Teanaway Community Forest
Recreation Planning
Agenda

• Learn about:
  • Teanaway Community Forest

• Understand:
  • Recreation planning process

• Provide input:
  • Listening Stations
    • Recreation suitability
    • Recreation concepts
      • Winter
      • Summer
    • Project implementation
    • Environmental education
    • Commercial recreation
      • Guides and events
    • Camping
Planning Area Map
Teanaway Community Forest
... a collaborative partnership

Teanaway Community Forest
• Legislative purchase
  • October 2013
• Yakima Basin Integrated Plan
• DNR owns the land
• WDFW holds a conservation easement

DNR and WDFW are committed to a joint decision-making process
In approving the Teanaway purchase, lawmakers directed DNR and WDFW to:

- Protect and enhance the **water supply** and protect the **watershed**
- Maintain **working lands** for forestry and livestock grazing while protecting watershed functions and habitat
- Provide **recreational opportunities** consistent with watershed protection
- Conserve and restore **fish and wildlife habitat**
- Support a strong **community partnership** in ongoing land management
Teanaway Community Forest Advisory Committee

- Back Country Horsemen of WA
- Local Community Members
- Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance
- Friends of the Teanaway
- Kittitas County Commissioners
- Kittitas County Field & Stream Club
- Mountain to Sound Greenway Trust
- Neighboring landowners
- Off-road vehicle interests
- The Nature Conservancy
- The Wilderness Society
- Washington Department of Ecology
- Washington Trails Association
- WA State Snowmobile Association
- Yakama Nation
- Yakima Basin Integrated Plan Partner
Teanaway Community Forest Management Plan

- Completed May 2015
- Direction for 5 Goals
- 15 public Advisory Committee meetings
- 3 open houses
- More than 1,600 online comments
- Public SEPA review
Management Plan
Recreation Objectives

• Develop a recreation plan for the forest
• Evaluate motorcycle use within the recreation planning process
• Provide a sustainable network of safe, enjoyable recreational trails
• Provide recreation opportunities and facilities that are consistent with watershed protection
• Maintain existing partnerships and establish new collaborations between public agencies, user groups, and citizen volunteers
• Establish a consistent enforcement and education presence
Purpose of Recreation Planning

- Develop objectives for managing recreation for next 10-15 years
- Determine what types of recreation will be provided in the Community Forest and where
- Identify opportunities for connections across the landscape
- Identify partnerships and volunteer opportunities
- Establish priorities for implementing the plan
Recreation Planning Goals

Teanaway Specific:
• To maintain and where possible expand recreational opportunities consistent with watershed protection, for activities such as hiking, fishing, hunting, horseback riding, camping, birding, and snowmobiling.

General:
• Resource protection
• High-quality recreation experience
• Public safety
Recreation Planning Committee

Estimated 12 meeting timeframe

Data Gathering
- Biological Data
- Soils/Geology Data
- Management Data
- Field Visits
- Field Inventory of Current Use
- Public Input
- Recreation Trends
- User Survey
- Adjacent Land Uses & opportunities
- Community Input

Assessment
- Land Suitability Analysis
- Field Visits
- Issue Sorting from:
  - Survey Results
  - Public Meeting
  - Committee Input
  - Ongoing Public Input
- Evaluate Costs of Capital
- Development & Maintenance

Recommendations
- Committee Brainstorming
- Preliminary Recommendations
- Develop/Review Draft Recreation Concept Plans
- Prioritize Implementation Timeline
- Final Concept Plan
- Committee Recommendation

Teanaway Community Forest
# Planning Process

- **Seven Phases**
- **TCF Advisory Committee**
- **Recreation Land Suitability**
- **Typical process**
  - 12 meetings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phase</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</table>
| 1      | **PRE-PLANNING**
        | Determine the need and scope, project team, stakeholder involvement plan, and data collection needs |
| 2      | **INVENTORY/ LAND SUITABILITY**
        | Determine the land suitability and planning context for the project |
| 3      | **RECREATION INVENTORY/ PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT**
        | Determine public issues and concerns, hold public meetings, collect recreation field data, user surveys |
| 4      | **ASSESSMENT**
        | Determine the 'BIG IDEA', or management concept for the planning area (what are we going to do where?) |
| 5      | **ALTERNATIVE(S)**
        | Determine and describe the preferred alternative for the project (how and to what degree we provide recreation?) |
| 6      | **SEPA & COMMUNICATIONS**
        | SEPA is conducted, plan is edited and formatted for publication |
| 7      | **ADOPTION**
        | Plan is adopted by the agency |
Recreation Land Suitability

Maps guide recreation planning efforts

Biology
Soils
Geology
Management
## Recreation Land Suitability

### Tri-Composite Criteria

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Biological</th>
<th>Soils and Geology</th>
<th>Management</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wetlands &amp; Wetlands Buffers 120’</td>
<td>Soils Risk for Recreation (Erosion)</td>
<td>Communication and Management Sites</td>
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<tr>
<td>Riparian: streams, open water, buffers Fish 120’, Non-fish 50’, Unknown 25’</td>
<td>Areas with High Potential for Landslides/Unstable Slopes</td>
<td>Rock Sources (existing and future)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Salmonids and Fish Habitat Informational Only **</td>
<td>Slope Percentage</td>
<td>Utility Easements</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deer &amp; Elk Winter Range</td>
<td>100 - Year Flood Plains</td>
<td>Land Adjacent to Other Properties</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deer &amp; Elk Calving/fawning range May 15 - June 15 Buffer 300 meters</td>
<td>Poorly Drained Soils</td>
<td>Wells and Water Sources</td>
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<td>Sensitive, Threatened &amp; Endangered Species (plants &amp; animals)**</td>
<td>Areas with High Potential for Avalanche (Cabin Creek)</td>
<td>Riparian Restoration Areas</td>
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<td>High Quality or Rare Plant Communities</td>
<td>Areas that have Moved in Previous Landslides</td>
<td>Cultural and Archeological Resources</td>
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<td>Northern Spotted Owl / Northern Goshawk (March - August)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Large Carnivores - Gray Wolf ** March 15 - June 15</td>
<td></td>
<td>** Items Not Shown on Map</td>
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</table>

** Items Not Shown on Map
Motorized Trails

Teanaway Community Forest Recreation Plan

Prepared for
July 13, 2017
Planning Meeting

Suitability Color Key
- Moderate Suitability
- Moderate Suitability: March - August
- Moderate Suitability: May 15 - June 15
- Low Suitability: March - August
- Low Suitability: May 15 - June 15
- Not Suitable

Teanaway Community Forest

Washington State Department of Natural Resources
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Facilities

Teanaway Community Forest Recreation Plan

Prepared for
July 13, 2017
Planning Meeting

Suitability Color Key
- Moderate Suitability
- Moderate Suitability: March - August
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Teanaway Community Forest
Winter – Non Motorized Trails
Winter – Motorized Trails

Teanaway Community Forest Recreation Plan

Prepared for July 13, 2017 Planning Meeting

Suitability Color Key
- Moderate Suitability
- Moderate Suitability: March – August
- Moderate Suitability: May 15 – June 15
- Low Suitability: March – August
- Low Suitability: May 15 – June 15
- Not Suitable

Note: Map data is preliminary and is subject to change without notice. This information is intended to provide a general representation of forest areas suitable for motorized recreation. Final plan and recommendations will be based on a comprehensive analysis of all available data. Final plan and recommendations will be subject to further public comment and approval. This map is a draft and is subject to change.
Field Trips

• Winter recreation
• Unique rock formations
• What does the purple stuff look like?
• USFS multi-use trails
• Camping areas and river access
• User interaction and enforcement
Committee Member Presentations

- Winter recreation
- TNC Central Cascades
- Equestrian
- Trout
- Kittitas Environmental Network
- Hunting, birding, fishing
- Mountain bicycle survey
- Motorcycle use
- Infrastructure
- Forest neighbors
- Forest history
- Hiking history
Teanaway Community Forest
Recreation Survey

July 24 – August 24, 2017

2682 Total Responses
Q3 Why do you recreate in the Teanaway Valley?
Teanaway Community Forest
Summer Recreation Concepts
3/30/2018 DRAFT- TRAILS AND FACILITIES SHOWN ARE CONCEPTS FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES ONLY
Teanaway Community Forest
Winter Recreation Concepts

03/09/18 DRAFT-TRAILS AND FACILITIES SHOWN ARE CONCEPTS FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES ONLY

KEY
- Groomed snowmobile trails to be evaluated and rerouted where needed
- Snowmobile trail sections to be rerouted
- Non-motorized connections for skiing and snowshoeing

JUNGLE & IRON CREEK CONNECTIONS:
Partner with USFS to develop a connection (dotted blue line) to existing Volunteer Non-Motorized Areas.

ADDITIONAL SNOWMOBILE TRAILS:
Provide approx. 4.5 miles of additional north-south groomed snowmobile trail connections.

PMO SNOWMOBILE AREAS:
- Light Red Shaded Area: PMO Snowmobile Area with groomed trails
- Dark Red Shaded Area: PMO Non-motorized winter recreation area with groomed cross-country ski trails

GENERAL NOTES:
1. Recreation opportunities to be developed and managed in coordination with the 5 goals of the TCF Management Plan.
2. The Primary Management Objective (PMO) of the TCF in the winter is to provide motorized and non-motorized trails with opportunities for dispersed snowmobiling, skiing, snowshoeing, and winter play.
3. PMO Snowmobile Area with groomed trails
4. PMO Non-motorized winter recreation area with groomed cross-country ski trails and to provide local snowmobile access.
5. Trails shown are conceptual, routes subject to change.

WATERING HOLE:
Consider working with recreation user groups to provide movable watering holes at locations TBD and look at options for expansion in the future, if appropriate.

REFERENCES:
- Fish and Wildlife
- Natural Resources
- Forest
Prioritization Criteria:

- Logical sequencing
- Serves largest # of users
- High return for investment
- Protects public health/safety
- Enhances STCF goals
- Funding opportunities

Dot Exercise - SCORING

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Winter Map</th>
<th>Summer Map</th>
<th>Winter Map</th>
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Note: 4005 Road Connection, Jack Ridge Trail, and Lijar Prairie Connection have been taken off of projects list and map because of feasibility and statement issues that were discussed during the meeting.
Teanaway Community Forest
Winter Recreation Concepts

03/09/18 DRAFT TRAILS AND FACILITIES SHOWN ARE CONCEPTS FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES ONLY

KEY

- PMO Snowmobile Area with groomed trails.
- PMO Non-motorized winter recreation area with groomed cross-country ski trails.
- Groomed snowmobile trails to be evaluated and rerouted where needed.
- Snowmobile trail sections to be rerouted.
- Non-motorized connections for skiing and snowshoeing.

Project Phases

Funded
Phase 1
Phase 2
Phase 3
Phase 4

GENERAL NOTES:
1. Recreation opportunities to be developed and managed in coordination with the 5 goals of the TCF Management Plan.
2. The Primary Management Objective (PMO) of the TCF in the winter is groomed motorized and non-motorized trails with opportunities for dispersed snowmobiling, skiing, snowshoeing, and winter play.
3. Primary Management Objective (PMO) identifies the principle use of an area. It does not necessarily mean that other recreational uses in an area are excluded.
4. Improvments and facilities are conceptual; routes subject to change.

WARMING HINTS: Consider along with recreation groups to provide suggestions for back options for expansion in the future, if appropriate.
# Teanaway Community Forest: Project Implementation Phases

## Currently Funded Projects

**ENTRY STATION:** Work with public and private partners to locate and develop an entry station for visitors to the TCF.

**TEANAWAY CAMPGROUND:** Reconfigure campground to provide more sustainable facilities located outside of the river flood plain; Expand group camping with future equestrian camping.

**INDIAN CAMPGROUND:** Reconfigure campground to provide more sustainable facilities located outside of the river flood plain; Expand equestrian camping; Expand designated day-use parking.

**SIGNAGE & INFORMATION:** Improve signage and information at trails and facilities in the TCF.

**TVU:** Provide parking for non-motorized recreation.

## Phase 2 Projects

**TOWNS TO TEANAWAY:** Partner with Towns-to-Teanaway to develop non-motorized trail connections to TNC lands and the communities of R dull, Ronald, and O leum for summer and winter recreation.

**WEST FORK TRAILHEAD:** Provide a new trailhead at the end of the West Fork County Rd, with parking, toilets and information for hiking, biking and horseback riding in the southwestern part of the forest.

**HIGHER DENSITY TRAILS:** (dark green shaded area) Evaluate and reroute existing trails in the SW part of the TCF to provide sustainable non-motorized trails for a variety of skill levels. Provide loops and connections between trailheads, campgrounds, rivers, rock formations and viewpoints for hikers, bikers and equestrians, while respecting private property and reducing redundancy.

**29 PINES CAMPGROUND:** Reconfigure and relocate portions of campground to provide more sustainable facilities located outside of the river flood plain.

**29 PINES TRAILHEAD:** Expand designated day use parking for winter and summer trail access with toilets and information.

**29 PINES SNOW:** Partner with State Parks to expand and manage existing staging area as a Sno-Park for motorized & non-motorized winter recreation.

**PMO SNOWMOBILE AREA:** (Red Shaded Area) Partner with USFS, State Parks, TNC and local communities to enhance the groomed snowmobile trail network in the northern part of the forest; Evaluate existing trails and relocate to more sustainable locations where needed in coordination with forest road planning; Provide approx. 4-6 miles of additional north-south groomed snowmobile trail connections to improve grooming efficiency.

**WEST FORK SNOW:** Partner with State Parks to manage the trailhead as a Sno-Park during the winter to provide access to the PMO non-motorized winter recreation area and to provide local snowmobile access.

**PMO NON-MOTORIZED WINTER RECREATION AREA:** (Blue shaded area). In coordination with local snowmobile access and connections from private properties, provide an area for snowshoeing, skiing, and non-motorized winter play in the southwestern part of the forest, with approximately 8-10 miles of groomed cross-country ski trails with tracks accessed from the West Fork Sno-Park.

**TVU:** Provide trails accessed from parking area to the river and surrounding forest; Provide toilets and information near the parking area.

**TEANAWAY SCENIC DRIVING LOOP:** Work with user groups to manage seasonal access for scenic driving on designated primitive forest roads for high clearance 4x4, ATV, and street legal motorcycles. Route to include vistas, picnic areas, wildlife viewing, providing all ability access. Final location T.B.D.

## Phase 3 Projects

**ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION:** Work with public and private partners to locate and develop environmental education opportunities in the TCF.

**ROAD & RIVER CORRIDORS:** (Blue shaded Areas): Coordinate with river restoration to manage river access for fishing, swimming, and day use, determining infrastructure needs.

**DICEY CREEK ACCESS:** Provide parking and toilets and improve river access.

**INDIAN CREEK TRAILHEAD AND TRAIL:** Develop a trailhead for hiking, biking and horseback riding along Indian Creek, and provide opportunities for interpretation of river restoration. Trailhead to provide parking for horse trailers and passenger vehicles, information and toilets.

**WARMING HUTS:** Work with recreation user groups to provide movable warming huts at locations TBD and look at options for expansion in the future, if appropriate.

**USFS TRAIL CONNECTIONS:** Partner with USFS to evaluate, improve, and maintain sustainable connections to multi-use USFS trails for hikers, bikers, equestrians and motorcycle riders. Evaluate and relocate trails along the Middle Fork and West Fork Teanaway Rivers to protect fish habitat and water quality. Convert the road to a trail connection to the USFS Yellow Hill Trail for hikers, bikers, equestrians and motorcycle riders.

**MODERATE DENSITY TRAILS:** (light green area) Using sustainable existing trails, relocate & rebuild a non-motorized, cross-country trail for a variety of skill levels with loops and connections between trailheads, campgrounds, rock formations and viewpoints destinations for hikers, bikers and equestrians. Consider developing a system of backcountry campsites along this trail.

## Phase 4 Projects

**JACK CREEK ROAD:** Partner with USFS to enhance the road for 3-season scenic driving to Red Top and Highway 97.

**RED TOP CONNECTION:** Partner with the USFS to develop a non-motorized trail connection from TNC to Redtop and long distance loop connections.

**LOWER DENSITY TRAILS:** (yellow shaded area) Develop a non-motorized, cross-country trail connecting 29 Pines, TVU Parking, viewpoints and unique features for hikers, bikers and equestrians. Consider developing a system of backcountry campsites along this trail.

**TRAILHEADS FOR USFS TRAIL CONNECTIONS:** Provide parking, information and toilets for the West Fork, Middle Fork and Yellow Hill Trails for hikers, bikers, equestrians and motorcycle riders and improve access roads to the trailheads.

**WINTER JUNGLE & IRON CREEK CONNECTIONS:** Partner with USFS to develop connections to existing Jungle Creek and Iron Creek Voluntary Non-Motorized Areas.
Next Steps
April - September

- May 10th – Advisory committee meeting
- Draft plan writing
- SEPA review
- Community meeting
- Update plan
- Agency adoption
Listening Stations

- Recreation land suitability
- Recreation concepts
  - Winter
  - Summer
- Project implementation
- Environmental education
- Commercial recreation/guides/events
- Camping
Teanaway Community Forest Recreation Planning