

September 12, 2016
PO Box 1011
Bellingham, WA 98227



Jamie Kingsbury, Forest Supervisor
Objection Reviewing Officer
Mt. Baker – Snoqualmie National Forest
Attn. 1570 Appeals and Objections
2930 Wetmore Ave
Everett, WA 98201
objections-pnw-mtbaker-snoqualmie@fs.fed.us

CC: Erin Uloth, Mt. Baker District Ranger

RE: Objection to Upper North Fork Nooksack River Access Travel Management (ATM) Project.

Dear Jamie,

On behalf of the Whatcom Mountain Bike Coalition, our Board and Advisors, I would like to thank you, Erin and her team for their efforts in the DRAFT Version Upper Nooksack Access and Travel Management Plan (ATM).

Beyond our initial comments from March 6th, we'd like to add that after looking deeper at the Canyon Creek area (FS Road 31) and better understanding the budgetary constraints moving forward, we would like to offer up our last bit of input. Because FS Road 31 and 3140 will smartly remain open, we request that FS Road 3160 to Bearpaw Mountain remain in its current maintenance level and open to vehicle traffic. We ask this because we believe the access to Bearpaw Lake and Church Lake provides great dispersed recreation value – both in its current uses and in potential future opportunities.

We also would like to reiterate from our March 6th Letter: "We understand the financial hurdles that the USFS has with maintaining the current 137 miles of road along the Upper Nooksack Corridor. We do, however, believe the USFS hasn't done enough in the past to involve the recreationalists to help maintain the important roads and can do better on this in the future. Not only will involving the various user groups help with maintenance defer the costs of maintenance, but it also creates an element of stewardship for these access points."

If you would like to further discuss any of these items with myself or the WMBC Board, please feel free to reach out to us. Thanks again for all of your team's work on this important project for our community.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Eric J. Brown".

Eric Brown
Trail Director, WMBC
Phone: (206) 399-8347
Email: ebxtreme@earthlink.net

Cc: WMBC Board of Directors