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Organization:

Title:

Comments: "Greenwater ATM"

To whom it may concern regarding the Greenwater Access and Travel Management Project #47991

My name is Diana Acosta, and I am a member of the Puyallup Valley Gem & Mineral Club in Puyallup, Washington. I am in charge of the Future Rockhounds of America Program also known as "Pebble Pups" which is, as it sounds, our kids group. From what I understand there are plans in the works to close many often used forest roads to all traffic in order to preserve the area for future generations (just one reason). I must tell you that rock collecting is not destructive from our point of view. We teach our members our "Rockhound Code of Ethics" from day one. Our members can tell you how they pick up trash left at campgrounds, hiking trails, shooting ranges (too much trash to pack away), stream and rivers. We do not want to lose our collecting areas! All we want to do is save our gems, mineral, and fossils from destruction by irresponsible humans, erosion, landslides, cold and other natural causes. The Greenwater area is the best collecting site our club has. It's safe for our kids and elders; we have the ability to get close enough to the sites by using the forest roads so that it's not miles of hiking for many who use canes and have other health issues. As far as "future generations" go, we are teaching our kids NOW of what an awesome earth we live on, what we can do to save our forests, streams, wildlife, and aquatic life. Please reconsider closing these access roads.

We could pay for access permits as long as they were reasonable, probably not \$250 per person as the lumber companies charge. Our kids deserve the chance to learn about rocks, mineral, fossils and enjoy the great outdoors.

When kids aren't involved in sports, hobbies or other group activity's they tend to get bored, and when they get bored they usually end up in trouble. We love the Greenwater Area and hope to be able to return and enjoy it's beauty and tranquility.

Thank you,

Diana Acosta

Junior's Leader-PVG&MC