Data Submitted (UTC 11): 4/28/2024 12:38:17 AM First name: M Last name: MCDEVITT Organization: Title:

Comments: While I support this ecological restoration effort, I don't feel that this plan is transparent about the expected impact of closing one of the Snoqualmie Pass's most popular winter recreation sites.

I believe this project needs to include plans for alternative winter recreation access to offset the loss of access in the Gold Creek Valley. Otherwise, the closure will significantly reduce access and increase parking pressure along the already congested I-90 corridor. If unaddressed, a closure here could have detrimental economic impacts on local businesses that depend on recreational tourism in the area. It's crucial for the project planners to take these factors into account and collaborate with stakeholders to develop alternative access plans that provide sufficient resources to users at Snoqualmie Pass.

Striking a balance between ecological restoration goals and the needs of recreational users and local economies is essential for the project's success and community support. Below, are some ideas to consider:

-Allow winter recreationists to access F.S road 4832-144 via a short stretch of 4832-142. Road 4832-144 is outside the project area and provides snowshoeing and backcountry skiing opportunities.

-Plow the Pacific Crest Trail North parking lot, to alleviate parking congestion around Snoqualmie Pass that will be exacerbated by the closure of the Gold Creek Valley Sno-Park.