

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 5/1/2024 2:52:55 AM

First name: Anthony

Last name: Colosimo

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Hello!

While I support restoring the Gold Creek Valley and believe this will have significant positive ecological impact, I am concerned and not supportive of the current closure plan being proposed. The Snoqualmie Pass area would be adversely impacted and unable to support it's current scope of winter recreation by closing off the Gold Creek Sno-Park without mitigation activities.

Below are a series of possible solutions of which I believe some, or all, should be investigated further prior to any closure.

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.