



Sustainable Recreation Public Workshop | September 11, 2008 | Deer Park, WA

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1. Where do you like to recreate?

Buck Creek

Dunes

Dunns Mtn

Ferry County

Five Sisters

Gillette Ridge

Good enough 14T

Grouse Creek

Horseshoe Rd Skinnerville

Kalispell Basin, MT

Kittitas City

Leclerc Creek

Liberty Lake Conservation Areas

Lincoln

Little Spokane

Loomis

LPO (Little Pend Oreille)

Methow Valley

Mt Spokane

Narcisse

Okanogan

Pend Oreille

Pondera County Park, MT

Riverside State Park

Salmon Meadows

Spokane

St Helens

Stevens

USFS trail system

Wenatchee

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2. What kinds of recreation do you enjoy?

Type	Number
4x4	10
ATV 19	
Camping	30
Dirt biking	14
Firewood cutting	4
Fishing 14	
Hiking	5
Horseback riding	10
Huckleberry picking	17
Hunting 23	
Mountain biking	1
Mushroom picking	4
Photography	4
Running	
Sightseeing	15
Snowmobiling	16
Swimming	1
Target shooting	10

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

More ATV trails

- need more trails to prevent people going into other areas
- not designed for ATV, 35' for parking
- half day rides
- all day tracks (70-100 miles)
- scenic points
- keep roads open to all ORVs
- Variety of challenging trails (like 4x4)
 - Steep
 - Coarse
- Camping along trails for ATVs
- Allow users to drive their ATVs to campsites instead of pushing them
- Dispersed campsites with out houses
- Riding within campground (family trail)

Motorcycle

- Single track trails
 - 50 mile loop
- Family trails
- Pickup 15'
- Clear trails in the spring time
- Allow access by primitive roads for motorcycles without lights

Enforcement keeping area safe

- physical presence (badge or no badge, just show authority)
- Keep to designated uses for a trail
- Work on how to share trails

Keep opportunities separate snowmobiles and XC skiing

Enforcement on motorized single tracks, ATV issue

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

Continued...

Snowmobile

- open up off trail riding
- maps
- signage
- separate snowmobile from cross country skiing
- grooming trails better
 - better parking (trailers)
 - enforcement family friendly/safe

ATVs and groomed snow trails do not work.

More law enforcement in general to deal with conflict

- Trail rangers
- Forest watch

More hang gliding and paragliding opportunities

Horse

- Trails thin
- 5-25 miles
- Have loops
- Corrals/high line post
- Water in facilities and along trails
- High use have dumpsters
- base camp area
- week long experience
- More camp areas with:
 - parking (for horse trailers)
 - water
 - trails near
 - highline post

Multi land use

Develop and maintain trails to withstand intended use.

- width, tread, slope

Need to use a non-productive piece of trust lands open it up to ORV free riding area. Just provide parking and outhouse.

Like Beverly, Riverside State Park

Broaden DNR's role to lease out

Need more 4x4 trails

- 2-8 hours
- Loops or utilize main roads (30-100 miles)
- Difficulty of the trail is important
- Would like rock crawling - knight lake
- More fire road access
- Make it a destination focus
 - historical
 - view
 - burn area

Areas for mud bogging, take pressure off of natural areas, focus use

Rock climbing

Good maps

Equestrian

- Trailhead camping with loop trails
- separate from motorized use
- parking

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

Deal with garbage, change laws

Continued...

Water access DNR need to facilitate/leadership role gaining access to SOAL

Legacy trust, bring it back

Work closer with adjacent agencies

Equestrian trail system in the Colville N.F.

Odessa, work with put and government to develop riding areas that are connect by designated trails.

Tourism is important to small communities

- Talk with DCD
- Adequate signage
 - maps and signs where the #'s or names matchup.
 - replace destroyed signs in a timely manner
 - clear marking on types of trail use allowed
 - directional signs on trails
 - inform people when they are entering state lands
 - Confusion with new landowners
 - have signs high enough for snow level
 - work with clubs/volunteer groups to raise signs

Make it easier for people to use Adopt-A-Trail agreements

Corridors between public and private land.

Better information about opportunities trails and sites

Better marking for parking lots

- Where to go, how to park

Open snow parks year round

- Include trails for ATVs and motorcycles in summer

Separating uses motorized and non-motorized

Education on trail etiquette

- How to interact between users
- Sometimes all types of user groups together at a meeting via a DNR program
- Pamphlets to hand out among user groups
 - Work with USFS, BLM to create
- Post expected behavior at trailheads

Advisory stakeholder groups consisting of various recreation groups, environmental interests, adjacent land owners.

- Take issues to the public
- Address various issues
- Keep groups localized dealing with local issues
 - Reflecting different parts of the state

Contact with established groups at various levels

Signage to campers from user groups "keep it clean it open"

- Self enforcement

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

- More motorcycle trails LESS hassle for using road to get to nearby trails. More access to OUR lands.
- More singletrack motorized trails. We lose them to either non-moto designations or to ATV use which is not always safe or reliable.
- More primitive dispersed, free (non-reservation) camping opportunities accessible to trails.
- Campgrounds that stay open longer into the fall to allow for more hunting and fishing opportunities.
- More “state land” signs
- ATVs should have full sized lic. Plates.
- Loop trail system for ATVs that contain open roads and trails, play grounds (hill climb, rock climbing, etc). Camping sites along trails. Published rules and maps so riders know the rules.
- Continued multiple use of public lands by all users, motorized and non-motorized.
- Areas for free riding i.e. offtrail for snowmobiles.
- Make more ATV friendly trails and road loops without endangering singletrack trail systems. Get more signs and enforce the trail systems of violators.
- More law enforcement officers.
- More singletrack motorized trails and better enforcement to keep unauthorized uses from ruining the few miles of existing single track motorized trails - i.e. quad encroachment. Give ATVs there own trail system so they don't have to ride the single track illegally.
- Sustainability: Social, Economic, Ecologic. In conformance with a regional niche.
- More motorcycle trails with access to local towns.
- Trails and trailheads designed + maintained to handle the established use. This will prevent deterioration and complaints. A good education program to include but not limited to, leave no trace, multi use etiquette, guidelines to follow so trails are not destroyed.
- The DNR could work closely with adjacent land owners, especially the Forest Service on all sorts of recreation functions – trails, dispersed recreation access. Working with counties (Pend Orielle Stevens, Ferry) would be good business.
- Create more areas for horseback riding without dangers of ATVs. More areas in the Spokane outlying areas like Silver Creek and Sherman Pass. Mt. Spokane is terrible for riding. Needs huge improvements. Better trail systems comparable to Idaho. Western Washington was given millions of dollars to set up an equestrian trail system. We need that over here. Pottholes Reservoir needs to be reopened for horseback riding. The cows do more damage than the few horses that ever go there. Better accessible information to existing trails, both ATV and horseback. Larger parking areas and camping areas for trucks and trailers. Horseback trails system from W. Wash to E. Wash . Bigger interlocking trail system in the national forests. Better Maps.
- GARBAGE – DNR should take the lead in changing state law for garbage disposal. The current laws lead people to DUMP on public lands. 15 years ago it was “free” and now everyone pays for it because it has to be brought to the dump. Its stupid. DNR should take the lead on water access. They could be working with adjacent public land owners to facilitate public access to water.
- Extensive trail systems for all user groups (4x4, ATV,MC, horse, hiker, etc). Connected to both developed and dispersed camping and trailheads.
- To keep all 13 events that is on the list + to enhance OHV tourism all over the state. Like Idaho and other states.

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

Continued...

- Need to take recreation into consideration when you do trades! Its not just about trees & \$\$\$\$
- Keep campgrounds reservation free. Keep on first come first serve basis –Amen.
- Keep it open keep public access!!
- Separate motorized/non-motorized areas
- I would like to see more off trail snowmobiling areas. I like to hill climb + explore new areas. Better parking areas for trailer, more grooming on existing trails snowmobiles leave no tracks @ end of season.
- Use of Cle Elum Ranger District of Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest as a model for cooperative shared multiple use of roads, 2 track ATV trails, single track motorized (motorcycle) and hiking equestrian, mountain bike trails. It is working!
- Be able to ride ATVs from campground to trails.
- DNR needs to take a lead on OHV registration – need to look at age, insurance, etc. Responsible riders will support it.
- Expanding ATV trail systems and maintaining ATV friendly campgrounds.
- I would like to see an ATV trail system developed. ATVs are encroaching on single track creating a dangerous situation. There is minimal opportunity for ATVs we need to provide them with equal opportunity to ride, then eliminate ATVs from singletrack.
- Improve Sherry Campground
- Keep roads and trails open having quality place to ride ATVs along with dispersed camping is very important to me.
- Trailhead camping and trail riding (areas to hi line & park vehicle/ horse trailer)
- I would like to see all kinds of recreation improve in our areas. We need to be more flexible when it comes to our trails. All recreation improves tourism and brings money in + keeps local money to our businesses.

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General Comments

- More law enforcement to ensure people are following the laws and respecting the land. If some people were fined, word would get around and people would be more likely to follow the laws.
- We need more motorcycles single tracks – but that said – more mtn bike, + equestrian too. And lets solve garbage dumping on public lands.
- There needs to be some good rock crawling area for 4x4s near Spokane. Something like the Knight Lake Are or the area off of Swensen Road north of Sun Crest.
- Better online maps that are printable of trail systems. Better maps at sites. Need an equestrian trail system like Idaho has with miles of trails interlocking throughout DNR land and state land. The west side of Washington received millions of dollars for an equestrian trail system. We need that over in E. Wash. Need more trails within an hour of Spokane.
- Encourage organizations to get involved in clearing trails, keeping dispersed camping areas, etc.
- We recently spent 10 days camping and riding our ATV on DNR land. We camped at Fiedel Creek and Sherry Creek. We appreciated that the camping was free and on a first come first serve basis and hope you keep it that way. Also all the DNR workers we saw talked to during the week were friendly and helpful when we had questions. We hope the future of DNR land continues to be open to ATVing and camping.
- I would like to start receiving emails on meetings in the Northeast Washington Area/Spokane
- Work with the Forest Service, in partnership MORE CAN BE DONE.
- Are you considering the OHV industry? Of so will the OHV trails connect to other areas of the counties.
- Provide shooting ranges for safer controlled firearm shooting.

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