

NOTE: The following is a compiled list of public comments concerning the Teanaway Community Forest, received at the Advisory Committee meeting at the Teanaway Grange and from the online survey tool.

## **Teanaway Community Forest – public comments from the Advisory Committee meeting, 9/11/2014**

- I. Public Comments
  - a) Lana Thomas Cruse – appreciates the work the AC is doing and wanted to share her experience with user regulated recreational activities; her experience has been good
- II. Written Comments
  - a) I hope to enjoy with my kids future riding in the area that I have ridden my entire life.

## **Teanaway Public Comments – public comments from the online survey, 08/07/14- 09/07/14**

Total Comments in this period : 9      Total Comments to date: 940

**Goal 3: Maintain and where possible expand recreational opportunities consistent with watershed protection, for activities such as hiking, fishing, hunting, camping, birding and snowmobiling;**

Please ensure access for hikers, separate from motorized uses. Separation by canyon/drainage is best to deal with noise and dust issues. Thank you,

Please provide single track DirtBike trails

Please include offroad motorcycle trail use.

This is a use of the land that the local community has always supported.

The primary purpose for creating the Teanaway Community Forest is to preserve it as a working forest. The DNR has a legal requirement to allow multiple uses of the land when it does not compromise their trust management obligations, ORV use has historically proven to be one of the most compatible uses within working forests and as such should be prioritized accordingly.

The following are some ideas on the Teanaway Forest:

I realize we share the forest with motorized vehicles, bikes and livestock but I would like to see a section of the Teanaway Forest off limits to bikes, vehicles and livestock (but not horses used for trail riding). The idea being this section would be managed like one of Washington State's Wildernesses such as the Alpine Wilderness.

I spend a lot of time in the Teanaway. Most of the time is spent in the Dickey Creek area. I enjoy doing animal sign and track identification and this whole area has a lot of tracks.

I do enjoy backpacking and day hiking. Part of the outdoor experience for me is the chance to see signs of animals or the animals themselves.

Connectivity for animals is important. Please keep in mind that roads stop connectivity. I am not asking to eliminate all roads or any but it would be nice to manage, as best as possible for connectivity. I am sure there is a way to do this and still meet the needs of all users of the Teanaway.

I would also like to see a larger map of the Teanaway Forest, such as access points to include boundaries so as not to go onto private land.

ORV's should absolutely be allowed and encouraged in the Teanaway. There are already 1,000's of miles of trails that exclude them so those that are "offended" by the noise can go somewhere else.

This would be a great area to have trails that are made for mountain bikers and hikers.

Please ensure that the Teanaway Community Forest supports/allows OHV usage, both motorcycle and ATV. As I get older, I still enjoy the beauty of Washington but I am not as able to ride bicycles or hike. Being able to use ATVs and motorcycles responsibly allows me to enjoy the outdoors... and to ride with my son and wife. You don't have to invest a ton of money to build a lot of trails... copy what has been done in the Okanogan and let ATVs ride on gravel roads as per the recently changed state law. Thanks for listening.

The Teanaway Community Forest has always been a wonderful place to go for relaxation, in my case hiking and exploring. I would like to see the forest remain low key. Provide parking access, some toilets at the larger parking areas, keep the campgrounds that exist, but don't add more, improve the campgrounds somewhat, such as picnic tables, bathrooms and water if feasible, but don't turn the sites into hookup sites. Improve or expand on the existing trails and add a few more. For winter use, routes could be marked for XC skiers and snowshoers. Plowing needs to be provided for parking access during the winter.

After reading last month's comments from mountain bikers, it seems that some of them want to turn the forest into a destination mountain bike park. That should not happen. There should be trails for hikers, horses and mountain bikers.

If you look at data from the Okanagon/Wenatchee National Forest, the main activity of most forest users is hiking/walking at 13.3%. Next is XC skiing at 9.5%, horseback riding at 1.3%, and bicycling at .8%. (I believe the committee has this data).

So if trails were to be designated/developed based on usage, hiking trails would take precedence. Mountain bike riding is at the bottom. I personally don't like hiking where mountain bikes are also using the trails, it is dangerous and they ruin the trail for hiking. The Roslyn Urban Forest trails are already being destroyed by bikers, making hiking some of them very unpleasant.

The forest should be kept quiet and peaceful, no motorized vehicles; that includes all types of OHVs and snowmobiles. The state has a gem with the TCF, don't overdevelop it. People have been enjoying it just the way it is for years and with a few changes more people can enjoy it.

I support multiple, beneficial use. This includes hikers, mountain bikers, motorcycles, ATV's, UTV's, Jeeps, and horses.

I represent a cross-section of the population who uses this forest respectfully. You have an obligation to consider the desires of all, not just the desires of your agency. While you may hold the key, we all have access rights.