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Comments: I urge the USFS to evaluate expanded access or limit recreational prohibition area during the Gold Creek Valley/Pond restoration project due to the large number of displaced trail users and deterioration of disabled-accessible trails.

This heavily used area is the only general purpose snow play area for non-skiers and snowmobilers at Snoqualmie Pass that provides adequate parking. Some type of alternative must be provided for these people.

The USFS evaluation of "200-300 cars impacted" is a near-sighted estimate of the impact to this area and a large swath of Seattle-based "casual snow players" (i.e. not typical skiers, boarders, sledders, etc).

If we evaluate maximum possible user volume by assuming 4 month snow recreation period and an average 30 day month of 200-300 cars on a per day basis, the impacted users range from 24,000 to 36,000. Now if we normalize that extreme to just Fridays, weekends and holidays, we end up with 8 peak periods per month for 4 months from weekends, plus 3 holidays for a total of 35 peak days where 200-300 cars could be impacted resulting in a product of 7000-10,500 impacted users.

As USFS has the best data on actual usage, I'd encourage us to further evaluate the impact and expand on the 200-300 impacted cars mentioned. True displacement of users in the most populated region of this state will be affected. Where will they go in the Snoqualmie Pass area? The area is already dangerously overused and this recreation prohibition will likely exacerbate the problem of overcrowding and deteriorate the user experience of this forest region.

I am a hunter, a conservationist and lover of the lands. I approve of the work proposed by the WDFW and Yakama Nation. However, we need to be mindful of access elsewhere to compensate for the reduction of access. The primary affected population are snowshoers, families with young children and the disabled. Please provide specifics on where they should go, what they can expect, the impacts on those locations where they will presumably disperse to?

Please further consider the impacts of this project to other users.

I don't personally go here to recreate but that's largely due to the large number of users. That speaks to the volume of users who use this as an access point.