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Title:
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Yewah Lau, District Ranger

c/o Kim Crider

Olympic National Forest

1835 Black Lake Blvd SW

Olympia, WA 98512

Wynoochee Restoration and Road Management Project #53124.

Washington Off Highway Vehicle Alliance would like to thank the Forest Service for the opportunity to comment on this project, and support the Olympic Public Access Coalition and their efforts working with the Forest.

Although WOHVA's core focus is motorized, we believe recreation of all types on public lands is an important element of the multiple use concept. The economic, environmental, social, and personal impacts all have to be considered for any project of this nature. It is a challenge to address all these concerns without one taking precedence over the others. We would urge you to look long and hard at that balance.

As far as roads and motorized recreational use, look at the economic impact before making a final decision. Motorized recreation contributes almost three billion dollars to Washington's economy every year, and is growing. Those are hard numbers to ignore. We would like to see the USFS take these numbers into account during the decision making process, and give motorized and OHV the serious look it deserves as an economic driver for the local communities of the area close to the Wynoochee.

Also consider the efforts of many in the OHV community toward trail and facility maintenance.

We are supremely aware of our responsibility to take care of the areas we use to see that they are there for years to come. Volunteer hours can be a valuable tool to ease the pressure on FS staff, and to help secure grant funding that would allow projects on the trail system to go forward that might otherwise be difficult to get done.

WOHVA would like to respectfully request that the Forest consider a more in depth look at the system to see what roads may be adapted to the various needs of our supporters and the different vehicles they prefer. Look at the potential for turning Class 1, 2, and 3 roads into loop systems for motorcycles, ATVs, SxS, and 4x4, depending on the nature of the road and its location.

There are many OHV users around the Olympic NF, and a good, well designed trail system would benefit the area, and be a draw to get these folks to enjoy the other aspects of the Forest and the Peninsula in general. That would be a win for all involved.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dave Walters

Washington Off Highway Vehicle Alliance

Board of Directors/Land Action Chair