Kittitas County
Outdoor Recreation Inventory

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DISCLAIMER

This notebook is not a legal reference, policy manual, or operations guide related to recreation activities or lands referenced.

This notebook is not a tourist guide listing areas recommended for recreation activities. And, this notebook is not offered as a plan or report on planning related to land use, land designations, or other community development activities.

There is no assurance that access to recreation lands referenced in this notebook exist, that user safety has been considered, or that the activities referenced continue to be a possibility.

This notebook is a reference for use as county development and the recreation infrastructure are considered.

The tools and procedures referenced in this notebook may be applicable and useful as land issues related to recreation are considered. This notebook is not offered as a legal reference or land use policy manual.
INTRODUCTION

Kittitas County, located just west of Snoqualmie Pass and extending to the Columbia River, is diverse in landmass, weather, environment, access, habitat, ecology, and the potential for recreational activity. Featuring world-class fly fishing, cross country skiing, gliding, horseback riding, traveling trails in all-terrain vehicles and a host of other activities, Kittitas County is a place for outdoor recreation for residents and guests.

This report represents work of the Kittitas County Recreation Advisory Committee. The committee came together representing interest groups, government agencies, business persons providing recreation services and products, land use specialists, developers, and others interested in recreation. The committee was supported with staff from Kittitas County government, the US Department of Agriculture, contracted technical writers, and others.

Kittitas County is increasingly becoming a recreation destination for visitors. Kittitas County, especially the northwestern, or Upper County, is facing increased development because of the local recreational opportunities provided. Increasingly, Kittitas County is a primary home site for persons tele-commuting or physically commuting to work in the greater Puget Sound area. Kittitas County’s population is increasing, and as a result of this growth, Kittitas County faces challenges related to preserving, developing, and maintaining the existing recreation infrastructure. This infrastructure is important to county residents, visitors, and service businesses supporting visitors as well as residents.

Through the development of this recreation plan, Kittitas County expects to specifically reference recreation and recreation amenities by including this inventory in the county’s Comprehensive Plan. The Comprehensive Plan is developed, amended and managed by the county, and guides land use and other decisions related to the use, access and development of land in the county. As a resource, it will offer information and ideas to planners, developers, and recreationists as the county grows.

This Recreation Advisory Committee (RAC) report references the Kittitas County recreation infrastructure as well as ways in which the infrastructure might be maintained and new infrastructure developed. This notebook has been developed using ideas from many people and information from many sources. Growing from ideas explored by an informally constituted committee, this notebook may be used as a reference tool for any purposes consistent with the promotion, development and enjoyment of recreation in Kittitas County.

This notebook was developed primarily:

1. To serve as a reference for persons interested in recreation in Kittitas County. The emphasis here is on recreational activities in which the environment (the outdoors) of the county is used.
2. To summarize the work of the Recreation Advisory Committee (RAC) during 2003. Resources developed from earlier work during 2002 were included as this notebook developed.

3. To document the resources and the infrastructure available within the county for recreation activities. This infrastructure inventory provides site location and amenity information for both public and private recreation resources. This infrastructure inventory also documents the range of recreation activities in the county.

This notebook is not a legal reference, policy manual, or operations guide related to recreation activities on lands referenced. This notebook is not a tourist guide listing areas recommended for recreation activities, nor is this notebook offered as a plan, or report on planning related to land use, land designations, or other community development activities.

There are six major topic areas reviewed in this notebook. These areas are:

**Infrastructure Inventory** - Lists recreational activities that can and do take place on specific lands in Kittitas County. The inventory has locations designated, using a Geographic Information System (GIS), when possible. There are no guarantees as to accuracy of data presented. Data referenced is not intended for guiding exploration, trips, or in developing legal land descriptions. GIS data offered is only for guidance of persons involved in the planning for recreation in Kittitas County.

**Infrastructure Plan** - Provides ideas and suggestions for activities to be used in preserving current infrastructure, adding to current infrastructure, and developing new infrastructure. These are ideas and suggestions and are not offered to “confirm” or “insure” future activities.

**Economic Impact** - A very brief summary of ideas reflecting how the recreation infrastructure in Kittitas County influences people and enterprises in the county. Recreation may result in economic opportunities for the county. These opportunities may be derived by bringing persons into the county for visits. And, there may be opportunities for in-county residents to stay at home for quality recreational opportunity.

**Glossary** - Terms used in recreation, and especially in designation of land and land areas, are referenced in the glossary. The glossary is a reference for those involved in land use, monitoring use designations, recreation, and planning for maintenance of the recreation inventory. The glossary includes terms suggested by the RAC and terms from other recreation initiatives similar to the RAC’s work.

**Tool-Box** - A number of processes for identifying, designating, procuring,
maintaining, transferring, etc., land for recreation are identified in the Tool-Box. These processes are not intended as a substitution for compliance with legal code, policy, or law. They are discussion starters, thinking tools, for use by persons interested in planning for lands identified in the recreation infrastructure. For discussions and work by the RAC, examples were presented for applying most of the tools in the Tool-Box. It is anticipated the tools and procedures referenced will relate to a Public Benefit Rating System that may be established by Kittitas County and used in land use planning and permitting processes.

**Plan to Keep the Process Moving** - - The RAC is convinced that a continuing advisory process is necessary to maximize the preservation and continued development of the physical infrastructure for recreational purposes. Suggested activities to keep the recreational advisory processes functioning are offered by the RAC. These “plans” are offered as suggestions and ideas.

One of the resources available to the RAC is the *Outdoor Recreation Inventory Phase 1 Draft* (dated October 17, 2003). This valuable reference is referred to as “The Green Notebook” by RAC members. The Green Notebook includes paper prints from web sites, excerpts of published studies and reports, listings of trails and campgrounds, and other useful information. The Green Notebook was used in development of this current report, especially the infrastructure inventory.

The reference materials used by the Kittitas County Recreation Advisory Committee will continue to grow, develop, and be improved. Users of this notebook are invited to offer corrections for the infrastructure inventory, additional information, and ideas for the Tool-Box.

Interested persons are invited to share in the continued development of recreation opportunities in Kittitas County. The work of the Recreation Advisory Committee is expected to continue in 2004. The committee will serve Kittitas County residents, decision makers responsible for land use planning, and persons with special interest related to development and maintenance of the economy. Additions or corrections may be submitted to the South Central Washington Resource Conservation and Development at kiyak@nwinf.o.net or (509) 248-4963.
ECONOMIC BENEFITS

Recreation benefits residents of Kittitas County. Benefits include increased quality of life and continued or expanded recreation for residents as well as the economic development resulting from these factors. Since the economic benefit from recreation depends on an infrastructure supporting recreation activities, the Recreation Advisory Committee Inventory has been directed specifically to recreation infrastructure issues.

Recreation generates opportunities for income and economic growth. A strong or enhanced recreation infrastructure can be shown to:

1. Create enhanced property values in Kittitas County because the county is rich in recreation opportunities for prospective residents. Quality of life as measured by recreation opportunities in Kittitas County is driven by recreation infrastructure.

2. Deliver positive economic impact when tourists come into Kittitas County to recreate. Recreationists who do business in the county, pay sales taxes in the county, leave their recreation dollars here, and create a residual economic impact and benefit in the county that lasts an indefinite time beyond their stay.

3. Provide opportunities for future business development. Present and future small businesses in the county may be strategically positioned to capture economic opportunity by serving recreationists. More important is the fact that “local owners” creating business opportunity will work together to retain the unique environmental qualities of the county. Specialty businesses in manufacturing, delivering services, and the arts relate to the strength of the recreation infrastructure.

4. Continue to provide opportunities for benefits to be delivered by larger organizations in the county, such as Municipalities, medium sized businesses and Central Washington University. These organizations have a primary mission that is enhanced by the “added values” available through the recreation opportunities in the county.

The October 17, 2002, recreation report presented to the Recreation Advisory Committee (the Green Book) listed statistics about recreation in Kittitas County. The source for the data was not reported. The data from the 2002 report follows.

Random Highlights from 2002 Outdoor Recreation Inventory Research

In Kittitas County there were 64 advertised outdoor-related businesses:
Cle Elum, 22; Ellensburg, 22; Easton, 9; Thorp, 4;
Roslyn, 3; Vantage, 2; Ronald, 1; Lauderdale, 1.

The Top 10 "soft adventure" activities in a Travel Institute of America survey are all available in Kittitas County:
camping, hiking, bicycling, bird- and animal-watching, horseback riding, canoeing, water skiing, snow skiing, touring in off-road vehicles, and sailing.

Over one-half of Washington State's population live within a one-hour drive of the Alpine Lakes Wilderness.

At least 25% of the state's snowmobile activity takes place in Kittitas County.

On average, Michigan snowmobilers spend $5,700 each year on snowmobile recreation, tourism, and products. (No comparable statistics for Washington found.)

In fact, almost every study that mentions economic impacts of outdoor recreation in Washington State simply says that the legislature should fund a study.

One dumpster at the Last Resort costs the Forest Service $3,900 a year, more than half the cost of a seasonal employee.

The June 2001 draft of the Inland Northwest Economic Adjustment Strategy report did not mention tourism, outdoor recreation, or the MountainStar Resort as significant economic growth factors for Kittitas County.

With three people in each camp and/or picnic site, the 25 campgrounds in the Cle Elum Ranger District would represent a "population" equal to the city of Cle Elum.

It is recognized by the RAC that the preservation and development of the recreation infrastructure requires a financial investment.

Responsibilities for balancing development requests, access issues, preservation and conservation goals, economic plans, public safety priorities, and compliance with imposed policies and laws rest with the government of Kittitas County. This balancing responsibility may impact economic values provided by the recreation infrastructure.
INFRASTRUCTURE INVENTORY - INTRODUCTION

The recreation inventory and Geographic Information Systems database included in this plan are informational only. This is not a legal document and assumes no legal authority. The inclusion of recreation infrastructure in this document does not imply that the infrastructure exists, or will exist, or that the landowner supports that use on their land.

The Kittitas County Outdoor Recreation Inventory process included developing a map derived from a Geographic Information Systems (GIS) database containing Kittitas County's recreation infrastructure. The Recreation Advisory Committee (RAC) worked closely with the Kittitas County Planning Department GIS Manager to create this database. For information regarding this database, or for copies of the GIS map File, contact the Kittitas County Planning Department.

The recreation infrastructure included in this database comes from a variety of sources and is not intended to be comprehensive. The RAC contacted state and federal landowners as well as local user groups and private landowners to locate and describe recreation infrastructure in Kittitas County. If an infrastructure site is missing, the infrastructure was not reported to the RAC. The committee took special efforts to focus on areas where recreation access may be or is a concern. This database will continue to grow and change as new user groups come forward with additional information, as recreation infrastructure changes in Kittitas County, or as the ownership characteristics of the land change.

The narratives included in this document complement the GIS database, and give basic information regarding infrastructure and locations. Information from user groups, guidebooks, websites and landowners was used to create the narratives. A list of contributors as well as a list of works cited is included in the appendix of this document.

In order to create a comprehensive recreation infrastructure inventory, it was necessary to include recreation on both public and private land. When land use decisions are made, recreation occurring on private land may be of great importance. The RAC acknowledges private landowner rights and does not encourage or condone trespassing on private property without landowner consent.

State and federal landowners will have rules and regulations regarding specific types of recreation on their land. Please contact the specific federal, state or local land management agency for a list of recreation amenities and their restrictions. Do Not Trespass! In most cases, you must contact public landowners with questions regarding the use of their land.

The Infrastructure Inventory is not regulatory, and shall not be used in support of any condemnation or other eminent domain process. This inventory shall not be construed to imply permission to use either private or public land without the consent of the landowner/land manager, or to pursue recreational activities that are prohibited or
otherwise conditioned. Failure to abide by any landowner/land manager’s policies or rules will result in civil or criminal penalties.

The Infrastructure Inventory does not imply or infer any guarantee of safety or suitability of the facilities listed.
4WD AND ATV TRAILS

Taneum Manastash Area

Manastash Ridge (4W306): Manastash Ridge is an 8.6-mile trail following the ridgeline from the junction of Forest Service Road #3100 and Manastash Ridge Trail #1388 in the west, eastward to the junction with Manastash Ridge Trail #1388.1.

Tripod Flat (4W307): Tripod Flat is a 5.7-mile trail beginning on Forest Service Road #3104 and heading uphill and south to Manastash Ridge and the junction with 4W996.

Shoestring (4W308): Shoestring is a 3.5-mile trail running from 4W307 southwest of Buck Meadows to 4W306 on Manastash Ridge.

String (4W309): String is a 1.5-mile trail connecting 4W308 to 4W306 on Manastash Ridge.

Frost (4W310): Frost is a one-mile trail running from Forest Service Road #3100 to the Frost Mountain Lookout site.

Buck Meadows (4W311): Buck Meadows is a 6.4-mile trail beginning on Forest Service Road #3100 near Rider’s Camp and ending at Shoestring Lake Trail #1385.

Wells Meadow (4W328): Wells Meadow is a 1.5-mile trail beginning on Forest Service Road #3100 near Quartz Mountain and ending at 4W306 on Manastash Ridge.

Tipover (4W330): Tipover is a 2.3-mile trail running between 4W307 and 4W309.

Bucky (ATV30): Bucky is a 4.2-mile trail running from the junction of Forest Service Road #3100 and 4W311 at Rider’s Camp to 4W307.

Cle Elum Valley Teanaway Area

Fortune Creek (4W301): Fortune Creek is a 6.5 mile trail beginning on Forest Service Road #4330 in the upper Cle Elum Valley and goes to $W304 at Gallager Head Lake.

Van Epps (4W302): Van Epps is a 3.4-mile trail beginning at 4W301 in the Fortune Creek drainage, and dead ends at Van Epps Mine.

Van Epps Loops (4W303): Van Epps Loops is a .7-mile loop running from 4W301 to 4W301, just southwest of Van Epps Pass.

Hawkins Mountain Mines (4W304): Hawkins Mountain Mines is a 1.3-mile trail running from 4W301 at Gallager Head Lake to Hawkins Mountain Mines.
Mine to Market (4W305): Mine to Market is a 2-mile trail running from Forest Service Road #4330-138 up Camp Creek to an old mine site.

Swauk/Table Mountain Area

Nealy Creek (4W315): Nealy Creek is a 2.3-mile trail running from Forest Service Road #3500 near Lion Rock to Forest Service Road #3521 in upper Naneum Creek Basin.

Ragan (4W316): Ragan is a 4-mile trail running from 4W315 at Nealy Creek to Forest Service Road #3521 near High Creek.

First Creek (4W318): First Creek is a 2.5-mile trail running from 4W320 to 4W319.

Crystal Ridge (4W319): Crystal Ridge is a 7-mile trail running from Forest Service Road 9726-113 in Deer Gulch to Forest Service Road #3500 on Table Mountain.

Hidden Gulch (4W320): Hidden Gulch is a 1.5-mile trail running from 4W319 to 4W318 between Robinson Gulch and First Creek.

Pit Overlook (4W321): Pit Overlook is a 2.7-mile trail beginning at the junction of Forest Service Road #9726-113 and 4W319 and ending at the junction of Forest Service Road #9726-113 in Deer Gulch near the town of Liberty.

Wildcat Gulch (4W323): Wildcat Gulch is a 2.3-mile trail running from 4W329 to 4W318 in the First Creek area.

Guard Station (4W324): Guard Station is a 3.5-mile trail running from Forest Service Road #9700-116 to Forest Service Road #9712-111 in the Baker Creek/Liberty Guard Station area near Highway 97.

Baker Ridge (4W325): Baker Ridge is a 2.6-mile trail running from Forest Service Road #9700-192 to Forest Service Road #9700-116 in the Baker Creek/Liberty Guard Station area near Highway 97.

Mill Gulch (4W326): Mill Gulch is a 2.6-mile trail running from Forest Service Road #9702-111 to Forest Service Road #9700-116 in the Baker Creek/Liberty Guard Station area near Highway 97.

Baker Creek (4W327): Baker Creek is a 2.2-mile trail running from 4W325 to Forest Service Road #9702-111 in the Baker Creek/Liberty Guard Station area near Highway 97.

Tuff Ridge (4W329): Tuff Ridge is a 4.75-mile trail running from 4W319 to 4W323 in the First Creek Area.
Lion Gulch (4W332): Lion Gulch is a 3.2-mile trail running from Forest Service Road #9712-113 to Forest Service Road #9712-113 in the Lion gulch area north of Liberty.

Baker Tie (4W340): Baker Tie is a .6-mile trail connecting 4W325 to 4W327 in the Baker Creek/Liberty Guard Station area near Highway 97.
BIRDWATCHING AREAS

Bower’s Field: The east side of Bower’s Field is home to short-eared owls and wintering American tree sparrows. Access is through the green gate located off Look Road.

Bull Pond: Bull Pond is located on private land between Bull Road and No. 6 Road in Ellensburg. This pond is owned by Curtis Bull. Kittitas Audubon birds here at his invitation.

Christmas Bird Count: For over 25 years, Kittitas Audubon Society has sponsored a Christmas Bird Count in the Ellensburg area. This count takes place throughout a 7.5-mile radius circle centered at the Interstate 90 exit 106 overpass (the west interchange). The count occurs on the first Saturday after December 14.

Colockum Wildlife Area: The Colockum Wildlife Area, owned by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, is located approximately twenty-five miles north-northwest of Ellensburg on the west bank of the Columbia River. The topography, climate and vegetative zones vary from the West Bar’s desert bunchgrass prairie zone found at 580 feet in elevation, through the shrub steppe, yellow pine forest, montane forest, and finally to the subalpine zone of Mission Peak at 6,875 feet in elevation. This area has been designated in conjunction with the Quilomene Wildlife Area as an “Important Bird Area.”¹ Road access is primitive.

Gold Creek Wildlife Viewing Area: Gold Creek Wildlife Viewing Area is located off of Interstate 90 exit 54. After exiting Interstate 90, turn left, cross under the freeway, and just a few hundred feet north of the highway interchange, turn right onto a narrow paved road and drive east parallel to the freeway for 1 mile. Turn left on FR144 and left again into the parking lot. (Follow the wildlife viewing signs.) A paved parking lot and handicap accessible bathrooms are located on site. A paved, handicap accessible, trail goes part way around the pond. Picnic tables are available. Birds found here include kingfisher, swifts, swallows, warblers, and ducks. A beaver also occupies the pond.

Hayward Road: Hayward Road, accessed from Highway 10 across from the Thorp Highway, is a driving route for birding. There are few places to stop; one is the entrance to the maintenance road for the irrigation canal. The habitat is shrub-steppe. It is possible to drive north to Highway 97 south of the interchange with Highway 970.

Helen McCabe State Park: Helen McCabe State Park is located at the intersection of the Yakima Canyon Scenic Highway and Thrall Road. A parking lot and temporary restrooms are located on site. The Kittitas Environmental Education Network (KEEN) is negotiating a lease signing with state parks to build the Kittitas County Natural History Center at this location. The pond and surrounding bushes offer birding opportunities.

Huntzinger Road: Huntzinger Road runs south along the Columbia River from the Vantage exit. It offers access to the deep water behind Wanapum Dam and the gravel bars downstream of the dam. Many of the pullouts along the road as well as the state park campground offer good birding opportunities. This is prime area for wintering ducks and eagles as well as migrating warblers and shrub-steppe dependant species.

Irene Rinehart Park: Irene Rinehart Park is located off of Umptanum Road. The upper end of the park includes two freshwater ponds totaling 40 acres as well as a swimming beach, sand volleyball court, 12 picnic tables and barbecues, restrooms and 1 mile of trails. The lower end of the park includes a boat launch, fishing access, picnic tables, a temporary restroom and Howard's Trail. Kittitas County Audubon Society organizes a “1st Saturday Bird Walk” each month at this location.

Mattoon Lake: Mattoon Lake is located off of Umptanum Road. From Interstate 90 exit 109, drive .5 miles north on Canyon Road and take a left on Umptanum Road. Drive .6 miles and turn left on to the dirt sportsman’s access. A road goes part way around the lake; parking and toilets are on site.

Northern Pacific (NP) Ponds: The NP Ponds are located near the Cle Elum Fish Hatchery beside the Northern Pacific Railroad tracks. From First Street in Cle Elum, turn south on South Cle Elum Way. Under the freeway overpass, .4 miles from First Street, is a right turn lane with a stoplight controlling access to the one-way portion of this road. The ponds offer good winter and spring birding for ducks and warblers.

Quilomene Wildlife Area: The Quilomene Wildlife Area, owned by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, is located in the southeastern foothills of the Colockum Range just south of the Colockum Wildlife Area. The unit contains 17,803 acres and is typical of the Columbia River breaks region, with steep, rocky slopes and narrow riparian bottoms. WDFW initiated a Green Dot road management program here, which designates roads open for public use. This area has been designated in conjunction with the Colockum Wildlife Area as an “Important Bird Area.” It is a good spot for shrub-steppe species like sage thrasher, sage sparrow, loggerhead shrike, chukars and raptors.

Ringer Loop: Ringer Loop is located at Milepost 25 off of Highway 821. A two-mile non-motorized interpretive trail is located on Bureau of Land Management Land at the sportsman’s access up river from the parking lot. Downriver, a few small ponds and marshes are also great birding sites. Two kiosk bulletin boards, a fenced, gravel parking lot, temporary toilets and two benches are also on site.

Robinson Canyon/Ainsley Canyon: Robinson Canyon Road leads up through Robinson Canyon past the gate, which is locked during elk feeding season from approximately December to May 1. To explore a shrub steppe/Ponderosa Pine transition zone high alpine area, take a left onto Robinson View Road or a right heading toward Page Ridge. The documentation is currently being compiled to designate Robinson Canyon as an “Important Bird Area.” This area is owned by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.
Sorenson Pond: Sorenson Pond is located behind the Bar 14 Restaurant. A parking lot is on site. Winter duck watching is done from the parking lot with a spotting scope, as the pond is posted “No Trespassing.”

Swauk Discovery Trail No. 1334: Swauk Discovery Trail No. 1334 trailhead is located just off the graveled parking area about one-half mile from Highway 97 at the summit of Blewett Pass. A three-mile interpretive loop trail features a self-guiding brochure containing detailed information on each interpretive stop and an on site restroom.

Swauk Prairie Road: Swauk Prairie Road is a loop located off of Highway 970 just before the junction of Highway 970 and Highway 97. Many varieties of birds can be seen in the open fields; the area around the cemetery and the stand of pine trees on both sides of the road as it approaches the intersection with Highway 97 are also great sites.

Teanaway River Bridge: The Highway 10 Bridge over the Teanaway River is located about 1 mile east of the junction with Highway 970. A family of American dippers lives under the bridge and in surrounding areas. Other birds are found in the trees along the highway and the rivers. About .1 miles west of the bridge on the north side (at the forest service style gate) is a 40-acre parcel owned by the US Bureau of Reclamation. The reclusive Virginia rail, a white egret, and some unusual migrating sparrows have been reported at this site.

Thorps Ponds: Thorp Ponds are located on the south side of Interstate 90 just east of Thorp. Ducks and swans can be seen on these ponds.

Umtanum Creek Drainage: The Umtanum Creek Drainage is accessed through the Umtanum Recreation Area at milepost 16 off of Highway 821. It is primarily part of the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife’s Wenatche Wildlife Area and is accessed by a footbridge over the Yakima River. It is a scenic sagebrush route on the foothills surrounding the southern boundary of the Kittitas Valley. A mix of varietal habitats including shrub steppe, riparian and mature coniferous forest can be found in the Umtanum. The Umtanum Creek Valley is designated as an “Important Bird Area”2. Before crossing over the suspension bridge, the Bureau of Land Management owns and maintains two concrete outhouses, a small dirt boat ramp, a gravel parking lot, six campsites, a dumpster, and a kiosk bulletin board. The Umtanum is the site for an annual event, “Get Intimate With the Shrub-Steppe,” sponsored by the Kittitas Environmental Education Network.

Umtanum Falls Trail: From Interstate 90 exit 109, drive .5 miles north on Canyon Road and take a left on Umtanum Road. Stay on Umtanum for about 10 miles and turn left into the trailhead parking lot. (At the end of the pavement on Umtanum (Wenas) Road begins a 125-box bluebird trail maintained by Yakima Valley Audubon Society, which continues on into the Wenas Valley.) The Umtanum Falls trailhead is just west of the

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2 ibid, p. 128
Kittitas County line in Yakima County on the Wenas Wildlife Recreation Area. The falls are located in Kittitas County. This is generally considered a Kittitas County recreation opportunity for the ease of access. The Umtanum Falls trail is part of the Umtanum Creek “Important Bird Area.”

**Vantage:** Three sites in the Vantage area are used for watching ducks congregated on the Columbia River in the winter: 1) the Kittitas County Park boat ramp, 2) the walkway at the Gingko State Park Interpretive Center and 3) the area where the old highway disappears into the river.

**Yakima Canyon:** The Yakima River Canyon from Thrall Road to the north end of the confluence with Selah Creek has been designated as an “Important Bird Area”. The extensive cliffs and talus slopes, interspersed with shrub-steppe vegetation, support a diverse assemblage of birds, including white-throated swift, cliff swallow, rock wren, canyon wren, and 21 species of raptors. Ten of these raptor species breed in and around the canyon, including golden eagle and prairie falcon. Up to 20 bald eagles winter along the river.

**Yakima Training Center:** The Yakima Training Center entrance is located one mile east of Interstate 82 exit 26. A parking lot is located just before the entrance guard post on the right. This area boasts the largest undeveloped stand of shrub steppe habitat in Washington State. It also is the home to one of two remaining populations of greater sage grouse in the state. Public access is restricted but not prohibited; check with the YTC for restrictions. The YTC has been designated as an “Important Bird Area.”

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3 ibid, p. 132
4 ibid, p. 135
BOAT LAUNCHES

Big Pines: Big Pines is located at milepost 9.5 on Canyon Road in the Yakima River Canyon. This recreation site consists of approximately 20 acres bordering the Yakima River. A dirt boat ramp, two temporary outhouses, a dumpster and a kiosk bulletin board is located on site.

Dry Creek: Dry Creek is an area along Lake Cle Elum that people can launch boats due to the gradual grade of the lakebed.

Fiorito Pond: Fiorito Pond is located on Number 6 Road adjacent to the entrance of Yakima Canyon. Non-motorized boat launch ramps and two temporary restrooms are on site.

Gingko Petrified Forest State Park: Gingko Petrified Forest State Park is located approximately 30 miles east of Ellensburg on the Columbia River. It is a 7,470-acre, year-round camping park on the shore of the Wanapum Reservoir on the Columbia River. Fifty-seven unsheltered picnic tables, two boat ramps and a 3-mile hiking trail are on site. The park has 50 utility sites and two restrooms.

Hanson Ponds: Hanson Ponds is a 120-acre city park located along the Yakima River. No developed facilities are on site; the primary use of the park is fishing in the two Hanson Ponds and the smaller Kiwanis Ponds. The site also provides access to the Yakima River.

Irene Rinehart Riverfront Park – Irene Rinehart Park is located off of Umptanum Road. The upper end of the park includes two freshwater ponds totaling 40 acres as well as a swimming beach, sand volleyball court, 12 picnic tables and barbecues, restrooms and 1 mile of trails. The lower end of the park includes a boat launch, fishing access, picnic tables, a temporary restroom and a hiking trail. Kittitas County Audubon Society organizes a “1st Saturday BirdWalk” each month at this location.

Kachess Campground: Kachess Campground is located on Lake Kachess, approximately 5 miles off Interstate 90. The campground is about 27 miles from Cle Elum and 65 miles from Seattle. Flush and vault toilets, piped water, stoves, tables, one primary boat launch and one unimproved boat launch, a beach area and a self-guided interpretive trail are on site. One hundred twenty camping sites, thirty picnicking sites and one reservable group unit are available.

Keechelus Lake: Keechelus Lake is located off of Interstate 90 exit 54. Head south, and turn left on the road paralleling the south side of the freeway. Turn right on the road just before the Department of Transportation gravel yard, and continue 1 mile to the boat launch and picnic area.

Lake Cle Elum – Bell Property: Lake Cle Elum – Bell Property is located on SR903, 2.5 miles north of the Last Resort Restaurant. Parking and a boat launch are on site.
Lake Easton State Park: Lake Easton State Park is located 15 miles west of Cle Elum off of Interstate 90 Exit 70. It is a forested, 516-acre year-round camping park on the shores of Lake Easton. Two miles of biking trails, 2 miles of hiking trails, an amphitheater, a basketball court, two horseshoe pits, a boat ramp, a dock and a play structure are on site. The park also includes 95 standard campsites, 45 utility sites, a dump station, and four restrooms with four showers.

Lavendar Lake: Lavendar Lake is located on the north side of Interstate 90 Exit 74. Restrooms are on site.

Lmuma Creek: Lmuma Creek is located at milepost 12 on Canyon Road in the Yakima River Canyon. A dirt boat ramp, two concrete outhouses, a gravel parking lot, seven campsites, a dumpster and a kiosk bulletin board are located on site.

Mattoon Pond: Mattoon Pond is located off of Schaake Road. A non-motorized boat launch ramp and two temporary restrooms are on site.

McCabe Pond: McCabe Pond is located at the intersection of the Yakima Canyon Scenic Highway and Thrall Road.

Morgan Creek: Morgan Creek is an area along Lake Cle Elum that people can launch boats due to the gradual grade of the lakebed.

Owhi Campground: Owhi Campground is located five miles off the Cle Elum Valley Road above Lake Cle Elum at Cooper Lake. The turnoff is approximately 16 miles from Cle Elum. Vault toilets, stoves, tables, a parking lot and a boat launch are on site. Twenty-two walk-in camping sites are available.

Roza: Roza is located at milepost 7 on Canyon Road in the Yakima River Canyon. A concrete boat ramp, four concrete outhouses, a paved parking lot, five campsites, seven picnic sites, a dumpster and a kiosk bulletin board are located on site.

Umtanum: Umtanum is located at milepost 16 on Canyon Road in the Yakima River Canyon. A small dirt boat ramp, two concrete outhouses, a gravel parking lot, six campsites, a dumpster, a kiosk bulletin board and a suspension bridge are located on site.

Wish Poosh Campground: Wish Poosh Campground is located eight miles northwest of Cle Elum, on the Cle Elum Valley Road #903. Flush toilets, potable water, barbecue grills, a paved boat launch, swimming and a parking lot are on site. Thirty-four camping sites and sixteen picnicking sites are available.

Woodhouse Ponds: Woodhouse Ponds are located just off of Canyon Road on Woodhouse Road. Head south from Ellensburg on Canyon Road, and just after Tjossem Road, take a left on Woodhouse Road. The ponds are approximately one quarter of a mile after a very sharp corner on the right side of the road.
Yakima River – Kinghorn Slough Access: Yakima River – Kinghorn Slough Access is located 2.2 miles down Hundley Road between Cle Elum and Easton. A boat ramp is on site.

Yakima River – Teanaway Junction Access: Yakima River – Teanaway Junction Access is located 3 miles east of Cle Elum, west of the junction of SR-970 and SR-10. A boat ramp is on site.

Yakima River – Thrall Access: Yakima River – Thrall Access is located on Ringer Road adjacent to the entrance of the Yakima Canyon. Non-motorized boat launch ramps and two temporary restrooms are on site.
BUTTERFLY VIEWING AREAS

**Durr Road:** Along Durr Road, especially 1 mile before dropping down to the south into the Umtanum Creek Canyon, is very good spring butterfly habitat.

**Lower Colockum Pass Road:** Lower Colockum Pass Road, in the last 2 miles before United States Forest Service lands, have stands of Milkweed, which is very attractive to many butterfly species in early July.

**Quartz Mountain Road:** Along Quartz Mountain Road, about 1 mile west of its intersection with Forest Service Road #3120, there are natural flowery meadows, which are great for butterflies. Cattle grazing has hurt the butterfly food plants in this area.

**Reecer Creek Canyon:** Reecer Creek Canyon is a superb area for butterflies. Butterflies can be seen in the lower parts of the canyon early in the season, and as the season progresses, butterflies move upward toward Lion Rock. Access to two areas in this canyon is in jeopardy including the bottomlands of Reecer Creek and Garrison Springs. The open bottomlands of Reecer Creek, which include the last mile or so before the road begins climbing up the mountain, is an important habitat for several kinds of butterflies that do not fly at higher elevations. Apparently in response to destructive off road vehicle use, the landowners have posted all of these lands. Garrison Springs, a few miles further up the hill, is also an excellent butterfly locality. This area is surrounded by private property postings although the springs have to yet been posted.

**Schnebley Coulee:** Schnebly Coulee is located along old Highway 10 west of Gingko State Park and is primarily part of the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's Whiskey Dick Wildlife Area. This is an early spring locality, excellent for early flying butterflies.

**Upper Colockum Pass Road:** On the Upper Colockum Pass Road, where the road passes beneath large powerlines, there is a wet spring area located right in the main fork in the road. This wet area provides excellent habitat for butterflies and supports a very unusual population of Sonoran Skippers (Polites Sonora). Cattle grazing has hurt the butterfly food plants in this area.

**Wenas/Umtanum Road (Old Stagecoach Road):** Wenas/Umtanum Road, located south of Ellensburg, boasts a spring emanating from a concrete vault in the ditch on the east side of the road just north of where the pavement ends. The adjacent thistle patches and other plants support both adults with nectar flowers and larvae with an excellent variety of larval host plants. Bulldozing immediately adjacent to this area and herbicide spraying has destroyed much of this habitat.

**Yakima Canyon:** The Yakima River Canyon from Thrall Road to the north end of the confluence with Selah Creek is good butterfly habitat.
CAMPGROUNDS

29 Pines Campground: 29 Pines Campground is located at the end of the North Fork Teanaway Road. Outhouses are on site. Forty-three camping sites are available. This campground is owned by American Forest Resources, LLC.

Beverly Campground: Beverly Campground is located on North Teanaway Road #9737, 25 miles north of Cle Elum. Vault toilets, tables and fire grills are on site. Fourteen camping or picnicking sites are available. This campground is owned by the Forest Service.

Cayuse Horse Camp Campground: Cayuse Horse Camp Campground is located at the end of the Cle Elum Valley Road #903, 19 miles north of Cle Elum on the north side of the road. Potable water, flush toilets, a community kitchen, stoves, tables, a loading ramp, troughs, corrals and hitching posts are on site. Thirteen reservable camping units are available. This campground is owned by the Forest Service.

Cle Elum River Campground: Cle Elum River Campground is located 15 miles north of Cle Elum on Highway 903. Pit toilets, picnic tables, potable water and stoves are on site. Twenty-three camping sites are available. This campground is owned by the Forest Service.

Crystal Springs Campground: Crystal Springs Campground is located 20 miles west of Cle Elum and is adjacent to Interstate 90. A community kitchen, vault toilets, tables, stoves, and potable water are on site. Twenty-two single sites, two double sites and four picnicking sites are available. This campground is owned by the Forest Service.

De Roux Campground: De Roux Campground is located on North Fork Teanaway Road #9737, 29 miles north of Cle Elum. Vault toilets, tables and fire grills are on site. Six camping or picnicking sites are available. This campground is owned by the Forest Service.

East Kachess Group Site: East Kachess Group Site is located approximately five miles down Forest Service Road #4818. A sheltered dining area, garbage service, picnic tables, a stove and vault toilets are on site. A maximum of 100 people and 25 cars are allowed at this site. This campground is owned by the Forest Service.

Fish Lake Campground (Tucquala Lake): Fish Lake Campground is located near Tucquala Lake, approximately 29 miles from Cle Elum on the Cle Elum Valley Road. Vault toilets, tables, stoves and a guard station are on site. Three camping or picnicking sites are available. This campground is owned by the Forest Service.

Gingko Petrified Forest State Park: Gingko Petrified Forest State Park is located approximately 30 miles east of Ellensburg on the Columbia River. It is a 7,470-acre, year-round camping park on the shore of the Wanapum Reservoir on the Columbia River. Fifty-seven unsheltered picnic tables, two boat ramps and a 3-mile hiking trail are on site.
The park has 50 utility sites and two restrooms. This park is owned by Washington State Parks.

Icewater Creek Campground: Icewater Creek Campground is located on Taneum Road #33, 20 miles south of Cle Elum. Vault toilets, tables, stoves, drinking water and a motorcycle practice trail are on site. Fourteen camping sites are available. This campground is owned by the Forest Service.

Indian Camp: Indian Camp is located 3.9 miles down the Middle Fork Teanaway Road on the left. Restroom and camping are on site. This campground is owned by the Department of Natural Resources.

Kachess Campground: Kachess Campground is located on Lake Kachess, approximately 5 miles off Interstate 90. The campground is about 27 miles from Cle Elum and 65 miles from Seattle. Flush and vault toilets, piped water, stoves, tables, one primary boat launch and one unimproved boat launch, a beach area and a self-guided interpretive trail are on site. One hundred twenty camping sites, thirty picnic sites and one reservable group unit are available. This campground is owned by the Forest Service.

Ken Wilcox Campground At Haney Meadows: Ken Wilcox Campground At Haney Meadows is located eight miles off of Highway 97 from Swauk Pass, on Road #9712. Tables, stoves, vault toilets, a council area, horse tethering and loading facilities are on site. Nineteen camping sites are available. This campground is owned by the Forest Service.

Lake Easton State Park: Lake Easton State Park is located 15 miles west of Cle Elum off of Interstate 90 exit 70. It is a forested, 516-acre year-round camping park on the shores of Lake Easton. Two miles of biking trails, 2 miles of hiking trails, an amphitheater, a basketball court, two horseshoe pits, a boat ramp, a dock and a play structure are on site. The park also includes 95 standard campsites, 45 utility sites, a dump station, and four restrooms with four showers. This park is owned by Washington State Parks.

Lion Rock Spring Campground: Lion Rock Spring Campground is located on Road #35, 23 miles east of Cle Elum. Vault toilets, tables, benches, fire rings and stock water are on site. Two camping or picnicking sites are available. This campground is owned by the Forest Service.

Lmuma Creek: Lmuma Creek is located at milepost 12 on Canyon Road in the Yakima River Canyon. A dirt boat ramp, two concrete outhouses, a gravel parking lot, seven campsites, a dumpster and a kiosk bulletin board are located on site. This campground is owned by the Bureau of Land Management.

Manastash Campground (replaces old Buck Meadows Campground): Manastash Campground is located on Road #3104, 26 miles west of Ellensburg. Vault toilets, graveled entry roads, drinking water, tables and stoves are on site. This campground is owned by the Forest Service.
Mineral Springs Campground: Mineral Springs Campground is located on Highway 97, 21 miles east of Cle Elum. Vault toilets, tables, stoves, fire rings, and potable water are on site. Twelve camping sites and a reservable group site are available. This campground is owned by the Forest Service.

Owhi Campground: Owhi Campground is located five miles off the Cle Elum Valley Road above Lake Cle Elum at Cooper Lake. The turnoff is approximately 16 miles from Cle Elum. Vault toilets, stoves, tables, a parking lot and a boat launch are on site. Twenty-two walk-in camping sites are available. This campground is owned by the Forest Service.

Quartz Mountain Campground: Quartz Mountain Campground is located near the end of Road #3100, 33 miles west of Ellensburg. Pit toilets, tables and fire grills are on site. This campground is owned by the Forest Service.

Red Mountain Campground: Red Mountain Campground is located on Cle Elum Valley Road #903, 16 miles north of Cle Elum. Vault toilets, stoves and tables are located on site. Ten camping sites are available. This campground is owned by the Forest Service.

Red Top Campground: Red Top Campground is located at the end of Road #9702 near Red Top Lookout, 28 miles east of Cle Elum. Pit toilets, tables, fire grills, a parking lot for 20 cars and a fire lookout are on site. Three camping or picnicking sites are available. This campground is owned by the Forest Service.

Riders Camp Campground: Riders Camp Campground is located on Road #3100, 25 miles west of Ellensburg. A vault toilet, graveled entry roads and parking areas for dispersed camping and stock water are on site. This campground is owned by the Forest Service.

Roza: Roza is located at milepost 7 on Canyon Road in the Yakima River Canyon. A concrete boat ramp, four concrete outhouses, a paved parking lot, five campsites, seven picnic sites, a dumpster and a kiosk bulletin board are located on site. This campground is owned by the Bureau of Land Management.

Salmon la Sac Campground: Salmon la Sac Campground is located at the end of the Cle Elum Valley Road #903, 19 miles north of Cle Elum. Potable water, flush toilets, community kitchen, stoves, tables and a guard station are on site. Ninety-nine camping sites and twenty picnicking sites are available. This campground is owned by the Forest Service.

South Fork Meadow Campground: South Fork Meadow Campground is located on South Fork Taneum Road #3300, 25 miles south of Cle Elum. A vault toilet and tables are on site. Three camping or picnicking sites are available. This campground is owned by the Forest Service.
Swauk Campground: Swauk Campground is located on Highway 97, 27 miles east of Cle Elum. Vault toilets, a community kitchen, stoves, fire rings, horseshoe pits, swings, trails, a baseball backstop and drinking water are on site. Twenty-two camping sites and twenty-two picnicking sites are available. This campground is owned by the Forest Service.

Tamarack Springs Campground: Tamarack Springs Campground is located on Road #3120 at forest boundary, 25 miles south of Cle Elum. A pit toilet, table and stock water are on site. Three camping or picnicking sites are available. This campground is owned by the Forest Service.

Taneum Campground: Taneum Campground is located on Taneum Road #33, 18 miles south of Cle Elum. Vault toilets, tables, stoves or fire rings, a community kitchen and potable water are on site. Thirteen camping and twelve picnicking sites are available. This campground is owned by the Forest Service.

Taneum Junction Campground: Taneum Junction Campground is located on Taneum Road #33, 20 miles south of Cle Elum. A vault toilet and tables are on site. A large, open group site with capacity of about 15 vehicles and 75 people is available. This campground is owned by the Forest Service.

Teanaway Campground: Teanaway Campground is located off of the West Fork Teanaway Road. Outhouses are on site. Dispersed camping is available. This campground is owned by American Forest Resources, LLC.

Umtanum: Umtanum is located at milepost 16 on Canyon Road in the Yakima River Canyon. A small dirt boat ramp, two concrete outhouses, a gravel parking lot, six campsites, a dumpster, a kiosk bulletin board and a suspension bridge are located on site. This campground is owned by the Bureau of Land Management.

Upper Cle Elum Valley Campground: Upper Cle Elum Valley Campground is located on Cle Elum Valley Road #903, 15 miles north of Cle Elum. Vault toilets, tables, stoves and drinking water are on site. Twenty-three camping sites and one group site are available. This campground is owned by the Forest Service.

Wish Poosh Campground: Wish Poosh Campground is located eight miles northwest of Cle Elum, on the Cle Elum Valley Road #903. Flush toilets, potable water, barbecue grills, a paved boat launch, swimming and a parking lot are on site. Thirty-four camping sites and sixteen picnicking sites are available. This campground is owned by the Forest Service.
CROSS COUNTRY SKI TRAILS

Amabilis Mountain: Amabilis Mountain loop is located on the north side of Interstate 90 exit 63. After skiing a quarter mile, the tour turns right onto Forest Service Road #4822. The road switchbacks uphill, passing several spur roads. After 2 miles, at the first major intersection, the loop begins. One can ski farther uphill to the top of the mountain.

Bean/Beverly Creek: Bean/Beverly Creek trail is located about 3 miles from the parking area on the North Fork Teanaway Road #9737. This area has been designated a "Voluntary Non-Motorized Area." Tours in these drainages involve ascended the valleys to various passes and peaks including Iron Peak, Beverly/Turnpike Pass, Bill’s Peak, Beverly/Fourth Creek Pass, Mary Peak, Bean Peak and Earl Peak. The area is popular in the spring once the North Fork Teanaway Road melts out enough to allow easy access.

Cabin Creek North: Cabin Creek North trail is approximately 6.3 miles and begins at the Cabin Creek North Sno-Park. The terrain provides steep hills and tight turns through clear-cuts and timber. This is Kongsberger Ski Club territory and includes a racing course with several variations offering beginner, intermediate and advanced skiing on groomed trails.

Cabin Creek South: Cabin Creek South trail begins at the east end of the lower Cabin Creek South Sno-Park parking area and continues about 6.5 miles ending at Lake Easton State Park. The terrain east to west along the first 2 miles is gentle rolling hills along the Yakima River. The remaining 4.5 miles to the state park is steep up and down through clear-cuts and timber.

Cayuse Camp/Sno-Park Trail: Cayuse Camp/Sno-Park Trail is an alternate approach to the Salmon la Sac Campground loop trails for those who would rather not share the road with snowmobiles.

From the Salmon la Sac Sno-Park, follow blue diamond ski trail signs for approximately 1 mile to the Salmon la Sac guard station via a forest trail. This flat trail passes the Cayuse Horse Camp.

Cooper Pass/No Name Ridge: From Cooper Pass, logging roads climb high onto No Name Ridge, a trail best done in early season while the road is still drivable. One can ski down to the lake or continue on to Cooper Pass.

Crystal Springs Sno-Park: Crystal Springs Sno-Park Trail begins in the northwest corner of the parking area. The trail goes 9 miles to Hyak Sno-Park or 8 miles to Price Creek East Sno-Park; the trail makes a loop. The terrain is mostly wooded and flat along Keechelus Lake on abandoned railroad right-of-way, Iron Horse State Park.

Elk Heights: Elk Heights trails begin at the parking area at the first entrance to the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's L.T. Murray Wildlife Area just off
Interstate 90 exit 93. Many logging roads lead to South Cle Ridge and great views of the Taneum Creek drainage, the Stuarts or Kittitas Valley.

Ellensburg Golf Course: When snow is deep enough, the Ellensburg Golf Course owners permit skiing on the course. Gaylen Ringer has a track setter that he drag-skiing around the course. A donation box is mounted on a post where skiers are asked to contribute $1 to the course.

French Cabin Creek Roads #4309, #4301 and 111 Spur (north and south from Forest Service Road #4308): Forest Service Road #4309 leads left off of French Cabin Creek Road #4308 and heads north along the river bottom for about 1 mile, crosses Thorp Creek Bridge and soon begins to climb into clear-cuts. The route continues along the river for about another mile without benefit of road or trail to the Cooper River Road. At that point, the route re-crosses the Cle Elum River at the Cooper Bridge and reaches Highway 903.

Spur #111 leads south to an open area at the head of the lakebed.

Forest Service Road # 4301 heads south along the west side of Lake Cle Elum for about 4 miles. Roads are not marked ski routes.

Thorp Creek Road: Thorp Creek Road provides nice spring skiing to Thorp Lake and Thorp Mountain. Access and snowmobile issues limit the attraction in winter.

Gold Creek: Gold Creek is located 1 mile east of Interstate 90 exit 54. Turn north off exit 54, then right onto the frontage road just beyond the interchange. The routes follow existing roads in a partially forested area and offer open slopes for the beginner and intermediate skier. The most popular route seems to follow an old logging road switch backing up onto spur ridge coming off Kendall Peak. A short ski in the woods leads to Kendall Peak Lakes, three small lakes underneath the peak. A large clear cut hill known as Kendall Knob has open slopes for downhill skiing.

Haney Meadow: Haney Meadow tour begins from the Blewett Pass Summit Sno-Park on the south side of Highway 97. There are two routes to Haney Meadow. The easiest route follows the groomed snowmobile roads for 10 gentle miles. The 5-mile challenging trail begins 5-mile down the groomed snowmobile trail on the left. At 1.5 miles, the Haney Meadow Trail is joined by a trail from Tronsen Meadow on the left. At 4.5 miles, the trail splits; both forks lead to the meadow. The trail meets up with Forest Service Road #9712 which makes the final descent to Haney Meadow.

Howson Creek: Howson Creek drainage allows skiing through clear cut and forested terrain up to Sasse Ridge. This area is designated a “Voluntary Non-Motorized Area.”

Hyak: Hyak is a groomed trail located off Interstate 90 exit 54. Turn south off exit 54, and then turn left towards the Washington State Department of Transportation Facility. Turn right at the Boat Launch sign and take the first right to the parking lot. This flat 7.4
mile trail goes to Crystal Springs Sno-Park and Price Creek East Sno-Park. The trail also accesses Iron Horse State Park and the Mount Catherine backcountry area. Grooming is done by state contract and is generally excellent for diagonal and skating techniques.

**Iron Creek Road #9714:** Iron Creek Road follows an easy grade along Iron Creek for approximately 3 miles. The road’s starting elevation of 2800' means it is not one of the first routes to be skiable in the fall, but it offers essentially flat terrain in a pleasant, forested setting with a modest 6-mile round trip to road end and back. A spur road at about mile 2 climbs steeply up to the right and connects with the old Blewett Pass Highway by a circuitous route. Other spurs lead right and left out of the valley. This area has been designated a "Voluntary Non-Motorized Area." Hovey Creek, a drainage to the south, has a nice route climbing up to the north end of Redtop Mountain.

**Iron Horse Trail:** Iron Horse Trail begins at the sno-park just east of the Summit East Ski Area. The trail begins on the west side of the parking area and goes south on the old railroad grade. For most of this distance you are above Lake Keechelus. After 7.5 miles, the trail crosses Stampede Pass Road and heads left where it ends at Crystal Springs Sno-Park.

**John Wayne Trail:** Numerous access points allow easy skiing on the old railroad grade. Typically there is no grooming, but occasionally, permission is granted to set track along the trail for certain portions. This is a nice option for easy skiing in Ellensburg, Thorp, South Cle Elum, Kittitas and so on. The trail is closed to snowmobiles east of Easton and west of Stampede Pass Road.

**Jolly Mountain Road #4315:** Jolly Mountain Road #4315 (also known as the Storey Rd.) leaves the Sno-Park at the end of Highway 903. The road follows blue diamond ski trail markers, which are visible from the Sno-Park. The road starts out on flat ground. It soon begins to climb and switchback up through huge clear-cuts now growing in with many small trees. Adventurous travelers can continue from the end of the Jolly Mountain Road (5200 ft.) to the top of Jolly Mountain (6400 ft.) along a ridge. The area is designated as a "Voluntary Non-Motorized Area."

**Jungle Creek Road:** The Jungle Creek Road begins at the plowed parking area on the North Fork Teanaway Road and crosses the Teanaway River on a bridge. The road climbs at a moderate grade along Jungle Creek through forest, ending in about 4 miles at an area known as Liar's Prairie on the ridge crest, which separates the North Fork from the Middle Fork of the Teanaway River. Teanaway Butte can be reached from here by climbing southeast through scrubby timber and clear-cuts. This area has been designated a "Voluntary Non-Motorized Area."

Rye Creek Road turns left off the Jungle Creek Road just past the bridge. Rye Creek is a popular snowmobile route.
Kachess Lake Road: Kachess Lake Road begins at Kachess Sno-Park off Interstate 90 exit 62. The main road to Kachess Campground is an easy route; side roads on either side of the road are available for intermediate skiers.

Kendall Lakes – Kendall Lakes trail begins on the north side of Interstate 90 at Gold Creek Sno-Park. The trail forks left at the .5- mile point and switchbacks up through an old clear cut. At 2 miles, the trail heads north, and then at 3.25 miles, the trail goes right to a narrow saddle on a ridge. The trail turns right again and goes to the road’s end at the summit of the first Kendall Knob.

A short side trip to Kendall Lakes begins at the narrow saddle directly below the first Kendall Knob. The side trip heads left and climbs up over two short rises. At the top of the second rise, head left into the trees, and then traverse north to a stream drainage. The trail turns uphill and follows the stream to the lowest lake.

From Kendall Lakes, the trail heads straight down the valley to intersect the road leading to the first knob.

Taking a left off of the main trail across a large clear cut can access the second Kendall Knob. The trail descends slightly, crosses Coal Creek, and climbs again. The road ends in an open basin near the top, so skiers must break their own trail for a quarter mile to the summit of the second knob.

Lake Easton State Park Trail: Lake Easton State Park Trail begins between parking areas and ends at Cabin Creek South Sno-Park. For length, terrain and difficulty see Cabin Creek South Sno-Park description.

Manastash Ridge: When snow is deeper, adventurous skiers climb the hiking trails ascending the ridge from the Cove Road trailhead. Climbing skins are typically used on the ascent. One can also ski gentler terrain on the south slopes of the ridge off of the Umptanum/Wenas Road.

Mount Catherine Loop: Mount Catherine Loop begins from the sno-park just south east of the Summit East parking area. The trail begins heading east on the groomed railroad grade. After three quarters of a mile, the trail turns right just before the Mill Creek crossing and heads uphill. After a few short switchbacks, the trail ends on the groomed trail originating from Summit Nordic Center. The trails heads left and continues for 5 miles, reaching Windy Pass at 3,800 feet. The trail turns right and climbs to the narrow, forested Nordic Pass. At 6 miles, the trail continues on a logging road, which parallels the groomed tracks of the Nordic Center. After an outstanding viewpoint, the road drops and the loop ends at 9 miles. Snoqualmie Pass Nordic Center trail pass is required on these groomed trails. The Catherine Loop is just a portion of the 50k of trails groomed by the Summit Nordic Center.

Old Blewett Highway Ski Trails: The Old Blewett Highway Ski Trails begins at the junction of the Old Blewett Pass Highway (#9715) and Highway 97, about 3 miles north
of the Mineral Springs Restaurant. The 2-mile trail, marked by blue diamonds and skier signs, begins on the right hand east side of the old Blewett Pass Highway. The first half of the trail follows an old skid road parallel to Highway 97. The second half of the loop wanders through the forest on a narrow trail, then climbs up an old streambed to an abandoned logging road, which turns downhill and back to the highway.

The 2.3-mile loop west of the Old Blewett Pass Highway connects the Old Blewett Pass Highway with Iron Creek Road. The loop follows the old Blewett Pass Highway for .1 mile, and then heads left up switchbacks to the crest of the ridge. The trail continues down to Iron Creek and then returns paralleling Highway 97.

Pipe Creek/Swauk Creek Sno-Park Tie Trail: Pipe Creek Sno-Park, along the south side of Highway 97, is about 2 miles past Swauk Campground. This Sno-Park is one of the very few officially designated non-motorized Sno-Parks in the state. It is located within the Swauk Non-Motorized Ski Area bordered by Highway 97 on the north, Hurley Creek Road #9711 on the south and Forest Service Road #9716 to the east.

From the Pipe Creek Sno-Park there are two routes marked by blue diamonds. The gentler route follows Swauk Creek upstream to Swauk Meadows and eventually links with Forest Service Road #9716. The steeper route begins with a short, fast descent to Swauk Creek before climbing to a saddle at 4500 feet. It parallels Pipe Creek and continues past the junction that ties with the previously described Swauk Campground Trail. At the saddle, there is a blue diamond signed route on the left that provides a pleasant loop with views of the Diamond Head Promontory. The main blue-signed ski trail continues to the right eventually reaching the junction of Forest Service Roads #9716 and #9712. At this point, one can follow the groomed snowmobile route on Forest Service Road #9716 back down to Swauk Meadow (thus making a loop back to the Pipe Creek Sno-Park) or return via Pipe Creek.

Price Creek East: Price Creek East is located off Interstate 90 milepost 61 approximately one half mile past Keechelus Dam. This easy to intermediate mostly forested trail offers connections to Iron Horse State Park and to Crystal Springs Sno-Park. The dam is accessible to the right and Crystal Springs is accessible to the left.

Price Creek West: Price Creek West is located off Interstate 90 milepost 61. This 18-mile trail system connects to Kachess Lake Road and is groomed for snowmobiles.

Red Mountain (Salmon la Sac): Red Mountain trails are located on the east and north slopes of Red Mountain, which are typically accessed off the Cooper Lake Road. Routes climb clear-cut and forested terrain to the north summit of Red Mountain. This area is designated a “Voluntary Non-Motorized Area.”

Salmon la Sac Campground Loops: The Salmon la Sac Campground Loops are located at the confluence of the Cooper River and the Cle Elum River just across the Cle Elum River from the Salmon la Sac guard station. This trail offers approximately 3 miles of
marked ski/snowshoe loop trails that follow the summer access roads through the campground.

The campground loops are accessible from the turn-around at the end of plowing on the Cle Elum River Road or from the Salmon la Sac Sno-Park via the Cayuse Camp Trail.

This is an ideal spot to enjoy traveling on skis or snowshoes through a snowy forest on flat ground, with the possibility of fine views up and down the valley. The campground loops are restricted to non-motorized use and are marked by orange snow poles.

**Stafford Creek Road:** Stafford Creek Road veers to the right off the North Fork Teanaway Road about a mile from the 29 Pines Sno-Park. It follows the creek on an easy grade for approximately 3 miles to the Miller Peak Trailhead. An area at the end of the Stafford Creek Road, near the Miller/Bear Trailhead and up onto the ridge (tying in with the Iron Creek area on the other side of the ridge), has been designated a "Voluntary Non-Motorized Area."

**Stampede Pass:** Stampede Pass begins at the Crystal Springs Sno-Park and heads straight up Forest Service Road #5400. After a power line clearing at 1.5 miles, the trail begins to switchback. Near the 3-mile mark, Forest Service Road #4100 to Easton branches to the left. Spur Road #332 off to the right connects with Forest Service Road #5484 and completes a loop back to the sno-park. At the 4-mile mark, the road crests to Stampede Pass.

**Swauk Campground/Porky Basin:** Swauk Campground sits on flat ground bordering Swauk Creek and is a Designated "Non-Motorized Winter Recreation Area.” Blue diamond blazes lead across the creek on a footbridge and then up a trail, which climbs to large sandstone outcroppings above the campground. From here, a blue-diamond marked ski trail climbs toward the ridge before finally linking with an abandoned logging road. The road skirts the head of Porky Basin and eventually crosses upper Pipe Creek. A short steep ascent from the creek bottom heads to the Pipe Creek signed ski trail, which ties in with the junction of Forest Service Roads #9716 and #9712 at an elevation of 5,000 feet. By staging two cars, a fine loop may be made by starting at the Pipe Creek Sno-Park and ending at the Swauk Campground Sno-Park.

Porky Basin Road #121 is about three quarters of a mile east along the creek from the upper end of the campground. The road crosses Swauk Creek on a bridge and heads up into clear-cuts in Porky Basin.

**Teanaway River Touring:** Farther up the North Fork Teanaway, a number of tours are possible once the road melts in the spring or earlier with snowmobile access. Iron Peak, Long’s Pass, Ingalls Pass, Fortune Peak, and Esmerelda Peaks all offer great spring skiing. Snowmobile activity and avalanche hazard lessen the appeal earlier in the year.
West Fork Teanaway River: West Fork Teanaway River tours head through logged drainages on the north slopes of Cle Elum Ridge. A particularly good tour is through 17-mile Canyon and Carlson Canyon.

That Dam Loop: That Dam Loop is a groomed trail beginning at the northwest end of the eastbound Price Creek Sno-Park. The trail heads west for 50 feet and then turns abruptly south at an unmarked intersection and goes 1 mile to Crystal Springs Campground. Skiers may need to walk on Stampede Pass Road #5400, which is shortly beyond the campground. The trail goes right over a car bridge and continues along the road for 500 feet to an intersection with the road to the Crystal Springs Sno-Park. A signpost in the sno-park marks the rest of the ski trail. The trail intersects Lost Lake Road #5480 after 1 mile, but continues across the road up the steep hillside to the Iron Horse railroad grade. At the 3-mile point the trail takes a right onto Keechelus Lake Dam Road. The trail continues over the top of Keechelus Lake Dam to the sno-park.

Umptanum Ridge: Umptanum Ridge, part of the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's L.T. Murray/Wenas Wildlife Area, can be accessed just beyond the trailhead for Umtanum Falls, where a road from the south meets Wenas Road. The trail heads south up the road until a spur switchbacks sharply left and climbs onto a broad shoulder coming off Umptanum Ridge. The trail continues south onto the ridge and then southwest to a high point.

Wenatchee Ridge Road #800: Wenatchee Ridge Road #800 starts from the north side Sno-Park on Blewett Pass. It is a route shared with snowmobiles for the first one half mile. Then, continuing to the left at its junction with Forest Service Road #7324, Forest Service Road #800 becomes a "Voluntary Non-Motorized Area" along Wenatchee Ridge. The road winds along the ridge for about 4 miles. A spur road continues at a higher level for another 2 miles, almost all the way to the Old Blewett Pass Highway. It ends at a log landing in a large and steep clear-cut. One can descend the clearcut to meet a road leading to Old Blewett Pass. An easy 4-mile road ski heads down to Highway 97.

Wilson Rim Ski Trails: The Wilson Rim ski trails sit at about 5500 feet on Table Mountain just north of Ellensburg. The Ellensburg Cross Country Ski Club maintains this system of trails and a small ski hut with the assistance of the United States Forest Service. The Warm-up Trail, a beginner route, makes a loop immediately after leaving the warming hut. The Northwoods Trail, an intermediate route, continues from the loop to Rider’s Cabin and then crosses Wilson Creek. The Black Diamond Trail also leaves from the warming hut. The trail runs parallel to Reecer Creek and is an advanced route. Wilson Rim Trail, a beginner/intermediate route, crosses Forest Service Road #3517 and follows a ridge, which boasts a viewpoint of Mission Ridge. This trail can connect back up with itself creating a loop. The Reecer Creek Road, which provides access to the trails, is a groomed snowmobile route in winter. A sno-park is located on the Reecer Creek Road at about 2800’ elevation. It’s a big climb to the ski trails from the sno-park. In spring, the south facing road melts and allows one to drive higher and get closer to the trail system. Unless weekday logging operations keep the road plowed, winter access is
usually by hired snowcat during the winter months. Fall and spring skiing is nice while the road is still drivable or after it melts in the spring.

**Yakima River View:** Yakima River View begins at the Umtanum Creek Recreation Area. After crossing the suspension bridge, the trail heads straight for 200 feet and then turns left for another 200 feet. The trail ascends right on an old bulldozer track. At about one half mile is a junction; the trail heads left up to the ridge top at 1,950 feet. Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife owns much of this area.
DOG SLEDDING ROUTES

Cooper Lake Trail: Cooper Lake Trail follows Road #4600 to its completion. The trail parallels Cooper River, continues past Cooper Lake and ends at Cooper Pass.

Crystal Springs Loop: Crystal Springs Loop begins at the Crystal Springs Sno-Park and follows Forest Service Road #332 to the Dandy Pass area. The route heads left on Forest Service Road #5413 and then connects to Forest Service Road #5480 which ends the loop at the sno-park.

French Cabin Creek: French Cabin Creek begins at the French Cabin Creek Sno-Park and follows Road #4308 along Cabin Creek to the end of the Road. The route can also head northwest at the midpoint of Road #4308 onto Road #4312. A side route up Road #121 is also available.

Kachess Lake to Gold Creek: Kachess Lake to Gold Creek begins at the Kachess Lake Sno-Park. The route follows Forest Service Road #4948 and then turns right onto Foerst Service Road #4934, which ends at Gold Creek Sno-Park. This one-way route boasts a high elevation gain.

Lake Easton State Park: Lake Easton State Park route begins at the State Park climbing up the Old Highway and descending on Forest Service Road #4823 past the U-Fish Sno-Park. The route connects with the Crystal Springs Sno-Park via the John Wayne Trail or Forest Service Road #420. A number of side routes spur from both Forest Service Road #420 and the John Wayne Trail.

Lost Lake: Lost Lake Route begins at the westernmost point of Lost Lake on Forest Service Road #5480. The route continues up the road and ends at any number of short side routes heading toward Twilight and Mirror Lakes.

Meadow Creek Road Loop: Meadow Creek Road Loop begins at the Crystal Springs Sno-Park and follows Lost Lake Road #5480 to the south end of Keechelus Lake. The route heads west on Forest Service Road #5413 and then continues north on Meadow Creek Road #5483. At the end of this road, the route heads east passing Lost Lake and following the road parallel to the southeast side of Keechelus Lake. Forest Service Road #5480 continues to Crystal Springs Sno-Park, which completes the loop.

Road #4818: Forest Service Road #4818 route begins at the sno-park where the plowing ends. Mushers often turn around at the East Kachess Group Site, which is approximately 9.5 miles roundtrip. The route continues to the end of the road, which is approximately 14 miles roundtrip. To the west of Forest Service Road #4818, there is an excellent dog sledding area with numerous short loops. This area is shared with motorized users.

Trail of 1,000 Creeks: Trail of 1,000 Creeks begins at the southernmost point of Forest Service Road #4828. The route heads northwest on Forest Service Road #4828 along the bottom of a steep ridge and continues on #116 spur which loops around a swamp and
connects back to Forest Service Road #4828. The route continues heading north ending at Kachess Lake Road Sno-Park. Water crossings are numerous along this route.
HANG GLIDING/PARAGLIDING LAUNCH AND LANDING SITES

Mount Baldy: Mount Baldy, a peak of 3,225-foot elevation located on the east side of the Yakima River Canyon, can be accessed from the east side of Highway 821 at about milepost 12.5. Turn east just across and a short distance north of a highway turnout featuring a boulder mounted on a concrete stand. There are numerous usable launch sites at the top of the mountain within roughly 1,000 feet to the south and west of the peak.

A large portion of the mountain, the road to the peak, and the nearby cattle and hay fields, are owned by the Eaton family. Hang glider and paraglider pilots who fly at Mt. Baldy must collectively raise enough money to cover the annual lease for rights to use the access road, the takeoff areas, and the primary landing area.

The primary landing area is a large grass field above and to the north and east of the highway, with vehicle access only through the locked gate of the mountain access road. This landing field is used when winds are from the west or northwest, or whenever pilots can climb above the mountain in thermals.

The secondary landing area is in a river bend directly west of the mountaintop, on a flat dirt field. The area is also used for fishing access and camping. This landing field is commonly used in southerly wind conditions.

The tertiary landing area, used more seldom, is a long, narrow strip of flat brushy land between the highway and the riverbank, to the southwest of Baldy, across the highway from an artificial lake used for water ski racing practice.
HIKING/INTERPRETIVE TRAILS

**Canyon Ridge Trail:** Canyon Ridge Trail is located on the east side of Canyon Road at milepost 22.

**Coal Mines Trail:** Coal Mines Trail is located on the former rail line connecting Ronald and Cle Elum passing through Roslyn. A number of benches and historical markers representing various historic uses are along the trail. This park is owned and managed by the Coal Mines Trail Commission and the City of Cle Elum, the City of Roslyn and Kittitas County.

**Colockum Wildlife Area:** The Colockum Wildlife Area, owned by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, is located approximately twenty-five miles north-northwest of Ellensburg on the west bank of the Columbia River. This area includes 46,018 acres in Kittitas County. The topography, climate and vegetative zones vary from the West Bar’s desert bunchgrass prairie zone found at 580 feet in elevation, through the shrub steppe, yellow pine forest, montane forest, and finally to the subalpine zone of Mission Peak at 6,875 feet in elevation. This area has been designated in conjunction with the Quilomene Wildlife area as an “Important Bird Area.” Road access is primitive.

**Gingko Petrified Forest State Park:** Gingko Petrified Forest State Park is located approximately 30 miles east of Ellensburg on the Columbia River. It is a 7,470-acre, year-round camping park on the shore of the Wanapum Reservoir on the Columbia River. Fifty-seven unsheltered picnic tables, two boat ramps and a 3-mile hiking trail are on site. The park has 50 utility sites and two restrooms. This park is owned by Washington State Parks.

**Irene Rinehart Riverfront Park** – Irene Rinehart Park is located off of Umptanum Road. The upper end of the park includes two freshwater ponds totaling 40 acres as well as a swimming beach, sand volleyball court, 12 picnic tables and barbecues, restrooms and 1 mile of trails. The lower end of the park includes a boat launch, fishing access, picnic tables, a temporary restroom and a hiking trail. Kittitas County Audubon Society organizes a “1st Saturday BirdWalk” each month at this location. This park is owned by the City of Ellensburg.

**John Wayne Bypass Trail** – John Wayne Bypass Trail is a pending 4.3-mile multipurpose trail bypass of central Ellensburg and CWU campus located on portions of Rasmussen Road, Bowers Road, Airport Road, Brick Road and Alder Street right-of-way and use agreements with private property owners. This trail is owned by the City of Ellensburg.

**John Wayne Trail/Iron Horse State Park:** Iron Horse State Park is a 1,612-acre park that includes over 100 miles of trail extending from Cedar Falls to the Columbia River. This trail is owned by Washington State Parks.

The Kittitas County John Wayne Trail/Iron Horse Trail trailheads include:
- **Hyak Trailhead**: Take Interstate 90 exit 54. Go south and turn left onto the access road on the south side of the freeway. Go .125 mile and turn right on Forest Service Road #22191. Take an immediate right up the hill on an access road signed to the Hyak Trailhead.
- **Keechelus Lake Trailhead**: Take Interstate 90 exit 54. Take the first left along the frontage road and then the first right on Forest Service Road #22191 for one quarter of a mile.
- **Crystal Springs Trailhead**: Take Interstate 90 exit 62, and go south about 1 mile. There is a large signed trailhead parking area on the right. This trailhead is open only in winter at this time. An additional access point is located .5 miles farther south with limited parking.
- **Easton Trailhead**: Take Interstate 90 exit 71, go straight at the stop sign and continue up the hill over the railroad tracks. Turn left just past the fire hall down a long gravel driveway to reach the trailhead on the right.
- **West Nelson Siding**: Take Interstate 90 exit 78 (Golf Course Road) and go south 200 yards.
- **South Cle Elum Trailhead**: Take Interstate 90 exit 84 and go west into Cle Elum. Turn south on Reed Street, marked with a sign to South Cle Elum. Go south across the Yakima River, and Reed Street becomes East Fourth Street. Turn right on Madison, and in two blocks, turn left on West 6th Street. Turn right on Milwaukee Avenue, and the trailhead is on your left at West 7th Street.
- **Thorp Trailhead**: Take Interstate 90 exit 93, and go north a short distance to where the trail crosses Thorp Road.
- **Highway 97**: Highway 97 crosses the trail about 3 miles west of Ellensburg.
- **Ellensburg**: Take Interstate 90 exit 106 and go north. Turn right on Cascade Way and follow it as it makes a right turn, but remains Cascade Way. Follow Cascade Way into town and turn left on North Water Street, which crosses the grade in about one quarter of a mile.
- **Kittitas**: Take Interstate 90 exit 115 (Kittitas) and go north. The road crosses the trail.
- **Bowslon Tunnel**: Take Interstate 90 exit 115 (Kittitas) and go north. Go east on the Kittitas Highway to Mundy Road. Turn south over Interstate 90 and take the first right just after you pass under the railroad trestle. Follow this road up to the tunnel.

**Lake Easton State Park**: Lake Easton State Park is located 15 miles west of Cle Elum off of Interstate 90 exit 70. It is a forested, 516-acre year-round camping park on the shores of Lake Easton. Two miles of biking trails, 2 miles of hiking trails, an amphitheater, a basketball court, two horseshoe pits, a boat ramp, a dock and a play structure are on site. The park also includes 95 standard campsites, 45 utility sites, a dump station, and four restrooms with four showers. This park is owned by Washington State Park.

**Manastash Lake**: Manastash Lake trailhead is located on Forest Service Road #3100. This 4.4-mile moderate hike winds along the shore of Lost Lake before climbing a plateau to Manastash Lake. The trail follows the lakeshore and then climbs steeply to its end on Manastash Ridge.
Manastash Ridge: Manastash Ridge provides a number of good walking routes. Many routes are accessible from the Wenas-Ellensburg Road. From the end of pavement on North Wenas Road, drive 3.4 miles and turn left at a gate. After approximately 1 mile, the road crosses the first of several large meadows. At 5 miles the road reaches the University of Washington observatory. Walking routes are accessed throughout the area.

The Manastash Ridge trailhead located on the south end of Cove Road, just off of Manastash Road, is another popular route. A gravel parking area accesses three trails ascending to Manastash Ridge. These routes are part of the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's L.T. Murray/Wenas Wildlife Area.

L.T. Murray Wildlife Area: The L.T. Murray Wildlife Area is located west of Ellensburg and extends in a band approximately six to ten miles wide from south of the town of Cle Elum to just south of Manastash Creek. This area includes 40,149 acres of land in Kittitas County. The area rises from sagebrush steppe hillsides to dense stands of ponderosa pine and Douglas fir at an elevation of 4,500 feet. The abundant mixture of forest, open meadows, grassland, and sagebrush provides a well-diversified range from which a wide variety of wildlife species benefit. The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife initiated a Green Dot road management program here, which designates roads open for vehicular use. Portions of the wildlife area are closed to the public during the winter elk-feeding season. The closure area is identified on the L.T. Murray Green Dot management map.

Olmstead State Park: Olmstead State Park is located 4 miles east of Ellensburg on North Ferguson Road. It is a 217-acre day-use park that features a working pioneer farm. Seventeen unsheltered picnic tables, a restroom and a 1-mile trail are on site. This park is owned by Washington State Parks.

Ringer Road: Ringer Road is located at milepost 25 on Canyon Road in the Yakima River Canyon. A two-mile non-motorized interpretive trail, owned by the Bureau of Land Management, is located up river. Downriver, the City of Ellensburg owns a few small ponds and marshes. Two kiosk bulletin boards, a fenced, gravel parking lot and two benches are on site.

Quilomene Wildlife Area: The Quilomene Wildlife Area, owned by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, is located in the southeastern foothills of the Colockum Range just south of the Colockum Wildlife Area. The unit contains 17,803 acres and is typical of the Columbia River breaks region, with steep, rocky slopes and narrow riparian bottoms. WDFW initiated a Green Dot road management program here, which designates roads open for public use. This area has been designated in conjunction with the Colockum Wildlife Area as an “Important Bird Area.” It is a good spot for shrub-steppe species like sage thrasher, sage sparrow, loggerhead shrike, chukars and raptors.
Sagebrush Trail: Sagebrush Trail is a 0.2-mile improved walkway on vacated road right-of-way from the bottom to the top of Craig's Hill. This trail is owned by the City of Ellensburg.

Umtanum Canyon: Umtanum Canyon is located at milepost 16 on Canyon Road in the Yakima River Canyon. A small dirt boat ramp, two concrete outhouses, a gravel parking lot, six campsites, a dumpster, a kiosk bulletin board and a suspension bridge are located on site and are owned by the Bureau of Land Management. After crossing the suspension bridge and railroad tracks, the trail continues straight for about 0.5 mile. At the fork, the trail heads right across the creek. The trail continues to Durr Road. Most of this trail is part of the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's L.T. Murray/Wenas Wildlife Area.

Umtanum Falls Trail: From Interstate 90 exit 109, drive .5 miles north on Canyon Road and take a left on Umtanum Road. Stay on Umtanum for about 10 miles and turn left into the trailhead parking lot. (At the end of the pavement on Umtanum (Wenas) Road begins a 125-box bluebird trail maintained by Yakima Valley Audubon Society, which continues on into the Wenas Valley.) The Umtanum Falls trailhead is just west of the Kittitas County line in Yakima County on the Wenas Wildlife Recreation Area. The falls are located in Kittitas County. This is generally considered a Kittitas County recreation opportunity for the ease of access.

Wenas Wildlife Area: The Wenas Wildlife Area is located on the extreme western edge of the Columbia Plateau and includes 28,512 acres of forested mountain ridges and arid foothills in Kittitas County. Elevations vary from about 1000 feet at the Yakima River to about 3800 feet at the top of Umtanum Ridge. Native grass and shrub species and riparian and coniferous forest habitat are found in the Wenas Wildlife Area. The area is a used by migratory birds in the spring and resident species year-around. Elk, deer and bighorn sheep live among many non-game species in the area. A Bureau of Land Management access site along the Yakima River is included in this area. Trails can be found along the Yakima River and Wenas, Umtanum, and Rosa Creeks and provide recreational access for hiking, hunting, camping, fishing, bird watching and day use. Several state-listed sensitive plants may be found in the area including Basalt Daisy, Hoover's Desert-Parsley, and Hoover's Tauschia.

West Manastash Ridge: West Manastash Ridge route begins 10.8 miles down Manastash Road on a narrow forest road known locally as Shell Rock Road. Shell Rock Road is too steep for cars, so hikers park at the bottom of the road and begin ascending 1 mile. The track begins to level out, and the next 4 miles alternate between meadow and forest. This route is part of the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's L.T. Murray/Wenas Wildlife Area.

Whiskey Dick Wildlife Area: The Whiskey Dick Wildlife Area is located in the southeastern foothills of the Colockum Range along the Columbia River and includes 17,055 acres in Kittitas County. The unit is typical of the Columbia River breaks region, with steep, rocky slopes and narrow riparian bottoms. Vegetation is predominantly
sagebrush and/or bitterbrush mixed with various bunchgrasses. The Whiskey Dick Unit is important to the maintenance of the large Colockum elk herd. The area also supports mule deer, birds of prey, game birds, songbirds, mammals and more. Hunting is popular on the area as is bird watching, wildflower viewing, photography and more.

**Yakima Rim Skyline Trail – North Trailhead:** The North Trailhead of the Yakima Rim Skyline Trail is located on Durr Road. After turning from Umtanum Road onto Durr Road, drive 12.1 miles to the trailhead. This 6-mile roundtrip to Peak 3375 is an easy day hike for families. This route is part of the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's L.T. Murray/Wenas Wildlife Area.

**Yakima River View:** Yakima River View begins at the Umtanum Creek Recreation Area. After crossing the suspension bridge, the trail heads straight for 200 feet and then turns left for another 200 feet. The trail ascends right on an old bulldozer track. At about one half mile is a junction; the trail heads left up to the ridge top at 1,950 feet. This route is part of the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife’s L.T. Murray/Wenas Wildlife Area.

Descriptions can be found in *Washington’s Alpine Lakes, Third Edition*, by Ira Spring, Vicky Spring, and Harvey Manning for the following hikes:

- Blewett Ridge – County Line Trail
- Iron Creek – Teanaway Ridge
- Navaho Pass
- Miller Peak
- Bean Creek Basin
- Beverly Creek – Tooth Saddle
- County Line Trail – Cle Elum River to Blewett Pass
- Medra Pass
- Gallagher Head Lake
- Koppen Mountain
- Iron Peak
- Esmerelda Basin
- Lake Ingalls
- Longs Pass
- Middle Fork Teanaway River
- Yellow Hill – Elbow Peak
- Thorp Lake
- Little Joe – Thorp Creek Loop
- Thorp Mountain
- French Cabin Mountain
- Kachess Ridge
- Spectacle Lake
- Tired Creek – Polallie Ridge
- Mineral Creek Park

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Jolly Mountain
Cooper River
Waptus River
Spade Lake
Waptus Pass Loop
Davis Peak
Scatter Creek Pass
Paddy-Go-Easy Pass
Deep Lake
Cathedral Rock – Deception Pass Loop
Tuck and Robin Lakes
Marmot Lake
Rachel Lake – Rampart Ridge
HORSE CAMPGROUNDS

Cayuse Campground: Cayuse Campground is located off of the Salmon la Sac Campground on Highway #903. This is a developed horse camp that includes public and single corrals, a loading ramp, outhouses, camping areas, fire rings, and tested drinking water. Forage is limited. There are 15 fee campsites with a maximum capacity of 3 horses per campsite.

Haney Meadows Horse Camp: Haney Meadows Horse Camp is located approximately 8 miles from Swauk Pass on Forest Service Road #9712. This is a developed camp that includes a loading ramp, hitch rails, vault toilets, a large gathering area, a mix of single and multiple camping units, and fire rings. No tested piped drinking water or forage is available; a stream is nearby for stock watering. There are 17 campsites that accommodate 3 horses per campsite.

Stock is allowed at the following campground although there are no overnight horse holding facilities at these locations.

Lion Rock Spring Campground: Lion Rock Spring Campground is located on Road #35, 23 miles east of Cle Elum. Vault toilets, tables, benches, fire rings and stock water are on site. Two camping or picnicking sites are available. This campground is owned by the Forest Service.

Manastash Campground (replaces old Buck Meadows Campground): Manastash Campground is located on Road #3104, 26 miles west of Ellensburg. Vault toilets, graveled entry roads, drinking water, tables and stoves are on site. This campground is owned by the Forest Service.

Quartz Mountain Campground: Quartz Mountain Campground is located near the end of Road #3100, 33 miles west of Ellensburg. Pit toilets, tables and fire grills are on site. This campground is owned by the Forest Service.

Riders Camp Campground: Riders Camp Campground is located on Road #3100, 25 miles west of Ellensburg. A vault toilet, graveled entry roads and parking areas for dispersed camping and stock water are on site. This campground is owned by the Forest Service.

Tamarack Springs Campground: Tamarack Springs Campground is located on Road #3120 at forest boundary, 25 miles south of Cle Elum. A pit toilet, table and stock water are on site. Three camping or picnicking sites are available. This campground is owned by the Forest Service.
HUNTING AREAS

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife manages all hunting activities in Kittitas County. For more information regarding hunting, please contact WDFW at 962-5031.

Colockum Wildlife Area: The Colockum Wildlife Area, owned by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, is located approximately twenty-five miles north-northwest of Ellensburg on the west bank of the Columbia River. This area includes 46,018 acres in Kittitas County. The topography, climate and vegetative zones vary from the West Bar’s desert bunchgrass prairie zone found at 580 feet in elevation, through the shrub steppe, yellow pine forest, montane forest, and finally to the subalpine zone of Mission Peak at 6,875 feet in elevation. This area has been designated in conjunction with the Quilomene Wildlife area as an “Important Bird Area.” Road access is primitive.

L.T. Murray Wildlife Area: The L.T. Murray Wildlife Area is located west of Ellensburg and extends in a band approximately six to ten miles wide from south of the town of Cle Elum to just south of Manastash Creek. This area includes 40,149 acres of land in Kittitas County. The area rises from sagebrush steppe hillsides to dense stands of ponderosa pine and Douglas fir at an elevation of 4,500 feet. The abundant mixture of forest, open meadows, grassland, and sagebrush provides a well-diversified range from which a wide variety of wildlife species benefit. The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife initiated a Green Dot road management program here, which designates roads open for vehicular use. Portions of the wildlife area are closed to the public during the winter elk-feeding season. The closure area is identified on the L.T. Murray Green Dot management map.

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Wenas Wildlife Area: The Wenas Wildlife Area is located on the extreme western edge of the Columbia Plateau and includes 28,512 acres of forested mountain ridges and arid foothills in Kittitas County. Elevations vary from about 1000 feet at the Yakima River to about 3800 feet at the top of Umtanum Ridge. Native grass and shrub species and riparian and coniferous forest habitat are found in the Wenas Wildlife Area. The area is a used by migratory birds in the spring and resident species year-around. Elk, deer and bighorn sheep live among many nongame species in the area. A Bureau of Land Management access site along the Yakima River is included in this area. Trails can be found along the Yakima River and Wenas, Umtanum, and Rosa Creeks and provide recreational access for hiking, hunting, camping, fishing, bird watching and day use.
Several state-listed sensitive plants may be found in the area including Basalt Daisy, Hoover's Desert-Parsley, and Hoover's Tauschia.

**Whiskey Dick Wildlife Area:** The Whiskey Dick Wildlife Area is located in the southeastern foothills of the Colockum Range along the Columbia River and includes 17,055 acres in Kittitas County. The unit is typical of the Columbia River breaks region, with steep, rocky slopes and narrow riparian bottoms. Vegetation is predominantly sagebrush and/or bitterbrush mixed with various bunchgrasses. The Whiskey Dick Unit is important to the maintenance of the large Colockum elk herd. The area also supports mule deer, birds of prey, game birds, songbirds, mammals and more. Hunting is popular on the area as is bird watching, wildflower viewing, photography and more.
HUNTING - HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE ROADS

Road Access Entry Program

Boise Cascade - Ellensburg: From Interstate 90, take the Canyon Road exit. Head north on Canyon Road approximately one half mile. Turn left onto Umptanum Road and go 1.7 miles. Turn right on Manastash Road and drive 10.8 miles to a large yellow gate on the left side just past the bridge. There are 4 miles of roads on the main line with spurs and a few side roads in the area.

Keenan Meadows: From Interstate 90, take Thorp exit 101. Turn south on Thorp Highway and go 2 miles to Cove Road. Turn south for approximately 4 miles to Manastash Road, turn right, and go approximately 17 miles to Forest Road #3104. Turn left and continue to the gate.

L.T. Murray Wildlife Area - North Riggs Canyon: From Interstate 90, take Thorp exit 101. Turn south on Thorp Highway and go 2 miles to Cove Road. Follow Cove Road to Robinson Canyon Road and turn right. Follow Robinson Canyon Road to the elk fence where Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife land begins. Follow the first road to the left to the top of the hill approximately 3 miles. Turn left and go one half mile to the "Y" in the road. Stay to the right and follow the road one and a half miles to the end.
MOUNTAIN BIKING TRAILS

Blewett Pass:

- **Iron Creek**: Iron Creek route begins 1.3 miles north of Mineral Springs, just as Highway 97 bends sharply to the right. The route heads up Iron Creek Road about 1.3 miles and up a spur to the right. The route connects with trail #1126, heads west to trail #1364, and then follows Iron Bear Trail #1351.

- **Teanaway Ridge**: Teanaway Ridge route begins by riding back down Highway 97 to Blue Creek and then following Forest Service Road #9738 all the way to ridge trail #1364. From here, the route loops out via Iron Bear Trail #1351.

- **Old Blewett Highway**: Old Blewett Highway route begins about 1 mile past Iron Creek on Highway 97. The route heads north up the mostly paved old highway and can drop into Iron Creek or continue to the summit.

Ellensburg: These routes start within 20 miles of Ellensburg.

- **Wilson/Naneum Creeks**: Wilson/Naneum Creeks route follows Wilson Creek Road or Naneum Road until they end at the gates.

- **Robinson/Watt Canyons**: Robinson/Watt Canyons routes are located where Robinson Road and Watt Road connect with Thorp Highway.

- **Manastash Ridge**: Manastash Ridge route can be accessed by taking Manastash Road about 1.5 miles and then turning left on Strande Road. The route follows the road west up the ridge and then loops out via the Manastash Ridge Trail.

- **Umtanum Creek**: Umtanum Creek route is accessed through the Umtanum Recreation Area at milepost 16 off of Highway 821. It is part of the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife’s Wenas Wildlife Area and is accessed by a footbridge over the Yakima River.

Iron Horse State Park: Iron Horse State Park can be accessed at a number of locations. A few mountain biking favorites include off Interstate 90 at Thorp, South Cle Elum, Easton, and exit 54 at Hyak.

Keechelus Lake: Keechelus Lake Route begins at the Iron Horse State Park Keechelus trailhead off of Interstate 90 exit 54. The 5.6 mile one way route ends at the white gate on the south side of Keechelus Lake. Returning along the same route completes the ride at 11.2 miles.

Manastash Creek: Manastash Creek is a ridgeline to the south of Taneum and can be accessed from Taneum Creek via Forest Service Road #3330 or from Ellensburg via Manastash Road.
• **South Fork:** South Fork route begins at the Shoestring Lake trailhead, about 26 miles from Ellensburg. Take trail #1385 about 2 miles and then continue on Hereford Meadows trail #1207. Riders can retrace their way back or take Forest Service Road #3100 back to the beginning.

• **Shoestring Lake:** Shoestring Lake route begins at the Shoestring Lake trailhead, about 26 miles from Ellensburg. Take trail #1385 about 2 miles and then continue on Hereford Meadows trail #1207. The route heads up trail #1385, a challenging climb, to Shoestring Lake. Riders can retrace their way back, head west on Manastash Ridge Road until it drops to trail #1207, or take trail #1386 east through Keenan Meadows.

• **Manastash Lake:** Manastash Lake route begins at the Manastash Lake trailhead, about 23 miles from Ellensburg, and heads out on trail #1350. Riders can retrace their way back or climb to Ridge Road and head west to Tripod Flat trail and loop out.

**Rat Pac Trail:** The Rat Pac Trail begins high above Roslyn, Washington at 2200 feet elevation. From Cle Elum, travel west on 2nd Street approximately 2 miles. Take a right on Shaft Street; take the very next right and travel up to the top of the hill. Take a left at the top of the hill and travel one half mile to a yellow gate. Continue up; stay right at the Y in the road. At the top of the next climb, the road will T. Take a left and keep going up. You will pass a trail on the right. Go another 1/8 of a mile until you see red ribbons on a stump. Walk through a select cut area following red ribbons to the highest point on the right where the trail begins. The ride is for advanced riders only, and the trail is marked with black diamonds.

As of November 7, 2003, landowners include Sapphire Skies, LLC, Herbrand Timber Company, United States Timber Company, the Weis family, and Olsen Excavating. Heavy logging has destroyed the lower section of the trail. The middle and upper sections are still in tact.

**Taneum Creek:** From Interstate 90, take the Thorp exit. Cross the greenway and go right on Cemetery Road. At Taneum Creek, drive west about 10.5 miles to a Y known as Taneum Junction. Cross the bridge and park.

• **North Fork:** North Fork route begins on Spade Lake trail #1337 which can be accessed either across the main road or, preferably, about one half mile west. Return at any time or loop out via Fishhook Flats trail #1378.

• **South Fork:** South Fork route begins heading south up Forest Service Road #3300 to South Fork Meadows and South Fork Taneum trail #1367. Several loops to the south are accessible or continue up trail #1367 and eventually loop out via North Fork trail #1337.
• **Fishhook Flats:** Fishhook Flats route begins heading south up Forest Service Road #3300 for about five miles to Fishhook Flats trail #1378. This trail loops out via North Fork trail #1337.

• **Taneum Ridge:** Taneum Ridge route begins heading south up Forest Service Road #3300 and returns via Taneum Ridge trail #1363.
OPEN SPACES

Central Washington Park – Williams Property – Central Washington Park is located on Anderson and Dollarway Roads. It was recently acquired by the City of Ellensburg and is a natural area with flood control and wetlands.

Naneum Watershed – Naneum Watershed is located at the end of Naneum Road north of Ellensburg. It is a city watershed with terrestrial habitat and 5 miles of hiking trails and includes 1,000 acres of Public Works leased property. This land is owned by the City of Ellensburg.

Paul Rogers Wildlife Refuge – Paul Rogers Wildlife Refuge is located on Judge Ronald Road and includes a terrestrial habitat conservancy with .5 miles of walking trails. This land is owned by the City of Ellensburg.
PARKS

BMX Track – BMX Track is located adjacent to Mt. Stuart Elementary School on 15th Avenue on Water Department Property. A .2-mile BMX course is on site. This park is owned by the City of Ellensburg.

Catherine Park – Catherine Park is an undeveloped park located north of Vantage Highway and west of the radio station. This park is owned by the City of Ellensburg.

Centennial Park: Centennial Park is an 8-acre park located on the north side of 3rd Street at Yakima Avenue. A baseball field with a backstop is on site. This park is owned by the City of Cle Elum.

Cle Elum City Park: Cle Elum City Park is a 2.3-acre park located on West 2nd Street (SR903). A children’s play area, a picnic shelter, an outdoor swimming pool and two tennis courts are on site. This park is owned by the City of Cle Elum.

Craig’s Hill Triangles – Craig’s Hill Triangles are undeveloped parcels adjacent to Craig’s Hill located on 4th Avenue and Craig’s Hill. This park is owned by the City of Ellensburg.

CWU Community Fields – CWU Community Fields are located on 18th and Alder Streets. Four grass softball fields, two grass soccer/multi-use fields and restrooms are on site. This is a joint venture with Central Washington University; CWU owns the land and the city manages the facility. This park is owned by the City of Ellensburg.

Flagpole Park: Flagpole Park is located on the south side of Stafford Street between First and Second (Highway 903) Streets. A large flagpole and a gravel parking lot are on site. This park is owned by the City of Cle Elum.

Gingko Petrified Forest State Park: Gingko Petrified Forest State Park is located approximately 30 miles east of Ellensburg on the Columbia River. It is a 7,470-acre, year-round camping park on the shore of the Wanapum Reservoir on the Columbia River. Fifty-seven unsheltered picnic tables, two boat ramps and a 3-mile hiking trail are on site. The park has 50 utility sites and two restrooms. This park is owned by Washington State Parks.

Hanson Ponds: Hanson Ponds is a 120-acre city park located along the Yakima River. No developed facilities are on site; the primary use of the park is fishing in the two Hanson Ponds and the smaller Kiwanis Ponds. The site also provides access to the Yakima River. This park is owned by the City of Cle Elum.

Helen McCabe Memorial State Park: Helen McCabe Memorial State Park is an undeveloped riverfront park located at the intersection of the Yakima Canyon Scenic Highway and Thrall Road. This park is owned by Washington State Parks.
Irene Rinehart Riverfront Park: Irene Rinehart Park is located off of Umptanum Road. The upper end of the park includes two freshwater ponds totaling 40 acres as well as a swimming beach, sand volleyball court, 12 picnic tables and barbecues, restrooms and 1 mile of trails. The lower end of the park includes a boat launch, fishing access, picnic tables, a temporary restroom and a hiking trail. Kittitas County Audubon Society organizes a “1st Saturday BirdWalk” each month at this location. This park is owned by the City of Ellensburg.

John Wayne Trail/Iron Horse State Park: Iron Horse State Park is a 1,612-acre park that includes over 100 miles of trail extending from Cedar Falls to the Columbia River. This park is owned by Washington State Parks.

The Kittitas County John Wayne Trail/Iron Horse Trail trailheads include:

- **Hyak Trailhead**: Take Interstate 90 exit 54. Go south and turn left onto the access road on the south side of the freeway. Go .125 mile and turn right on Forest Service Road #22191. Take an immediate right up the hill on an access road signed to the Hyak Trailhead.
- **Keechelus Lake Trailhead**: Take Interstate 90 exit 54. Take the first left along the frontage road and then the first right on Forest Service Road #22191 for one quarter of a mile.
- **Crystal Springs Trailhead**: Take Interstate 90 exit 62, and go south about 1 mile. There is a large signed trailhead parking area on the right. This trailhead is open only in winter at this time. An additional access point is located .5 miles farther south with limited parking.
- **Easton Trailhead**: Take Interstate 90 exit 71, go straight at the stop sign and continue up the hill over the railroad tracks. Turn left just past the fire hall down a long gravel driveway to reach the trailhead on the right.
- **West Nelson Siding**: Take Interstate 90 exit 78 (Golf Course Road) and go south 200 yards.
- **South Cle Elum Trailhead**: Take Interstate 90 exit 84 and go west into Cle Elum. Turn south on Reed Street, marked with a sign to South Cle Elum. Go south across the Yakima River, and Reed Street becomes East Fourth Street. Turn right on Madison, and in two blocks, turn left on West 6th Street. Turn right on Milwaukee Avenue, and the trailhead is on your left at West 7th Street.
- **Thorpe Trailhead**: Take Interstate 90 exit 93, and go north a short distance to where the trail crosses Thorpe Road.
- **Highway 97**: Highway 97 crosses the trail about 3 miles west of Ellensburg.
- **Ellensburg**: Take Interstate 90 exit 106 and go north. Turn right on Cascade Way and follow it as it makes a right turn, but remains Cascade Way. Follow Cascade Way into town and turn left on North Water Street, which crosses the grade in about one quarter of a mile.
- **Kittitas**: Take Interstate 90 exit 115 (Kittitas) and go north. The road crosses the trail.
- **Boylston Tunnel**: Take Interstate 90 exit 115 (Kittitas) and go north. Go east on the Kittitas Highway to Mundy Road. Turn south over Interstate 90 and take the
first right just after you pass under the railroad trestle. Follow this road up to the tunnel.

**Kiwanis Park** – Kiwanis Park is located on A Street and 15th Avenue. Six picnic tables, a picnic shelter, a playground, a basketball court, a grass baseball field with dugouts and bleachers, a concession stand, restrooms and a path and footbridges over two creeks that flow through the park are on site. This park is owned by the City of Ellensburg.

**Kleinberg Park – Northern Pacific Depot** – Kleinberg Park–Northern Pacific Depot is located at the west end of 3rd Avenue. Picnic tables, a grass area and a bricked square are in front of the historic Northern Pacific Railroad. This park is owned by the City of Ellensburg.

**Lake Easton State Park**: Lake Easton State Park is located 15 miles west of Cle Elum off of Interstate 90 exit 70. It is a forested, 516-acre year-round camping park on the shores of Lake Easton. Two miles of biking trails, 2 miles of hiking trails, an amphitheater, a basketball court, two horseshoe pits, a boat ramp, a dock and a play structure are on site. The park also includes 95 standard campsites, 45 utility sites, a dump station, and four restrooms with four showers.

**Margaret Park** – Margaret Park is an undeveloped park located on Margaret and Vantage Highway. This park is owned by the City of Ellensburg.

**McElroy Park** – McElroy Park is located between Brick Road and Brook Court. A natural playground made up of logs and boulders is on site. Wilson Creek borders the east, north and west end of the park. This park is owned by the City of Ellensburg.

**Memorial Park** – Memorial Park is located on North Poplar Street between 6th and 7th Streets adjacent to Memorial Pool. Six picnic tables, two picnic shelters, a playground, a basketball court, lighted horseshoe pits, a grass play area and a storage shed are on site. This park is owned by the City of Ellensburg.

**Mountain View Park** – Mountain View Park is located between Manitoba and Seattle Streets. A playground, 6 picnic tables and barbecues, a picnic shelter with restrooms, 2 recreational courts, 2 grass soccer fields, 2 grass softball fields, a grass baseball field with dugouts and bleachers and a state of the art roller hockey rink with borders and goals are on site. This park is owned by the City of Ellensburg.

**Olmstead State Park**: Olmstead State Park is located 4 miles east of Ellensburg on North Ferguson Road. It is a 217-acre day-use park that features a working pioneer farm. Seventeen unsheltered picnic tables, a restroom and a 1-mile trail are on site. This park is owned by Washington State Parks.

**Pioneer Park**: Pioneer Park is located on 3rd Street and Idaho Avenue. This five-acre park next to downtown Roslyn provides two ball fields, a kitchen shelter, two tennis
courts, a playground, a gazebo and a public restroom on site. This park is owned by the City of Roslyn.

**Railroad Triangle Park** – Railroad Triangle Park is an undeveloped triangle right-of-way with footbridges over two trout bearing creeks located between 5th Avenue and Railroad Streets in West Ellensburg. This park is owned by the City of Ellensburg.

**Reed Park** – Reed Park is located on the top of Craig’s Hill above the Rodeo Grounds. Two picnic tables, a grass area, and viewpoints are on site. The park also includes a Memorial & Honorary Tree Grove commemorating war veterans and city notables. This park is owned by the City of Ellensburg.

**Rotary Pavilion** – Rotary Pavilion is located in downtown Ellensburg on Pearl Street. Benches and trees with a covered pavilion are located on site. This park is owned by the City of Ellensburg.

**Skatepark** – Skatepark is located on 2nd Avenue and Pearl Street across from the police station. Ramps, jumps, and other obstacles for skateboarders and in-line skaters are included on site. This park is owned by the City of Ellensburg.

**South Cle Elum Firemen Park** – Near the Yakima River, South Cle Elum Firemen Park is located on Madison Avenue and Main Street in South Cle Elum. This park provides picnic tables, a shelter, barbecue pits and restrooms on site. This park is owned by the City of South Cle Elum.

**South Entry Park** – South Entry Park is located on South Canyon Road at Mountain View Avenue. One picnic table, a reader board with tourist information, a drinking fountain and a public telephone are on site. This park is owned by the City of Ellensburg.

**West Ellensburg Park** – West Ellensburg Park is located on Lincoln Street between 1st and 3rd Avenues. A playground, grass play area, 6 picnic tables, a picnic shelter, a tennis court with basketball standards, a grass baseball field with dugout and bleachers, a grass soccer/football field, a concession stand and restrooms are on site. A future expansion will include four grass softball fields within the park and 2 adult grass softball fields and a baseball field in the retention portion of the site. This park is owned by the City of Ellensburg.

**Whitfield Triangle Park** – Whitfield Triangle Park is an undeveloped mini-park in the triangle right-of-way located between Alder and Franklin Avenues. This park is owned by the City of Ellensburg.
ROCK HOUNCING AREAS

Crystal Mountain: Jasper and agate are found on Crystal Mountain. Take the Boulder Creek Road out Liberty to the meadow. A dim road turns to the right up Robinson Gulch for about 2 miles. Follow the trail to the top of the ridge .5 miles. Rocks are to the left near the top.

Easton Ridge: Agate and jade are found on Easton Ridge. Heading north on the Roslyn Interchange Road, take the first logging road to the left off the overpass ramp. Climb northwest to the crest of the ridge.

First Creek: The First Creek rock hounding site can be accessed just past Lauderdale off of SR 970. Park at the gated road and follow the road up the canyon to the creek crossing. The rock area is approximately 1.5 miles from this point on the north side of the creek.

Frost Mountain: Frost Mountain is located off of Forest Service Road #3100. Take the first right off of Road #3100 just past Frost Meadows. Geodes, jasper and blue agate are found to the northeast along the bluffs and cliff edge.

Hayward Road: The area surrounding Hayward Road is ideal for locating blue agates.

Lion Rock: Florescent Rock Crystal is found near the Lion Rock lookout. Follow Blewett Highway to the summit. Turn right on Lion Rock Road #2107; then follow Forest Service Road #2101 to the lookout.

Passmore Road: The area surrounding Passmore Road is ideal for locating blue agates.

Quartz Mountain: The Quartz Mountain rock hounding site is located east of the Quartz Mountain Campground on the County Line Trail. Geodes, crystal, jasper, agate and zeolithe are in this area.

Red Top: The Red Top rock hounding site is located off of Highway 97. Take the first left after the Mineral Springs Resort onto Blue Creek Road. Bear right to Hovey Divide Road, and after about 2 miles, turn left onto Hovey. Proceed down the trail to the lookout and other access points. Agates, crystal and geodes are found in this region.

Yellow Hill: Reddish agate is found in the Yellow Hill rock hounding area. From the Teanaway Road, take the first road to the left after crossing the river bridge. Turn right at Casland on the Middle Fork of the Teanaway Road. Follow this road for about 4 miles; then turn left across the river on Forest Service Road #2110. Follow Forest Service Road #2110 for about 2 miles to the U.S. Forest Boundary Marker. About 300 yards beyond the marker, turn right on a dim road to an old campsite.
SNO-PARKS

Non-Motorized Sno-Parks

Blewett Pass: Blewett Pass Sno-Park is located 25 miles south of Leavenworth on Highway 97 at the top of Blewett Pass. This sno-park includes 30 spaces.

Cabin Creek: Cabin Creek Sno-Park is located 10 miles east of Snoqualmie Summit off of Interstate 90 exit 63. This sno-park includes 125 spaces.

Crystal Springs: Crystal Springs Sno-Park is located 8 miles east of Snoqualmie Summit. Take Interstate 90 exit 62 and go .5 miles south on Forest Service Road #54. This sno-park includes 300 spaces.

Gold Creek: Gold Creek Sno-Park is located 1 mile north of Hyak via Interstate 90 exit 54 and includes 200 spaces.

Hyak: Hyak Sno-Park is located 1 mile north of Hyak ski area via Interstate 90 exit 54 and includes 150 spaces.

Kachess Lake Road: Kachess Lake Road Sno-Park is located 4 miles north of Interstate 90 exit 62 on Kachess Lake Road. This sno-park includes 100 spaces.

Lake Easton State Park: Lake Easton State Park Sno-Park is located off of Interstate 90 exit 70 in the boat launch area of the park. This sno-park includes 40 spaces.

Swauk Creek Campground: Swauk Creek Campground Sno-Park is located 27 miles east of Cle Elum via Highway 97 and includes 25 spaces.

Pipe Creek: Pipe Creek Sno-Park is located 29 miles east of Cle Elum via Highway 97 and includes 20 spaces.

Price Creek Eastbound: Price Creek Eastbound Sno-Park is located 7 miles east of Snoqualmie Summit and includes 100 spaces.

Salmon la Sac: Salmon la Sac Sno-Park is located off of Interstate 90 exit 80. Follow the road heading north to Roslyn. Take a left at the stop sign and go 6 miles. The sno-park is on the right and includes 100 spaces.

Motorized Sno-Parks

Blewett Pass: Blewett Pass Sno-Park is located 25 miles south of Leavenworth on Highway 97 at the top of Blewett Pass. This sno-park includes 30 spaces.
Crystal Springs: Crystal Springs Sno-Park is located 8 miles east of Snoqualmie Summit. Take Interstate 90 exit 62 and go .5 miles south on Forest Service Road #54. This sno-park includes 250 spaces.

Elk Heights: Elk Heights Sno-Park is located off of Interstate 90 exit 93. Turn south on Elk Heights Road and go 1 mile. This sno-park includes 30 spaces.

French Cabin: French Cabin Sno-Park is located off of Interstate 90 exit 80. Follow the road heading north to Roslyn. Take a left at the stop sign and continue on this road. This sno-park includes 40 spaces.

Gold Creek: Gold Creek Sno-Park is located 1 mile east of Snoqualmie Summit. Turn north onto Frontage Road and go approximately 1 mile. This sno-park includes 200 spaces.

Kachess Lake Road: Kachess Lake Road is located 3.5 miles north of Interstate 90 exit 62 on Kachess Lake Road and includes 80 spaces.

Last Resort: Last Resort Sno-Park is located off of Interstate 90 exit 80. Follow the road heading north to Roslyn. Take a left at the stop sign and continue on this road. This sno-park includes 75 spaces.

Liberty: Liberty Sno-Park is located 17 miles north of Ellensburg on Highway 97 and includes 15 spaces.

Mineral Springs: Mineral Springs Sno-Park is located on Highway 97, 20 miles north of Ellensburg and includes 30 spaces.

Price Creek Westbound: Price Creek Westbound is located 7 miles east of Snoqualmie Summit. Go 1 mile west after exiting Interstate 90 at exit 62. This sno-park includes 25 spaces.

Reecer Creek: Reecer Creek Sno-Park is located 13 miles north of Ellensburg via Reecer Creek Road and includes 75 spaces.

Salmon la Sac: Salmon la Sac Sno-Park is located off of Interstate 90 exit 80. Follow the road heading north to Roslyn. Take a left at the stop sign and go 16 miles. Parking is on the right. This sno-park includes 50 spaces.

Taneum Creek: Taneum Creek Sno-Park is located off of Interstate 90 exit 93. Turn north on Elk Heights Road and go .1 mile to Thorp Prairie Road. Turn right and go 3.5 miles to West Taneum Road. Turn right and go 6 miles. This sno-park includes 40 spaces.

Teanaway/29 Pines: Teanaway/29 Pines Sno-Park is located 6 miles east of Cle Elum. Take a left on Highway 970 and go 10 miles. This sno-park includes 25 spaces.
**Wood and Steel**: Wood and Steel Sno-Park is located off of Interstate 90 exit 78. Turn south on Golf Course Road and go .8 miles to Westside Road. Head 1.7 miles to Wood and Steel Road. Turn right and go .8 miles. This sno-park includes 20 spaces.
SNOWMOILING ROUTES

The following narratives continue in sequence from one end of the county to another. It
does not jump from one geographic area to another.

Swauk/Teanaway Grooming Area

Table Mountain Loop

Reecer Creek Route**: Reecer Creek Route is a groomed route located north of
Ellensburg on Forest Service Road #3500. Reecer Creek Sno-Park, Orchard Sno-Park or
Gravel Pit Sno-Park may be utilized depending on the snow elevation. This route begins
with 4 miles of switchbacks that ascend the flat-topped mountain. (The loop returns to
itself one mile up the switchbacks on Forest Service Road #3507.) Then, a 6-mile climb
through open meadows and mixed conifer forests continues to 6300 feet. Open play
areas and climbs are available along this route. (Forest Service, private individuals and
developments)*

Wilson Creek Route: Wilson Creek Route is an ungroomed side trail located 2 miles past
the Forest Service Road #3507 turnoff on Forest Service Road #3517. This mostly
descending alternate access ends at a development. (Forest Service, Plum Creek Timber
Company, private individuals)

Nealy Creek Route: Nealy Creek Route is an ungroomed side trail located on Forest
Service Road #3521. To access this route, take a right turn 2 miles above the Wilson
Creek intersection. (Forest Service)

Colockum Tie Route: Colockum Tie Route is an ungroomed route located on Forest
Service Road #3521-644. To access this route, go 3 miles on Forest Service Road #3521
and take a right. This is a “More Difficult” descending trail with some cross-country
areas crossing Naneum Creek. Colockum Tie Route accesses grooming done by Apple
Country Snowmobile Club and also accesses Log Cabin Loop. This route can loop back
to Reecer Creek via Haney Meadow Road. (Forest Service)

Lion Rock Route: Lion Rock Route is a groomed route located off Forest Service Road
#3500 approximately 3 miles above Nealy Creek Route. This flat route heads west of
Reecer Creek Road 1 mile to a viewpoint. A huge play area surrounds this route, and
steep bluffs border the north and west sides. (Forest Service)

* The parenthetical listings following each route segment denote land ownership
adjacent to the snowmobile route. The actual route may be managed by another entity -
usually the Forest Service.

** The term "route" is used to describe a snowmobile trail. In most instances, routes
overlay a summer road that is technically closed to vehicular traffic to accommodate
winter over-the-snow traffic.
Table Mountain Route: Table Mountain Route is the next section of the loop beginning at Lion Rock Campground Junction and heads 5 miles north on Reecer Creek Road. This route is a narrow, tree lined flat corridor with lots of views, wind-drifts and “Expert” climbs. Some play areas surround this route. (Forest Service)

Naneum Creek Route: Naneum Creek Route is a groomed route located less than 1 mile south of Forest Service Road #9712. This route is fairly flat with play areas of varied difficulty and several ties to Haney Meadows Route. (Forest Service)

Haney Meadows Route: Haney Meadows Route is a groomed side trail located on Forest Service Road #9712. This 8-mile route is a portion of the Liberty - Beehive Route. The first seven miles are flat, and then a shear drop-off appears on the left at Devil’s Gulch. This route includes many open play areas from “Easy” to “Most Difficult”. This route also accesses Grouse Spring and the Colockum Wildlife Area. (Forest Service)

Rockslide Route: Rockslide Route is a 3-mile groomed portion of the loop located on Forest Service Road #9712. This route includes a downgrade with an extreme side slope that provides a “Most Difficult” play area. (Forest Service)

Swauk Pass Route: Swauk Pass is a groomed route located on Forest Service Road #9716. 4 miles from Swauk Pass Sno-Park, otherwise known as Blewett Pass Sno-Park. This moderate grade route includes some play areas and is the primary access to the Table Mountain Loop. All lands west of the route are non-motorized. (Forest Service)

Upper Hurley Creek Route: Upper Hurley Creek Route is a 2-mile flat, groomed portion of the loop located on Forest Service Road #9712. This section ends at the junction with Forest Service Road #9718. The Hurley Creek Side Trail, Forest Service Road #9711, exits #9712 in this section and provides ungroomed access to Highway 97. (Forest Service)

Cougar Gulch Route: Cougar Gulch Route is a 5-mile groomed route located on Forest Service Road #9718. This route begins at ridge-top and descends easily to the Liberty Turn-off with views of sandstone monoliths throughout. At the turnoff, the Table Mountain Loop continues to the left toward Snowshoe Ridge, and Liberty is one mile to the right. (Forest Service)

Liberty Access Route: Liberty Access Route is a groomed route passing through the town of Liberty to Lion Gulch Road. This flat route proceeds through farms and residences; several ungroomed side routes can be accessed from this route. (Forest Service, Kittitas County)

Snowshoe Ridge Route: Snowshoe Ridge Route is a groomed 3-mile route located on Forest Service Road #9718-114. This route is a steep, narrow ascent to Crystal Road and begins the last leg of the Table Mountain Loop. There is limited off-route access and conditions are hazardous when icy. (Forest Service, private individuals own lower areas)
Crystal Road Route: Crystal Road Route is a groomed 4-mile route located on Forest Service Road #3507. This flat route connects with Reece Creek Road, which continues back to Reece Creek Sno-Park. Ungroomed routes access some play areas, and several hill climbs are also available along the route. (Forest Service)

Lion Gulch Route: Lion Gulch Route is a groomed route that leaves the town of Liberty on Forest Service Road #9712. The route includes a fairly steep climb to the north and nice views of sandstone monoliths. Limited play areas and some cross-country shortcuts are available along the route. (Forest Service)

Durst Creek Route: Durst Creek Route is a 7-mile groomed route located on Forest Service Road #9705. This long, varied descent includes limited play areas; the last 1 mile of the route is on Forest Service Road #9705-111 and ends at the Mineral Springs Resort. This route is hazardous when icy. (Forest Service, last one mile mining claim)

Blue Creek/Jack Creek/North Fork Teanaway

These are predominantly over and back routes, and there are no groomed loops.

Blue Creek Route: Blue Creek Route is a groomed 3-mile route beginning at Mineral Springs Campground. The route jumps up onto Forest Service Road #130 for 100 yards and then takes a left turn north on Forest Service Road #9738. It is a fairly steep ascent with limited playgrounds down low and side roads to explore. (Forest Service)

Red Top Route: Red Top Route is a groomed 4-mile route to Red Top Lookout located on Forest Service Road #9702. This route also provides access to agate beds. Red Top Route mostly climbs and provides great play areas and cross country travel. (Forest Service)

Dickey Creek Route: Dickey Creek Route is a partially groomed route located on Forest Service Road #9702-115. This route runs from Red Top Road down to North Fork Teanaway Road crossing the National Forest Boundary. The road between the National Forest Boundary and the North Fork Teanaway Road is private and is closed to grooming, but not to snowmobiles. The route provides some play areas and side trips on the lower reaches as well as view points near the top. This route is a leg of the Jack Creek Loop. (Forest Service, U.S. Timber Company land from National Forest Boundary to North Fork Teanaway Road)

Upper Blue Creek Route: Upper Blue Creek Route is a groomed 4-mile route beginning at Forest Service Road #9702 and ending at Forest Service Road #9738. This ascending route provides many small play areas and side trips and also ties to Jack Creek Route. (Forest Service)

Jack Creek Route: Jack Creek Route is a groomed route beginning on Forest Service Road #9738 and ending at North Fork Teanaway Road. This route provides a long descent from ridgetop to the Teanaway Canyon bottom. There are several play areas
accessible at the top of the route, but play areas are limited on the lower two thirds of the route. This route is the long leg of a potential loop that includes a trail south along the Teanaway Road and Dickey Creek. (Forest Service, Plum Creek Timber Company)

North Fork Teanaway Road: North Fork Teanaway Road Route begins at the end of the plowed portion of Teanaway Road and proceeds along a flat piece of canyon bottom land. It is the site of the Yakama/Bonneville Salmon Rearing Ponds and 29 Pines Campground, which is owned by the U.S. Timber Company. The campground includes 30 campsites and 4 toilets, and there is nearly one half mile of roadside parking with a turnaround at the upper end. (Forest Service land at the north end, Kittitas County, U.S. Timber Company)

Teanaway River Road Route: Teanaway River Road Route is a mostly narrow route with play areas farther up the canyon. This route is groomed intermittently north of the sno-park. (Forest Service, private individuals near lower end)

Jungle Creek/Rye Creek Route: Jungle Creek/Rye Creek Route is also known as the Teanaway Tie. The route begins on Jungle Creek Road for one-quarter mile and then heads south on Rye Creek Road. The route climbs over the ridge between the north and middle fork of the Teanaway River. This route provides access to the "Cle Elum River Grooming Area" where Corral Creek and West Fork Teanaway meet. (Forest Service, Department of Natural Resources, U.S. Timber Company)

Cle Elum River Grooming Area

Bear/Corral Loop: The Corral Creek portion of the loop is located on Forest Service Road #4305, and the Bear Creek portion follows Forest Service Road #4305-113. This loop is accessible from West Fork Teanaway Road by a 3-mile leg of the 113 spur. The far side of the loop is near the Cle Elum Valley Road. The route goes up one valley and down another with a broken ridge separating the two. This loop provides excellent side trips and play areas. (Forest Service, Plum Creek Timber Company)

Cle Elum Ridge Route: The Cle Elum Ridge Route provides ties to Cle Elum, Roslyn, and Ronald from the Upper Cle Elum Valley and the Swauk/Teanaway groomed areas. The route also includes access trails to many major developments in the Cle Elum area. The route runs along the ridge top and through small drainages with road or trails in them. (Plum Creek Timber Company, private developers and individuals)

Note: Most streets and avenues in Cle Elum, Roslyn and Ronald are open to sleds. Sleds can cross county and state roads at right angles. Some county roads are open to sleds on a case-by-case basis. (ie. Salmon la Sac Road, Sparks Road near Exit 70, Cabin Creek Road, Liberty Road)

Salmon la Sac Road: Salmon la Sac Road goes up valley from the end of Highway 903 near the Last Resort to Salmon la Sac. This route is along a wide forest highway and includes the right (east) shoulder and a portion of the right lane. (Kittitas County)
French Cabin Creek Area: French Cabin Creek Area includes the following four routes: Salmon la Sac Road to the end of Forest Service Road #4308, West Fork Road #134 to ridge top, Thorp Creek Road #312 to the end, and Knox Creek Road #120 to the end. These are mostly ascent routes from the valley floor to the timberline. These routes and associated side trails provide access to viewpoints and play areas. (Forest Service, Plum Creek Timber Company)

Cooper River Route: Cooper River Route is a groomed route beginning at Salmon la Sac Road and extending to the end of Forest Service Road #4600 at Mineral Creek. This route also includes 1 mile on Forest Service Road #4616-113 around Cooper Lake and descends to the upper end of Lake Kachess. Rugged mountainous terrain with many side roads, play areas and viewpoints are available along this route. (Forest Service, Plum Creek Timber Company)

Stave Creek Loop Route: Stave Creek Loop Route is a groomed route leaving Forest Service Road #4600 on #117 spur, climbing uphill to Forest Service Road #4613-113 and ascending on Forest Service Road #4613 back to Forest Service Road #4600. This route can access a side trip to the end of Forest Service Road #4600-117. This route runs along a rugged mountain range, through steep canyons and onto large open hillsides. “Expert” riders may access the ridge top. (Forest Service, Plum Creek Timber Company)

Cooper Pass Loop: Cooper Pass Loop is a groomed route beginning on Forest Service Road #4617 to #124. Side trips on #125 and along the Kachess Ridge on Forest Service Road #4617 are accessible from this route. Steep hillsides, ridge top riding and open play areas are available along this route. (Forest Service, Plum Creek Timber Company)

Domerie Flats Access Route: Domerie Flats Access Route is a groomed route heading along Salmon la Sac Road to beach access opportunities. This route rides along Speelyi Beach and crosses into Domerie Flats at the Cle Elum Dam and near the Roslyn Waterline Bridge. This is a mostly level, off-road route with several road and driveway crossings. Some access into the reservoir is available when the water is at low pool. (Plum Creek Timber Company, TrendWest (now Suncadia Resort), private individuals and developments)

Suncadia Resort) Route: The developer of this land has proposed a non-specific snowmobile crossing of the development area. The likely location will tie Coal Mines Trail to Easton Ridge and will tie Salmon la Sac Road to Easton Ridge. (Ownership unclear as of this time, October 2003)

Interstate 90 Corridor Grooming Area

Easton Routes: The following routes all are located in or around Easton:

Airport Route: Airport Route is located at the Easton Airport East and North of Easton. (Federal Aviation Agency)
**Dam Road Route:** Dam Road Route is a short route providing access to East Kachess Road. (Forest Service)

**East Kachess Route:** East Kachess Route is a groomed route located on Forest Service Road #4818. This route runs along Lake Kachess shore. (Forest Service, Plum Creek Timber Company)

**Easton State Park Route:** Easton State Park Route is a shoreline route beginning at the state park, heading along Lake Easton to the Interstate 90 cul de sac and on to Kachess Dam Road. (Washington State Parks)

**Easton/U-Fish Route:** Easton/U-Fish Route begins at Easton State Park and ends near the U-Fish, just after the bridge crossing the Yakima River. A groomed trail continues to the John Wayne Trail, and a short ride heads to Stampede Road #5400. (Forest Service, Plum Creek Timber Company, U.S. Timber Company, private individuals)

**Kachess Ridge Route:** Kachess Ridge Route runs along Forest Service Road #4828 from lakeshore to ridge top. (Forest Service, Plum Creek Timber Company)

**Via Kachess Route:** Via Kachess Route runs from Kachess Dam to the middle of Lake Kachess on the west side. (Forest Service, Plum Creek Timber Company, private individuals)

**Keechelus Ridge Loop:** Keechelus Ridge Loop begins or ends 3 miles north of Interstate 90 exit 62. Kachess Sno-Park provides access to the loop on Forest Service Road #4900 and continues 2 miles to Kachess Campground. The route climbs up Forest Service Road #4948 to ridge top and Forest Service Road #4934 known as Microwave Hill. Heading north on Forest Service Road #4934, the route ties to Forest Service Road #4832 at Resort Pond. Heading south on Forest Service Road #4934, known as Baker Lake Route, the route provides groomed side trip play areas. Forest Service Road #4832 provides a side trip and access north to Gold Creek Sno-Park. Heading south on Forest Service Road #4832, the route is groomed past Price Creek Sno-Park and then onto Kachess Road. (Forest Service, Kittitas County, Plum Creek Timber Company, private individuals)

**Stampede Snowmobile Area:** Stampede Snowmobile Area is accessed from Crystal Springs Sno-Park located 1 mile south of Interstate 90 exit 62. Iron Horse State Park is also accessed from Crystal Springs and provides a flat route back to Easton and the new “Reload” Sno-Park. The following routes are located in this area:

**Lost Lake Route:** Lost Lake Route is located on Forest Service Road #5480, a wide, heavy use road on the valley bottom.
Meadow Creek Loops: Meadow Creek Loops begin on Forest Service Road #5483, continue toward Yakima, go on Forest Service Road #5480-112 to Lost Lake and return to the beginning of the loop by way of Forest Service Road #5480.

Dandy Pass Loop: Dandy Pass Loop begins on Forest Service Road #5484 following ridge tops to Forest Service Road #5484-332, which ends one quarter mile east of Stampede Pass at Forest Service Road #5400. Forest Service Road #5400 continues back to Crystal Sno-Park.

Stirrup Lake Route: Stirrup Lake Route begins at Forest Service Road #5483 and ends at Meadow Pass. This route accesses an array of mountain top play areas. (Forest Service, Washington State Parks, Plum Creek Timber Company, private individuals)

Forty-One Hundred Road: Forty-One Hundred Road is a main forest service road that eventually becomes Cabin Creek Route. The road leaves Forest Service Road #5400 mid slope. There are numerous side roads and play areas along the road, and it ties in with the Taneum-Manastash Groomed Area as well. (Forest Service, Plum Creek Timber Company, U. S. Timber Company)

Microwave Site Route: Microwave Site Route can be accessed from Forest Service Road #4100-126 and is a steep, narrow climb through windswept terrain. (Forest Service, WDFW, Plum Creek Timber Company)

Microwave the Backway: Microwave the Backway is located on Forest Service Road #4100-122 and climbs rapidly to ridge top with vast play areas along the route. (Forest Service, WDFW, Plum Creek Timber Company)

Cabin Creek Bridge: Cabin Creek Bridge site has relied in recent years on a user built crossing of Cabin Creek and Cole Creek on Forest Service Road #4100. (Plum Creek Timber Company)

Cabin Creek Bridge Reroute: Cabin Creek Bridge Reroute is a 14-mile reroute circling Anderson Camp. The route proposed for grooming begins from the Reload Sno-Park on Forest Service Road #4100, goes up Road #4100-140 5 miles, heads cross-country one quarter of a mile to #4110-118, and then continues 7 miles on Road #4110 back to Road #4100. (Forest Service, Plum Creek Timber Company)

Reload Sno-Park Area: Reload Sno-Park Area was just purchased by Washington State Parks. Several access proposals were documented in the land sale proposal to provide ties to Easton, Easton/Taneum Tie, Iron Horse State Park, and Upper Cabin Creek.

Easton/Taneum-Tie Route: Easton/Taneum-Tie Route is predominantly the Bonneville Powerline Corridor extending from and including the Granite Creek Route and ending at Forest Service Road #4100 and Easton. (Washington State Parks, Washington)
Department of Fish and Wildlife, Plum Creek Timber Company, private individuals and developers)

**Taneum/Manastash Grooming Area**

**Granite Creek Route:** Granite Creek Route is located on Forest Service Road #4517-117 and begins at the junction of the Bonneville Power Lines Road and Little Creek Road and extends to Woods & Steele Road. This route includes mostly flat terrain with steep pitches into streams. (Forest Service, Plum Creek Timber Company, private individuals)

**Wood & Steele Route:** Wood & Steele Route begins 1 mile south of East Nelson Siding Road and is located on Forest Service Road #4510 to ridge top. The first 2 miles includes a somewhat climbing grade through dispersed residences; the next 7 miles climbs up Spex Arth Creek to 4800 feet elevation. (Plum Creek Timber Company, private individuals)

**Windy Saddle Loop Route:** Windy Saddle Loop Route is an 18-mile loop beginning on Forest Service Road #4510 on the top of South Cle Elum Ridge. After running predominantly on ridge top, the route descends for 3 miles to Forest Service Road #3300 and climbs 2 miles back up on Forest Service Road #3300-114. The route includes “Easy” to “Difficult” riding and numerous play areas. (Forest Service, Plum Creek Timber Company)

**Large Taneum Loop Route:** The first leg of Large Taneum Loop Route heads east on South Cle Elum Ridge on Forest Service Road #4510-111. Forest Service Road #3350-119 descends from South Cle Elum Ridge to Taneum Junction on the valley floor. Forest Service Road #3300 ascends up South Fork from the east and drops down into North Fork and continues as North Fork Taneum Road. Forest Service Road #3300-114 ascends steeply to the ridge and completes the loop. Off road opportunities and numerous views are available along this route. (Forest Service, Plum Creek Timber Company)

**Peoh Point Loop Tie:** Peoh Point Loop Tie ties together Forest Service Roads #3350 and #3352. This tie begins on Forest Service Road #3352-115, jumps cross-country from one half mile, meets up with Forest Service Road #3350 and returns to Forest Service Road #3352. This is a mostly flat ridge top route. (Forest Service, Plum Creek Timber Company)

**Peoh Point Route:** Peoh Point Route is located on Forest Service Road #3350, beginning at “Five Corners” and heading down to the valley floor of South Cle Elum. (Forest Service, Plum Creek Timber Company)

**Osborn/Taneum Point Loop:** Osborn/Taneum Point Loop begins on Forest Service Road #3352 and Forest Service Road #3350 completes the loop. (Forest Service, Plum Creek Timber Company)
Sky Meadows Access: Sky Meadows Access Route begins at Sky Meadows Ranch. This route heads east to Microwave Road on Skull Springs Road. Microwave Road continues to the Lower Microwave Tower and is signed with orange diamonds. This route heads west out of the Sky Meadows Ranch gate through private property. Orange diamonds mark this route to the upper ridge of Upper Microwave Tower. (WDFW, private individuals)

Microwave Station Loop: Microwave Station Loop begins on Microwave Road at the Lower Microwave Tower. This 3/4 mile groomed route heads to the Upper Microwave Tower. (WDFW, private individuals)

L.T. Murray Route: L.T. Murray Route is a long descending route off of the National Forest on unnumbered roads. It begins at Skull Springs and ends at the Elk Heights Sno-Park. (Kittitas County, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, private individuals)

Cedar Creek Route: Cedar Creek Route descends from Skull Springs down to Taneum Road, one mile west of Taneum Guard Station Sno-Park. (State of Washington, Plum Creek Timber Company)

Taneum Road Route: Taneum Road Route is located on Forest Service Road #3300, a flat, paved road on the valley floor. The route begins at the Guard Station and campground and ends at Taneum Junction. (Forest Service, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Plum Creek Timber Company)

Gnat Flat Route: Gnat Flat Route runs from Forest Service Road #3300 to #3120. This route ascends the ridge in a series of climbs and flats; many meadows and play areas are available along the route. (Forest Service)

Tamarack Springs Loops: Tamarack Springs Loops are located on the National Forest Boundary by the L.T. Murray on the Upper Shadow Creek. A 5 and 12-mile loop begin at this point; the 12-mile loop follows an unnumbered route into the L.T. Murray and back out. (Forest Service, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Plum Creek)

Walter Springs Route: Walter Springs Route leaves the head of the Tamarack Springs Loops Route on Forest Service Road #3111. The route continues on to Forest Service Road #3111-311 and goes out 1 mile northwest of the sno-park on Forest Service Road #3100. (Forest Service, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Plum Creek Timber Company)

Thirty-One Eleven Route: Technically, the upper half of the Thirty-One Eleven Route is Forest Service Road #3111. The lower half of the route is located on Forest Service Road #3111-311 and ends at Forest Service Road #3100 at Buck Meadows. (Forest Service, Plum Creek Timber Company)

Manastash Road Route: Manastash Road Route begins at the lower end of Manastash Road at the Manastash Sno-Park, continues to the Manastash Camp Trailhead, and
extends west up the canyon to Quartz Mountain. This roughly 19-mile route goes through timber, grass meadows, rocky knolls, camp areas, trailheads, stream crossings and a very steep, windswept area at Quartz Mountain. Acres and acres of play areas are available. (Forest Service, Department of Natural Resources)

Whistling Jack Routes: Whistling Jack Routes include a groomed route beginning at Barber Springs Road and another groomed route beginning at Buck Meadows on Forest Service Road #3100-112. Both routes lead part or all the way to Yakima County. (Forest Service, Department of Natural Resources, Plum Creek Timber Company)

Note: Nearly all 4x4 routes in the Taneum-Manastash Area are regularly used by snowmobilers including the western nine miles of the Manastash Ridge Trail from Quartz Mountain.
SPECIAL RECREATION FACILITIES

**Kittitas County Fairgrounds:** Kittitas County Fairgrounds is located adjacent to Memorial Park below Craig's Hill. A fairgrounds, a rodeo complex, exhibit buildings, horse and posse barns, livestock buildings, horse and posse barns, livestock buildings, Bloom Pavilion, Fine Arts building, an office and shop, a 150 stall RV campground, and a National Guard Armory are on site. The fairgrounds are owned by Kittitas County.

**Memorial Pool and Fitness Center:** Memorial Pool and Fitness Center is located on East 6th Avenue in Memorial Park next to the rodeo grounds. An 18,739 square foot enclosed swimming pool with two diving boards, a training pool, two hydrotherapy pools, a sauna, locker facilities, a fitness area, and a viewing lobby are on site. This center is owned by the City of Ellensburg.

**Racquet and Recreation Center:** The Racquet and Recreation Center is located on Vantage Highway approximately 3 miles east of the city. Four tennis courts, four racquetball courts, physical conditioning facilities, lockers and a viewing area are on site. This center is owned by the City of Ellensburg.

**Senior Center:** The Senior Center is located on South Pine Street. A multipurpose assembly/meeting room, a conference room, a kiln and arts and crafts area, two lounges, two storage rooms, health services and administrative offices are located on site. This facility is owned by the city and operated with county funds. This center is owned by the City of Ellensburg.

**Youth and Community Center:** Youth and Community Center is located on East Capital Street. A multipurpose game room, lounge area, conference facility and administrative offices are located on site. This center is owned by the City of Ellensburg.
WILDLIFE VIEWING AREAS

Colockum Wildlife Area: The Colockum Wildlife Area, owned by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, is located approximately twenty-five miles north-northwest of Ellensburg on the west bank of the Columbia River. This area includes 46,018 acres in Kittitas County. The topography, climate and vegetative zones vary from the West Bar’s desert bunchgrass prairie zone found at 580 feet in elevation, through the shrub steppe, yellow pine forest, montane forest, and finally to the subalpine zone of Mission Peak at 6,875 feet in elevation. This area has been designated in conjunction with the Quilomene Wildlife area as an "Important Bird Area." Road access is primitive.

Heart K Ranch: The Heart K Ranch, at the mouth of the Taneum, is an excellent elk viewing area. This ranch is owned by the Bureau of Reclamation and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Joe Watt Canyon Winter Elk Viewing Area: Joe Watt Canyon Winter Elk Viewing Area is located off of the Interstate 90 Thorp exit one mile down on Watt Canyon Road. The feed is put out during the winter at 8 a.m. daily, but sightings can be made throughout the day. Parking is available. This area is owned by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.

L.T. Murray Wildlife Area: The L.T. Murray Wildlife Area is located west of Ellensburg and extends in a band approximately six to ten miles wide from south of the town of Cle Elum to just south of Manastash Creek. This area includes 40,149 acres of land in Kittitas County. The area rises from sagebrush steppe hillsides to dense stands of ponderosa pine and Douglas fir at an elevation of 4,500 feet. The abundant mixture of forest, open meadows, grassland, and sagebrush provides a well-diversified range from which a wide variety of wildlife species benefit. The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife initiated a Green Dot road management program here, which designates roads open for vehicular use. Portions of the wildlife area are closed to the public during the winter elk-feeding season. The closure area is identified on the L.T. Murray Green Dot management map.

Quilomene Wildlife Area: The Quilomene Wildlife Area, owned by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, is located in the southeastern foothills of the Colockum Range just south of the Colockum Wildlife Area. The unit contains 17,803 acres and is typical of the Columbia River breaks region, with steep, rocky slopes and narrow riparian bottoms. WDFW initiated a Green Dot road management program here, which designates roads open for public use. This area has been designated in conjunction with the Colockum Wildlife Area as an "Important Bird Area." It is a good spot for shrub-steppe species like sage thrasher, sage sparrow, loggerhead shrike, chukars and raptors.

Red Top Mountain: Red Top Mountain is located at the end of Forest Service Road #9702 near the top of Swauk Pass. This area is one of the best hawk watching spots in Washington. Teanaway Ridge serves as a handrail for migrating ospreys; golden and
bald eagles; Cooper's, sharp-shinned, and red-tailed hawks; and turkey vultures. Other wildlife includes mule deer, Rocky Mountain elk, and a variety of songbirds.

Umtanum Canyon Trail: The Umtanum Creek Trail is accessed through the Umtanum Recreation Area at milepost 16 off of Highway 821. It is accessed by a footbridge over the Yakima River. Area wildlife includes woodpeckers, songbirds, valley quail, and chukar partridge.

Wenas Wildlife Area: The Wenas Wildlife Area is located on the extreme western edge of the Columbia Plateau and includes 28,512 acres of forested mountain ridges and arid foothills in Kittitas County. Elevations vary from about 1000 feet at the Yakima River to about 3800 feet at the top of Umtanum Ridge. Native grass and shrub species and riparian and coniferous forest habitat are found in the Wenas Wildlife Area. The area is used by migratory birds in the spring and resident species year-around. Elk, deer and bighorn sheep live among many non-game species in the area. A Bureau of Land Management access site along the Yakima River is included in this area. Trails can be found along the Yakima River and Wenas, Umtanum, and Rosa Creeks and provide recreational access for hiking, hunting, camping, fishing, bird watching and day use. Several state-listed sensitive plants may be found in the area including Basalt Daisy, Hoover's Desert-Parsley, and Hoover's Tauschia.

Whiskey Dick Wildlife Area: The Whiskey Dick Wildlife Area is located in the southeastern foothills of the Colockum Range along the Columbia River and includes 17,055 acres in Kittitas County. The unit is typical of the Columbia River breaks region, with steep, rocky slopes and narrow riparian bottoms. Vegetation is predominantly sagebrush and/or bitterbrush mixed with various bunchgrasses. The Whiskey Dick Unit is important to the maintenance of the large Colockum elk herd. The area also supports mule deer, birds of prey, game birds, songbirds, mammals and more. Hunting is popular on the area as is bird watching, wildflower viewing, photography and more.

Yakima River Canyon: Highway 821 winds approximately 20 miles through the Yakima River Canyon. The canyon is home to California bighorn sheep, golden and bald eagles, prairie falcons, and other raptors.
Biking
Birdwatching
Boating
Botanical Viewing
Butterfly Viewing
Camping
Cross Country Skiing
Dirt Bike Riding
Dog Sledding
Downhill Skiing
Fishing
Fly Fishing
Geo Caching
Gold Panning
Ham Radio Operating
Hang Gliding
Hiking
Horseback Riding
Hunting
Mountain Biking
Off Road Vehicle Driving
Orienteering
Paragliding
Rafting
Rock Climbing
Rock Hounding
Running
Skateboarding
Sledding
Snowshoeing
Star Gazing
Swimming
Walking
Wildlife Viewing
Windsurfing
INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS - INTRODUCTION

Kittitas County, public landowners, and private landowners are not responsible for the coordination or implementation of the infrastructure projects included in this plan.

The purpose of the infrastructure plan is to establish a vehicle for those committed to recreation in the county to document Kittitas County's recreational needs. The inclusion of a project in this plan may also benefit recreation user groups when seeking monies from state and/or federal granting agencies. The RAC believes that the inclusion of projects in this plan will promote dialogue between user groups and landowners and will be an impetus for change.

The infrastructure projects were collected from recreation user groups throughout Kittitas County. User groups were given freedom to include any infrastructure projects they deemed necessary; the RAC does not endorse the infrastructure projects included in this plan.

The RAC has created a standing committee that will convene periodically to incorporate necessary additions to the infrastructure plan. User groups are encouraged to contact the RAC with these additions.

This plan is not regulatory, and shall not be used in support of condemnation or other eminent domain process. This inventory shall not be construed to imply either the existence or unconditional use of a recreational amenity or any intent to place or locate that amenity. This plan does not imply permission to use either private or public infrastructure amenities without the consent of the landowner/land manager, or to pursue recreational activities that are prohibited or otherwise conditioned. Failure to abide by any landowner/land managers policies or rules may result in civil or criminal penalties.

This inventory does not imply or infer any guarantee of safety or suitability of the facilities listed.
### BIRDWATCHING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bull Pond</td>
<td>Acquire Bull Pond if property is ever put on market for development or gain a long-term easement.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helen McCabe State Park</td>
<td>Negotiate a lease signing with state parks to build the Kittitas County Natural History Center on state park land.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Irene Rinehart Park</td>
<td>Build a blind on the south side of the south pond to assist in viewing ducks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sorenson Pond</td>
<td>Build a blind off of parking lot to assist in viewing ducks and other wildlife.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thorp Ponds</td>
<td>Build a pull off in front of ponds on Interstate 90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Umtanum Falls Trail</td>
<td>Install toilets at trailhead</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Projects</td>
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<tr>
<td>---------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Big Pines</td>
<td>• Develop camp area including 40 campsites, concrete boat ramp, picnic areas, signing, one main entrance, road rehabilitation, and trail.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lmuma Creek</td>
<td>• Install a concrete boat ramp.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Pave parking lot.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Create an accessible path to outhouse.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Relocate the entrance sign.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Replace wood picnic tables.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ringer Road</td>
<td>• Construct bridge over Spring Creek to access additional BLM property to the west.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Construct additional nature trails.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Remove the old fence along Ringer Road.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Improve road signing.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Roza</td>
<td>• Create three additional campsites.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Create a wheel-chair accessible trail to beach.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Move the fee kiosk to site entrance.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Replace wood picnic tables.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Umtanum</td>
<td>• Pave parking lot.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Add 3 additional picnic tables/shelters.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Construct a watchable wildlife interpretive site.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Create an accessible path to outhouse.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Acquire/exchange for existing private land; develop a camp area including campsites, outhouses, dumpster, and boat launch.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Replace wood picnic tables.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Improve trailhead at bridge (bulletin board, signing).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Make site a fee site.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Project Description</td>
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<tr>
<td>--------------------------------</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dollarway Pond</td>
<td>Construct a wheelchair accessible blacktop path around the pond located just behind the I-90 Inn Motel on Dollarway. Install benches and picnic tables.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Memorial Pool and Fitness Center</td>
<td>Install a new HVAC (heating system) at the Memorial Pool and Fitness Center.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Racquet and Recreation Center</td>
<td>Re-roof the Racquet and Recreation Center.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Center</td>
<td>Upgrade the electrical system at the Senior Center.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trails</td>
<td>Construct more walking trails in the city of Ellensburg.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth and Community Center</td>
<td>Re-roof the Youth and Community Center.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## DOG SLEDDING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hyak-Crystal Springs</td>
<td>Create a trail from Hyak to the Crystal Springs Sno-Park paralleling John Wayne Trail along Keechelus Lake.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Re-Load Sno-Park</td>
<td>Create a trail system accessible to the Re-Load Sno-Park.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Road #420-Iron Horse</td>
<td>Connect Road #420 and Iron Horse State Park via the power line road.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sno-Park-Lake Easton State Park</td>
<td>Create a shared use area from sno-park on Road #4517 to Lake Easton State Park. Route would begin on #4517, continue on West Siding Road, follow the road parallelizing West Siding Road to the south, connect with the Iron Horse State Park and end at Lake Easton State Park.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teanaway Valley</td>
<td>Create a dog sledding designated sno-park and trail system in the Teanaway Valley.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FLY FISHING</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Access</strong></td>
<td>Create accesses for foot-bound or wading anglers to reach the Yakima River in Kittitas County.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Camping</strong></td>
<td>Restrict camping along the Yakima River except for designated campgrounds and campsites.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Economic Evaluation</strong></td>
<td>Conduct an economic evaluation of the recreational fishing on the Yakima River in Kittitas County.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Floating Laws</strong></td>
<td>Enforce floating laws along the river including life jacket use. Make and enforce a formal ruling regarding the type of craft floaters can use on the Yakima River to ensure floaters’ safety.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Garbage Bags</strong></td>
<td>Make and enforce a formal ruling requiring boats to have garbage containment capabilities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Motor Vessels</strong></td>
<td>Ban motor vessels on the Yakima River throughout the canyon. Currently, motor vessels are allowed to put in above the trestle bridge above Ringer Road. Not only is this bad for the riverbed (scours rocks of bug life and fish eggs, erodes banks, etc.), but it is also a danger to recreational floaters.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Truck/Trailer Combinations</strong></td>
<td>Remove truck/trailer combinations from Canyon Road year round, unless the vehicle has a destination in the canyon.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**HIKING**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ellensburg Hiking Trails</th>
<th>Increase the number of hiking trails near Ellensburg. Possibly connect new trails to West Ellensburg Park and Irene Rinehart Park.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yakima Canyon Trail</td>
<td>Create a biking/walking/running trail that runs through the Yakima Canyon connecting Yakima and Ellensburg.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### HORSEBACK RIDING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Boulder Creek Trailhead</td>
<td>Develop an acceptable equestrian trailhead.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coal Mines Trail to Cle Elum Ridge</td>
<td>Develop a trail connecting the Coal Mines Trail to the Cle Elum Ridge.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fortune Creek Trailhead</td>
<td>Develop an acceptable equestrian trailhead.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hitching Posts</td>
<td>Attach a hitching rail to each side of all gates in Lake Easton State Park and Iron Horse State Park.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iron Horse State Park Campground(s)</td>
<td>Lease or buy one and/or two 5-acre parcels of land along Iron Horse State Park for campgrounds.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iron Horse State Park to Coal Mines Trail</td>
<td>Develop a trail connecting Iron Horse State Park with the Coal Mines Trail.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iron Horse State Park to Manastash/Taneum</td>
<td>Develop a trail connecting Iron Horse State Park with the Manastash and Taneum areas.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Easton to Reload</td>
<td>Develop a trail from Lake Easton State Park to the proposed Reload Parking Area.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael/Bear Campground</td>
<td>Develop an equestrian campground at Michael/Bear Campground.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael Lake Trailhead</td>
<td>Develop an equestrian campground at Michael Lake Trailhead.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reload Trailhead</td>
<td>Develop an equestrian trailhead at the proposed Reload Parking Area.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ridge Access</td>
<td>Retain access to the following ridges: Easton Ridge, Cle Elum Ridge, Teanaway Ridge, and Manastash Ridge.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pete Lake Trailhead</td>
<td>Add more hitch rails at the Pete Lake Trailhead.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scatter Creek Trailhead</td>
<td>Develop an acceptable equestrian trailhead.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stafford Creek Campground</td>
<td>Develop an equestrian campground at Stafford Creek</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teanaway Valley to Cle Elum Ridge</td>
<td>Develop a trail connecting the Teanaway Valley to the Cle Elum Ridge.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Fork Trailhead</td>
<td>Develop an acceptable equestrian trailhead.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>KITTITAS COUNTY</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>County Parks Commission</strong></td>
<td>Create a County Parks Commission that would spearhead outdoor recreation infrastructure projects.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Feasibility Study</strong></td>
<td>Administer a feasibility study focusing on a southern access from Kittitas County to Mission Ridge.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Trails</strong></td>
<td>Construct elevated roadside walkway/bicycle paths and/or irrigation-ditch pathways.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountain Biking Trails</td>
<td>Secure easements and build mountain biking trails near Ellensburg (i.e. Umptanum, Manastash, Yakima River Canyon, Cooke Canyon, Naneum Canyon, Reecer Creek).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yakima Canyon Trail</td>
<td>Create a biking/walking/running trail that runs through the Yakima Canyon connecting Yakima and Ellensburg.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### RAFTING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Action Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Irene Rhinehart</td>
<td>Create larger parking lot at Irene Rhinehart boat launch. Possibly use former Schaake's property across the street for parking lot.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KOA Campground</td>
<td>Clear log jams near tree farm due to safety issues.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>River Signage</td>
<td>Create and post signs along Yakima River highlighting safety issues and concerns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teanaway River/Yakima River Confluence</td>
<td>Buy approximately 5-acres on northeast side of confluence of Yakima River and Teanaway River. Possibly partner with Field and Stream group. Develop parking lot and boat launch.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yakima River – Teanaway Junction Access</td>
<td>Clear log jams and debris due to safety issues.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## SNOWMOBILING

### Miscellaneous

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Administrative/Law Enforcement</th>
<th>Increase funding for administration/law Enforcement of wilderness/urban/private property boundaries.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Storage Buildings</td>
<td>Obtain storage buildings for Sno-Cats in the Salmon la Sac area.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U-R-Here Signs</td>
<td>Obtain approximately 100 small (approximately 36 inches high x 48 inches wide) bulletin boards for &quot;U-R-Here&quot; signs for trail/route intersections.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Parking

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Blewett Pass Sno-Park</th>
<th>Enlarge Blewett Pass Sno-Park. Increase parking by 50 vehicles.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Easton Re-Load</td>
<td>Construct Sno-Park at old Easton Re-Load.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manastash Sno-Park</td>
<td>Provide winter access to areas above Spring/Walter Springs Roads.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peoh Point Road Sno-Park</td>
<td>Enlarge Peoh Point Road Sno-Park to 50 vehicles.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reecer Creek Sno-Park</td>
<td>Make improvements to Reecer Creek Sno-Park.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wood &amp; Steele Road Sno-Park</td>
<td>Enlarge Wood &amp; Steele Road Sno-Park to 60-100 vehicles.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Routes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Blue Creek and Teanaway Road</th>
<th>Obtain a groomable easement up Dickey Creek between Blue Creek and Teanaway Road.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Corral Creek to North Fork Teanaway</td>
<td>Obtain a permanent easement from Corral Creek to North Fork Teanaway.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French Cabin Creek and East Kachess Road</td>
<td>Create a groomable corridor between French Cabin Creek and East Kachess Road.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kachess/Hyak Frontage Road</td>
<td>Create a groomable route along or paralleling Kachess/Hyak Frontage Road.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last Resort to Easton</td>
<td>Create groomable corridors thru MountainStar (Suncadia Resort) from Last Resort to Easton.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last Resort to Salmon la Sac</td>
<td>Improve snowmobile access from Last Resort to Salmon la Sac (widen county road or develop lakeshore or mid-slope alternative).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Re-Load Sno-Park to Log Creek</td>
<td>Create a groomable route around bridge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Action Description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper Cooper Lake area to Box Canyon Road</td>
<td>Create groomable route from Upper Cooper Lake area to Box Canyon Road</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woods &amp; Steele Road to Easton</td>
<td>Obtain a permanent easement on &quot;Easton Tie&quot; from Woods &amp; Steele Road to Easton.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## WASHINGTON STATE PARKS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Iron Horse State Park/Coal Mines Trail</td>
<td>Develop a trail to connect Iron Horse State Park to the Coal Mines Trail and the MountainStar (Suncadia Resort) Resort/Equestrian Center. Most land is publicly owned, but a solution will need to be found for the south Cle Elum Bridge over the Yakima River, which is not amenable to vehicle traffic and recreation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Price Creek Eastbound/Westbound</td>
<td>Acquire and develop alternate parking areas for Price Creek Eastbound/Westbound, which are being turned in to rest areas.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reload Sno-Park</td>
<td>Acquire and develop reload yard for use as a sno-park.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### WILDLIFE VIEWING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Educational Kiosks</th>
<th>Create educational kiosks including information regarding area wildlife and plants at Roza and Umtanum.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wildlife Viewing Pullout</td>
<td>Create a wildlife viewing pullout between Milepost 16 and 18 off of Highway 821.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


THE TOOL-BOX

Preamble & Frames-of-Reference

The Kittitas County Comprehensive Plan will evolve and change, as is the case with all dynamic public policy documents. This Tool-Box will serve as a reference tool. As a tool, it might relate to a Public Benefit Rating System (PBRS). In the planning process, Kittitas County has the option of using a PBRS in support of strategic goals and planning objectives.

This Tool-Box is a review of ideas and procedures that might be applicable to the development of and preservation of the recreational infrastructure in Kittitas County. Preserving and making additional recreational opportunities available to residents and visitors is the goal that guided development of this Tool-Box.

As a resource, this Tool-Box may lead to actions, decisions or plans that result in Kittitas County continuing to be the place of choice for a multitude of varied recreational opportunities. This Tool-Box will be useful by persons working to maintain and/or build the recreational infrastructure.

This reference piece is not offered as a legal reference, an item of Kittitas County code, or as a statement of practice or policy of Kittitas County. Further, this reference piece is not offered as policy or practice from any of the governmental units (cities, state agencies, federal agencies, districts, etc.) within Kittitas County.

Introduction

The following information provides descriptions and examples of strategies that might be used to identify, designate, and build the recreation infrastructure in Kittitas County.

The Tool-Box is based on concepts in the Kittitas County Comprehensive Plan (December 2002). The plan is recommended as a reference for users of the Tool-Box. Ideas from the Kittitas County Recreation Advisory Committee have been built into the Tool-Box.

The Tool-Box is not a “legal advisor” or “approved statement of code” used by Kittitas County or any other governmental unit. The Tool-Box is a tool to facilitate thinking and problem solving.

As needed, the tools in the Tool-Box can be changed, tools can be added, and tools removed. As is the case with the planning, identification of recreational infrastructure, and land use planning in Kittitas County, this Tool-Box is dynamic in that it changes meeting needs of the people.
Tool-Box Vision

The *Kittitas County Comprehensive Plan* (December 2002) was developed and approved with the following vision (p. 1-2):

Kitittas County has a rich cultural mix that is the result of agriculture, education and resource-based industries such as timber and mining. Many families in the lower Kittitas Valley carry on long family traditions in farming and cattle production, while the Upper County is changing from the once powerful mining and timber industries to recreational-based and service enterprises. . . .

The *Kittitas County Comprehensive Plan* is an attempt to address issues and formulate guiding policies for future growth and development in Kittitas County…

This Tool-Box addressing ideas and insights from the Recreational Advisory Committee (RAC) exists to help make the *Kittitas County Comprehensive Plan* (December 2002) become a reality.

References to the *Kittitas County Comprehensive Plan*

It is suggested that the user of this Tool-Box developed by the Recreation Advisory Committee be aware of the following sections and comments in the *Kittitas County Comprehensive Plan* (December 2002):

The *Kittitas County Comprehensive Plan Volume I* (December 2002) is considered a dynamic resource in that it changes as the needs of the people in the county change. The *Comprehensive Plan* guides development in the county.

Tools In The Tool-box

Density Bonuses --What Are They?

Incentive zoning can help to advance a community’s physical, cultural and social goals by allowing land developers to provide specific amenities and benefits in exchange for zoning incentives, such as density bonuses. Density bonuses allow developers to build more units than would normally be allowed in a zoning district in exchange for preserving and enhancing designated resources or providing other public benefits.

NOTE: Other incentives commonly offered to developers are adjustments to height restrictions or modifications of some other requirements in the underlying zoning ordinance.

NOTE: PBRS criteria may be used in making decisions related to density bonuses.
Implementation Steps

Present the proposals to amend the zoning code to the Kittitas County Planning Commission, Community Development Services Department, and the Kittitas County Board of County Commissioners. The standard process for requesting a development regulations amendment will be followed in order to add a development process to existing code. Through the public hearing process the RAC report will be consulted by planning staff or members of the RAC Committee will be asked to testify. The specifics of density bonuses, clustering and the identification of specific public values that are worth enhancing or saving will be identified.

Covenants, Conditions, & Restrictions (CC&R’s)—What Are They?

Covenants are frequently referred to as restrictive covenants or conditions, because they restrict the use of real property. Often these restrictions, covenants, or conditions of use are an integral part of the development and subdivision processes. Covenants and restrictions are set by the developer. These covenants are charges registered against the title, and they are binding upon all subsequent owners. These covenants govern how a property may be used.

Implementation Steps

Restrictive covenants and conditions are approved as a part of a subdivision, but are not reviewed or approved by local government as a part of the subdivision process. They are then filed with the County Auditor so that they may be noted at a time when land titles are transferred. The covenants travel with the land from owner to owner until there are actions removing them. These covenants become a kind of “law” or “code” specific to a subdivision and enforced by a Homeowner’s Association through civil action.

Setbacks -- What Are They?

A setback is a reserved area within a property line wherein building can not occur. An example of the use of a setback might be a requirement that a new home or addition to an existing home in a forest zone require a setback of so many feet from trees in order to reduce the spread of fire from either the house to the forest or the forest to the house.

Easements -- What Are They

An easement is the right to use the real property of another owner for a specific purpose. Easements can be roads or trails along a stream’s shore, a right-of-way for power lines or other uses reserved over another’s property. Recreational trail easements are commonly used to provide public passage through private property.
Implementation Steps

Easements are negotiated with and purchased from a landowner by another party who wishes to use the landowner's land for some reason. Though easement procurement is a contractual civil process, easements are recorded with county auditors for permanence and assurance of legality.

Conservation Easements --
What Are They?

A conservation easement (or conservation restriction) is a legal agreement between a landowner and a land trust or government agencies that permanently limit uses of the land in order to protect its conservation values. It allows you to continue to own and use your land and to sell it or pass that land on to heirs. These easements may be considered to accumulate densities as a part of a PBRS.

When you donate a conservation easement to a land trust, you give up some of the rights associated with the land. For example, you might give up the right to build additional structures, while retaining the right to grow crops. Future owners also will be bound by the easement's terms. The land trust is responsible for making sure the easement's terms are followed.

A conservation easement is a recorded document that runs with the deed and restricts the use of the land in perpetuity. It has a section of permitted and prohibited uses which govern the use of the property, no matter who owns it in the future.

Conservation easements offer great flexibility. An easement on property containing rare wildlife habitats might prohibit any development, for example, while one on a farm might allow continued farming and the building of additional agricultural structures. An easement may apply to just a portion of the property, and need not require public access.

A landowner sometimes sells a conservation easement, but usually easements are donated. If the donation benefits the public by permanently protecting important conservation resources and meets other federal tax code requirements -- it can qualify as a tax-deductible charitable donation. The amount of the donation is the difference between the land's value with the easement and its value without the easement.

Implementation Steps

A primary step necessary early in the process of placing the easement is the identification of, and possibly involvement of, all parties impacted by the easement. If the easement is to the benefit of the owner, assumed to be a private party owner, and the action is proposed and pursued by the owner, an early first step for the owner is to consider all issues related to tax assessments, gift taxes, and taxes specific to possible transfer of ownership. The land use planning processes of the county are not responsible for “protecting” or “insuring” tax advantages to the land owner in the creation of or transfer
of easements, though a jurisdiction may implement planning statute that makes conservation easements more attractive.

Private parties involved in proposing easements should outline the specific advantages, the offerings for the public good, resulting from the easements. These benefits can then be considered as processes and procedures and may be considered in negotiating the easements.

If the easement is dependent on access to and use of publicly owned land, it will be important to confirm the advantages brought to the public for these easements and land use actions.

It is suggested that open communication throughout the full process will be of value to help create a "no surprise" decision-making process.

Transferrable Development Rights (TDR's) --
What is the Transfer of Development Rights?

Development rights are the rights of a landowner to develop their property to the greatest extent allowed under state and local laws. These rights may be transferred from the owner or holder through a number of processes. These transfers are considered voluntary in that they become agreements benefiting all parties, especially the owners of current rights as well as the organization (the county, municipality, land trust, conservancy or other entity) to which development rights are transferred.

Most frequently, development rights are sold or purchased or given or received as a gift. These development rights have value that is recognized at the time of a transfer. A Development Rights Program establishes sending and receiving areas from which development rights may be bought and subsequently transferred through purchase.

By selling development rights, a landowner gives up the right to develop his/her property, but the buyer could use the rights to develop another piece of land at a greater intensity than would otherwise be permitted.

Transfers of development rights are based on exchanges of "things of value." The exchange may involve money, land assets, services, development rights, extension of public services, etc.

Implementation Steps

Transfer of development rights through a purchase proceeds in the same manner as any other asset purchase. Transfers can also be made by the exchange of "things of value" with the county providing value in ways other than the delivery of money. These transfers are negotiated as would be common for the acquisition of any other asset.
Changes in State Law and/or Code

Law in Washington & the Political Environment

Permissive or restrictive laws related to land use for recreation can be set by the Washington State Legislature through local government. In response to the law, a state code is established guiding implementation.

Laws may be restrictive or permissive. The perceptions about the law vary depending on a point of view. Philosophies about the role and purpose of government as held by groups in power influence laws brought legislatively forward. Special interests and groups served by new laws may actively pursue favorable legislation. And, in many situations, funding may be a result of legislation.

Recreation impacts everyone. Recreation stimulates business interests. Recreation is an important part of a high quality of life. Interest groups supporting recreation are diverse in their priorities and acceptance of government into “their recreation” endeavors. Politicizing, or further politicizing, recreation at the state legislative level may be a high-risk strategy, but it is a viable strategy.

Changes in Federal Law and/or Code

Federal Law and the Political Environment

Permissive or restrictive laws related to land use for recreation can, with significant “states rights” restrictions, be set by the Congress of the United States of America. In response to the law, a Federal code is established guiding implementation.

In general, Federal laws related to recreation in Kittitas County relate to:

1. Access to federal lands. Access is restricted by law, rule, or regulation. In addition, laws can support funding and projects resulting in access (building of roads, supporting infrastructures, providing personnel, etc.

2. Specific projects can relate to the creation and operation of “special places” for recreation. These places might be parks, education centers operated by Central Washington University or other educational institutions, facilitates on highways funded by the federal government, or requirements imposed on projects that mandate public access to adjacent recreation land.

3. Federal tax policy might influence development of recreational opportunities in Kittitas County. Specific initiatives related to gift taxes, tax incentives for small businesses, and tax liability reduction in recognition of steps to gifting land access for recreation purposes.

Closing Note

This draft of the Tool-Box is provided for discussion, possible use in determining actions in developing the recreational infrastructure, Public Benefit Rating Systems, and it may be used in ways related to the Kittitas County Comprehensive Plan.
This Tool-Box is offered as a draft and it is a work in progress.

It is important that ideas to further develop and improve this Tool-Box be provided to members of the Kittitas County Board of Commissioners, members of the Recreation Advisory Committee, the County’s Community Development office, and others working in continuous enhancement and development for Kittitas County.
CONTINUATION OF PLANNING & COORDINATION

Introduction

In 2003 the Kittitas County Recreation Advisory Committee worked to:

1. Identify and define the existing recreation infrastructure in Kittitas County.
2. Establish ideas and possible strategies to maintain the existing infrastructure.
3. Identify a glossary of terms related to the recreation infrastructure.
4. Identify a tool-box for maintaining the recreation infrastructure.

This document offers ideas, suggestions, and possible activities that will carry forward the momentum of the Recreation Advisory Committee. And, if successful, there will be further development of the recreation infrastructure and capabilities in Kittitas County.

The goal for Kittitas County may well be to work further in establishing, maintaining, and making available natural resources for recreation activities for residents and visitors. And, the recreation opportunities in the county may bring further economic opportunities.

It is understood by the Recreation Advisory Committee that two primary sources of energy will move recreation forward in Kittitas County. First, there is the work of the many persons volunteering service through associations and interest groups, as individuals, community service clubs, and as representatives of businesses and government agencies committed to recreation. Second, there are initiatives and programs in place and operated by persons employed with those government agencies responsible for protecting, maintaining, developing, and making available recreation activities.

This document presents ideas and proposals for consideration as further development of the Kittitas County recreation infrastructure is considered. These proposals are taken from ideas and discussions of the Kittitas County Recreation Advisory Committee as it met during 2003.

Review of RAC in 2003

The Kittitas County Recreation Advisory Committee (RAC) continued to operate during calendar year 2003. Members of the RAC were, for the most part, self-identified as interested parties.

As interested parties, the RAC participants represented state, federal, county, and municipal programs and departments or agencies. Participants also spoke for and, in some cases, represented private organizations, clubs, and special interest groups. RAC membership also included individual landowners and individuals with personal and, possibly, business interests in special recreation opportunities. The Recreation Advisory Committee has been successful in addressing issues, following an action plan, and sharing ideas with others.
An example of participation came from the following groups, organizations, and individuals:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ellensburg Parks &amp; Recreation</th>
<th>Individual Land Owners</th>
<th>City of Cle Elum</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Washington State Snowmobile Association</td>
<td>CWU Recreation</td>
<td>Audubon Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cascade Conservation Partnership</td>
<td>Plum Creek</td>
<td>Outdoor Recreationist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County Commissioners</td>
<td>Coal Mines Trail Commission</td>
<td>US Forest Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US Timberlands Management</td>
<td>Recreation - Retreat Business</td>
<td>Washington State Parks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kittitas County Farm Bureau</td>
<td>Dept of Natural Resources</td>
<td>Hunters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bureau of Land Management</td>
<td>Horse Trail Interest Group</td>
<td>Cross Country</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business Development</td>
<td>Land Preservation Trusts</td>
<td>Boaters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hang Gliders &amp; Sail Plane Flyers</td>
<td>Fishing Groups</td>
<td>Skiers</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The minutes of RAC meetings provide lists of persons attending, interest groups and organizations represented, and issues presented for exploration.

In 2003 the RAC hired two technical writers who were contracted to capture and report minutes, create a listing or catalog of the Kittitas County recreation infrastructure, create the proposed Tool-Box, offer a common glossary, and suggest future action. In addition, the technical writers were assigned to explore the business or economic impact of the Kittitas County recreation program.

The two technical writers assigned to the RAC were Christy White and Gerald Brong. Their work is on file with the RAC, the Kittitas County Commissioners, and the Kittitas County Planning Office. These public documents have been available for review and use as the work of the RAC moved forward.

Generally, meetings of the RAC were facilitated by a Kittitas County Commissioner.

**Three Options Into the Future**

The options for the RAC and further development of a recreation infrastructure are many. For purposes of this RAC working document, three are proposed.

**Option #1 – Voluntary Leadership & Activity**

The work of the Kittitas County Recreation Advisory Committee should continue as now structured and operated with a decreased membership.

Membership on the RAC should continue to be by voluntary service (or employer assignment). This structure supports opportunities to continue efforts maximizing the exchange of ideas, identification of issues, and open communications between interest groups.

The voluntary RAC can continue to be chaired by a member of the Kittitas County Board of County Commissioners. The RAC can share ideas and report
to the Commission, and other groups as requested.

The RAC can continue to:

1. Initiate special projects as necessary (by RAC decision or assignment)
2. Be recognized by the Kittitas County Board of Commissioners as “experts” about recreation.
3. Be led by a member or designate of the Kittitas County Board of Commissioners.
4. Work in areas of member interest and consider other areas be added by recommendation.
5. Operate, host, or participate in “special events” showcasing Kittitas County recreation.
6. Create, propose, receive funding for, and manage projects (studies, events, issuance of reports).
7. Involve, informally, the wide variety of interest groups and organizations working for recreation infrastructures and programming in Kittitas County.

The RAC with voluntary or self-selected membership, under guidance from the Board of Kittitas County Commissioners, may be the least costly strategy for maintaining initiatives now in place.

Option #2 – Formal Recreation Advisory Committee with Formal Appointment

1. Exist as a result of Kittitas County Commissioner’s formal action.
2. Work with assignment (task, mission, etc.) from the Board of Kittitas County Commissioners.
3. Offer proposed policies and codes for Kittitas County specific to recreation.
4. Advise land use and planning groups on issues related to the recreation infrastructure.
5. Members will be selected and appointed by the Commissioners.
6. Work will be mission or task specific with definite reporting schedules.
7. May be assigned to have a presence at public gatherings to provide and/or gather information.
8. May have regular Kittitas County staff support assigned.
9. Will be accountable to the Board of Kittitas County Commissioners and monitored by the Board.
10. Public meetings and hearings may be held with all due advance announcement and public reports.
11. May work with historical boards and commissions in Kittitas County.
12. Might represent Kittitas County and other groups (state, federal, private) on recreation issues.
13. A chair of the RAC would be appointed by or be a member of the Board of County Commissioners.
14. Regular reports to the County Commissioners and other governing bodies
will be made by the RAC.
15. Serve as coordinating body for special grants and contracts.
16. Regularly issue reports to the local and regional press/media on recreation in Kittitas County.
17. May have a responsibility to support organizations “marketing” Kittitas County as a recreation site.

This structure brings status to the RAC. The group’s name may reflect “Commission” or “Board” as its authority and work scope are considered.

**Option #3 – Formal Procedures with Kittitas County Department and Board/Commission**

This third option is very similar to *Option #2 – Formal Recreation Advisory Committee with Formal Appointment*, as presented above, except there is a Kittitas County department or agency staffed and assigned with recreation responsibilities. The new Kittitas County agency might be named Kittitas County Recreation Department. Authorities and responsibilities, staff assignments, etc., would be set in code and policy.

The new county authority would be accountable to deliver programming to the people of the county and work would be directly or indirectly under the authority of the Kittitas County Board of Commissioners.

Membership on the recreation commission or board would be by Board of Kittitas County Commissioners appointment. Terms would be, it is assumed, staggered and set in code. Public disclosure reports and other policy board requirements would be adhered to.

Responsibilities for the group would be policy and advisory. The board or commission responsible for recreation in Kittitas County would:

1. Exist as a result of Kittitas County Commissioner’s formal action.
2. Be appointees and would fall under “public official” policies and requirements.
3. Work with assignment (task, missions, etc.) from the Board of Kittitas County Commissioners.
4. Report-out and make recommendations regarding policy, code, budget, and other issues.
5. Offer proposed policies and codes for Kittitas County specific to recreation.
6. Advise land use and planning groups on issues related to the recreation infrastructure.
7. Be mission or task specific with definite reporting schedules, including schedules set by code.
8. Be assigned to have a presence at public gatherings to provide and/or gather information.
9. Have Kittitas County staff support.
10. Hold public meetings and hearings with all due advance announcement.
11. Prepare reports that would become a part of the Kittitas County Official Record.
12. Possibly work with historical boards and commissions in Kittitas County.
13. Possibly represent Kittitas County to other groups (state, federal, private) on recreation issues.
14. Have a Chair of the RAC appointed by or from the Board of County Commissioners.
15. Issue regular reports to the Board of County Commissioners and other governing bodies.
16. Serve as coordinating body for special grants and contracts.
17. Regularly issue reports to the local and regional press/media on recreation in Kittitas County.
18. Possibly have responsibility to support those who “marketing” Kittitas County as a recreation site.

Recommendations

The sense of the Kittitas County Recreation Advisory Committee seems to be that the RAC’s work may need to become more formalized.

There has been agreement among RAC members the work of the Committee needs to continue.

The RAC seems to feel it is effective, essential, and productive. There also seems to be a feeling among individuals that, “Oh, there’s so much more we could do.”

The RAC recognizes that it currently has opportunities, including the technical writers, to move projects forward. There is agreement among Recreation Advisory Committee members that the work is to continue.

It has been suggested that the RAC might become “project specific” in seeking funding for a development, or developments. Specifics have not been identified. In addition, there has been interest in looking for “economic development tools” to assist local independent businesses in better meeting current and developing recreational opportunities.
GLOSSARY OF TERMS
IN SUPPORT OF THE KITITITAS COUNTY
OUTDOOR RECREATION INVENTORY

Administrative Appeal - - a quasi-judicial process before a local zoning board or other
government recognized body to review a contested ordinance interpretation or an
order of an administrative zoning official.

Adverse Possession - - The laws of adverse possession allow a person to obtain title to
land by simply using the land for a period of time specified by state and federal laws.
Possession may be claimed by an individual or organization. In Washington State
certain lands are exempted from adverse possession. Possession is the result of
actual, open, possibly hostile, and continuous possession of another's land under a
claim of title. Possession for a statutory period may be a means of acquiring title.
Possession may require assumption of tax and other liabilities.

Aesthetic Zoning - - the regulation of building or site design to achieve a desirable
appearance.

Agricultural Land - - Land primarily devoted to the commercial production crops and
livestock.

Agricultural Protection Zoning - - a method for protecting agricultural land use by
stipulating minimum lot sizes or limitations on non-farm use.

Architectural Control/Review - - regulations and procedures requiring the exterior
design of structures to be suitable, harmonious, and in keeping with the historic
character or general style of surrounding areas.

Benefit Area - - Land area designed as the sole recipient for any particular infrastructure
improvement provided at a public expense. Benefit areas are used to amortize the
total cost of the improvement by the number of properties or structures in the benefit
area.

Buffer Area - - an area separating two incompatible types of development or a
development and sensitive natural resources.

Certificate of Compliance - - an official document declaring that a structure or use
complies with permit specifications, building codes, or zoning ordinances.

Commercial District - - a zoning area designated for community services, general
business, interchange of services, and commercial recreation.

Comprehensive Plan - - A generalized coordinated land use policy statement. The
Recreation Plan Component, for which this glossary is developed, may be a part of
the Kittitas County Comprehensive Plan. This glossary is to build language for that
Recreation Plan Component.

**Community Character** - The features that define the built and natural environment within the community help to create its character. These include historic buildings, natural stream corridors, woodlands, residential neighborhoods of different types, building density and orientation (auto- or pedestrian-oriented), and the scale and quantity of signage.

**Comprehensive Plan** - The plan is the document and outline of actions to be taken to reach a goal or environmental condition. The planning process developing the comprehensive plan is a way that a community can help shape its future. The comprehensive plan lays out the community's vision and goals for its future. Comprehensive plans, also called master or general plans, outline local government policies and goals, serve as a community's blueprint for development, and provide a process through which to address community goals in a proactive, coordinated manner.

**Condemnation** - See Eminent Domain - Condemnation

**Conditional Use** - A land use, construction activity, or structural development, which must be tailored to the site conditions and adjacent property uses through a public and technical review process that is listed as a conditional use in a zoning district.

**Conditional Use Permit** - A permit issued by a zoning administrator, if the applicant meets certain additional requirements, allowing a use other than a principally permitted use.

**Conservation Easements** - See also Easement - A technique that allows property owners to limit development on their property as a form of protection, usually in exchange for compensation of some sort. The owner signs a legal contract with a land trust or public agency to remove certain development rights (such as the right to subdivide or build new structures) from the property.

**Conservation Land Trust** - A revolving fund developed by a group, frequently a private organization or group, for quickly buying land that is in danger of being developed with or without regard to environmental considerations. A conservation trust may have specific purposes or work for general land preservation. The trust may buy and sell land, raise and manage funds, and conduct activities in keeping with a defined purpose or mission.

**Conservation Trust Levy** - A tax or levy put in place developing revenue allowing a government unit (county, city, district, etc.) to acquire and maintain land, and other real property assets, for purposes of conservation. The conservation purposes may

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relate to provision of open space, areas for wild animals to exist in a natural setting, preservation of areas with geological significance, wetland and shoreline management, or even areas held in trust for future commercial use such as timber harvesting. Legislation calling for a vote to establish a levy will outline the purpose for the levy and the resources put in trust.

NOTE: The RAC believes the generation of revenue can facilitate the preservation or enhancement of recreational infrastructure. While a property tax levy that can be assigned to this purpose could be useful, the RAC believes such a levy would be, at this time (2003), controversial.

Covenants, Conditions & Restrictions - - Standards and criteria for measurement to confirm compliance with standards can be used requiring landowners to do, or not to do, certain defined things with land. These processes may “protect” environmental infrastructure while at the same time “reducing private landowner rights.” Housing density, restrictions on vehicle access, required set-backs, structure appearance, limits on business or commercial activities, etc., are examples of restrictions, covenants, or conditions.

NOTE: The RAC accepts (in 2003) covenants, conditions and restrictions as an effective means to execute the voluntary agreements with landowners as a strategy to preserve and enhance the in-place and developing recreational infrastructure.

Critical Areas - - In Kittitas County these include: (a) wetlands; (b) areas with critical recharging effect on aquifers used for potable water; (c) fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas; (d) frequently flooded areas; and, (e) geologically hazardous areas. (Please refer to Title 17.A. of the Kittitas County Code.)

Cultural Resources - - Cultural resources include specific significant landscapes or districts, sites, buildings, structures, objects, or cultural practices that are usually greater than 50 years of age and possess architectural, historic, scientific, or other technical value. By their nature, cultural resources are non-renewable.

Cumulative impact - - the impact on the environment which results from the incremental impact of the action when added to other past, present, and reasonable foreseeable future actions regardless of what agency (Federal or non-Federal) or person undertakes such other actions. Cumulative impacts can result from individually minor but collectively significant actions taking place over a period of time.

Deed Restriction - - a limitation, which is recorded with the county register of deeds and to which subsequent owners are bound, on development, maintenance, or use of a property.

Density - - A measure of the intensity of development. Metrics for specific density levels are provided in the Kittitas County Comprehensive Plan.

Density Bonus - - An increase in the allowable number of dwelling units granted under land use regulations in return for the project providing other public benefits.
NOTE: The RAC believes enhancing density for developments in exchange for preservation or enhancement of recreational infrastructure (trails, snow parks, access points to public land, vista points, etc.) is of benefit the public. The RAC has recommended land use regulations reflecting this as policy.

Easement - - The legal grant of right-of-use to an area designated as private property. An example might be granting an easement (a trail) for public access to a cross country ski area through private property. The easement could allow cross country skiers to park on county land, ski through a stretch of private property, and enter a government owned area for cross country skiing and recreation.

Eminent Domain - Condemnation - - The legal process by which a governmental unit acquires property for a public purpose by purchasing the property from the owner. The property is taken under a right of eminent domain. A right of a government to take private property for public use by virtue of the superior dominion of the sovereign power over all lands within its jurisdiction.

NOTE: The Constitution and enabling law recognize forced purchase of property by the government as occasionally being necessary to achieve legitimate public ends. Invoking imminent domain and condemnation to obtain recreational infrastructure is not considered an appropriate procedure or strategy.

Essential Public Facilities - - Includes those facilities that are usually difficult to site. These facilities are referenced in the glossary found in the Kittitas County Comprehensive Plan. From the list are the following examples of possible importance to the Recreational Component: (a) airports; (b) education facilities; (c) solid and liquid waste handling facilities; (d) health care facilities; and more.

Fair Share Distribution - - As referenced in the Kittitas County Comprehensive Plan, Fair Share Distribution means all jurisdictions shall serve in the responsibility of providing locations for regional and essential public facilities.

Farms - - Blocks of land organized and used to produce or grow “crops.” Farms may be commercial or business operations, hobby or recreational activities, or areas used for agricultural research. Farms are generally considered to be plant growing places, but in Kittitas County some references are to farms for livestock. The reference to “farming” and “ranching” covers rural agricultural use of land. The word “farm” may be considered to lack precision of meaning in use.

Forest Land - - Land primarily useful for growing trees, including Christmas trees.

Forest Service Roads - - Roads, developed or undeveloped, created to provide access into government owned forests. These roads may be open for public access. Permission to use these roads remains with the government agency responsible for the specific forest. In the Kittitas County Comprehensive Plan and the recreation component, it is anticipated efforts will be made to make these roads open and
publicly accessible.

**Geologic Review** - - An analysis of geologic features on a site, including hazards such as seismic hazards, surface ruptures, liquefaction, landslides, mud slides, erosion, and sedimentation.

**GIS (Geographic Information System)** - - A computer mapping system that produces multiple "layers" (coverages) of graphic information about a community or region. For example, one layer might show tax parcels, another layer might show key habitat areas, another layer might show school facilities. It can be used as a tool for analysis and decision-making and may be composed of maps, databases and point information.

**Global Positioning System (GPS)** - - A computerized tool for determining longitudinal and latitudinal coordinates through the use of multiple orbiting satellites.

**Green way** - - This can be a natural area or a pedestrian and bicycle path within a natural corridor, often associated with a stream. Frequently, green ways provide a pedestrian network, which connects neighborhoods and parks in all parts of a community. The green way system is also designed to limit inappropriate development in natural areas, protect flood plains, limit damage associated with flooding and protect the wildlife and plant life associated with these natural areas.

**Groomed Trail** - - See Trails and Trail Types

**Historic District** - - An area, or group of areas, designated by a local agency as having aesthetic, architectural, historical, cultural, or archaeological significance that is worthy of protection and enhancement.

**Historic Property** - - a building, structure, object, district, area, or site, whether on or beneath the surface of land or water, that is significant in the history, prehistory, architecture, archaeology, or culture of Wisconsin, its rural and urban communities, or the nation. See s. 44.31(3), Wis. Stats.

**Improvement District (Recreation Improvement District)** - - A district or legally defined unit (land area, structures, etc.) brought together by people in the area for purposes of achieving a specific goal. People, by public balloting or vote, for example, may create a utility district, park district, fire district, etc. The improvement district may establish rights to tax. For example, land owners along a river shore could create an improvement district to support establishing a recreational fishing infrastructure (docks, boat launches, restrooms, vehicle parking, etc.).

**Impact Fee** - - A fee levied by a local government on a new development so that the
development pays its share of costs of new or expanded facilities required to service that development.

**Incentive Zoning** - See *Density Bonus*

**Land Exchange** - A transaction where a public agency or nonprofit organization exchanges a land parcel for another land parcel with high conservation value.

**Local Improvement Districts** - The legislative establishment of a special taxing district to pay for specific capital improvements and operations thereof. Recreation facilities might be developed and operated through a LID.

**Local Road** - A roadway providing service which is relatively low traffic volume, short average trip length, or minimal traffic movements.

**Master Planned Resort** - A self-contained and fully integrated planned unit development, in a setting of significant natural amenities, with primary focus on destination resort facilities consisting of short-term visitor accommodations associated with a range of developed on-site indoor and outdoor facilities.

**Mitigation** - (a) Avoiding the impact altogether by not taking a certain action or parts of an action; (b) Minimizing impacts by limiting the degree or magnitude of the action and its implementation; (c) Rectifying the impact by repairing, rehabilitating, or restoring the affected environment; (d) Reducing or eliminating the impact over time by preservation and maintenance operations during the life of the action; (e) Compensating for the impact by replacing or providing substitute resources or environments.

**Mixed-use** - Properties on which various uses, such as office, commercial, institutional, and residential, are combined in a single building or on a single site in an integrated development project with significant functional interrelationships and a coherent physical design. A "single site" may include contiguous properties.

**Natural Resource Lands** - Agricultural, forest, and mineral resource lands which have long-term commercial significance.

**Open Space** - Any open land that is predominantly lacking in structural development. Open space includes natural areas, wetlands and open water, wildlife habitats, areas of managed production of resources such as farmlands and grazing areas, open areas requiring special management or regulation to protect public health and safety, and
outdoor recreational areas.

**Owner** - - Any person or entity, including cooperative or public housing authority (PHA), having the legal rights to sell, lease, or sublease any form of real property.

**Parks** - - Land developed for recreation purposes. Developers may be governments or private organizations. Generally, parks are assumed to be operated in the public interest by government programs. However, businesses may establish parks for recreation. Recreation purposes may range from sporting events, conservation of open spaces with public access, to “market specific” recreation such as water theme parks.

**Private Road** - - A way open to traffic, excluding driveways, established as a separate tract for the benefit of adjacent properties.

**Purchase of Development Rights** - - See Transfer of Development Rights

**Quality of Life** - - Those aspects of the economic, social and physical environment that make a community a desirable place in which to live or do business. Quality of life factors include those such as climate and natural features, access to schools, housing, employment opportunities, medical facilities, cultural and recreational amenities, and public services.

**Range (Open Range)** - - Open land, generally public land, where wild or domestic animals may roam. Examples could be open range where privately owned cattle are allowed to roam along with wild animals such as deer and elk. In open range land the roaming animals may access and cross through developed private land unless the land owner or developer blocks the access. In open range areas fences keep roaming animals out as opposed to in.

**Recreational Infrastructure** - - All natural and developed areas, assets, and resources that can be used for recreational purposes (hiking, swimming, sail planing, hot air ballooning, hunting, bird watching, nature photography, snowmobiling, horseback riding, camping, etc.). The infrastructure becomes developed as roads are improved, toilet and sanitary facilities installed, vehicle parking areas developed, signage installed, etc.

**Resource Lands** - - Those lands so designated by the county.

**Ridge Line Development** - - Ridge line development means a development on the crest
of a hill that has the potential to create a silhouette or other substantially adverse impact when viewed from a common public viewing area.

**Right-of-Way** - - Land in which the state, a county, or municipality owns fee simple title or has an easement dedicated or required for a transportation or utility use.

**Rural Lands** - - Those lands outside of cities, urban growth areas, urban growth nodes, and resource lands.

**Seasonal Dwelling** - - A dwelling not used for permanent residence or not occupied for more than a certain number of days per year. The standard varies between jurisdictions.

**Setbacks** - - Requirements in legal codes resulting in preservation of specified conditions. An example could be a requirement that houses along a rural road be built no closer than “X” feet to the road and that trees line the area between houses and the road. Another example could be that private pasture land be no less than “Y” feet from a publicly accessible trail. Setbacks can provide safety as well as visual or sound barriers.

**NOTE:** The RAC believes a key element in the preservation and enhancement of recreational infrastructure are buffer areas separating trails, snow parks, camping areas, etc., from current or future residential areas.

**Suburban Lands** - - Those lands within urban growth areas or urban nodes which provide all public and private services available inside an urban area but exhibit a lower density. Suburban lands are also planned to accommodate future urban development.

**Trails** - - A route or track made by passage especially through a wilderness especially through a forest or mountainous region. Generally a trail is considered to be developed and available for use. In the recreation component of the Kittitas County Comprehensive Plan types of trails referenced could be:

- **Groomed Trail** - - Well established for a specific purpose, marked, and continuously maintained.
- **Horse Trail** - - Established trail accommodating horses and possibly other users.
- **Off Road Vehicle Trail or Road** - - Established so as to prevent damage to surrounding land by motor vehicles while providing access and challenges desired by ORV operators.
- **Ski Trail** - - Prepared and groomed specific to needs of cross country skiers (may include tracks or nups for skis).
- **Snowmobile Trail** - - Trails for snowmobiles, possible joint-use trails for horses and skiers, providing access to desired areas, challenges to snowmobilers, and preventing damage to natural surrounding areas.

**Transfer of Development Rights** - - Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) programs
allow increased development in areas that a community has designated for development in return for preservation of places a community wants to protect. TDR is often used for agricultural and/or open space protection, although it can be used to protect any important resource. Generally established through a local zoning ordinance, a TDR program can protect farmland or significant natural areas by shifting development from those areas to areas that are planned for residential and commercial growth. When the development rights are transferred from the "sending" piece of property, that land is then restricted to agricultural or conservation use by a conservation easement and the "receiving" land can be developed at a greater density than generally allowed under the municipality's zoning ordinance.

NOTE: The RAC believes the sale and transfer of development rights can result in preservation and enhancement of recreational infrastructure. The RAC believes these transfers in exchange for preservation or enhancement of recreational infrastructure (trails, snow parks, access points to public land, vista points, etc.) is of benefit the public. However, the RAC believes the questions evolving around ownership of these development rights and their assign ability may raises problems with these transactions. Additionally, a lack of definitive rules for the transfer or banking of rights is a hindrance to their effective use.

**Trusts** -  See Land Trusts

**Urban Growth Areas** - Those areas designated by an incorporated city and approved by the county in which urban growth is encouraged.

**Urban Growth Nodes** - Existing unincorporated areas which are established town sites with required infrastructure (see Kittitas County Plan for specifics).

**Variance** - Exceptions to zoning laws granted in accordance with the provisions of state zoning enabling laws.

**Viewshed** - The area within view from a defined observation point or corridor.

**Zoning** - Local codes regulating the use and development of property. The zoning ordinance divides a community into land use districts or "zones," represented on zoning maps, and specifies the allowable uses within each of those zones. It establishes development standards for each zone, such as minimum lot size, maximum height of structures, building setbacks, and yard size.
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