

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 8/26/2026 11:58:56 PM

First name: Amy

Last name: Brockhaus

Organization: Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust

Title: Deputy Director

Comments: August 26, 2026

David Farmer, Acting Forest Supervisor

c/o Dan Leininger, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest Supervisor's Office

215 Melody Lane

Wenatchee, WA 98801

Re: Comments on Draft Environmental Assessment for the I-90 Snoqualmie Pass East - Public Safety/Wildlife Closure Area

Thank you to the team at the U.S. Forest Service that is working to implement a public safety and wildlife closure on National Forest land within and adjacent to the I-90 crossing structures east of Snoqualmie Pass, encompassing about 4,888 acres.

On behalf of the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust and our coalition of government agencies, nonprofit organizations, individuals and businesses working to steward the Mountains to Sound Greenway National Heritage Area connecting Seattle to Snoqualmie Pass to Ellensburg, I want to lend our support of this closure to protect wildlife in the heart of this federally designated landscape.

Significant public investments in land conservation and habitat restoration have been made in this corridor. The Washington State Department of Transportation, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, and the public have made substantial investments in building wildlife crossings on I-90, which resulted in increased safety for both people and animals in the state's busiest east-west travel route. Wildlife need space to roam and to travel these new over- and under-crossings. The proposed closure area should remain in place in order to avoid negative interactions between people and wildlife.

The proposed closure is reasonable and has very little effect on recreation as no open trails or recreation areas are affected. Adjustments to boundaries have been made to allow for winter activities near Gold Creek and at Swamp Creek, Cabin Creek and along ski trails, which also allows for maintenance of these trails. Much of this area has already been closed since the I-90 Snoqualmie Pass East crossing structures were built.

Thank you for your consideration and for your stewardship of wildlife in our national forestlands.

Sincerely,

Amy Brockhaus

Deputy Director

Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust