

# About Gothic Basin



WASHINGTON STATE DEPT OF  
**NATURAL  
RESOURCES**



**Gothic Basin is in the Morning Star Natural Resources Conservation Area (NRCA).** This 37,842-acre mountainous conservation area protects outstanding examples of native plant communities and other ecological features, such as subalpine meadows, wetlands, and lakes.

## THE ISSUE

- Gothic Basin is a high-use, unmanaged destination in the Morning Star NRCA
- Trails are user built, absent consideration of sensitive plants or other features the NRCA was created to protect
- No signage to educate users or direct use
- Indiscriminate camping, in some cases in sensitive locations next to lakes or in seasonally ponded areas
- Hazardous trail conditions in places, including snow bridges prone to collapse

## WHAT DNR IS DOING THIS SUMMER/EARLY FALL 2018

- Conducting trails planning process to prioritize work in the larger Morning Star NRCA for next 10 years
- Incorporating Gothic Basin into the suite of managed sites in the NRCA
- Conducting biological/physical site assessment work to inform site planning and development to follow as funding is obtained; installing one toilet at Gothic Basin
- This work is planned during the weeks of September 10, October 8 or October 23, and will include drone and helicopter flights in/around Gothic Basin; dates are subject to change related to helicopter availability and wildfires

## WHAT YOU (THE PUBLIC) CAN DO TO HELP

1

Consider limiting visitation to Gothic Basin to day use only until camp sites can be designated in locations to protect sensitive features

2

If you camp, avoid locations that are adjacent to streams & lakes, or in seasonally ponded areas

3

Do not build campfires

4

Observe the "Leave No Trace Seven Principles"

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