

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 4/27/2024 2:52:22 PM

First name: Trygve

Last name: Bakken

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I regularly visit the Snoqualmie Pass area to hike and cross-country ski, and I have noticed an increasing amount of usage of the limited parking facilities at several trail heads including Cabin Creek, Hyak, and Gold Creek Valley. This will only increase as our regional population grows, and residents enjoy many outdoor activities in this beautiful area near where many people live. I am lending my support to the many suggestions assembled by the Cascade Backcountry Alliance (CBA) and copied below.

I expect that you will coordinate with local agencies to provide continued access to our public wilderness and communicate strategies to increase parking and alternate access points with the public via maps, signage, and regular email communications.

Sincerely,

Trygve Bakken

We (CBA) recommend the Forest Service investigate the feasibility of the following additional solutions to help address the already difficult parking issues in the Snoqualmie Pass vicinity:

Provide parking at the PCT North (Kendall Katwalk) parking lot to improve access to the Commonwealth Basin for snowshoeing and backcountry skiing

Allow winter recreationalists to continue to access F.S Road 4832-144 in the Gold Creek Valley, which is outside the project area and provides snowshoeing opportunities and backcountry skiing access

Allow recreationalists to access the upper Gold Creek Valley via trail 1314 by including clear signage and/or temporary trail markers as necessary to maintain closure of project area

Expand parking on Lake Mardee Road and pursue opportunities to acquire the adjacent private land, where snowshoers can access F.S road 9090 and provide additional snow play opportunities in the flat open area.

Work with WSDOT to allow parking on the north side of I-90 at Exit 62 and add signage and trail connector for cross country skiers and snowshoers to access Cabin Creek and Mount Amabalis trail system.