

February 8, 2018 Meeting Notes

In Attendance

Committee Members

Andrea Imler
Darcy Batura
Martha Wyckoff
Andrew Cromarty
Kathy Young
Mike Reimer
Paul Schmitt

Doug Schindler
Deborah Essman
Jeri Downs
Jim Halstrom
Kitty Craig
Laura Osiadacz
JJ Collins

John Littel
Wayne Mohler
Urban Eberhart
Tom Tebb
Tom Ring
Paul Jewell
Jennifer Stephens

Agency Staff

Doug McClelland
Stephanie Margheim
Laura Cooper

Ross Huffman
Larry Leach
Glenn Glover

William Meyer
Patricia Jatzczak

Meeting Purpose: Committee discussion on Teanaway Community Partnerships. Staff update on fire salvage efforts. Update on Lick Creek road improvements. Finalize concepts for winter and summer recreation trails and facilities. Begin working on recreation strategies and tactics for managing camping, events, guide services, commercial recreation and environmental education.

Welcome: Introductions, reviewed agenda and December notes.

Goal 5 Group – Community Partnerships

Committee Vision: to cultivate a diverse constituency that loves the Teanaway Community Forest (TCF), joins in collective efforts to creatively achieve its management goals, and works closely with state agencies to leverage and grow resources committed to the Teanaway.
Four Goals: Facilitate & Communicate, Educate & Engage, Cultivate & Collaborate, Leverage & Advocate.
The goal 5 group is working to put together a work plan for the year – more to come.

Fire Salvage Update – Larry Leach

Jolly Mountain Fire Salvage – community forest trust lands and common school trust lands were looked at separately and the agency worked with partners on tactics for the sale. Factors considered: snag retention, unstable slopes, burn severity, and accessibility by road. On TCF trust land, merchantable timber was on highly unstable slopes and away from roads, which means no economic benefit for a salvage sale on TCF land. After taking into consideration the factors above, the salvage on common school trust land will be a viable sale and will be going through SEPA soon.

Lick Creek culvert and channel relocation – Luke Huck (Kittitas Co) & Brad Cooper (Jacobs Engineering)

There is a history of flooding and maintenance issues on Lick Creek as it goes through many undersized driveway culverts along the North Fork Road. The county is working with many partners to find the best way to provide fish passage, accommodate stream flows, implement the grant in a timely manner, and is working with landowners who may be impacted. The design team and restoration partners are working to get the project plan going. The county is working to find funding to replace Dickey Creek Bridge on the North Fork Road.

TCF & Yakima Basin Integrated Plan (YBIP) Presentation – Jennifer Stephens (Dept. of Ecology)

Background presentation on YBIP as we have many new committee members that need to know the connections between the Teanaway Community Forest and YBIP. All forks of the Teanaway River are on the 303(d) impaired waters list due to temperature, sediment and flow. Teanaway is a prime subject to enhance the waters of Washington. There are many funding sources to consider for the Teanaway.

Public Comment:

Bob Forgrave – Cascade Orienteering Club: Orienteering events don't need roads, trails, facilities - it's just a bunch of people out in the woods walking or running exploring the Teanaway Community Forest. Permitting is an issue for the TCF race. The TCF has the best orienteering terrain in Washington State and Cascade Orienteering Club would like to continue to have events here to bring people into hotels, restaurants.

Craig Mabie – Kittitas County Parks & Rec District: Towns to Teanaway public meeting, Feb 27th at the Centennial Center, will involve working on alternative trail mapping plans.

Tracy Rooney – Teanaway landowner: Lick Creek flows through 1000' feet of his property and is concerned with the Lick Creek re-route. Moving the creek away from the front of the houses to the back of the houses will negatively impact life for the residents.

John Windh Teanaway landowner – snowmobiler, dirt bike rider, local snowmobile club. The winter non-motorized area is taking away from snowmobilers. The summer recreation map doesn't have enough motorized trails.

Commissioner Jewell is no longer the county representative. Commissioner Osiadacz is now the lead and Jewell is the alternate for this committee.

Finalize winter & summer recreation concept development

Winter Concept Map Comments

- The snowmobile clubs have expressed that having a sno-park at the West Fork and also at Indian Camp is quite a commitment, so it makes sense to only have one at the West Fork. Snowmobile groomed trails are open to all uses and non-motorized groomed trails are only open to non-motorized uses. It makes more sense for fat bikes to use snowmobile groomed trails so that they will not damage cross country ski groomed trails.
- Comment from private inholding landowner regarding an altercation with snowmobilers is disturbing, so thinking of ways to route things to protect private landowners is important.

TEANAWAY COMMUNITY FOREST RECREATION PLAN

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Similar things are happening on The Nature Conservancy (TNC) land as well. Provide an additional buffer around private land and signage to protect private landowners.

Summer Map

- User-built trails: 99 miles of trails on road grades, 40 miles of trails beyond that. 1.8 miles of trail per square mile. Trails are concentrated on the west side of the forest. 1.6x more miles of trails that Southeast Region DNR has in 15 counties total. Adopting all of these trails will be an extreme effort for the agencies. [User group trail map](#).
- Can we make the 4305 Road a multi-use trail or give up a ford on one of the USFS trails to gain a new one on the 4305?
 - The management plan stated that we would use the same standards for trails as there are for roads. Need to research the road easement.
- Scenic Driving
 - Crushed rock crowned surface with ditches so that it only needs maintained every ten years.
 - Gates for roads that will stay intact and abandonment for roads that will not stay
 - What do you want in a scenic drive?
 - A view
 - Picnic spot
 - Wildlife viewing
 - Trailheads – pullouts/parking to walk to rock formations
 - Access point for dispersed camping/backcountry camping
 - Ability to take those with mobility issues to the forest and see views
 - More roads, more people potentially means more fires
 - Short accessible walking trail
 - Supervision/management
 - Drivable by street legal passenger vehicles
- Consider possible connector trail that runs across of the top of TCF from the 4305 Road east to tie into multiple USFS trails to the north hitting Indian Camp and 29 Pines on the way. USFS trails are challenging, having an intermediate connector route provides for lower skill levels.
- The forest is supposed to be inclusive, not exclusive. Find a way to accommodate motorcycles so they don't ride illegally.
- There are lots of seasonal restrictions for motorized use based on suitability. A single critical trail may be tolerated by wildlife better than several trails.
- Several residents in the area could ride from their residences via these routes.
- Street legal bikes could jump on the road system to hop between trails, a non-street legal bike could not hop on the road to go to another trail or connect to another trail.

Upcoming Meetings:

March 8th – Advisory Committee meeting

April 12th -- Community meeting

May 10th – Advisory Committee meeting

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