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Organization:

Title:

Comments: November 8, 2020

RE: Wynoochee Restoration and Road Management Project - OBJECTION with remedy to resolve

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the final draft decision. I've attended several meeting related to this particular issue over the last few years, as well as generating public awareness of this issue. My relationship to this area spans five decades. I understand the inherent needs of protecting resources. I also know it is equally important that recreational access is maintained.

I support PAC's response, in their letter dated November 1,2020:

"We have narrowed down our objection to two sections of road: The 2270-400 aka Wynoochee Pass Road and the upper 2270 loop section. We object to ML/1 closure of the upper 2270 to vehicle access.

And we object to the road-to-trail conversion of the 2270-400.

As a suggested remedy to resolve our objection, we are presenting a counter proposal:

We are proposing, in cooperation with ONF's Hood Canal District Ranger, to adopt the maintenance on these two sections of road in order to retain vehicle access."

In regards to concerns of and in consideration for creating opportunities for access and fire suppression, I ask the Forest Service to reconsider. (Your Page 13 of the Wynoochee Restoration and Road Management Project Environmental Assessment.) You've stated "On the Olympic Forest fires are infrequent" simply doesn't seem accurate. I've attached a document, released by the National Park Service entitled: 'Olympic National Park and Olympic National Forest Fire Update, 8/22'(2020). According to this document on that particular day, nine fires on the Peninsula were monitored. Due to the extreme fire activity the Pacific Northwest in the last five years, I request the Forest Service reconsider their stance.

In closing, I thank all that have participated in this conversation in the conservation of both resources and recreation. It is my hope that decisions made here will benefit generations to come.

Sincerely,

Theresa Jump  
Hoquiam