



Sustainable Recreation Public Workshop | September 15, 2008 | Vancouver, WA

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Where do you like to recreate?

3 Corner Rock – Eastern Yacolt Burn

Bob's Mtn

Buck Creek

Capitol Forest

Cle Elum/Teanaway

Coldcreek campground/Yacolt Burn

Columbia Gorge

- Aldrich Butte
- Table Mtn
- CapeHorn
- Archer Mtn
- USFS Land

Davis Peak

Eastern Yacolt/Skamania mines area

Elbe Hills

Evens Creek

Goldendale

Green Mtn

Jones Creek TH, 4 Corners

Larch Block/Western Yacolt

Puget Sound Water Access

Pumphrey Block

Reiter

Rock Creek Campground/Tarbell/Yacolt Burn

Sadie Creek

Silver Star/Three Corner Rock/Tarbell Trail System

Siouxon – P 100 roads

Speelayi Area

Tahuya

Toutle Block

Trout Lake Area

Tukes Mtn – Battle Ground

Walker Valley

Water Access sites

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What kinds of recreation do you enjoy?

Type	Number
4x4	8
ATV	14
Boating	6
Camping	29
Canoeing	9
Clam Digging	2
Cross Country Skiing	2
Dirt biking	4
Dog Walking	2
Driving Through Woods	3
Fishing	13
Hiking	27
Horseback riding	14
Huckleberry Picking	12
Hunting	14
Mountain biking	6
Mushroom picking	4
RV Camping	6
Shooting	2
Small-scale Mining	1
Snow Playing	6
Snowmobiling	5
Snowshoeing	2
Star Gazing	1
Tide Pools	1
Wildlife/Bird Viewing	9
Zorbing	1

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

- Mountain Beavers and Possums are dangerous for horses
- More Information on what are state lands, what's open, can you hike, hunt, camp, bike, etc. What can or can't I do, What are the rules, need good maps, need information to be on the web site.
- Better job at maintenance – Damage, trash, filth
- Make sites more accessible for ADA users
 - ATV sites and trails
 - Camping
 - Equestrian
 - Fishing
 - Boating
 - Wildlife watching

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

Continued...

- Hiking
- Access to shore and tide lands
 - Wildlife watching
 - Fishing
- More horse trails
 - Half day 7 to 10 miles
 - All day 11-25 miles
 - Need loops
 - Need to end at a destination (view point, lake, stream, historical site, etc)
 - Water along trail for animals
 - Place to stop and rest along the way
 - Trailhead
 - Restrooms
 - Signs, maps
 - Tie rails or posts
 - Parking to accommodate trailer and truck
 - ADA mounting area
 - Camping
 - Restrooms
 - Signs, maps
 - Tie rails or posts
 - Parking to accommodate trailer and truck
 - ADA mounting area
- Courtesy contact and DNR presence on the landscape
- Maps at campgrounds, trailheads and web site
- Signage so you where you are and acceptable uses
- Education of users
 - Signage
 - DNR presence in the campground and trailhead facilities
 - Mechanism to report issues to DNR
 - Identify and deal with problem areas
- Multiple Use
 - Mechanical vs equestrian
 - Problem when mechanical modifies the trail and unauthorized side trails
 - Need to enforce unauthorized uses of trails
 - Need designated trails designed for a particular use
 - Mechanical doesn't mix with hiking and equestrian.
- Need to work to get to DNR lands, they are primitive and should stay that way. At the same time DNR needs to recognize there [sic] ADA responsibility. DNR needs to recognize that not everyone can go everywhere.
 - Need shorter trails for the elderly
- Need public access to the Toutle Block
- Buck Creek trail needs more maintenance
- Motorized trail access – Need more appropriate and type of access for 4x4, ATV and Motorcycles
- Education is extremely important – Use the web sites and coordinate with other state, federal and county entities
- Volunteer work parties are under utilized
 - Get user groups to work together instead of separately

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

Continued...

- Chainsaw certification is important
- Need to provide safety equipment for volunteers
- Need more single track motorized trails
- Need to develop a “Adopt a trail Program”
 - Recognize work on a sign
 - Concerned that group may assume ownership and preclude others from using the trail or facility
 - Have sign up sheets for trail maintenance work
- Landowners receive a break in their taxes if they keep land in forestry. Part of the deal requires them to keep land open to the public
- Shooting – Big safety concern. Bullets going over head is not an isolate occurrence. Need to locate shooting areas not allow them to occur ad hock
- Need to enforce shooting issues
- Reducing impacts to wildlife, streams and natural vegetation is important
- Need more enforcement presence on the ground
 - Develop forest watch program
 - Reserves
 - DNR recreation staff
 - Law enforcement officers
- Need more access for all groups
- Need to make road and trail maps available to the public
- Make more trails by developing off road trail between forest roads
- Gates and tank traps don't work – They keep the honest folk out. Abusers go through under and around and it is the honest folks that lose out.
- Require community service instead of fining someone. Make the community service specific to the crime.
- Include the feedback from the three kick off meetings for Reiter, Yacolt and Ahtanum Plans
- Require “Tread Lightly” training and safety training for anyone purchasing and ORV
- Need a flyer that can be handed out to users that is positive and compelling ie help keep the trails open by staying on designated trails.

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

- Safe & sustainable recreation opportunities for all citizens of the state
- In the Columbia Gorge work with USFS, Friends of the Gorge and Cape Horn Conservancy to establish an acceptable hiking trail corridor through Washougal Oaks, Columbia Falls and Table Mountain for the Washougal to Stevenson Trail
- Legal public access to all blocks of DNR land over 2,500 acres – covered with recreation plans and community driven recreation. Locally adopted state forests managed by partnerships between counties, state agencies, neighbors and communities with places for all users to enjoy.
- Land areas to increase with more preservation and conservation, while educating the people that use and inhabit the land on how to enjoy, sustain and live with the land. Having a way to donate money to the state recreation areas for DNR to use in a sustainable way. Safe and enjoyable hiking, camping and other recreational use. Education for why the land is special and beautiful. More maps of where we can enjoy land foe ease of finding safe beautiful places to enjoy in Washington state. Strong volunteer programs for any age of people to help preserve the beauties of our state.

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

Continued....

- Open public access to all DNR lands. Trail use to match demand. Open trails to get more dispersing of recreators. Open trails to all use based on land type. Only utilize exclusive trail use based on land restrictions.
- Need reasonable amount to land dedicated based on the type of use; e.g. more trails for motorized use will reduce usage per mile; designated areas of demand to mountain bikers/hikers to avoid conflict with other forest users. Need even greater involvement by volunteer user groups is needed – following this process to get the vision.
- Designated motorized areas away from hiking and biking. Rock hunting areas open to vehicles for handicapped access. DNR needs better brochures and locality maps on line.
- 100 miles minimum per riding area. Diverse motorized trail systems - 4x4, quad, single track.
- More single track trails (motorcycle).
- My DNR dream – to create a recreational trail system that can be utilized and supported by “all” user groups. In this system will be an education and enforcement program that will provide a safe and enjoyable experience for everyone.
- DNR managed lands provide a diversity of recreation opportunities for people of all skill levels and interest. Also, visitors to DNR lands are acting in stewardship projects that promote a greater understanding and respect for the value of public lands for a healthy environment and society.
- RV camping area for my new motor home.
- More 2 track.
- Has DNR considered any more developments like “North Woods” up at Swift Res.? Seems to have been successful.
- Would like a network of motorized and non-motorized trails allowing for multiple days of recreation from the Yacolt Burn to the Siouxon and on to Davis Peak with connectivity to USFS lands. Have adopted a trail maintenance opportunities for clubs and organizations utilizing MOUs to minimize volunteer supervision requirements. Education and outreach information broadly distributed like the fact sheet so all users understand the meaning behind “Public” lands. Camp hosts promoting Smokey the Bear type of thinking that we can all work together not only to prevent forest fires but to use the DNR cooperatively and respectfully with one another.
- Reliable funding is needed to go along with grants. Education of users to responsibilities (leave no trace ethics). Continued partnering with user group volunteers and allowing input in decision making.
- A trail from Cougar to Woodland for multi-use motorized vehicles.
- A few more multi-use trails (for equestrian, hikers, and mountain bikers) with camping areas. Maybe a multi-use campground such as Rechens (?) camp in Oregon. It would be nice if some trail areas could be connected for long distance riding and camping.
- Trails accessible to all user groups. Safety for all users. Limiting shooting areas to “safe areas”.
- DNR lands should be open to public even if there are no trails. Some people just like a wilderness feeling. Also by people having access they may see some unlawful acts.
- Bus stations at every trail head.
- First, thank you! We really appreciate this opportunity to be apart of this planning activity. The trail system is very important to me. I would love to be able to take my family up to the forest and drive around. We love to view the forest and the views and we need an areas we can trail drive - I drive a 4-wheel drive tread lightly.

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

Continued...

- A Washougal to Stevenson trail developed with appropriate sections opened to appropriate user groups along the way – hikers, horseback riders, mountain bikers...
- Signed, designated use trails in sustainable environmental location with enforcement to keep sustained for the designated use. Proper maintenance, volunteer and contracted as necessary, to have safe areas to use and provide user with and enjoyable experience.
- This an inherent conflict between machine use and non-machine use. Ideally, machine use would be phased out entirely. However, as it is, machines should be restricted to sacrifice areas and kept away from hikers, horses and wildlife. The wild should remain wild. As for handicap access, I suggest short loop trails that do not infringe on the wild, but still provide a taste of nature. (I speak as a person who has post polio syndrome and can not walk as far as I used to. But I still do not want to ruin the wild for others just to benefit me). Other considerations – Cost – which type of recreation costs the most, both in preparing the trail and repairing damage. Global warming and impact of the types of recreation on that. Impacts on wildlife.
- Hikers and bikers should have to purchase a tag/license like ATVs do to pay for access.

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General Comments

- Work jointly with WDFW on info. maps & state's GOHUNT Web site maps.
Acquire "Public Use easements" to large blocks of state land. Use eminent domain if necessary. Need stronger eminent domain for DNR access.
ALL grants NOVA, Nat. Recreation trails, Land & Water Conservation Fund require access.
ACCESS FIRST
- Education of users to their responsibilities in the forest. (Leave No Trace ethics). Have a secure funding to go along with grants. Enforcement of rules of the forest. Maps more available. Better signage roads and trails.
- We enjoy hiking, camping, hunting, and target shooting, and would like to see designated spots for target shooting to ensure safety for all.

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