



**NEWS RELEASE**

No. 08-014

January 30, 2008

Contact: Princess Jackson-Smith, 360-902-1066, [princess.jackson-smith@dnr.wa.gov](mailto:princess.jackson-smith@dnr.wa.gov)

**DNR Announces Kick-off of Recreation  
Planning Process for Ahtanum State Forest**  
*The public is invited to first meeting on February 11 in Yakima*

OLYMPIA –The Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is beginning to plan for future recreation in the Ahtanum State Forest, a 76,000-acre block of forested state trust land approximately 20 miles west of Yakima.

As part of this planning effort, the department is inviting public involvement and participation with a kick-off meeting in Yakima, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on Monday, February 11, at West Valley Fire Station #5, 10000 Zier Road. The purpose of the meeting is to introduce participants to the department's planning process and the goals for this planning effort.

During the last few months, DNR has started to gather information related to recreation in Ahtanum State Forest. This information will help to guide planning for future recreation opportunities. Throughout this process, there will be many opportunities for the public to be involved and to share thoughts and concerns at public meetings and through collaboration with DNR staff.

If you are unable to attend the kick-off meeting, you may provide comments to Eric Watrud at 509-925-8510 or via email to [asfplan@dnr.wa.gov](mailto:asfplan@dnr.wa.gov).

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