



Comments from public workshop | September 10, 2008 | Okanogan, WA

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1. Where do you like to recreate?

Ahtanum

Block South of Forks

Chinook Pass

East of Enumclaw

Elk Heights

Ferry County

Hood Canal

Loomis Block

Loup Loup State Forest

LPO

Methow

Narcisse

Okanogan

State of Washington (as a whole)

Wenatchee Area

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2. What kinds of recreation do you enjoy?

4x4ing

ADA hunting

ATV

Back packing

Berry picking

Birding

Camp

Canoe

Cross country ski

Dog sledding:

- o Motorized and non-motorized training of the dogs year round

Fish

Geocaching

Gold panning

Hiking

Hunt

Kayak

Looking for fires

Metal detecting

Motorcycling

Mountain biking

Mushroom picking

Picnicking

Ride horses

Rock hounding

Shooting

Sightseeing

Snow sledding/ tubing

Snowmobiles

- o Cross country snowmobiles
- o Boon docking snowmobiles

Swimming

Wood cutting

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3. How can we improve your recreational experience on DNR-managed lands?

- Build trust with users, give and take
- More ORV access
 - Single track for motorcycles, (avoid being too wide, so there is less of a footprint)
 - Trail loops not dead ends wit different riding distance and difficulties
 - Signed ratings for trails (easy, medium, harder)
 - Shorter loops 30 miles
 - Longer loops 100 miles
 - Create meet up areas for different loops for family recreation
- Mt. Bike access (10-20 miles) with various difficulties
- Multiple use is okay if you are the biggest and most popular
 - Separate trails
- Multiple use of trails
 - maintained for pack and saddle stock
- Coordinate with USFS standards
- Hunting access also shooting where appropriate
 - family safe
- ATV
 - connect loops trails
 - allow volunteers to maintain trails and educate users
- More hunting access
- More green dot road systems
- Create shooting ranges around the state sighting guns
 - Safe backdrop
 - Use grants to pay for shooting ranges
 - Work with groups to sponsor sites ex. NRA
- More hunting opportunities for disables hunters
- Start up Homestead Act and give land back to the people
- Communicate with users about closures, explain to them the what and why
- Public lands open to snowmobiles for cross country opportunities
 - State Parks, USFS working with DNR (coordinate with adjacent land owners for planning and developing trails)
- When managing forests ensure that DNR tries to keep recreational opportunities going
- When use changes DNR should be able to change with it.
- Legislative changes for funding DNR winter recreation
- Year round parking (ATV during the summer and snowmobiles during the winter)
- Second ATV license for snowmobiles trails that are groomed and tracked
- Coordinate with County Commissioners not just about roads)
- Locked gates are not public access friendly. The roads:
 - are still open for motorized and non-motorized use
 - purchase public access where not available
- More equestrian trails
 - clearing standards do need to be equestrian

3. How can we improve your recreational experience on DNR-managed lands?

Continued...

- more stock water
- more stock ramps
- parking for a truck and trailer 55 ft
- half to all day loops (10-25 miles)
- Outhouses
- Information boards with maps and rules
- ATV trails for winter and day use
- Promote tourism
- ATV trails all day with camping (50 miles loops)
 - have destination points
 - short loops with longer options
- Coordinate with USFS and county for planning and designing

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4. What is your vision for recreation on DNR-managed lands?

- Provide more access to land with less locked gates and more communication about access.
- Work with landowners to create access ways that allow connection to trails/trailheads that will not interfere privacy of owners lands but keep trails active. (use them or lose them).. Coordinate the opening of gates before winter so trails and roads stay accessible (cattle guards injure sled dogs).
- DNR continue to trade inaccessible land with private land owners and federal agencies to provide larger blocks for recreation. Also continue to buy more land.
- DNR roads going through private land, can land owners close these roads and gate them? Or are they allowed travel by the public.?
- Provide access to land and trails for multiple use. Coordinate with US Forest Service, BLM and Fish and Wildlife for movement from one to the other with standard rules of use and standard criteria for trails and off trail use. Access to DNR land for multiple use is the most important is the most consideration.
- Work with user groups before closing roads, trails, or areas. Snowmobile clubs, Back Country Horsemen, ATV groups and resource users.
- Promote more recreation opportunities.
- Not close off roads and areas. Develop more trails for snowmobiles and ATVs trailheads and snow parks. Allow more timber harvesting to put more money in the trust.
- Open up the Loomis to non-motorized trails and trailheads.
- Manage logging so there will be a forest in 50 years not logging is not a viable forest management practice.
- Provide public with people contacts at DNR to address specific problems and example who to go to when a private landowner posts "DNR land that he leases."

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General Comments

- Need to know it's ok to open gates before Jeep snow (I train sled dogs, Rock Creek, (&China Wall) & Neville Ridge I don't know all the cattle ranchers & want to be respectful. Thanks!
- As an active ATV club member. We need to get all Agencies & users together to educate others to maintain our trails and off road areas and keep access for recreation. I will do my part to educate and police my own group of users.
- What to do: snowmobile, ride horses, fire wood cutting, hiking, picnicking, camping
- Where: Methow, Loup Loup, Wenatchee, Loomis,
- Improve : More snow trails, make snow parks, keep all lands public. Coordinate between US Forest & DNR reqs & BLM
- What to do: snowmobile, ride horses, hunt, fire wood cutting, ATV riding, camping
- Where: Methow, Loup Loup, Wenatchee, Loomis, OK

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