Upper Teanaway Subarea Planning Process

Draft plan text for "Economic Vitality" element:

The Upper Teanaway Valley has an economic history tied to commercial forestry and agriculture. The majority of the land area is owned by one entity and has historically been used for commercial forestry. Recreational attractions bring many visitors to the subarea, but there are few tourism-dependent businesses in the subarea. The ecological and natural resources of the subarea should drive future economic vitality.

<u>GOAL EV-1:</u> The existing forested area is a valuable economic resource, both in terms of its scenic and ecological value, and its value for commercial forest products. Forest lands in the Upper Teanaway Valley should contribute to the economic vitality of the subarea.

Policy EV-1.1: Manage commercial forest lands to be profitable through continued timber harvesting or use of biomass for clean energy.

Policy EV-1.2: Establish formal recreational uses in forest land, such as non-residential resorts for horseback riding, biking, hiking, cross country skiing, or other activities, to strengthen the recreation economy while preserving forest land for public access.

<u>GOAL EV-2:</u> The Upper Teanaway Valley is valued for its recreational opportunities. Recreational tourism should be managed in the subarea to support a healthy tourist economy, while also protecting residents and the environment from negative impacts from recreational use.

Policy EV-2.1: Create a subarea-wide recreational tourism management plan that identifies areas of high recreational value and plans for better management of those resources through maintenance, monitoring, or changes in use policy.

Policy EV-2.2: Maintain non-forested lands along the Teanaway River for agricultural and rural residential use.

These draft goals and policies are provided for public review and comment and are examples of subarea plan content. The goals and policies reflect comments received during open houses and public meetings, as well as initial data collection.

Presented at the October 21, 2009 Upper Teanaway Planning Process Open House Prepared by GordonDerr LLP for Kittitas County

