

TCF Citizens Advisory Committee is mapping

For outdoor recreationists

by Jim Fossett with
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CLE ELUM – The Teanaway Community Forest (TCF) Citizen Advisory Committee met on Thursday, Dec. 14, at Cle Elum's Putnam Centennial Center.

Most of the 20 advisors at the table are the same people, the ones who have for years been meeting four or five hours a month, which includes travel time for some of them.

On the table Thursday

were notated maps, a milestone of a sort providing advisors with the task to identify high-level planning concepts that will one day serve as the long-term (10 to 15-years) goal for outdoor recreation in the Forest.

As Advisory Committee members move into the first three meetings of 2018, Department of Natural Resources recreation planner and meeting facilitator **Doug McClelland** emphasized that the public process would continue to provide stakeholders and citizens with ample opportunities to get involved, and that a public open house is planned for the spring. Time, date and place to be announced.

On Thursday's agenda was the call to review the maps for summer and win-

ter recreation. Here below is a brief summary of those two agenda items.

Winter

On the winter recreation map there were about 15-targeted areas notated

in black and red fonts. McClelland indicated three areas notated in red would require discussion. Those are listed here below.

- What is the primary management objective for

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Tuesday morning: Back-to-back closures on I-90

Due to snowy conditions and multiple roadway collisions on Tuesday, Dec. 19, the Washington State Dept. of Transportation (WSDOT) closed eastbound I-90 at Snoqualmie Pass near Mile Post 47 around 8:30 a.m. WSDOT reopened the roadway at 10 a.m., and then closed it again at 11:00 a.m. due to spinouts. Around 12:30 p.m. the roadway was finally reopened.

Mountain Pass Reports

Check real-time travel and weather info online at
www.WSDOT.com/traffic/passes/

Call **5-1-1** telephone info line or listen to highway advisory radio on **AM 1610** and **AM 530**

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MAPPING...

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...winter recreation in the TCF for snowmobiling, cross-country skiing and snowshoeing?

- Indian Camp: Discuss the possibility of improving access for motorized and non-motorized use if needed in the future. One of the "speed bumps" for a project like that is the requirement to plow 1.5 miles of road.

- Discuss the improvement of non-motorized access from the Teanaway Valley Family Farm – if needed in the future.

Summer

It was the same drill for the summer recreation map, though on it there were over 20 notations – eight of them in red font to indicate, as mentioned earlier, that they required discussion. Those are listed here below.

- What is the primary management objective of the TCF? Non-motorized recreation in the summer, and motorcycle riding as a secondary use on designated trail connections to multi-use U.S. Forest Serv-

ice trails?

- Red Top Mountain: Consider partnering with the U.S. Forest Service to develop a non-motorized trail to the mountain for hiking, biking and horseback riding?

- For scenic driving discuss cost and wildlife management issues for developing seasonal vehicle access on Dickey Creek Road, with a Jack Creek Road alternative.

- Consider partnering with the U.S. Forest Service to develop a ridgeline trail above Jack Creek for hiking, biking and horseback riding?

- Partner with the U.S. Forest Service to enhance the Jack Creek Road for three-season scenic driving to Red Top Mountain and SR97?

- Consider extending the non-motorized, multi-use cross-country trail loop into the eastern half of the TCF?

- Consider developing a motorized/non-motorized, multi-use trail connection from Indian Camp to Liars Prairie and U.S. Forest



THE TEANAWAY COMMUNITY FOREST Citizens Advisory Committee met last week in Cle Elum on Thursday, Dec. 14, to discuss

maps displaying areas of interest for summer and winter recreation activities.

N.K.C. TRIBUNE/Jim Fossett photo - 2017

Service trails for hikers, bikers, and horseback and motorcycle riders?

- For a scenic driving route, discuss floodplain and cost issues for the development of a connection to Forest Service Road 4305.

View the maps

The notated maps for winter and summer recreation are available online.

Simply GOOGLE *Teanaway Community Forest*, and then follow the links to TCF Advisory Committee meetings and documents.

Meeting overview

As McClelland mentioned, the nature of the discussions about the two maps at Thursday's meeting were high-level and more along the lines of an exploratory and brainstorming session with no final decisions or actions on the table before the meeting adjourned.

On that note, he did in-

dicate, as mentioned before in this story, the public process would engage in earnest over the first three meetings in 2018 – and that now is the time for the general public to get educated, involved and actively engaged in providing comments and suggestions.

Contact information including e-mail addresses can be found on the TCF's homepage.

River access

It should be noted that during Thursday's discussions, Advisory Committee

member **Doug Schindler** suggested the committee also focus on planning for access points along the river, for swimmers, fishermen and hikers. He said those access points should be designed to protect fish and water quality.

For those just tuning in

Thursday, January 12, 2017, McClelland kicked off the first of the year's Citizens Advisory Committee meetings aimed to develop an outdoor recreation blueprint by fall of 2018.