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Comments: An article in the Everett Herald caught my attention, "Forest Service formulating big plan for Stillaguamish watershed". I have basically lived in the Stillaguamish valley for my lifetime and have hiked and climbed many hundreds of miles. Other means of travel, including horseback and motorized vehicles, have enabled me to further know and enjoy the area.

I was surprised at the non-specificity of the of the Forest Service's Proposal for the North Fork Stillaguamish Landscape Project.

Based upon comments by people during the Zoom meeting, as well as written comments, I find that others were also surprised. The "plan" is labeled as Condition-Based Management (CBM) which is explained as "a management approach which supports responsiveness and flexibility between planning and implementation in natural resource management. CBM allows for proposed treatments to be aligned--post-decision but prior to implementation-with current conditions on the ground. It does this by focusing on collecting the right data, at the right time, for the right activity to meet the land management decision." Or so it may be hoped for.

As one gentleman commented, it is hard to comment on a "plan" that really isn't a plan.

At this point, it appears that in several, if not all areas, people are questioning the data/information used (or not used) to make recommendations. Non-specificity of actions (CBM), non-specificity of time frame, and non-specificity of oversight do not engender confidence in the "plan."

Proposed recreational expansion was mentioned only for mountain bikers not for the myriad of other types of recreation. Things have changed over approximately the last 20 - 25 years. Many gates and other impediments have been installed to keep people from accessing trailheads and long-established logging roads. The Suiattle River Road was washed out for years making it difficult to access trails to such places as Miner's Ridge, Glacier Peak, and Holden on Lake Chelan. Eventually it was repaired. The road to the 3-Fingers trailhead also washed out. I do not know if has been repaired yet. Some campgrounds along the Mt Loop Highway were closed. Dearinger Campground and trailhead out the Sauk Prairie Road became inaccessible. I am unsure of the current status. Additionally, three trails were mentioned for closure (one of the specifics mentioned). This is just a partial list.

At this point, it appears that in several, if not all areas, people are questioning the data/information used (or not used) to make recommendations. Non-specificity of actions (CBM), non-specificity of time frame, and non-specificity of oversight/evaluation do not engender confidence in the "plan".