: MVRD Mixed Use Deferred Trail Maintenance 2022-2023

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Advisory Committee,

I am writing on behalf of the more than 13,500-member Pacific Crest Trail Association (PCTA) to express strong support for the grant applications submitted by the Methow Valley Ranger District.

The PCTA is a non-profit organization whose mission is to protect, preserve and promote the PCT as an internationally significant resource for the enjoyment of hikers and equestrians. In 2019, PCTA's volunteer program and our organizational partners contributed over 106,000 hours of volunteer service towards the maintenance and improvement of this internationally renowned trail. Our volunteers' work is a testament to the public's significant passion for the Pacific Crest Trail and backcountry travel more generally. It is PCTA's privilege to partner with the Methow Valley Ranger District to tackle the challenges of maintaining the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail in northern Washington. The Methow Valley Ranger District stewards a vast area of public land. The district staff manages large wilderness areas with extensive backcountry recreation resources and significant associated maintenance backlogs. The Pasayten Wilderness is the area that PCTA knows best. It sprawls over half a million acres and contains some of the most scenic and wild places in the state.

This summer, I personally had the opportunity to hike the 65 miles of the PCT administered by the Methow Valley Ranger District. I can report that PCT on the district is superbly located. The trail frequently hugs ridgelines and squeezes over high passes. The PCT allows users to look down on massive glacial valleys and access climbing routes on iconic summits. North of the very popular Harts Pass trailhead and campground, the PCT travels for 32 miles along the western end of the Pasayten wilderness. The remoteness and the scale of the landscape draws visitors from all over the world. This stunning area provides a fitting capstone to for PCT thru-hikers finishing a walk from the Mexican border. As I approached the Canadian border, I reflected on the challenges of maintaining trails in such a remote location. There are plenty of deferred maintenance issues in the Pasayten that are at least two days of walking from the nearest road. This presents significant challenges. Public support is needed to overcome obstacles and protect both the area's wilderness quality and the experience of visitors.



Trail Grants

To RCO:

This is a letter of recommendation from Methow Valley Back Country Horsemen (MVBCH) for wilderness and non-wilderness grant requests to support trail maintenance in in the Methow valley Ranger District (MVRD)

20-2134 MVRD Trail Maintenance over 2022-2023

This request is very important to the MVRD, and to all trail users, because of the large number of wilderness and non-wilderness trails in this category. It is a large geographical area and varies tremendously in topography and elevation. Many trails are in remote areas and it takes extra resources to reach them. This crew is very important and a key component of trail maintenance.

MVBCH and BCH Washington will try to support the MVRD in this trail category as much as possible.

20-2135 MVRD Mixed Use Deferred Trail Maintenance 2022-2023

This category is also very important in addressing deferred maintenance on a diverse mix of trails in all parts of the MVRD. Some trails in the Twisp River_drainage have not been cut out or maintained since the 2018 Crescent Mountain fire. The many burned areas require additional maintenance because of the continuous falling of dead trees every year. There are also bridges in this large geographical area which need maintenance and/or replacement. Again MVBCH and BCHW will help where possible with this trail and structure maintenance. Many of these trails urgently need deferred maintenance as they are in danger of being lost to the trail system.

MVBCH thinks that these grants are very important for the MVRD and we strongly support them.

Bill Ford

MVBCH Trail Boss

Twisp, WA


 The logo for Methow Valley Trails Collaborative features a green graphic of a trail leading to a double arrow pointing right, followed by the text "Methow Valley Trails Collaborative" in a green, sans-serif font.

October 21, 2020

To whom it may concern,

We are writing to express our support and endorsement for following projects for the Methow Valley Ranger District. We support these project because it aligns with our mission to build and strengthen relationships among trail managers, advocates and user groups to support and enhance sustainable trail experiences in the Methow Valley. For more information on our organization, please visit our website: [Methow Valley Trails Collaborative](#).

Wilderness Grants: NOVA Education & Enforcement Category

20-2137 EDU, MVRD Wilderness & Backcountry Rangers 2022-2023

Category: NOVA Education & Enforcement

The Methow Valley Ranger District of the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest will use this grant to fund three seasonal rangers and several volunteers to provide education and enforcement activities during two field seasons. Rangers will perform in-field visitor contacts to promote leave-no-trace techniques and enforce regulations in high-use recreation areas along the North Cascades Scenic Corridor, Hart's Pass, Pasayten Wilderness and Lake Chelan-Sawtooth Wilderness areas. Patrols would be conducted by horseback using pack and saddle stock as well as day hiking and backpacking. The primary recreation opportunity provided by this project is education of non-motorized recreationists.

Climbing Grants: NOVA Education & Enforcement Category

20-2126 E Methow Valley Climbing Rangers 2022-2023

Category: NOVA Education & Enforcement

The Methow Valley Ranger District of the Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest will use this grant to fund the continuation of the MVRD Climbing Ranger Program, as funded by prior grants and successfully operated from 2016 to present. Climbing Rangers and volunteer Climber Stewards will make visitor contacts at the district's popular and renowned climbing areas of the North Cascades and Methow Valley. The goals of the program are to educate climbers on environmentally and socially responsible climbing practices, identify and manage environmental impacts and educational needs associated with climbing, continue building relationships within the community and with climbing organizations, collect visitor use and resource data, and enforce regulations. The primary recreational opportunity provided will be environmentally and socially responsible rock climbing and mountaineering.

Developed Recreation Grants: Maintenance & Operation Category

20-2133 MNT, MVRD DEVELOPED REC CAMPGROUND MAINTENANCE 2022-23

Category: NOVA Non-Highway

The Methow Valley Ranger District will use this grant to maintain 26 developed campgrounds, 29 trailheads, 2 picnic areas, and the Washington Pass Scenic Overlook, at sites located throughout the district. Maintenance activities include cleaning and servicing toilets, campsite cleaning and maintenance, noxious weed control, hazard tree removal, water system operation and maintenance, picnic table and fire grate repair and maintenance, bulletin board maintenance, visitor information, fee

collection, security patrols, mowing, garbage collection, and other miscellaneous duties. The goal is to provide clean, safe, well-maintained campgrounds and trailhead facilities for people engaging in a wide variety of recreation activities including camping, picnicking, sightseeing, scenic driving, and other types of recreation.

Trails Grants: NOVA and RTP Categories

20-2134: MVRD Trail Maintenance 2022-2023

Category: NOVA Non-Motorized, Maintenance

The Methow Valley Ranger District of the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest will use this grant to conduct trail maintenance including removing fallen trees, tread, drainage, erosion control, and brushing on the highest priority trails within the Pasayten Wilderness, portions of the Lake Chelan Sawtooth Wilderness, and surrounding backcountry areas. This includes the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail, Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail, the Rainy Lake ADA accessible trail, and popular hikes in the scenic North Cascades corridor. This grant will fund a full-time seasonal trail crew of 4 people plus pack support to work for two seasons and will be matched by over 2,500 hours of volunteer time. The primary recreation opportunity provided by this project is hiking, horseback riding, and some mountain biking.

20-2135: MVRD Mixed Use Deferred Trail Maintenance 2022-2023

Category: Recreation Trails Program, Maintenance

The Methow Valley Ranger District will use this funding to support trail maintenance activities and to address deferred maintenance needs on a diverse mix of summer trails, including: portions of the Lake Chelan Sawtooth Wilderness, portions of the Pasayten Wilderness, and trails in the Twisp River drainage, including many trails that have been heavily impacted by fires. The district will also work on restoring functionality to the Lone Fir trail which is an ADA accessible trail. This grant will focus on the trails with the highest need and those most at threat for being lost due to deferred maintenance. Maintenance activities include: clearing downfall from trails, addressing tread and drainage issues on priority sections of backlogged trails, performing erosion control on fire-affected trails, and replacing non-functional trail structures such as bridges and puncheon, as well as maintaining trails to standards for summer use. These trails support recreation for hikers, equestrians, mountain bikers, and ADA accessible trail users.

20-2136: MVRD Motorized Trail Maintenance 2022-2023

Category: NOVA Off Road Vehicle, Maintenance & Operation

The Methow Valley Ranger District will use this funding to maintain trails for primarily motorized trail users in the Sawtooth Backcountry and the Lightning / Beaver Creek drainages. This grant will fund three employees for summer trail maintenance, and will be matched by volunteers from the Northwest Motorcycle Association, and other partner groups. Trail maintenance will include: tread, drainage and logout on summer trails, and repair of damaged bridges to address trail maintenance backlogs. This project will primarily improve recreational opportunities for motorcycling recreation, along with some mountain biking, hiking, and equestrian opportunities.

Sincerely,

Adrienne Schaefer

Adrienne Schaefer

Communications Coordinator, Methow Valley Trails Collaborative

North Cascades Mountain Hostel

209 Castle Ave • Winthrop, WA 98862 • Phone: 206-940-4507
E-Mail: info@ncascadesmtnhostel.com Web: www.ncascadesmtnhostel.com



Date: 10/16/2020

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA98504-0917

In support of:

- 20-2137: MVRD Wilderness & Backcountry Rangers 2022-2023
- 20-2126: Methow Valley Climbing Rangers 2022-2023
- 20-2134: MVRD Trail Maintenance 2022-2023
- 20-2135: MVRD Mixed Use Deferred Trail Maintenance 2022-2023
- 20-2133 MVRD Developed Rec Campground Maintenance 2022-23

To Whom It May Concern:

As a business member of the lodging community in the Methow Valley, our guests utilize a multitude of the FS resources including trailheads, parking, restrooms, campgrounds, and most importantly- trails. These invaluable resources allow our guests to explore the beauty and magnificence of the area we call home. Without them, it would make it difficult for the average American to enjoy our US Forest Service lands. The kind of work that these grants support allow our guests to access this land safely, tread lightly and open up forest access to folks that might not know about the region otherwise.

As an American, I believe our public lands are our greatest assets. The recreational opportunities that these lands provide is the lifeblood to any recreational based tourist town in the US. Our area was revitalized as a "theme" town in the 1970's to help support a struggling area economy that was based on logging and mining that had slowed down to almost a halt. A tourist based replacement economy was created to provide a more sustainable economic option versus large-scale resource extraction. This is our legacy. With the neighboring National Park and State Lands, the Forest Service recreational assets forms the basis for our current economy and all the associated businesses such as mine that depend heavily on what these government lands provide recreationally.

As a representative of small business owners and other lodging operations, I would urge your office to strongly consider supporting the grants listed above. Not only do they provide access to this world-class recreational opportunity to the greater public; they provide the foundation for much of the revenue generated in this mountain town community.

Sincerely,

Paul Smotherman

Owner/Operator

North Cascades Mountain Hostel

Board of Directors

David Schooler
(President)

Sam Nancy
(Vice-President)

Phil Davis
(Treasurer)

Peggy Porter
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Dani Reynaud

Gordy Reynaud

Joanne Uehara

Kevin van Bueren

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Executive Director
Jason Paulsen

Associate Director
Sarah Brooks

Land Program Manager
Jeanne White

Stewardship Director
Heide Andersen

Conservation Biologist
Julie Grialou

Agricultural Coordinator
Alyssa Jumars

Membership Assistant
Mary Morgan

Bookkeeper
Joy Schwab

Community Conservation
Coordinator
Daniel Senner

Stewardship Associate
Johnnie Duguay

October 16, 2020

LETTER OF SUPPORT

Dear RCO Project Review Committee,

The Methow Conservancy serves as the Methow Valley's locally based land trust organization, with a Mission of 'Inspiring People to Care for the Land of the Methow Valley.' We represent over 1,000 members who support our work and programs here in the Methow watershed. It is my pleasure to submit this letter of support for the following projects for which our Methow Valley Ranger District is competing this round: **Projects #20-2137, 20-2126, 20-2134, 20-2135, 20-2136 and 20-2133.**

As has been reported in the regional Press, the Methow Valley is one of the State's recreation destinations that has seen an explosive increase in visitation over the past 9 months, building upon years of steady growth. In a watershed where over 91% of our land base is held by a public entity for the use and enjoyment of the public, our federal lands have seen a dramatic increase in use and visitation.

Each of the projects for which our local Ranger District is seeking funding will serve to address the real or potential negative impacts that can come from a very high level of use and/or allow our community to address deferred maintenance so that more access can be provided to help distribute the use.

We are fortunate here in the Methow Valley to have a good working relationship between the community, our local public land managers and a host of non-profit organizations focused upon recreation, conservation and salmon recovery. This foundation, combined with good communication, allows us to work as efficiently as possible to meet the needs of the resources we steward, and those who enjoy them recreationally. All that said, we absolutely are reliant upon programs like those managed by the State Recreation and Conservation Office to provide funding for many of these critical functions.

I thank you in advance for giving careful consideration to each of these requests, and look forward to our continued collaboration and coordination with the Methow Ranger District as they are able to staff critical needs, address maintenance priorities and provide safe places for the residents of our state to come, camp, and enjoy the beauty of the North Cascades!

Please feel free to contact me with any questions at (509) 996-5866 or Jason@methowconservancy.org

Sincerely,



Jason Paulsen
Executive Director



We connect people, nature and communities through a world-class trail system

October 2, 2020

To RCO Board and Staff Members,

Thank you for this opportunity to share our organizations enthusiasm for the following projects submitted by the USFS.

1. 20-2137 EDU, MVRD Wilderness & Backcountry Rangers 2022-2023 Category: NOVA Education & Enforcement
2. 20-2126 E Methow Valley Climbing Rangers 2022-2023 Category: NOVA Education & Enforcement
3. 20-2133 MNT, MVRD DEVELOPED REC CAMPGROUND MAINTENANCE 2022-23 Category: NOVA Non-Highway
4. 20-2134: MVRD Trail Maintenance 2022-2023 Category: NOVA Non-Motorized, Maintenance
5. 20-2135: MVRD Mixed Use Deferred Trail Maintenance 2022-2023 Category: Recreation Trails Program, Maintenance
6. 20-2136: MVRD Motorized Trail Maintenance 2022-2023 Category: NOVA Off Road Vehicle, Maintenance & Operation

As a 44 year old non-profit organization in the Methow Valley in Okanogan County that supports \$12.4 million annually into the local economy, over 150 FTE jobs, and 250,000 recreational experiences annually that inspire care and stewardship for the land, I am writing to express my strong support for these projects.

This projects builds upon significant previous public and private investments in trails and recreation in iconic landscapes here in the Methow Valley. I encourage RCO to support these projects for the benefit of the local economy, people and wildlife of Washington State.

Sincerely,

James DeSalvo
Executive Director
Methow Trails



Northwest Motorcycle Association
969 Green Mountain Road
Mossyrock, WA 98564

October 12, 2020

Re: Grant Support Letter Methow Valley Ranger Districts

20-2137 EDU, MVRD Wilderness & Backcountry Rangers 2022-23, 20-2133 MNT, MVRD DEVELOPED REC CAMPGROUND MAINTENANCE 2022-23, 20-2134 MVRD Trail maintenance, 20-2135; MVRD Mixed Use Deferred Trail Maintenance program, 20-2136: MVRD Motorized Trail Maintenance 2022-2023

Dear RCO Grant Review Committee,

I am pleased to write a letter of support on behalf of the Northwest Motorcycle Association. The Forest Service recreation program is sadly underfunded. The trails and campgrounds see an increasing amount of use as maintenance falls further and further behind. The US Forest Service depends on RCO grant support to fund education, enforcement and maintenance programs on the National Forest. As a volunteer coordinator and trails advocate I collaborate closely with the recreation managers in the Entiat, Methow, Cle Elum and Wenatchee River Ranger Districts. To date this year Northwest Motorcycle Association Volunteers have recorded 4160 volunteer hours Many of those hours on Central Washington Trails. The Methow district sees about 300 - 500 hours annually. Many of these hours are from Coulee Rider work parties. This group and other volunteers are responsible for all the log out on the sawtooth multi use trail system. I am working to get more of the volunteer hours in this area recorded as I know not all the hours are being accounted for. The Entiat Ranger District has been very supportive of volunteer efforts and put together a cache of tools for volunteers to access. We have used these tools to make an impact on trails that otherwise would not see maintenance. We also create volunteer hours to support matching grant funds. The Methow is also looking at doing a similar program. I strongly believe in getting tools in the hands of willing volunteers. The Cle Elum Ranger District also has a very successful volunteer program. The Forest Service was created to protect and maintain land for everyone's enjoyment. With ever shrinking budgets the amount of money available to properly maintain the trail systems is just not available. It is sad to see our trails going away from lack of maintenance. Working together in partnership with RCO funding and volunteers is the way we can keep our trails open and maintained to all users.

Thank you for your consideration

Sincerely,

Sean Clarke

Northwest Motorcycle Association

Sean Clarke - Central Washington Trails Project

Marc Toenyan - President

Dale Williams - Vice President

Tod Petersen - Land Use/Legislative Coordinator

October 12, 2020

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

RE: Support for 2022-2023 Methow Valley Climbing Rangers Grant Applications:

- MVRD Wilderness and Backcountry Rangers
- MV Climbing Rangers
- MVRD Trail Maintenance
- MVRD Mixed use Deferred Trail Maintenance
- MVRD Motorized Trail Maintenance
- MVRD Developed Rec Campsite Maintenance

To Whom it May Concern:

Okanogan County Search and Rescue Association (OCSAR) writes this letter to express support of the Methow Valley Ranger District (MVRD)'s proposals referenced above. All of these proposals assist OCSAR with our mission of assisting the Okanogan County Sheriff's Department on Search and Rescue (SAR) missions.

The MVRD encompasses a huge amount of both designated wilderness (the Pasayten and the Lake Chelan-Sawtooth wilderness) and non-wilderness area in Okanogan County. OSCAR, during SAR missions, will be able to reap the benefits of these grants by the work of the Methow Valley Ranger District.

With COVID-19, the Methow Valley area has seen a huge influx of recreation visitors from urban areas. These grants are now needed more than ever.

Specifically, the grants will assist OCSAR the following ways.

MVRD Wilderness and Backcountry Rangers – This grant continues the Wilderness and Backcountry program to perform in-field visitor contacts to promote and enforce regulations in high-use recreation areas by horseback, day-

OKANOGAN COUNTY

hiking and backpack patrols. With the before mentioned influx of new visitors to the area, this program is needed more than ever. With more in-field visitor contacts, this reduces the likelihood of SAR services needed for these visitors.

MV Climbing Rangers - This grant continues the MVRD Climbing Ranger program at education about good climbing practices. OCSAR does have a high-angle rescue team that is trained in vertical rescues on the local climbing walls. Needless to say, the education program aimed at climbers provided by the MV climbing rangers helps ensure that our services will be needed less frequently.

MVRD Trail Maintenance – OCSAR during our search and rescue missions benefits immensely from the work provided by these grants as part of the trail maintenance program.

MVRD Mixed Use Deferred Trail Maintenance - Having personally been on a lot of trails, I can attest that there is a huge backlog of needed trail maintenance. OCSAR benefits from this grant by making it easier to access the different parts of our coverage area in a timelier manner.

MVRD Motorized Trail Maintenance - OCSAR has an ATV team that specializes in search and rescue in non-wilderness portions of the backcountry and as such the trail maintenance provided by this grant will help OCSAR in our missions.

MVRD Developed Rec Campsite Maintenance – OSCAR will use the trailheads as a base of operations on search and rescue missions. This maintenance provided by this grant help us do our mission.

When a recreational visitor is lost, cold, hungry, or injured, hours seem like days, and days seem like a lifetime. These grants directly impact Okanogan County Search and Rescue in the timely performance of our mission of incident response in search and rescue operations and as such OCSAR supports MVRD proposals.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Gottula".

David Gottula

President – Okanogan County Search and Rescue Association



To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing in support of the grant applications by the Methow Valley Ranger District of the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest. The Northwest Outward Bound School (NWOBS) has been operating on National Forest Lands in North Central Washington for over 50 years; our ability to serve our mission is dependent on well maintained forest lands. We strive to build leadership skills, develop character, and instill a sense of service in about 500 students each year through wilderness adventure. Our students leave course feeling more prepared to be leaders in our society and regularly cite the amazing public lands they traveled on when describing their experience.

The Three grants that most align with the NWOBS mission and practices are listed below.

20-2137: MVRD Wilderness & Backcountry Rangers 2022-2023

Backcountry patrols are vital to the management of public lands. There has been a recent surge in backcountry users and without rangers I fear that Leave-No-Trace practices and other regulations will go unchecked, as well as practices that could lead to more serious incidents. We always appreciate running into backcountry rangers feel that they are absolutely essential for the health of our lands and visitors.

20-2126: Methow Valley Climbing Rangers 2022-2023

Rock climbing is one of the highest impact activities that we use at NWOBS to inspire personal growth in individuals, we incorporate the activity into many of our courses. The Methow Valley Ranger District has some of the best climbing in the state and the use reflects that. We rely on climbing rangers to help to inform a public that often times isn't familiar with many backcountry travel and Leave-No-Trace practices. The access provided in this district means that many people can experience the life changing experience of climbing. This all requires the proper education and support from the Climbing Rangers to keep people safe, protect our access, and ensure users have a positive experience.

20-2134: MVRD Trail Maintenance 2022-2023

The Methow Valley Ranger District has a trail network that is ideally suited to meet our needs and serve our students. From Devil's Dome to Cathedral Peak to The Oval Lakes, thousands of our students have had the opportunity to access spectacular areas via trails. One of the biggest factors that influences where an NWOBS course will travel is trail conditions. Many times our courses have had to re-route or significantly change their plans due to poor trail conditions. It is a monumental task to keep trails open and in good repair that can't be sacrificed. As use of public lands increases, more open trails will be essential to spread out use over the region. We hope to be able to return to some of the wonderful trails we have used in the past that are no longer usable.

Thank you for considering these grants for the Methow Valley Ranger District. We are incredibly grateful for all of their support over the years, from clearing trails to visiting with our groups and educating them on healthy land use.

Sincerely,

Joel Reid
Washington Program Director

As a 501(c)(3) educational organization, contributions may be tax deductible according to IRS regulations.

EIN/Tax ID #: 45-3463744. No goods or services were received in return for this gift.



October 14, 2020

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office

Subject: Support for RCO Grants for Methow Valley Ranger District

I am writing as a small business and resident of the Methow Valley in support of the following RCO Grant applications:

20-2137 EDU, MVRD Wilderness & Backcountry Rangers 2022-2023

20-2126 E Methow Valley Climbing Rangers 2022-2023

20-2133 MNT, MVRD DEVELOPED REC CAMPGROUND MAINTENANCE 2022-23

20-2134: MVRD Trail Maintenance 2022-2023

20-2135: MVRD Mixed Use Deferred Trail Maintenance 2022-2023

20-2136: MVRD Motorized Trail Maintenance 2022-2023

The Methow Valley is a majestic place primarily because of the wild lands that surround us. My business exists solely because of the visitors who come to hike, bike, and climb in and around these Forest Service lands. Over the past several years, we have seen exponential growth in USFS land users. Campgrounds are full as are trailhead parking lots as well as the trails themselves. These assets must be maintained to continue to provide value to those who visit our valley for its diverse beauty.

During this past year, I have had the pleasure of seeing the previous RCO Grant money in action. I've walked past countless trees that were cleared from trails across the Valley. In particular, I was thrilled to be able to hike the West Fork Methow Trail and see the awesome tread work and clearing that was completed. The crew is within 2 miles of connecting to the PCT which will re-open amazing loop options that do not currently exist. Campgrounds were full this whole COVID summer and are in dire need of maintenance. I saw a crew of USFS staff near the Maple Pass Trail and they were doing an amazing job of educating visitors on trail etiquette on an over-loved trail.

Maybe my most heartfelt support goes to the Climbing Ranger Program. My business benefits directly from having a vibrant climbing community in the Valley. This past year, the Climbing Rangers were out in force at the local crags and in the Alpine near Washington Pass. The climbing community received excellent value from the RCO Grant dollars through educating climbers on safety and sustainable practices on the rock. They also were seen doing some incredible work near Fun Rock to create a safe and long lasting area from which to recreate.

I also had the opportunity to ride my bike on the Angel's Staircase loop east of the Sawtooth Chelan Wilderness and saw firsthand the need for trail work in that area. Trails are trenched and loose from years of motorized travel without adequate maintenance. That area is spectacular for its beauty and the diverse opportunities for motorized riders, hikers, equestrians, and bikers. It needs help soon before the damage becomes worse.

With the large increase in visitors during this COVID summer, we can only expect to see more visitors next summer. These RCO Grants are incredibly important to the local economy and, even more important, to the environment that makes this valley so special to so many.

Sincerely,

CB Thomas – Goat's Beard Mountain Supplies



President
Doug McClelland (*), Former Assistant Region Manager
Washington State Department of Natural Resources

Secretary
Josh M. Lipsky(*), Partner, Cascadia Law Group PLLC

Treasurer, Operations Committee Chair
Jason Broenneke (*), Partner, KPMG LLP

Fundraising Committee Chair
Ken Krivanec (*), President, Quadrant Homes

Board Engagement Committee Chair
Marie Quasius(*), Senior Port Counsel, Port of Seattle

20-2235 NOVA NM #3

Program Committee Chair
Cora Johnson (*), Geotechnical Engineer, GeoEngineers

Executive Director
Jon Hoekstra (*), Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board January 13, 2021
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

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- Laurie Benson (X), South Puget Sound Assistant Region Manager for Conservation, Recreation, and Transactions, WA Dept. of Natural Resources
- Gary Berndt, Wildland Fire Liaison, WA State Dept. of Natural Resources
- Mark Boyar (*), President, Middle Fork Outdoor Recreation Coalition
- Kevin Brown, King County Parks and Recreation
- Susan Carlson, Chair, E3 Washington
- Bill Chapman (*), Past President, Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust
- Dow Constantine (X), King County Executive
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- Bob Ellis, Lifetime Educator and Cyclist,
- Karl Forsgaard, Manager of Implementations, Thomson Reuters; Alpine Lakes Protection Society
- Kurt Fraese (*), Fraese and Associates, LLC
- Hilary Franz (X), Commissioner of Public Lands, WA State Dept. of Natural Resources
- Matt Grimm, Investment Professional, BMGI
- Don Hoch (X), Director, WA State Parks & Recreation Commission
- Laura Hoffman, Owner, Copper Ridge Farm; Microsoft
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- Ken Konigsmark, Issaquah Alps Trails Club
- Yvonne Kraus, Executive Director, Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance
- Danny Levine, Retired, President, NationAd Communications
- Sharon Linton (*), Marketing Consultant, SL Connects
- Lorna Luebbe, Assistant General Counsel/Director Environment Program Services, Puget Sound Energy
- Elizabeth Lunney (*), Former Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust Interim Executive Director
- Bob Manelski, Retired, Senior Director, 787 Program, Boeing
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- Thomas O'Keefe, Pacific Northwest Stewardship Director, American Whitewater
- Amanda O'Rourke, CPA, Partner, Greenwood Ohlund & Co.
- David Patton, Northwest Area Director, The Trust for Public Land
- Kizz Prusia, Project Associate, Triangle Associates
- Charles Raines, Director Cascade Checkerboard Project, Sierra Club, Washington State Chapter
- Janet Ray, Retired, Asst VP, Corporate Affairs and Publishing, AAA Washington
- Jim Reinhardsen (*), President, Laird Norton Properties
- Vik Sahney, Board VP, E&I Committee Chair, The Mountaineers
- Meredith Shank, Social Venture Partners
- Jill Simmons, Executive Director, Washington Trails Association
- Al Smith, Partner, Perkins Coie LLP
- David Sturtevant, Retired, Vice President CH2M HILL
- Chris Thomas, Senior Director, Public Policy, Lyft
- Harry Thomas, Chief Marketing Officer, AAA Washington
- Leah Tivoli, Manager, City of Seattle
- Alison Washburn, Bellevue Store Manager, REI Co-op
- Jody Weil (X), Supervisor, Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest
- Joel Yoker, President, Snoqualmie Valley Youth Activities and Community Center

(*) Executive Committee Member
(X) Ex-Officio {non-voting} Director

RE: NOVA nonmotorized application #20-2235, Snoqualmie Corridor – Facilities & Trails M&O

Dear RCO Grant Evaluation Committee,

I am writing on behalf of the Mountain to Sound Greenway Trust to express our enthusiastic support of the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR's) proposal to the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office, "Snoqualmie Corridor Facilities & Trails Maintenance & Operations" (Application #20-2235) to fund trail and facility maintenance efforts across landscapes receiving some of the highest visitation in the state. By continuing this funding, the most iconic trails, day-use sites, and trailheads in the Mountains to Sound Greenway National Heritage Area will be maintained for the public.

The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust has collaborated with DNR on several high use recreation areas within the Snoqualmie Corridor, many of which are only 25-30 miles from Seattle. This includes: the popular Mailbox Peak trail and trailhead, easily accessed via a recent federal road improvement project that has vastly improved the access to the many recreation sites in the Middle Fork Snoqualmie Valley; trails within West Tiger Mountain Natural Resources Conservation Area; Tiger Mountain State Forest; new trails recently opened in Raging River State Forest; and the Rattlesnake Mountain Trail and day-use area. We support resources that will allow the DNR to continue to maintain these popular trails, trailheads, parking areas, and facilities to a high public service level and standard for the variety of users.

We believe that the proposed project will continue to support popular and year-round recreation access to the Snoqualmie Corridor. We value DNR as a partner in stewarding public lands and continue to partner to construct new trailheads and build new trail opportunities, with the goal that these public investments are cared for in the long-term and remain open with high public service levels. We fully support DNR in their ongoing work to improve public access and provide enjoyable and safe recreation for a wide range of users.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice our support for this important project within the Mountains to Sound National Heritage Area.

Sincerely,

Jon Hoekstra, Executive Director





BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF WASHINGTON
PO Box 1132
ELLENSBURG, WA 98926
WWW.BCHW.ORG

January 14, 2021

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

RE: NOVA nonmotorized application #20-2235, Snoqualmie Corridor – Facilities & Trails M&O

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

I am writing on behalf of the Back Country Horsemen of Washington to express our enthusiastic support of DNR's proposal to the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office to conduct trail and facility maintenance located within West Tiger Mountain Natural Resources Conservation Area, Tiger Mountain State Forest, Raging River State Forest, Rattlesnake Mountain Scenic Area, Mailbox Peak and Dirty Harry's Peak/Far Side Climbing Area.

The mission of BCHW is to keep trails open for all users, provide education on Leave No Trace practices, and provide volunteer service to partnering agencies and organizations that further our mission. BCHW has 32 chapters throughout Washington State with approximately 2,500 members.

These state forests & conservation areas are in the Snoqualmie Corridor, which is less an hour from the Seattle/Bellevue metropolitan center. Many of these recreation areas are particularly important to the equestrian community, including the south Tiger Mountain State Forest equestrian loop and Poo Poo Point Trail within West Tiger Mountain NRCA. The south Tiger Mountain loop provides a great alternative to equestrian visitors when the nearby Taylor Mountain Forest is overcrowded.

The goal for this project is to conduct maintenance on 150 miles of trails, four trailheads and two day use sites. Maintenance of trails & facilities to provide positive recreation experiences was identified as a high priority of the Snoqualmie Corridor Recreation Plan. We strongly support funding for professional DNR trail crews to lead trail maintenance efforts, well cleaned restrooms & trailheads, and utilization of volunteers to provide an efficient mix of labor resources to get the job done. This grant opportunity is strongly supported to ensure trails are maintained and provide a safe, enjoyable experience.

Thank you,

Jason Ridlon
BCHW President, Trail Work Coordinator

Back Country Horsemen of Washington (BCHW), is a 501 (c) (3) organization with 32 chapters across the state dedicated to: keeping trails open for all users; educating horse users in Leave-No-Trace practices; and providing volunteer service to resource agencies.



Washington Trails Association

705 Second Avenue, Suite 300, Seattle WA 98104 • 206.625.1367 • wta.org

January 21, 2021

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

RE: NOVA nonmotorized application #20-2235, Snoqualmie Corridor – Facilities & Trails M&O

Dear RCO Review Committee:

I am writing on behalf of Washington Trails Association to express our enthusiastic support of the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) proposal for Snoqualmie Corridor Facilities & Trails Maintenance, a trail project under the Non-highway & Off-Road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) category.

Washington Trails Association has a more than 50-year legacy of engaging the hiking community. WTA enhances hiking experiences in Washington state by empowering a diverse and growing community of hikers to explore, steward and protect trails and public lands. WTA is the nation's largest state-based trail maintenance and hiking advocacy nonprofit organization, with more than 24,000 member households and an online community of more than 100,000. Each year almost 4,500 WTA volunteers perform over 160,000 hours of trail maintenance across the state.

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to provide safe and sustainable nonmotorized recreation trails and support facilities. It will allow DNR to conduct maintenance on over 150 miles of nonmotorized trails, four trail heads, and two day-use sites within the Snoqualmie Corridor recreation region in eastern King County. This project will provide the partial funding necessary for staff time, materials, and agreements with partner organizations in order to maintain these non-motorized trails and facilities.

Trail maintenance activities include removal of downed trees, repairing trail tread, maintaining and repairing trail bridges, brushing trails and maintaining culverts, drain dips, and ditch-outs. Facility maintenance will include hazard tree removal, trailhead surfacing, litter removal, restroom maintenance, viewpoint and river access site maintenance and signage repair and replacement.

Thank you for your consideration. We hope you will support and fund this project. Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrea J. Imler".

Andrea Imler
Advocacy Director



January 6, 2021

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

RE: NOVA nonmotorized application #20-2235, Snoqualmie Corridor – Facilities & Trails M&O

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

The Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance enthusiastically supports DNR's proposal to fund trail and facility maintenance on more than 150 miles of non-motorized trails, four trailheads, and two day-use sites in the Snoqualmie Corridor. The Snoqualmie Corridor is within an hour's drive from Seattle metropolitan area and is experiencing significant growth in recreational resource use. It is critical that DNR receives funding to continue to maintain and operate facilities to a high service level, to minimize environmental impact, and to ensure continued visitor safety.

The corridor includes the Raging River State Forest and well as Tiger Mountain State Forest, two of the most popular mountain bike trail systems in the state. The recently completed Middle Fork road paving project has significantly increased visitation to the Middle Fork valley, including destinations like the popular Mailbox Peak Trail and Middle Fork Snoqualmie multi-use trail. DNR's grant funding request is crucial to help sustainably maintain all these popular trails and to ensure that the Snoqualmie Corridor recreational resources are properly maintained.

DNR and Evergreen have partnered to build and maintain over 48 miles of mountain bike trails in the Snoqualmie Corridor, and Evergreen has provided thousands of valuable volunteer match hours within the corridor over the past decade. This funding is vital to the continued maintenance of these trails, and to ensure they are protected from degradation while providing safe and sustainable recreation for the hundreds of thousands of visitors that use them.

Evergreen is the nation's largest statewide mountain bike organization, with more than 7,900 members and over 65,000 social media followers. We are dedicated to trail building and maintenance, as well as volunteerism, education, and advocacy. We look forward to working with the DNR, and much appreciate the opportunity to provide feedback and support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Yvonne Kraus", written over a horizontal line.

Yvonne Kraus, Executive Director
Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance



January 11, 2021

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

RE: NOVA nonmotorized application #20-2235, Snoqualmie Corridor – Facilities & Trails M&O

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

On behalf of the City of North Bend, I am writing to clearly state our support of the Department of Natural Resource's requests for maintenance funding through the NOVA Program in order to provide basic maintenance services in order to keep over 150 miles of trails, popular day use sites, and trailheads open for public access. DNR relies heavily on grant funding to maintain some of the most popular trail systems in the state, including West Tiger Mountain NRCA & Tiger Mountain State Forest, Raging River State Forest, Rattlesnake Mountain Trail, Mailbox Peak Trail, and Dirty Harry's Peak Trail. These frequently visited recreation areas require basic funding to maintain self-contained toilets, log out blowdown on trails, and keep trail corridors cleared of overgrown vegetation and trail surfaces hardened and draining well. Not only has DNR done a great job of maintaining these areas with a limited budget, they have added new trail systems and additional trail mileage in the last two years that will need to have trail crews and resources available to maintain frequently and for emergency response, such as after wind storms.

The City of North Bend's economy and the quality of life for its residents are heavily driven by outdoor recreation. The hiking, equestrian, and biking community represents a large portion of our residents and visitors. This grant opportunity will allow DNR to maintain important recreation resources at a high service level in order to keep areas open year-round, which will heavily benefit hiking, equestrian, and mountain bike recreation and help establish the I-90 Corridor as Puget Sound's outdoor recreation destination.

We look forward DNR being awarded this grant improving the maintenance level of important trails and support facilities for the local community and visitors that often explore our city in addition to their nearby recreation visit to DNR lands.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rebecca Deming". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "R" and "D".

Rebecca Deming
Community and Economic Development Director
City of North Bend



DREW W. HYER
GARFIELD COUNTY SHERIFF
P.O. BOX 338
POMEROY, WA 99347-0338

(509) 843-3494 * FAX (509) 843-1347

20-2021 NOVA NM #6

Calvin Dansereau
Undersheriff

TINA MEIER
E911 COORDINATOR/
COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR

September 29, 2020

Recreation and Conservation Office
1111 Washington Street SE
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Re: Pomeroy R.D. Wilderness-Backcountry Trails M&O 20-2021M
Pomeroy R.D. OHV Motorized Trails M&O 20-2022M
Pomeroy R.D. Campgrounds/CUA's/Dispersed Sites M&O 20-2020M
Pomeroy R.D. Trail Grooming M&O 20-2019M
Pomeroy R.D. Winter Patrol 20-2018E

To Whom It May Concern:

The Garfield County Sheriff's Office continues to support the Pomeroy Ranger District in their endeavor to receive grants for the upkeep and improvements made to the Umatilla National Forest. With the proposed funds, we can ensure the people of Garfield County and surrounding areas a safe and enjoyable way to appreciate the great outdoors through the use of our campgrounds, roads and trail systems throughout the District.

With the damages caused by the 2005 School Fire, 2006 Columbia Complex Fire and the 2015 Grizzly Bear Fire these areas continue to need improvements to both wilderness and OHV trails. Ongoing maintenance and upkeep is vital for the safety of visitors to the forest. With the added funding this grant will provide, removal of dead trees and brush can be addressed, as well as drainage issues. Additionally this funding can be used for trail markers and snow pole installation in the winter for snowmobile users. All of these precautions will aid in the safety of those using the trails and help identify their location in the case of an emergency. For members of our agency, this is a key issue and something we strongly encourage and support.

As for winter trail patrol, Pomeroy Ranger District manages 138 miles of snowmobile trails and over 180,000 acres of back country. This grant would allow education to both motorized and non-motorized vehicles, enforce the "Leave No Trace" concept and ensure protection for both ski areas and winter ranges for elk. This would relieve club members from feeling responsible for enforcing their own sport and ensure a sense of security in the area.

The Sheriff's Office highly encourages the enjoyment of outdoor sports, camping and general recreation, with the goal to ensure the safety of everyone using the National Forest. We believe these added precautions will benefit all users as well as the natural resources we have been given.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Drew W. Hyer

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Drew W. Hyer", written over a horizontal line.

Wynne McCabe
Garfield County Commissioner
P O Box 700
Pomeroy WA 99347
(509) 843-1851
FAX (509) 843-1851

September 30, 2020

Recreation and Conservation Office
1111 Washington Street SE
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504 – 0917

Re: Pomeroy R.D. Wilderness-Backcountry Trails M&O 20-2021M
Pomeroy R.D. OHV Motorized Trails M&O 20-2022M
Pomeroy R.D. Campgrounds/CUA's/Dispersed Sites M&O 20-2020M
Pomeroy R.D. Trail Grooming M&O 20-2019M
Pomeroy R.D. Winter Trail Patrol 20-2018E

To whom it may concern,

On behalf of Garfield County, I offer our full and hearty support for the above grant applications submitted by the Pomeroy Ranger District of the Umatilla National Forest.

The County, with a population of about 2,200, is the smallest in the State. As such, we are considered “distressed” and our economy is in a stagnate state. To help mitigate that, we actively promote recreational and tourism activities, primarily, activities available in the “Blue Mountains” of the Umatilla National Forest. As an example of our efforts, in 2009 we adopted an ordinance allowing ORV travel on selected county roads, from the City of Pomeroy to the boundary of the UNF (20-2022M). We encourage staging in Pomeroy and, hopefully, money being spent here. Also, not often mentioned but of importance to me and others, maintenance of the ORV trail system encourages riders to stay on the trail so they’re not “an accident waiting to happen” on the heavily traveled main roads, and provides the added benefit of greatly reducing “off-roading” and the resulting damage to the terrain.

Spring, summer and fall bring campers, hikers, bicyclists, horseback riders and hunters who use Pomeroy as the springboard for their adventures. A well maintained trail system with appurtenant trailheads and campgrounds (20-2021M and 20-2020M) are essential in making it a memorable and an “I want to do that again” adventure.

As we all know, the great majority of participants abide by the rules and are well-intentioned, but sometimes ignorance will come into play, and, sadly at times, some individuals display outright disregard for rules, regulations and courteous conduct. Since it appears that usage continues to grow each year, the Grant for Winter Trail Patrol (20-2018E) would have a mitigating impact on safety, environmental, big game and enforcement issues, which has long been needed. This also supports the “pleasurable experience” that we want them to have and would improve on our opportunities derived from the benefit stated above.

Recreationists’ use of local businesses and services is actively pursued and greatly appreciated. For many, the Blue Mountains have become a favorite destination and well-maintained campgrounds, trailheads and trails, and fair and compassionate Law Enforcement are a big part of that. The more pleasurable their experience, the greater the likelihood they’ll return, and hopefully, by spreading the word, others will come for the first time and they too, will continue to return.

I’m a lifelong resident of the County, my Great Grandfather was camped outside of what is now Pomeroy, when Lincoln was assassinated, my Grandfather acquired the lease on our Cabin at Stentz Springs in the “Blues” in 1924, and I’ve personally witnessed the growth of four-season ORV riding in the area, and the good and the bad that accompany it. The projects they propose greatly enhance the “good” and help deter the “bad.” I also personally know the people who authored, will administer and work the projects funded by the grants. Not only are they very competent at their jobs, but very passionate about the stewardship of their “Blue Mountains.” The grant funds entrusted to them will be wisely and effectively spent.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Wynne McCabe
Garfield County Commissioner

POMEROY, WA

October 5, 2020

Re:

Pomeroy R.D. Wilderness & Backcountry Trails M&O 20-2021M

Pomeroy R.D. OHV Motorized Trails M&O 20-2022M

Pomeroy R.D. Campgrounds/CUA's/Dispersed Sites M&O 20-2020M

Pomeroy R.D. Trail Grooming M&O 20-2019M

Pomeroy R.D. Winter Trail Patrol 20-2018E

To Whom it May Concern:

On behalf of the Mt. Misery Snowdrifter's, I encourage you to provide any funding to the Pomeroy Ranger Station. We strongly believe that they will continue their excellent job of taking care of our trail system for all season recreation, the snowmobile groomer and operation, camping areas, parking lots, access points, forest and timber health, etc. with your financial assistance. Many of our members use the Forest Service ground year-round. We camp, mushroom hunt, huckleberry pick, hunt, and ride the trails.

We are a snowmobile club located in Garfield County, Washington. We help provide a safe, fun environment for the snowmobiling families in our area. We are a non-profit organization who has several fundraisers throughout the year. The money we earn goes directly into our community. We provide scholarships each year to high school seniors who are involved in outdoor activities and recreation. We also contribute to special organizations and local charities.

The Snowdrifters' members work very closely with the Pomeroy Ranger Station. We have a great relationship with the local staff. We have over 80 members that volunteer their time each year helping the Forest Service staff maintain our trail system, warm-up shelters, and outhouses. We spend our time cutting firewood, clearing trails, repairing the wood stoves in the shelters, and stocking them each year with firewood and emergency supplies. We also work closely with our local search and rescue team. Our local Forest Service staff provide us with some of the best groomed trails in the area. They help us out with our special events as well. Overall, we have a great partnership with our local Forest Service and we look forward to working with them in the future.

Sincerely,

Emily Ruchert, Secretary

Mt. Misery Snowdrifters
PO Box 808
Pomeroy, WA 99347

Mt. Misery Snowdrifters

Pomeroy Spinners Community Organization

699 Columbia Street
PO Box 745
Pomeroy, WA 99347

September 20, 2020

To: Recreation and Conservation Office
From: Larry Ledgerwood, President, Pomeroy Spinners Community Organization

Re: Pomeroy R.D. Wilderness & Backcountry Trails M&O 20-2021M
Pomeroy R.D. OHV Motorized Trails M&O 20-2022M
Pomeroy R.D. Campgrounds/CUA's/ Dispersed Sites M&O 20-2020M
Pomeroy R.D. Trail Grooming M&O 20-2019M
Pomeroy R.D. Winter Patrol 20-2018E

The Pomeroy Spinners Community Organization is a nonprofit men's group that seeks to enhance projects within our community and county. The Umatilla National Forest is a vital area for attracting recreational enthusiasts from hundreds of miles. These folks range from campers, snowmobilers, atv's, utv's, motorcycles, horseback riders, hunters and mushroom and huckleberry pickers. In addition to the named enthusiasts, many people enter the forest to enjoy a picnic or casual drive. These hobbies and activities are often a source for family time and entertainment.

Maintenance for the trails and facilities is crucial to create repeat visitors. First impressions are the most important thing when trying to draw people back and make the Pomeroy Ranger District a destination. Being able to enjoy the day rather than working to fix and clear trails will contribute heavily as people decide where they spend their free time.

Many Spinners members participate in multiple activities utilizing the campgrounds, trailheads, wilderness trails and motorized vehicle trails. We as an organization organize an ATV ride each summer on the motorized trails as a fun, family activity. Prior to the event members volunteer to navigate trails to ensure paths are open and after the event remove trash and repair any damage that may have been caused. On behalf of the entire Spinners Organization, we support the Pomeroy Ranger District's efforts to secure funds to maintain and enhance each type of trail system as well as patrolling to ensure the safety of everyone using the Pomeroy Ranger District as their playground. RCO should recognize the vast impact their allocations make as well as the value per dollar being allocated to the named focus areas.

Sincerely,



Larry Ledgerwood, President
Pomeroy Spinners Community Organization

Pomeroy Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 916, Pomeroy, WA 99347.
www.pomeroychamberofcommerce.com

TO: Recreation and Conservation Office
1111 Washington St SE
Olympia, WA 98501

September 24, 2020

To Whom It May Concern,

In an endeavor to sustain and increase visitor activity in both Garfield County and the City of Pomeroy through increased use of the Umatilla National Forest visitor attractions, the Pomeroy Chamber of Commerce is submitting this letter of support for:

POMEROY R.D. OHV MOTORIZED TRAILS M&O 20-2022M

POMEROY R.D. TRAIL GROOMING M&O 20-2019

POMEROY R.D. WILDERNESS & BACKCOUNTRY TRAILS M&O 20-2021M

POMEROY R.D. CAMPGROUNDS/CUA's/ DISPERSED SITES M&O 20-2020M

POMEROY R.D. WINTER TRAIL PATROL 20-2018E

The Chamber has long recognized and promoted the National Forest lands and outdoor recreational opportunities as an important component of the tourist activities that draw visitors to the community each year. Recent addition of the OHV routes has increased the number of recreationists coming to the forest, many of whom stop in Pomeroy to buy fuel, food and supplies before heading toward the scenic Blue Mountains to ride the trails with their families. Continued maintenance of these trails will help ensure that this increased usage will not decline, and will continue to provide a supplement to the local service and retail economy.

For this reason, the Chamber is happy to support the application for grant dollars that would fund the USFS Pomeroy Ranger District for trail maintenance activities which will include; log-out/brushing, trail surfacing, trail hardening, maintenance of culverts, drain-dips and ditch-outs as well as trail bridge inspection and maintenance. These maintenance efforts will not only ensure safety for the trail riders but also longevity of the trail system itself, again helping to ensure that OHV riders and their families return many times to the Umatilla National Forest, Garfield County and the City of Pomeroy.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Ashley Dixon, President
Pomeroy Chamber of Commerce

CITY OF POMEROY

G. Paul Miller - Mayor - 80 7th Street - P.O. Box 370 - Pomeroy, WA 99347
TDD relay: 1-800-833-6388
(509) 843-1601 - FAX (509) 843-1158

October 5, 2020

To: Recreation and Conservation Office

RE: Pomeroy R.D. Backcountry-Wilderness Trails M&O 20-2021M
Pomeroy R.D. Motorized Trails M&O 20-2022M
Pomeroy R.D. Campgrounds/CUA's/Dispersed Sites M&O 20-2020M
Pomeroy Ranger District Trail Grooming M&O 20-2019M
Pomeroy Ranger District Winter Trail Patrol 20-2018E

To Whom it May Concern:

The City of Pomeroy strongly supports the subject programs as the Umatilla National Forest is an integral part of our community.

The Umatilla National Forest provides enjoyment for both tourists and recreationalists alike. We rely on these programs in order to continue to attract visitors and local usage for such activities as camping, mushrooming, hiking, ATV and UTV use, huckleberry picking, horseback riding, hunting and casual enjoyment. Maintenance of the trails and campgrounds, as well as patrols, are essential services for the continued safety of visitors.

Please continue funding these programs as the Umatilla National Forest is a valued partner in our community.

There are

Sincerely,



G. P. Miller
Mayor, City of Pomeroy

GPM:sm



Parks & Community Services

301 Rainier Blvd. S | P.O. Box 1307

Issaquah, WA 98027

425-837-3300

www.issaquahwa.gov

1/6/21

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board

PO Box 40917

Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Re: Letter of support for NOVA NM 20-2275 DEV: Highpoint Trailhead Addition

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board

I am writing on behalf of **City of Issaquah** to express our enthusiastic support for the Washington State Department of Natural Resources' (DNR's) proposal to construct a much-needed addition to the Highpoint Trailhead. The Highpoint Exit 20 on I-90 is being envisioned as a kind of a "Gateway to the Outdoors" as it is located at the eastern edges of the Seattle-Bellevue-Issaquah metropolitan areas, just 20 miles from downtown Seattle, and provides access to thousands of acres of public forests on both sides of the highway.

Hundreds of thousands of visitors including families and school groups come each year to hike, walk, and/or attend educational tours on Tradition Plateau and West Tiger Mountain on the South Side of the highway as well to hike, bike and horseback ride in Grand Ridge Park and on a regional trail on the north side of the highway. The existing trailhead facilities cannot accommodate the growing use levels so people park along the frontage roads to access the forests. The empty lots at the exit also attract a lot of illegal dumping and unauthorized camping in the woods near the exit.

DNR, King County and non-profit partners were recently able to acquire the last private inholdings on the south side of the highway, making it possible to begin making some of the envisioned improvements. The proposed project is the first phase of a larger vision for the gateway. The proposed trailhead addition creates a new formal entry round-a-bout to the forest, additional parking spaces, a Trailhead Direct Shuttle stop and school bus loading zone, picnic areas, vault toilet, information kiosks and access to trails on both sides of the highway. Future improvements will include educational, day use, nature play and interpretive facilities to welcome school groups, families with small children and people who are new to the outdoors.

We believe that the proposed project will offer a great public benefit by providing a welcoming entry to Washington's beautiful forests. We consider DNR to be a valuable partner in the stewardship of public lands, and we fully support DNR in their ongoing work to improve public access and provide enjoyable and sustainable recreation opportunities for a wide range of users.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice our support for this important project.

Sincerely,

Jeff Watling

Parks and Community Services Director

jeffw@issaquahwa.gov or (425) 837-3325



King County

Department of Natural Resources and Parks
Parks and Recreation Division
King Street Center, KSC-NR-0700
201 South Jackson Street, Suite 700
Seattle, WA 98104-3855
206-477-4527 Fax 206-588-8011
TTY Relay: 711

December 29, 2020

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Re: Letter of support for NOVA NM 20-2275 DEV: Highpoint Trailhead Addition

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board

I am writing on behalf of King County Parks and Recreation to express our enthusiastic support for the Washington State Department of Natural Resources' (DNR's) proposal to construct a much needed addition to the Highpoint Trailhead. We have been involved in the initial planning and design of this project and are excited to see it move towards completion.

The Highpoint Trailhead is a gateway to the many trails and mountains in the Cascade Mountains and provides access to thousands of acres of public forests. Hundreds of thousands of visitors including families and school groups come each year to hike, walk, and/or attend educational tours on Tradition Plateau and West Tiger Mountain on the South Side of the highway as well to hike, bike and horseback ride in Grand Ridge Park and on a regional trail on the north side of the highway. The existing trailhead facilities cannot accommodate the growing use levels so people park along the frontage roads to access the forests. The empty lots at the exit also attract a lot of illegal dumping and unauthorized camping in the woods near the exit.

DNR, King County and non-profit partners were recently able to acquire the last private inholdings on the south side of the highway, making it possible to begin making some of the envisioned improvements to the Highpoint trailhead. The proposed project is the first phase of a larger vision for the gateway. The proposed trailhead addition creates a new formal entry round-a-bout to the forest, additional parking spaces, a Trailhead Direct Shuttle stop and school bus loading zone, picnic areas, vault toilet, information kiosks and access to trails on lands owned by King County, DNR and the City of Issaquah. Future improvements will include educational, day use, nature play and interpretive facilities to welcome school groups, families with small children and people who are new to the outdoors.

We believe that the proposed project will offer a great public benefit by providing a welcoming entry to Washington's beautiful forests. We consider DNR to be a valuable partner in the stewardship of public lands, and we fully support DNR in their ongoing work to improve public access and provide enjoyable and sustainable recreation opportunities for a wide range of users.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice our support for this important project. If you have any questions you may contact me at (206) 477-6478 or kelly.heintz@kingcounty.gov.

Sincerely,

Kelly Heintz

Kelly Heintz
Project Manager
Open Space Section
King County Parks and Recreation



President
Doug McClelland (*), Former Assistant Region Manager
Washington State Department of Natural Resources

Secretary
Josh M. Lipsky(*), Partner, Cascadia Law Group PLLC

Treasurer, Operations Committee Chair
Jason Broenneke (*), Partner, KPMG LLP

Fundraising Committee Chair
Ken Krivanec (*), President, Quadrant Homes

Board Engagement Committee Chair
Marie Quasius(*), Senior Port Counsel, Port of Seattle

Program Committee Chair
Cora Johnson (*), Geotechnical Engineer, GeoEngineers

Executive Director
Jon Hoekstra (*), Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust

January 5, 2021

Washington State Recrea va d
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Re: NOVA NM 20-2275 DEV: High Point Tr

Dear Members of the Recrea va d,

Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust to express our
enthusias or the Washington State Department of Natural Resources' (DNR's)
proposal to construct f t the High Point Trailhead at Tiger Mountain. Just south
of Interstate 90 exit 20, this popular trailhead is being envisioned as a "Gateway to
the Outdoors" as it is located at the eastern edges of the Sea vue-Issaquah
metropolitan areas, just 20 miles from downtown Sea ovides access to
thousands of acres of public forests on both sides of the interstate highway.

The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust and partner organiza ve worked for
30 years to conserve lands on Tiger Mountain for public ownership, build and maintain
trails, and bring school groups to learn about the importance of forest conserva
balance with popula owth.

Hundreds of thousands of visitors including families and school groups come each year
to hike, walk, and a end educa our tudy trips on Tr teau and
West Tiger Mountain on the south side of the highway. Many more hike, bike and ride
horses in Grand Ridge Park and on a King County regional trail on the north side of the
highway. The exis ailhead f annot accommodate the growing use levels, so
people park along the frontage roads, near the highway exit ramps, to access the forests.
While the ease of access makes this a good loca or school groups and hikers, the
loca acts illegal dumping and unauthorized camping.

This project will amplif essioning some of these challenges.
This proposal builds on decades of land conserva vestment by DNR and
King County, as well as private investment from nonpr ens. WWRP
funding will create a formal entry, bringing a sense of place to this popular trailhead.
eas, a well-designed bus stop for the Trailhead Direct recrea
oved trail c , new toilets, picnic areas, and informa s will
drama ally improve this forested gateway and make it an in , safe, accessible place
for people of all ag

We believe that the proposed pr er a great public bene y providing a
welcoming entry to Washington' orests. We consider DNR to be a valuable
partner in the stewardship of public lands, and we fully support DNR in their ongoing
work to improve public access and provide enjoyable and sustainable recrea
or a wide range of users.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice our support for this important project within the
Mountains to Sound Greenway Na age Area.

Sincerely,

Amy Brockhaus, Deputy Director

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Erin Anderson, Partner, Van Ness Feldman, P.C.

Eric Artz, President & CEO, REI Co-op

Kristin Bail (X), Supervisor, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest

Jim Becker, Retired, Founder, SmartLab Toys and becker&mayer!

Laurie Benson (X), South Puget Sound Assistant Region
Manager for Conservation, Recreation, and Transactions, WA Dept.
of Natural ResourcesGary Berndt, Wildland Fire Liaison, WA State Dept. of
Natural Resources

Mark Boyar (*), President, Middle Fork Outdoor Recreation Coalition

Kevin Brown, King County Parks and Recreation

Susan Carlson, Chair, E3 Washington

Bill Chapman (*), Past President, Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust

Dow Constantine (X), King County Executive

Kitty Craig, Deputy Director, Washington Program,
The Wilderness SocietyDeloa Dalby, Savor Snoqualmie Valley Leadership Team;
The Mountaineers Foothills Branch

Bob Ellis, Lifetime Educator and Cyclist,

Karl Forsgaard, Manager of Implementations, Thomson Reuters;
Alpine Lakes Protection Society

Kurt Fraese (*), Fraese and Associates, LLC

Hilary Franz (X), Commissioner of Public Lands, WA State Dept. of
Natural Resources

Kari Glover, Retired, Global Integration Partner, K&L Gates LLP,

Matt Grimm, Investment Professional, BMGI

Don Hoch (X), Director, WA State Parks & Recreation Commission

Laura Hoffman, Owner, Copper Ridge Farm; Microsoft

Warren Jimenez (X), Director, King County Parks

Andrew Kenefick, Senior Legal Counsel, Waste Management
of Washington, Inc

Melanie Kitzan, Associate General Counsel, Allen Institute

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Pacific Groundwater Group

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Yvonne Kraus, Executive Director, Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance

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Sharon Linton (*), Marketing Consultant, SL Connects

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Interim Executive Director

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Ben Mayer, Associate, K&L Gates

Tod McDonald (*), Co-Founder, Valid8 Financial

Roger Millar (X), Secretary of Transportation, WSDOT

Chad Nesland, Director, Microsoft Procurement, Microsoft

Thomas O'Keefe, Pacific Northwest Stewardship Director,
American Whitewater

Amanda O'Rourke, CPA, Partner, Greenwood Ohlund & Co.

David Patton, Northwest Area Director, The Trust for Public Land

Kizz Prusia, Project Associate, Triangle Associates

Charles Raines, Director Cascade Checkerboard Project, Sierra Club,
Washington State ChapterJanet Ray, Retired, Asst VP, Corporate Affairs and Publishing,
AAA Washington

Jim Reinhardsen (*), President, Laird Norton Properties

Vik Sahney, Board VP, E&I Committee Chair, The Mountaineers

Meredith Shank, Social Venture Partners

Jill Simmons, Executive Director, Washington Trails Association

Al Smith, Partner, Perkins Coie LLP

David Sturtevant, Retired, Vice President CH2M HILL

Chris Thomas, Senior Director, Public Policy, Lyft

Harry Thomas, Chief Marketing Officer, AAA Washington

Leah Tivoli, Manager, City of Seattle

Alison Washburn, Bellevue Store Manager, REI Co-op

Jody Weil (X), Supervisor, Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest

Joel Yoker, President, Snoqualmie Valley Youth Activities and
Community Center(*) Executive Committee Member
(X) Ex-Officio {non-voting} Director**MTSGREENWAY.ORG**



December 31, 2020

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Re: Letter of support for NOVA NM 20-2275 DEV: High Point Trailhead Addition

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

We are writing on behalf of the Issaquah Alps Trails Club to express our enthusiastic support for the Washington State Department of Natural Resources' (DNR's) proposal to construct a much-needed addition to the Highpoint Trailhead. We see this facility as the Western Gateway to the Mountains to Sound Greenway. As volunteer hike leaders and stewards in the Greenway, we meet countless people simply not knowing the many options for recreation and what options best meet their individual/family/group interests and abilities. With High Point at Exit 20 on I-90 being the "Gateway to the Outdoors" information about hundreds of recreation and education options could be available along with a real variety of quality options right at High Point.

Hundreds of thousands of visitors including families and school groups come each year to hike, walk, and/or attend educational tours on Tradition Plateau and West Tiger Mountain and on the South Side of the highway as well to hike, bike, and horseback ride in Grand Ridge Park and on a regional trail on the north side of the highway. The existing trailhead facilities cannot accommodate the growing use levels so people park along the frontage roads to access the forests. The empty lots at the exit also attract a lot of illegal dumping and unauthorized camping in the woods near the exit.

DNR, King County, and non-profit partners were recently able to acquire the last private inholdings on the south side of the highway, making it possible to begin making some of the envisioned improvements. The proposed project is the first phase of a larger vision for the gateway. The proposed trailhead addition creates a new formal entry round-a-bout to the forest, additional parking spaces, a Trailhead Direct Shuttle stop and school bus loading zone, picnic areas, vault toilet, information kiosks and access to trails on both sides of the highway. Future improvements will include educational, day use, nature play and interpretive facilities to welcome school groups, families with small children, and people who are new to the outdoors.

We believe that the proposed project will offer a great public benefit by providing a welcoming entry to Washington's beautiful forests. We consider DNR to be a valuable partner in the stewardship of public lands, and we fully support DNR in their ongoing work to improve public access and provide enjoyable and sustainable recreation opportunities for a wide range of users.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice our support for this important project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Dunphy".

David Dunphy, President
david.dunphy@issaquahalps.org

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lindsay Frickle".

Lindsay Frickle, Executive Director
exec@issaquahalps.org

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Re: Letter of support for NOVA NM 20-2275 DEV: High Point Trailhead Addition

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board:

I am writing on behalf of Issaquah Middle School to express our enthusiastic support for the Washington State Department of Natural Resources' (DNR's) proposal to construct a much-needed addition to the Highpoint Trailhead. The Highpoint Exit 20 on I-90 is being envisioned as a kind of a "Gateway to the Outdoors" as it is located at the eastern edges of the Seattle-Bellevue-Issaquah metropolitan areas, just 20 miles from downtown Seattle, and provides access to thousands of acres of public forests on both sides of the highway. Tiger Mountain is used by our school both for education and for service projects with our ecology club, the IMS "Green Team."

Hundreds of thousands of visitors including families and school groups come each year to hike, walk, and/or attend educational tours on Tradition Plateau and West Tiger Mountain on the South Side of the highway as well to hike, bike and horseback ride in Grand Ridge Park and on a regional trail on the north side of the highway. The existing trailhead facilities cannot accommodate the growing use levels so people park along the frontage roads to access the forests. The empty lots at the exit also attract a lot of illegal dumping and unauthorized camping in the woods near the exit. On several of our service trips (invasive plant removal, clean-up), our school's Green Team has had encounters with homeless camping areas, including human waste and hypodermic needles. Making the gateway much more user-friendly will discourage these anti-social actions.

DNR, King County and non-profit partners were recently able to acquire the last private inholdings on the south side of the highway, making it possible to begin making some of the envisioned improvements. The proposed project is the first phase of a larger vision for the gateway. The proposed trailhead addition creates a new formal entry roundabout to the forest, additional parking spaces, a Trailhead Direct Shuttle stop and school bus loading zone, picnic areas, vault toilet, information kiosks and access to trails on both sides of the highway. Future improvements will include educational, day use, nature play and interpretive facilities to welcome school groups, families with small children and people who are new to the outdoors.

This proposed project will offer a great public benefit by providing a welcoming entry to Washington's beautiful forests. The current chain-link fencing, weeds, and crumbling old road are not welcoming in any way. As co-managers of this area of the NRCA with the City of Issaquah, DNR is a valuable partner in the stewardship of public lands. DNR's ongoing work to improve public access and provide enjoyable and sustainable recreation opportunities for a wide range of users is a great opportunity for recreational use, schools, and scenic enhancement.

For 26 years, my "Backyard Forest" elective at Issaquah Middle has used the High Point-Lake Tradition area for this forest ecology class, utilizing the Big Tree, Adventure, Around-the-Lake, and Bonneville trails. Even for students who live in the Issaquah area, getting out into the nearby woods is not as common an activity as you might suppose. For many of our students, the Tradition Plateau is their introduction to our local forests and ecosystems. This new entryway would be excellent for schools that

cannot walk to Tiger Mountain State Forest and City of Issaquah lands as our school has the fortune to be able to do. Current parking limitations make it difficult for field trips to be accommodated. Additionally, these entry lands have mature forest, including some remnant old growth firs, which would make investigation of our woodlands more accessible with just a short walk from the new parking lot.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice our support for this important project.

Sincerely,

Kurt Wieland
Teacher
Issaquah Middle School

wielandk@issaquah.wednet.edu

or

hikingnewt66@gmail.com



January 19, 2021

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Re: Letter of support for NOVA-NM 20-2275 DEV: Highpoint Trailhead Addition

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board:

I am writing on behalf of The Wilderness Society to express our enthusiastic support for the Washington State Department of Natural Resources' (DNR's) proposal to construct a much-needed addition to the Highpoint Trailhead. The Highpoint Exit 20 on I-90 is being envisioned as a "Gateway to the Outdoors" as located at the eastern edges of the Seattle-Bellevue-Issaquah metropolitan areas, just 20 miles from downtown Seattle, and provides access to thousands of acres of public forests.

Hundreds of thousands of visitors including families and school groups come each year to hike, walk, and/or attend educational tours on Tradition Plateau and West Tiger Mountain on the South Side of the highway as well to hike, bike and horseback ride in Grand Ridge Park and on a regional trail on the north side of the highway. The existing trailhead facilities cannot accommodate the growing use levels so people park along the frontage roads to access the forests. The empty lots at the exit also attract a lot of illegal dumping and unauthorized camping in the woods near the exit.

DNR, King County and non-profit partners were recently able to acquire the last private inholdings on the south side of the highway, making it possible to begin making some of the envisioned improvements. **The proposed project** is the first phase of a larger vision for the gateway. The proposed trailhead addition creates a new formal entry round-a-bout to the forest, additional parking spaces, a Trailhead Direct Shuttle stop and school bus loading zone, picnic areas, vault toilet, information kiosks and access to trails on both sides of the highway. Future improvements will include educational, day use, nature play and interpretive facilities to welcome school groups, families with small children and people who are new to the outdoors.

We believe that the proposed project will offer a great public benefit by providing a welcoming entry to Washington's beautiful forests. We consider DNR to be a valuable partner in the stewardship of public lands, and we fully support DNR in their ongoing work to improve public access and provide enjoyable and sustainable recreation opportunities for a wide range of users.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice our support for this important project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kelly Craig".

Washington State Deputy Director
kcraig@twso.org
206-473-2523



Washington Trails Association

705 Second Avenue, Suite 300, Seattle WA 98104 • 206.625.1367 • wta.org

January 7, 2021

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Letter of Support for NOVA NM 20-2275 DEV: High Point Trailhead Addition

Dear RCO Grant Review Committee:

I am writing on behalf of Washington Trails Association to express our enthusiastic support of Washington State Department of Natural Resources' (DNR's) proposal to construct a much needed addition to the Highpoint Trailhead.

Washington Trails Association has a more than 50-year legacy of engaging the hiking community. WTA enhances hiking experiences in Washington state by empowering a diverse and growing community of hikers to explore, steward and protect trails and public lands. WTA is the nation's largest state-based trail maintenance and hiking advocacy nonprofit organization, with more than 24,000 member households and an online community of more than 100,000. Each year almost 4,500 WTA volunteers perform over 160,000 hours of trail maintenance across the state.

Hundreds of thousands of visitors including families and school groups come each year to hike, walk, and/or attend educational tours on Tradition Plateau and West Tiger Mountain on the South Side of the highway as well to hike, bike and horseback ride in Grand Ridge Park and on a regional trail on the north side of the highway. The existing trailhead facilities cannot accommodate the growing use levels so people park along the frontage roads to access the forests. The empty lots at the exit also attract a lot of illegal dumping and unauthorized camping in the woods near the exit.

DNR, King County and non-profit partners were recently able to acquire the last private inholdings on the south side of the highway, making it possible to begin making some of the envisioned improvements. The proposed project is the first phase of a larger vision for the gateway. The proposed trailhead addition creates a new formal entry round-a-bout to the forest, additional parking spaces, a Trailhead Direct Shuttle stop and school bus loading zone, picnic areas, vault toilet, information kiosks and access to trails on both sides of the highway. Future improvements will include educational, day use, nature play and interpretive facilities to welcome school groups, families with small children and people who are new to the outdoors.

We believe that the proposed project will offer a great public benefit by providing a welcoming entry to Washington's beautiful forests. This project will enhance one of the most popular areas for hiking in the state and provide an improved outdoor educational facility that is greatly needed in the area.

WTA considers DNR to be a vital partner in the stewardship of public lands. We fully support DNR in their ongoing work to improve public access and provide enjoyable and sustainable recreation opportunities for a wide range of users.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice our support for this important project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrea J. Imler". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping tail on the last letter.

Andrea Imler
Advocacy Director
Washington trails Association
aimler@wta.org



20-2275 NOVA NM #7

www.evergreenMTB.org
Sustainable trails. rider powered.

January 6, 2021

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
PO Box 40917, Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Re: Letter of support for NOVA NM 20-2275 DEV: High Point Trailhead Addition

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board:

The Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance enthusiastically supports the Washington State Department of Natural Resources' (DNR's) proposal to construct a much-needed addition to the High Point Trailhead. The High Point Exit 20 on I-90 is located at the eastern edges of the Seattle-Bellevue-Issaquah metropolitan areas, just 20 miles from downtown Seattle, and provides access to thousands of acres of public forests on both sides of the highway. It's being envisioned as a "Gateway to the Outdoors."

Hundreds of thousands of visitors including families and school groups come each year to hike, walk, and/or attend educational tours on Tradition Plateau and West Tiger Mountain on the South Side of the highway as well to hike, bike and horseback ride in Grand Ridge Park and on a regional trail on the north side of the highway. The existing trailhead facilities cannot accommodate the growing use levels so people park along the frontage roads to access the forests. The poor design of the current lots at the exit also attract a lot of illegal dumping and unauthorized camping in the woods near the exit.

DNR, King County and non-profit partners were recently able to acquire the last private inholdings on the south side of the highway, making it possible to begin making some of the envisioned improvements. The proposed project is the first phase of a larger vision for the gateway. The proposed trailhead addition creates a new formal entry round-a-bout to the forest, additional parking spaces, a Trailhead Direct Shuttle stop and school bus loading zone, picnic areas, vault toilet, information kiosks and access to trails on both sides of the highway. Future improvements will include educational, day use, nature play and interpretive facilities to welcome school groups, families with small children and people who are new to the outdoors.

We believe that the proposed project will offer a great public benefit by providing a welcoming entry to Washington's beautiful forests. We fully support DNR in their ongoing work to improve public access and provide enjoyable and sustainable recreation opportunities for a wide range of users.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice our support for this important project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Yvonne Kraus", written over a horizontal line.

Yvonne Kraus, Executive Director
206-450-3261, yvonne@evergreenmtb.org

Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Tax ID: 91-1553023.



January 15, 2021
Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: 20-2030 DEV, LAKE CHELAN SOUTH SHORE ACCESS TRAIL DEVELOPMENT

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board:

On behalf of The Lake Chelan Chamber of Commerce, I am pleased to offer our strong support for this trail construction project. Outdoor recreation plays an important role in the economic growth of our valley. This project will provide much needed public access to Lake Chelan and enhance the experience of trail users in our area.

The Lake Chelan Chamber of Commerce exists to drive economic growth through leadership, advocacy, and promotion that enhances the quality of life in the Lake Chelan Valley. Adding this recreational opportunity to our area will directly support these goals.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael A. Steele", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mike Steele
Executive Director

January 5, 2021

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917



RE: RCO Grant Projects for the South Shore trail development

20-2030 DEV, LAKE CHELAN SOUTH SHORE ACCESS TRAIL DEVELOPMENT

Dear Recreation and Conservation Funding Board:

As an organization that annually provides thousands of hours of volunteer trail planning, building, and maintenance within the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, the Central Washington Chapter of EMBA strongly supports this grant project submitted for the Chelan Ranger District.

We have worked on various projects in the local area will be able to provide volunteer labor on this project when requested by the Chelan Ranger District. An example of our past contributions includes the work we accomplished with the USFS, Northwest Motorcycle Association, and Transcascadia on the Pot Peak and North Fork of 25 Mile Creek trails over the last two years. The collaborative work has returned these trails to local and regional prominence and both motorized and non-motorized trail users have commended the condition of the trails.

The Chelan Ranger District does not currently have any trails that allow users to access Lake Chelan without a boat or ferry ride. EMBA supports adding this opportunity to Chelan's network of trails. This destination is necessary to meet the needs of a growing diverse recreating public and to provide dependable access to public lands.

On behalf of the Central Chapter of the Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance (EMBA), I am pleased to offer our strong support for this project.

Sincerely,

Travis Hornby
President, Central Washington Chapter,
Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance

Travis Hornby



Our mission is to plan, build, promote, and enjoy trails in the Lake Chelan Valley.

January 6, 2021
Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: 20-2030 DEV, LAKE CHELAN SOUTH SHORE ACCESS TRAIL DEVELOPMENT

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board:

The Lake Chelan Trails Alliance fully supports this trail construction project proposed by the Chelan Ranger District. This project will provide much needed public access to Lake Chelan and enhance the experience of trail users in our area. This project will meet Goal 2 of the *Lake Chelan Community Open Space Vision* Plan defined as promoting community health through increasing access to trails, parks, and Lake Chelan. It will also meet the Chelan County Comprehensive Plan recreation goals 1,2 and 5 by creating new trail based recreational experience for local users and visitors on public lands. Trail experiences play an important role in our valley for residents and visitors alike. Project outcomes align with the mission of our organization.

Our mission is to plan, build, promote, and enjoy trails in the Lake Chelan Valley. As members of the Lake Chelan Trails Alliance, we have a passion for trails, and we have a passion to spread our enthusiasm throughout the valley. Trails clear the mind, strengthen the heart, and forge timeless memories with others along the way. We are partnering with many organizations such as the Chelan PUD, City of Chelan, Washington Department of Fish and Game and Chelan Ranger District to help the Lake Chelan valley become known as a "trails valley". We recently completed the Upper Chelan Gorge Trail project that provides 2.5 miles of new native surface just a few minutes from downtown Chelan.

The Lake Chelan Trails Alliance is a growing organization and is committed to providing financial support and volunteer labor as one of many organizations partnering with the Chelan Ranger District in continuing to maintain trails for diverse trail users.

The Lake Chelan Trails Alliance is in full support of 20-2030 DEV, LAKE CHELAN SOUTH SHORE ACCESS TRAIL DEVELOPMENT

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Guy Evans". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Guy Evans, President
Lake Chelan Trails Alliance



January 5, 2021

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Chelan Ranger District South Shore Grant Support
20-2030 DEV, LAKE CHELAN SOUTH SHORE ACCESS TRAIL DEVELOPMENT

Dear Recreation and Conservation Funding Board:

On behalf of the 'Trails Recreation Education Advocacy and Development' organization (TREAD), I offer our strong support for the South Shore Access Trail Development on the Chelan Ranger District Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest. TREAD is prepared to partner with the Chelan Ranger District to complete this project. The project will meet both the well documented demand for trail-based recreation and public access to the shoreline in the Lower Lake Chelan Valley. Please consider funding this grant request to provide a new trail in a stunning location along Lake Chelan.

As a results-based outdoor recreation organization in Chelan County one of TREAD's key partners is the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest. We recently entered into a Challenge Cost Share Agreement with the Forest to work collaboratively as a shared stewardship partner in recreation planning, project prioritization, volunteer coordination, funding, NEPA analysis, and project implementation on the Chelan, Entiat, and Wenatchee River Ranger Districts. As part of the agreement TREAD has already developed and released a Chelan County recreation app called TREAD Map, obtained over \$150,000 to fund several Forest projects, and established a TREAD trail response team of high performing volunteers for the upcoming summer season. In our relatively short existence TREAD has demonstrated our commitment to produce results and advocate for all trail users and outdoor enthusiasts on Forest lands.

The '*Trails Recreation Education Advocacy and Development*' organization (TREAD) was started in the summer of 2017 as a 501c3 organization within Chelan County. TREAD's main goal is to bring diverse outdoor recreation stakeholders together (motorized, non-motorized, water, snow and land in a coordinated fashion and sustainably provide the best outdoor recreation experiences for Chelan County residents and visitors. We currently hold Ex-Officio meetings with about 40 different Outdoor Recreation organizations, land managers, and municipalities every quarter and are involved in multiple projects with different user groups and government organizations throughout Chelan County.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mat Lyons". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mat Lyons
Executive Director, TREAD

January 15, 2021
Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: 20-2030 DEV, LAKE CHELAN SOUTH SHORE ACCESS TRAIL DEVELOPMENT

Dear RCO Funding Board:

I am writing on behalf of Washington State Parks to express support for this grant application submitted by the Chelan Ranger District. Native surface trail opportunities and public access in the lower basin of Lake Chelan are quite limited due to most land being held in private ownership. This project will provide new public access in the Lower Basin of Lake Chelan and a new trail opportunity, both of which will help meet the growing recreational demand from visitors and residents. The setting of the project which parallels Lake Chelan for several miles is certain to be a very popular draw for trail-based recreation.

Non-motorized trail opportunities are limited in the lower basin of Lake Chelan and many current trails are located directly adjacent to urban settings and high use roadways. Local demand for trail-based recreation has been high for decades and continues to grow with an increasing local population and tourist visitation as documented in the Lake Chelan Open Space Vision Plan and the recreation section of the Chelan County Comprehensive Plan. Additionally, public access to the shoreline in the lower basin of Lake Chelan is limited due to the majority of shoreline being held in private ownership with public access normally restricted to defined access points with limited lake front opportunities.

This project will provide much needed public access to Lake Chelan in a natural setting and enhance the experiences of many visitors in our area. Twenty-Five Mile Creek State Park and Lake Chelan State Park will provide easy access to the project area being less than 15 minutes from the proposed trailhead. Having a new recreational opportunity, especially during the summer months when our parks are at capacity, will enhance opportunities and experiences for our visitors.

Washington State Parks fully supports this trail development project proposed by the Chelan Ranger District. The project will help meet the growing need for more public access to Lake Chelan and local trail-based opportunities. Please consider funding this project that is certain to be a worthy investment for the RCO funding board

Sincerely,



Sharon Soelter
Central Lakes Area Manager
Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission



Washington Trails Association

705 Second Avenue, Suite 300, Seattle WA 98104 • 206.625.1367 • wta.org

January 6, 2021

Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917
RE: Trail development, South Shore Access

To Whom It May Concern:

Washington Trails Association is pleased to submit this letter offering our strong support for the following trail development grant on the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest:

- 20-2030 DEV, LAKE CHELAN SOUTH SHORE ACCESS TRAIL DEVELOPMENT

This is an exciting project and one that will certainly become a popular trail destination for locals and visitors to Lake Chelan. WTA will be able to successfully recruit multiple volunteer crews to work on this project through our weeklong Volunteer Vacation program.

Washington Trails Association has a more than 50-year legacy of engaging the hiking community. WTA enhances hiking experiences in Washington state by empowering a diverse and growing community of hikers to explore, steward and protect trails and public lands. WTA is the nation's largest state-based trail maintenance and hiking advocacy nonprofit organization, with more than 15,500 member households and an online community of more than 100,000. Each year more than 5,000 WTA volunteers perform over 160,000 hours of trail maintenance across the state.

The Chelan Ranger District provides diverse trail experiences for a multitude of trail enthusiasts but is notably lacking a trail system that accesses Lake Chelan within proximity to town. WTA is excited to partner with the Chelan Ranger District to make this project come to fruition.

As an organization that provides countless hours of volunteer trail maintenance within the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, WTA enthusiastically supports this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Austin Easter".

Austin Easter
Volunteer Vacation Coordinator
Washington Trails Association



Washington Trails Association

705 Second Avenue, Suite 300, Seattle WA 98104 • 206.625.1367 • wta.org

December 17, 2020

Recreation and Conservation Office

P.O. Box 40917

Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Trail Maintenance Grant Projects on the Skykomish Ranger District

To Whom It May Concern:

Washington Trails Association is pleased to submit this letter offering our strong support for the following trail maintenance grants on the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest:

- Skykomish Ranger District Trail Maintenance 2021 , RCO App: 20-2234
- Skykomish RD Wilderness Education and Enforcement RCO App: 20-2206
- Skykomish RD Trailhead and Dispersed Site Maintenance RCO App. 20-2246

Washington Trails Association has a more than 50-year legacy of engaging the hiking community. WTA enhances hiking experiences in Washington State by empowering a diverse and growing community of hikers to explore, steward and protect trails and public lands. WTA is the nation's largest state-based trail maintenance and hiking advocacy nonprofit organization, with more than 15,500 member households and an online community of more than 100,000. Each year more than 5,000 WTA volunteers perform over 160,000 hours of trail maintenance across the state.

The Skykomish Ranger District some of the preeminent trails and wilderness areas in the state. These grants will provide much needed funding to: maintain 144 miles of trail on the forest; clean and maintain trailhead facilities and provide regular patrols of dispersed sites; and increase Wilderness education and enforcement by funding three wilderness rangers, an intern and the coordination of volunteers on the district to teach trail users Leave No Trace principles and provide information materials. These grants will also support much needed trail maintenance and enforcement of some of the most popular trails on the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, including Blanca Lake, Lake Serene and Barclay Lake.

As an organization that provides countless hours of volunteer trail maintenance within the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, including the Skykomish Ranger District, WTA heartily supports these projects.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrea J. Imler".

Andrea Imler

Advocacy Director

Washington Trails Association



Traildusters Chapter Back Country Horsemen of Washington
7102 77th Ave SE
Snohomish, WA 98290
January 8, 2021

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Dear RCO People,

I am writing to you in support of a RCO grant applications titled Skykomish Ranger District Trail Maintenance 2021, RCO App: 20-2234; Skykomish RD Wilderness Education and Enforcement RCO App: 20-2206; Skykomish RD Wilderness Education and Enforcement RCO App: 20-2206 Skykomish RD Wilderness Education and Enforcement RCO App: 20-2206

Regarding Skykomish Ranger District Trail Maintenance 2021, RCO App: 20-2234 Traildusters Chapter BCHW members are frequent users of trails throughout the Skykomish Ranger District. Poor trail conditions impact equestrian users more than other trail users as horses and mules have more trouble getting past down trees, boulders in trails and other conditions of trail degradation. We are frequently called upon to pack in tools and supplies many miles for volunteer groups involved in trail maintenance. This frees workers to spend their time and energy on trail work rather than on getting ready to work. Our ability to help is limited by the condition of trails in the district. We strongly recommend funding of trail maintenance described in the proposal for the Skykomish Ranger District. Keeping trails open for as many different users as possible is important. Keeping as many trail miles open as possible will disperse use.

Regarding Skykomish RD Wilderness Education and Enforcement RCO App: 20-2206 Traildusters Chapter BCHW supports this effort. Back Country Horsemen has for many years had a prominent "Leave No Trace" education division. Unfortunately, some equine users, especially hunters, are not well educated nor motivated toward wilderness preservation. BCHW is working to educate and motivate all equine users of wilderness.

Anything Skykomish Ranger District can do toward education and enforcement will be greatly appreciated.

Regarding Skykomish RD Trailhead and Dispersed Site Maintenance RCO App: 20-2246 Traildusters Chapter BCHW members are frequent users of the North Fork of the Skykomish Trailhead in the Skykomish RD. We appreciate good maintenance of that site.

Sincerely

Richard G. Guthrie, USFS Liaison for Traildusters Chapter, BCHW



November 2, 2020

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Support for RCO grant applications: 20-2234 Skykomish Ranger District Trail Maintenance 2021 and 20-2206 Skykomish Ranger District Education and Enforcement

To Whom It May Concern,

On behalf of The Mountaineers, I write to support the Skykomish Ranger District's Wilderness Rangers and Wilderness Program that support sustainable recreation opportunities.

The Mountaineers, based in Seattle, Washington and founded in 1906, is a nonprofit outdoor education, conservation, and recreation organization whose mission is "to enrich the community by helping people explore, conserve, learn about and enjoy the lands and waters of the Pacific Northwest and beyond." 1,600 skilled volunteers lead 3,200 outdoor education trips and courses annually for 14,000 members. Our youth programs provide over 10,000 opportunities each year for children to get outside. We are a passionate, engaged, and knowledgeable community that cares about the outdoors, and protects the outdoor experience for current and future generations.

The Skykomish Ranger District's Wilderness rangers have a presence in the field, and focus on education and enforcement in an effort to improve the experience and safety of Wilderness users. They patrol within the Alpine Lakes, Wild Sky, and Henry M. Jackson Wilderness areas. The Mountaineers support this program because of their hard work to keep our trails and Wilderness destinations healthy and beautiful for others to enjoy, and to educate our visitors on the importance of doing the same.

The Skykomish Ranger District encompasses many hiking, mountaineering and backcountry snow sports (skiing, snowshoeing and split boarding) destinations, and our members visit the District every season of the year. These proposals will help protect public lands that are very valuable to our membership.

The human-powered recreation community as a group is conscientious of access and environmental issues in the areas that they recreate. When resources are available to educate them, they can be one of the most thoughtful and proactive user groups in terms of preservation and impact minimization. We are excited about the potential of these programs to preserve the quality of outdoor experiences for all future users of the Skykomish Ranger District. The Mountaineers believe that the money granted for these programs would be very well spent preserving and improving our public lands and the experiences they provide.

Sincerely,

Betsy Robblee
Conservation & Advocacy Director
betsyr@mountaineers.org



November 2, 2020

Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Letter of support for Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Skykomish Ranger District grant applications 20-2234 Skykomish Ranger District Trail Maintenance and 20-2206 Skykomish RD Wilderness Education and Enforcement

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Advisory Committee,

I am writing on behalf of the more than 13,500-member Pacific Crest Trail Association (PCTA) to express support for the grant applications submitted by the Skykomish Ranger District.

It is PCTA's privilege to partner with the Skykomish Ranger District to maintain outstanding recreation opportunities in the Central Cascades. The PCT on the district draws high levels of backcountry visitation throughout the entire summer hiking season. The PCT, and other trails managed by the district in the Stevens Pass corridor provide a critical service to the public. Millions of Washingtonians live within a two-hour drive of the Alpine Lakes, Wild Sky and Henry M. Jackson Wildernesses. The accessibility of this landscape attracts a wide assortment of users.

Public support is needed to protect the area's wilderness quality and the public's travel experience. Maintaining the popular trails on the district requires experienced agency staff with the skills to work on challenging projects in remote locations. These trail professionals assure access to immensely popular backcountry sites and address major trail reconstruction challenges. They create safe and durable recreation infrastructure that can accommodate the public demand for recreation. Additionally, the high volumes of users on the landscape necessitates the presence of wilderness rangers who educate travelers and can enforce regulations. Without these individuals, the district could not handle the vigorous use it experiences.

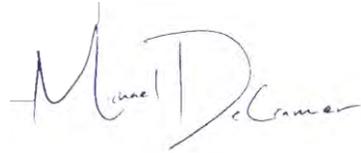
The PCTA asks for your careful consideration and support for the Skykomish Ranger District's dual priorities of trail maintenance and visitor use management. Specifically, we would like to convey our support for funding grant 20-2206 and grant 20-2234. Maintaining the fabulous public resources on the Skykomish Ranger District, including



the Pacific Crest Trail, requires experienced trail crews and wilderness rangers. Their local knowledge and tireless labor are instrumental in assuring the continued protection of this prized landscape.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or would like any additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael DeCramer". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "M" and "D".

Michael DeCramer
Pacific Crest Trail Association
North Cascades Regional Representative



President
 Doug McClelland (*), Former Assistant Region Manager
 Washington State Department of Natural Resources

Secretary
 Josh M. Lipsky(*), Partner, Cascadia Law Group PLLC

Treasurer, Operations Committee Chair
 Jason Broenneke (*), Partner, KPMG LLP

Fundraising Committee Chair
 Ken Krivanec (*), President, Quadrant Homes

Board Engagement Committee Chair
 Marie Quasius(*), Senior Port Counsel, Port of Seattle

Program Committee Chair
 Cora Johnson (*), Geotechnical Engineer, GeoEngineers

Executive Director
 Jon Hoekstra (*), Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust

January 5, 2021

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 The Mountaineers Foothills Branch
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 Karl Forsgaard, Manager of Implementations, Thomson Reuters;
 Alpine Lakes Protection Society
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 Hilary Franz (X), Commissioner of Public Lands, WA State Dept. of
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 Kizz Prusia, Project Associate, Triangle Associates
 Charles Raines, Director Cascade Checkerboard Project, Sierra Club,
 Washington State Chapter
 Janet Ray, Retired, Asst VP, Corporate Affairs and Publishing,
 AAA Washington
 Jim Reinhardsen (*), President, Laird Norton Properties
 Vik Sahney, Board VP, E&I Committee Chair, The Mountaineers
 Meredith Shank, Social Venture Partners
 Jill Simmons, Executive Director, Washington Trails Association
 Al Smith, Partner, Perkins Coie LLP
 David Sturtevant, Retired, Vice President CH2M HILL
 Chris Thomas, Senior Director, Public Policy, Lyft
 Harry Thomas, Chief Marketing Officer, AAA Washington
 Leah Tivoli, Manager, City of Seattle
 Alison Washburn, Bellevue Store Manager, REI Co-op
 Jody Weil (X), Supervisor, Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest
 Joel Yoker, President, Snoqualmie Valley Youth Activities and
 Community Center

Washington State Recrea va d
 PO Box 40917
 Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Re: NOVA NM 20-2241: Tiger Summit Trailhead Renova

Dear Members of the Recrea va d,

Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust to express our
 enthusias or the Washington State Department of Natural Resources' (DNR's)
 proposal to renovate and expand the Tiger Summit Trailhead in Tiger Mountain State
 Forest. Located just 25 miles from downtown Sea er Mountain is a very popular
 des or thousands of people looking f o enjoy themselves and
 rejuvenate in the outdoors by hiking, mountain biking and horseback riding on the
 extensive system of trails and forest roads that the forest provides.

The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust and partner organiza ve worked for 30
 years to conserve lands on Tiger Mountain for public ownership, build and maintain trails
 for all ag onnect wildlife habitat in this important lowland forest.

The exis ar trailhead at Tiger Summit, which was constructed over 30 years ago
 to serve the en e state forest, is unsafe and too small to meet current demand. People
 are parking in the SR18 right-of-way, some a
 the highway. Equestrians avoid the trailhead completely because it is too congested for
 trailers, parking instead on the shoulder of a county road where they need to cross the
 road at a blind corner to access the equestrian trails in the southern part of the forest.

The proposed renova ove access and safety by tripling the
 number of parking spaces and by providing a much needed designated parking area for
 horse trailers. The trailhead will also work well for events and socializing by providing
 eas and a modular design that allows some parking bays t or event
 staging without disruptula est of the trailhead.

These improvements are long overdue, and they will greatly improve not just public safety
 and access, but also people's overall e orest. We consider DNR to
 be a valuable partner in the stewardship of public lands, and we fully support DNR in their
 ongoing work to improve public access and provide enjoyable and sustainable recrea
 or a wide range of users.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice our support for this important project within the
 Mountains to Sound Greenway Na age Area.

Sincerely,

Amy Brockhaus
 Deputy Director

(* Executive Committee Member
 (X) Ex-Officio {non-voting} Director



BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF WASHINGTON
PO Box 1132
ELLENSBURG, WA 98926
WWW.BCHW.ORG

January 20, 2021

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Re: Letter of support for NOVA NM 20-2241 DEV: Tiger Summit Trailhead Renovation and Addition

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board

I am writing on behalf of **Back Country Horsemen of Washington** to express our enthusiastic support for the Washington State Department of Natural Resources' (DNR's) proposal to renovate and expand the Tiger Summit Trailhead in Tiger Mountain State Forest. Located just 25 miles from downtown Seattle, Tiger Mountain is a very popular destination for thousands of people looking for opportunities to enjoy themselves and rejuvenate in the outdoors by hiking, mountain biking and horseback riding on the extensive system of trails and forest roads that the forest provides. The existing 50-car trailhead, which was constructed over 30 years ago to serve the entire state forest, is too small to meet current demand, so people are parking in the SR18 ROW, sometimes backing up traffic as people turn off the highway. Equestrians avoid the trailhead completely because it is too congested for trailers, parking instead on the shoulder of a county road where they need to cross the road at a blind corner to access the equestrian trails in the southern part of the forest.

The proposed renovation and addition will improve access and safety by essentially tripling the number of parking spaces and by providing a much needed designated parking area for horse trailers. The trailhead will also work well for events and socializing by providing sitting areas and a modular design that allows some parking bays to be closed off for event staging without disrupting parking and circulation in the rest of the trailhead.

These improvements are long overdue, and they will greatly improve not just public safety and access, but also people's overall experience visiting the forest. We consider DNR to be a valuable partner in the stewardship of public lands, and we fully support DNR in their ongoing work to improve public access and provide enjoyable and sustainable recreation opportunities for a wide range of users.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice our support for this important project.

Sincerely,
s/**Jason Ridlon**
President
Back Country Horsemen of Washington
president@bchw.org

s/**Mary Kane**
President, Tahoma Chapter
Back Country Horsemen of Washington
ranchomariamv@gmail.com

Back Country Horsemen of Washington (BCHW), is a 501 (c) (3) organization with 31 chapters across the state dedicated to: keeping trails open for all users; educating horse users in Leave-No-Trace practices; and providing volunteer service to resource agencies.



January 6, 2021

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
PO Box 40917, Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Re: Letter of support for NOVA NM 20-2241 DEV: Tiger Summit Trailhead Renovation and Addition

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board:

The Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance enthusiastically supports the Washington State Department of Natural Resources' (DNR's) proposal to renovate and expand the Tiger Summit Trailhead in Tiger Mountain State Forest. Located just 25 miles from downtown Seattle, Tiger Mountain is one of the busiest mountain bike destinations in the greater Puget Sound Region, attracting more than 200,000 multi-use visitors per year. This easy to reach trailhead off Highway 18 attracts recreationists who enjoy the trail network and existing forest road network, as well as Highway through travelers looking for a scenic rest-stop.

The existing 50-car trailhead, which was constructed more than 30 years ago to serve the entire state forest, is too small to meet current demand. Visitors are resorting to parking in the SR18 ROW, which is increasingly leading to traffic backups as people turn off and re-enter the highway from the current unimproved lot. Equestrians have avoided the trailhead completely because it is too congested for trailers. They are instead parking on the shoulder of a county road where they need to cross the road at a blind corner to access the equestrian trails in the southern part of the forest.

The proposed renovation and addition will improve access and safety by essentially tripling the number of parking spaces and by providing a much-needed designated parking area for horse trailers. The trailhead will also work well for events and socializing by providing sitting areas and a modular design that allows some parking bays to be closed off for event staging without disrupting parking and circulation in the rest of the trailhead.

These improvements are long overdue, and we fully support DNR in their ongoing work to improve public access and provide enjoyable and sustainable recreation opportunities for a wide range of users. Evergreen is the nation's largest statewide mountain bike organization, with more than 7,900 members and over 65,000 social media followers. We are dedicated to trail building and maintenance, as well as volunteerism, education, and advocacy. We look forward to seeing this new facility come online, and much appreciate the opportunity to provide feedback and support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Yvonne Kraus", written over a horizontal line.

Yvonne Kraus, Executive Director
Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance

Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Tax ID: 91-1553023.



Washington Trails Association

705 Second Avenue, Suite 300, Seattle WA 98104 • 206.625.1367 • wta.org

January 7, 2021

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Letter of support for NOVA NM 20-2241 DEV: Tiger Summit Trailhead Renovation and Addition

Dear RCO Grant Review Committee:

I am writing on behalf of Washington Trails Association to express our enthusiastic support of Washington State Department of Natural Resources' (DNR's) proposal renovate and expand the Tiger Summit Trailhead in Tiger Mountain State Forest.

Washington Trails Association has a more than 50-year legacy of engaging the hiking community. WTA enhances hiking experiences in Washington state by empowering a diverse and growing community of hikers to explore, steward and protect trails and public lands. WTA is the nation's largest state-based trail maintenance and hiking advocacy nonprofit organization, with more than 24,000 member households and an online community of more than 100,000. Each year almost 4,500 WTA volunteers perform over 160,000 hours of trail maintenance across the state.

Located just 25 miles from downtown Seattle, Tiger Mountain is a very popular destination for thousands of people looking for opportunities to enjoy themselves and rejuvenate in the outdoors by hiking, mountain biking and horseback riding on the extensive system of trails and forest roads that the forest provides. Many hikers enjoy going from traversing from Tiger Summit Trailhead to the Tradition Plateau Trailhead. The existing 50-car trailhead, which was constructed over 30 years ago to serve the entire state forest, is far too small to meet current demand, so people are parking in the SR18 right-of-way, sometimes backing up traffic as people turn off the highway.

The proposed renovation and addition will improve access and safety by essentially tripling the number of parking spaces and by providing a much needed designated parking area for horse trailers. The trailhead will also work well for events and socializing by providing sitting areas and a modular design that allows some parking bays to be closed off for event staging without disrupting parking and circulation in the rest of the trailhead.

These improvements are long overdue, and they will greatly improve not just public safety and access, but also people's overall experience visiting the forest. We consider DNR to be a valuable partner in the stewardship of public lands, and we fully support DNR in their ongoing work to improve public access and provide enjoyable and sustainable recreation opportunities for a wide range of users.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice our support for this important project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrea J. Imler", written in a cursive style.

Andrea Imler
Advocacy Director
Washington trails Association
aimler@wta.org



January 19, 2021

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Re: Letter of support for NOVA-NM 20-2241 DEV: Tiger Summit Trailhead Renovation and Addition

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board:

I am writing on behalf of The Wilderness Society to express our enthusiastic support for the Washington State Department of Natural Resources' (DNR's) proposal to renovate and expand the Tiger Summit Trailhead in Tiger Mountain State Forest. Located just 25 miles from downtown Seattle, Tiger Mountain is a very popular destination for thousands of people looking for opportunities to enjoy themselves and rejuvenate in the outdoors by hiking, mountain biking and horseback riding on the extensive system of trails and forest roads that the forest provides. The existing 50-car trailhead, which was constructed over 30 years ago to serve the entire state forest, is too small to meet current demand, so people are parking in the SR18 right of way, sometimes backing up traffic as people turn off the highway. Equestrians avoid the trailhead completely because it is too congested for trailers, parking instead on the shoulder of a county road where they need to cross the road at a blind corner to access the equestrian trails in the southern part of the forest.

The proposed renovation and addition will improve access and safety by essentially tripling the number of parking spaces and by providing a much-needed designated parking area for horse trailers. The trailhead will also work well for events and socializing by providing sitting areas and a modular design that allows some parking bays to be closed off for event staging without disrupting parking and circulation in the rest of the trailhead.

These improvements are long overdue, and they will greatly improve not just public safety and access, but also people's overall experience visiting the forest. We consider DNR to be a valuable partner in the stewardship of public lands, and we fully support DNR in their ongoing work to improve public access and provide enjoyable and sustainable recreation opportunities for a wide range of users.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice our support for this important project.

Sincerely,

Kitty Craig
Washington State Deputy Director
kcraig@tws.org
206-473-2523



Issaquah Alps
TRAILS CLUB

— EST. 1979 —

December 31, 2020

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Re: Letter of support for NOVA NM 20-2241 DEV: Tiger Summit Trailhead Renovation and Addition

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

We are writing on behalf of the Issaquah Alps Trails Club to express our enthusiastic support for the Washington State Department of Natural Resources' (DNR's) proposal to renovate and expand the Tiger Summit Trailhead in Tiger Mountain State Forest. Located just 25 miles from downtown Seattle, Tiger Mountain is a very popular destination for thousands of people looking for opportunities to enjoy themselves and rejuvenate in the outdoors by hiking, mountain biking and horseback riding on the extensive system of trails and roads that the forest provides. The site is used year-round and your investment will be appreciated literally every day of the year! The existing 50-car trailhead, which was constructed over 30 years ago to serve the entire state forest, is too small to meet current demand, so people are parking in the SR18 ROW, sometimes backing up traffic as people turn off the highway. Equestrians avoid the trailhead completely because it is too congested for trailers, parking instead on the shoulder of a county road where they need to cross the road at a blind corner to access the equestrian trails in the southern part of the forest.

The proposed renovation and addition will improve access and safety by essentially tripling the number of parking spaces and by providing a much-needed designated parking area for horse trailers. The trailhead will also work well for events and socializing by providing sitting areas and a modular design that allows some parking bays to be closed off for event staging without disrupting parking and circulation in the rest of the trailhead.

These improvements are long overdue, and they will greatly improve not just public safety and access, but also people's overall experience visiting the forest. We consider DNR to be a valuable partner in the stewardship of public lands, and we fully support DNR in their ongoing work to improve public access and provide enjoyable and sustainable recreation opportunities for a wide range of users.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice our support for this important project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Dunphy". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

David Dunphy, President
david.dunphy@issaquahalps.org

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lindsay Frickle". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Lindsay Frickle, Executive Director
exec@issaquahalps.org



King County

Department of Natural Resources and Parks
Parks and Recreation Division
King Street Center, KSC-NR-0700
201 South Jackson Street, Suite 700
Seattle, WA 98104-3855
206-477-4527 Fax 206-588-8011
TTY Relay: 711

December 29, 2020

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Re: Letter of support for NOVA NM 20-2241 DEV: Tiger Summit Trailhead Renovation and Addition

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board

I am writing on behalf of King County Parks and Recreation to express our enthusiastic support for the Washington State Department of Natural Resources' (DNR's) proposal to renovate and expand the Tiger Summit Trailhead in Tiger Mountain State Forest. Facilities for public use and recreation play a very important role in our regions health and well-being and makes it possible for the public to access public lands.

Tiger Mountain is a very popular destination for thousands of people looking for opportunities to enjoy themselves and rejuvenate in the outdoors by hiking, mountain biking and horseback riding on the extensive system of trails and forest roads that the forest provides. The existing trailhead is too small to meet current demand. The proposed renovation and addition will improve access and safety by essentially tripling the number of parking spaces and by providing a much needed designated parking area for horse trailers. The trailhead will also work well for organized events.

These improvements will greatly improve public safety, access, and experience. We consider DNR to be a valuable partner in the stewardship of public lands, and we fully support DNR in their ongoing work to improve public access and provide enjoyable and sustainable recreation opportunities for a wide range of users.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice our support for this important project. If you have any questions you can contact me at (206) 477-6478 or kelly.heintz@kingcounty.gov.

Sincerely,

Kelly Heintz
Kelly Heintz
Project Manager
Open Space Section



PO Box 346 | North Bend, WA 98045 | (425) 831-1900 | www.siviewpark.org

December 22, 2020

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Re: Letter of support for NOVA NM 20-2241 DEV: Summit Trailhead Renovation and Addition

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

I am writing on behalf of Si View Metropolitan Park District to express our enthusiastic support for the Washington State Department of Natural Resources' (DNR's) proposal to renovate and expand the Tiger Summit Trailhead in Tiger Mountain State Forest. Tiger Mountain State Forest is a close neighbor of Si View Metropolitan District, and a popular recreation destination for Snoqualmie Valley residents, greatly enhancing recreation opportunities both locally and regionally.

Si View Metropolitan Park District is a special purpose district that provides recreation opportunities to over 40,000 Snoqualmie Valley residents. The mission of our District is to work in partnership with the Community to enhance the quality of life through the facilitation of recreation programs and parks in Snoqualmie Valley. Trail and open space access have routinely been prioritized as one of the top three priorities by District residents in multiple statistically valid surveys conducted by the District. The proposed trailhead improvements at Tiger Mountain Summit closely align with the District's mission and our residents priorities in accessing outdoors spaces.

The proposed renovation and addition will improve access and safety by essentially tripling the number of parking spaces and by providing a much-needed designated parking area for horse trailers. These improvements are long overdue, and they will greatly improve not just public safety and access, but also people's overall experience visiting the forest. We consider DNR to be a valuable partner in the stewardship of public lands, and we fully support DNR in their ongoing work to improve public access and provide enjoyable and sustainable recreation opportunities for a wide range of users.

Si View Metropolitan Park District is pleased to support the proposed improvements to the Tiger Summit Trailhead. If I can be of assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at 425-831-1900 or email tstombaugh@siviewpark.org. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "T. Stombaugh".

Travis Stombaugh
Executive Director



December 23, 2020

Attn: RCO Review Committee

Re: RCO Grant Application

Applicant: Washington Department of Natural Resources

RCO application #20-2070 MNT, Blanchard, Harry Osborne Trails and Facilities M&O

Dear RCO Review Committee,

The Skagit Parks and Recreation Advisory Board enthusiastically supports the DNR grant application for the maintenance of two non-motorized trail systems and three trailheads in Skagit County. Fifteen miles of trail as well as the Upper and Lower Trailheads at Blanchard State Forest will benefit by this grant. This service will be a great value for Skagit County residents and a growing influx of other recreationally minded visitors.

Skagit County recognizes the importance of well-maintained trails in Skagit County, especially with an elevated popularity of trails in 2020. The Skagit County Parks and Recreation Plan surveys indicate the public desires trails over all other recreational opportunities. We believe DNR lands need a recreational component and are very supportive of funding the upkeep of these valuable trail systems

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "B. Adams".

Brian Adams, Director
Skagit County Parks and Recreation

1730 Continental Place
Mount Vernon, WA 98273

(360)416-1350 phone

<http://skagitcounty.net/offices/parks/index.htm>

To RCO Review Committee,

The members of the North Cascades Soaring Club would like to show support for the following grant applications.

- RCO application #20-2070 Maintenance for Blanchard and Harry Osborne Trails and Facilities M&O
- RCO application #20-2071 Maintenance for the Samish Overlook and Lily and Lizard Lake Campgrounds
- RCO application #20-2032 Development of the Stewart Mt trail system and trailhead
- RCO application #22-2273 NW Region Education and Enforcement North Zone

The North Cascades Soaring Club actively supports the local DNR recreational management staff who have been incredible to work with. As consideration of these applications our club would like to pledge 100 volunteer hours in 2021 to maintain the Samish Overlook for all site users to enjoy. Our club is very passionate about recreation at Blanchard Mt and we are proud to work hand in hand with the DNR as the Adopt-A-Site group at the Samish Overlook.

Thank you for your consideration of these very worthy grant applications.

Jeff Beck

NCSC Board site chairman



**PACIFIC NORTHWEST TRAIL
ASSOCIATION**

November 5, 2020

RCO Funding Board
1111 Washington St SE
Olympia, WA 98501

To the Washington Recreation & Conservation Funding Board:

The Pacific Northwest Trail Association (PNTA) supports the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) - Baker District's grant proposals:

#20-2070 MNT Blanchard, Harry Osborne Trails and Facilities M&O

#20-2071 MNT, Samish Overlook and Lily and Lizard Lake Campgrounds

#20-2032 DEV, Stewart Mtn. Phase 1 Trail System & Trailhead Development

#22-2273 NW Region Education and Enforcement [Warden] North Zone

These proposals will have direct, positive impacts on the Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail (PNNST), popular feeder trails and resources along the greater PNNST corridor.

For 41 years, the Pacific Northwest Trail Association has served as the Pacific Northwest Trail's primary advocate and steward, shepherding the concept of a long distance trail across the Pacific Northwest from our founder's vision to a federally designated treasure for all. Today, the PNTA works alongside agency partners like DNR to serve the public's interest in protecting this unique natural resource and providing opportunities for local communities to form lasting connections with Washington's public lands. With 900 of its 1200 miles in Washington, the PNNST connects Washingtonians to their wild places every day, and offers unparalleled opportunities for extended adventures as well as those lasting just a few hours.

The DNR - Baker District is entrusted with about 20 miles of the PNNST, which carries users above the beautiful Skagit Valley and over the Chuckanut Mountains before reaching the iconic Samish Overlook. The continued development and maintenance of this the PNNST is a herculean task, but with partners like the Baker District, who not only deliver high quality projects of their own, but also provide guidance and leadership to local stakeholders who can amplify the impact of available resources on the ground, the PNNST continues to raise in stature among the world's premiere long distance trails.

I wholeheartedly support these projects, and hope you will choose to do the same.

Jeff Kish
Executive Director

Pacific Northwest Trail Association

America's Wildest Trail is Yours to Explore and Yours to Protect

Cowboy Campsite

www.cowboycampsite.com

December 16, 2020

RCO Review Committee
c/o Mr. Hyden McKown
Washington State Department of Natural Resources
919 North Township St.
Sedro-Woolley, WA 98284

Subject: RCO application #20-2070 MNT Blanchard, Harry Osborne Trails and Facilities M&O

To RCO Review Committee:

Background

Cowboy Campsite Members Association (CCMA) represents owners of 90 acres of Skagit County approved camping and trailhead at 6885 Medford Road, Sedro Woolley. The ownership group represents over 150 owners/families. All owners have horses and are users of the non-motorized roads and trails in the Harry Osborne State Forest. These trails are also central to the many equestrian users of the Lester Hilde Trailhead; this important recreation area is charted and restricted to horseback riding, hiking and bicycling. Those on horseback using these trails range from under age 10 to some well into their 80s. Also, a wide range of equestrian skills, both among the riders and horses, are represented, from the novice to the extremely experienced. CCMA has always strived to maintain excellent relations with DNR, and common stakeholders, such as the Backcountry Horseman. In this spirit, we have an easement agreement with the DNR, allowing equestrians and other non-motorized recreation users to directly access DNR lands from Lester Hilde Trailhead over CCMA property [DNR Easement No. 55-092343]. The members of Cowboy Campsite are dependent on the effective management and maintenance of the Les Hilde trail system by the Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for safe recreation throughout this forest.

Also, the CCMA membership lives throughout the region, including Snohomish, Skagit and Whatcom Counties. In addition to using horse trailheads and riding trails adjacent to Cowboy Campsite, our members are also using similar recreation facilities throughout these three counties, including equestrian trails at Blanchard Mountain and Stewart Mountain.

Support for Blanchard and Harry Osborne Trails Maintenance and Operations

The CCMA would like to express our support for funding maintenance and operations of trails in the Blanchard Mountain and Harry Osborne recreation areas, including the Les Hilde Trailhead. Clearly, the continued investment in operations and maintenance of the Harry Osborne recreation area is incredibly important to the CCMA given our adjacent location, including 91 acres and a shared trail used to access DNR lands from the Lester Hilde Trailhead, as noted above.

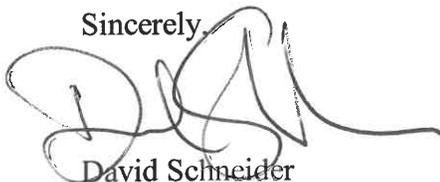
Also, CCMA members pitch in to help; we contribute over a hundred hours annually to volunteer in trail maintenance projects, mostly coordinated and materially supported (gravel, chainsaws, mechanized totes etc.) by the Backcountry Horsemen and DNR. The position of Trail Steward is crucial for best leveraging the willingness of so many local recreation users to contribute significant volunteer labor to enhance the trails they love.

While the Harry Osborne Forest area is close to the heart of the CCMA, the Blanchard trail system is also very important to the CCMA membership. All members trailer horses to various trailheads in the region for recreational trail riding and the Blanchard Forest in an increasingly favorite location. Both the lower and upper parking lots have plenty of space to accommodate horse trailers which helps make it an excellent trail riding experience. The trail ride from either of these maintained lots to the Samish Overlook is a special trip.

With the permanent protection of the core 1,600 acres in Blanchard State Forest the area is becoming increasingly popular for recreation of all kinds. A quick google search of Blanchard Mountain reveals this to be true.

Ongoing support for maintenance of restrooms, campgrounds and trails at both the Harry Osborne and Blanchard Forests is more important than ever. From a purely equestrian perspective, supporting this grant application is an extremely high priority for the CCMA. However, we also recognize that maintaining and enhancing the recreation value of this location will extend to users well beyond those on horseback.

Sincerely,



David Schneider
Board Chairman
Cowboy Campsite Members Association

cc. CCMA Board of Directors

Att: Hyden McKown
Baker District Recreation Manager (acting)
Washington Department of Natural Resources

RECEIVED

DEC 21 2020

NW REGION

Re: RCO Grant Application

Applicant: Washington Department of Natural Resources

RCO Project Numbers and Titles: #20-2070 Blanchard, Harry Osborne M&O

Dear RCO Review Committee,

The members of the Skagit Back Country Horsemen support the Washington Department of Natural Resources effort to apply for grant funds through the Recreation and Conservation Office. Our members ride their horses and mules on the many miles of trails on Blanchard Mountain and the Harry Osborne Park and appreciate all efforts by the DNR staff who maintain and make them safe for recreational use. Our members know what effort it takes to secure grants and realize how important funds are to purchase tools and provide materials to maintain trails and campgrounds. Our members have logged hundreds of volunteer hours and have partnered with DNR on many trail projects.

Our Skagit Back Country chapter members were unanimous in their decision to support DNR's effort to secure funding for improvements at Blanchard and Harry Osborne. We can also guarantee volunteers from our chapter to participate in projects planned and organized by DNR personnel.

Sincerely,

Janine Fuzell
President, Skagit Backcountry Horsemen
12-20-2020



Skagit, Whatcom, Island Trail Maintaining Organization

SWITMO

13595 Avon Allen Road
Mount Vernon WA 98273

www.SWITMO.org

360-424-0407

jdmelcher@comcast.net

08 December 2020

Attn: Hyden McKown
Baker District Recreation Manager (acting)
Washington Department of Natural Resources.
Re: RCO Grant Application
Applicant: Washington Department of Natural Resources
RCO application #20-2070 MNT Blanchard, Harry Osborne Trails and Facilities M&O.

Dear RCO Review Committee,

This letter is from the Skagit, Whatcom, Island Trail Maintenance Organization, SWITMO. SWITMO is a 501(c)-3 non-profit corporation also registered with the State of Washington. SWITMO is made up of volunteers with no paid staff. Our mission is to “Pave the Way for Hikers” in Skagit, Whatcom and Island Counties. Most of our work is on sections of the Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail, the PNT. We have a maintaining-organization agreement with the Pacific Northwest Trail Association, the PNTA.

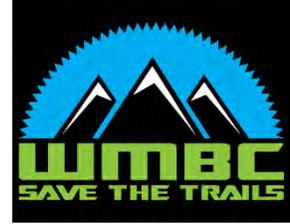
We support this maintenance project because we want to keep existing trails in good shape for visitors and hikers, including ourselves. The same is true for maintaining trailheads and restroom facilities. Good trails benefit the local economy and benefit the community in many ways. People need places to go to get into nature, to get into the wilderness and to see expansive views in order to be refreshed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Douglas B. Shepherd'.

Douglas B. Shepherd, President

December 28th, 2020
501 Meador Ave., Suite 106
Bellingham, WA 98225



Washington Recreation and Conservation
Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: RCO application #20-2070 MNT Blanchard, Harry Osborne Trails and Facilities M&O.

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board:

On behalf of Whatcom Mountain Bike Coalition, I am pleased to offer our strong support for the Washington State Department of Natural Resource's grant proposal for Project #20-2070.

The WMBC's mission is to Preserve and Enhance non-motorized trail access in Whatcom County through Advocacy, Stewardship and Education. We have a 34-year history of recreating and building trails in Whatcom and Skagit Counties. In 2019, the WMBC had more than 8,000 volunteer hours and we are the stewards of the 65-mile trail network on Galbraith Mountain. Last year, our youth programs had more than 450 local kids participating in our after-school bike clubs and our bike rodeos had more than 5,000 kids ride bikes at their elementary schools.

This grant will support trail maintenance for two non-motorized trail areas within Skagit County – Les Hilde trailhead at the Harry Osborne Forest and Blanchard Mountain. In total, this grant will support over 30 miles of trail in the two areas benefiting hikers, bikers and equestrian use.

Our members and other trail user groups already greatly benefit from these very popular trails and trailheads and they provide a tremendous user experience in a front country setting.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Eric J. Brown'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'E' and 'B'.

Eric Brown
Executive Director, WMBC
Phone: (206) 399-8347
Email: eric@wmbcmtb.org
Web: www.wmbcmtb.org



Washington Trails Association

705 Second Avenue, Suite 300, Seattle WA 98104 • 206.625.1367 • wta.org

November 24, 2020

Washington Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: #20-2070 MNT Blanchard, Harry Osborne Trails and Facilities M&O (Dept of Natural Resources)

Dear RCO Review Committee :

I am writing on behalf of Washington Trails Association to express our support of the Washington State Department of Natural Resource's Blanchard and Harry Osborne trails and facilities maintenance grant.

WTA enhances hiking experiences in Washington state by empowering a diverse and growing community of hikers to explore, steward and protect trails and public lands. WTA is the nation's largest state-based trail maintenance and hiking advocacy nonprofit organization, with more than 24,000 member households and an online community of more than 100,000. Each year almost 4,500 WTA volunteers perform over 160,000 hours of trail maintenance across the state.

This grant would fund the maintenance of two non-motorized trail systems and three trailheads in Skagit County. This grant would help maintain 15 miles of trail as well as the Upper and Lower Trailheads at Blanchard State Forest. In the Harry Osborne State Forest, this grant would help serve the Les Hilde Trailhead and 30 miles of trail. Finally, the grant would fund 70% of a full time DNR Trail Steward position to perform maintenance and coordinate projects for Washington Conservation Corps (WCC) crews and volunteers.

Last year WTA's volunteer program invested over 2,200 hours in building and maintaining trails in the Baker District in partnership with DNR staff and other trail user groups. This grant is essential in leveraging that capacity in the years to come. We hope you will support this grant and in doing so the partnership we have with DNR as well. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Andrea J. Imler".

Andrea Imler
Advocacy Director



BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF WASHINGTON
PO Box 1132
ELLENSBURG, WA 98926
WWW .BCHW.ORG

January 4, 2021

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

RE: NOVA Program – Letter of Support

**NOVA-NM: Raging River State Forest, Trail System Completion
Development (#20-2031)**

Dear Members of the NOVA Evaluation Committee,

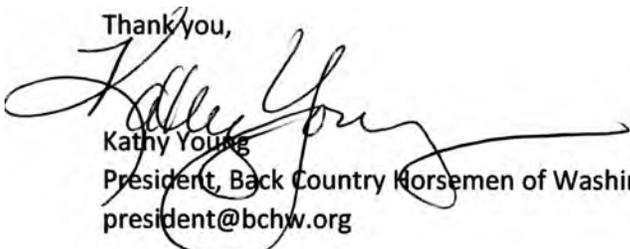
I am writing on behalf of the Back Country Horsemen of Washington to express our enthusiastic support of DNR's proposal to complete construction of a highly popular trail system within close proximity to the state's largest population center, within the Raging River State Forest.

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to complete the final phase of trail system development, targeting 12 new trail miles in Raging River State Forest, approximately 20 miles east of Seattle, expanding the trail system for mountain biking, hiking, and equestrian opportunities. The proposed new trails will give visitors a safer alternative to using service roads, further develop a trail loop system in the central forest basin, connecting the in-progress south equestrian zone and northern mountain biking zones with hiking access as a secondary use. The primary recreation opportunity provided by the project will be improved non-motorized multiple-use trail recreation in the Raging River State Forest area.

The equestrian community is very excited about connecting in-progress equestrian primary management objective trail opportunities in the South Raging River State Forest area to the central Raging River SF basin. With the potential for designated trail connections linking south Raging River area to the established equestrian trail network on Taylor Mountain Forest (King County Parks), this project will provide a major benefit by providing access to new terrain and allowing for long distance outings.

This grant opportunity is strongly supported with the benefit of providing safe and enjoyable new equestrian trail riding experiences, an opportunity that is underserved in King County.

Thank you,


Kathy Young
President, Back Country Horsemen of Washington
president@bchw.org



Washington Trails Association

705 Second Avenue, Suite 300, Seattle WA 98104 • 206.625.1367 • wta.org

January 11, 2021

Washington Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Letter of Support for Washington State Department of Natural Resources NOVA Development grant proposal, Raging River State Forest – Trail System Completion, Application #20-2031.

Dear RCO Review Committee:

I am writing on behalf of Washington Trails Association to express our enthusiastic support of the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) proposal to the Washington Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) for a project within the NOVA Non-motorized Development category.

Washington Trails Association has a more than 50-year legacy of engaging the hiking community. WTA enhances hiking experiences in Washington state by empowering a diverse and growing community of hikers to explore, steward and protect trails and public lands. WTA is the nation's largest state-based trail maintenance and hiking advocacy nonprofit organization, with more than 24,000 member households and an online community of more than 100,000. Each year almost 4,500 WTA volunteers perform over 160,000 hours of trail maintenance across the state.

We are very supportive of the following project: **NOVA-NM Development: Raging River State Forest, Trail System Completion (#20-2031)**

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) will use this grant to fund the fourth and final trail system development phase of 12 new trail miles in Raging River State Forest, located approximately 20 miles east of Seaside. The primary recreation opportunity provided by the project will be improved non-motorized multiple-use trail recreation in the Raging River State Forest area.

The proposed new trails will give visitors a safer alternative to using service roads, further develop important missing trail links to reduce trail conflicts, provide under-served downhill mountain biking trails, and provide additional trail access predominantly for equestrian use. Continuing successful project collaboration between DNR & non-profit trail advocacy & user groups in the Snoqualmie Corridor will ensure high quality trail opportunities meeting targeted user experiences are delivered.

Thank you for your consideration. We hope you will support and fund this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrea J. Imler".

Andrea Imler
Advocacy Director



January 11, 2021
Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Letter of Support: Washington State Department of Natural Resources, Recreation Program
NOVA-NM Development: Raging River State Forest – Trail System Completion (#20-2031)

Dear NOVA Review Committee,

The Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance (Evergreen) strongly supports the Department of Natural Resources NOVA grant application for the final phase of the Raging River State Forest Trail System.

Raging River is one of the most popular core mountain biking destinations in the state and attracts visitors from throughout the region. It offers some of the closest riding on state lands to the Seattle Metropolitan area where we have seen significant growth in our sport, showing the need for more comprehensive and connected trail systems. Funding this final of four total development phases is crucial to keep up with demand. This project will deliver the state's most popular mountain biking trail system and is the most important mountain biking project within the current NOVA grant application cycle.

The final phase of the Raging River State Forest will allow development of 12 additional trail miles, expanding the trail system for mountain biking, hiking, and equestrian opportunities. The proposed new trails will give visitors a safer alternative to using service roads, further develop missing trail links, offer opportunities for mountain bike loops, and provide access to a remote zone with equestrian and hiking trail opportunities.

Evergreen is the nation's largest statewide mountain bike organization, with more than 7,900 members and over 65,000 social media followers. We are dedicated to trail building and maintenance, as well as volunteerism, education, and advocacy. We look forward to working with DNR and appreciate the opportunity to provide support. We strongly support the Department of Natural Resources in its effort to create a comprehensive and connected trail system in the highway 18 corridor. We fully support and urge you to fund this project!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Yvonne Kraus", written over a horizontal line.

Yvonne Kraus
Executive Director



January 11, 2021

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
PO Box 40917, Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Re: Letter of support for 20-2038 M Yacolt Burn Non-Motorized Trail Bridges Project

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board:

The Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance enthusiastically supports the Washington State Department of Natural Resources' (DNR's) request for funding to support the construction of five trail bridges in the Western Yacolt Burn State Forest, located approximately 10 miles northeast of Vancouver.

The Tarbell Trail system and the Bells Mountain Trail have approximately 38 bridge structures that are more than 20 years old with several showing signs of failing substructures. This project will provide funding for demolition, construction costs, staff and crew time, A&E services, and supplies and materials to replace failing bridges on the Tarbell Trail system and Bells Mountain Trail. The primary recreation opportunity provided by this project is safe and sustainable non-motorized recreation trails.

The Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance is currently working with DNR to build new trails and maintain the existing trail system in the Yacolt Burn State Forest, and we understand the importance of the replacement of these failing bridges. Funding for these bridges is essential to the ongoing safe recreational use of these trails in the Yacolt Burn State Park.

Evergreen is the nation's largest statewide mountain bike organization, with more than 7,900 members and over 65,000 social media followers. We are dedicated to trail building and maintenance, as well as volunteerism, education, and advocacy. We look forward to working with DNR in the Pacific Cascades Region and appreciate the opportunity to provide support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Yvonne Kraus", written over a horizontal line.

Yvonne Kraus, Executive Director
Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance



Washington Trails Association

705 Second Avenue, Suite 300, Seattle WA 98104 • 206.625.1367 • wta.org

November 4, 2020

Washington Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Grant # 20-2038 M Yacolt Burn Non-Motorized Trail Bridges (Dept. of Natural Resources)

Dear RCO Review Committee:

I am writing on behalf of Washington Trails Association to express our support of the DNR grant to complete rehabilitation of trail bridges in the Yacolt State Forest.

WTA enhances hiking experiences in Washington state by empowering a diverse and growing community of hikers to explore, steward and protect trails and public lands. WTA is the nation's largest state-based trail maintenance and hiking advocacy nonprofit organization, with more than 24,000 member households and an online community of more than 100,000. Each year almost 4,500 WTA volunteers perform over 160,000 hours of trail maintenance across the state.

Last year WTA's volunteer program invested over 4,000 hours in building and maintaining trails in the Yacolt Burn State Forest in partnership with DNR staff and other trail user groups. Having safe water crossings is critical to our ability to access and steward these trails. We hope you will support this grant and in doing so the partnership we have with DNR as well. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Andrea J. Imler".

Andrea Imler
Advocacy Director



Dear Grant Committee:

I represent the Chinook Trail Association. Our members regularly use DNR lands and I support the Washington State Department of Natural Resources Pacific Cascade Region's grant requests.

I thank the DNR for constructing new trails and their partnering with volunteer organization such as Washington Trails Association and the Chinook Trail Association in the maintenance and construction of trails. I appreciate the DNR provides motorized trail opportunities because without motorized trails the non-motorized trails would be driven on more often.

With the great collaboration with trail organizations I firmly believe this grant money will be used efficiently and wisely.

On behalf of the recreational users in the Southwest Washington area and the Chinook Trail Association, please approve these grants for the Pacific Cascade Region.

20-2008 E PC Education and Enforcement

20-2010 M Pacific Cascade Motorized Maintenance

20-2009 M Pacific Cascade Non-Motorized Maintenance

20-2038 M Yacolt Burn Non-Motorized Trail Bridges

20-2011 M Capital & Yacolt Forest Facilities Maintenance

20-2039 D Jones Creek ORV Trailhead Expansion Project

Sincerely,

Steve Jones

President, Chinook Trail Association



January 20, 2021

Attention: RCO

Subject: Letter of Support to Washington DNR for RCO Grant Applications

To Whom It May Concern:

We, the Jones Creek Trail Riders Association (JCTRA,) are a club of users and caretakers of DNR managed lands in the Yacolt Burn, Jones Creek recreation area. Our club is organized around motorcycles, quads, and trail-legal side-by-sides; i.e., motorized use, but we also have and do support other user groups, both motorized and non-motorized. We have been partnering with DNR for many years in managing the Jones Creek area and look forward to working on a volunteer basis in support of the responsible use of the forest and in support of DNR's activities therein.

As a current grant holder, we support DNR's request for grants for improvements and maintenance of the Yacolt Burn State Forest area. Our support is not just verbal, as JCTRA expects to contribute volunteer labor and other participation for this purpose. In particular we support the following grant applications:

20-2008	E	PC Education and Enforcement (Dept. of Natural Resources)
20-2010	M	Pacific Cascade Motorized Maintenance (Dept. of Natural Resources)
20-2009	M	Pacific Cascade Non-Motorized Maintenance (Dept. of Natural Resources)
20-2038	M	Yacolt Burn Non-Motorized Trail Bridges (Dept. of Natural Resources)
20-2011	M	Capital & Yacolt Forest Facilities Maintenance (Dept. of Natural Resources)
20-2039	D	Jones Creek ORV Trailhead Expansion (Dept. of Natural Resources)

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

 D9D22539B7654F7...
 Edward R. Gillespie
 Co-President
 Jones Creek Trail Riders Assoc.



BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF WASHINGTON
PO Box 1132
ELLENSBURG, WA 98926
WWW.BCHW.Org

November 5, 2020

Department of Natural Resources
c/o Sharon Steriti – DNR Recreation Manager, Pacific Cascade Region

RE:

20-2008 E PC Education and Enforcement (Dept. of Natural Resources)
20-2010 M Pacific Cascade Motorized Maintenance (Dept. of Natural Resources)
20-2009 M Pacific Cascade Non-Motorized Maintenance (Dept. of Natural Resources)
20-2038 M Yacolt Burn Non-Motorized Trail Bridges (Dept. of Natural Resources)
20-2011 M Capital & Yacolt Forest Facilities Maintenance (Dept. of Natural Resources)
20-2039 D Jones Cr. ORV Trailhead Expansion Project (Dept. of Natural Resources)

To whom it may concern

Our organization, Back Country Horsemen of Washington, as a user of all DNR lands throughout the state is encouraged by the development and maintenance of the Yacolt Burn State Forest under your management. We look forward to continuing our work and relationship with DNR staff in the Pacific Cascade Region.

The Back Country Horsemen of Washington would like to support DNR's effort in acquiring these grants so they can continue their good work for the recreationists of the Yacolt Burn. We not only support them in writing this but by our donations of money, material, pack support of other volunteers and of labor to build and maintain camps and trails.

Sincerely
Jim Anderson
Director of Mount St. Helens Chapter of
Back Country Horsemen of Washington



January 19, 2021

Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Letter of support for USFS Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Darrington Ranger District grant application 20-2027 Canyon Creek Bridge and PCT Repairs

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Advisory Committee,

I am writing on behalf of the more than 13,500-member Pacific Crest Trail Association (PCTA) to express enthusiastic support for the grant application submitted by the Darrington Ranger District.

It is PCTA's privilege to partner with the Darrington Ranger District to maintain outstanding recreation opportunities in Glacier Peak Wilderness. The Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail (PCT) contours for 52 miles through the Darrington Ranger District along the shoulders of Glacier Peak. This rugged landscape gives the PCT its outstanding scenic character and makes this section of trail one of the most remote and challenging portions of the entire PCT. As the Darrington Ranger District has emphasized in their application the PCT in this part of the North Cascades is difficult to access. The Suiattle River trail is one of only two maintained routes that the public can use to reach the PCT from the west. The Suiattle Valley is lower in elevation and becomes accessible earlier in the year than any other route into the center of Glacier Peak Wilderness. As a result, it is the best option available to mobilization trail crews and wilderness managers into the area.

The PCTA depends on the Suiattle River trail and the Canyon Creek bridge. Maintaining the PCT through Glacier Peak Wilderness without this infrastructure would be practically impossible. I cannot stress enough that the Canyon Creek bridge is critical to the public enjoyment of the Pacific Crest Trail and much of Glacier Peak Wilderness.

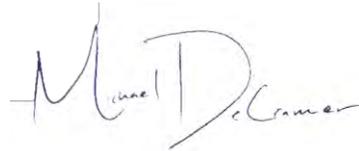
PCTA is also pleased to see that this project proposal contains support for constructing puncheon through the grove of old growth on the PCT south of the Suiattle River. This stand of ancient timber is unique on the entire PCT. Constructing 150 feet of puncheon through this area will allow the public to experience these ancient trees while reducing



the potential for visitors to compact the soil around these mighty examples of Washington old growth. We wholeheartedly support the goals of these projects.

PCTA is a long-term partner with the Forest Service in maintaining recreation infrastructure in Glacier Peak Wilderness. We look forward to leveraging these projects to expand our volunteer stewardship and improving public access to this amazing landscape. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or would like any additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael DeCramer". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large "M" and "D".

Michael DeCramer
Pacific Crest Trail Association
North Cascades Regional Representative

2497.3
2549.3



**Parks and Recreation Department
City of Bellingham**

November 10, 2020

Recreation and Conservation Office
1111 Washington Street S.E.
Olympia, Washington 98501

Re: RCO Grant Application
Applicant: Washington Department of Natural Resources
RCO Project No: RCO application #20-2032 DEV, Stewart Mtn. Phase 1 Trail System & Trailhead Development

Dear RCO Review Committee,

I am writing to express the City of Bellingham Parks Department support of the Washington Department of Natural Resources' (DNR) request for funding of their Stewart Mountain non-motorized multi-use trail system and trailhead. DNR's plan will expand recreational opportunities and provide a high-quality, sustainable user experience for the public while protecting and conserving valuable natural resources.

The Stewart Mountain Phase 1 Project will provide a clear public benefit and the area will be greatly improved by DNR's efforts to develop the trailhead, decommission trails that negatively impact natural resources; and design a multi-use trail system. The project seamlessly aligns with Bellingham Park's planning and development goals and the area is sure to be enjoyed by a variety of user groups. The growing importance of open space and access to quality and sustainable trails has been highlighted over the past few months as we've seen increased traffic in all our parks and trails. Through recent public engagement efforts, the community has repeatedly voiced the need for increased access to trails as well as a strong preference to prioritize maintenance and improvement of existing trails and protection of open space and habitat.

The City of Bellingham is grateful to be working alongside other agencies in the region such as DNR and the Parks Department shares their vision of designing, constructing, and connecting high quality multi-use trails. I strongly support their efforts to improve safety, connectivity, and recreational opportunities in this beautiful part of Whatcom County. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nicole Oliver", written over a horizontal line.

Nicole Oliver
Director, City of Bellingham Parks & Recreation Department

Main Office
210 Lottie Street
Bellingham, WA 98225
Phone: (360) 778-7000
Fax: (360) 778-7001
Email: parks@cob.org
www.cob.org/parks

Operations
1400 Woburn Street
Bellingham, WA 98229
Phone: (360) 778-7100
Fax: (360) 778-7101
Email: parks@cob.org
www.cob.org/parks

Arne Hanna Aquatic Center
1114 Potter Street
Bellingham, WA 98229
Phone: (360) 778-7665
Fax: (360) 778-7062
Email: aquatics@cob.org
www.cob.org/ahac

Bayview Cemetery
1420 Woburn Street
Bellingham, WA 98229
Phone: (360) 778-7150
Fax: (360) 778-7151
Email: bayview@cob.org
www.cob.org/bayview

Cowboy Campsite

www.cowboycampsite.com

December 16, 2020

RCO Review Committee
c/o Mr. Hyden McKown
Washington State Department of Natural Resources
919 North Township St.
Sedro-Woolley, WA 98284

Subject: RCO application #20-2032 DEV, Stewart Mtn. Phase 1 Trail System & Trailhead Development

To RCO Review Committee:

Background

Cowboy Campsite Members Association (CCMA) represents owners of 90 acres of Skagit County approved camping and trailhead at 6885 Medford Road, Sedro Woolley. The ownership group represents over 150 owners/families. All owners have horses and are users of the non-motorized roads and trails in the Harry Osborne State Forest. These trails are also central to the many equestrian users of the Lester Hilde Trailhead; this important recreation area is charted and restricted to horseback riding, hiking and bicycling. Those on horseback using these trails range from under age 10 to some well into their 80s. Also, a wide range of equestrian skills, both among the riders and horses, are represented, from the novice to the extremely experienced. CCMA has always strived to maintain excellent relations with DNR, and common stakeholders, such as the Backcountry Horseman. In this spirit, we have an easement agreement with the DNR, allowing equestrians and other non-motorized recreation users to directly access DNR lands from Lester Hilde Trailhead over CCMA property [DNR Easement No. 55-092343].

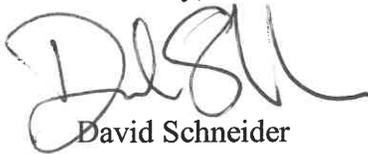
Also, the CCMA membership lives throughout the region, including Snohomish, Skagit and Whatcom Counties. In addition to using horse trailheads and riding trails adjacent to Cowboy Campsite, our members are also using similar recreation facilities throughout these three counties, including equestrian trails at Blanchard Mountain and Stewart Mountain.

Support for Stewart Mtn. Phase 1 Trail System & Trailhead Development

The CCMA would like to express our support for funding the first phase of development of the Stewart Mountain non-motorized multi-use trail system and trailhead. As the regional population grows, there is increasing demand for outdoor recreation activities. For horseback riding, enhanced non-motorized recreational areas are uncommon and especially important. The Stewart Mountain trail system offers great potential as an outstanding trail riding location. The proper development of this trial system will also have the indirect benefit of taking some pressure of the increasingly used Blanchard and Harry Osborne Forest non-motorized recreation areas.

From a purely equestrian perspective, supporting this grant application is a very high priority for the CCMA. Moreover, enhancing the recreation value of this location will extend to users well beyond those on horseback.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Schneider', written in a cursive style.

David Schneider
Board Chairman
Cowboy Campsite Members Association

cc. CCMA Board of Directors



Don Hoch
Director

STATE OF WASHINGTON
WASHINGTON STATE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

1111 Israel Road S.W. • P.O. Box 42650 • Olympia, WA 98504-2650 • (360) 902-8500
TDD Telecommunications Device for the Deaf: 800-833-6388
www.parks.state.wa.us

Attn: Hyden McKown
Baker District Recreation Manager (acting)
Washington Department of Natural Resources

Re: RCO Grant Application

Applicant: Washington Department of Natural Resources
RCO application #20-2032 DEV; Stewart Mtn. Phase 1 Trail System & Trailhead Development.

Dear RCO Review Committee,

The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission NW Region supports the Washington Department of Natural Resources effort to apply for grant funds through the Recreation and Conservation Office. We believe increased recreation opportunities in Whatcom County will be a benefit for all recreationalists our agency serves.

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission appreciates the efforts by the DNR staff working to expand recreational opportunities. We know from personal experience the time and effort it takes to secure grants from the Recreation and Conservation Office due to the extreme competition for funding that is available and we also understand how important grant funding – or any funding for that matter is to developing trails and trailheads.

The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission is pleased to provide this letter of support for DNR's effort to secure funding for the development of recreation opportunities on Stewart Mountain. If you should have any questions or desire further information, please feel free to contact our office at 360-755-9231.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Jon Crimmins in black ink.

11/6/2020

Jon Crimmins / Region Manager North
Washington State Parks NW Region

Handwritten signature of Shawn Tobin in black ink.

11/6/2020

Shawn Tobin / Region Manager South
Washington State Parks NW Region

WHATCOM COUNTY
Parks & Recreation
3373 Mount Baker Highway
Bellingham, WA 98226-7500



20-2032 NOVA NM #20
Michael G. McFarlane, Director
Christ Thomsen, Parks Operations Manager

January 19, 2021

Re: NOVA Application #20-2032 DEV, WA Dept. of Natural Resources Stewart Mtn.
Phase 1 Trail System & Trailhead Development.

Dear Grant Evaluation Committee:

Whatcom County Parks & Recreation Department submits this letter in support of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) **NOVA Application #20-2032 DEV, Stewart Mtn. Phase 1 Trail System & Trailhead Development.**

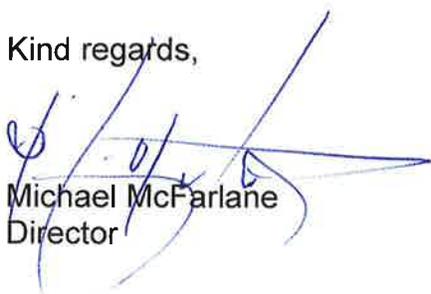
DNR recently acquired a key linkage between an existing County-managed trailhead and informal trails on DNR lands. Funding of this grant helps formalize this trail-based recreation for Whatcom County citizens and visitors. This grant also provides planning resources for much-needed parking improvements for visitors, especially equestrian users.

The DNR's Baker to Bellingham Non-Motorized Recreation Plan included planning for the Stewart Mountain Sub-Area. Here, the trail system planning efforts includes trailhead development and long-term trail linkages to the County's Lake Whatcom Park. DNR's plan is complementary to our own 2016 Lookout Mountain Forest Preserve and Lake Whatcom Park Recreational Trails plan. Together, these plans include non-motorized trail connections between DNR and County managed lands; specifically designed to increase long-distance and equestrian trail opportunities.

As we continue to expand the trail opportunities in Lake Whatcom Park, we envision the DNR trail system as key component to a larger recreation area that spans across a multi-jurisdictional landscape. And, we see the planning and implementation of formal trails and trailhead development for the DNR Stewart Mountain State Forest as important to both agencies serving equestrian and other non-motorized recreation into the future.

Your consideration of Whatcom County Parks & Recreation's support of this project is appreciated.

Kind regards,


Michael McFarlane
Director

Att: Hyden McKown
Baker District Recreation Manager (acting)
Washington Department of Natural Resources

RECEIVED

DEC 21 2020

NW REGION

Re: RCO Grant Application
Applicant: Washington Department of Natural Resources
RCO Project Numbers and Titles:

Dear RCO Review Committee,

The members of the Skagit Back Country Horsemen support the Washington Department of Natural Resources effort to apply for grant funds through the Recreation and Conservation Office. Our members ride their horses and mules on the many miles of trails on Blanchard Mountain and the Harry Osborne Park and appreciate all efforts by the DNR staff who maintain and make them safe for recreational use. Our members know what effort it takes to secure grants and realize how important funds are to purchase tools and provide materials to maintain trails and campgrounds. Our members have logged hundreds of volunteer hours and have partnered with DNR on many trail projects.

Our Skagit Back Country chapter members were unanimous in their decision to support DNR's effort to secure funding for improvements at Blanchard and Harry Osborne. We can also guarantee volunteers from our chapter to participate in projects planned and organized by DNR personnel.

Sincerely,

Janine Fuzell
President, Skagit Backcountry Horsemen
12-20-2020

To RCO Review Committee,

The members of the North Cascades Soaring Club would like to show support for the following grant applications.

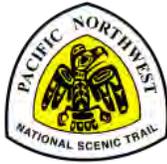
- RCO application #20-2070 Maintenance for Blanchard and Harry Osborne Trails and Facilities M&O
- RCO application #20-2071 Maintenance for the Samish Overlook and Lily and Lizard Lake Campgrounds
- RCO application #20-2032 Development of the Stewart Mt trail system and trailhead
- RCO application #22-2273 NW Region Education and Enforcement North Zone

The North Cascades Soaring Club actively supports the local DNR recreational management staff who have been incredible to work with. As consideration of these applications our club would like to pledge 100 volunteer hours in 2021 to maintain the Samish Overlook for all site users to enjoy. Our club is very passionate about recreation at Blanchard Mt and we are proud to work hand in hand with the DNR as the Adopt-A-Site group at the Samish Overlook.

Thank you for your consideration of these very worthy grant applications.

Jeff Beck

NCSC Board site chairman



**PACIFIC NORTHWEST TRAIL
ASSOCIATION**

November 5, 2020

RCO Funding Board
1111 Washington St SE
Olympia, WA 98501

To the Washington Recreation & Conservation Funding Board:

The Pacific Northwest Trail Association (PNTA) supports the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) - Baker District's grant proposals:

#20-2070 MNT Blanchard, Harry Osborne Trails and Facilities M&O

#20-2071 MNT, Samish Overlook and Lily and Lizard Lake Campgrounds

#20-2032 DEV, Stewart Mtn. Phase 1 Trail System & Trailhead Development

#22-2273 NW Region Education and Enforcement [Warden] North Zone

These proposals will have direct, positive impacts on the Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail (PNNST), popular feeder trails and resources along the greater PNNST corridor.

For 41 years, the Pacific Northwest Trail Association has served as the Pacific Northwest Trail's primary advocate and steward, shepherding the concept of a long distance trail across the Pacific Northwest from our founder's vision to a federally designated treasure for all. Today, the PNTA works alongside agency partners like DNR to serve the public's interest in protecting this unique natural resource and providing opportunities for local communities to form lasting connections with Washington's public lands. With 900 of its 1200 miles in Washington, the PNNST connects Washingtonians to their wild places every day, and offers unparalleled opportunities for extended adventures as well as those lasting just a few hours.

The DNR - Baker District is entrusted with about 20 miles of the PNNST, which carries users above the beautiful Skagit Valley and over the Chuckanut Mountains before reaching the iconic Samish Overlook. The continued development and maintenance of this the PNNST is a herculean task, but with partners like the Baker District, who not only deliver high quality projects of their own, but also provide guidance and leadership to local stakeholders who can amplify the impact of available resources on the ground, the PNNST continues to raise in stature among the world's premiere long distance trails.

I wholeheartedly support these projects, and hope you will choose to do the same.

Jeff Kish
Executive Director

Pacific Northwest Trail Association

America's Wildest Trail is Yours to Explore and Yours to Protect

Recreation Northwest

Attn: Hyden McKown
Baker District Recreation Manager (acting)
Washington Department of Natural Resources

Re: RCO Grant Application
Applicant: Washington Department of Natural Resources
RCO Project Numbers and Titles:
RCO application #20-2032 DEV, Stewart Mtn. Phase 1 Trail System & Trailhead Development.

Dear RCO Review Committee,

Recreation Northwest supports the Washington Department of Natural Resources effort to apply for grant funds through the Recreation and Conservation Office. We believe increased recreation opportunities in Whatcom County will be a benefit for all of the recreationalists our non-profit serves. Recreation Northwest appreciates all efforts by the DNR staff working to expand these opportunities.

We acknowledge the effort it takes to secure grants and realize how important funds are to developing trails and trailheads. Surrounded by an active outdoor recreation community, the Stewart Mountain trailhead project will get a groundswell of community support from individuals, businesses and others.

The RCO grant would fund the first phase of development of the Stewart Mountain non-motorized multi-use trail system and trailhead. Approximately twenty miles of trails have been inventoried and assessed on this landscape. The grant would fund 6 miles of trail reroutes and reconstruction. In addition, grant funding would work toward providing construction ready documents for a new trailhead.

We also recognize the economic value that the outdoor recreation industry brings to the community and the impact that this sector has on rural areas. Governor Jay Inslee recently remarked on the RCO's latest report "*Economic Analysis of Outdoor Recreation in Washington State*". Inslee touted "This report shows the enormous value that outdoor recreation brings to Washington's economy. I hope that the people of our state continue to explore our state's parks, forests and waterways with appropriate precautions taken to ensure the health and safety of participants and those who work in outdoor recreation. This is an important aspect of our state's economy and will continue to be as we take steps to safely re-open."

Please consider this in your decision to support DNR's effort to secure funding for developing recreation opportunities on Stewart Mountain. This is part of the solution to providing public access to parks and helping outdoor recreation businesses and small communities through recovery from the pandemic.

Sincerely,



Todd Elsworth, Executive Director
Todd@RecreationNorthwest.org
360-739-8458



December 23, 2020

Attn: RCO Review Committee

Re: RCO Grant Application
Applicant: Washington Department of Natural Resources
RCO application #20-2032 DEV, Stewart Mtn. Phase 1 Trail System & Trailhead Development

Dear RCO Review Committee,

Skagit County Parks and Recreation are ardent supporters of DNR's projects for public access. The development of the Stewart Mountain non-motorized multi-use trail system and trailhead is an incredible project that will provide an immense benefit to the public. The area includes twenty miles of trail. A future trailhead at this site will further augment this site for public use.

Skagit County recognizes the importance of well-maintained trails in Skagit County, especially with an elevated popularity of trails in 2020. The Skagit County Parks and Recreation Plan surveys indicate its constituents desire trails over all other recreational opportunities. We believe DNR lands need a recreational component and are very supportive of funding the upkeep of these valuable trail systems.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "B. Adams", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Brian Adams, Director
Skagit County Parks and Recreation

1730 Continental Place
Mount Vernon, WA 98273

(360) 416-1350 phone

<http://skagitcounty.net/offices/parks/index.htm>

Hi Hyden,

November 16, 2020

Attn: Hyden McKown
Baker District Recreation Manager (acting)
Washington Department of Natural Resources

Re: RCO Grant Application
Applicant: Washington Department of Natural Resources
RCO Project Numbers and Titles: **RCO application #20-2032 DEV, Stewart Mtn. Phase 1 Trail System & Trailhead Development.**

Dear RCO Review Committee,

The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission is glad to support the Washington Department of Natural Resources effort to apply for grant funds through the Recreation and Conservation Office. We believe increased trail-based recreation opportunities in Whatcom County will be a benefit for all recreationalists both DNR and WA State Parks serve. Washington State Parks appreciates all efforts by the DNR staff working collaboratively to expand these opportunities. We know what effort it takes to secure grants and realize how important these funds are to developing trails and trailheads.

In summary, Washington State Parks supports DNR's effort to secure funding for developing recreation opportunities on Stewart Mountain.

Sincerely,



Randy Kline | Statewide Trails Coordinator
Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission
p: 360.706.4193 | e: randy.kline@parks.wa.gov

RECEIVED
DEC 14 2020
NW REGION



Skagit, Whatcom, Island Trail Maintaining Organization
SWITMO

13595 Avon Allen Road
Mount Vernon WA 98273
360-424-0407

www.SWITMO.org

jdmelcher@comcast.net

08 December 2020

Attn: Hyden McKown
Baker District Recreation Manager (acting)
Washington Department of Natural Resources.
Re: RCO Grant Application
Applicant: Washington Department of Natural Resources
RCO application #20-2032 Stewart Mtn. Phase 1 Trail System & Trailhead
Development.

Dear RCO Review Committee,

This letter is from the Skagit, Whatcom, Island Trail Maintenance Organization, SWITMO. SWITMO is a 501(c)-3 non-profit corporation also registered with the State of Washington. SWITMO is made up of volunteers with no paid staff. Our mission is to "Pave the Way for Hikers" in Skagit, Whatcom and Island Counties. Most of our work is on sections of the Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail, the PNT. We have a maintaining-organization agreement with the Pacific Northwest Trail Association, the PNTA.

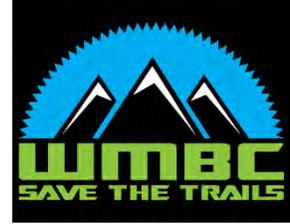
We support this maintenance project because we want to keep existing trails in good shape for visitors and hikers, including ourselves. The rerouting and reconstruction will greatly improve this trail system which gets heavy use. Good trails benefit the local economy and benefit the community in many ways. People need places to go to get into nature, to get into the wilderness and to see expansive views in order to be refreshed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Douglas B. Shepherd'.

Douglas B. Shepherd, President

December 28th, 2020
501 Meador Ave., Suite 106
Bellingham, WA 98225



Washington Recreation and Conservation
Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: RCO application #20-2032 DEV, Stewart Mtn. Phase 1 Trail System & Trailhead Development.

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board:

On behalf of Whatcom Mountain Bike Coalition, I am pleased to offer our strong support for the Washington State Department of Natural Resource's grant proposal for Project #20-2032

The WMBC's mission is to Preserve and Enhance non-motorized trail access in Whatcom County through Advocacy, Stewardship and Education. We have a 34-year history of recreating and building trails in Whatcom and Skagit Counties. In 2019, the WMBC had more than 8,000 volunteer hours and we are the stewards of the 65-mile trail network on Galbraith Mountain. Last year, our youth programs had more than 450 local kids participating in our after-school bike clubs and our bike rodeos had more than 5,000 kids ride bikes at their elementary schools.

The Olsen Creek trailhead / Trail development project is a result of our 2 ½ year process to create the the Bellingham to Baker Recreation Plan and find sustainable recreation on DNR lands within Whatcom County. As a member of the multi-user committee, we worked with DNR staff to identify the best opportunities within the landscapes that suit the various use types.

The Olsen Creek area on Stewart Mountain is the closest planned area to the population center of Bellingham (population 110k) and is a 15 minute drive from downtown. It will also tie into a newly created trail network being developed by Whatcom County Parks that will have 30+miles of trail

The WMBC pledges to assist the DNR with up to \$30,000 of volunteer, equipment and staff support for the trail development project. Additionally, we will pledge volunteer professional expertise with the parking lot/trailhead development as well.

Our members and other trail user groups will greatly benefit from this project and it is another great step towards sustainable recreation on DNR managed lands.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Eric J. Brown'.

Eric Brown
Executive Director, WMBC
Phone: (206) 399-8347
Email: eric@wmbcmtb.org
Web: www.wmbcmtb.org



Washington Trails Association

705 Second Avenue, Suite 300, Seattle WA 98104 • 206.625.1367 • wta.org

November 4, 2020

Washington Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Grant #20-2032 DEV, Stewart Mtn. Phase 1 Trail System & Trailhead Development. (Dept. of Natural Resources)

Dear RCO Review Committee :

I am writing on behalf of Washington Trails Association to express our support of the DNR grant to fund the first phase of development of the Stewart Mountain non-motorized multi-use trail system and trailhead. Approximately twenty miles of trails have been inventoried and assessed on this landscape. The grant would fund 6 miles of trail reroutes and reconstruction. In addition, grant funding would work toward providing construction ready documents for a new trailhead.

WTA enhances hiking experiences in Washington state by empowering a diverse and growing community of hikers to explore, steward and protect trails and public lands. WTA is the nation's largest state-based trail maintenance and hiking advocacy nonprofit organization, with more than 24,000 member households and an online community of more than 100,000. Each year almost 4,500 WTA volunteers perform over 160,000 hours of trail maintenance across the state.

Last year WTA's volunteer program invested over 2,200 hours in building and maintaining trails in the Baker District in partnership with DNR staff and other trail user groups. Being able to start construction of the first phase of the Bellingham to Baker trail plan is an important step in community involvement of expanded recreation opportunities in Whatcom County. We hope you will support this grant and in doing so the partnership we have with DNR as well. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Andrea J. Imler".

Andrea Imler
Advocacy Director



Washington Trails Association

705 Second Avenue, Suite 300, Seattle WA 98104 • 206.625.1367 • wta.org

November 4, 2020

Washington Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Grant # 20-2009 M Pacific Cascade Non-Motorized Maintenance (Dept. of Natural Resources)

Dear RCO Review Committee:

I am writing on behalf of Washington Trails Association to express our support of the DNR grant to conduct maintenance on non-motorized trails and trailhead facilities within the Pacific Cascade Region, located in southwest Washington.

DNR staff are an integral part of collaborative efforts that steward these recreation facilities that have seen a sharp increase in use during the pandemic. While WTA volunteers do a great deal of work to maintain trails, we also rely on DNR staff to maintain and repair restrooms, signs and other facility structures. They also provide valuable technical assistance and operate power tools and heavy equipment that our volunteers are not trained to do.

WTA enhances hiking experiences in Washington state by empowering a diverse and growing community of hikers to explore, steward and protect trails and public lands. WTA is the nation's largest state-based trail maintenance and hiking advocacy nonprofit organization, with more than 24,000 member households and an online community of more than 100,000. Each year almost 4,500 WTA volunteers perform over 160,000 hours of trail maintenance across the state.

Last year WTA's volunteer program invested over 4,000 hours in building and maintaining trails in the Yacolt Burn State Forest in partnership with DNR staff and other trail user groups. This grant fills an essential niche in leveraging that capacity in the years to come. We hope you will support this grant and in doing so the partnership we have with DNR as well. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrea J. Imler".

Andrea Imler
Advocacy Director



January 11, 2021

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
PO Box 40917, Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Re: Letter of support for 20-2009 M Pacific Cascade Non-Motorized Maintenance

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board:

The Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance enthusiastically supports the Washington State Department of Natural Resources' (DNR's) request for funding to support maintenance on non-motorized trails and trailhead facilities within the Pacific Cascade Region, located in Southwest Washington State.

This funding will help provide funding for a Natural Resource Technician as well as crew time to perform routine trail and facility maintenance and repairs, and for supplies and materials to support maintenance and needed repairs. Trail maintenance activities include brushing trails, maintaining culverts, drainage dips and water bars, hardening small sections of trail with crushed rock, inspecting and maintaining bridges, and constructing minor trail re-routes. Facility maintenance will include litter removal and the maintenance and repair of restrooms, signs and other facility structures. The primary recreation opportunity provided by this project will be safe and sustainable non-motorized recreation trails and support facilities.

The Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance is currently working with DNR to build new trails and maintain the existing trail system in the Yacolt Burn State Forest, and we understand the ongoing maintenance needs present throughout the forest. Funding for this maintenance is vital to assure continued safe usage and to minimize the environmental impacts brought by recreation on these trails.

Evergreen is the nation's largest statewide mountain bike organization, with more than 7,900 members and over 65,000 social media followers. We are dedicated to trail building and maintenance, as well as volunteerism, education, and advocacy. We look forward to working with DNR in the Pacific Cascades Region and appreciate the opportunity to provide support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Yvonne Kraus", written over a horizontal line.

Yvonne Kraus, Executive Director
Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance



January 20, 2021

Attention: RCO

Subject: Letter of Support to Washington DNR for RCO Grant Applications

To Whom It May Concern:

We, the Jones Creek Trail Riders Association (JCTRA,) are a club of users and caretakers of DNR managed lands in the Yacolt Burn, Jones Creek recreation area. Our club is organized around motorcycles, quads, and trail-legal side-by-sides; i.e., motorized use, but we also have and do support other user groups, both motorized and non-motorized. We have been partnering with DNR for many years in managing the Jones Creek area and look forward to working on a volunteer basis in support of the responsible use of the forest and in support of DNR's activities therein.

As a current grant holder, we support DNR's request for grants for improvements and maintenance of the Yacolt Burn State Forest area. Our support is not just verbal, as JCTRA expects to contribute volunteer labor and other participation for this purpose. In particular we support the following grant applications:

20-2008	E	PC Education and Enforcement (Dept. of Natural Resources)
20-2010	M	Pacific Cascade Motorized Maintenance (Dept. of Natural Resources)
20-2009	M	Pacific Cascade Non-Motorized Maintenance (Dept. of Natural Resources)
20-2038	M	Yacolt Burn Non-Motorized Trail Bridges (Dept. of Natural Resources)
20-2011	M	Capital & Yacolt Forest Facilities Maintenance (Dept. of Natural Resources)
20-2039	D	Jones Creek ORV Trailhead Expansion (Dept. of Natural Resources)

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

D9D22539B7654F7...
Edward R. Gillespie
Co-President
Jones Creek Trail Riders Assoc.



Dear Grant Committee:

I represent the Chinook Trail Association. Our members regularly use DNR lands and I support the Washington State Department of Natural Resources Pacific Cascade Region's grant requests.

I thank the DNR for constructing new trails and their partnering with volunteer organization such as Washington Trails Association and the Chinook Trail Association in the maintenance and construction of trails. I appreciate the DNR provides motorized trail opportunities because without motorized trails the non-motorized trails would be driven on more often.

With the great collaboration with trail organizations I firmly believe this grant money will be used efficiently and wisely.

On behalf of the recreational users in the Southwest Washington area and the Chinook Trail Association, please approve these grants for the Pacific Cascade Region.

20-2008 E PC Education and Enforcement

20-2010 M Pacific Cascade Motorized Maintenance

20-2009 M Pacific Cascade Non-Motorized Maintenance

20-2038 M Yacolt Burn Non-Motorized Trail Bridges

20-2011 M Capital & Yacolt Forest Facilities Maintenance

20-2039 D Jones Creek ORV Trailhead Expansion Project

Sincerely,

Steve Jones

President, Chinook Trail Association



BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF WASHINGTON
PO Box 1132
ELLENSBURG, WA 98926
WWW.BCHW.ORG

October 29, 2020

RCO Grant Application

Number 20-2166 “Elbe Hills Non-Motorized System Maintenance”

Hello NOVA Grant Committee,

On behalf of the members of Tahoma Chapter of Back Country Horsemen of Washington (BCHW), I am writing you to express our support for the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO), Non-Highway and Off-Road Vehicle Activities Program (NOVA) grant application Number 20-2166 “Elbe Hills Non-Motorized System Maintenance” submitted by the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) South Puget Sound Region. This grant request will authorize several part time Recreation Staff positions to perform trail and facility maintenance in the Elbe Hills Forest, in Pierce County, in the State of Washington. This position and its’ associated materials is of great importance to the equestrian and hiking users of the recreational resources in this area. We see and experience the backlogs created by inadequate funding, the results of inexperienced campers this year in particular, and appreciate that needed support can be made available through NOVA funded resources.

Tahoma Chapter BCHW is based in King County of Washington State, and we actively recreate with our horses and mules regularly on DNR lands in the region. The Elbe Hills State Forest is one of our favorite places. We love to camp and ride at the Sahara Creek Campground and in the Nicholson Trail System.

Back Country Horsemen of Washington (BCHW) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit service organization established with the goal of keeping public lands open for recreational use with horses and mules. We are part of a national organization, Back Country Horsemen of America. By providing hands-on volunteer trail maintenance and education on the proper use of stock on public lands to horse and mule owners throughout the state, we support the recreational interests and goals of the Washington State Department of Natural Resources.

Please help us recreate safely with our horses and mules by approving this WADNR grant request.

Best regards,
s/ Mary Kane
Mary Kane
President, Tahoma Chapter
Back Country Horsemen of Washington
ranchomariamv@gmail.com
425 466 3840

Back Country Horsemen of Washington (BCHW), is a 501 (c) (3) organization with 33 chapters across the state dedicated to: keeping trails open for all users; educating horse users in Leave-No-Trace practices; and providing volunteer service to resource agencies.

Pierce Co- Back Country Horsemen of Washington
21804 Hwy 7
Spanaway WA 98387



NOVA Committee,

Our Back Country Horsemen of Washington members are users and volunteers in Elbe State Forest. Our equestrian group has voluntarily helped to maintain this forest for well over 30 years. Though we are State wide DNR volunteers, in Elbe State Forest alone we volunteered over 1,500 hours aiding DNR in conservation and maintenance projects on the miles of trails and public facilities.

As populations increase so does use of this State forest, compounding soil erosion, the need for camp maintenances and safety and health issues. Without grant funds, our volunteer conservation efforts will be severely impacted, as will be the outdoor experiences our citizens are entitled to.

Our organization will continue to use and laboriously volunteer to keep this facility in great shape for all non-motorized recreationists: Equestrians, hikers, hunters, fishermen, foragers and the camper who stops for a pleasant experience in the campgrounds.

We ask that you approve grant application #20-2166 Elbe Hills Non-Motorized System Maintenance where our recreation users will get the "Best Bang for Their Buck".

Sincerely,
Board of Directors-PCC BCHW

October 27, 2020

To Whom it May Concern:

Greg Johnston and I are users of DNR managed lands in the State of Washington. We are directly impacted and benefited by the maintenance and operations of recreational trails and facilities within the Elbe Hills State Forest. DNR continues to provide us with safe, sustainable and enjoyable recreation areas to conduct our activities. These areas provide a tangible benefit to us.

We support the request for RCO Grant #20-2166 Elbe Hills Non-Motorized System Maintenance. This grant will provide funding to conduct routine, general and some crucial target maintenance on 40 miles of equestrian and hiking trails, 7 day use areas, 3 trail heads and 1 campground in the Elbe Hills State Forest. The trails are heavily used by equestrians and can definitely use routine and critical maintenance to ensure the trails are safe for riders.

We plan on continuing to use DNR managed lands to conduct our activities and support DNR in pursuing RCO Grant #20-2166 Elbe Hills Non-motorized System Maintenance.

Sincerely,

Cathy Johnson
2412 284th St. E
Roy, Wa 98580

NOVA Committee,

October 10, 2020

I am a user and avid volunteer on Department of Natural Resources recreation lands in Washington State, particularly Elbe State Forest which is heavily used by Washington citizens and travelers from across the globe to enter Mt Rainier NP. Every year I see an increase of needed maintenance on this forest as more people discover the enjoyment of the outdoors. Many weekends I have arrived at the campground, only to find the multiple vehicle 18 campsites filled to capacity. The large crowds necessitate extreme maintenance.

I am a "Leave No Trace" instructor and use Elbe State Forest as an outdoor classroom, encouraging the public in easy ways they can enjoy the country side without leaving impacts on the land. To continue doing so, we need a safe environment which the funds from this grant would provide.

Maintenance, repairs and safety issues will be neglected without funding. I urge you to highly consider DNR's RCO Grant application #20-2166 (Elbe Hills Non-Motorized System Maintenance). Over 40 miles of non-motorized recreation trails, day use areas, trailheads and one large magnificent campground depend on this supplemental funding.

Thank You
Louise Caywood
PO Box 963
Spanaway, WA 98387
253-732-8105



Washington Recreation and Conservation Office

RE: RCO Grant # 20-2166 Elbe Hills Non-Motorized System Maintenance

To Whom It May Concern:

Mount Tahoma Trails Association (MTTA) uses DNR managed lands in the State of Washington. We directly benefit from the recreational access, trails and facilities within the Elbe Hills. DNR continues to provide MTTA with safe, sustainable, enjoyable recreation areas for public access. Recreational use of these areas provides important benefits to our communities.

MTTA is an all-volunteer non-profit corporation that has developed and maintains the largest no-fee hut-to-hut cross-country ski trail in the country. Public use of the MTTA trails includes more than ten thousand (10,000) recreational days on our trail system each year. DNR's management of the Elbe Hills provides a tangible benefit to us, and more importantly, to the thousands of Washington residents who use the MTTA trails each year.

We strongly support DNR'S request for **RCO Grant # 20-2166 Elbe Hills Non-Motorized System Maintenance**. Funding to conduct routine, general, and sometimes critical maintenance on 40 miles of equestrian/hiking trails, day use areas, trailheads and campground in Elbe Hills is important. Public use of these areas has increased significantly in the last 10 years and maintenance is essential for public access to the varied recreational users we serve.

We plan on continuing to use DNR managed lands to conduct MTTA's mission and support DNR in pursuing **RCO Grant # 20-2166 Elbe Hills Non-Motorized System Maintenance**. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

TJM, on behalf of Bob Myrick

Bob Myrick
President, Mount Tahoma Trails Association

Tom McKeon

Tom McKeon
Board Member, Mount Tahoma Trails Association

Nancy Wiest--[a Member of Pierce County Chapter Back Country Horseman}
4414--122nd Ave East
Edgewood, WA 98372

To Whom It May Concern:

We, Nancy Wiest, and the Members of PCCBCH, are users of DNR managed lands in the State of Washington. We all are directly impacted and benefited by the maintenance and operations of recreation trails and facilities within the Elbe Hills State Forest. DNR continues to provide us with safe, sustainable, enjoyable recreation areas to conduct our activities. These areas provide a tangible benefit to us.

We support the request for RCO Grant # 20-2166 Elbe Hills Non-Motorized System Maintenance. This grant will provide funding to conduct routine, general and some crucial, targeted maintenance on 40 miles of equestrian/hiking trails, 7 day use areas, 3 trailheads and 1 campground in the Elbe Hills State Forest.

We plan on continuing to use DNR managed lands to conduct our activities and **support DNR in pursuing RCO Grant # 20-2166 Elbe Hills Non-Motorized System Maintenance.**

Sincerely,
Nancy Wiest of PCCBCH



WA Competitive Mounted Orienteering/N. Lynn Mazer, Vice President WACMO
PO Box 39765
Lakewood, WA 98496

To Whom It May Concern:

We, **WA Competitive Mounted Orienteering (WACMO/NACMO)**, are users of DNR managed lands in the State of Washington. We are directly impacted and benefited by the maintenance and operations of recreation trails and facilities within the **Elbe Hills State Forest**. DNR continues to provide us with safe, sustainable, enjoyable recreation areas to conduct our activities. These areas provide a tangible benefit to us.

We support the request for **RCO Grant # 20-2166 Elbe Hills Non-Motorized System Maintenance**. This grant will provide funding to **conduct routine, general and some crucial, targeted maintenance on 40 miles of equestrian/hiking trails, 7 day use areas, 3 trailheads and 1 campground in the Elbe Hills State Forest**.

We plan on continuing to use DNR managed lands to conduct our activities and support DNR in pursuing **RCO Grant # 20-2166 Elbe Hills Non-Motorized System Maintenance**.

Sincerely,

WA Competitive Mounted Orienteering/N. Lynn Mazer, Vice President WACMO

October 15, 2020

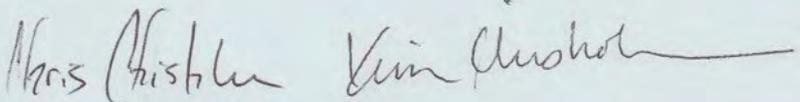
To Whom It May Concern:

We have been group users of DNR managed lands in the State of Washington since 1996, directly impacted and benefited by recreation trails, facilities, and dispersed use within the Elbe Hills State Forest. The DNR continues to provide us with safe, sustainable, enjoyable recreation areas to conduct our activities. These areas provide a tangible benefit to us.

In fact, Elbe Hills is one of the only areas we have found in our vicinity (less than 1.5 hour drive) where we can carry out all of the outdoor educational activities we teach to children as well as adults. Reason being that much of the South Sound's near-by wild lands are locked up as private Weyerhaeuser/Hancock forest lands. Because of this, Elbe Hills is a rare gem for everyone in our region to access for outdoor education, including for unfettered wildlife tracking and birding, ethnobotany studies, wilderness survival and first aid trainings, dispersed and group camping facilities, horseback riding, hunting and gathering. Several hundreds of our students over the past decade would attest to the importance and uniqueness of the Elbe Hills State Forest, and we appreciate the opportunity for grant support to maintain and improve it.

In summary, we support the request for RCO Grant # 20-2166 Elbe Hills Non-Motorized System Maintenance. This grant will provide funding to conduct routine, general and some crucial, targeted maintenance on 40 miles of equestrian/hiking trails, 7 day use areas, 3 trailheads and 1 campground in the Elbe Hills State Forest. We plan on continuing to use DNR managed lands to conduct our activities and support DNR in pursuing RCO Grant # 20-2166 Elbe Hills Non-Motorized System Maintenance.

Sincerely,



Kim & Chris Chisholm, Proprietors
Wolf Camp & School of Natural Science
1026 14th St SW, Puyallup WA 98371

Methow Valley Trails Collaborative

January 15, 2021

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office

P.O. Box 40917

Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

RE: Nonhighway & Off-Road Vehicle Activities Program – Letter of Support

NOVA-Nonmotorized Category: “Methow Valley – Virginian Ridge Access,” Application (#20-2033)

Dear Members of the NOVA Evaluation Committee,

I am writing on behalf of the Methow Valley Trails Collaborative to express our support and endorsement of DNR’s proposal to renovate, expand, designate and manage the Virginian Ridge trail system. We highly recommend you fund this project and look forward to working with DNR to implement this exciting trail system opportunity for our community.

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) will use this grant to renovate two informal trailhead parking areas and renovate, re-route, and build a 15 mile designated trail system in the Virginian Ridge area, approximately 5 miles west of Winthrop. This project will decommission and restore areas with resource damage, rebuild and renovate existing trail segments compatible with the trail system plan, and provide new trails in an effort to transform an existing disconnected unsanctioned network into a sustainable designated and agency managed trail system with defined public access to non-motorized trails for equestrian, hiking, and mountain biking use.

The Methow Valley Chapter is excited to support DNR in this effort, which will provide a full loop opportunity for equestrian riders to reach the view summit of Virginian Ridge, while connecting to a denser network of equestrian compatible trails in the north equestrian trail system zone. We are also excited for future possibilities for cross-jurisdictional trail connections to adjacent trail systems on USFS land and beyond. This project will provide a large benefit to the community by providing designated sustainable equestrian trail system riding on new terrain for both short and long distance outings.

This grant application is strongly supported with the benefit of providing safe and enjoyable equestrian trail riding experiences, an opportunity that is easily accessible from Winthrop and further adds important new equestrian trail access opportunities in the valley.

Ben Nelson



MVTC Chair



Washington Trails Association

705 Second Avenue, Suite 300, Seattle WA 98104 • 206.625.1367 • wta.org

January 14, 2021

Washington Recreation and Conservation Office PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Letter of Support for Washington State Department of Natural Resources NOVA
Development grant proposal, "Methow Valley – Virginian Ridge Access," Application #20-2033.

Dear RCO Review Committee :

I am writing on behalf of Washington Trails Association to express our enthusiastic support of the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) proposal to the Washington Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) for a project applied for within the NOVA Non-motorized Development category.

Washington Trails Association has a more than 50-year legacy of engaging the hiking community. WTA enhances hiking experiences in Washington state by empowering a diverse and growing community of hikers to explore, steward and protect trails and public lands. WTA is the nation's largest state-based trail maintenance and hiking advocacy nonprofit organization, with more than 24,000 member households and an online community of more than 100,000. Each year almost 4,500 WTA volunteers perform over 160,000 hours of trail maintenance across the state.

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) will use this grant to renovate two informal trailhead-parking areas, and renovate, re-route, and build a 15-mile designated trail system in the Virginian Ridge area, approximately five miles west of Winthrop. This project will decommission and restore areas with resource damage, rebuild and renovate existing trail segments compatible with the trail system plan. It will also provide new trails in an effort to transform an existing disconnected, unsanctioned network into a sustainable designated and agency managed trail system with defined public access to non-motorized trails for equestrian, hiking and mountain biking use.

Thank you for your consideration. We hope you will support and fund this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Andrea J. Imler".

Andrea Imler
Advocacy Director



BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF WASHINGTON
PO Box 1132
ELLENSBURG, WA 98926
WWW .BCHW.ORG

January 13, 2021

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

RE: Nonhighway & Off-Road Vehicle Activities Program – Letter of Support
NOVA-Nonmotorized Category: “Methow Valley – Virginian Ridge Access,”
Application (#20-2033)

Dear Members of the NOVA Evaluation Committee,

I am writing on behalf of the Back Country Horsemen of Washington - Methow Valley Chapter (MVBCH) to express our enthusiastic support of DNR's proposal to renovate, expand, designate and manage the Virginian Ridge trail system. We highly recommend you fund this project and look forward to working with DNR to implement this exciting trail system opportunity for our community.

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) will use this grant to renovate two informal trailhead parking areas and renovate, re-route, and build a 15 mile designated trail system in the Virginian Ridge area, approximately 5 miles west of Winthrop. This project will decommission and restore areas with resource damage, rebuild and renovate existing trail segments compatible with the trail system plan, and provide new trails in an effort to transform an existing disconnected unsanctioned network into a sustainable designated and agency managed trail system with defined public access to non-motorized trails for equestrian, hiking, and mountain biking use.

The Methow Valley Chapter is excited to support DNR in this effort, which will provide a full loop opportunity for equestrian riders to reach the view summit of Virginian Ridge, while connecting to a denser network of equestrian compatible trails in the north equestrian trail system zone. We are also excited for future possibilities for cross-jurisdictional trail connections to adjacent trail systems on USFS land and beyond. This project will provide a large benefit to the community by providing designated sustainable equestrian trail system riding on new terrain for both short and long distance outings.

This grant application is strongly supported with the benefit of providing safe and enjoyable equestrian trail riding experiences, an opportunity that is easily accessible from Winthrop and further adds important new equestrian trail access opportunities in the valley.

Cathy Upper

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cathy Upper".

Backcountry Horseman of Washington
Methow Valley Chapter President



www.evergreenMTB.org
Sustainable trails. rider powered.

January 15, 2021
Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Letter of Support: Washington State Department of Natural Resources, Recreation Program
NOVA Nonmotorized Category: Methow Valley – Virginian Ridge Access (Application #20-2033)

Dear NOVA Grant Evaluation Committee,

The Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance (Evergreen), Methow Chapter, strongly supports the Department of Natural Resources NOVA grant application for renovating, expanding, and managing a designated sustainable trail system on Virginian Ridge in the Methow Valley, west of Winthrop.

For many years, Virginian Ridge has served as a lightly visited, disconnected, user-built nondesignated riding area for mountain bike community members and visitors who are aware of the area and in the know by word of mouth, due to no signage or trail maps available for the area in its current nondesignated agency status. The Virginian Ridge landscape has great user experience potential and we are supportive of DNR's effort to work with the local nonmotorized user groups to develop and implement a positive trail system concept-plan to improve and officially designate this valuable trail network.

We are excited to help DNR with on-the-ground implementation of this project that will offer opportunities for mountain bike loops and various trail options for diverse skill levels, and provide balanced access with equestrian and hiking trail opportunities, that have occurred on the landscape over the years. Evergreen's Methow Chapter has committed \$10,000 in cash match and \$10,000 in donated volunteer labor value towards this project to help ensure its success.

Evergreen is the nation's largest statewide mountain bike organization, with more than 7,900 members and over 65,000 social media followers. We are dedicated to trail building and maintenance, as well as volunteerism, education, and advocacy. We look forward to working with DNR and appreciate the opportunity to provide support. We strongly support the Department of Natural Resources in its effort to create a comprehensive and connected trail system on Virginian Ridge. We fully support and urge you to fund this project!

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

Joseph Brown

CF9EE1F0F2BC46B...

Joe Brown
Methow Chapter President

Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Tax ID: 91-1553023.



State of Washington
Department of Fish and Wildlife

PO Box 1100- 111 Sherman Street • La Conner, Washington 98257 • (360) 466-4345 FAX (360) 466-0515

RCO Grant #20-2127 Maintenance and Operations – Morning Star 2020

November 20, 2020

Washington Recreation and Conservation Office
NOVA Program
Olympia, Washington

Dear NOVA Selection Committee,

On behalf of the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, I am writing to express my strong support for grant application # **20-2127 Maintenance and Operations** proposed for the Morning Star Natural Resources Conservation Area (NRCA). I have been a member of DNR's advisory committee for recreation in Morning Star since the committee's inception, representing the interests of fish and wildlife. As such, I've seen first-hand how carefully the DNR stewards the resources within the NRCA and how challenged they are to safeguard the fragile ecosystem that the NRCA represents.

Balancing the public's desire to experience the natural world while protecting delicate ecosystems is becoming difficult for all natural resource managers. As indicated in the application, the Morning Star NRCA has always been a popular destination and is under increasing pressure as more and more members of the public seek places to hike and camp. The Gothic Basin is particularly challenging because it's a gateway to steep, high elevation country where inexperienced hikers can easily exceed their outdoor skills. As such, the need to provide safe trails with clean and well maintained infrastructure is crucial for the well-being of visitors and to prevent the damage caused to the NRCA when these are not provided and the public takes it upon themselves to create their own hiking and camping facilities.

Natural Resource Conservation Areas are designated when specific places on the landscape represent the best of what is left of special habitats. The funds awarded to this application will ensure that those values are protected so that current and future generations may visit the NRCA and have a safe and quality experience at Morning Star.

Sincerely,

Ruth Milner
District 13 Wildlife Biologist
Washington Department of Fish and wildlife



Washington Trails Association

705 Second Avenue, Suite 300, Seattle WA 98104 • 206.625.1367 • wta.org

November 24, 2020

Washington Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: #20-2127 M, Morning Star Maintenance 2020 (Dept of Natural Resources)

Dear RCO Review Committee :

I am writing on behalf of Washington Trails Association to express our support of the Washington State Department of Natural Resource's Morning Star Maintenance grant. The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to conduct maintenance on non-motorized trails and at trailhead and trailside facilities on the Ashland Lakes, Boulder-Greider, Cutthroat Lakes and Bald Mountain landscapes. These landscapes are located within the Morning Star Natural Resources Conservation Area (NRCA), located in East Snohomish County.

WTA enhances hiking experiences in Washington state by empowering a diverse and growing community of hikers to explore, steward and protect trails and public lands. WTA is the nation's largest state-based trail maintenance and hiking advocacy nonprofit organization, with more than 24,000 member households and an online community of more than 100,000. Each year almost 4,500 WTA volunteers perform over 160,000 hours of trail maintenance across the state.

Under our Trails Rebooted campaign, WTA convened a cadre of user groups and local community members to inform the needs of future recreation in the area. The Mountain Loop, and specifically Morning Star area, were identified as places to build trail systems that can hold up to projected population growth and disperse hikers throughout the area. This funding will help to create better trail user experiences, provide funding for one-fourth of an existing Maintenance Steward and supplies to direct and support work by WCC and Volunteer crews. Work proposed in this grant will help ensure trails facilities in each landscape, including work funded by other grants (16-1541D, 18-1614D, and 18-1860D), will be maintained at a safe, sustainable level.

For the past several years, WTAs Volunteer Program has taken a role in building and maintaining trails in the NRCA in partnership with DNR staff and other trail user groups. We hope you will support this grant and in doing so the partnership we have with DNR as well. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrea J. Imler".

Andrea Imler
Advocacy Director

From: [Schutt, Mike](#)
To: [Currin, Tristan \(DNR\)](#); [McFarland, Paul \(DNR\)](#)
Cc: [Anna Thelen](#)
Subject: RCO Grant #20-2127 Maintenance and Operations – Morning Star 2020
Date: Thursday, December 17, 2020 3:32:47 PM

This message has originated from an External Source. Please use caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding to this email. Contact your desktop support or IT security staff for assistance and to report suspicious messages.

The City of Everett (City) and Snohomish County PUD (PUD) are happy to have the opportunity to provide this letter of support for **RCO Grant #20-2127 Maintenance and Operations – Morning Star 2020**

The City provides potable water from the Sultan Basin to more than 625,000 homes within Snohomish County, and the PUD utilizes the same water to provide energy to approximately 53,000 homes. The City and PUD manage several thousand acres of lower elevation lands within the Sultan Basin, some abutting the NRCA boundary. The majority of that land is open for various types of low impact day-use recreation. Both entities participated in the Morning Star NRCA trails planning process and recognize that managing low-impact recreation within the Sultan Basin is integral to protecting the invaluable public resources that occur there. We fully support improvements to the existing trails within the NRCA, to protect the natural resources while allowing low impact use of the lands within the Basin. The Boulder-Greider Trail system is accessed from roads surrounding Spada Lake, with drainages that feed into the lake, and is heavily utilized by the public during the recreation season. Improvements to the trail system and maintenance of the sanitary amenities are strongly supported.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Mike Schutt
Sr. Environmental Coordinator – Wildlife
Generation – Natural Resources
Snohomish County PUD
Office) 425-783-1712
Cell) 425-210-5816



BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF WASHINGTON
PO Box 1132
ELLENSBURG, WA 98926
WWW.BCHW.ORG

November 2, 2020

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: RCO NOVA Nonmotorized Trail Project 20-2264: CHEESE ROCK TRAIL BRIDGE
INSTALLATION

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of Back Country Horsemen of Washington (BCHW), I am writing in support of the Washington Department of Natural Resources, Southeast Regional Office's request for RCO NOVA Nonmotorized funds to install a bridge to the Cheese Rock Trail.

The mission of BCHW is to keep trails open for all users, provide education on Leave No Trace practices, and provide volunteer service to partnering agencies and organizations that further our mission. The Cheese Rock trail provides fun and easy nonmotorized access to an amazing vista of the Teanaway Valley. It is also conveniently located just across the West Fork Teanaway River from a very popular and heavily used developed campground. For many years, this viewpoint was only accessible via inhospitable logging roads. In 2018, DNR partnered with the Washington Trails Association and Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust to build an improved trail, which has remained unopened due to one missing link: a bridge crossing Carlson Creek. Until such a bridge is installed, hikers, bikers, equestrians and other users must wade across the creek to reach the trailhead. This can be dangerous to people during high-flows, and detrimental to the riverbanks during the drier months. Sediment kicked into the creekbed can cause water quality issues in the West Fork Teanaway, where Spring chinook, steelhead, and cutthroat have all been documented. The number of people utilizing Teanaway Campground will only continue to grow, thanks in part to past RCO funding for improved roads, vault toilets, and other amenities at the site.

Please contact Jason Ridlon, BCHW President, at 509-699-9927 or jhridlon@fairpoint.net if you have any questions regarding this letter of support.

Thank you for this opportunity to express our support and ongoing partnership with WTA.

Sincerely,

Jason Ridlon
BCHW President, Trail Work Coordinator

Back Country Horsemen of Washington (BCHW), is a 501 (c) (3) organization with 32 chapters across the state dedicated to: keeping trails open for all users; educating horse users in Leave-No-Trace practices; and providing volunteer service to resource agencies.



Washington Trails Association

705 Second Avenue, Suite 300, Seattle WA 98104 • 206.625.1367 • wta.org

October 28, 2020

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917
RE: RCO NOVA Nonmotorized Trail Project 20-2264: CHEESE ROCK TRAIL BRIDGE INSTALLATION

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of Washington Trails Association, I am writing in support of the Washington Department of Natural Resources, Southeast Regional Office's request for RCO NOVA Nonmotorized funds to install a bridge to the Cheese Rock Trail.

Washington Trails Association has a more than 50-year legacy of engaging the hiking community. WTA enhances hiking experiences in Washington state by empowering a diverse and growing community of hikers to explore, steward and protect trails and public lands. WTA is the nation's largest state-based trail maintenance and hiking advocacy nonprofit organization, with more than 24,000 member households and an online community of more than 100,000. Each year almost 4,500 WTA volunteers perform over 160,000 hours of trail maintenance across the state.

The Cheese Rock trail provides fun and easy nonmotorized access to an amazing vista of the Teanaway Valley. It is also conveniently located just across the West Fork Teanaway River from a very popular and heavily used developed campground. For many years, this viewpoint was only accessible via inhospitable logging roads. In 2018, DNR partnered with Washington Trails Association and Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust to build an improved trail, which has remained unopened due to one missing link: a bridge crossing Carlson Creek. Until such a bridge is installed, hikers, bikers, equestrians and other users must wade across the creek to reach the trailhead. This can be dangerous to people during high-flows, and detrimental to the riverbanks during the drier months. Sediment kicked into the creekbed can cause water quality issues in the West Fork Teanaway, where Spring chinook, steelhead, and cutthroat have all been documented.

The number of people utilizing Teanaway Campground will only continue to grow, thanks in part to past RCO funding for improved roads, vault toilets, and other amenities at the site. We must now look to provide safe, sustainable, wildlife-friendly recreation options for those many visitors. For these reasons, WTA supports this important application. Please do not hesitate to reach out to us should you have any questions. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrea J. Imler".

Andrea Imler Advocacy Director

January 11, 2020

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: RCO NOVA Nonmotorized Trail Project 20-2264: CHEESE ROCK TRAIL BRIDGE INSTALLATION

To Whom it May Concern;

On behalf of the Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance-Kititas Chapter, I am writing in support of the Washington Department of Natural Resources, Southeast Regional Office's request for RCO NOVA Nonmotorized funds to install a bridge to the Cheese Rock Trail.

The goals of our organization are to educate mountain bikers, to build and maintain sustainable trails, and to advocate for mountain biking access. The development of sustainable trails and trail infrastructure in the Teanaway Community Forest (TCF) is a high priority for our chapter as we seek to improve mountain biking access in Kititas County. The TCF provides a high-quality recreation experience for mountain bikers and other nonmotorized user groups, with trails leading to unique geological features, such as Cheese Rock.

The Cheese Rock trail provides fun and easy nonmotorized access to an amazing vista of the Teanaway Valley. It is also conveniently located just across the West Fork Teanaway River from a very popular and heavily used developed campground. For many years, this viewpoint was only accessible via inhospitable logging roads. In 2018, DNR partnered with the Washington Trails Association and Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust to build an improved trail, which has remained unopened due to one missing link: a bridge crossing Carlson Creek. Until such a bridge is installed, hikers, bikers, equestrians and other users must wade across the creek to reach the trailhead. This can be dangerous to people during high-flows, and detrimental to the riverbanks during the drier months. Sediment kicked into the creekbed can cause water quality issues in the West Fork Teanaway, where Spring chinook, steelhead, and cutthroat trout have all been documented.

The number of people utilizing Teanaway Campground will only continue to grow, thanks in part to past RCO funding for improved roads, vault toilets, and other amenities at the site. We must now look to provide safe, sustainable, wildlife-friendly recreation options for those many visitors. For these reasons, I/WE support this important application. Please do not hesitate to reach out to us should you have any questions.

Sincerely,



President

Kititas Chapter Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance

January 11, 2021

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: RCO NOVA Nonmotorized Trail Project 20-2264: CHEESE ROCK TRAIL BRIDGE INSTALLATION

To Whom it May Concern;

As a resident of the Teanaway and a member of the Teanaway Community Forest Advisory Committee, I am writing in support of the Washington Department of Natural Resources, Southeast Regional Office's request for RCO NOVA Nonmotorized funds to install a bridge to the Cheese Rock Trail.

My family and friends and I hike and snowshoe to Cheese Rock regularly. It is a much-loved outing for all of us. The Carson Creek bridge is an important part of helping to keep this area resilient with the increase in visitors. It meets the goals of the Teanaway Community Forest. Creek crossing without the bridge will have detrimental impacts on safety, fish and soil erosion as the trail-route through the river is being used heavily.

The Cheese Rock trail provides fun and easy nonmotorized access to an amazing vista of the Teanaway Valley. It is also conveniently located just across the West Fork Teanaway River from a very popular and heavily used developed campground. For many years, this viewpoint was only accessible via inhospitable logging roads. In 2018, DNR partnered with the Washington Trails Association and Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust to build an improved trail, which has remained unopened due to one missing link: a bridge crossing Carlson Creek. Until such a bridge is installed, hikers, bikers, equestrians and other users must wade across the creek to reach the trailhead. This can be dangerous to people during high-flows, and detrimental to the riverbanks during the drier months. Sediment kicked into the creekbed can cause water quality issues in the West Fork Teanaway, where Spring chinook, steelhead, and cutthroat have all been documented.

The number of people utilizing Teanaway Campground will only continue to grow, thanks in part to past RCO funding for improved roads, vault toilets, and other amenities at the site. We must now look to provide safe, sustainable, wildlife-friendly recreation options for those many visitors. For these reasons, I/WE support this important application. Please do not hesitate to reach out to us should you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Martha Wyckoff 591 Ballard Hill Rd, Cle Elum WA 98922

REP. SUZAN K. DELBENE

1ST DISTRICT, WASHINGTON

2330 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-6311

22121 17TH AVE SE, STE 220
BOTHELL, WA 98021
(425) 485-0085

204 W. MONTGOMERY ST.
MOUNT VERNON, WA 98273
(360) 416-7879

WWW.DELBENE.HOUSE.GOV

20-2104 NOVA ORV #1

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON SELECT REVENUE MEASURES

SUBCOMMITTEE ON TRADE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

December 16, 2020

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: RCO Grant #20-2103 Education & Enforcement – South Zone DNR NW Region and RCO Grant #20-2104 Reiter Foothills Forest Maintenance and Operations

Dear members of the Recreation and Conservation Advisory Committee:

I write in support of the Washington State Department of Natural Resource's grant applications RCO Grant #20-2103 Education & Enforcement – South Zone DNR NW Region and RCO Grant #20-2104 Reiter Foothills Forest Maintenance and Operations. The two grants have been submitted to the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office. With increased visitation and recreational use of DNR managed lands, trail maintenance, operations, education and enforcement are more important than ever to support. Both grants will address major needs that keep public lands safe, open, and fun, and that will in-turn protect our natural resources and boost local economies through outdoor recreation.

Grant #20-2103 will provide essential education and enforcement services to Reiter Foothills Forest, a regional off-road vehicle (ORV) destination receiving close to 50,000 visits annually, and to Morningstar Natural Resource Conservation Area which protects over 40,000 acres and almost 30 miles of non-motorized trails. It also will serve North Mountain Bike Trails, a DNR developed bike park developed after the Oso Landslide in Darrington to boost the local outdoor recreation economy. This grant will also serve the Sultan Basin and Forest Glade forests that provide an array of outdoor recreation opportunities.

Grant #20-2104 will provide funding to properly maintain and operate the 30 miles of ORV trails within Reiter Foothills Forest. RCO has heavily invested in DNR to develop these trails over the last decade. Now that the ORV trail development is nearing completion of its phase 1 and annual visitation is higher than ever, proper maintenance will protect this investment.

I appreciate your full and fair consideration, consistent with applicable laws and regulations, of this grant application.

Sincerely,



Suzan DelBene
Member of Congress
Washington 1st District



December 11th, 2020

**Board
of
Directors**

The Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Bradley Copeland

Helen Haberman

Scott Halpert

Jane Kammerzelt

Erik Matisek

Judith McHugh

Patricia Sheppard

Devin Thompson

Greg Williams

Rose Wolfe

Dear Recreation and Conservation Office,

I am pleased to write on behalf of Northwest Youth Corps (NYC) in support of the Reiter Foothills Forest Landscape and the Washington Department of Natural Resources to the NOVA Program in submitting the following applications:

RCO Grant #20-2103 Education and Enforcement – South Zone DNR NW Region

RCO Grant #20-2104 Reiter Foothills Forest Maintenance and Operations

Through this partnership, both The Department of Natural Resources and Northwest Youth Corps will be able to establish the efficacy of young people on Washington's outdoor recreation infrastructure while training to become future stewards. Doubly this will enhance and maintain the existing 30+ miles of ORV trails within the Reiter Foothills Forest that many user groups make great use of!

NYC is a youth development and outdoor education organization that has provided opportunities to young people since its establishment in 1984. NYC employs over 900 youth and young adults annually to complete conservation projects throughout Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and California. Participants through our Washington state programs will experience their time by working on outdoor projects around the state through programs that start from our field office at Lake Wenatchee on the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest or out of Tacoma, WA with our agency partner, Metro Parks Tacoma.

**Friends
and
Advisors**

Ken Maddox

Sam Naito

Arthur Pope

Barbara Roberts

Jean Tate

NYC and the Department of Natural Resources have worked in partnership to benefit our public lands and youth alike since the late 2000s. The applications mentioned above will help to further this partnership. A partnership in which the Department of Natural Resources and Northwest Youth Corps can continue to complete necessary maintenance projects will allow young people to learn, grow, and experience success.

Yours in Outdoor Programs That Last a Lifetime,

Edison Velez III
Washington State Programs Manager
Phone – (253) 245-3724
Fax – (541) 349-5060
Edisonv@nwyouthcorps.org

November 5, 2020

Cobi Seslar, M.Ed.
Everett Community College

Re: ***RCO Grant #20-2103 Education & Enforcement – South Zone DNR NW Region***
RCO Grant #20-2104 Reiter Foothills Forest Maintenance and Operations

To Recreation Conservation Office Funding Board and Staff,

Benjamin Hale of the DNR Recreation program has been very generous with his time with my college classes. For five years, I have brought an Everett Community College summer class (approx. 30 students per year) to spend a day with him and his colleagues (approx. 5 hours). For four years, Ben, John Moon, and Greg Anderson, DNR Unit Foresters, have come to my EVCC classes, giving DNR presentations. In these classroom presentations, they reach approximately 90 students each quarter. In the last two years, in both a campus setting and wilderness classroom, they have offered 960 face hours with my students alone. In this contact with students, they have the opportunity to educate the public on proper recreation usage, especially at Reiter Foothills Trail system.

What I love about having these guys come to my classes is a long list:

- Teach students what DNR is, their responsibilities, and land management law & practices
- Inform students about the revenue generating activities DNR does for its Washington state citizens and programs
- Teach students about their Forestry Management Plan
- Students learn the details of the Reiter Pit controversy, as well as their new management plan
- Students learn about the Habitat Conservation Plan that is upheld
- Students see a government agency that uphold laws concerning wildlife preservation and resource sustainability
- They inform students about how they work collaboratively within the agency, and with the various user groups of the community
- They offer examples of how they are collaborating and communicating with stakeholders.
- They showcase how safe and sustainable recreation can be provided within a working forest concept.



- Students learn about these types of careers that are outdoors, in the industry of natural resource management; they also learn about summer jobs like trail building and firefighting.

This presentation directly helps my students write a “Solution Argument essay”, I feel that the presentation Ben and John share is a perfect example of a Solution to an environmental issue. Environmental conservation concerns are addressed by maintaining high standards within the Habitat Conservation Plan, while they are managing natural resources for state income generation in a sustainable format.

Both Ben, John, and Greg have prioritized their relationship with me and my students. We plan for their presentation each quarter, and they generously give me an entire day in the summer.

I highly recommend they receive grants to support their continued education services to the community.

Sincerely,

Cobi Seslar, M. Ed.
English Professor
Everett Community College

Hale, Benjamin (DNR)

From: Jim <neffj@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 7:42 PM
To: Hale, Benjamin (DNR)
Subject: RCO grants

This message has originated from an External Source. Please use caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding to this email. Contact your desktop support or IT security staff for assistance and to report suspicious messages.

To whom it may concern,

I am a member of the Puget Sound Trialers club and I am writing in strong support of the DNR application for RCO Grants #20-2103 and #20-2104. The DNR has been very supportive of both motorized and non-motorized recreation on its lands. For the Trials community in particular, this support has been crucial in providing the only remaining public land that welcomes our small footprint sport on the west side of the Cascades. We thoroughly appreciate the active and inclusive efforts that the DNR has devoted to maintaining public education and outreach for developing recreation opportunities of all types.

Respectfully,
James Neff
PST past president

Hale, Benjamin (DNR)

From: Casey Stokes <imcasey2u@comcast.net>
Sent: Friday, October 30, 2020 12:45 PM
To: Hale, Benjamin (DNR)
Subject: Grant Support email

This message has originated from an External Source. Please use caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding to this email. Contact your desktop support or IT security staff for assistance and to report suspicious messages.

Ben, Below is an email from both my husband and I, in support of your upcoming grant applications, both M&O and E&E.

To Whom it may concern:

My husband and I each have our own off-road vehicles. We enjoy going to Reiter to recreate, for many reasons. It is somewhat close to home, compared to other recreations areas, it has a variety of trails for a variety of vehicles and experience levels. We typically go to Reiter several times a year, and I am the chairperson of the annual event called Reiter Rock Crawl. We also help with clean-up/repair work, when we can, as well as off-roading. As club members of the Timber Tamers 4x4 club, we often make Reiter our monthly club run, as well as individual runs to Reiter.

Casey Stokes

Gary Miller

Casey Stokes-Miller, CB
CAS Bookkeeping
Certified QuickBooks ProAdvisor
Phone: 425-385-3668
Fax: 877-845-9212
WWW.CAS-Bookkeeping.com

Hale, Benjamin (DNR)

From: Mike Baker <olutleipuri@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, November 6, 2020 4:23 PM
To: Hale, Benjamin (DNR)
Subject: Reiter Foothills RCO Grant Submissions

This message has originated from an External Source. Please use caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding to this email. Contact your desktop support or IT security staff for assistance and to report suspicious messages.

RCO Grant #20-2103 Education & Enforcement - South Zone DNR NW Region
RCO Grant #20-2104 Reiter Foothills Forest Maintenance and Operations

I am writing to provide my support for RCO Grant #20-2103 and RCO Grant #20-2104. I have been an active user and volunteer at the Reiter ORV area for about 2 years. It is a very valuable resource to me and I want to see it grow and thrive in the future.

To quote probably our most active community member, Mike Cash, "Education and diligence are the two strongest cards we have in protecting what little piece of the pie we have."

In my time at the park, maybe the biggest issues I see is education on trail use and simple land stewardship, and lacking one's ability to learn, enforcement of the rules. A dedicated resource for patrol would be welcome.

Additionally as the usage at the park grows maintenance of wear and tear and deliberate damage can be difficult for our small group of volunteers with shovels and straps. Again, a resource for operations would also be appreciated.

Thank you for your time
Mike Baker
5602 147th Ave SE, Snohomish, WA 98290
206-456-5374

Hale, Benjamin (DNR)

From: Julie Langabeer <kjlanga@msn.com>
Sent: Saturday, January 9, 2021 12:06 PM
To: Hale, Benjamin (DNR)
Subject: Support for RCO Grants

This message has originated from an External Source. Please use caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding to this email. Contact your desktop support or IT security staff for assistance and to report suspicious messages.

SUPPORT for RCO GRANT #20-2103 EDUCATION and ENFORCEMENT - South Zone DNR NW Region

I speak for myself and an informal group of about 20 senior women from the Everett area who hike regularly. There is no doubt that regular enforcement and education is needed to help insure that the public uses these popular areas without damage to resources or endangering the health and safety of themselves and others. Without enforcement, there will be those who, out of either ignorance or the belief that they can get away with it, can spoil the experience for the the rest of us who respect the rules.

SUPPORT for RCO GRANT #20-2104 REITER FOOTHILLS FOREST MAINTENANCE and OPERATIONS

This is a no-brainer. Outdoor recreation is incredibly important to our personal well-being and to the economy. The Reiter Foothills trails are especially needed because they are accessible in winter when high-elevation trails are not. Trails, parking areas, restrooms and signs must be maintained to make the experience enjoyable and safe for all who use them. My friends and I who hike regularly try to do our part by picking up litter and removing small obstructions from the trails, but there is a lot of necessary work beyond the capabilities of a group of old ladies. The ORV trails, even though we don't use them, also require maintenance for the people who do.

Sincerely,

Julie Langabeer
1409 Grand Ave.
Everett, WA 98201

Hale, Benjamin (DNR)

From: Keith Elledge <elledgekeith@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 4, 2020 9:44 PM
To: Hale, Benjamin (DNR)
Subject: Grants

This message has originated from an External Source. Please use caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding to this email. Contact your desktop support or IT security staff for assistance and to report suspicious messages.

I approve both of these grants 20-2103 and 20-2104 I think both of these are vital to the orv parks

Keith Elledge

Hale, Benjamin (DNR)

From: Corrie Gowland <corrie@seanet.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 30, 2020 12:36 PM
To: Hale, Benjamin (DNR)
Subject: Support for Grant 20-2104

This message has originated from an External Source. Please use caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding to this email. Contact your desktop support or IT security staff for assistance and to report suspicious messages.

Hello Ben

I'm a member of the Timber Tamers Offroad club and use the Reiter trail System several times a year for recreation. The maintenance \$ received are very important for keeping the trails safe and useable for a wide range of vehicles. Without maintenance , users will make their own trails to avoid spots that have become eroded and too difficult, or may cause damage to their vehicles and possibly themselves when a trail that was once passable becomes too difficult.

Thanks

Corrie Gowland
8331 200th St SE
Snohomish, Wa
98296

Hale, Benjamin (DNR)

From: Ben Carlson <sleddy5@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 7:19 PM
To: Hale, Benjamin (DNR)
Subject: Grant 20-2103, 20-2104

This message has originated from an External Source. Please use caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding to this email. Contact your desktop support or IT security staff for assistance and to report suspicious messages.

Hello Mr. Hale

I'm emailing to show support for these grant actions. The Reiter trials area is the only public option I know of in this area. I know many of us really enjoy this area and hope to see it maintained and open for decades to come. I fully support monitoring and think having a regular DNR presence is important to keep people from making poor decisions. I'd love to see some camping areas established there as well.

Happy Holidays,

Ben Carlson
Snohomish, WA

Sent from my iPhone

Hale, Benjamin (DNR)

From: Christian Leger <celeger719@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, October 30, 2020 2:14 PM
To: Hale, Benjamin (DNR)
Subject: Grant Support

This message has originated from an External Source. Please use caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding to this email. Contact your desktop support or IT security staff for assistance and to report suspicious messages.

I utilize Reiter ORV area for 4 wheeling on a by-monthly basis. I enjoy the variety of difficulty on trails and the constant building of new trails/obstacles. With the help of volunteers and work parties the ORV park is maintained and clean of trash.

Thanks to all the help us with continued use of ORV trails.

Christian Leger
Timber Tamer member #322

Hale, Benjamin (DNR)

From: Chris Long <chris@thelongs.org>
Sent: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 7:41 PM
To: Hale, Benjamin (DNR)
Subject: RCO Grants #20-2103 and #20-2104

This message has originated from an External Source. Please use caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding to this email. Contact your desktop support or IT security staff for assistance and to report suspicious messages.

Hello, and to whom it may concern,

I am a member of the Puget Sound Trialers club and I am writing in strong support of the DNR application for RCO Grants #20-2103 and #20-2104. The DNR has been very supportive of both motorized and non-motorized recreation on its lands. For the Trials community in particular, this support has been crucial in providing the only remaining public land that welcomes our small footprint sport on the west side of the Cascades. We thoroughly appreciate the active and inclusive efforts that the DNR has devoted to maintaining public education and outreach for developing recreation opportunities of all types.

Thank you!
Chris Long
303-521-3448

Hale, Benjamin (DNR)

From: troy messick <troymessick@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 4, 2020 9:28 PM
To: Hale, Benjamin (DNR)
Subject: Reiter trails orv grant

This message has originated from an External Source. Please use caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding to this email. Contact your desktop support or IT security staff for assistance and to report suspicious messages.

To whom it may concern.

I have been a user of Reiter trail orv for many years. I have seen the amazing progress with new trails and the growing popularity. This area is becoming more popular and with this comes a need for more trails and supporting facilities such as parking and maintenance. I have participated in many days helping with trail repair and educating new users to the trails .

The continued support with grants for this area is imperative to the success of this area as it becomes even more popular and is subject to more use.

Thank you for consideration.

Troy Messick
12933 53rd dr se
Everett wa 98208

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

Hale, Benjamin (DNR)

From: Gary Miller <garcol@comcast.net>
Sent: Saturday, October 31, 2020 11:39 AM
To: Hale, Benjamin (DNR)
Subject: Rieter foothills

This message has originated from an External Source. Please use caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding to this email. Contact your desktop support or IT security staff for assistance and to report suspicious messages.

I am writing this letter to inform you that I use the Reiter foothills recreation area with my 4 wheel drive vehicle on a regular basis. I belong to a club and we have regular trail runs on the trail system in Reiter area. We have always enjoyed this area and have found that it is well maintained and routinely kept up with people volunteering to maintain and upgrade the trails and eco system. We feel confident that trails systems in this area have been kept up for safety as well as the ecosystem to make it a safe and fun environment for family and friends to enjoy the sport of 4 wheeling whether it be hard core rock crawling or just a little trail running.

Than you
Gary D Miller
Timber Tamer Member

Hale, Benjamin (DNR)

From: Cody Porter <NWOC-CP@outlook.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 4, 2020 8:49 PM
To: Hale, Benjamin (DNR)
Subject: Reiter foothills gra ts

This message has originated from an External Source. Please use caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding to this email. Contact your desktop support or IT security staff for assistance and to report suspicious messages.

Hi Ben,

As a user who has been involved with reiter for many many years. I am writing to support both grants being proposed.

Thank you-

Cody Porter
Northwest Outdoor Creations & Remodel LLC
425-218-0501

Hale, Benjamin (DNR)

From: steven yeager <blackzuk88@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 4, 2020 8:35 PM
To: Hale, Benjamin (DNR)
Subject: Reiter foothills grants

This message has originated from an External Source. Please use caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding to this email. Contact your desktop support or IT security staff for assistance and to report suspicious messages.

Hello, I like and support the idea of Reiter foothills getting the grant money for both enforcement and trail maintenance and building. The 4x4 trail system is top notch, clean, and very well designed. I really enjoy recreating there and volunteering my time to help when I can and really appreciate the park and its people.

Thanks,
Steve Yeager

Get [Outlook for Android](#)

Hale, Benjamin (DNR)

From: Its Me <fstontp@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 5, 2020 4:55 PM
To: Hale, Benjamin (DNR)
Subject: Rieter trails

This message has originated from an External Source. Please use caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding to this email. Contact your desktop support or IT security staff for assistance and to report suspicious messages.

Hello my name is Bill Briere
I would like to extend my support for the education and maintenance for rieter trails
Grants...
Thank you so much.

Letters of Support:

Walker Valley ORV Area Maintenance and Operations Grant, RCO 20-2212

(Please note: a few of these letters are also included with the NW Region DNR Education and Enforcement Trails Warden grant (RCO 20-2273) where the person is also referring to Walker Valley.)

***** Red asterisks indicate next letter.

"Dear RCO,

I support continued grant funding for an Education and Enforcement Trail Warden for DNR recreation sites in the Skagit County area. The primary purpose of the Education and Enforcement program is to serve the public that recreates on DNR-managed lands so that they may have a safe, enjoyable outdoor recreation.

Walker is where my daughter learned to ride we still go every other weekend my granddaughter has just started riding along with us I hope she gets a chance to learn to ride here as well



I am 47 years old and have been riding motorcycles off road since I was 5. It has always been an important part of my life, but there are very few areas in Western Washington to ride on public land. I drive 90 minutes one-way to go to Walker Valley to ride dirt bikes and I do that once or twice a month summer and winter.

Thank you for offering this opportunity to my family and please see that it gets the funding to keep it going.

Robert Phillips
Issaquah, WA

October 31, 2020

Please continue to fund the motorized grants for the 2021-2022 calendar years regarding Walker Valley OHV Trail Maintenance and Operations

AND the

20-2273 Northwest Region Education and Enforcement north zone for trail warden in Walker Valley OHV in Skagit County

Funding these grants will further ensure the structure of outdoor activities for many family activities as well as learning opportunities for children along with physical activity for the only OHV area for miles on the westside of Washington.

It will also continue the education for those new to the sport of true outdoor recreation stewardship.

Thank you,

Pamela Remley

Member of: PNW4WDA Region 1 and Rainier Ridge Rams



[From Ian Jensen, including the photo]

Hello, my Family and I frequently jeep on the trails at Walker Valley and really enjoy this as our family hobby and honestly my stress relief! We are always impressed with how well maintained and the variety of easy to difficult trails and obstacles that Walker provides. My wife especially loves the views that you come across. Thank you!

I am writing this letter to inform you that I use the Walker Valley recreation area with my 4 wheel drive vehicle on a regular basis. I belong to a club and we have regular trail runs on the trail system in Walker Valley. We have always enjoyed this area and have found that it is well maintained and routinely kept up with people volunteering to maintain and upgrade the trails and eco system. We feel confident that trails systems in this area have been kept up for safety as well as the ecosystem to make it a safe and fun environment for family and friends to enjoy the sport of 4 wheeling whether it be hard core rock crawling or just a little trail running.

Than you
Gary D Miller
Timber Tamer Member

[From Wade Martini] Good Evening,

I wanted to take a minute to voice my opinion on Walker Valley.

My wife joins me every so often to ride her quad, but I ride there on a regular bases on my Dirtbike. Normally once per week.

I use riding as not only my hobby, but a stress reliever. Walker Valley has become my sanctuary since I've been here, my happy place!

I'm leaving here in a few months for good, and it will be missed. I just want to put out my two cent in order to support Walker and all my buddies that love that place the same as I do.

Hi James,

I'm writing you about the Individual Grant for Walker Valley. I've been using Walker Valley for about five years. I'm there two to three times a month if not more. I wheel a jeep wrangler and ride a dirt bike up there. I ride a lot of the single track and wheel some of the moderate trails.

Thanks,
Nolan Ward

Hello my name is Kevin Lodjic and I ride walker valley orv park every weekend with my wife and daughter. We love having access to a place to ride our dirt bikes and being it's the only one in skagit county I would hate to see it closed it would ruin my family's number one hobby and passion. We like having access to the trail system it is well maintained and a blast to ride. I know of at least 100 other people that feel the same way I do and I'm sure there are thousands more people who would agree and like I mentioned above it is the only legal place to go ride our dirt bikes in the area. Please do everything you can to keep it open for people like us.

PLEASE, we need the Individual Grant Support!

We go every few weeks.

This is the only place in Western WA up here in Snohomish, Whatcom, Skagit areas. If support for this area wanes, ppl will make illegal trails in unwanted areas elsewhere in the snoho./what/skagit counties, which is never a good thing.

Love the Walker! the amount and variety of trails. Love that its typically clean! No abandoned vehicles, never seen any squatters, and that there are available bathrooms (my wife appreciates!)

If we don't keep taking care of this place, it will fall into a bad situation with squatters and abuse etc. Its a good investment to keep this place going, giving folks a legal, clean, and enjoyable place for moto-recreation. It also helps our Skagit area businesses, dining, gas stations, dealerships, and repair/parts stores.

BTW attaching a few pics of our visit this past Wed.

Thank you,

Sonny Andrew

THANK YOU! [photos were part of the letter we received]



To whom it may concern:

My Son and I moved up to the area a little over a year ago. My son has always loved having a Dirt bike. We were introduced to Walker Valley last December. Being a single mom of a 14 year old son. This gave us something to look forward too. I ended up buying a quad and since Covid we were going every Friday. We love going. We pack a lunch and bring some chairs. We have really enjoyed our time. We have met other riders and brought some people with us too.

Walker Valley has given me and my son some common ground. Some fun! Something we could do together. I am so grateful for that! I think we need more places like Walker Valley for families. Good old healthy fun.

I hope this letter finds you well, Sincerely,

Kimberly Henry
Sedro Woolley, WA

I utilize Walker Valley ORV area for 4 wheeling and quad riding on a by-weekly basis. I enjoy the variety of trails and ability to basically do a loop between both gate keepers. With the help of volunteers and work parties the ORV park is maintained and clean of trash.

Thanks to all the help us with continued use of ORV trails.

Christian Leger
Timber Tamer member #322

[From Chisum Sifford] Hello, I would like to be added to the grant list for walker valley, I have been riding with my dad up there since 2000 and iv been taking my 2 boys there for 5 years and my nephews for 8 years we go 1 or twice a month and is some of the best memory's I have are there with my dad and the kids

Thanks!

To Whom it may concern:

My husband and I each have our own off-road vehicles. We enjoy going to Walker Valley to recreate, for many reasons. It is somewhat close to home, compared to other recreation areas, it has a variety of trails for a variety of vehicles and experience levels, and our favorite DNR representatives. We typically go to Walker Valley a couple times a year, for clean-up/repair work, as well as off-roading. As club members of the **Timber Tamers 4x4** club, we often take new folks to Walker Valley, because of the variety of trails that are offered.

Casey Stokes
Gary Miller

Hi Jim,

I wanted to drop you just a quick email in regards to my usage at Walker Valley over the years. I've been riding dirt bikes up there since 1980 and have been wheeling in Jeeps etc. since 1995 or so. As you know a lot has changed up there especially recently with the decommissioning of the road up to Split Rock.

I've gotta say I was happy to at least been able to show Split Rock to my fiancé in person a few months ago.

I'd been telling her about it for a couple of years and honestly had been going up there since the 80's. Anyway I won't blather on about the loss of the road up there.

I live in Clear Lake and most of my riding / wheeling is done locally.

These days I'm just not a fan of taking a road trip in order to do either.

I guess you could say I've gotten lazy in my semi old age. 😊

Anyway hopefully this not too long winded email will show our support for Walker Valley. If there's anything else I can do please don't hesitate to ask.

Best Regards,

Benjamin Linder
Mount Vernon, WA

I started using Walker Valley OHV 3 years ago after buying an older Jeep for just such a purpose. I love the adventure of off-roading and the various climbing challenges at Walker. There are areas I would like to attempt when I've given my Jeep the proper upgrades. I try to go a couple times a year, more if groups are gathering for an excursion.

Thank you,
Joshua Hupp

Jim,

I'm righting you to lend support in getting grant funds for use at Walker Valley ORV area land. I use the area 2-5 times a year and love the 4x4 trails. I like what the ORV park has to offer for all types of recreation and hope to continue to use the area for many years to come.

Louis Fliger
Snohomish WA

Good morning,

I hope you are having an AWESOME day! I wanted to send you an email in regards to my usage of Walker Valley. I truly enjoy taking my family up there every other weekend. We have a newer Jeep and enjoy ALL the trails open to us! We P/U any garbage that we may find in order to help keep the area clean and open to the public J Thank you so much for taking the time to read this!!

-Taylor Family
Arlington Washington

I recently... the 9th took my two sons, wife and niece out there to dig in the rocks and swing some hammers. This was our first day rockhounding, i'm 35 and haven't done so since i was barely 12 which one of my sons now is. Please keep supporting this area, it is close enough to Everett to visit and learn.

Dear RCO,

I support continued grant funding to maintain and operate the Walker Valley ORV Area. This funding is necessary to maintain year-round access to safe and sustainable motorized outdoor recreation experience for people all across Washington who enjoy and appreciate ORV trail riding at Walker Valley. My family lives on highway 9, only about a 5 minute drive from my house. We use walker for multiple different reasons. Not only do we use walker valley for our off road vehicles and atvs, me and my significant other use our remote control crawlers to crawl around in the first rock pit. I also love going there and looking for crystals. Thank you for your time! Have a great day!

On behalf of the Rainier Ridge Rams, I am sending this letter of support for the two RCO grant applications coming up. Over this grant cycle, we pledge to help in any way we possibly can to support and keep our trail systems open.

For the M&O Grant, the Rainier Ridge Rams shall pledge a total of 400 hours over the course of the 2 year Grant cycle. For the E&E Grant, the Rainier Ridge Rams shall pledge 500 hours over the 2 year Grant cycle.

Here are the two grant applications:

Walker Valley ORV Trails Maintenance and Operations (RCO grant application # 22-2212):

NW Region Education and Enforcement [Warden] North Zone Grant Description (RCO grant application # 22-2273):

Thank you,
Kevin Vanderhorst
President: Rainier Ridge Rams

Around the Sound Jeep Club

Around the Sound Jeep Club will continue its support of Walker Valley. As president of ASJC, we will pledge hours as the same as the previous grant cycle. I myself am a regular volunteer for the Walker Valley area and I pledge my support for both M&O and the E&E grants. I am aware due to the Covid 19 that things can change at any moment but ASJC will continue its support of Walker Valley. Walker Valley is my personal favorite place to go due to the variety it offers for everyone who wants a place to enjoy the great outdoors and enjoy their hobbies.

Dan Tonseth, ASJC President

Dear RCO,

I support continued grant funding to maintain and operate the Walker Valley ORV Area.

This funding is necessary to maintain year-round access to safe and sustainable motorized outdoor recreation experience for people all across Washington who enjoy and appreciate ORV trail riding at Walker Valley."

The Walker Valley area has given me peace of mind during these hectic and uncertain (covid) times. Ryan's focus and hard work contributes to keeping the area accessible and healthy.

Sincerely,

Christopher D. Arfman

Dear RCO,

I support continued grant funding to maintain and operate the Walker Valley ORV Area. This funding is necessary to maintain year-round access to safe and sustainable motorized outdoor recreation experience for people all across Washington who enjoy and appreciate ORV trail riding at Walker Valley.

Walker Valley is one of the best maintained trail systems in the Puget Sound Area. The erosion control measures that have been put in place and continue to be maintained could be a Best in Class for others in the PNW. I off road at Tayuha National Forest, Evan Creek, Cle Elum are, Liberty Mountain area, Naches area, and Elbe Hills. I have to say that Walker Valley is one of the safest and well maintained systems there is. I feel so comfortable bring new people into the trail system to learn the basic fundamentals of off roading along with Tread Lightly philosophy. I ran into Ryan one time at Walker Valley and could tell that he took pride in what he does up there. Many of the trails systems just continue to get worse and worse especially during the winter. It is clear that there are a lot of hours put into Walker Valley helping mitigate the harsh weather elements to the roads and forest. Walker Valley has to be one of the best places to go just to get away from it all. That is so important in today's word.

Chad Black

Dear RCO,

I support continued grant funding to maintain and operate the Walker Valley ORV Area. This funding is necessary to maintain year-round access to safe and sustainable motorized outdoor recreation experience for people all across Washington who enjoy and appreciate ORV trail riding at Walker Valley.

I have been going to Walker Valley ORV trail system for 10 years and have enjoyed every minute. I have volunteered hundreds of hours doing trail maintenance at Walker with our club. I have seen those trails improve over the years and have adapted as trail usage and vehicles have changed over the years. I came home from 3 years in Afghanistan with severe PTSD. The time I spent doing trail maintenance and running the trails at Walker significantly helped me manage my PTSD and eventually get through the worst of it.

Please continue to provide funding for the Walker Valley ORV Area. It is a wonderful resource for many people who come there for many reasons.

Thank you -

Elizabeth Chien

Pacific Northwest 4 Wheel Drive Association

Lisa Chissus
29 Country Club Drive SW
Lakewood, WA 98498
Cell: 253 307 7777
waexec@pnw4wdca.org



Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Jim Cahill
Recreation Manager
Clear Lake District
Washington State Department of Natural Resources
Desk: 360-854-2874
Cell: 360-333-0272
jim.cahill@dnr.wa.gov

October 26, 2020 Re: Walker Valley NOVA Grant Applications

On behalf of the Pacific Northwest 4 Wheel Drive Association we are writing to support the motorized recreation trails in Walker Valley. We specifically endorse the following grant applications:

- 20-2273 NW Region Education and Enforcement North Zone 2021-22**
- 20-2212 Walker Valley ORV Trails Maintenance and Operation**

The Pacific Northwest 4 Wheel Drive Association is an association of off-highway vehicle enthusiast clubs for over 60 years. Our members volunteer monthly in collaboration with the Department of Natural Resources to maintain and develop motorized use trails. In addition to trail repair we host an annual "Walker Hefty Haul Out" event to pick up the trash that others have left behind. Please continue the funding necessary to keep these motorized trails open in Walker Valley so we can continue to enjoy our public lands.

Sincerely,

Lisa Chissus
WA State Exec Director
Pacific Northwest 4 Wheel Drive Association

Northwest Quad Association

Everett, Washington

Jim Cahill

November 9 2020

Walker Valley M&O Grant #22-2212

Northwest Quad Association fully supports the Northwest Region DNR application for a grant to fund the Maintenance and Operation of the Walker Valley ORV area. This area receives heavy use from several user groups. Funding this grant will help mitigate the impact to the resource, assure compliance with water quality standards, and improve user experiences.

Northwest Quad Association will commit to provide 600 hours of volunteer hours to support grant #22-2212 for the funding cycle.

John K Graham
President
Northwest Quad Association

Dear RCO,

My family personally supports the continued grant funding to maintain and operate the Walker Valley ORV Area. This funding is necessary to maintain year-round access to safe and sustainable motorized outdoor recreational activities for my family and people all across Washington who enjoy and appreciate ORV trail riding at Walker Valley. My wife and I have enjoyed coming to Walker Valley for many years and now we have started bringing our kids. It's a perfect place to bring the family for outdoor recreation and travel the trails to educate our children about the great outdoors and see what the PNW mountains have to offer but in a safe controlled location. Please consider our support in continuing this grant for Walker Valley.

Sincerely,

The Bryson Family



NOVA Grant Committee

c/o Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office

PO Box 40917

Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Dear NOVA Committee Members,

The Washington Off-Highway Vehicle Alliance (WOHVA) is a statewide organization representing 13,000 off-highway vehicle enthusiasts. Our members donate thousands of hours each year to maintaining and enhancing off-highway vehicle trails and facilities on public land in Washington. We have strong relationships with land managers and decision makers across the state.

I write today to express WOHVA's support for the two grant applications that will benefit the OHV trails and riders at the Walker Valley. These grants are:

- Walker Valley ORV Trails Maintenance and Operations (RCO grant application # 22-2212)
- NW Region Education and Enforcement [Warden] North Zone (RCO grant application # 22-2273):

These grants will not only provide the needed maintenance and enforcement to keep the trails safe and enjoyable but will also allow for bridge repair, trailhead cleaning and maintenance, and coordination with local conservation corps crews. Thank you in advance for your consideration of these requests.

Sincerely,

Marc Hildesheim

Vice President, WOHVA

marc@wohva.org



Northwest Motorcycle Association

10 November 2020

To whom it may concern,

On behalf of the Northwest Motorcycle Association and its over 1,000 members, we strongly support the Department of Natural Resources Northwest region's efforts to secure Maintenance and Operations grant funding dedicated to maintaining ORV trails at Walker Valley.

Reference:

Walker Valley ORV Area Maintenance and Operations: 22-2212

Their ongoing performance demonstrates careful and efficient use of previous grant funds.

Without the monies from this proposed grant there is a significant risk that the outstanding work they have already accomplished may experience degradation due to lack of maintenance.

The Walker Valley area continues to provide the vast majority of legal ORV recreational opportunities on public lands throughout the region and is highly valued by ORV users throughout this portion of our State.

Anyone wishing additional information relating to our support of this grant proposal is welcome to contact us anytime.

Respectfully,

Tod Petersen
Legislative/Land Use Coordinator
Northwest Motorcycle Association
16015 62nd Ave NW
Stanwood, WA 98292-5680
Email: tod701@aol.com
Mobile: 425.210.9331



evergreen
MOUNTAIN BIKE ALLIANCE

20-2156 NOVA ORV #10

www.evergreenMTB.org
Sustainable trails. rider powered.

October 29, 2020

Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Re: NOVA Grant #20-2156M

To the WA State Recreation & Conservation Office:

I am writing to request that your board please fund NOVA grant proposal #20-2156M Gifford Pinchot NF Motorized Trails O & M. This funding is necessary for the salaries for Forest Service crews to perform trail maintenance and provide oversight on the Gifford Pinchot's 230 mile motorized trail system located on the Cowlitz Valley and Mt. Adams Ranger Districts.

This system provides unique, beautiful, and challenging trail riding opportunities and is in need of annual maintenance. Without this funding, the Cowlitz Valley Ranger District, which oversees nearly 80% of the Gifford Pinchot's motorized trail system, will be significantly hindered in delivering its program, potentially restricting access to some of southwest Washington's most spectacular backcountry trail riding.

Evergreen has partnered with the U.S. Forest Service Cowlitz Ranger District district to maintain multi-use trails over many years and Evergreen's Cowlitz-Naches Chapter has provided hundreds of valuable volunteer match hours within the district. Without this funding, the much-loved public lands and trails in the area could fall into disrepair, and USFS will be faced with increasing maintenance backlogs and potential trail or facility closures.

Evergreen MBA is Washington's largest mountain bike organization with over 7,900 members and more than 65,000 social media followers. We are dedicated to trail building and maintenance, as well as volunteerism, education, and advocacy. We look forward to working with the Forest Service here, and much appreciate the opportunity to provide feedback and support.

Sincerely,

Yvonne Kraus, Executive Director
yvonne@evergreenmtb.org

To the WA State Recreation & Conservation Office:

I am writing to request that your board please fund NOVA grant proposal #20-2156M Gifford Pinchot NF Motorized Trails O & M. This funding is necessary for the salaries for Forest Service crews to perform trail maintenance and provide oversight on the Gifford Pinchot's 230 mile motorized trail system located on the Cowlitz Valley and Mt. Adams Ranger Districts. This system provides unique, beautiful, and challenging trail riding opportunities and is in need of annual maintenance. Without this funding, the Cowlitz Valley Ranger District, which oversees nearly 80% of the Gifford Pinchot's motorized trail system, will be significantly hindered in delivering its program, potentially restricting access to some of southwest Washington's most spectacular backcountry trail riding. Thank you for your consideration.

Best Regards,

Peter Dahl

360-430-5048



Northwest Motorcycle Association
969 Green Mountain Road
Mossyrock, WA 98564

October 12, 2020

Re: Grant Support letter NOVA grant proposal #20-2156M Gifford Pinchot NF Motorized Trails O&M

Dear RCO Grant Review Committee,

I am pleased to write a letter of support on behalf of the Northwest Motorcycle Association. I work closely with the US Forest Service promoting volunteerism and stewardship on National Forest Trails in Washington. The Forest Service recreation program is sadly underfunded. The trails and campgrounds see an increasing amount of use as maintenance falls further and further behind. The US Forest Service depends on RCO grant support to fund education and enforcement and maintenance programs on the national forest. As a volunteer coordinator and trails advocate I collaborate closely with the recreation managers in the Entiat, Methow, Cle Elum, Wenatchee River Ranger Districts, Cowlitz Valley, and MT Adams Ranger Districts. To date this year Northwest Motorcycle Association Volunteers have recorded 4160 volunteer hours. The volunteer hours are in part due to collaboration with the ranger districts and volunteers. As volunteers we use the tools and cooperation to make an impact on trails. We also create volunteer hours to support matching grant funds. The Forest Service was created to protect and maintain land for everyone's enjoyment. With ever shrinking budgets the amount of money available to properly maintain the trail systems is just not available. It is sad to see our trails going away from lack of maintenance. Without additional funding maintenance will be severely hindered and can impact some of Washington's most spectacular backcountry trail riding. Working together in partnership with RCO funding and volunteers is the way we can keep our trails open and maintained to all users.

Thank you for your consideration

Sincerely,

Sean Clarke

Northwest Motorcycle Association

Sean Clarke - Central Washington Trails Project

Marc Toenyan - President

Dale Williams - Vice President

Tod Petersen - Land Use/Legislative Coordinator

To the WA State Recreation & Conservation Office:

I am writing to request that your board please fund NOVA grant proposal #20-2156M Gifford Pinchot NF Motorized Trails O & M. This funding is necessary for the salaries for Forest Service crews to perform trail maintenance and provide oversight on the Gifford Pinchot's 230 mile motorized trail system located on the Cowlitz Valley and Mt. Adams Ranger Districts. This system provides unique, beautiful, and challenging trail riding opportunities and is in need of annual maintenance. Without this funding, the Cowlitz Valley Ranger District, which oversees nearly 80% of the Gifford Pinchot's motorized trail system, will be significantly hindered in delivering its program, potentially restricting access to some of southwest Washington's most spectacular backcountry trail riding. Thank you for your consideration.

Jake Metteer, Treasurer

VOLT Volunteers of Lewis River Trails

EIN: 83-0877043

501 C3 Non Profit | Vancouver, WA

360-903-0146

To the WA State Recreation & Conservation Office:

I am writing to request that your board please fund NOVA grant proposal #20-2156M Gifford Pinchot NF Motorized Trails O & M. This funding is necessary for the salaries for Forest Service crews to perform trail maintenance and provide oversight on the Gifford Pinchot's 230 mile motorized trail system located on the Cowlitz Valley and Mt. Adams Ranger Districts. This system provides unique, beautiful, and challenging trail riding opportunities and is in need of annual maintenance. Without this funding, the Cowlitz Valley Ranger District, which oversees nearly 80% of the Gifford Pinchot's motorized trail system, will be significantly hindered in delivering its program, potentially restricting access to some of southwest Washington's most spectacular backcountry trail riding.

Thank you for your consideration,
Anna Baklund
Recreational user/volunteer
253-802-6214
baklunda@gmail.com

To the WA State Recreation & Conservation Office:

I am writing to request that your board please fund NOVA grant proposal #20-2156M Gifford Pinchot NF Motorized Trails O & M. This funding is necessary for the salaries for Forest Service crews to perform trail maintenance and provide oversight on the Gifford Pinchot's 230 mile motorized trail system located on the Cowlitz Valley and Mt. Adams Ranger Districts. This system provides unique, beautiful, and challenging trail riding opportunities and is in need of annual maintenance. Without this funding, the Cowlitz Valley Ranger District, which oversees nearly 80% of the Gifford Pinchot's motorized trail system, will be significantly hindered in delivering its program, potentially restricting access to some of southwest Washington's most spectacular backcountry trail riding. Thank you for your consideration.

Rollie Wolk, Director

VOLT Volunteers of Lewis River Trails

EIN: 83-0877043

501 C3 Non Profit | Vancouver, WA

360-903-0146



January 20, 2021

Attention: RCO

Subject: Letter of Support to Washington DNR for RCO Grant Applications

To Whom It May Concern:

We, the Jones Creek Trail Riders Association (JCTRA,) are a club of users and caretakers of DNR managed lands in the Yacolt Burn, Jones Creek recreation area. Our club is organized around motorcycles, quads, and trail-legal side-by-sides; i.e., motorized use, but we also have and do support other user groups, both motorized and non-motorized. We have been partnering with DNR for many years in managing the Jones Creek area and look forward to working on a volunteer basis in support of the responsible use of the forest and in support of DNR's activities therein.

As a current grant holder, we support DNR's request for grants for improvements and maintenance of the Yacolt Burn State Forest area. Our support is not just verbal, as JCTRA expects to contribute volunteer labor and other participation for this purpose. In particular we support the following grant applications:

- 20-2008 E PC Education and Enforcement (Dept. of Natural Resources)
- 20-2010 M Pacific Cascade Motorized Maintenance (Dept. of Natural Resources)
- 20-2009 M Pacific Cascade Non-Motorized Maintenance (Dept. of Natural Resources)
- 20-2038 M Yacolt Burn Non-Motorized Trail Bridges (Dept. of Natural Resources)
- 20-2011 M Capital & Yacolt Forest Facilities Maintenance (Dept. of Natural Resources)
- 20-2039 D Jones Creek ORV Trailhead Expansion (Dept. of Natural Resources)

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

D9D22539B7654F7...
Edward R. Gillespie
Co-President
Jones Creek Trail Riders Assoc.



NOVA Grant Committee

c/o Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office

PO Box 40917

Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Dear NOVA Committee Members,

The Washington Off-Highway Vehicle Alliance (WOHVA) is a statewide organization representing 13,000 off-highway vehicle enthusiasts. Our members donate thousands of hours each year to maintaining and enhancing off-highway vehicle trails and facilities on public land in Washington. We have strong relationships with land managers and decision makers across the state.

I write today to express WOHVA's support for the three grant projects that will benefit the trails and riders who recreate on the Capitol State Forest. These grants are:

- **20-2008 E PC Education and Enforcement**
- **20-2010 M Pacific Cascade Motorized Maintenance**
- **20-2039 D Jones Creek ORV Trailhead Expansion Project**

These grants will not only provide the needed maintenance and enforcement to keep the trails safe and enjoyable but will also allow for expansion and enhancement of the Jones Creek ORV Trailhead. The management and staff in the Pacific Cascade Region have developed strong partnerships with the local motorized community and work collaboratively with them to provide the highest quality recreation experience possible and to make the most responsible use of public funds.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Marc Hildesheim', is placed below the 'Sincerely,' text.

Marc Hildesheim

Vice President, WOHVA

marc@wohva.org



January 11, 2021

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
PO Box 40917, Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Re: Letter of support for 20-2010 M Pacific Cascade Motorized Maintenance

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board:

The Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance supports the Washington State Department of Natural Resources' (DNR's) request for funding to support maintenance on ORV trails and trailhead facilities within Yacolt Burn State Forest located east of Vancouver, and Elochoman Landscape located west of Longview.

This funding will help provide for one Natural Resource Technician and some additional crew time to perform routine trail and trailhead maintenance and repairs. Trail maintenance activities include brushing trails, maintaining culverts, drain dips, and ditch-outs, repairing trail surfacing, hardening small sections of trail with crushed rock, and constructing small re-routes. Additionally, bridges and signs will be inspected and maintained. Facility maintenance will include litter removal and the maintenance and repair of restrooms and signs. The primary recreation opportunity provided by this project will be safe and sustainable motorized recreation trails and support facilities.

The Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance is currently working with DNR to build new trails and maintain the existing trail system in the Yacolt Burn State Forest, and we understand the ongoing maintenance needs present throughout the forest. Funding for this maintenance is vital to assure continued safe usage and to minimize the environmental impacts brought by recreation on these trails.

Evergreen is the nation's largest statewide mountain bike organization, with more than 7,900 members and over 65,000 social media followers. We are dedicated to trail building and maintenance, as well as volunteerism, education, and advocacy. We look forward to working with DNR in the Pacific Cascades Region and appreciate the opportunity to provide support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Yvonne Kraus", written over a horizontal line.

Yvonne Kraus, Executive Director
Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance



Dear Grant Committee:

I represent the Chinook Trail Association. Our members regularly use DNR lands and I support the Washington State Department of Natural Resources Pacific Cascade Region's grant requests.

I thank the DNR for constructing new trails and their partnering with volunteer organization such as Washington Trails Association and the Chinook Trail Association in the maintenance and construction of trails. I appreciate the DNR provides motorized trail opportunities because without motorized trails the non-motorized trails would be driven on more often.

With the great collaboration with trail organizations I firmly believe this grant money will be used efficiently and wisely.

On behalf of the recreational users in the Southwest Washington area and the Chinook Trail Association, please approve these grants for the Pacific Cascade Region.

20-2008 E PC Education and Enforcement

20-2010 M Pacific Cascade Motorized Maintenance

20-2009 M Pacific Cascade Non-Motorized Maintenance

20-2038 M Yacolt Burn Non-Motorized Trail Bridges

20-2011 M Capital & Yacolt Forest Facilities Maintenance

20-2039 D Jones Creek ORV Trailhead Expansion Project

Sincerely,

Steve Jones

President, Chinook Trail Association



DREW W. HYER
GARFIELD COUNTY SHERIFF
P.O. BOX 338
POMEROY, WA 99347-0338

(509) 843-3494 * FAX (509) 843-1347

20-2022 NOVA ORV #14

Calvin Dansereau
Undersheriff

TINA MEIER
E911 COORDINATOR/
COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR

September 29, 2020

Recreation and Conservation Office
1111 Washington Street SE
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Re: Pomeroy R.D. Wilderness-Backcountry Trails M&O 20-2021M
Pomeroy R.D. OHV Motorized Trails M&O 20-2022M
Pomeroy R.D. Campgrounds/CUA's/Dispersed Sites M&O 20-2020M
Pomeroy R.D. Trail Grooming M&O 20-2019M
Pomeroy R.D. Winter Patrol 20-2018E

To Whom It May Concern:

The Garfield County Sheriff's Office continues to support the Pomeroy Ranger District in their endeavor to receive grants for the upkeep and improvements made to the Umatilla National Forest. With the proposed funds, we can ensure the people of Garfield County and surrounding areas a safe and enjoyable way to appreciate the great outdoors through the use of our campgrounds, roads and trail systems throughout the District.

With the damages caused by the 2005 School Fire, 2006 Columbia Complex Fire and the 2015 Grizzly Bear Fire these areas continue to need improvements to both wilderness and OHV trails. Ongoing maintenance and upkeep is vital for the safety of visitors to the forest. With the added funding this grant will provide, removal of dead trees and brush can be addressed, as well as drainage issues. Additionally this funding can be used for trail markers and snow pole installation in the winter for snowmobile users. All of these precautions will aid in the safety of those using the trails and help identify their location in the case of an emergency. For members of our agency, this is a key issue and something we strongly encourage and support.

As for winter trail patrol, Pomeroy Ranger District manages 138 miles of snowmobile trails and over 180,000 acres of back country. This grant would allow education to both motorized and non-motorized vehicles, enforce the "Leave No Trace" concept and ensure protection for both ski areas and winter ranges for elk. This would relieve club members from feeling responsible for enforcing their own sport and ensure a sense of security in the area.

The Sheriff's Office highly encourages the enjoyment of outdoor sports, camping and general recreation, with the goal to ensure the safety of everyone using the National Forest. We believe these added precautions will benefit all users as well as the natural resources we have been given.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Drew W. Hyer

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Drew W. Hyer", is written over a blue horizontal line.

Wynne McCabe
Garfield County Commissioner
P O Box 700
Pomeroy WA 99347
(509) 843-1851
FAX (509) 843-1851

September 30, 2020

Recreation and Conservation Office
1111 Washington Street SE
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504 – 0917

Re: Pomeroy R.D. Wilderness-Backcountry Trails M&O 20-2021M
Pomeroy R.D. OHV Motorized Trails M&O 20-2022M
Pomeroy R.D. Campgrounds/CUA's/Dispersed Sites M&O 20-2020M
Pomeroy R.D. Trail Grooming M&O 20-2019M
Pomeroy R.D. Winter Trail Patrol 20-2018E

To whom it may concern,

On behalf of Garfield County, I offer our full and hearty support for the above grant applications submitted by the Pomeroy Ranger District of the Umatilla National Forest.

The County, with a population of about 2,200, is the smallest in the State. As such, we are considered “distressed” and our economy is in a stagnate state. To help mitigate that, we actively promote recreational and tourism activities, primarily, activities available in the “Blue Mountains” of the Umatilla National Forest. As an example of our efforts, in 2009 we adopted an ordinance allowing ORV travel on selected county roads, from the City of Pomeroy to the boundary of the UNF (20-2022M). We encourage staging in Pomeroy and, hopefully, money being spent here. Also, not often mentioned but of importance to me and others, maintenance of the ORV trail system encourages riders to stay on the trail so they’re not “an accident waiting to happen” on the heavily traveled main roads, and provides the added benefit of greatly reducing “off-roading” and the resulting damage to the terrain.

Spring, summer and fall bring campers, hikers, bicyclists, horseback riders and hunters who use Pomeroy as the springboard for their adventures. A well maintained trail system with appurtenant trailheads and campgrounds (20-2021M and 20-2020M) are essential in making it a memorable and an “I want to do that again” adventure.

As we all know, the great majority of participants abide by the rules and are well-intentioned, but sometimes ignorance will come into play, and, sadly at times, some individuals display outright disregard for rules, regulations and courteous conduct. Since it appears that usage continues to grow each year, the Grant for Winter Trail Patrol (20-2018E) would have a mitigating impact on safety, environmental, big game and enforcement issues, which has long been needed. This also supports the “pleasurable experience” that we want them to have and would improve on our opportunities derived from the benefit stated above.

Recreationists’ use of local businesses and services is actively pursued and greatly appreciated. For many, the Blue Mountains have become a favorite destination and well-maintained campgrounds, trailheads and trails, and fair and compassionate Law Enforcement are a big part of that. The more pleasurable their experience, the greater the likelihood they’ll return, and hopefully, by spreading the word, others will come for the first time and they too, will continue to return.

I’m a lifelong resident of the County, my Great Grandfather was camped outside of what is now Pomeroy, when Lincoln was assassinated, my Grandfather acquired the lease on our Cabin at Stentz Springs in the “Blues” in 1924, and I’ve personally witnessed the growth of four-season ORV riding in the area, and the good and the bad that accompany it. The projects they propose greatly enhance the “good” and help deter the “bad.” I also personally know the people who authored, will administer and work the projects funded by the grants. Not only are they very competent at their jobs, but very passionate about the stewardship of their “Blue Mountains.” The grant funds entrusted to them will be wisely and effectively spent.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Wynne McCabe
Garfield County Commissioner

POMEROY, WA

October 5, 2020

Re:

Pomeroy R.D. Wilderness & Backcountry Trails M&O 20-2021M

Pomeroy R.D. OHV Motorized Trails M&O 20-2022M

Pomeroy R.D. Campgrounds/CUA's/Dispersed Sites M&O 20-2020M

Pomeroy R.D. Trail Grooming M&O 20-2019M

Pomeroy R.D. Winter Trail Patrol 20-2018E

To Whom it May Concern:

On behalf of the Mt. Misery Snowdrifter's, I encourage you to provide any funding to the Pomeroy Ranger Station. We strongly believe that they will continue their excellent job of taking care of our trail system for all season recreation, the snowmobile groomer and operation, camping areas, parking lots, access points, forest and timber health, etc. with your financial assistance. Many of our members use the Forest Service ground year-round. We camp, mushroom hunt, huckleberry pick, hunt, and ride the trails.

We are a snowmobile club located in Garfield County, Washington. We help provide a safe, fun environment for the snowmobiling families in our area. We are a non-profit organization who has several fundraisers throughout the year. The money we earn goes directly into our community. We provide scholarships each year to high school seniors who are involved in outdoor activities and recreation. We also contribute to special organizations and local charities.

The Snowdrifters' members work very closely with the Pomeroy Ranger Station. We have a great relationship with the local staff. We have over 80 members that volunteer their time each year helping the Forest Service staff maintain our trail system, warm-up shelters, and outhouses. We spend our time cutting firewood, clearing trails, repairing the wood stoves in the shelters, and stocking them each year with firewood and emergency supplies. We also work closely with our local search and rescue team. Our local Forest Service staff provide us with some of the best groomed trails in the area. They help us out with our special events as well. Overall, we have a great partnership with our local Forest Service and we look forward to working with them in the future.

Sincerely,

Emily Ruchert, Secretary

Mt. Misery Snowdrifters
PO Box 808
Pomeroy, WA 99347

Mt. Misery Snowdrifters

Pomeroy Spinners Community Organization

20-2022 NOVA ORV #14

699 Columbia Street
PO Box 745
Pomeroy, WA 99347

September 20, 2020

To: Recreation and Conservation Office
From: Larry Ledgerwood, President, Pomeroy Spinners Community Organization

Re: Pomeroy R.D. Wilderness & Backcountry Trails M&O 20-2021M
Pomeroy R.D. OHV Motorized Trails M&O 20-2022M
Pomeroy R.D. Campgrounds/CUA's/ Dispersed Sites M&O 20-2020M
Pomeroy R.D. Trail Grooming M&O 20-2019M
Pomeroy R.D. Winter Patrol 20-2018E

The Pomeroy Spinners Community Organization is a nonprofit men's group that seeks to enhance projects within our community and county. The Umatilla National Forest is a vital area for attracting recreational enthusiasts from hundreds of miles. These folks range from campers, snowmobilers, atv's, utv's, motorcycles, horseback riders, hunters and mushroom and huckleberry pickers. In addition to the named enthusiasts, many people enter the forest to enjoy a picnic or casual drive. These hobbies and activities are often a source for family time and entertainment.

Maintenance for the trails and facilities is crucial to create repeat visitors. First impressions are the most important thing when trying to draw people back and make the Pomeroy Ranger District a destination. Being able to enjoy the day rather than working to fix and clear trails will contribute heavily as people decide where they spend their free time.

Many Spinners members participate in multiple activities utilizing the campgrounds, trailheads, wilderness trails and motorized vehicle trails. We as an organization organize an ATV ride each summer on the motorized trails as a fun, family activity. Prior to the event members volunteer to navigate trails to ensure paths are open and after the event remove trash and repair any damage that may have been caused. On behalf of the entire Spinners Organization, we support the Pomeroy Ranger District's efforts to secure funds to maintain and enhance each type of trail system as well as patrolling to ensure the safety of everyone using the Pomeroy Ranger District as their playground. RCO should recognize the vast impact their allocations make as well as the value per dollar being allocated to the named focus areas.

Sincerely,



Larry Ledgerwood, President
Pomeroy Spinners Community Organization

Pomeroy Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 916, Pomeroy, WA 99347.
www.pomeroychamberofcommerce.com

TO: Recreation and Conservation Office
1111 Washington St SE
Olympia, WA 98501

September 24, 2020

To Whom It May Concern,

In an endeavor to sustain and increase visitor activity in both Garfield County and the City of Pomeroy through increased use of the Umatilla National Forest visitor attractions, the Pomeroy Chamber of Commerce is submitting this letter of support for:

POMEROY R.D. OHV MOTORIZED TRAILS M&O 20-2022M

POMEROY R.D. TRAIL GROOMING M&O 20-2019

POMEROY R.D. WILDERNESS & BACKCOUNTRY TRAILS M&O 20-2021M

POMEROY R.D. CAMPGROUNDS/CUA's/ DISPERSED SITES M&O 20-2020M

POMEROY R.D. WINTER TRAIL PATROL 20-2018E

The Chamber has long recognized and promoted the National Forest lands and outdoor recreational opportunities as an important component of the tourist activities that draw visitors to the community each year. Recent addition of the OHV routes has increased the number of recreationists coming to the forest, many of whom stop in Pomeroy to buy fuel, food and supplies before heading toward the scenic Blue Mountains to ride the trails with their families. Continued maintenance of these trails will help ensure that this increased usage will not decline, and will continue to provide a supplement to the local service and retail economy.

For this reason, the Chamber is happy to support the application for grant dollars that would fund the USFS Pomeroy Ranger District for trail maintenance activities which will include; log-out/brushing, trail surfacing, trail hardening, maintenance of culverts, drain-dips and ditch-outs as well as trail bridge inspection and maintenance. These maintenance efforts will not only ensure safety for the trail riders but also longevity of the trail system itself, again helping to ensure that OHV riders and their families return many times to the Umatilla National Forest, Garfield County and the City of Pomeroy.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Ashley Dixon, President
Pomeroy Chamber of Commerce

CITY OF POMEROY

G. Paul Miller - Mayor - 80 7th Street - P.O. Box 370 - Pomeroy, WA 99347
TDD relay: 1-800-833-6388
(509) 843-1601 - FAX (509) 843-1158

October 5, 2020

To: Recreation and Conservation Office

RE: Pomeroy R.D. Backcountry-Wilderness Trails M&O 20-2021M
Pomeroy R.D. Motorized Trails M&O 20-2022M
Pomeroy R.D. Campgrounds/CUA's/Dispersed Sites M&O 20-2020M
Pomeroy Ranger District Trail Grooming M&O 20-2019M
Pomeroy Ranger District Winter Trail Patrol 20-2018E

To Whom it May Concern:

The City of Pomeroy strongly supports the subject programs as the Umatilla National Forest is an integral part of our community.

The Umatilla National Forest provides enjoyment for both tourists and recreationalists alike. We rely on these programs in order to continue to attract visitors and local usage for such activities as camping, mushrooming, hiking, ATV and UTV use, huckleberry picking, horseback riding, hunting and casual enjoyment. Maintenance of the trails and campgrounds, as well as patrols, are essential services for the continued safety of visitors.

Please continue funding these programs as the Umatilla National Forest is a valued partner in our community.

There are

Sincerely,



G. P. Miller
Mayor, City of Pomeroy

GPM:sm



Northwest Motorcycle Association
969 Green Mountain Road
Mossyrock, WA 98564

October 12, 2020

Re: Grant Support Letter Methow Valley Ranger Districts

20-2137 EDU, MVRD Wilderness & Backcountry Rangers 2022-23, 20-2133 MNT, MVRD DEVELOPED REC CAMPGROUND MAINTENANCE 2022-23, 20-2134 MVRD Trail maintenance, 20-2135; MVRD Mixed Use Deferred Trail Maintenance program, 20-2136: MVRD Motorized Trail Maintenance 2022-2023

Dear RCO Grant Review Committee,

I am pleased to write a letter of support on behalf of the Northwest Motorcycle Association. The Forest Service recreation program is sadly underfunded. The trails and campgrounds see an increasing amount of use as maintenance falls further and further behind. The US Forest Service depends on RCO grant support to fund education, enforcement and maintenance programs on the National Forest. As a volunteer coordinator and trails advocate I collaborate closely with the recreation managers in the Entiat, Methow, Cle Elum and Wenatchee River Ranger Districts. To date this year Northwest Motorcycle Association Volunteers have recorded 4160 volunteer hours Many of those hours on Central Washington Trails. The Methow district sees about 300 - 500 hours annually. Many of these hours are from Coulee Rider work parties. This group and other volunteers are responsible for all the log out on the sawtooth multi use trail system. I am working to get more of the volunteer hours in this area recorded as I know not all the hours are being accounted for. The Entiat Ranger District has been very supportive of volunteer efforts and put together a cache of tools for volunteers to access. We have used these tools to make an impact on trails that otherwise would not see maintenance. We also create volunteer hours to support matching grant funds. The Methow is also looking at doing a similar program. I strongly believe in getting tools in the hands of willing volunteers. The Cle Elum Ranger District also has a very successful volunteer program. The Forest Service was created to protect and maintain land for everyone's enjoyment. With ever shrinking budgets the amount of money available to properly maintain the trail systems is just not available. It is sad to see our trails going away from lack of maintenance. Working together in partnership with RCO funding and volunteers is the way we can keep our trails open and maintained to all users.

Thank you for your consideration

Sincerely,

Sean Clarke

Northwest Motorcycle Association

Sean Clarke - Central Washington Trails Project

Marc Toenyan - President

Dale Williams - Vice President

Tod Petersen - Land Use/Legislative Coordinator

October 12, 2020

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

RE: Support for 2022-2023 Methow Valley Climbing Rangers Grant Applications:

- MVRD Wilderness and Backcountry Rangers
- MV Climbing Rangers
- MVRD Trail Maintenance
- MVRD Mixed use Deferred Trail Maintenance
- MVRD Motorized Trail Maintenance
- MVRD Developed Rec Campsite Maintenance

To Whom it May Concern:

Okanogan County Search and Rescue Association (OCSAR) writes this letter to express support of the Methow Valley Ranger District (MVRD)'s proposals referenced above. All of these proposals assist OCSAR with our mission of assisting the Okanogan County Sheriff's Department on Search and Rescue (SAR) missions.

The MVRD encompasses a huge amount of both designated wilderness (the Pasayten and the Lake Chelan-Sawtooth wilderness) and non-wilderness area in Okanogan County. OSCAR, during SAR missions, will be able to reap the benefits of these grants by the work of the Methow Valley Ranger District.

With COVID-19, the Methow Valley area has seen a huge influx of recreation visitors from urban areas. These grants are now needed more than ever.

Specifically, the grants will assist OCSAR the following ways.

MVRD Wilderness and Backcountry Rangers – This grant continues the Wilderness and Backcountry program to perform in-field visitor contacts to promote and enforce regulations in high-use recreation areas by horseback, day-

OKANOGAN COUNTY

hiking and backpack patrols. With the before mentioned influx of new visitors to the area, this program is needed more than ever. With more in-field visitor contacts, this reduces the likelihood of SAR services needed for these visitors.

MV Climbing Rangers - This grant continues the MVRD Climbing Ranger program at education about good climbing practices. OCSAR does have a high-angle rescue team that is trained in vertical rescues on the local climbing walls. Needless to say, the education program aimed at climbers provided by the MV climbing rangers helps ensure that our services will be needed less frequently.

MVRD Trail Maintenance – OCSAR during our search and rescue missions benefits immensely from the work provided by these grants as part of the trail maintenance program.

MVRD Mixed Use Deferred Trail Maintenance - Having personally been on a lot of trails, I can attest that there is a huge backlog of needed trail maintenance. OCSAR benefits from this grant by making it easier to access the different parts of our coverage area in a timelier manner.

MVRD Motorized Trail Maintenance - OCSAR has an ATV team that specializes in search and rescue in non-wilderness portions of the backcountry and as such the trail maintenance provided by this grant will help OCSAR in our missions.

MVRD Developed Rec Campsite Maintenance – OSCAR will use the trailheads as a base of operations on search and rescue missions. This maintenance provided by this grant help us do our mission.

When a recreational visitor is lost, cold, hungry, or injured, hours seem like days, and days seem like a lifetime. These grants directly impact Okanogan County Search and Rescue in the timely performance of our mission of incident response in search and rescue operations and as such OCSAR supports MVRD proposals.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Gottula".

David Gottula

President – Okanogan County Search and Rescue Association

Board of Directors

David Schooler
(President)

Sam Nancy
(Vice-President)

Phil Davis
(Treasurer)

Peggy Porter
(Secretary)

Benj Drummond

Jane Gilbertsen

Dani Reynaud

Gordy Reynaud

Joanne Uehara

Kevin van Bueren

Staff

Executive Director
Jason Paulsen

Associate Director
Sarah Brooks

Land Program Manager
Jeanne White

Stewardship Director
Heide Andersen

Conservation Biologist
Julie Grialou

Agricultural Coordinator
Alyssa Jumars

Membership Assistant
Mary Morgan

Bookkeeper
Joy Schwab

Community Conservation
Coordinator
Daniel Senner

Stewardship Associate
Johnnie Duguay

October 16, 2020

LETTER OF SUPPORT

Dear RCO Project Review Committee,

The Methow Conservancy serves as the Methow Valley's locally based land trust organization, with a Mission of 'Inspiring People to Care for the Land of the Methow Valley.' We represent over 1,000 members who support our work and programs here in the Methow watershed. It is my pleasure to submit this letter of support for the following projects for which our Methow Valley Ranger District is competing this round: **Projects #20-2137, 20-2126, 20-2134, 20-2135, 20-2136 and 20-2133.**

As has been reported in the regional Press, the Methow Valley is one of the State's recreation destinations that has seen an explosive increase in visitation over the past 9 months, building upon years of steady growth. In a watershed where over 91% of our land base is held by a public entity for the use and enjoyment of the public, our federal lands have seen a dramatic increase in use and visitation.

Each of the projects for which our local Ranger District is seeking funding will serve to address the real or potential negative impacts that can come from a very high level of use and/or allow our community to address deferred maintenance so that more access can be provided to help distribute the use.

We are fortunate here in the Methow Valley to have a good working relationship between the community, our local public land managers and a host of non-profit organizations focused upon recreation, conservation and salmon recovery. This foundation, combined with good communication, allows us to work as efficiently as possible to meet the needs of the resources we steward, and those who enjoy them recreationally. All that said, we absolutely are reliant upon programs like those managed by the State Recreation and Conservation Office to provide funding for many of these critical functions.

I thank you in advance for giving careful consideration to each of these requests, and look forward to our continued collaboration and coordination with the Methow Ranger District as they are able to staff critical needs, address maintenance priorities and provide safe places for the residents of our state to come, camp, and enjoy the beauty of the North Cascades!

Please feel free to contact me with any questions at (509) 996-5866 or Jason@methowconservancy.org

Sincerely,



Jason Paulsen
Executive Director



October 14, 2020

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office

Subject: Support for RCO Grants for Methow Valley Ranger District

I am writing as a small business and resident of the Methow Valley in support of the following RCO Grant applications:

20-2137 EDU, MVRD Wilderness & Backcountry Rangers 2022-2023

20-2126 E Methow Valley Climbing Rangers 2022-2023

20-2133 MNT, MVRD DEVELOPED REC CAMPGROUND MAINTENANCE 2022-23

20-2134: MVRD Trail Maintenance 2022-2023

20-2135: MVRD Mixed Use Deferred Trail Maintenance 2022-2023

20-2136: MVRD Motorized Trail Maintenance 2022-2023

The Methow Valley is a majestic place primarily because of the wild lands that surround us. My business exists solely because of the visitors who come to hike, bike, and climb in and around these Forest Service lands. Over the past several years, we have seen exponential growth in USFS land users. Campgrounds are full as are trailhead parking lots as well as the trails themselves. These assets must be maintained to continue to provide value to those who visit our valley for its diverse beauty.

During this past year, I have had the pleasure of seeing the previous RCO Grant money in action. I've walked past countless trees that were cleared from trails across the Valley. In particular, I was thrilled to be able to hike the West Fork Methow Trail and see the awesome tread work and clearing that was completed. The crew is within 2 miles of connecting to the PCT which will re-open amazing loop options that do not currently exist. Campgrounds were full this whole COVID summer and are in dire need of maintenance. I saw a crew of USFS staff near the Maple Pass Trail and they were doing an amazing job of educating visitors on trail etiquette on an over-loved trail.

Maybe my most heartfelt support goes to the Climbing Ranger Program. My business benefits directly from having a vibrant climbing community in the Valley. This past year, the Climbing Rangers were out in force at the local crags and in the Alpine near Washington Pass. The climbing community received excellent value from the RCO Grant dollars through educating climbers on safety and sustainable practices on the rock. They also were seen doing some incredible work near Fun Rock to create a safe and long lasting area from which to recreate.

I also had the opportunity to ride my bike on the Angel's Staircase loop east of the Sawtooth Chelan Wilderness and saw firsthand the need for trail work in that area. Trails are trenched and loose from years of motorized travel without adequate maintenance. That area is spectacular for its beauty and the diverse opportunities for motorized riders, hikers, equestrians, and bikers. It needs help soon before the damage becomes worse.

With the large increase in visitors during this COVID summer, we can only expect to see more visitors next summer. These RCO Grants are incredibly important to the local economy and, even more important, to the environment that makes this valley so special to so many.

Sincerely,

CB Thomas – Goat's Beard Mountain Supplies


 The logo for Methow Valley Trails Collaborative features a green graphic of a trail leading to a double arrow pointing right, followed by the text "Methow Valley Trails Collaborative" in a green, sans-serif font.

Methow Valley Trails Collaborative

October 21, 2020

To whom it may concern,

We are writing to express our support and endorsement for following projects for the Methow Valley Ranger District. We support these project because it aligns with our mission to build and strengthen relationships among trail managers, advocates and user groups to support and enhance sustainable trail experiences in the Methow Valley. For more information on our organization, please visit our website: [Methow Valley Trails Collaborative](#).

Wilderness Grants: NOVA Education & Enforcement Category

20-2137 EDU, MVRD Wilderness & Backcountry Rangers 2022-2023

Category: NOVA Education & Enforcement

The Methow Valley Ranger District of the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest will use this grant to fund three seasonal rangers and several volunteers to provide education and enforcement activities during two field seasons. Rangers will perform in-field visitor contacts to promote leave-no-trace techniques and enforce regulations in high-use recreation areas along the North Cascades Scenic Corridor, Hart's Pass, Pasayten Wilderness and Lake Chelan-Sawtooth Wilderness areas. Patrols would be conducted by horseback using pack and saddle stock as well as day hiking and backpacking. The primary recreation opportunity provided by this project is education of non-motorized recreationists.

Climbing Grants: NOVA Education & Enforcement Category

20-2126 E Methow Valley Climbing Rangers 2022-2023

Category: NOVA Education & Enforcement

The Methow Valley Ranger District of the Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest will use this grant to fund the continuation of the MVRD Climbing Ranger Program, as funded by prior grants and successfully operated from 2016 to present. Climbing Rangers and volunteer Climber Stewards will make visitor contacts at the district's popular and renowned climbing areas of the North Cascades and Methow Valley. The goals of the program are to educate climbers on environmentally and socially responsible climbing practices, identify and manage environmental impacts and educational needs associated with climbing, continue building relationships within the community and with climbing organizations, collect visitor use and resource data, and enforce regulations. The primary recreational opportunity provided will be environmentally and socially responsible rock climbing and mountaineering.

Developed Recreation Grants: Maintenance & Operation Category

20-2133 MNT, MVRD DEVELOPED REC CAMPGROUND MAINTENANCE 2022-23

Category: NOVA Non-Highway

The Methow Valley Ranger District will use this grant to maintain 26 developed campgrounds, 29 trailheads, 2 picnic areas, and the Washington Pass Scenic Overlook, at sites located throughout the district. Maintenance activities include cleaning and servicing toilets, campsite cleaning and maintenance, noxious weed control, hazard tree removal, water system operation and maintenance, picnic table and fire grate repair and maintenance, bulletin board maintenance, visitor information, fee

collection, security patrols, mowing, garbage collection, and other miscellaneous duties. The goal is to provide clean, safe, well-maintained campgrounds and trailhead facilities for people engaging in a wide variety of recreation activities including camping, picnicking, sightseeing, scenic driving, and other types of recreation.

Trails Grants: NOVA and RTP Categories

20-2134: MVRD Trail Maintenance 2022-2023

Category: NOVA Non-Motorized, Maintenance

The Methow Valley Ranger District of the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest will use this grant to conduct trail maintenance including removing fallen trees, tread, drainage, erosion control, and brushing on the highest priority trails within the Pasayten Wilderness, portions of the Lake Chelan Sawtooth Wilderness, and surrounding backcountry areas. This includes the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail, Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail, the Rainy Lake ADA accessible trail, and popular hikes in the scenic North Cascades corridor. This grant will fund a full-time seasonal trail crew of 4 people plus pack support to work for two seasons and will be matched by over 2,500 hours of volunteer time. The primary recreation opportunity provided by this project is hiking, horseback riding, and some mountain biking.

20-2135: MVRD Mixed Use Deferred Trail Maintenance 2022-2023

Category: Recreation Trails Program, Maintenance

The Methow Valley Ranger District will use this funding to support trail maintenance activities and to address deferred maintenance needs on a diverse mix of summer trails, including: portions of the Lake Chelan Sawtooth Wilderness, portions of the Pasayten Wilderness, and trails in the Twisp River drainage, including many trails that have been heavily impacted by fires. The district will also work on restoring functionality to the Lone Fir trail which is an ADA accessible trail. This grant will focus on the trails with the highest need and those most at threat for being lost due to deferred maintenance. Maintenance activities include: clearing downfall from trails, addressing tread and drainage issues on priority sections of backlogged trails, performing erosion control on fire-affected trails, and replacing non-functional trail structures such as bridges and puncheon, as well as maintaining trails to standards for summer use. These trails support recreation for hikers, equestrians, mountain bikers, and ADA accessible trail users.

20-2136: MVRD Motorized Trail Maintenance 2022-2023

Category: NOVA Off Road Vehicle, Maintenance & Operation

The Methow Valley Ranger District will use this funding to maintain trails for primarily motorized trail users in the Sawtooth Backcountry and the Lightning / Beaver Creek drainages. This grant will fund three employees for summer trail maintenance, and will be matched by volunteers from the Northwest Motorcycle Association, and other partner groups. Trail maintenance will include: tread, drainage and logout on summer trails, and repair of damaged bridges to address trail maintenance backlogs. This project will primarily improve recreational opportunities for motorcycling recreation, along with some mountain biking, hiking, and equestrian opportunities.

Sincerely,

Adrienne Schaefer

Adrienne Schaefer

Communications Coordinator, Methow Valley Trails Collaborative



**PACIFIC NORTHWEST TRAIL
ASSOCIATION**

October 26, 2020

Recreation and Conservation Office
1111 Washington Street SE
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98507-0917

Dear RCO Staff and Advisory Committee,

The Pacific Northwest Trail Association (PNTA) supports the following grant proposals from Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest - Methow Valley Ranger District (MVRD):

20-2137: EDU, MVRD Wilderness & Backcountry Rangers 2022-2023

20-2126: E Methow Valley Climbing Rangers 2022-2023

20-2133: MNT, MVRD DEVELOPED REC CAMPGROUND MAINTENANCE 2022-23

20-2134: MVRD Trail Maintenance 2022-2023

20-2135: MVRD Mixed Use Deferred Trail Maintenance 2022-2023

20-2136: MVRD Motorized Trail Maintenance 2022-2023

For 43 years, the PNTA has been the primary advocate and steward of the Pacific Northwest Trail (PNT), growing the trail from the founder's vision in the 1970's to the federally designated national treasure that it is today. Each year, the PNTA works alongside partners like MVRD to maintain and improve the PNT corridor for the enjoyment of a growing number of local, national and international visitors who travel from across the globe to experience the exciting wild places that make the PNT corridor so special.

Our trail operations program breaks down traditional barriers to inclusion in outdoor spaces by providing youth and young adults with living-wage opportunities to engage in trail stewardship while creating formative connections with the land. The success of a program like ours is dependent on successful collaboration with managing agencies like the MVRD.

These proposals would help to ensure that MVRD has the resources and capacity to continue being a strong partner in the management of the Pacific Northwest Trail and the surrounding landscape, and I'm pleased to offer our support for this work, both on the ground and through this endorsement.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "JK".

Jeff Kish
Executive Director
Pacific Northwest Trail Association

America's Wildest Trail is Yours to Explore and Yours to Protect



We connect people, nature and communities through a world-class trail system

October 2, 2020

To RCO Board and Staff Members,

Thank you for this opportunity to share our organizations enthusiasm for the following projects submitted by the USFS.

1. 20-2137 EDU, MVRD Wilderness & Backcountry Rangers 2022-2023 Category: NOVA Education & Enforcement
2. 20-2126 E Methow Valley Climbing Rangers 2022-2023 Category: NOVA Education & Enforcement
3. 20-2133 MNT, MVRD DEVELOPED REC CAMPGROUND MAINTENANCE 2022-23 Category: NOVA Non-Highway
4. 20-2134: MVRD Trail Maintenance 2022-2023 Category: NOVA Non-Motorized, Maintenance
5. 20-2135: MVRD Mixed Use Deferred Trail Maintenance 2022-2023 Category: Recreation Trails Program, Maintenance
6. 20-2136: MVRD Motorized Trail Maintenance 2022-2023 Category: NOVA Off Road Vehicle, Maintenance & Operation

As a 44 year old non-profit organization in the Methow Valley in Okanogan County that supports \$12.4 million annually into the local economy, over 150 FTE jobs, and 250,000 recreational experiences annually that inspire care and stewardship for the land, I am writing to express my strong support for these projects.

This projects builds upon significant previous public and private investments in trails and recreation in iconic landscapes here in the Methow Valley. I encourage RCO to support these projects for the benefit of the local economy, people and wildlife of Washington State.

Sincerely,

James DeSalvo
Executive Director
Methow Trails



10/04/2020

Dear Stakeholder,

I am writing to strongly endorse the acceptance of the following grants to the Methow Valley Ranger District. The Methow Valley is in desperate need of providing infrastructure and education to visitors to protect the valley as well as those who use it. These grants will support recreation, wilderness, trails, and climbers who visit our valley in droves. Please help us maintain our programs and improve them as the numbers of our visitors increase each year.

20-2137: MVRD Wilderness & Backcountry Rangers 2022-2023

- Continuation of the MVRD wilderness and backcountry ranger program to perform in-field visitor contacts to promote leave-no-trace techniques and enforce regulations in high-use recreation areas by horseback, day-hiking, and backpacking patrols.

20-2126: Methow Valley Climbing Rangers 2022-2023

- Continuation of the MVRD Climbing Ranger program aimed at education for climbers about environmentally and socially responsible climbing practices, visitor use information, educational materials, monitoring environmental impacts, and climbing stewardship projects.

20-2134: MVRD Trail Maintenance 2022-2023

- This will support the maintenance of high-priority trail segments within the Pasayten and Lake Chelan-Sawtooth Wilderness and surrounding backcountry areas.

20-2135: MVRD Mixed Use Deferred Trail Maintenance 2022-2023

Winthrop Chamber of Commerce
202 Riverside Ave
Winthrop, WA 98862
(509) 996-2128
www.WinthropWashington.com



- The MVRD will use this funding to continue to address the maintenance backlog on trails throughout the District, including the wilderness and backcountry trail network, mountain bike trails, and ADA trails.

20-2136: MVRD Motorized Trail Maintenance 2022-2023

- This grant would fund increased maintenance capacity in the non-Wilderness portions of the Methow Valley trail system, such as the multi-use trails NE of Winthrop and the Sawtooth Backcountry.

20-2133: MVRD DEVELOPED REC CAMPGROUND MAINTENANCE 2022-23

- The Methow Valley Ranger District will use this grant to maintain 26 developed campgrounds, 27 trailheads, 2 picnic areas, and the Washington Pass Scenic Overlook, at sites located throughout the district.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Anne Young

Winthrop Marketing Director

Winthrop Chamber of Commerce
202 Riverside Ave
Winthrop, WA 98862
(509) 996-2128
www.WinthropWashington.com



Washington Trails Association

705 Second Avenue, Suite 300, Seattle WA 98104 • 206.625.1367 • wta.org

November 2, 2020

Washington Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Snoqualmie Ranger District Grant Requests

Dear RCO Grant Review Committee:

I am writing on behalf of Washington Trails Association to express our enthusiastic support of the following grant applications from the Snoqualmie Ranger District in the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest:

- Snoqualmie USFS & Mt. Rainier NPS Trails Alliance #20-2320 RTP
- Snoqualmie USFS & Mt. Rainier NPS Trails Alliance #20-2320 NOVA
- Snoqualmie R. D. Front Country Patrol 2022-2023 #20-2292 NOVA
- Snoqualmie R. D. Front Country Maintenance #20-2350 NOVA
- Snoqualmie Ranger District OHV & Motorized Rec #20-2194 NOVA
- Snoqualmie RD Winter Recreation Program #20-2233 NOVA
- Alpine Lakes Trail Maintenance 22-23 #20-2349 NOVA
- Alpine Lakes Trail Maintenance 22-23 #20-2308 RTP
- Denny Creek/Franklin Falls Parking Lot Expansion #20-2355 NOVA
- Middlefork Snoqualmie Recreation Hub Improvements #20-2307 NOVA

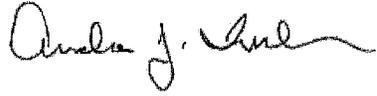
Washington Trails Association has a more than 50-year legacy of engaging the hiking community. WTA enhances hiking experiences in Washington state by empowering a diverse and growing community of hikers to explore, steward and protect trails and public lands. WTA is the nation's largest state-based trail maintenance and hiking advocacy nonprofit organization, with more than 24,000 member households and an online community of more than 100,000. Each year almost 4,500 WTA volunteers perform over 160,000 hours of trail maintenance across the state.

We are very supportive of the Snoqualmie Ranger District and their efforts to improve recreation access, maintenance and education and enforcement for the trails in the district. The Snoqualmie Ranger District encompasses some of Washington's most popular trails and recreation opportunities, including trails in the Alpine Lakes Wilderness.

The grants above will allow for the Snoqualmie Ranger District to conduct a robust trail maintenance program and address the need for further access to things like parking at Franklin Falls. Further, as the outdoors see more visitors than ever due to the pandemic and population growth in Washington, it is integral that places like the Snoqualmie Ranger District are equipped to educate new users on recreating safely and build a welcoming outdoors.

We are excited at the opportunity these projects hold, and look forward to working on them for years to come. Thank you for consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrea J. Imler". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Andrea Imler
Advocacy Director



BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF WASHINGTON
PO Box 1132
ELLENSBURG, WA 98926
WWW.BCHW.ORG

October 30, 2020
Recreation and Conservation Office
1111 Washington Street S.E. #2
Olympia, WA 98501

Dear Recreation and Conservation funding board:

Back Country Horsemen of Washington is aware that the Snoqualmie Ranger District is applying for a number of grants from both the RTP and the NOVA categories. We endorse and support these grant applications. As long time recreation users and as an organization that does volunteer trail maintenance in the Snoqualmie Ranger District we are aware of the benefit these grants would provide.

The Snoqualmie Ranger District is currently applying for grants that include funding for front country and back country trail maintenance, Wilderness patrols and Snoqualmie Ranger District front country rangers. They also have submissions for the Evans Creek ORV area for maintenance and education and enforcement and are putting a grant proposal together for additional winter recreation support.

The Snoqualmie District recreation staff manages and coordinates volunteer hours annually that subsidize their efforts to provide a continued and valued recreation experience. Grants from the Recreation Conservation Office ensure that resources continue to be available for these efforts.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sincerely,

s/Kathy Young

Kathy Young
Public Lands Chairman
Back Country Horsemen of Washington
public_lands@bchw.org

20-2194 NOVA ORV #15

Green River Chapter
of the
Washington Pilots Association

President:
Raehel
Rozankranz
Vice President:
Jerry Palterson
Secretary:
Gail Dondlinger
Treasurer:
John Smutny
Directors:
Leo Dondlinger
Clint Cawley
Mike Latta
Marjori Jensen

October 27, 2020

I want to thank the Snoqualmie Ranger District of the U.S. Forest Service on behalf of the Green River Chapter of the Washington Pilots Association (WPA) for the strong support of our Airstrip at Ranger Creek, Washington. It is amazing what the District can do with the limited resources it has to work with. This all due to the can-do attitude of the District Staff. A prime example of this mindset is even with the current Covid-19 situation you worked to complete the approval of efforts to increase the safety at the airstrip.

The afterhours users meetings held by the District Staff is another great example on how you work to increase the effectiveness of your resources. These meetings bring all the different users together to inform each group of the activities and work being held in the District and then also to gain input from the users. This is especially important as information passed back you in many times identify a small problem that can be resolved before it becomes a large financial problem for the District. It is nice the meetings also give the users group a chance to offer work parties to help you in some of your maintenance requirements at no cost to the District.

I have worked with you representing WPA for more the twenty years. I hope this can-do attitude to apply your limited funds as efficiently as possible continues into the coming years.

Again, Thanks for all of your support,


Alfred Banholzer
WPA Representative

October 25 , 2020

Recreation and Conservation Office

1111 Washington Street S.E. #2

Olympia, Wa 98501

Dear Recreation and Conservation funding board:

As President of the Hi- Country Snowmobile club, are aware that the Snoqualmie Ranger District is applying for a number of grants from both the RTP and the NOVA categories. We endorse and support these grant applications. As a long time recreational user and volunteer, (literally hundreds of volunteer hours) We are very aware of the benefit these grants would provide to the Snoqualmie Ranger District.

We have done many projects working side by side with the great people out at the Enumclaw Forest Service office.

Aside from the usual grants for trail maintenance, front country patrol, Evans Creek O.R.V. Campground volunteer coordinator and back country patrol, the District is also applying for grants to assist with fire recovery efforts for Corral Pass Campground. The entire Corral Pass campground was destroyed by the Norse Peak fire in 2017. I personally have been up there and inspected the fire damage, In addition, the Middle Fork Trail has a severe washout during the fall of 2017 and the popular Asehel Curtis picnic site off I-90 is in need of restoration.

The District recreation staff coordinate thousands of volunteer hours annually that subsidize their efforts to provide a continued and valued recreation experience. Grants from the Recreation Conservation Office ensure that resources continue to be available for these efforts. With the many "cut backs" of Federal money, these Grants are Extremely important to the Snoqualmie Ranger District to keep areas open, maintance , repair and Law Enforcement. We feel very fortunate to work with such great people who are always available and listen to all our concerns, We have a great "working relationship " with the Snoqualmie Ranger District.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sincerely,

Dan Johnson President

Hi-Country Snowmobile Club

3670 53rd st se

Auburn wa. 98092

253-606-0108

Members with

PNW4DA (Pacific North West 4 wheel drive association)

Washington State Snowmobile association

Washington State Parks and Recreation , Grooming Council

Pacific North West Motorcycle Association

Blue Ribbon Coalition

Avid Hiker , Sportsman and all around Outdoor Enthusiast.

October 28th, 2020

Recreation and Conservation Office

1111 Washington St. S.E.

Olympia, WA 98501

Dear Recreation and Conservation Office / Funding Board,

As a member of the Fringe Motorcycle Club and long time recreationist and volunteer, I would like express my full support and endorsement of grant funding to the Snoqualmie Ranger District and convey the benefits it would provide the district, and all of us as proud Washington citizens, volunteers, and recreational users.

I'm aware that the Snoqualmie Ranger District is applying for grants for Front & Backcountry Trail Maintenance, Wilderness Patrols, Snoqualmie Ranger District Front Country Ranger, Maintenance, Education, and Enforcement Measures for Evans Creek ORV, additional winter recreation support, as well as funding for other very important needs that will benefit our recreational areas, user groups, families, and ultimately our community.

I/we are very fortunate to be able to work with the Snoqualmie Ranger district and look forward to more cooperation. They have always been available and ready to listen and help in any way they can, or provide appropriate resources for preservation, enforcement and education to keep our forests beautiful and thriving. They also help us coordinate our recreation / volunteer group efforts, towards thousands of volunteer hours to continue the forward progress and stewardship of our forest. This in turn also helps bring revenue into the districts communities from visiting recreationist's. Having done many projects with the Snoqualmie Ranger District, these grants are so very important to our families, future recreation, and preservation of the beautiful Pacific Northwest.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Sincerely,

Shay Schakel
253-569-9597

October 28th, 2020

Recreation and Conservation Office
1111 Washington St. S.E.
Olympia, WA 98501

Dear Recreation and Conservation Office / Funding Board,

As a member of the Fringe Motorcycle Club and long time recreationist and volunteer, I would like express my full support and endorsement of grant funding to the Snoqualmie Ranger District and convey the benefits it would provide the district, and all of us as proud Washington citizens, volunteers, and recreational users.

I'm aware that the Snoqualmie Ranger District is applying for grants for Front & Backcountry Trail Maintenance, Wilderness Patrols, Snoqualmie Ranger District Front Country Ranger, Maintenance, Education, and Enforcement Measures for Evans Creek ORV, additional winter recreation support, as well as funding for other very important needs that will benefit our recreational areas, user groups, families, and ultimately our community.

I/we are very fortunate to be able to work with the Snoqualmie Ranger district and look forward to more cooperation. They have always been available and ready to listen and help in any way they can, or provide appropriate resources for preservation, enforcement and education to keep our forests beautiful and thriving. They also help us coordinate our recreation / volunteer group efforts, towards thousands of volunteer hours to continue the forward progress and stewardship of our forest. This in turn also helps bring revenue into the districts communities from visiting recreationist's. Having done many projects with the Snoqualmie Ranger District, these grants are so very important to our families, future recreation, and preservation of the beautiful Pacific Northwest.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Sincerely,

Jeremy Schakel
253-569-8222



November 2, 2020

Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Letter of support for Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Snoqualmie Ranger District grant applications

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Advisory Committee,

I am writing on behalf of the more than 13,500-member Pacific Crest Trail Association (PCTA) to express support for various grant applications submitted by the Snoqualmie Ranger District.

It is PCTA's privilege to partner with the Snoqualmie Ranger District to maintain outstanding recreation opportunities in the Central Cascades. The Snoqualmie Ranger District and their dedicated staff are valued partners of our organization. They host a PCTA tool cache, support our volunteer trainings, and provide outstanding public services. District staff have alerted PCTA that they have several grants supporting front country improvements through the NOVA program. Places like Denny Creek and the Middle Fork Snoqualmie Valley provide excellent recreation opportunities to the public. These proposals do not have a direct connection to the Pacific Crest Trail, but PCTA supports the expansion of recreation opportunities in western Washington. Thank you for your consideration of these various grants.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or would like any additional information about public benefits from specific proposals.

Sincerely,

Michael DeCramer
Pacific Crest Trail Association
North Cascades Regional Representative





President
Doug McClelland (*), Former Assistant Region Manager
Washington State Department of Natural Resources

Secretary
Josh M. Lipsky(*), Partner, Cascadia Law Group PLLC

Treasurer, Operations Committee Chair
Jason Broenneke (*), Partner, KPMG LLP

Fundraising Committee Chair
Ken Krivanec (*), President, Quadrant Homes

Board Engagement Committee Chair
Marie Quasius(*), Senior Port Counsel, Port of Seattle

20-2194 NOVA ORV #15

Program Committee Chair
Cora Johnson (*), Geotechnical Engineer, GeoEngineers

Executive Director
Jon Hoekstra (*), Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust

November 3, 2020

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

RE: Support for Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest 2020 RTP and NOVA grant application proposals

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board,

The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust enthusiastically endorses the Snoqualmie Ranger District' and the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest's proposals to the RCO through the NOVA and RTP programs to maintain, improve, build, and relocate hiking, backcountry, and multi-use trails and facilities in the District and to provide ranger patrols and user education.

The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust leads and inspires action to conserve and enhance 1.5 million acres between Puget Sound and Ellensburg. Our work connects natural areas, trails, working farm and forests, communities, wildlife habitat and recreation opportunities along the I-90 corridor. We also strive to support partners who own and manage the lands within the Greenway's boundaries, and recognize the immense value of their recreation infrastructure, education programs, and restoration activities in creating opportunities to connect people with the outdoors.

Unfortunately, the very crowds that are drawn to the beauty and challenge of the District's unique terrain threaten to destroy the wilderness experience they are seeking at popular destinations such as the Alpine Lakes Wilderness, the Middle Fork of the Snoqualmie River Valley, and the many popular trails along the Interstate 90 corridor.

Trail maintenance efforts, the creation and maintenance of new recreational ADA-accessible day use facilities, and increased education and enforcement via front- and backcountry rangers is critical to the long-term sustainability of the trails and natural resources within the Greenway, allowing the recreational resources to meet increased demand without negatively impacting the landscape.

With the impacts of COVID-19 felt across the landscape and the region, the importance of high-quality and well-maintained recreation infrastructure has become more and more apparent. The accessibility of trails and recreational facilities in the Greenway, and in the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest provide a critical source of respite and a means for people to connect with nature, and the need to care for these areas is greater than ever.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Jim Becker, Retired, Founder, SmartLab Toys and becker&mayer!
Laurie Benson (X), South Puget Sound Assistant Region
Manager for Conservation, Recreation, and Transactions, WA Dept.
of Natural Resources
Gary Berndt, Wildland Fire Liaison, WA State Dept. of
Natural Resources
Mark Boyar (*), President, Middle Fork Outdoor Recreation Coalition
Kevin Brown, King County Parks and Recreation
Susan Carlson, Chair, E3 Washington
Bill Chapman (*), Past President, Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust
Dow Constantine (X), King County Executive
Kitty Craig, Deputy Director, Washington Program,
The Wilderness Society
Deloa Dalby, Savor Snoqualmie Valley Leadership Team;
The Mountaineers Foothills Branch
Bob Ellis, Lifetime Educator and Cyclist,
Karl Forsgaard, Manager of Implementations, Thomson Reuters;
Alpine Lakes Protection Society
Kurt Fraese (*), Fraese and Associates, LLC
Hilary Franz (X), Commissioner of Public Lands, WA State Dept. of
Natural Resources
Kari Glover, Retired, Global Integration Partner, K&L Gates LLP,
Matt Grimm, Investment Professional, BMGI
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Laura Hoffman, Owner, Copper Ridge Farm; Microsoft
Warren Jimenez (X), Director, King County Parks
Andrew Kenefick, Senior Legal Counsel, Waste Management
of Washington, Inc
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Pacific Groundwater Group
Ken Konigsmark, Issaquah Alps Trails Club
Yvonne Kraus, Executive Director, Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance
Danny Levine, Retired, President, NationAd Communications
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Lorna Luebbe, Assistant General Counsel/Director Environment
Program Services, Puget Sound Energy
Elizabeth Lunney (*), Former Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust
Interim Executive Director
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Thomas O'Keefe, Pacific Northwest Stewardship Director,
American Whitewater
Amanda O'Rourke, CPA, Partner, Greenwood Ohlund & Co.
David Patton, Northwest Area Director, The Trust for Public Land
Kizz Prusia, Project Associate, Triangle Associates
Charles Raines, Director Cascade Checkerboard Project, Sierra Club,
Washington State Chapter
Janet Ray, Retired, Asst VP, Corporate Affairs and Publishing,
AAA Washington
Jim Reinhardtsen (*), President, Laird Norton Properties
Vik Sahney, Board VP, E&I Committee Chair, The Mountaineers
Meredith Shank, Social Venture Partners
Jill Simmons, Executive Director, Washington Trails Association
Al Smith, Partner, Perkins Cole LLP
David Sturtevant, Retired, Vice President CH2M HILL
Chris Thomas, Senior Director, Public Policy, Lyft
Harry Thomas, Chief Marketing Officer, AAA Washington
Leah Tivoli, Manager, City of Seattle
Alison Washburn, Bellevue Store Manager, REI Co-op
Jody Weil (X), Supervisor, Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest
Joel Yoker, President, Snoqualmie Valley Youth Activities and
Community Center

(*), Executive Committee Member
(X) Ex-Officio (non-voting) Director

MTSGREENWAY.ORG

2701 FIRST AVENUE SUITE 240 SEATTLE, WA 98121 | 206.382.5565 | INFO@MTSGREENWAY.ORG



The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust convenes a diverse coalition of public and private partners working to ensure a long-term balance between people and nature, across the watersheds between Seattle and Ellensburg. We work to connect and enhance wildlife habitat, improve outdoor recreation, enhance outdoor education, preserve working farms and forests, and ensure thriving communities.

The Greenway Trust is working with a broad coalition of partners including the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, the Washington State Dept. of Natural Resources and many other agencies, nonprofits, businesses, and citizens to support long-term stewardship of the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River Valley and to responsibly accommodate increased visitation expected to occur after a federal road improvement project paves the main access to the Valley. The projects put forth within these multiple grant proposals will help to ensure that trails and facilities in the Middle Fork Valley and in the Greenway are up to a standard that can sustainably support higher public visitation, and that recreational users are aware and educated about the natural world around them. The completion of the paving of the Middle Fork Road (Forest Road 56) in 2016-17 has increased the importance of this work, enabling more recreational users to connect with the many opportunities this landscape has to offer.

Funding the U.S. Forest Service's trail, infrastructure, restoration and educational programs not only enhances the local economy, it also provides a valuable public service to local and regional visitors. The Greenway boundary was designated a National Heritage Area in 2019, and is sure to see more visitors as the area's profile continues to grow. In light of this increased use, the Forest Service's efforts to keep its trails, safe, well-maintained, and of limited impact to the surrounding natural resources will be key.

The Greenway Trust has long partnered with the MBS on trail and recreation projects, and we strongly support these proposals. If you have any questions, please contact Mackenzie Dolstad, Stewardship Program Manager, at 206-503-0683 or mackenzie.dolstad@mtsgreenway.org. Thank you for the opportunity to share our support for these important projects.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jon Hoekstra". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jon" being larger and more prominent than the last name "Hoekstra".

Jon Hoekstra
Executive Director

To whom it may concern,

As a user and volunteer of the Evans Creek ORV park and the Naches trail area grants are much needed for the maintenance and operations of the parks.

Please help us with the ability of continued support of our ORV areas.

Derrick Clark

Rednecks & Rug-Rats Jeep Club

Land matters coordinator with the PNW4WDA

My wife and I with the help of...Alix Peterson...Douge Westlund..Jeff Bouwer...Jarimie Stackle...And at least 8 others in the Trail work of Evans Creek....Grant Moneys used in this ORV Park are now starting to Make a BIG difference and more moneys and work are needed. We will continue turning in our hours of work to help grant hours. Thank You for supporting us....Mark and Mary Bright

Yakima County Grooming Council

Yakima Washington

December 9, 2020

To whom it may concern:

The YCGC fully supports the efforts of DNR and the efforts in the Ahtanum to make recreation better for all users of the forest.

The grant monies are easily seen ON THE GROUND and not just hidden in some obscure waste of valuable tax money.

One of the planned projects this would help fund is the rebuilding of the safety barrier at Eagles Nest. This site is heavily visited by hundreds of people of all ages during the summer months, and the railing is actually missing in some places. The funds provided by this grant will help not only make it more attractive, but SAFE for the public.

The council would recommend granting the funds under grant # 20-2152 to DNR for use in the Ahtanum State Forest.

Respectively submitted,



12/9/2020

Mark, J Tharp

YCGC Chair.

December, 2020

Recreation and Conservation Office

Jeff Jones – Recreation Manager
Washington State Department of Natural Resources
Southeast Region
713 Bowers Road
Ellensburg, WA 98926

Recreation and Conservation Office:

This letter supports the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) request for grant funding to fund maintenance and operation in the Ahtanum State Forest.

NOVA Grant Application 20-2152 – Ahtanum ORV Facilities and Trail Maintenance

I am an active volunteer with the DNR and donate many hours each year doing project work, litter pick up and trail maintenance. The Ahtanum area has seen a steady increase in use each year due to its location here in Central Washington. Its boundaries to the west and north join Federal Forest Service land where several recreation trails offer loop routes.

Work and projects that have been completed in previous years are clearly visible and appreciated by the public.

Your consideration and support will be greatly appreciated by the users of the area and will help maintain an acceptable level of maintenance for a sustainable forest.

Ron Rutherford
11705 Zier Road
Yakima, WA 98908



Making a difference for salmon

December 12, 2020

To Whom it May Concern,

Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group (MCF) is a local non-profit group working to restore habitat for native salmon and trout in south central Washington. On behalf of our board of directors, I would like to voice our support for the Washington Department of Natural Resources' grant application "Ahtanum ORV Facilities and Trail Maintenance" submitted to the Nonhighway and Off-Road Vehicle Activities Program (project # 20-2152).

The Ahtanum State Forest has become a destination for the off-road community. MCF is supportive of these activities; however the popularity of this location has had an impact on the trails, facilities, and natural resources of the Ahtanum State Forest. We have seen these impacts firsthand and have worked to address some of these issues by partnering with DNR on a Salmon Recovery grant "Ahtanum Restoration of Recreation Impacts" (project # 18-1650). That project was funded in 2018 and addresses issues associated with the overuse of camping areas and illegal off-road activity directly impacting the Ahtanum's struggling bull trout population.

The current NOVA application put forth by DNR builds on this work by addressing impacts and performing maintenance on over 42 miles of ORV trails, 12 campgrounds and three trailheads within the Ahtanum State Forest. DNR has a strong track record of implementing these projects. This work will improve the recreation experience for off-road enthusiasts while also protecting natural resources including the Ahtanum's threatened bull trout. For these reasons Mid-Columbia Fisheries wishes to express our strong support of the sponsor and their grant application "Ahtanum ORV Facilities and Trail Maintenance". Thank you for your consideration.

Margaret Neuman

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Margaret Neuman". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

Executive Director



BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF WASHINGTON
PO Box 1132
ELLENSBURG, WA 98926
WWW.BCHW.ORG

December 11, 2020

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia WA, 98504-0917

Ahtanum ORV Facilities and Trail Maintenance – Application #20-2152

To Whom It May Concern;

Back Country Horsemen of Washington submits this letter in support of the above named Dept. of Natural Resources grant application.

Back Country Horsemen of Washington (BCHW) has a history of cooperation and collaboration with Washington State Dept. of Natural Resources pertaining to the recreational use of DNR lands. Our organization, BCHW, benefits when the DNR has the ability and adequate funding and staff to maintain trails and facilities on DNR lands. While this application has been submitted as primarily benefitting ORV use areas, the Ahtanum State Forest is truly a multi-use area with many opportunities for equestrians and other recreational user groups.

Further, the ability to purchase needed construction equipment as needed to maintain existing ORV facilities is critical in providing safe sustainable trails for multiple land users. Funds are continually needed to maintain and repair facilities that protect resources.

Thank you for your consideration,

Jason Ridlon
President
Back Country Horsemen of Washington

Back Country Horsemen of Washington (BCHW), is a 501 (c) (3) organization with 33 chapters across the state dedicated to: keeping trails open for all users; educating horse users in Leave-No-Trace practices; and providing volunteer service to resource agencies.



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Olympic National Park
600 East Park Avenue
Port Angeles, Washington 98362-6798

October 20, 2020

Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia WA 98504-0917

Dear Grant Review Team,

I am writing to express support for two grant applications submitted to you by the Olympic Region of Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR). The two projects are the Straits Off Road Vehicle Trail & Facility Maintenance (1997 M) and Olympic Region Education and Enforcement (1998 E). The requested funding will provide the maintenance, visitor information, and education necessary to ensure a safe and enjoyable trail riding experience for all.

The high-quality recreation opportunities provided by these projects will benefit both visitors' to and employees of Olympic National Park. When our community thrives, our park thrives. Indeed, all public lands benefit when recreationists are well informed and supported. The Sadie Creek and the Foothills trail systems provide important opportunities for the recreation community. They are the only designated motorized off-road vehicle areas on the north end of the peninsula.

Olympic National Park supports the Straits Off Road Vehicle Trail and Facility Maintenance Project and the Olympic Region Education and Enforcement Project. The assistance provided by a grant from the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office will greatly benefit the communities of the Olympic Peninsula.

Sincerely,

M. Sarah Creachbaum
Superintendent
Olympic National Park



Clallam County Public Works/Road Department

223 E. Fourth St., Suite 6

Port Angeles, WA 98362-3000

360-417-2290 Fax: 360-417-2513 E-mail: sgray@co.clallam.wa.us

December 3, 2020

**Subject: Department of Natural Resources – Olympic Region
Recreation and Conservation Grant Applications:**
#20 –1997 M - Straits ORV Trail and Facility Maintenance (DNR)
#20 –1998 E – Olympic Region Education and Enforcement (DNR)

Dear Grant Review Team,

The Clallam County Public Works/Road Department supports the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Olympic Region's grant applications for the Straits Off-Road Vehicle (ORV) Trail and Facility Maintenance and the Olympic Region Education and Enforcement (E&E) projects. This requested funding would provide for the necessary maintenance and also support education and enforcement that will help ensure a safe and enjoyable trail riding experience for the public.

The DNR has been a partner with Clallam County to support the regional Olympic Discovery Trail (ODT) that when finished (~ 60% complete) will connect Port Townsend to La Push. Segments of the ODT cross DNR lands. The DNR Olympic Region E&E program grant request helps to protect the public's investment on the ODT in these locations. Trained Wardens provide information, support and education to recreationists and volunteers. They inspect trailheads and facilities during high use periods and assist the DNR Natural Resource Police Officers by enforcing rules and regulations when necessary.

In Clallam County, the DNR Sadie Creek and the Foothills trail systems provide an important service for the ORV recreation community as well as other trail users (e.g., hikers, bicyclists). They are the only designated motorized ORV areas on the north end of the Olympic Peninsula. Both the DNR Straits ORV Trail and Facility Maintenance and the Olympic Region E&E project grant requests will greatly benefit the community and support safe recreational use of these trail systems.

We endorse both of these projects and encourage the RCO to also support the valuable work proposed by DNR, Olympic Region. This assistance will greatly benefit the communities of the North Olympic Peninsula.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Steve Gray", is written over a white background.

Steve Gray
Transportation Program Manager



LOWER ELWHA KLALLAM TRIBE

ʔéʔtχ^waʔ nəx^wsʔáýəm' "Strong People"

Natural Resources Department (360) 452-4012
760 Stratton Rd.
Port Angeles, WA 98363

10.22.2020

Dear Grant Review Team,

Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe is in support Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Olympic Region's grant applications for the #20 –1997 M - Straits ORV Trail and Facility Maintenance and the #20 –1998 E Olympic Region Education and Enforcement (E&E) funding opportunities. These requested funds would provide for the necessary maintenance that will ensure a safe and enjoyable trail riding experience for the public.

LEKT Usual & Accustom hunting and fishing grounds overlaps with DNR land. Tribal members and LEKT staff utilizes many DNR trails and roads to access traditional hunting grounds and LEKT work sites. LEKT fisheries uses DNR access roads and trails to salmon bearing streams for annual fish surveys. Our revegetation program also uses these trails and roads to access areas under restoration for either native planting or invasive plant removal. Finally, wildlife research staff use DNR roads and trails for collaring and tracking Columbian black-tailed deer and cougars, and for deploying wildlife monitoring cameras.

Sadie Creek and the Foothills trail systems provide an important service for the recreation community, while also providing important access for our various activities. They are the only designated motorized ORV areas on the north end of the Olympic Peninsula. It is important to have this designated area for motorized vehicles. This helps to keep other areas with wildlife and important native plant communities intact and untouched by ORV activities.

The E&E program protects the public's investment in these locations. As the demand grows for outdoor recreation, education is the key to recreating responsibly. Trained Wardens provide information, support, and education to recreationists and volunteers. They inspect trailheads and facilities during high use periods and assist the DNR Natural Resource Police Officers by enforcing rules and regulations when necessary. Maintenance and regulation of these activities are so important to ensure safety and environmental responsibility with ORV's.

Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe endorses these projects and encourages the RCO to also support the valuable work proposed by DNR, Olympic Region. This assistance will greatly benefit the communities of the North Olympic Peninsula.

Sincerely,

Matt Beirne, Natural Resources Director



4x4 and Classic Car Club

1131 Highland Ave
Port Angeles, Wa 98362
(360) 460-4613

October 1, 2020

Department of Natural Resources – Olympic Region
Recreation and Conservation Grant Applications

#20 –1997 M - Straits ORV Trail and Facility Maintenance (DNR)

#20 –1998 E – Olympic Region Education and Enforcement (DNR)

To Whom It May Concern,

We, the members of the Strait Teq club, support the DNR Olympic Region's grant applications for the Straits District Maintenance & Operations and the Straits District Education and Enforcement programs.

Sadie Creek and the Foothills serve an important service for the recreation community. They are the only designated motorized ORV areas on the north end of the Olympic peninsula and draw in users from all over the Northwest.

This requested funding will provide for the necessary maintenance that will insure a safe trail riding experience for the general public. For example, our club has expanded the functionality and use of the Sadie Creek trail system through partnerships with the DNR that would not exist without these grants.

The Education and Enforcement program protects the general public's investment in this location. The education part helps to curb vandalism and littering and educates the public where to recreate and serves as a positive impact for the whole area, enforcement is secondary, but sometimes becomes necessary.

Sincerely,

Bill Vernon, President

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bill Vernon".

Jeffery Heistand, Vice President

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jeffery Heistand".



4x4 and Classic Car Club

1131 Highland Ave
Port Angeles, Wa 98362
(360) 460-4613

David Lewis, Secretary

Steven Lewis, Treasurer

Other Supporting Club Members and Volunteers:

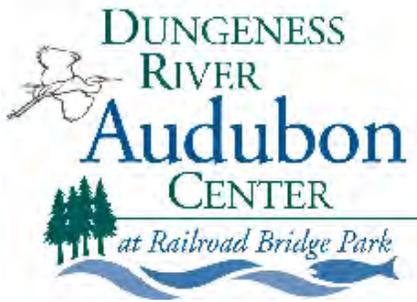
Name (print)

Signature

William Strohmeyer _____

Mike Vernon _____

17 _____



www.dungenessrivercenter.org
rivercenter@olympus.net

P.O. Box 2450, Sequim, WA 98382
360-681-4076

In partnership with the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe (JST), Olympic Peninsula Audubon Society (OPAS) and National Audubon Society

River Center Staff

Powell Jones, Executive Director & Park Manager
Vanessa Fuller, Admin. Services & Development Manager
Jenna Ziogas, Educational & Volunteer Coordinator
Jan Halliday, Donor & Sponsor Engagement
Roger Magee, Visitor Services

Board of Directors

Officers 2020 to July 2021

Laura Dubois, President
Tuttie Peetz, Vice President
Ann Sargent, Secretary, JST
Wanda Schneider, Treasurer

Members

Shirley Anderson
Tom Butler, OPAS
Sara Cendejas-Zarelli
Kendra Donaldson, OPAS
Laura Dubois
Annette Hanson-Poor
Neil Harrington, JST
Les Jones
Darcy McNamara
Mark Megahan
Lyn Muench
Annette Nesse, JST
Ally Simons, OPAS
Ken Wiersema, NAS

November 25, 2020

Department of Natural Resources – Olympic Region Recreation and Conservation Grant Applications:

#20 –1997 M – Straits ORV Trail and Facility Maintenance (DNR)
#20 –1998 E – Olympic Region Education and Enforcement (DNR)

Dear Grant Review Team,

The Dungeness River Audubon Center, and I as a volunteer, support the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR), the Olympic Region's grant applications for both Straits ORV Trail and Facility Maintenance, and the Olympic Region Education and Enforcement (E&E) projects. This requested funding would provide for the necessary maintenance that will ensure a safe and enjoyable trail riding experience for the public.

At both a professional and personal level I work on developing multi-use recreational trails in coordination with DNR, the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe, and Washington State Parks. Our community benefits immensely from the coordinated effort to build and maintain recreational opportunities for residents and from the sustainable economic potential these trails offer over the long term. The management of these public resources must be supported financially to provide public education, maintenance, and enforcement.

The E&E program in particular protects the public's investment in these locations. Trained Wardens provide information, support, and education to recreationists and volunteers. They inspect trailheads and facilities during high use periods and assist the DNR Natural Resource Police Officers by enforcing rules and regulations when necessary.

The Dungeness River Audubon Center and I, Powell Jones, endorse these projects and encourages the RCO to also support the invaluable work proposed by DNR, Olympic Region. This assistance will greatly benefit the communities of the North Olympic Peninsula.

If you would like to speak with me further about my support for the DNR's Olympic Region grant request please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Powell Jones

Powell Jones
Director and Park Manager
Dungeness River Audubon Center
Powell@DungenessRiverCenter.org

*The Dungeness River Audubon Center is a charitable organization.
Membership fees and donations are tax deductible to the extent of the law.
For tax purposes, our 501©3 Federal EIN is 91-1632949.*



P.O. Box 372
Sequim, Washington 98382
971-704-1156
info@olympicpeninsulacycling.com

September 23, 2020

**Department of Natural Resources – Olympic Region
Recreation and Conservation Grant Applications:**

#20 –1997 M - Straits ORV Trail and Facility Maintenance (DNR)

#20 –1998 E – Olympic Region Education and Enforcement (DNR)

Dear Grant Review Team,

The Olympic Peninsula Bicycle Alliance (OPBA) supports Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Olympic Region's grant application for the Olympic Region Education and Enforcement (E&E) project. This requested funding would provide for the necessary maintenance that will ensure a safe and enjoyable trail riding experience for the public.

OPBA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit serving the needs and interests of cyclists on the Olympic Peninsula--whether they live here or are just visiting. Our partnership with the DNR Olympic Region has helped expand, improve, and maintain the kind of multi-use trails that cyclists--specifically mountain bikers--love to explore and enjoy.

The Dungeness Trails network in Sequim is just one example of how our members and the larger cycling community we represent have benefitted from this partnership. Just minutes from downtown Sequim, Dungeness Trails has become an extremely popular multi-use trail system and now attracts riders from across the Peninsula as well as the greater Seattle area and points east and south.

The E&E program protects the public's investment in Dungeness Trails as well as other multi-use trail networks in the region. Trained Wardens provide information, support and education to recreationists and volunteers. They inspect trailheads and facilities during high use periods and assist the DNR Natural Resource Police Officers by enforcing rules and regulations when necessary.

OPBA endorses this project and encourages the RCO to also support the valuable work proposed by DNR, Olympic Region. This assistance will greatly benefit the communities of the North Olympic Peninsula.

Sincerely,

Ken Stringer, President



October 1, 2020

Recreation and Conservation Grant Applications
 Department of Natural Resources – Olympic Region
 #20 –1997 M - Straits ORV Trail and Facility Maintenance (DNR)
 #20 –1998 E – Olympic Region Education and Enforcement (DNR)

Dear Grant Review Team:

Peninsula Chapter Back Country Horsemen of Washington enthusiastically supports the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Olympic Region’s grant applications for the “Straits ORV Trail and Facility Maintenance” and the “Olympic Region Education and Enforcement” projects. This requested funding would provide for the necessary maintenance that will ensure a safe and enjoyable trail riding experience for the public.

Our organization represents the equestrian recreationalist and we are strong advocates of multi-use trails. We endeavor to keep trails clear and safe for all users, all year long, and our partnership with the Olympic Region’s DNR is one of the most productive and successful toward that end. We wish to preserve equestrian use and have experienced successful collaboration among bicyclists and hikers through education and shared trail projects. ORV users need trails that they can enjoy, too, and this requested funding, which will be used to maintain the Sadie Creek and Foothills trail systems, will enable DNR to maintain an area for them as well as the rest of us. These two trail systems are the only designated motorized ORV areas on the north end of the Olympic Peninsula!

The Education & Enforcement program is critical to successfully support the “multi-use trail society”. It is necessary to protect the public’s investment in these locations. Trained Wardens provide information, support, and education to recreationists and volunteers. They inspect trailheads and facilities during high use periods and assist the DNR Natural Resource Police Officers by enforcing rules and regulations when necessary. Awareness must be heightened, civility must be encouraged.

The Peninsula Chapter BCHW endorses these projects and encourages the RCO to embrace the value of the work proposed by DNR Olympic Region and provide funding. This assistance will greatly benefit the communities of the North Olympic Peninsula.

Sincerely,

Dan Dosey, President
 Peninsula Chapter Back Country Horsemen of Washington
 PO Box 451
 Carlsborg, WA 98324

Mike and Suzy Traband

September 24, 2020



**Department of Natural Resources – Olympic Region
Recreation and Conservation Grant Applications:**

#20 –1997 M - Straits ORV Trail and Facility Maintenance (DNR)

#20 –1998 E – Olympic Region Education and Enforcement (DNR)

Dear Grant Review Team,

Port Angeles Power Equipment, and Mike and Suzy Traband support Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Olympic Region's grant applications for the Straits ORV Trail and Facility Maintenance and the Olympic Region Education and Enforcement (E&E) projects. This requested funding would provide for the necessary maintenance that will ensure a safe and enjoyable trail riding experience for the public.

Mike and I are the owners of Port Angeles Power Equipment, and since our business is directly effected by wether or not the DNR has funding or not, it is important to us and the 25 families we support.

Sadie Creek and the Foothills trail systems provide an important service for the recreation community. They are the only designated motorized ORV areas on the north end of the Olympic peninsula.

The E&E program protects the public's investment in these locations. Trained Wardens provide information, support and education to recreationists and volunteers. They inspect trailheads and facilities during high use periods and assist the DNR Natural Resource Police Officers by enforcing rules and regulations when necessary.

Mike, myself, and Port Angeles Power Equipment endorse these projects and encourages the RCO to also support the valuable work proposed by DNR, Olympic Region. This assistance will greatly benefit the communities of the North Olympic Peninsula.

Sincerely,

Suzy and Mike Traband

Port Angeles Power Equipment

Two Tired Trail Riders - ttTr
Sequim, PortAngeles, Agnew WA

9/26/2020

Department of Natural Resources – Olympic Region
Recreation and Conservation Grant Applications:
#20 –1997 M - Straits ORV Trail and Facility Maintenance (DNR)
#20 –1998 E – Olympic Region Education and Enforcement (DNR)

Dear Grant Review Team,

Our group supports Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Olympic Region's grant applications for the Straits ORV Trail and Facility Maintenance and the Olympic Region Education and Enforcement (E&E) projects. This requested funding would provide for the necessary maintenance that will ensure a safe and enjoyable trail riding experience for the public.

The Two Tired Trail Riders are actively engaged in creating a trials specific riding area within the Foothills ORV Area. Trials riding is slow speed precise operation of purpose built motorbikes with an emphasis on rider balance and body position to clear a designated pathway. In competition a points system exists to track when a rider puts a foot on the ground and so incurs a "point". Trials riding has a large following in Europe and has been steadily gaining popularity in the USA and we are excited to have an opportunity to foster that activity here on the Olympic Peninsula.

Sadie Creek and the Foothills trail systems provide an important service for the ever growing recreation community. They are the only designated motorized ORV areas on the north end of the Olympic peninsula

The E&E program protects the public's investment in these locations. Trained Wardens provide information, support and education to recreationists and volunteers. They inspect trailheads and facilities during high use periods and assist the DNR Natural Resource Police Officers by enforcing rules and regulations when necessary.

Two Tired Trail Riders membership and I endorse these projects and encourages the RCO to also support the valuable work proposed by DNR, Olympic Region. This assistance will greatly benefit the communities of the North Olympic Peninsula.

Sincerely ~ Two Tired Trail Riders (ttTr)

Art Jenkins, Dean Mangiantini, Will Giese, Jeff Mofitt, Jon Rourke, Mark Hollingsworth, Scott Fitzgerald, Justin Snook

Benjamin W. Stanley
118 W. 4th St.
Port Angeles, WA 98362

September 23, 2020

**Department of Natural Resources – Olympic Region
Recreation and Conservation Grant Applications:**

#20 –1997 M - Straits ORV Trail and Facility Maintenance (DNR)

#20 –1998 E – Olympic Region Education and Enforcement (DNR)

Dear Grant Review Team,

I want to express my support for the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Olympic Region's grant applications for the Straits ORV Trail and Facility Maintenance and the Olympic Region Education and Enforcement (E&E) projects. This requested funding would provide for the necessary maintenance that will ensure a safe and enjoyable trail riding experience for the public.

As the Vice-Chair of the City of Port Angeles Planning Commission, I can attest that the maintenance and expansion of a local and regional trail system connecting Port Angeles residents to recreational opportunities is an explicit priority in our City's current Comprehensive Plan. The work proposed in these grant applications would help us as we work to satisfy these recreational priorities.

Sadie Creek and the Foothills trail systems provide an important service for the recreation community. They are the only designated motorized ORV areas on the north end of the Olympic peninsula. Further development of the Foothills trail system, in particular, is critical to connect local Port Angeles residents to the Olympic National Park trail system, as well as being an amenity in itself.

The E&E program protects the public's investment in these locations. Trained Wardens provide information, support and education to recreationists and volunteers. They inspect trailheads and facilities during high use periods and assist the DNR Natural Resource Police Officers by enforcing rules and regulations when necessary. Education and rules enforcement are both critical to increasing the public's trust in the safety of these resources and thus their ability to use them regularly.

I endorse these projects and encourages the RCO to also support the valuable work proposed by DNR, Olympic Region. This assistance will greatly benefit the communities of the North Olympic Peninsula.

Sincerely,

Benjamin W. Stanley
Vice-Chair, City of Port Angeles Planning Commission

Lorrie Mittmann
434 W. 11th Street
Port Angeles WA 98362



October 6, 2020

**Department of Natural Resources – Olympic Region
Recreation and Conservation Grant Applications:**

#20 –1997 M - Straits ORV Trail and Facility Maintenance (DNR)

#20 –1998 E – Olympic Region Education and Enforcement (DNR)

Peninsula Adventure Sports supports Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Olympic Region's grant applications for the Straits ORV Trail and Facility Maintenance and the Olympic Region Education and Enforcement (E&E) projects. This requested funding would provide for the necessary maintenance that will ensure a safe and enjoyable trail riding experience for the public.

Peninsula Adventure Sports produces outdoor recreation events on the North Olympic Peninsula. Many of the races that we organize take place on multi-use trails managed by Washington State DNR. We appreciate the support we receive from our local DNR recreation staff, and we appreciate the availability of trails for all types of users.

The Foothills trail system has been used for the Big Hurt multi-sport race for the last four years. This trail system provides an important service for the recreation community. And while our races are non-motorized, we feel it is important to have motorized trails available, and Sadie Creek and Foothills are the only designated motorized ORV areas on the north end of the Olympic peninsula.

The E&E program protects the public's investment in these locations. Trained Wardens provide information, support and education to recreationists and volunteers. They inspect trailheads and facilities during high use periods and assist the DNR Natural Resource Police Officers by enforcing rules and regulations when necessary.

Peninsula Adventure Sports endorses these projects and encourages the RCO to also support the valuable work proposed by DNR, Olympic Region. This assistance will greatly benefit the communities of the North Olympic Peninsula.

Best Regards,

Lorrie Mittmann



9/23/2020

**Department of Natural Resources – Olympic Region
Recreation and Conservation Grant Applications:**

#20 –1997 M - Straits ORV Trail and Facility Maintenance (DNR)

#20 –1998 E – Olympic Region Education and Enforcement (DNR)

Dear Grant Review Team,

We are writing to indicate our support for Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Olympic Region's grant applications for the Straits ORV Trail and Facility Maintenance and the Olympic Region Education and Enforcement (E&E) projects. This requested funding would provide for the necessary maintenance that will ensure a safe and enjoyable trail riding experience for the public.

The Top Left Trails Co-op is a North Olympic Peninsula based non-profit working to expand mountain biking opportunities for youth, families and visitors to the region through trail building, primarily at the Colville Mountain Bike Skill Park. The NOP benefits from multi-use recreation sites and with that comes the need for Education and Enforcement Wardens to support and educate site users. Their work to inspect trailheads and facilities during high use periods and assist the DNR Natural Resource Police Officers by enforcing rules and regulations when necessary is a key part of keeping these facilities visitor friendly.

Sadie Creek and the Foothills trail systems provide an important service for the recreation community. They are the only designated motorized ORV areas on the north end of the Olympic peninsula. The Foothills trail system is also a great place to ride a mountain bike.

The Top Left Trails Co-op endorses these projects and encourages the RCO to support the work proposed by DNR, Olympic Region. These grants will greatly benefit the communities of the North Olympic Peninsula by keeping outdoor recreation trail systems, trails and facilities well maintained, clean and safe.

Sincerely,

Jeff Berry,
President, Top Left Trails Co-op

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeff Berry". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Wayne A Fitzwater
1943 West 10th St
Port Angeles, WA 98363

October 15, 2020

Department of Natural Resources - Olympic Region
Recreation and Conservation Grant Applications:
#20-1997 M - Straits ORV Trail and Facility Maintenance (DNR)
#20-1998 E - Olympic Region Education and Enforcement (DNR)

Dear Grant Review Team,

As an independent mountain bike rider I support the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) grant applications: Straits ORV Trail and Facility Maintenance and the Olympic Region Education and Enforcement (E&E) projects. Funding the maintenance grant request would provide a safe and enjoyable trail riding experience through an established, successful long term maintenance program. While funding the E&E grant request will provide the public a safer recreation environment while protecting long term DNR and RCO investments.

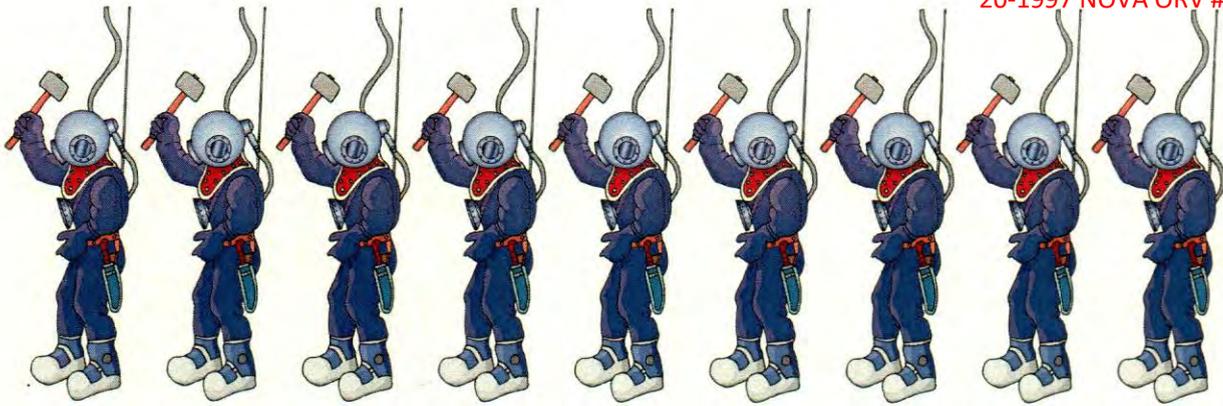
I have personally experienced greatly increased user numbers on the North Olympic Peninsula due to the the Covid pandemic. I have had conversations with trail riders from up and down the Puget trough and from as far away as California who had never ridden here. One couple in particular due to the shut downs and working from home situation were exploring the possibilities of moving to the Port Angeles area and continuing to telecommute. This pressure increases the need for continued maintenance and E&E programs.

Once again I support these grant requests by the DNR's Olympic Region and would encourage RCO's funding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Wayne A. Fitzwater". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Wayne A Fitzwater
Independent mountain bike rider - Port Angeles, WA
360-808-1273



Date: 9-28-2020

**Department of Natural Resources – Olympic Region
Recreation and Conservation Grant Applications:**

#20 –1997 M - Straits ORV Trail and Facility Maintenance (DNR)

#20 –1998 E – Olympic Region Education and Enforcement (DNR)

Dear Grant Review Team,

I, Larry V Gibbs, EX-HCDSDE, do support Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Olympic Region's grant applications for the: Straits ORV Trail and Facility Maintenance and the Olympic Region Education and Enforcement (E&E) projects. This requested funding would provide for the necessary maintenance that will ensure a safe and enjoyable trail riding experience for the public.

As a soon to be retired, EX-HCDSDE, (EX=Used to be) Hairy Chested Deep Sea Diver Extraordinaire, I've been volunteering for several years now, to go to a variety of the areas shooters use, and clean up as much trash & debris as we can... We travel all around the Puget Sound Areas, Sadie Creek and the Foothills trail systems provide an important service for the recreation community. They are the only designated motorized ORV areas on the north end of the Olympic peninsula.

The E&E program protects the public's investment in these locations. Trained Wardens provide information, support and education to recreationists and volunteers. They inspect trailheads and facilities during high use periods and assist the DNR Natural Resource Police Officers by enforcing rules and regulations when necessary.

I do endorse these projects and encourages the RCO to also support the valuable work proposed by DNR, Olympic Region. This assistance will greatly benefit the communities of the North Olympic Peninsula.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Larry V Gibbs.

Larry V Gibbs



P.O. Box 1836 • Port Angeles, WA 98362
 info@peninsulatrailscoalition.org
 PeninsulaTrailsCoalition.org

Spearheading the Olympic Discovery Trail since 1988
 OlympicDiscoveryTrail.com



9 November 2020

To: Department of Natural Resources – Olympic Region
 Recreation and Conservation Grant Applications
 #20-1997 M – Straits ORV Trail and Facility Maintenance (DNR)
 #20-1998 E – Olympic Region Education and Enforcement (DNR)

To Whom It May Concern,

The Peninsula Trails Coalition (PTC) fully supports the DNR Olympic Region's grant applications for the Straits ORV Trail and Facility Maintenance program and for the Olympic Region Education and Enforcement program. This requested funding would provide for the necessary maintenance that will ensure a safe and enjoyable trail riding experience for the public.

Sadie Creek and the Foothills serve an important role for the recreation community in our area in that they are the only designated motorized ORV areas on the north end of the Olympic Peninsula. While PTC's core mission is to pursue the completion of the Olympic Discovery Trail (ODT) as a non-motorized, multi-modal use trail, we are attuned to the need for trails supporting motorized use. And we believe it is an important form of protection of non-motorized trails to provide quality options elsewhere for motorized use. Further, to the extent that these areas also serve the needs of non-motorized users, we heartily support the critical maintenance required both to provide a quality trail and to ensure maintenance of trail elements that achieve important environmental protections such as slope stability, erosion protection, and similar outcomes.

The Education and Enforcement program protects the general public's investment in DNR-managed trails throughout the North Olympic Peninsula. And among those trails is a critically important single-track trail component of the ODT, the Olympic Adventure Trail (OAT). It is the only currently available version of the ODT from the Elwha River west to Lake Crescent. For many years, this trail has been exceptionally popular, including supporting running events that spin off financial support for the main ODT. And this will continue to be true into the future, even after a lowland ODT route also becomes available for the broader multi-modal use consistent with the overall ODT. Consequently, a meaningful education and enforcement program helps to curb vandalism and littering and educates the public where to recreate, serving as a positive impact for the whole area.

In sum, these two proposals support vitally important functions that are critical to the long-term integrity of major regional trail resources and to the thousands of annual users who enjoy these trails and related facilities. We wholeheartedly endorse them and urge their approval.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jeffrey R. Bohman".

Jeffrey R. Bohman, President

Rebecca Wanagel
Port Angeles, WA citizen and volunteer Chief Crew Leader for Washington Trails Association
October 13, 2020

Department of Natural Resources - Olympic Region
Recreation and Conservation Grant Applications:
#20 -1997 M - Straits ORV Trail and Facility Maintenance (DNR)
#20 -1998 E - Olympic Region Education and Enforcement (DNR)

Dear Grant Review Team:

As a citizen of Port Angeles, WA, and extremely avid user of the outdoor recreation scene, and as a volunteer Chief Crew Leader for Washington Trails Association, I support Washington State Department **of Natural Resources (DNR), Olympic Region's grant applications for the** Straits ORV Trail and Facility Maintenance and the Olympic Region Education and Enforcement (E&E) projects. This requested funding would provide for the necessary maintenance that will ensure a safe and enjoyable trail experience for the public. I feel public access to recreation and exercise in the outdoors is critical to the health and well-being of a community.

As a leader of volunteer trail crews, I am directly responsible for helping with the maintenance of existing trails and building of new ones. At this moment I have been leading crews on a long-term project to add about 2-1/2 miles of trail to DNR land to transform an existing one-way trail into a loop. There are not many loop trails available in this region. This will be an incredibly special experience for users when it's done. We are building this trail for multi-use: hikers, horse riders, mountain bikers and runners will enjoy this trail forevermore, as long as it gets maintained once it is completed. True to WTA form, we are building this trail to the highest standards. In that process, we get many new volunteers and we teach them all how to build quality trails and how important maintenance is down the road. So there is a lot of education involved with our trail work.

The E&E program **protects the public's investment in these locations. Trained Wardens provide** information, support and education to recreationists and volunteers. They inspect trailheads and facilities during high use periods and assist the DNR Natural Resource Police Officers by enforcing rules and regulations when necessary. Since I maintain trails all over the Olympic National Park and Olympic National Forest, I have seen firsthand what happens to trails when they get abused due to lack of education or investment in our recreational resources.

I endorse these projects and encourage the RCO to also support the valuable work proposed by DNR, Olympic Region. This assistance will greatly benefit the communities of the North Olympic Peninsula. And as a side note, I will say that throughout this project of building our new trail, I have been incredibly impressed by the unwavering support I get from DNR in creating this recreational opportunity. DNR also has our local gem of a trail, the Olympic Adventure Route, also going through public lands. That trail has become known nationwide and is one of the prides of our community. Projects like these allow trails like that to happen and strengthen our community immeasurably.

Sincerely,
Rebecca Wanagel

LLOYD WOESLAGLE
FOREST WATCH GROUP VOLUNTEER
STRIPED PEAK
PORT ANGELES, WA. 98363

10/9/20

Department of Natural Resources - Olympic Region Recreation and Conservation Grant Application:
#20 - 1997 M - Straits ORV Trail and Facility Maintenance (DNR)
#20 - 1998 E - Olympic Region Education and Enforcement (DNR)

Dear Grant Review Team,

My name is Lloyd Woieslagle and I am a Forest Watch Group Volunteer. I support the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Olympic Regions grant application for the Straits ORV Trail and Facility Maintenance and the Olympic Region Education and Enforcement (E&E) Projects. This requested funding would provide for the necessary maintenance that will ensure a safe and enjoyable trail riding experience for the public.

The Striped Peak Recreational Area provides access for hunting, horseback riding, ORV trails, hiking, automobile sightseeing and camping.

The Forest Watch Group Volunteers help maintain the following areas:

ACCESS: We report signage which needs repaired, replaced, or improved. We also replace locks on gates which block automobile access to trails reserved for ORV use.

SAFTEY: We report unsafe ORV operators. We also report shooting in areas which would endanger ORV operators. ORV operators are encouraged to wear bright clothing during hunting season. We have helped drivers with incapacitated ORV's by opening locked gates for their trucks and trailers, helping to load these for their safe return home.

COMMUNICATION: We communicate with Wardens and DNR Police Officers informing them of trailhead problems, laws, and or safety rules that are in the process of being violated.

I, Lloyd Woieslagle and the Forest Watch Group Volunteers endorse these projects and trust the RCO to also support the necessary work proposed by DNR, Olympic Region. The outdoor enthusiasts of the North Olympic Region will be grateful for the benefits they will receive.

Sincerely,



Lloyd Woieslagle
Forest Watch Group



January 13, 2021

To: The Recreation and Conservation Office

Re: Grant Applications 20-2082 and 20-2402

Dear Review Committee:

The Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is pleased to contribute this letter of support for the Washington Off Highway Vehicle Alliance (WOHVA) as they pursue grant funding from RCO through the NOVA program.

DNR manages over 1200 miles of motorized and non-motorized trails, and welcomes support from partners in continuing maintenance of these spaces that so many Washingtonians enjoy. WOHVA aims to leverage volunteer support to improve many miles of backlogged maintenance with the support of a Heavy Maintenance Crew on a total of five DNR landscapes (see list below). These grant dollars will expand DNR's capacity to maintain our network of trails. While their work will predominately benefit Washington's large motorized recreation community, recreationalists of all types will benefit from improved access and safer trails.

The work that WOHVA members will perform on DNR lands is limited to maintenance activities of pre-existing trails and recreation sites, and as such we have determined that there will be no significant environmental or cultural resources impact from their efforts. If it is determined that the scope of our partnership should extend beyond general maintenance activities, the appropriate processes will be followed to ensure compliance with the State Environmental Protection Act and all state cultural resources requirements.

We look forward to continuing our current agreements with both organizations, and to working collaboratively to develop new agreements for mutually beneficial recreation and maintenance goals with renewed support from RCO.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

Brock Milliern

7ABB57896FA34D3...

Brock Milliern, Division Manager
Conservation, Recreation, and Transactions
Washington State Department of Natural Resources

DNR Locations Included:

20-2082 WOHVA Heavy Maintenance Crew 2 Track Maint. DNR

- Tahuya State Forest
- Elbe Hills State Forest
- Pacific Cascade Region trails
- Ahtanum State Forest
- Capitol Forest

20-2402 WOHVA 2 Track Volunteer Support

- Tahuya State Forest
- Capitol State Forest

Recreation and Conservation Office Recreation and Conservation Office
PO Box 40917
Olympia WA 98504

To: NOVA grant funding committee
Re: Support of NMA and WHOVA grant requests

1/04/2021

I am writing in support of the of the follow grants:
20-2082 WOHVA Heavy Maintenance Crew 2 Track DNR
20-2402 WOHVA 2 Track Volunteer Support
20-2419 NMA HMC State Wide Maintenance

I have been involved in the administration and on the ground maintenance / development of motorized trails in the Tahuya and Capitol State Forests for over 30 years. Additionally, I am a motorized and mountain bike trail enthusiast. I am also fully aware of the demand and finite supply of funding for maintenance of trails in Washington State.

To be honest, I was a little skeptical at first when WOHVA & the NMA requested NOVA funding. In my opinion it is important to fund agency personnel in order for staff to be on the trails on a daily basis to perform routine trail maintenance, perform emergency repairs and to coordinate volunteers.

When NOVA / WOHVA obtained the grants (which included Capitol State Forest) we had some difficulty in communications on when work was going to be accomplished. However recently we had a very productive meeting with NMA/ WOHVA, members of the public and DNR staff to detail upcoming NMA/WOHVA grant funded work. Both DNR personnel and the public were highly impressed with the "trail" knowledge and enthusiasm of NMA / WOHVA meeting participants. In fact, NMA / WOHVA staff, volunteers and the Tacoma Trail Cruisers had specific trail projects in mind and they had recent knowledge of trail conditions in the forest.

Motorized trails need heavy routine maintenance and often it is best accomplished with mini excavators or a single-track machine. Lack of maintenance of trails not only ruins the trails experience it can lead to unsafe conditions and lead to trails which damage the environment. I know we have all seen an increase of use with people seeking refuge from Covid in the forest. My guess is that people who have found the forest as Covid refuges will likely be back once the pandemic is over.

Highlighting the need for motorized trail maintenance is the need for well-maintained trails for: ebiking, mountain biking, hiking and running use. In fact, I would guess there are just as many trail runners as motorized enthusiasts in the Rock Candy area of Capitol Forest. Encouraging ebikes to use motorized trails will lessen illegal use of non- motorized shared use trails (equine, hike, run, mountain bike) in Capitol Forest.

In my opinion DNR and USFS simply do not have enough equipment and skilled operators to take on the needed motorized trail maintenance in the whole of Washington State.

Please contact me if you have any questions regarding my support for the listed grants.

Phil Wolff

Phil Wolff
Recreation Manager Capitol State Forest
WA Department of Natural Resources South Puget Sound Region
360-628-2391 phil.wolff@dnr.wa.gov
<https://www.dnr.wa.gov/Capitol>



File Code: 2350

Date: December 3, 2020

20-2082 NOVA ORV #20

20-2402 NOVA ORV #22

RCO Funding Board
1111 Washington St SE
Olympia, WA 98501

To the Washington Recreation & Conservation Funding Board:

The Colville National Forest (CNF) supports NOVA and RTP grant proposals from the Northwest Motorcycle Association (NMA) and the Washington Off Highway Vehicle Alliance (WOHV). The grants would help fund equipment, expenses, supplies and administration to increase both the quantity and the effectiveness of partnership and volunteerism for OHV trail maintenance on public lands across the State. These proposals align with the Forest Service's National Strategy for a Sustainable Trail System, would benefit all trail users, and contribute to the agency's restoration and conservation goals.

The Colville National Forest has hundreds of miles of OHV and single-track motorcycle trails that need maintenance or reconstruction. This grant would support the efforts of multiple partners in the maintenance and reconstruction of the Forest's motorized trail system. Needed work includes reconstruction of trail tread to repair and prevent erosion while promoting drainage of water off the trail.

Additional work includes brushing and log-out of trails as well as sign, bridge, culvert and structure maintenance. This work would not only benefit OHV enthusiasts, but also hikers, mountain bikers, equestrians, and others who utilize National Forest Trail Systems. It will also increase volunteerism by improving the effectiveness of volunteer efforts in the repair and maintenance of our trail systems.

The CNF supports the NMA and WOHV grant proposals and we are hopeful that the Washington Recreation & Conservation Funding Board will provide its support as well. If the Board has questions about this proposal, or the CNF's support of this proposal, please feel free to contact Douglas Bladek, Colville National Forest's Forest Engineer, at 509-684-7239 or Douglas.bladek@USDA.gov

Sincerely,

RODNEY D. SMOLDON
Forest Supervisor
cc: Douglas Bladek, Marc Hildesheim at marc@wohva.org.





File Code: 1500 **Date:** January 13, 2021
Route To:
Subject: WOHVA-NMA Grant Support Letter
To: Grant Committee Members

The Gifford Pinchot National Forest (GPNF) wishes to express its enthusiastic support for its partnership with the Washington Off Highway Vehicle Alliance (WOHVA) and the Northwest Motorcycle Association (NMA). I am writing to you to express our support for the NOVA and RTP grant proposals being submitted by these organizations for the 2020 grant cycle, encompassing the 2022 – 2023 operating seasons.

NMA and WOHVA are new partners to the Gifford Pinchot National forest, and with their partnership, the forest has benefited from long-backlogged motorized trail maintenance, led by NMA and WOHVA and accomplished by numerous skilled volunteers. The maintenance has included and will continue to include heavy maintenance using motorized equipment such as extensive tread work, repairing dips and ruts, smoothing bumps, drain dip repair, heavy brushing, and other trail work for motorized trails, mutually agreed to by the parties. The work has taken place on motorized trails across the Cowlitz Valley Ranger District and the Mount Adams Ranger District on the GPNF.

GPNF respectfully requests the Recreation and Conservation Office continue to support WOHVA and NMA through the following grants in the RTP and NOVA programs:

WOHVA

NOVA 20-2082 WOHVA Heavy Maintenance Crew 2 Track Maint. DNR

RTP 20-2401 WOHVA Heavy Maintenance Crew 2 Track Maint. USFS

NMA

RTP 20-2409 NMA HMC STATEWIDE MAINTENANCE

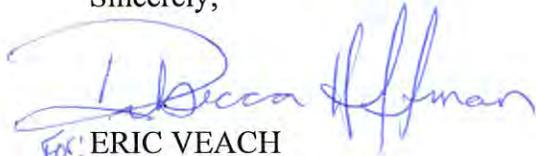
NOVA 20-2419 NMA HMC STATEWIDE MAINTENANCE



Grant Committee Members

We are fortunate to work with these folks. Their understanding of both state and federal agency processes, as well as 'boots on the ground' knowledge has been invaluable to us. The Forest is excited to partner once again with WOHVA and NMA and wishes for this partnership to continue. Thank you for considering their funding request.

Sincerely,



For: ERIC VEACH
Forest Supervisor

Enclosures: Land-Owner Agreements

cc: Tracy Calizon, Mailroom Gifford Pinchot, Marc Hildesheim marc@wohva.org;
grantsupport@nmaoffroad.org

File Code: 2300
Date: January 14, 2021

20-2082 NOVA ORV #20
20-2402 NOVA ORV #22

Attn: RCO Grant Review Committee
Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

To Whom it May Concern:

I am pleased to hear that the Washington Off Highway Vehicle Association (WOHVA) is applying for grant funding to complete volunteer trail maintenance work on the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest. This letter is in response to a request for information to support grant application documentation requirements.

The WOHVA is planning to organize and sponsor volunteer trail maintenance crews to provide general maintenance activities on system trails in a variety of locations on the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest. Specific trail maintenance projects will be identified by mutual agreement between Forest Service and WOHVA staff prior to work commencing and will only occur on existing system trails. This includes maintaining trail corridors to Forest Service specifications, which may include: 1) wind-throw, vegetation, rock, slough, and berm removal, 2) drainage structure maintenance, 3) tread repairs including fill and grade maintenance, and 4) structure maintenance including repairs or construction of existing turnpikes, puncheon, switchbacks, steps, check dams, water bars, and bridges. All work is limited to the existing trail prism and to be accomplished utilizing hand tools including shovels, Mcleods, Pulaskis, grub-hoes, pick-mattocks, rock bars, cross-cut saws, and chain saws (where appropriate).

According to 36 CFR 220.6, general trail maintenance can be categorically excluded from documentation in an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement because it is within a category listed in 220.6 (d) and no extraordinary circumstances exist. For general trail maintenance, a project or case file and decision memo are not required and have not typically been prepared. Additionally, according to the Region 6 Programmatic Agreement Regarding Cultural Resources Management on National Forests in Washington (R6 PA), trail maintenance along an existing trail has little potential to affect cultural/historic resources. All required stipulations and documentation described in the R6 PA would be completed prior to implementation. Projects that involve trail reconstruction and relocation receive additional review and documentation in accordance with NEPA, Section 106 of the NHPA and R6 PA.

Sincerely,

KRISTIN M. BAIL
Forest Supervisor





United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie
National Forest
Supervisor's Office

2930 Wetmore Avenue, Suite 3A
Everett, WA 98201
(425) 783-6000

File Code: 1580/2350

Date: December 14, 2020

To: RCO, NOVA & RTP Grant Board:

I am writing to express my support of the Washington Off Highway Vehicle Alliance (WOHVA) and the Northwest Motorcycle Association (NMA) statewide effort to continue to increase the quantity and effectiveness of their current Heavy Maintenance Crews (HMC) and the expansion of volunteers contributions on public lands in Washington State. Funding of their current NOVA and RTP grant requests will continue to support the great work that has already been accomplished in reducing backlogged maintenance on single and two-track motorized trails, statewide.

The proposed work will include routine maintenance and repair of motorized system trails across the forest, with a focus on Evans Creek on the Snoqualmie Ranger District. This includes maintaining trails to Forest Service specifications, which typically involves drainage maintenance, constructing minor structures, brushing, and removing rocks, trees and other debris from the trail corridor. This type of general trail maintenance can be categorically excluded from documentation in an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement because it is within a category listed in 36 CFR 220.6 (d) and no extraordinary circumstances exist. For routine trail maintenance, a project or case file and decision memo are not required and have not typically been prepared. If any future project includes new trail construction or reconstruction, then additional NEPA documentation would be necessary prior to implementation per 36 CFR 220.69 (e)(1).

In addition, routine trail maintenance is included in the Programmatic Agreement regarding Cultural Resources Management on National Forests in the State of Washington as a type of activity that has little to no potential affect to historic properties. This proposal has been reviewed by the Forest Specialist and is therefore compliant with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. No further consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer is necessary.

WOHVA and NMA's efforts in obtaining trail maintenance funds through NOVA/ RTP grants, and their willingness to help maintain trails within the Mt Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, is very timely and has the mix of support/interest that you are looking for. If you have any questions, please contact Brian McNeil, Recreation Program Manager on the Snoqualmie Ranger District at (425) 365-6067.

Sincerely,

JODY L.WEIL
Forest Supervisor

cc: Mike Schlafmann, Dave Redman, Paul Alford





Sharetrails.Org / BlueRibbon Coalition

P.O. Box 5449

Pocatello, ID 83202-0003

1-208-237-1008 • brc@sharetrails.org

DATE: January 7, 2021

TO: Recreation and Conservation Office
111 Washington St SE
Olympia, WA 98501

FROM: Sharetrails.Org/BlueRibbon Coalition (BRC)

RE: NOVA and RTP grant applications by WOHVA and the NMA

To whom it may concern:

The BlueRibbon Coalition/Sharetrails (BRC) is a national recreation group that champions responsible recreation and encourages individual environmental stewardship. With members in all 50 states, BRC is focused on building enthusiast involvement with organizational efforts through membership, outreach, education and collaboration among recreationists. We work with land managers to provide recreation opportunities, preserve resources and promote cooperation with other public land users.

BRC members use motorized and non-motorized means, including Off-Highway Vehicles (OHV), snowmobiles, equestrian, mountain bikes and hiking to access and enjoy recreating on state and federally managed lands throughout the United States.

This letter is written to inform you of our support, and that of our members, of the Northwest Motorcycle Association's (NMA) and Washington Off Highway Vehicle Association (WOHVA) Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) grant applications for issuance of NOVA and RTP funds.

These grants are to fulfill their funding needs for equipment, materials and related expenses for maintenance of trails on public lands in WA State that are open for motorized Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) use. This support is essential in order to allow local trail organizations and volunteers throughout Washington State to maintain and improve existing trails to current best practices and USFS standards. Meeting those standards is almost impossible to achieve without proper equipment.

We hereby request the NOVA and RTP review committees and RCO Board to support the Northwest Motorcycle Associations (NMA) grant applications for NOVA and RTP funds which will be utilized to provide state-of-the-art power equipment and materials to maintain and improve single track trails used by mountain bikers (human and electric powered), hikers, and equestrians in addition to the dirt bike riders.

We also fully support WOHVA's grant application for NOVA funds which will be used to maintain and improve multiple use trails open to all WA trail users by providing power equipment and support for WA volunteers and organizations to provide proper maintenance of trails open for use by Off Highway

Sharetrails.org – it's what we do!

Vehicles (OHVs) larger than electric powered bicycles and dirt bikes. Those motorized OHV user types include Utility Trail Vehicles (UTVs & Side by Sides), All Terrain Vehicles and 4 Wheel Drive vehicles in addition to powered mountain bicycle and dirt bike riders. These trail maintenance programs will significantly benefit all types of back country trail users.

We are pleased to add our support to this effort. We ask that you please support and approve the NMA and WOHVA grant applications.

Sincerely,



Ben Burr
Policy Director
BlueRibbon Coalition/ Sharetrails (BRC)
P.O. Box 5449
Pocatello, ID 83202-0003
208.237.1008 ext. 2
brben@sharetrails.org



January 12, 2021

To the RCO, NOVA, and RTP Grant Board:

NOHVCC is a 501c3 not for profit with a mission of creating a positive future for off-highway vehicle recreation. As part of that mission, we assist clubs and associations in addressing OHV issues and utilizing best practices in OHV trail maintenance and management. Recently NOHVCC has been partnering with the Northwest Motorcycle Association (NMA) and the Washington Off-Highway Vehicle Alliance to assist with the logistics and implementation of their Heavy Maintenance Crew (HMC). These mechanized equipment crews utilize specialized equipment with skilled operators to help land managers tackle back logged maintenance.

During our partnership with these organizations, we have witnessed an entirely volunteer core dedicate themselves to creating a better user experience for those that pay into the grant funds, and a responsibility to use those user generated funds in the most efficient way possible. Based on our interactions with these groups NOHVCC is writing today to offer our full support of the following grant applications:

WOHVA

- NOVA 20-2082 WOHVA Heavy Maintenance Crew 2 Track Maint. DNR
- NOVA 20-2402 WOHVA 2 Track Volunteer Support
- RTP 20-2401 WOHVA Heavy Maintenance Crew 2 Track Maint. USFS

NMA

- NOVA 20-2419 NMA HMC STATEWIDE MAINTENANCE
- RTP 20-2409 NMA HMC STATEWIDE MAINTENANCE
- RTP 20-2421 NMA MOTO-VOLUNTEER TRAIL CREW CW DIVISION

We appreciate your consideration of their grant requests and for the opportunity to write in their support.

Sincerely,

Duane Taylor
Executive Director

Date: Jan 11, 2021

To: WA DNR, USFS R6, NOVA

Re: Tread Lightly! Washington Letter of Support for Northwest Motorcycle Association (NMA) and Washington Off-Highway Vehicle Association (WOHVA) funding requests.

To Whom It May Concern,

On behalf of Tread Lightly, Inc. acting as the Executive Director, I am writing in support of the following NMA and WOHVA applications. These applications will provide heavy trail maintenance for single track and two track multi-use trails in Washington. Additionally, they will provide volunteer support and engagement initiatives.

1. NMA:

- a. *RTP 20-2409 NMA HMC STATEWIDE MAINTENANCE*
- b. *NOVA 20-2419 NMA HMC STATEWIDE MAINTENANCE*
- c. *RTP 20-2421 NMA MOTO-VOLUNTEER CW DIVISION*

2. WOHVA:

- a. *NOVA 20-2082 WOHVA Heavy Maintenance Crew 2 Track Maint. DNR*
- b. *RTP 20-2401 WOHVA Heavy Maintenance Crew 2 Track Maint. USFS*
- c. *NOVA 20-2402 WOHVA 2 Track Volunteer Support*

Tread Lightly applauds the NMA and WOHVA effort and outcomes of these projects. These groups will improve the off-road experience in Washington, reduce maintenance issues for land managers, and provide educational messaging regarding responsible and sustainable use of motorized vehicles on public land to their members.

Additionally, heavy maintenance and volunteer trail maintenance projects are stewardship opportunities that encourage the community to be good land stewards in Washington. Engaging the community in this way will, overtime, and as a result of these trail projects, minimize the environmental impact.

Sincerely,



Matt Caldwell
Executive Director
Tread Lightly, Inc.

Pacific Northwest 4 Wheel Drive Association Lisa Chissus
29 Country Club Drive SW
Lakewood, WA 98498 Cell: 253 307 7777 waexec@pnw4wda.org



Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Bryon Stuck
WOHVA
PO Box 171
Auburn,
WA 98071-0171

January 15, 2021 Re: WOHVA NOVA & RTP Grant Applications

On behalf of the Pacific Northwest 4 Wheel Drive Association we are writing to support the efforts to maintain motorized trails in WA state. We specifically endorse the following WOHVA grant applications:

- 20-2082 MNT, WOHVA 2 TRACK HEAVY MAINTENANCE CREW-DNR
- 20-2401 M WOHVA 2 Track Heavy Maintenance Crew
- 20-2402 M WOHVA 2 Track Volunteer Support

The Pacific Northwest 4 Wheel Drive Association is an association of off-highway vehicle enthusiast clubs for over 60 years. Motorized use on our public lands is not just an activity for us, it is our community, it our release, it is what helps us to cope with the demands of day to day life. Our members volunteer monthly in collaboration with the Department of Natural Resources and the Forest Service to maintain and develop motorized use trails. Approval of these grants will help us to provide funding necessary to keep these motorized trails open in Washington.

Sincerely,

Lisa Chissus
WA State Exec Director
Pacific Northwest 4 Wheel Drive Association



From: Ted Jackson tedsbiz@gmail.com
Subject: NOVA & RTP GRANT Support Letter For WOHVA - 20-2082, 20-2401 & 20-2402
Date: January 13, 2021 at 12:38 PM
To: grants@wohva.org
Cc: waatvapresident@gmail.com

To RCO Advisory Committee,

The Washinton ATV Association would like to support WOHVA in their efforts to obtain grants 20-2082, 20-2401 & 20-2402. We support WOHVA in their ongoing efforts to maintain and develop sustainable OHV/ORV trail systems in Washington State for responsible recreating families.

Please award these requested grants to WOHVA for implementation of trail development and maintenance.

Ted Jackson
WA ATV Association - VP
206 355 9458

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You received this message because you are subscribed to the Google Groups "Grant Committee" group.
To unsubscribe from this group and stop receiving emails from it, send an email to grants+unsubscribe@wohva.org.
To view this discussion on the web visit
<https://groups.google.com/a/wohva.org/d/msgid/grants/CAKyV%3D%3DjOJTtTfivnYq1Lt442aA6Q1PVbjKTZKBRN-MXQ1nL3VQ%40mail.gmail.com>.



20-2082 NOVA ORV #20

20-2402 NOVA ORV #22

www.evergreenMTB.org
Sustainable trails. rider powered.

January 14, 2021

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
PO Box 40917, Olympia, WA 98504-0917

Re: Letter of support for NOVA 20-2082 WOHVA Heavy Maintenance Crew 2 Track Maintenance

Dear Members of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board:

The Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance supports the Washington Off Highway Vehicle Alliance's (WOHVA) request for funding to support maintenance on multi-use 2-track trails open to OHV use on DNR land.

This funding will help pay for staffing and operating costs associated with running an excavator. Planned work includes trail tread repair, drainage work, and brush and log clearing. This maintenance is vital to keeping these multi-use trails in a safe usable condition and to reduce erosion and environmental impacts from use. Evergreen supports the continued efforts of WOHVA, and we will continue to work with them to maintain the many multi-use trails in the state.

Evergreen is the nation's largest statewide mountain bike organization, with more than 7,900 members and over 65,000 social media followers. We are dedicated to trail building and maintenance, as well as volunteerism, education, and advocacy. We look forward to working with DNR in the Pacific Cascades Region and appreciate the opportunity to provide support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Yvonne Kraus", written over a horizontal line.

Yvonne Kraus, Executive Director
Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance

Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Tax ID: 91-1553023.

1/5/2021

To who it may concern.

RE:

WOHVA

NOVA 20-2082 WOHVA Heavy Maintenance Crew 2 Track Maint. DNR
RTP 20-2401 WOHVA Heavy Maintenance Crew 2 Track Maint. USFS
NOVA 20-2402 WOHVA 2 Track Volunteer Support

NMA

RTP 20-2409 NMA HMC STATEWIDE MAINTENANCE
NOVA 20-2419 NMA HMC STATEWIDE MAINTENANCE
RTP 20-2421 NMA MOTO-VOLUNTEER CW DIVISION

The Tacoma Motorcycle Club is 100% supportive of the Northwest Motorcycle Association (NMA) and Washington Off Highway Vehicle Association (WOHVA) RCO grant applications for issuance of NOVA and RTP funds. These grants are to fulfill their funding needs for equipment, materials and related expenses for maintenance of trails on public lands in WA State that are open for motorized Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) use. This support is essential in order to allow local trail organizations and volunteers throughout Washington State to maintain and improve existing trails to current best practices and USFS standards. Meeting those standards is almost impossible to achieve without proper equipment.

We hereby request the NOVA and RTP review committees and RCO Board to support the Northwest Motorcycle Associations (NMA) grant applications for NOVA and RTP funds which will be utilized to provide state-of-the-art power equipment and materials to maintain and improve single track trails used by mountain bikers (human and electric powered), hikers, and equestrians in addition to the dirt bike riders.

We also fully support WOHVA's grant application for NOVA funds which will be used to maintain and improve multiple use trails open to all WA trail users by providing power equipment and support for WA volunteers and organizations to provide proper maintenance of trails open for use by Off Highway Vehicles (OHVs) larger than electric powered bicycles and dirt bikes. Those motorized OHV user types include Utility Trail Vehicles (UTVs & Side by Sides), All Terrain Vehicles and 4 Wheel Drive vehicles in addition to powered mountain bicycle and dirt bike riders.

The NMA and WOHVA have already obtained multiple volunteer trail maintenance agreements with the land management agencies in WA State to make it easy for local OHV user volunteers to assist with proper maintenance of multiple use trails in their local areas. NMA and WOHVA heavy maintenance trail projects have repaired many trails in the last year. These trail maintenance programs will significantly benefit all types of back country trail users.

Please support and approve the NMA and WOHVA grant applications.

Thank you,



Ian Holman, Tacoma Motorcycle Club President



Jesse Sims
Outdoor Grant Mgr, Recreation and Conservation Office
1111 Washington St SE, PO Box 40917, Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: Grant Support for 2020

NMA	20-2409 NMA HMC STATEWIDE MAINTENANCE
	20-2419 NMA HMC STATEWIDE MAINTENANCE
	20-2421 NMA MOTO-VOLUNTEER CW DIVISION
WOHVA	20-2082 WOHVA Heavy Maintenance Crew 2 Track Maint. DNR
	20-2401 WOHVA Heavy Maintenance Crew 2 Track Maint. USFS
2	0-2402 WOHVA 2 Track Volunteer Support

Dear Mr. Sims,

As President of the Puget Sound Enduro Riders club, I'm writing to express our Club's support for the six Northwest Motorcycle Association (NMA) and Washington Off Highway Vehicle Alliance (WOHVA) 2020 NOVA and RTP grant applications. The funds for these grants come from our member's gas taxes and registration fees and the trails they support throughout the state benefit not only our members and all motorized users, but all users since these are multi-use public trails on USFS and DNR lands. These grants will support the maintenance of single track and 2-track trails in our state by funding equipment, materials and other expenses. Members of our club both volunteer and work for these NMA and WOHVA efforts and we all benefit from the trail improvements they provide.

We appreciate that the experienced NMA and WOHVA crews use trail design best practices including those developed in this state as well as those in the National Off Highway Vehicle Conservation Coalition's book entitled "Great Trails". The crews use state of the art equipment such as the ST-240 mini excavator on single track trails. The heavy maintenance work will repair and prevent erosion of the trail tread, promote drainage of water off the trail and prevent velocity or volume of water on the trail tread. And all of this will support not only our user experience but also the long term stewardship of our great statewide trail system along with sound water management practices supporting our communities in general.

While our club members are primarily single track users and we are an NMA Charter Club, we also support the two-track trail maintenance for use by Off Highway Vehicles (OHVs) larger than electric powered bicycles and dirt bikes. Those motorized OHV user types include Utility Trail Vehicles (UTVs & Side by Sides), All Terrain Vehicles (ATVs) and 4 Wheel Drive vehicles in addition to powered mountain bicycle and dirt bike riders.

The NMA and WOHVA programs are new but have already made an impact. They've established positive relationships with USFS and DNR land managers and repaired many trail miles within their current 2018 grants. Their work has been recognized by both land managers and users in clubs like ours ... they do great work!

Please help support and approve the six NMA and WOHVA 2020 grant applications.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeff Eckerman". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jeff Eckerman
Puget Sound Enduro Riders Club President

From: sdecoy@wavecable.com
Subject: BCMC WOHVA 2021 Grant Requests Support
Date: January 11, 2021 at 6:10 PM
To: grantsupport@nmaoffroad.org
Cc: Marc Toenyan mtoenyan@nmaoffroad.org



As the Land Use Advocate for the Bremerton Cruisers Motorcycle Club I would like to express our support for the following WOHVA grant requests:

NOVA 20-2082 WOHVA Heavy Maintenance Crew 2 Track Maint. DNR

RTP 20-2401 WOHVA Heavy Maintenance Crew 2 Track Maint. USFS

NOVA 20-2402 WOHVA 2 Track Volunteer Support grant request.

The statewide work that WOHVA is doing to keep trails open and useable to the motorized community and all other users is very valuable to insure everyone's enjoyment of state lands as well as critical to the long term sustainability of these trails.

Thank you,
Steve DeCoy
Bremerton Cruisers Motorcycle Club Land Use Advocate

From: Ted DeVol teddevol@hotmail.com
Subject: Grant money owed to the Off-Roading public.
Date: January 11, 2021 at 1:22 PM
To: grants@wohva.org



Off-road activities are one of the very few outdoor activities allowed under what I consider a Marxist Dictatorship in Washington State.

Many many families play together Off -Road. And 2020 added a massive number of new individuals and families to Off-Roading because again, it one of very few outdoor activities available. Hiking Trails are restricted, swimming is restricted, baseball, soccer, basketball, gyms, playground, fishing, boating.....!

Off-Road activities are the definition of freedom. With all the shutdowns the motorcycle and ATV sales in 2020 were astronomical. Why? People Freedom! They want to get away from the insanity and enjoy their life and family. Off-Road recreation provides just that. And those people and families that paid millions of dollars in taxes when purchasing vehicles, equipment and gear need a quality place to use their stuff.

Ted DeVol
360-761-9909

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From: Jeff Schaller jeffschaller@hotmail.com
Subject: Grant Numbers 20-2082, 20-2401 & 20-2402.
Date: January 11, 2021 at 3:09 PM
To: grants@wohva.org

SJ

Hello all,

I am asking for your support to approve grants 20-2082, 20-2401 and 20-2402. Starting in the late 60's my Father and Mother got our family involved in off road motorcycle riding. I was hooked immediately. I spent every waking moment after school either thinking of riding dirt bikes in the forest or actually doing it. This passion kept me out of trouble, taught me the values of hard work, saving money and mechanical skills to name a few. That passion carried through with my family and boys.

Today I am 60 years old and I have logged more trail miles that I can even imagine. Spending time in nature, seeing the amazing sights in the forest are truly special. I have also been a contributor to building and maintaining trails all those years. I enjoy this build / maintenance process and it feels good to give back.

These grants are important to maintain or build trails for today's and tomorrow's family of riders to enjoy.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

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From: Bret & Rozana Knutson brknutson@comcast.net
Subject: Grants 20-2082, 20-2401 & 20-2402
Date: January 12, 2021 at 2:53 PM
To: grants@wohva.org
Cc: Bret & Rozana brknutson@comcast.net

RCO Advisory Committee,

Our family would encourage and appreciate the grants being awarded to WOHVA to help continue to fund their efforts to maintain motorized trails in WA State.

The ATV community is extremely helpful when it comes to downed trees, clearing trails, trash cleanup, natural disasters, etc. on the lands we ride. These are the people you want to support.

We have volunteered in the past on work parties and met a lot of great people.

As a Veteran, off-roading has been a good way to get out and enjoy God's country.

Some of our bodies just can't do it like we used to so we need to do it on an ATV.

Thanks for considering,

Bret & Rozana Knutson & Family
425-445-6995

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From: Chad Hardisty chadhardisty@cbbain.com 
Subject: Please Approve Grants 20-2082, 20-2401, and 20-2402
Date: January 11, 2021 at 1:23 PM
To: grants@wohva.org

HC

To whom it may concern,

As a trail user in Washington State both with my ATV and Jeep, the WOHVA does important work to ensure the trails are maintained and open to as many users as possible. Through access of these trails, I am able to not only experience and access the wonders our state has to offer, it also allows me the opportunity to teach and pass on the skills of stewardship, conservation, and helping others. The WOHVA helps support, promote, and educate its members as well as the public on these issues. Thank you for supporting these grants, 20-2082, 20-2401, and 20-2402.

Make it a *SUCCESSFUL* Day!

Chad



Connect with Me:



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From: larrykaminski@comcast.net
Subject: Grant # 20-2082 20-2401 20-240-2
Date: January 12, 2021 at 2:08 PM
To: grants@wohva.org



Dear Sir:

Please grant funds so the motorized trails in WA can be maintained. I am an owner of a SXS and a dual sport MC. I use the trails extensively and appreciate the safety and enjoyment.

Thank you.

Larry Kaminski Family

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From: cedelblute@whidbey.com
Subject: NOVA & RTP Grant Numbers, 20-2082, 20-2401 & 20-2402.
Date: January 12, 2021 at 1:05 PM
To: grants@wohva.org



RCO Advisory Committee,

I am writing to express my appreciation for the ability to experience the great outdoors through the use of OHV trails. Having family members with disabilities this form of travel is what is necessary to share what this great state has to offer. Additionally, I volunteer many hours locally and outside of Washington (Idaho) providing my personal resources in maintenance of these trails at no cost. These grant funds are needed to support the costs of equipment and contractors that can not volunteer their equipment and time. Your consideration to my request is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Carl G Edelblute

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From: Ryan Sorensen sorensen.ryanj@gmail.com
Subject: Grant Numbers: 20-2082, 20-2401, and 20-2402
Date: January 12, 2021 at 12:06 PM
To: grants@wohva.org

Hello RCO Advisory Committee:

My name is Ryan Sorensen. I am an OHV trail enthusiast and a member of the Timber Tamers 4x4 club. OHV trails are important to me and my wife because we thoroughly enjoy being able to get out into the forests and mountains for 4 wheeling, camping, hiking, and fun. These trails and this activity is also important to me and my wife because since we started 4 wheeling a few years ago, we have seen more places in this great and beautiful state of Washington than we had ever gone before. Simply put, OHV trails and 4 wheeling have given us a reason to go to other regions of the state and have made it possible for us to develop a community of friends and support that we otherwise would not have. WHOVA's work is important to me because they perform trail maintenance. Without trail maintenance, these areas would be ruined and no longer accessible, and that would be very sad. Please award WHOVA the funds it asks for so that they can continue their efforts to maintain ATV and 4x4 trails across the state, so that in turn we may continue to enjoy our OHV activities. Thank you!

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From: Casey Stokes imcasey2u@gmail.com 
Subject: Grant # 20-2082, 20-2401 and 20-2402
Date: January 12, 2021 at 10:57 AM
To: grants@wohva.org

SC

Offroad trails are important to me, as it is a form of enjoyment, entertainment, and community. We often need equipment to help support, repair and build trails, Please award these funds to help up maintain the trails across WA state!

Thanks, Casey Stokes

Casey Stokes TT #256
[The Miss Creant](#)



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From: bakerarchitecture@frontier.com
Subject: RE: Grant Request
Date: January 8, 2021 at 6:15 AM
To: grantsupport@nmaoffroad.org

Gree\$ngs,

I request the following grant requests be supported for the upcoming 2020 cycle:

WOHVA

NOVA 20-2082 WOHVA Heavy Maintenance Crew 2 Track Maint. DNR

RTP 20-2401 WOHVA Heavy Maintenance Crew 2 Track Maint. USFS

NOVA 20-2402 WOHVA 2 Track Volunteer Support

NMA

RTP 20-2409 NMA HMC STATEWIDE MAINTENANCE

NOVA 20-2419 NMA HMC STATEWIDE MAINTENANCE

RTP 20-2421 NMA MOTO-VOLUNTEER CW DIVISION

These grants will help to support maintenance crews to address backlogged maintenance on single and two-track USFS and DNR managed trails statewide.

Thanks,

Bruce Baker

Architect, AIA
PO Box 189
Richland, WA 99352
(509) 551-7425



From: mike@accesswindowsandglass.com
Subject: Nove anad RTP Grants
Date: January 11, 2021 at 12:41 PM
To: grants@wohva.org

Dear Sirs,

Please consider these grants for us outdoorsmen's in Washington State. Grant numbers 20-2082, 20-2401, and 20-2402.

These grants allow us to "go outside and play". For our family, most important.

Thank you,

Mike Smith

Access Windows and Glass LLC

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From: Brian Worley bworley123@hotmail.com
Subject: 20-2082, 20-2401 & 20-2402.
Date: January 11, 2021 at 12:56 PM
To: grants@wohva.org



I am writing to say how important it is to have these grants. Unfortunately, in this state people who like to recreate with ATV's and 4X4 vehicles continue to lose areas to use. It is imperative that the areas we do get to use are cared for the best possible. That takes time and money that continually gets taken from these users. Our areas continue to shrink and that puts higher usage in the available areas. Those areas require higher maintenance requirements. Ideally expanding usage areas would cut down on the impact of each area because they would have lower numbers using them. Rocket science I know but food for thought. Please approve these grants they are needed more than ever this year due to the circumstances

Thank you
Brian Worley

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From: 'Kell Christophersen' via Grant Committee grants@wohva.org
Subject: Grant Support - 20-2082, 20-2401 & 20-2402
Date: January 13, 2021 at 8:55 PM
To: grants@wohva.org



RCO Advisory Committee,

Please support these grants for WOHVA as they are detrimental to keeping trails properly maintained and safe. I have enjoyed riding single track trails in the PNW for the majority of my life and look forward to getting to do so with my 11 month old son. Without these grants to maintain these trail systems I worry for the future. As trails deteriorate from heavy usage the lazy solution is to close them, instead lets do the right thing and maintain them!

Grants to Support:

20-2082

20-2401

20-2402

Thanks,
Kell Christophersen

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From: Steve Sullivan ssullivan728@outlook.com
Subject: Grant Request
Date: January 7, 2021 at 2:09 PM
To: grantsupport@nmaoffroad.org



Gree\$ngs,

I request the following grant requests be supported for the upcoming 2020 cycle:

WOHVA

NOVA 20-2082 WOHVA Heavy Maintenance Crew 2 Track Maint. DNR

RTP 20-2401 WOHVA Heavy Maintenance Crew 2 Track Maint. USFS

NOVA 20-2402 WOHVA 2 Track Volunteer Support

NMA

RTP 20-2409 NMA HMC STATEWIDE MAINTENANCE

NOVA 20-2419 NMA HMC STATEWIDE MAINTENANCE

RTP 20-2421 NMA MOTO-VOLUNTEER CW DIVISION

These grants will help to support maintenance crews to address backlogged maintenance on single and two-track USFS and DNR managed trails statewide.

Regards,

Steve Sullivan
1717 Milan Ln
Richland, WA 99352-5512
Mobile: 509.680.4818

From: Mark Harrison mark.harrison57@gmail.com
Subject: Motorized trails
Date: January 11, 2021 at 8:50 PM
To: grants@wohva.org



Dear sirs and misses

Motorized trail are important to me because it is something I can do to be out in nature when my bad knees keep me from hiking.

Thank you
Mark Harrison

Sent from my iPhone

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From: Clint Bryan clint250r@gmail.com
Subject: Washington OHV
Date: January 11, 2021 at 2:02 PM
To: grants@wohva.org



Hello, my family and I would like your support for OHV trails in Washington state. We use these trails as family recreation. It is one of the few things we can do to recreate at this time especially. Thank you for your consideration on this matter.

Clint Bryan / assistant fire chief Bingen Washington

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From: pourconcrete.zd pourconcrete.zd@gmail.com
Subject: utv
Date: January 11, 2021 at 1:28 PM
To: grants@wohva.org



We need our trails

Sent from my U.S.Cellular© Smartphone

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From: Peggy Thomas peggykriebelthomas@gmail.com
Subject:
Date: January 20, 2021 at 7:25 PM
To: grants@wohva.org



Please save our funding. Our family has been a part of groups that love our forrest and the trails. And we have participated in forrest clean up and trail maintenance. It is a great way to keep our kids responsible in the woods and outdoors.

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From: Noni Jones noni@nonijones.com
Subject: WHOHA Grants
Date: January 21, 2021 at 1:32 PM
To: grants@wohva.org



Dear RCO Advisory Committee,

Access to OHV trails is very important to me and my family. We own a CJ7 and spend a significant amount of time out on the trails. It is how we connect socially and refresh mentally. WOHVA's work to maintain the trails makes it all possible.

I hope I am not too late in the grant process for our support to be included.

Grant numbers: 20-2082, 20-2401 & 20-2402.

Thank you,

Jeremy and Noni Jones
J Cell 425-210-3453
N Cell 425-879-8575

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