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Organization:

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Comments: Greetings, I frequent this area during the spring through fall months. Access to this area above Gold Creek not only provides access to many hiking trails, but myself and many of my peers utilize this road to access a Paraglider and Hang Glider launch site. This is the only paragliding launch site remotely near Snoqualmie Pass, and provides an area for pilots to launch and access some of the most scenic areas in the state. Some of the most impressive and challenging flights have started here. Additionally if a pilot is not able to find a thermal to climb out of the area, we have normally landed near the Gold Creek bridge, as it is one of the safest options for the area.

I'm sure that if access to the road is removed, there will still be ambitious hikers who will find a way to access the site, but if the Gold Creek area is closed, they will lose the most safe landing area. When faced with being forced to land and making the choice of safety vs trespassing, one will always choose safety.

Also, if you'll be using helicopters, please publicly post flying schedules, or provide a hotline one can obtain such schedules. Paragliding and Hang Gliding pilots who fly in this area will inquire with Whidbey Island for their FA-18 pilots to see when they'll be in the area so we can mitigate any mid-air risks.

Please keep this area open, or find a way to provide restoration and allow public access. 5-10 years is too long to go without access for such beauty in the area.