



Kalispel Tribe of Indians
Kalispel Tribal Headquarters
Usk, WA 99180



US Forest Service
Colville National Forest
Newport – Sullivan Lake Ranger Districts
Newport, WA 99156



**WA State Dept.
Of Natural Resources**
Northeast
Colville, WA 99114

Sx^wuytn – Kaniksu Connections ‘Trail’ Project Recreation Workshop Notes

Meeting Type: Public

Date: March 21, 2019

Location: Camas Center

Time: 6:00 – 8:00 pm

Facilitator: Andrew Spaeth

Present: 33 team members and guests.

Ray Entz, Kalispel Tribe – welcomed the group to the first public input meeting to help develop a plan for the Trails project

Bobby Whittaker, NEWFC Recreation Liaison. Gave an introduction to himself and his history as the Ferry County Rail Trail coordinator for over 12 years. Now since the rail trail project is close to completion, he is adding a new aspect to his life through involvement with NEWFC because of the great work they have completed over many years. He wants to broaden his exposure, and increase recreation awareness in Northeast Washington.

Gloria Flora, Project Leader - described the ID (interdisciplinary) team and the purpose of an ID team. And gave a history about how the genesis of this project came to be. She discussed development of the 20-year forest health strategy. This prompted DNR to seek help from the legislature for funding two grant programs, of which this is one. This project is based on a cross-boundary approach involving multiple agencies and early involvement from the public. Gloria’s discussion also included:

- The goal of the EA vs. EIS.
- Project timeline – pre-scoping...what do we know, what do we need to know? Inventory, what more information do we need? Here is our rough guess of what we think is our Purpose and Need – why are we focusing on these aspects?
- Public work – what are other managers and owners doing in the area?
- Subject-specific meetings are monthly on the 3rd Thursday. Next month is Vegetation Management and Wildfire. We will start early, 5:30, to watch “Era of Megafire”

Questions: are the initial condition reports ready? When/How can we get the information?

Response: The ID team is still pulling together information, so there are no existing conditions reports yet.

Craig Newman, RELM Staff Officer, Colville National Forest - This project is so new, without a recreation goal, however it will be benefitted by improved Forest health. With so many recreation assets within the area, Craig asks that we think about sustainability of the current and future improvements.

Gloria reminded us about the importance of aesthetics.

Question: Who are the partners?

Response: Ray Entz discussed the long process related to coordination of agencies and funding. Partners include:

Kalispel Tribe of Indians (KTI, Ray Entz),
Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR, Tim Vugteveen – GNA lead),
Colville National Forest (CNF, Gayne Sears – Newport-Sullivan Lake Districts Ranger)
the public; and
Northeast Washington Forestry Coalition (NEWFC)

Question: how are private, Tribal, DNR lands affect by EA?

Response: Only CNF lands will be directly affected by the EA

Andrew Spaeth: There are a lot of diverse recreation interests in the room now.

What recreation assets within the project area do you value?

Fishing – all water bodies
Trails used to be a trail along the ridgelines to facilitate lookouts – perhaps historically important locations by Pyramid Pass
Browns Lake for kayaking
X-country trails in Geophysical
Ridgeline trail could be about 20+ miles...great opportunity for multi-use
Educational opportunities to connect the present with the past and walk into the future
Horseman – within last 5 years helped build/rebuild several bridges by Bead Lake area
Camping up and down the river. Lots of great camping
Snowmobile/ATV – CCA, Mill Creek
Bead Lake trail – largest White Pine – destination trail
Mtn biking on Bead Lake trail is used
UTV – Sullivan lake Trailblazers have capacity to haul trash...and that is one of their projects
Pioneer Park and campground
Manresa Grotto at the 5-mile marker on LeClerc Road– cultural/ historical
Terrain offers great vistas
Would like to have team considers connections from smaller, old trails that used to be available
– examples South Skookum
– Great for hikers and mountain bikers
Signage is lacking
Lots of OHV trails are north of project boundary. Within the project area, there are mostly day trip routes; a long trip or excursion more like 140 miles is desirable
Limited access for horses – would like 15 to 20-mile routes with connections with other trails
Backpackers really go to Bead Lake ... but not real long trail. Good for beginner backpackers, and young families, but also not very vigorous for more experienced
Partnerships
River trail
Safe trails for kids to school
Some sort of hook into the Selkirk International Loop – maybe “super-side trips”

Concerns

Motorized use may get shut out. Most motorized users following regulations/rules; however, there are some bad actors...self-policing is tricky.
How many roads are ATV-use or can have ATV use?
Welcoming out-of-towners and teaching dos and don'ts
Trash
Fires
Trespass
Impacts to wildlife from increased recreation
It would be great to be able to maintain what we have, also we need a stable funding source

How are you engaged or how would you like to be? What is role of the public?

Work party days

Tell congress to fund the Colville National Forest recreation program

Spring kick-off

Earth Day/Arbor Day recreation work party

Arne Johnson, District Manager for East side DNR – working with many landowners can be tricky.

Adopt a Trail:

Eric McQuay - It is on the CNF. Talk to him, Gayne, or Nan

Holly says that WTA has many work parties that are hosted by them (Backcountry Horseman, too).

Go online. Any one who wants to volunteer is welcome

Must remember the diverse abilities.

Mike L. invited the group to fill out the recreation survey – and annotate on maps of areas of use, historic use, potential use, etc.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45; guests marked maps in adjacent room until 8:00 pm.