For 70 years, the Kongsberger Ski Club has provided opportunities and advocated for winter recreation activities on Snoqualmie Pass, from ski jumping to Nordic skiing to ski mountaineering to snowshoeing. The KSC helps maintain the Nordic Trails on the Erling Stordahl trail system (off exit 62) and on the Cabin Creek trail system (off exit 63), and works with the State Parks to provide grooming in the winter. These trail systems, along with others in the I 90 corridor, are mostly connected and allow people to ski or snowshoe between the various trail heads.

We strongly object to closing any part of the winter trails included in the State Parks Sno-park system and thus are most concerned about the planned winter closure of the Boat Ramp Road on Lake Keechelus. The Boat Ramp Road is a crucial part of the Palouse to Cascade Nordic trail, providing significant variety of terrain and views. Closure during the winter season would severely impact the activities of the public seeking non-resort dependent non-motorized recreation in the winter months.

Furthermore, we object to closing F.S. Road 4832-144 in the Gold Creek Valley to all access during the winter months. The area is a favorite of the public to simply do snow play and engage in limited winter activities. The closure will undoubtedly push people on to the other snow-parks which are already way past capacity.

The proposed plan to limit access to winter recreation in the Gold Creek Valley and to close the boat ramp road on Lake Keechelus during the winter months stands in face of a long history of non-resort dependent winter recreation on Snoqualmie Pass and does not take into consideration the increased demand from popuations on both the West and East sides of the pass for opportunities to engage in such recreation.