

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/13/2024 2:34:43 AM

First name: Dana

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Organization: Ski Tur Valley Maintenance Association

Title: President

Comments: Ski Tur Valley Maintenance Association is a homeowners association representing approximately more than 50 landowners in the Gold Creek Valley.

In our comments to the draft EA, we identified a number of areas where we support the USFS proposal, and a few areas of concern.

One area of significant interest to our community is Fire Safety. In the event of a fire, our community depends on locally available water to protect forest land and structures. According to Snoqualmie Pass Fire and Rescue (SPFR), a primary water source in the current firefighting plan is Heli's pond. The proposed project will partially fill Heli's pond, raising questions about how SPFR can protect our community from fire risk.

Throughout the planning process for this project, the USFS has done a fantastic job at balancing various concerns across multiple stakeholders. However, I found the USFS response (response 13.1) as inadequate and failing to address the legitimate concerns of landowners who would be impacted by the loss of water for firefighting. I understand there may be solutions that can offset the potential loss of the Heli's pond. I ask the project team to work with the SPFR team to develop a solution that is acceptable to the front-line firefighters, and to incorporate that solution into the project plan.

Respectfully,

Dana Cogswell

President, Ski Tur Valley Maintenance Association