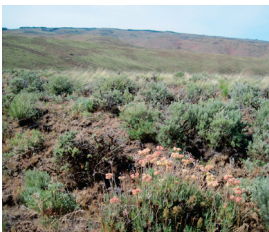
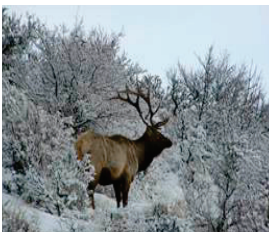


JANUARY 2015

Naneum Ridge to Columbia River Recreation and Access Plan



Acknowledgements

The Naneum Ridge to Columbia River Recreation and Access Plan was created through a public planning process. The process brought together recreation users, neighbors, interest groups, citizens, and staff from the Washington State Department of Natural Resources and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife to develop a comprehensive plan to direct the future use of recreation and public access with the Recreation Planning Area. Public input was a key component and the first step in developing the plan. The following individuals and organizations contributed to the development of this document.

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The committee provide valuable and diverse input throughout the recreation planning process. The final concepts and maps are being recommended by DNR and WDFW based on considerable input from the committee, the public, and information learned during the planning process. Recreation Planning Committee members included:

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January 2015

Dear Recreationist,

We are pleased to present the Naneum Ridge to Columbia River Recreation and Access Plan. This plan represents the culmination of two years of collaborative work by the Washington departments of Natural Resources (DNR) and Fish and Wildlife (DFW), local user groups, a citizen advisory committee, and individual members of the public. Developing this plan provided opportunities for people that are passionate about these areas to share ideas about how to best plan for recreation. Their efforts will guide managers in providing recreation opportunities for the next 10 to 15 years.


The recreation area includes the Naneum Ridge State Forest and Colockum, Quilomene, and Whiskey Dick wildlife areas. These recreation destinations encompass nearly 250,000 acres of state-managed and state-owned DNR and DFW lands near Ellensburg and Wenatchee in Kittitas and Chelan counties.

As the steward of state trust lands, DNR manages its working forests to sustainably generate income for land trust beneficiaries. Likewise, DFW shelters ecosystems to preserve, protect and perpetuate fish and wildlife. In these roles DNR and DFW both seek to protect water quality, preserve critical wildlife habitat, and, where sound, enable access for recreation purposes.


Partnering on this effort has enabled our two agencies to take a more efficient and integrated approach to quality recreation planning over a larger geographic area. Not only has this allowed us to better harness inter-departmental expertise for a plan that honors land management priorities, while balancing the public's desire to access varied sustainable opportunities for recreation, but it will also enhance the public's ability to comply with those priority needs through consistent public expectations across boundary lines.

Interest groups, local residents, the general public and State departments demonstrated high levels of cooperation and commitment in the creation of this plan. We wish to thank everyone who worked on behalf of the Naneum Ridge to Columbia River Recreation and Access Plan for their valuable efforts, time, and dedication to shared goals. We encourage each of you to remain engaged as we work together to implement this plan over the coming years.

Sincerely,



Peter Goldmark
Commissioner of Public Lands



Philip Anderson
Director, Washington Department
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Naneum Ridge to Columbia River Recreation and Access Plan



January 2015

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Introduction

The Naneum Ridge to Columbia River Recreation and Access Plan represents the first joint recreation planning effort between the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW). The Recreation Planning Area spans 229,000 acres from the eastern slopes of the Cascade Mountains to the Columbia River and includes the Naneum Ridge State Forest, managed by DNR, the Colockum Wildlife Area, the Quilomene Wildlife Unit, and the Whiskey Dick Wildlife Unit, managed by WDFW.

This recreation plan is the result of a planning process, originally established by DNR that actively engages the public in developing recreation and public access plans for popular landscapes. The plan provides guidance for recreation and public access on DNR and WDFW-managed lands in the Recreation Planning Area for the next 10-15 years.

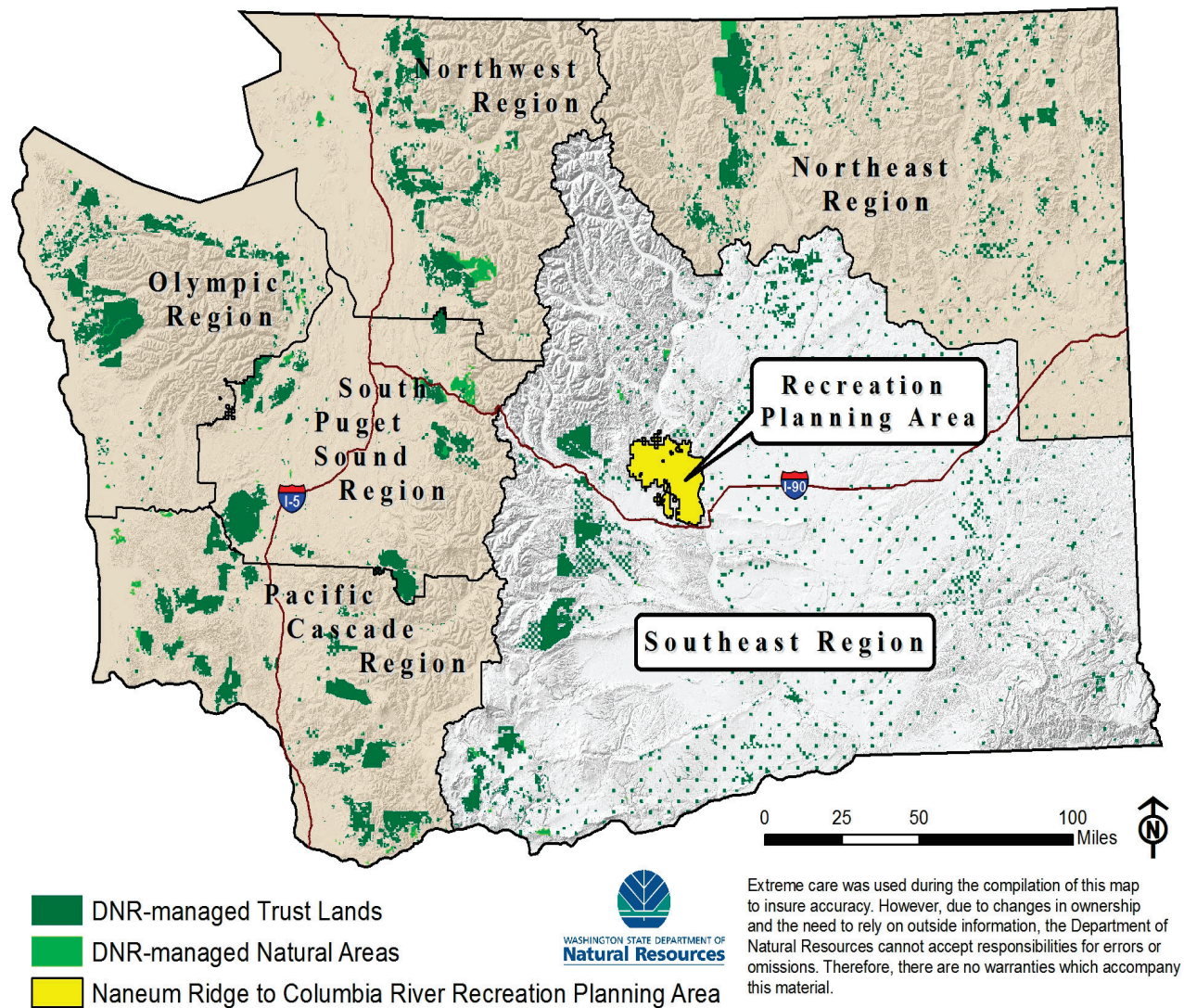
The Washington State Department of Natural Resources

The Naneum Ridge State Forest is part of Washington’s heritage of public lands managed by DNR. DNR manages 5.6 million acres of state-owned forest, range, aquatic, agricultural, conservation and commercial lands statewide for the people of Washington. Approximately 3 million acres are state trust lands that generate more than \$200 million each year in non-tax revenue; much of this income goes to support public schools, state institutions, and county services. DNR also manages the land to provide fish and wildlife habitat, clean and abundant water, and public access to outdoor recreation.

DNR also fights wildfires on public and private lands, manages a Natural Areas Program that protects native ecosystems, administers state forest practices rules, helps communities with fire prevention and urban forestry resources, provides geological services, regulates surface mine reclamation, and supplies knowledge about forestry, mining, rare native plant species, geology, and ecosystems.

DNR-managed lands are organized into six geographic regions. Each region manages the day-to-day operations involved in protecting and managing trust lands. The Naneum Ridge to Columbia River Recreation Planning Area is located in the Southeast Region (see Figure 1).

Figure 1. DNR regions and project location



State Trust Lands: Working Forests and Agricultural Lands

By law, state trust lands are to be held in trust and managed to sustainably produce income for schools, universities, state institutions, and county services. In Washington, approximately 2.1 million acres of trust lands are forested, many of which are working forests. Working forests are managed to provide a continuous supply of wood products and non-wood products, forest ecosystem functions such as carbon sequestration and water filtration, habitat for wildlife, as well as recreation opportunities. Responsibly managed working forests provide many environmental, economic, and social benefits for current and future generations.

The average timber harvest cycle for DNR working forests is 60 years in length. Forest management activities, including timber harvest, have the potential to affect recreational use through temporary closures of roads, trails, trailheads, and campgrounds.

DNR leases more than 1 million acres of state trust lands for agriculture and grazing. Lease revenue helps fund public school construction across Washington State. DNR works with lessees to assure that appropriate investments are made in the lands to keep them ecologically sustainable and productive while protecting public resources such as water, fish, and wildlife.

Agency Vision

Our decisions and hard work on the ground leave a legacy of healthy forests, clean water, thriving ecosystems, and a vibrant natural resource-based economy.

Agency Mission

In partnership with citizens and governments, the Washington State Department of Natural Resources provides innovative leadership and expertise to ensure environmental protection, public safety, perpetual funding for schools and communities, and a rich quality of life.

DNR's Guiding Principles

Manage the state's resources sustainably.

Through our sustainable management of resources entrusted to our care, future generations will have ample opportunities to enjoy and benefit from Washington's rich natural heritage. We will also ensure that revenues for our trusts will be stable or growing and that associated industries will thrive for generations to come.

Make decisions based on sound science.

Using sound science, data, and information to guide our decisions will result in the best possible outcomes for the state of Washington.

Make decisions in the public interest and with the public's knowledge.

Transparency and accountability are vital to earn the public's trust and appropriately manage shared resources. Decisions should be made for the benefit of current and future generations.

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

The Colockum Wildlife Area and the Quilomene and Whiskey Dick Wildlife Units all lie within the Naneum Ridge to Columbia River Recreation Planning Area. The Quilomene and Whiskey Dick Wildlife Units are part of the larger L.T. Murray Wildlife Area. The lands are all part of WDFW's long-term commitment to managing public lands and conserving natural resources for Washington's citizens. WDFW owns or manages more than 900,000 acres of land as Wildlife Areas and more than 700 water access sites to provide fish and wildlife habitat and compatible recreational opportunities.

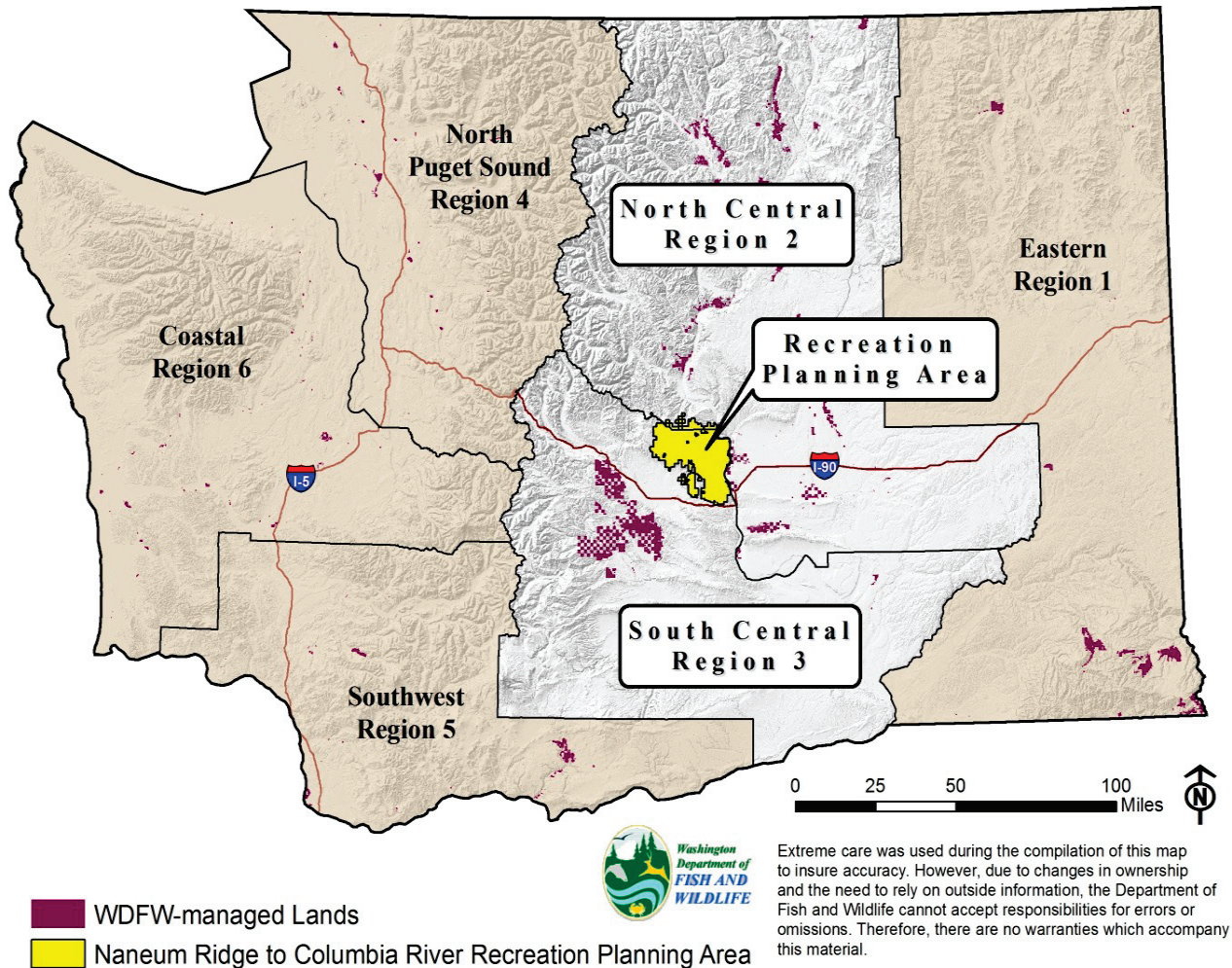
WDFW is the state's principal steward of fish and wildlife resources. State law directs the department to conserve native fish and wildlife and their habitat, while also supporting sustainable fishing, hunting, and wildlife-related recreation.

Popular hunting and fishing activities managed by WDFW support \$5.7 billion in economic activity each year and tens of thousands of jobs across the state. Wildlife watching produces billions of dollars more in economic benefits each year.

Every wildlife area is different, and each is managed through activities identified in a Wildlife Area Management Plan. The plans set out goals, objectives, performance measures, and implementation actions to support the overall agency mission and to comply with a variety of state and federal laws, property acquisition requirements, species and ecosystem recovery plans, and other fish and wildlife directives. The plans must address and protect biological values, support sustainable recreation, and consider economic and social values of Washington communities and residents.

WDFW lands are organized into six different management regions. Each region manages the day to day operations of fish and wildlife management. The Recreation Planning Area lies mostly within South Central Region 3, with a small portion in North Central Region 2 (see Figure 2).

Figure 2. WDFW Regions and project location



Agency Mission

To preserve, protect, and perpetuate fish, wildlife and ecosystems while providing sustainable fish and wildlife recreational and commercial opportunities.

Agency Vision

Conservation of Washington's fish and wildlife resources and ecosystems.

WDFW defines "Conservation" as: Protection, preservation, management, or restoration of natural environments and the ecological communities that inhabit them, including management of human use for public benefit and sustainable social and economic needs.

The 2013-15 Strategic Plan includes the following four goals:

Goal 1: Conserve and protect native fish and wildlife.

Goal 2: Provide sustainable fishing, hunting, and other wildlife-related recreational and commercial experiences.

Goal 3: Promote a healthy economy, protect community character, maintain an overall high quality of life, and deliver high-quality customer service.

Goal 4: Build an effective and efficient organization by supporting our workforce, improving business processes, and investing in technology.

Part I. Project Overview

DNR's Statewide Recreation Program Vision and Management Goals

As directed by the Multiple Use concept (RCW 79.10), DNR provides recreation and public access opportunities on state trust lands where such uses are compatible with trust objectives. DNR recognizes the diverse interests and values of the recreating public and the importance of connecting people with Washington's landscapes. DNR envisions a future where the lands it manages offer distinct and diverse outdoor recreation opportunities within the overall fabric of recreation in Washington. Solid partnerships and a strong stewardship ethic among user groups, recreationists, private landowners, and government agencies help enhance enjoyable and safe outdoor experiences for everyone.

Outdoor recreation on state trust lands is managed by DNR's Recreation Program. Providing recreational opportunities is contingent on sustainable funding from a variety of sources, as well as sound management and planning. DNR's Recreation Program vision statement for recreation and public access is:

Manage public and trust lands in a manner that provides quality, safe recreational experiences that are sustainable and consistent with DNR's environmental, financial, and social responsibilities.

The management goals for statewide recreation are:

- Goal 1: Uphold the safety of the public, DNR employees, and volunteers.
- Goal 2: Support recreation that is consistent with trust obligations.
- Goal 3: Provide recreation opportunities consistent with resource protection.
- Goal 4: Provide quality recreation experiences that can be sustained over time.

WDFW's Recreation Goal

WDFW has a rich history of managing lands, ecosystems, and species for multiple benefits that include recreation. Much of the agency's legacy is rooted in traditional hunting, fishing, and wildlife-related recreation. These priority uses are supported by agency funding sources, some of which have a direct tie to recreation. The Pittman-Robertson Act, created in 1964, provides states with dedicated funds from ammunition and firearms sales. Use of this funding is limited to wildlife restoration, including the purchase, development, maintenance, and operation of wildlife management areas. The agency's strategic plan identifies "...enhancement and expansion of fishing, hunting, wildlife viewing, and other outdoor activities..." as a key objective.

Recreation activities on wildlife areas are governed by the agency's public conduct rules, and, in some cases, are restricted based on property acquisition requirements, and/or other agreements. Each wildlife area supports recreation activities compatible with the conservation and protection of fish and wildlife.

To address increasing demand for recreation on WDFW lands and implement successful strategies to support compatible and sustainable recreation, the agency is currently refining its approach to managing recreation. The approach will not change the agency's mission, which puts fish and wildlife conservation first and foremost. It will provide guidance to wildlife area staff for managing new and existing recreation uses, including assessing potential fish and wildlife impacts, and ongoing needs to support operations and maintenance.

Recreation on lands managed by the Department of Fish and Wildlife are governed by RCW 77.04.012, RCW 77.12.880 and agency policies as follows:

1. Preserve, protect, perpetuate, and manage fish and wildlife habitat in a manner that does not impair the resources.
2. Maximize fishing and hunting opportunities.
3. Provide wildlife viewing opportunities.
4. WDFW can provide non-wildlife-related recreational opportunities using the filter of not impairing fish and wildlife resources.

Statewide Recreation on Agency Lands

There is a wide variety of developed and dispersed recreation opportunities on state-managed lands. Developed recreation refers to a designated site or location built or improved for recreation on agency-managed land such as a trailhead, vista, parking area, boat launch, picnic area, or campground. Dispersed recreation includes activities that take place outside of developed recreation facilities and includes activities such as primitive camping, hunting, backpacking, nature observation, scenic driving and exploring, snowshoeing, backcountry skiing, geocaching, etc.

DNR-Managed Lands

The Washington State Department of Natural Resources seeks to provide outdoor recreation opportunities to the public throughout the state. Recreation on DNR-managed lands includes, but is not limited to, hiking, horseback riding, camping, off-road vehicle (ORV) riding, mountain biking, cross-country skiing, snowmobiling, hunting, paragliding and hang-gliding, nature/wildlife viewing, rock climbing, picnicking, and boating.

The agency provides trails and campgrounds in primitive, natural settings. Most recreation takes place on the 2.1 million acres of forest state trust lands managed by DNR. DNR manages more than 1,100 miles of designated trails, 143 recreation sites, and provides access to a variety of dispersed recreation opportunities such as fishing, hunting, exploring, camping, berry picking, birding, and geocaching in a wide variety of landscapes across the state.

WDFW-Managed Lands

WDFW manages more than 900,000 acres of wildlife lands, divided into 33 wildlife areas. Additionally, WDFW manages more than 700 water access sites. The agency provides sustainable hunting, fishing, and wildlife-related recreation opportunities that attract

approximately 4 million visitors per year. WDFW is distinct from many public agencies in providing primitive and dispersed recreation opportunities that primarily support hunting, fishing, and wildlife viewing. The agency offers limited recreation facilities including parking areas, some developed camping sites, restrooms, and boat ramps. Over time, the agency's lands have attracted a broader range of recreationists, including those interested in horseback riding, hiking, birding, exploring, and boating, in addition to traditional hunting and fishing. The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife can provide non wildlife-related recreational opportunities to the public when doing so does not impair statewide fish and wildlife resources.

Recreation Plan Purpose and Use

The Naneum Ridge to Columbia River Recreation and Access Plan encompasses recreation and public access in the Naneum Ridge State Forest, Colockum Wildlife Area, and the Quilomene and Whiskey Dick Wildlife Units, collectively referred to as the Recreation Planning Area. The Naneum Ridge to Columbia River Recreation and Access Plan is intended to guide DNR and WDFW in safe and sustainable recreation and public access management in the Recreation Planning Area for the next 10-15 years. The plan is not intended to change regulations related to hunting and fishing recreation. These activities are addressed through a separate regulatory and public process.

The plan has two primary purposes:

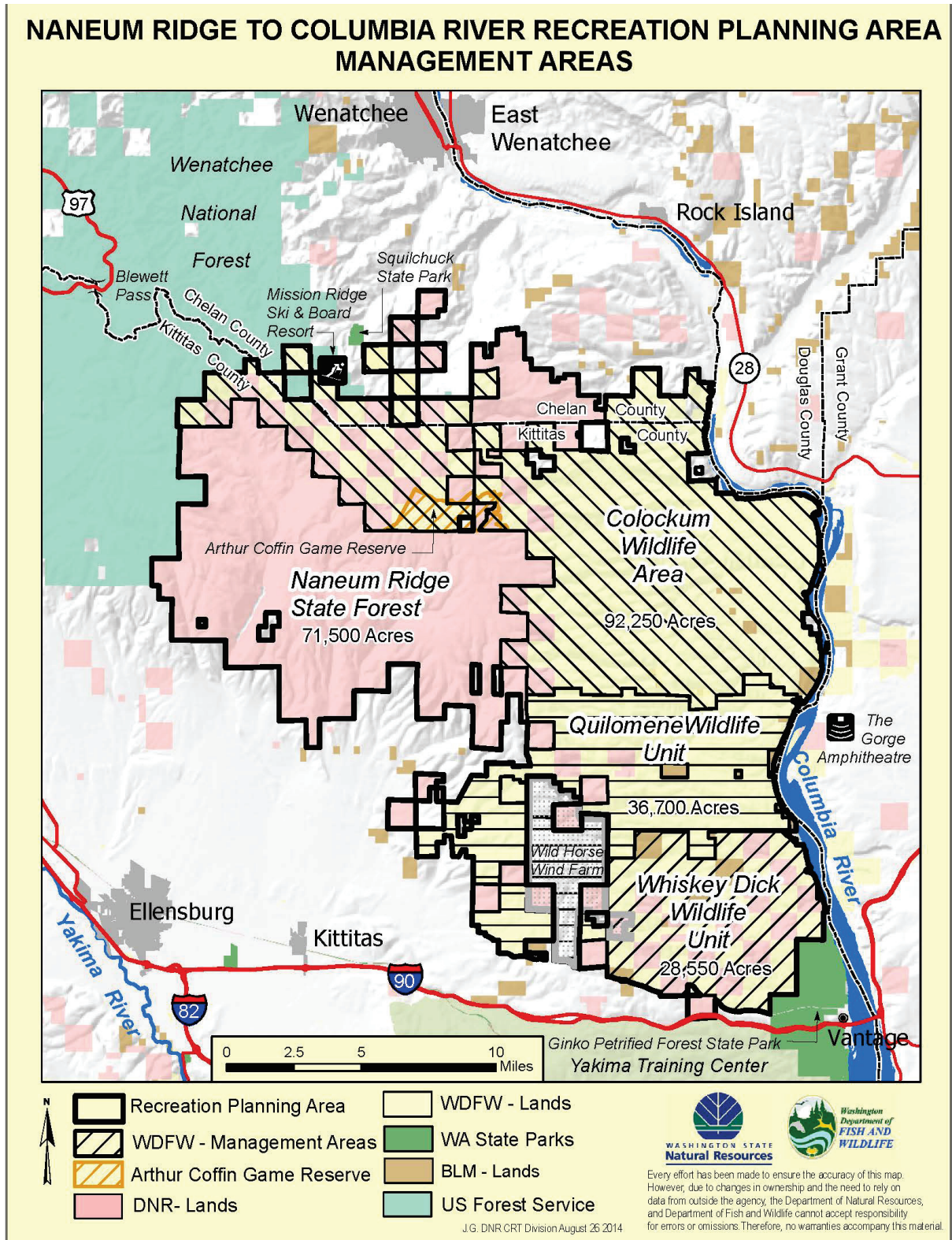
- Develop a 10-15 year vision for recreation and public access by describing recreation management concepts.
- Present specific objectives and strategies to guide recreation, public access, and management over the next 10-15 years.

Recreation Planning Area Description

The Recreation Planning Area extends from the eastern slopes of the Cascade Range to the Columbia River and spans approximately 229,000 acres within Kittitas and Chelan Counties. The Recreation Planning Area contains state-managed land and several isolated parcels of Bureau of Land Management (BLM) lands. DNR and WDFW are the land managers for all state lands within the Recreation Planning Area, and WDFW manages the BLM parcels. Ownership exchanges have occurred in several portions of the Recreation Planning Area since the beginning of the recreation planning process, assisting in consolidating the checkerboard pattern of ownership. In addition to the state and federal lands, several private parcels are located within the Recreation Planning Area.

Naneum Ridge State Forest, primarily in Kittitas County, encompasses approximately 71,500 acres and comprises much of the western half of the Recreation Planning Area. The western border of Naneum Ridge State Forest shares a border with federal forest lands. The northern portion of the forest displays checkerboard ownership with the WDFW-managed Colockum Wildlife Area (see Figure 3).

Figure 3. Recreation Planning Area



The Colockum Wildlife Area is approximately 92,250 acres in size and is located in both Kittitas and Chelan Counties and covers most of the northern portion of the Recreation

Planning Area. The Colockum Wildlife Area on the west side is interspersed within the Naneum Ridge State Forest and extends east to the Columbia River. The Wildlife Area supports a 350-acre Natural Area Preserve, established to protect rare and threatened plants and animals as well as sensitive plant associations. The Arthur Coffin Game Reserve is part of the Colockum Wildlife Area, and serves as habitat preservation for local wildlife, particularly elk. Recreational access to the Arthur Coffin Game Reserve is restricted.

The Quilomene Wildlife Unit is approximately 36,700 acres and lies directly south of the Colockum Wildlife Area. The 28,550 acre Whiskey Dick Wildlife Unit is south of the Quilomene Wildlife Unit at the southeastern most portion of the Recreation Planning Area. Both of the Wildlife Units extend east to the Columbia River. Within the Whiskey Dick Wildlife Unit are several DNR-owned parcels and several federally owned parcels, all of which are managed by WDFW as part of the Wildlife Unit. The Quilomene and Whiskey Dick Wildlife Units belong to the larger L.T. Murray Wildlife Area; the rest of the L.T. Murray Wildlife Area being outside of the Recreation Planning Area.

Current Recreation Opportunities in the Recreation Planning Area

Providing recreation opportunities in the Recreation Planning Area is consistent with DNR's authority to construct, operate, and maintain primitive outdoor recreation facilities under the 1971 Multiple Use concept (RCW 79.10) and WDFW's authority to manage recreation under RCW 77.04.012, RCW 77.12.880, and agency policies.

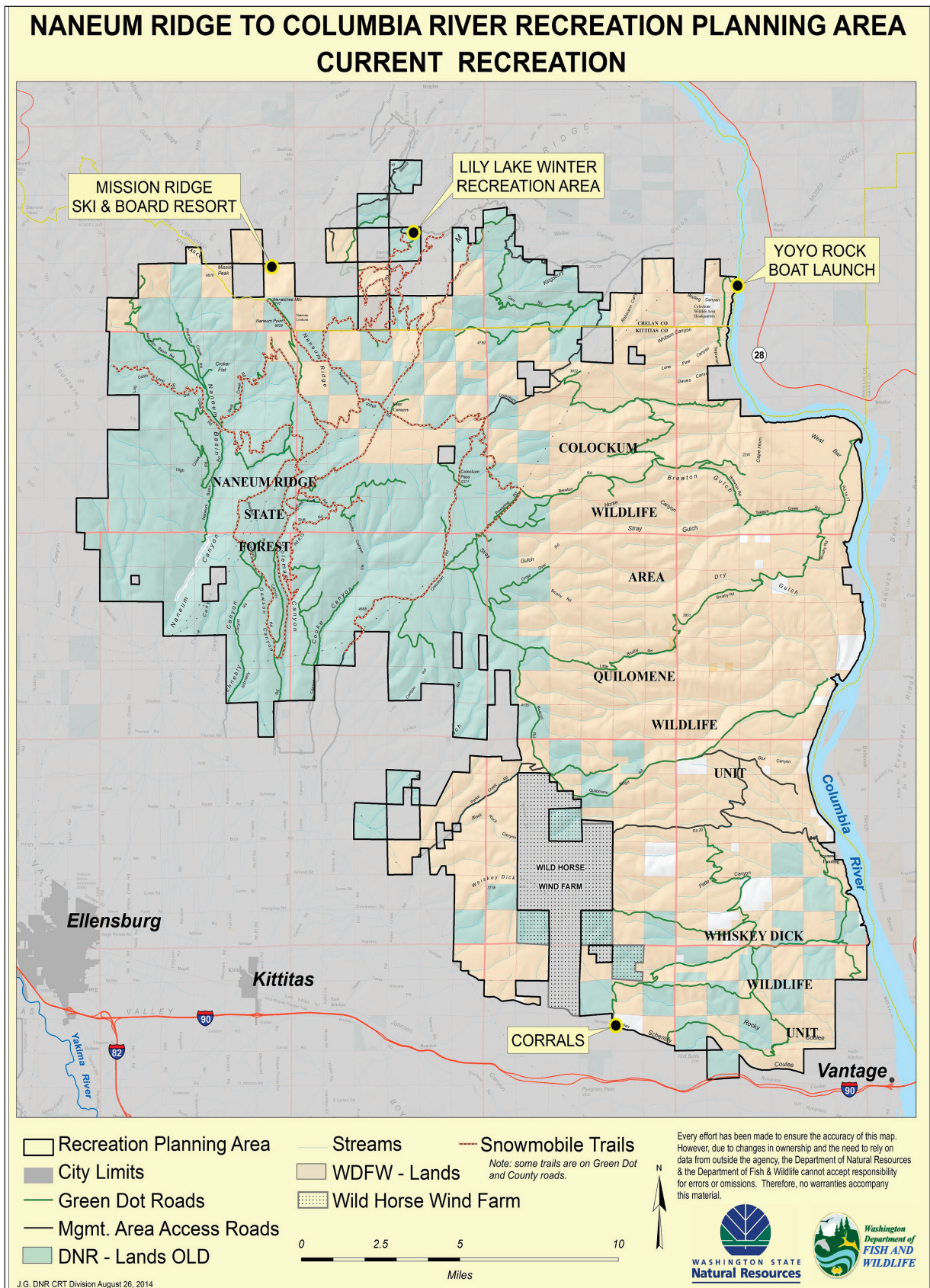
Green Dot Road Management System

The Green Dot Road Management System was established in the early 1980s as a means to facilitate public travel across a landscape of checkerboard ownership in DNR's Southeast Region and WDFW's Regions 2 and 3. The system identifies roads open to the public for vehicular and Off Road Vehicle (ORV) use. Management of the Green Dot Road system includes a cooperative agreement among DNR, WDFW, and private landowners who allow public access to state lands through and across private ownerships. Maps, reader boards, and route markers with green dots indicate when a road is open to motorized vehicles. Green dot signs on private property indicate that the property owner has allowed DNR and WDFW to post public access through their land. There are more than 270 miles of Green Dot Roads in the Recreation Planning Area. Green Dot Roads are used for management purposes, public access, recreation, and provide access for dispersed recreational uses such as camping, exploring, hunting, and wildlife viewing.

Snowmobile Trail System

One designated trail system in the Recreation Planning Area is the snowmobile trail system, which provides motorized winter recreation trail opportunities on DNR and WDFW lands in the northern portion of the Recreation Planning Area (Naneum Ridge State Forest and Colockum Wildlife Area). The snowmobile trail system is accessed from a winter trailhead at Lily Lake (see Figure 4). There are approximately 90 miles of groomed trails maintained by the Washington State Parks Winter Recreation Program.

Figure 4. Current Developed Recreation Opportunities



The Naneum Ridge State Forest currently does not have any developed recreation sites or facilities. The forest is open year-around for dispersed recreation access and motorized and non-motorized use on approximately 109 miles of Green Dot Roads that are located within the forest. Additionally, the Naneum Ridge State Forest has approximately 279 miles of forest management roads that allow non-motorized opportunities.

The majority of recreation within the Colockum Wildlife Area and the Quilomene and Whiskey Dick Wildlife Units is dispersed and accessed on the Green Dot Road System.

The developed recreation opportunities within the Recreation Planning Area include:

- 1 boat launch in Colockum Wildlife Area
- Corrals used by horseback riders at the Corrals entrance to the Whiskey Dick Wildlife Unit
- 1 winter trailhead
- Approximately 90 miles of groomed snowmobile trails in Naneum Ridge State Forest and Colockum Wildlife Area

In addition, there are approximately 270 miles of Green Dot Roads.

Parking occurs throughout the Recreation Planning Area along the Green Dot Roads. Vehicles are allowed to park within 100 feet of any Green Dot Road. The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife regulates seasonal hunting and fishing throughout the Recreation Planning Area. Some of the more popular areas people visit in the Recreation Planning Area includes Stemilt Basin, Judy's Tamarack Park, Walter Flat, Kohler Spring, Green Gate Unit, Winch Hill, and Quilomene Bay.

There is currently restricted access to motorized vehicles to Green Dot Roads (since 2008) in a portion of the Whiskey Dick Wildlife Unit between February 1 and April 30.

Part II. The Plan

The Naneum Ridge to Columbia River Recreation and Access Plan is intended to guide DNR and WDFW in developing and managing recreational opportunities and public access over the next 10-15 years. The Plan incorporates recreation program goals for both agencies and identifies project priorities for implementation. The plan will be evaluated periodically as part of adaptive management, and changes will be made as necessary to ensure compatibility with DNR's trust obligations and forest management objectives, and WDFW's operational goals.

Concept Maps

One key outcome of the recreation planning process is the development of recreational use Concept Maps for the Recreation Planning Area (see Figures 5 and 6). The maps reflect the general locations of existing and proposed recreation management concepts within the Recreation Planning Area. DNR and WDFW jointly developed the Concept Maps with involvement and feedback from the Recreation Planning Committee. The Concept Maps are based on broad-scale mapping information. Exact locations and site specific details related to the proposed projects will be generated in future on-the-ground site assessments to ensure safety, sustainability, and a positive user experience.

Figure 5. Recreational Use Concept Map

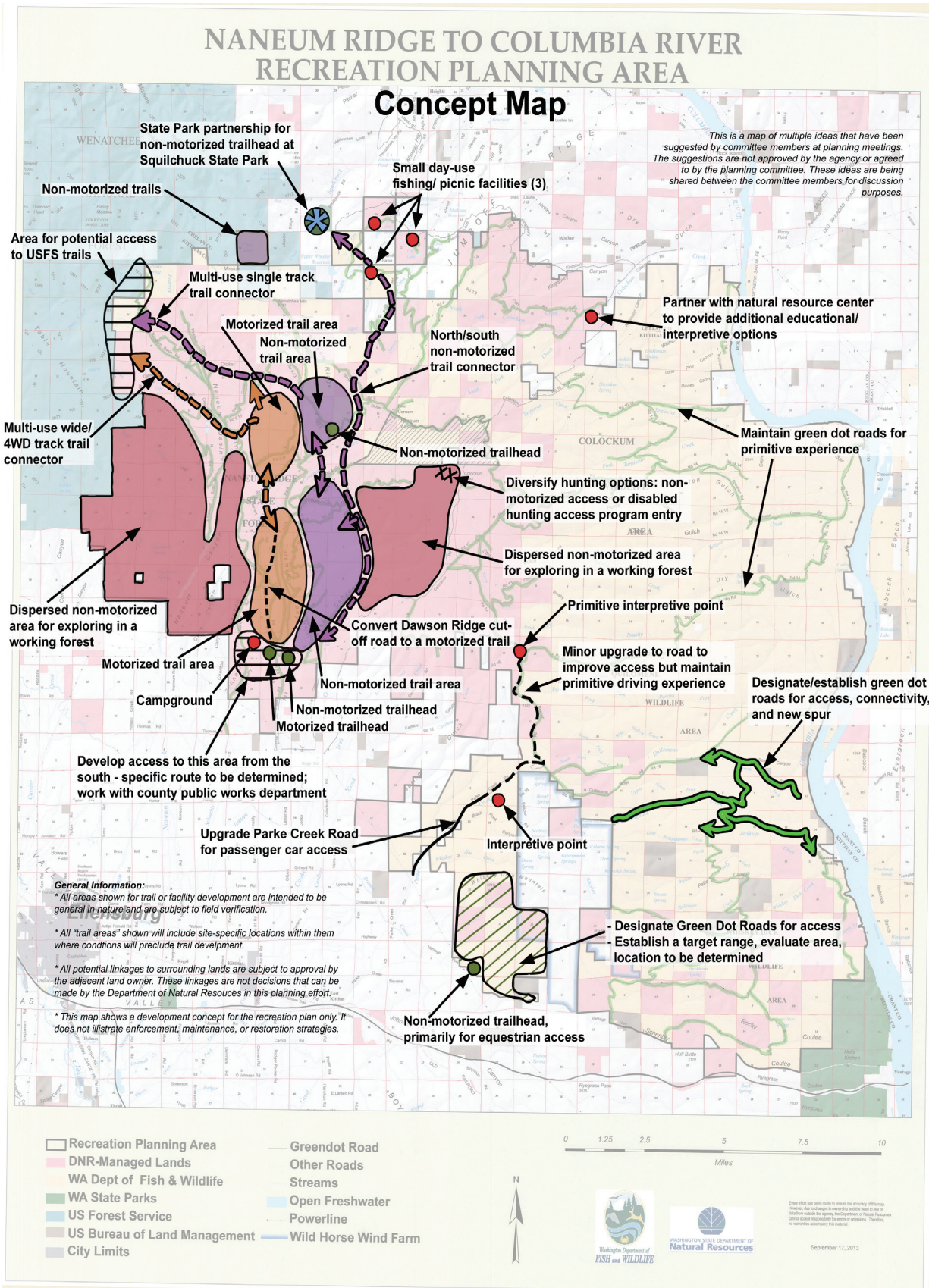
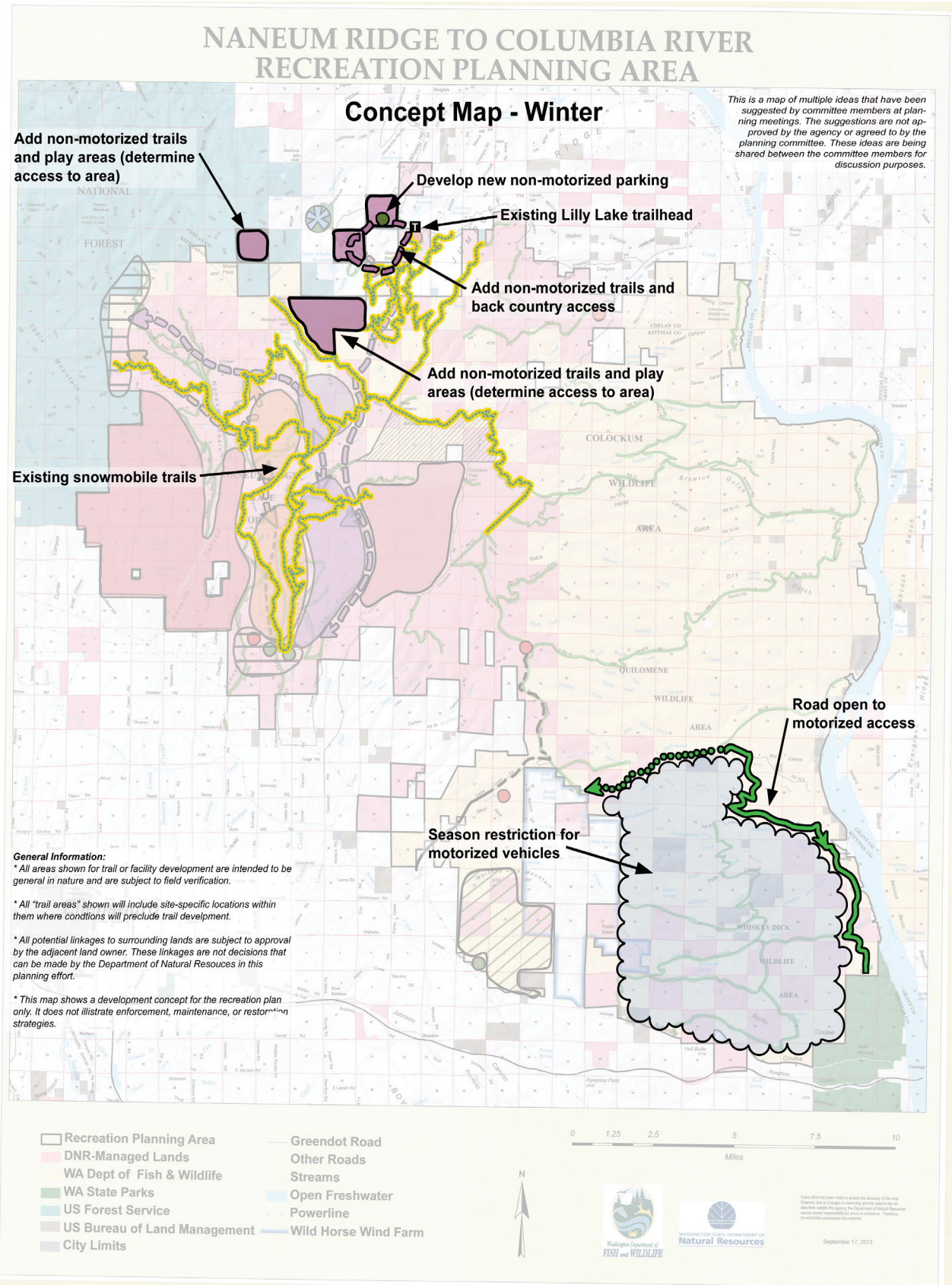


Figure 6. Recreational Use Concept Map – Winter



Objectives and Strategies

Another key outcome of the recreation planning process is a list of recreation management objectives and strategies for the Recreation Planning Area. These objectives and strategies describe in further detail the proposed recreation concepts and how they will be implemented and managed. Implementation of proposed projects is subject to the availability of funding.

Recreation Planning Sub-Areas

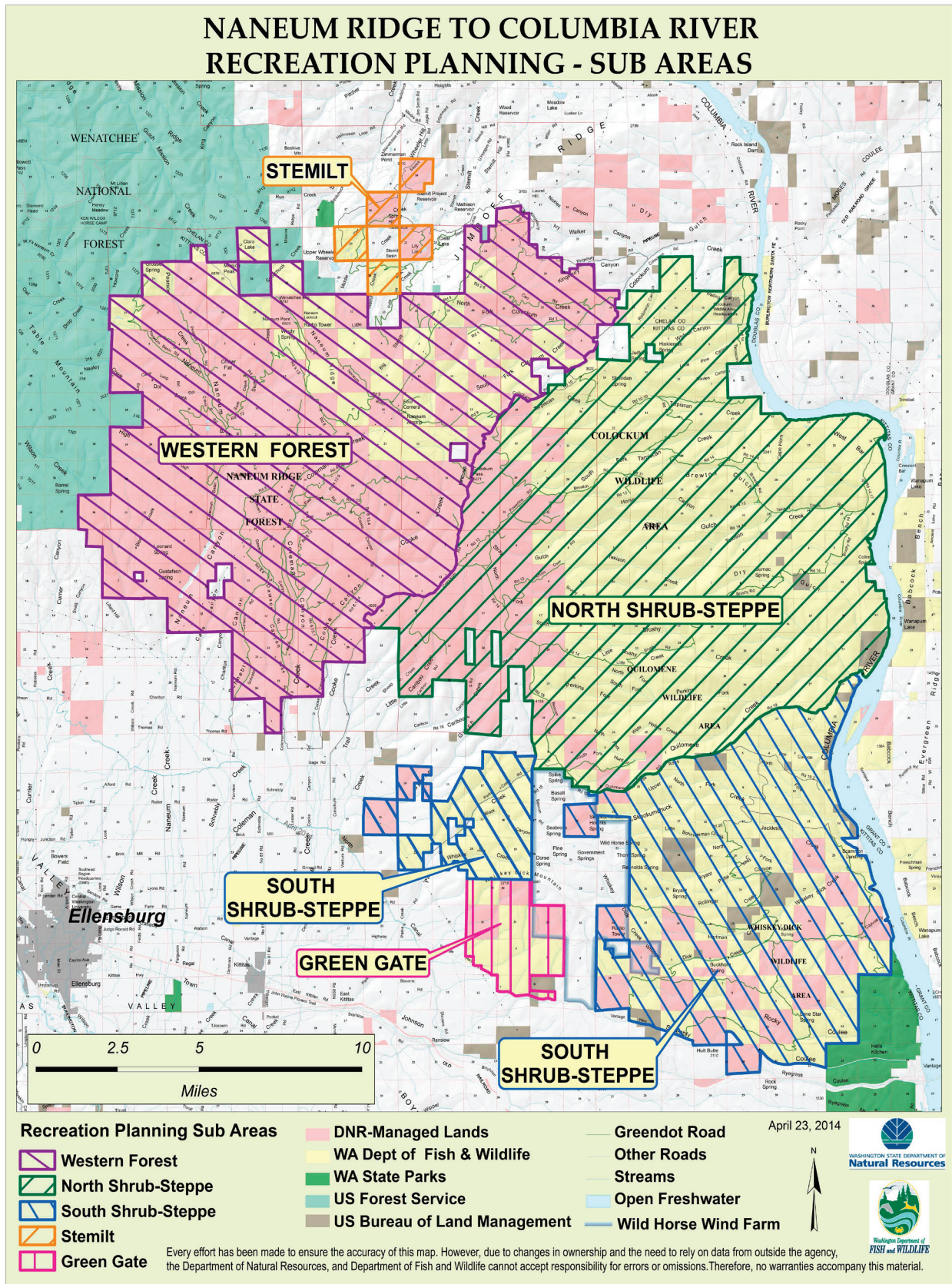
Due to the large size of the Recreation Planning Area, Sub-Areas were created as part of this recreation plan to assist in associating specific objectives and strategies with particular locations or landscape features. Recreation Planning Sub-Areas describe geographic sections of the Recreation Planning Area (see Table 1) and typically contain land managed by both DNR and WDFW. Sub-Areas are not intended to reflect official boundaries.

Table 1. Recreation Planning Sub-Area Designations

Recreation Planning Sub-Area Designation	Primary Recreation Management Activities
Western Forest: Naneum Ridge State Forest and the Colockum Wildlife Area west of Colockum Road; includes the Arthur Coffin Game Reserve	Motorized/Non-Motorized developed recreation, dispersed recreation, Green Dot Road access (Non-motorized and Motorized Winter Recreation)
Stemilt: Five sections of land in the Stemilt Basin, north of the Western Forest Sub-Area	Non-motorized Summer Recreation-developed and dispersed, Green Dot Road access (Non-motorized and Motorized Winter Recreation)
North Shrub-Steppe: Contains portions of the southeastern Naneum Ridge State Forest and the Colockum Wildlife Area east of Colockum Road and some of Quilomene Wildlife Unit	Dispersed Recreation, Green Dot Road access
South Shrub-Steppe: Most of the Quilomene Wildlife Unit and Whiskey Dick Wildlife Unit, including the Parke Creek Area	Dispersed Recreation, Green Dot Road access
Green Gate: A portion of the western Whiskey Dick Wildlife Unit	Non-motorized developed and dispersed recreation, Green Dot Road access

Portions of the Recreation Planning Sub-Areas exhibit mixed ownership; where land ownership is intermingled among DNR, WDFW, and sometimes other land owners, resulting in a checkerboard pattern (see Figure 7).

Figure 7. Recreation Planning Sub-Areas



This is a broad-scale recreation planning effort and includes a non-project level environmental review in compliance with the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA). In the future, as this plan is implemented, there will be additional project specific work such as site-specific assessments, field reconnaissance and inventory work, and detailed facility and trail design work. During implementation individual projects will be subject to applicable regulatory procedures and practices. Processes referred to in these objectives and strategies are in addition to and do not replace current regulatory processes and procedures. At that time there will be additional environmental review in compliance with SEPA and opportunities for public involvement.



Indicates: *Winter Recreation Objectives and Strategies*

Public Road Access/Green Dot Road System

The Green Dot Road System is a primary means of public access to the Recreation Planning Area for motorized vehicles and dispersed recreation.

Entire Planning Area

Objective A: Provide and maintain a network of Green Dot Roads for public access in the Recreation Planning Area.

Strategies

1. Continue to provide Green Dot Road maps to the public that identify and map the Green Dot Road System.
2. Evaluate new communication alternatives for maps and/or electronic applications to enhance the public's ability to identify Green Dot Roads.
3. Seek opportunities and partnerships to expand funding mechanisms for Green Dot Road maintenance and enforcement.

Objective B: Improve linkages and maintain access throughout the Green Dot Road System.

Strategies

1. Add two segments of existing roads (as shown on the concept map) to the Green Dot Road System in the Whiskey Dick Wildlife Unit that connect two existing Green Dot Roads together (Quilomene Ridge Road and the Jack Knife area).
2. Add two new segments of existing roads (as shown on the concept map) to the Green Dot Road System in the Whiskey Dick Wildlife Unit, for public road access to Box Canyon and Skookumchuck.

Objective C: Consider converting Green Dot Roads to trails in locations where the road is not necessary for near-term land management operational access and where compatible with the recreational purpose for the area. (Note: The trail may need to be converted back to a road in the future.)

Strategy

1. Convert the Dawson Ridge Road to a motorized trail/management road as a part of developing a new motorized trail system in the Naneum Ridge State Forest.

Objective D: Decrease motorized road access to reduce resource impacts to wet meadows.

Strategy

1. Convert the Pettit Road south of the Arthur Coffin Game Reserve to year-round non-motorized access only (see Concept Map).

Objective E: Provide primitive Green Dot Road experiences in the shrub-steppe areas.

Strategy

1. Continue to provide highly primitive Green Dot Roads in the shrub-steppe areas. These roads are very rough in nature and generally require a 4x4 vehicle for access. In addition, maintenance of these roads may be limited or not practical due to the inability to get road equipment to damaged areas.

Objective F: DNR and WDFW are committed to maintaining the Green Dot Road System to provide public access. The Green Dot Road System may undergo changes as part of long term management of the road system to address resource protection concerns and/or to lower maintenance costs. (Note: Many of the Green Dot Roads in the shrub-steppe environment will continue to be managed as primitive access. These roads provide opportunities for hunting, management access, and exploring. However, the primitive nature of these roads and limited access could preclude options for maintenance and/or road improvement projects in some cases.)

Strategies

1. Establish objective evaluation criteria (that includes resource protection, public safety, importance for recreational access, etc.) for a Green Dot Road assessment in partnership with the public.
2. Inventory and evaluate existing Green Dot Roads for long-term access based on established criteria.
3. Identify priority areas and consult with the public, other agencies, and governments to discuss road improvements.
4. Make road changes (i.e. enhance surfacing and drainage features, reroute roads, relocate, and/or close Green Dot Roads). Changes will be done over time and as funding permits. Temporary alternate access routes will be provided during reroutes as/if practical.
5. Partner with the public to identify specific locations along the Green Dot Road System and develop solutions where there are compliance issues and/or resource damage concerns.

Objective G: Adopt a tiered approach compatible with Road Management and Abandonment Planning (RMAP) principles (i.e., address the “worst first”) for roads in the shrub-steppe areas and begin making road improvements.

Strategies

1. Implement RMAP concepts to the shrub steppe habitat, projects will be consistent with the principles outlined in WAC 222-24-051. Prioritize shrub steppe RMAP improvements according to the following descending priorities:

- a. Remove fish barriers on Green Dot Roads and non-Green Dot Roads (generally start at the bottom of a basin and work upstream, as feasible);
 - b. Prevent or limit sediment delivery;
 - c. Correct drainage or unstable side cast to prevent damage, protect resources, and improve safety;
 - d. Disconnect road drainage from surface waters;
 - e. Repair or maintain stream-adjacent parallel roads with an emphasis on minimizing or eliminating water and sediment delivery;
 - f. Improve hydrologic connectivity by minimizing the interruption of surface water drainage, subsurface water interception, and water pirating from one basin to another and);
 - g. Conduct repair or maintenance work that can be undertaken with the maximum operational efficiency.
2. RMAP projects that occur on Green Dot Roads will also include the following considerations:
- a. Notify the public in advance of necessary road work and allow time for public to question the project (this would not apply to emergency situations).
 - b. Establish temporary and/or permanent access routes for the Green Dot Road System where practical.
 - c. Evaluate the need and feasibility for relocating stream adjacent roads with high levels of public use out of the riparian zone.
 - d. Include an agency engineering staff review of all road relocation or improvement projects to ensure that projects are compatible with and/or support agency operational and management needs.
 - e. Abandon roads only if other remedies are not viable (last option).

Objective H: Expand existing public process for making permanent changes to Green Dot Roads on WDFW lands in the Recreation Planning Area. (NOTE: This process does not apply to short term and seasonal closures as described in WDFW Policy 6012) This process shall be used in conjunction with the existing WDFW Policy 6012 *Managing Public Access on Department Lands*, and WDFW Procedure 6012- *Managing Public Access on Department Lands*.

Strategies

1. WDFW Wildlife Area managers will notify and request “preliminary input” from the Wildlife Area Advisory Committee as early as practical (after Action Item #1 [PRO_6012]) when WDFW is considering permanent changes to the Green Dot Road System in the Recreation Planning Area. This “preliminary input” step will be done during consideration of options and prior to determining a preferred proposal.
2. Wildlife Area Advisory Committee will be asked to submit “preliminary input” by a specified date.
3. WDFW will consider the “preliminary input” provided by the Wildlife Area Advisory Committee and offer to discuss the project with them in more detail if requested.
4. WDFW will continue with Action Item #2 as referenced in PRO-6012.

South Shrub-Steppe Sub-Area

Objective I: Provide non-motorized access to the Whiskey Dick Wildlife Unit in the winter that reduces the disturbance to elk and the potential for elk damage on adjacent private property to the west.

Strategies

1. Restrict motorized vehicle access from the south to the central portion of the Whiskey Dick Wildlife Unit (see Recreational Use Concept Map-Winter).
2. Provide motorized vehicle access along the eastern perimeter road of the Whiskey Dick Wildlife Unit (see Recreational Use Concept Map-Winter).
3. Motorized access will be restricted between February 1 and April 30 annually.
4. Continue to work with Washington State Parks regarding winter access.
5. Perform a site-specific SEPA for any modifications to the seasonal restriction.

Objective J: Improve Parke Creek Road for public access to interpretive points as shown on the Concept Map.

Strategies

1. Upgrade Parke Creek Road to the lower interpretive point to allow passenger vehicles and school buses access for educational programs.
2. Provide for primitive road access between the lower interpretive point on Parke Creek Road and the upper interpretive point on Beacon Hill Road/18 Road.

Western Forest Sub-Area

Objective K: Evaluate and develop public road access to the Naneum Ridge State Forest area from the south.

Strategies

1. Consult with the Kittitas County Public Works staff when evaluating public road access options south of the Naneum Ridge State Forest and/or from Colockum Road.
2. Project proposals will include public road options, cost benefit analysis, and mitigation strategies.
3. Collaborate with Kittitas County to evaluate and identify methods to maintain the agricultural nature of county lands relating to agricultural activities prior to the implementation of any public road access plans.

Objective L: Improve public road/trail linkage to adjacent public lands to the west.

Strategies

1. Coordinate with United State Forest Service (USFS) to connect trails onto USFS lands.
2. Evaluate and develop a new Green Dot Road or motorized trail connecting the motorized trail system in the Naneum Ridge State Forest to the motorized trail system on USFS lands in the Dot Creek area.

Green Gate Sub-Area

Objective M: Provide long-term Green Dot Road access in the Green Gate Sub-Area in locations that are more suitable for motorized uses. This area is currently crisscrossed with user-built trails and old tank routes that were used for military training.

Strategies

1. Partner with users to evaluate, design, and develop a new Green Dot Road loop compatible with other dispersed uses in the area (not to exceed approximately 12 miles) and/or seasonally restrict the loop road in order to provide compatibility with other dispersed uses in this area.
2. Close and rehabilitate old tank routes and user-built trails where feasible.

Dispersed Recreation Management

Activities outside the boundaries of designated recreation facilities and trails are considered “dispersed recreation”. Dispersed recreation examples include, but are not limited to, camping, fishing, hunting, exploring, pleasure driving, nature viewing, and firewood gathering.

Entire Planning Area

Objective A: Provide and enhance dispersed recreation opportunities in the Recreation Planning Area.

Strategies

1. Continue to provide opportunities such as dispersed camping, pleasure driving, hunting, fishing, and exploring.
2. Incorporate the Disabled Hunter Road Access Program into the Recreation Planning Area. The program provides access for hunters with mobility disabilities and is primarily operated as a joint effort by DNR and WDFW through an annual lottery system.
3. In areas with concentrated seasonal dispersed use, provide support facilities such as portable or floating sanitation toilets and seasonal garbage removal as necessary.
4. In the Green Gate Sub-Area, utilize seasonal use restrictions as necessary to facilitate compatibility between recreational activities (i.e. target shooting and pheasant release, etc.)
5. Manage dispersed recreation on DNR-managed lands consistent with WAC 332.52.
6. Manage dispersed recreation on WDFW-managed lands consistent with WAC 232.13.

Western Forest Sub-Area

Objective B: Maintain and/or improve opportunities in *Non-motorized Dispersed Recreation Areas*.

Strategies

1. Designate two *Non-motorized Dispersed Recreation Areas* (shown on Concept Map) where dispersed recreation is provided and no new public road access is developed.

- (Note: These areas are within working forests and management road access will continue to be present and operational.)
2. No developed recreation will be planned for or provided in the *Non-motorized Dispersed Recreation Areas*.

Recreation Trails

A main component of all trail projects will include an evaluation of existing undesignated trails for sustainability and user experience, and planning new trails that are sustainably located and built to provide a safe recreation experience without compromising environmental and resource health. Trail work will include restoring areas with known resource and environmental damage, relocating and developing trails in long-term sustainable locations, and restoring the former locations.

Entire Planning Area

Designated trails within the Recreation Planning Area will include those trails planned for and managed by DNR and/or WDFW.

Objective A: Provide and maintain a network of safe, enjoyable, and sustainable recreation trails consistent with the following strategies.

Strategies

1. When planning for and locating future trails, inventory existing undesignated trails to determine the extent of resource and environmental damage and the potential for reuse as part of a designated trail system.
2. Develop a coordinated, systematic approach to adding new trails where appropriate; decommissioning and restoring old locations simultaneously.
3. Provide separate use trails where appropriate for user experience and safety.
4. Design and locate designated trails consistent with DNR's and/or WDFW's standards, stewardship responsibilities, suitability criteria, safety and risk management, and user experience.
5. Create and maintain trail systems that minimize long term maintenance and prevent or minimize the potential for erosion and sediment delivery into nearby water bodies.
6. Establish Trail Management Objectives (TMOs) for designated trails. TMOs describe criteria for planning, construction, and maintenance of new trails and trail segments.
7. Provide trail lengths, loops, and destinations that provide a range of trail experiences.
8. Where practical, locate trails away from adjacent private property boundaries.
9. For DNR-managed lands, establish a trails working group that includes representatives from interested user groups to provide ongoing input and participate with trail planning, design, group events, and maintenance.
10. For WDFW-managed lands, work with the Wildlife Area Advisory Committees to provide ongoing input and participate with trail planning, design, group events, and maintenance.
11. Consider and pursue a range of maintenance funding opportunities for trails including partnerships, commercial agreements, permits, and fees.

Western Forest Sub-Area

Objective B: Provide non-motorized trail opportunities for horseback riding, hiking, and mountain biking.

Strategies

1. Inventory and evaluate the Non-motorized Trails Areas identified on the Concept Map for a non-motorized trail system.
2. Partner with the public to identify trail location options within the Non-motorized Trail Area.
3. Plan, design, and develop a non-motorized trail system for hiking, horseback riding, and mountain biking.

Objective C: Provide off-road trail opportunities for ATVs, motorcycles, and 4x4s.

Strategies

1. Inventory and evaluate the Motorized Trail Area identified on the Concept Map for a motorized trail system.
2. Partner with the public to identify trail location options within the Motorized Trail Area.
3. Plan, design, and develop a motorized trail system for ATVs, motorcycles, and 4x4s in Naneum Ridge State Forest.

Objective D: Provide multi-use trail linkages to USFS trails for single track and wide track trail experiences (open to motorized and non-motorized recreation).

Strategies

1. Work (establish partnership) with the Wenatchee National Forest (USFS) in the Table Mountain area to identify potential linkage routes for connecting to existing USFS trails.
2. Evaluate areas suitable for locating 2 multi-use trail connectors: one for single track and one for wide track/4WD to connect to existing USFS trails.
3. Design and develop trails with compatible connections to USFS trails.

Western Forest, Stemilt Sections, and North Shrub-Steppe Sub-Areas

Objective E: Provide a north/south multi-use, non-motorized trail.

Strategies

1. Establish a project team including representatives from Squilchuck State Park, Stemilt Partnership and affected user groups (such as mountain bikers, equestrian, and hikers) and affected private property owners for the planning, design, and development of a north/south multi-use non-motorized trail.
2. Identify and evaluate trail location options.
3. Plan, design, and develop a north/south multi-use, non-motorized trail from Squilchuck State Park to a new non-motorized trailhead in the lower Naneum Ridge State Forest.



Objective F: Provide a non-motorized winter trail system.

Strategies

1. Partner with the public to identify trail location options within the area identified on the Concept Map-Winter.
2. Plan, design, and develop winter non-motorized trails.
3. Provide non-motorized winter access at Clara Lake area and additional areas shown on the Concept Map-Winter.
4. Coordinate the design of the non-motorized winter trails and play areas with input from non-motorized users and the snowmobile community.



Objective G: Continue to provide winter motorized recreation in the Recreation Planning Area.

Strategies

1. Continue existing agreement with Washington State Parks to maintain existing snowmobile trails in the Recreation Planning Area.
2. Maintain winter snowmobile trails in the Recreation Planning Area.
3. Continue to enforce existing snowmobile winter restrictions east of the Colockum Pass Road and in the West Bar area.

South Shrub-Steppe Sub-Area

Objective H: Provide a hiking-only interpretive trail at the public interpretive site on Parke Creek Road.

Strategies

1. Evaluate area adjacent to the new public interpretive site to have an interpretive hiking-only trail.
2. Design and develop hiking-only interpretive trail as part of the public interpretive stop.
3. Develop interpretive program for the trail.
4. Work with Wild Horse Wind and Solar Facility and local schools to contemplate supporting public-use opportunities at the interpretive trail for school field trips.

Recreation Facilities

Designated recreation facilities within the Recreational Planning Area include those facilities planned for and managed by each agency. New recreation facilities within the Recreation Planning Area include trailheads, day-use areas, a campground, a target shooting range, and interpretive areas.

Entire Planning Area

Objective A: Provide and maintain a network of designated safe, enjoyable, and sustainable recreation facilities as defined by the following strategies.

Strategies

1. Plan new facility locations and designs consistent with DNR's and WDFW's Habitat Conservation Plans and other relevant policies, procedures, rules, and regulations.
2. Develop proposed facilities in conjunction with the required leases, easements, permits and agreements needed for counties, grant funding requirements, trust compensation, and DNR and WDFW-management obligations.
3. Design and maintain facilities that protect the environment and natural resources, support safe and sustainable recreation opportunities, and provide user accessibility in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and other regulations.
4. Determine appropriate locations for new recreation facilities based on site-specific assessments of biological, soils, geological, and management considerations.
5. Determine the size of new trailheads based in part on a carrying capacity assessment of the trail system.

Western Forest Sub-Area

Objective B: Provide developed facilities for overnight and day-use activities in the Naneum Ridge State Forest.

Strategies

1. Locate, design, and develop a new motorized trailhead in the southern portion of the Forest.
2. Locate, design, and develop a new non-motorized trailhead in the southern portion of the Forest.
3. Locate, design, and develop a new non-motorized trailhead in the central portion of the Forest.
4. Locate, design, and develop a new campground, managed for family camping.

Stemilt Sections Sub-Area

Objective C: Partner with Washington State Parks to provide a multi-use non-motorized trailhead at Squilchuck State Park.

Strategy

1. Coordinate, design, and develop a new multi-use non-motorized trailhead at the existing parking lot/trailhead.

Objective D: Provide quality day-use water access recreation facilities in the Stemilt Basin.

Strategies

1. Evaluate water access facility needs as part of a fishing and day-use assessment to determine appropriate types and levels of future use at each of the three locations.
2. Coordinate with irrigation districts on project proposals.
3. Design and develop water access facilities to provide public access, protect the resources (including water quality), and minimize future maintenance needs.



Objective E: Provide a winter access non-motorized parking area.

Strategies

1. Determine a suitable location for a new non-motorized winter parking area, with access for non-motorized trails and play areas. Plan the facility to be separate from the motorized parking, and locate it to minimize winter maintenance.
2. Design and develop a new non-motorized parking area for winter activities.

Objective F: Continue to provide parking for snowmobile use.

Strategy

1. Maintain existing winter trailhead at Lily Lake for snowmobile use.

North Shrub-Steppe Sub-Area

Objective F: Provide a public interpretive stop on Beacon Road/Rd. 18.

Strategy

1. Evaluate interpretive opportunities as part of an educational program and develop an interpretive road stop for visitors.

South Shrub-Steppe Sub-Area

Objective G: Provide a public interpretation site as part of an educational program on Parke Creek Road.

Strategy

1. Evaluate interpretive opportunities and develop an interpretive road stop for visitors.

Green Gate Sub-Area

Objective H: Provide equestrian access to the Green Gate Sub-Area.

Strategies

1. Determine a suitable location for a new non-motorized trailhead, managed primarily for equestrian access.
2. Design and develop a new non-motorized trailhead near the entry to Green Gate Sub-Area, to be managed primarily for equestrian access while allowing other non-motorized uses.

Objective I: Establish a target range facility in the Green Gate Sub-Area or at another suitable location.

Strategies

1. Pursue partnership opportunities with local governments and non-profit organizations for facility planning, design, development, management, and long term maintenance.
2. Establish criteria for the site selection process.
3. Involve stakeholders, the public, and other interested parties in the site selection process.
4. Determine a suitable location for a new target range facility.
5. Design and develop a new target range facility.

6. Create an operations plan for managing the facility, that addresses other recreational and hunting uses in the area.

Restoration

For the purposes of this document, restoration is defined as repairing resource damage that has occurred due to past recreational use. Redirecting recreational use away from unsustainable areas, correcting erosion and sediment delivery issues, and supporting re-vegetation as necessary are fundamental to restoration.

Objective A: Identify and restore areas that have been impacted or abused by past recreational use.

Strategies

1. Identify areas with resource damage due to past recreational use.
2. Engage the public and organizations to assist where practical with restoration efforts. (For example, with damage caused by unlawful motorized use in wet meadows in the Stemilt Basin, work with the Stemilt Partnership, local irrigation districts, and local law enforcement agencies.)
3. Once identified, redirect or restrict recreational uses to prevent further resource damage.
4. Begin restoration efforts according to the following criteria:
 - a. Address public health and safety concerns.
 - b. Reduce or eliminate sediment delivery to streams.
 - c. Stabilize stream banks.
 - d. Restore soil and vegetation on impacted wetland and riparian buffers.
 - e. Remediate habitat-related issues in areas with sensitive, threatened, or endangered species or with those listed in the Habitat Conservation Plan.
5. Secondary priorities include:
 - a. Restore other resource damage.
 - b. Re-vegetate areas as needed.
 - c. Repair areas with compacted soils.

Objective B: Protect restored areas.

Strategies

1. Protect restored areas with barriers (fencing, eco-blocks, boulders stumps, etc.), signage, and public education.
2. Monitoring: Photograph and document restoration efforts and implement corrective actions in damaged areas.
3. Increase enforcement.

Objective C: Communicate and educate the public on restoration objectives.

Strategies

1. Form partnerships with the public and local organizations during restoration projects.

2. Use a variety of communication tools including signage, public meetings, brochures, and DNR's and WDFW's websites to inform the public where restoration efforts are underway and re-direct access.

Objective D: Provide improved resource protection along stream banks where dispersed camping has resulted in resource damage.

Strategies

1. Partner with the public to identify areas where camping-related resource damage exists.
2. Work with agency staff and the public to develop site-specific restoration/camping access plans. These plans should continue to provide public access as practical (but may have to relocate access if necessary) while defining and implementing restoration efforts along stream banks and in riparian areas.

Partnerships and Volunteer Coordination

Partnerships with public agencies, user groups, and citizen volunteers are important components of DNR's and WDFW's ongoing enforcement and maintenance programs.

Objective A: Partner with the Colockum Natural Resource Center (CNRC) to provide educational/interpretive opportunities at the center.

Strategy

1. Identify and evaluate educational and interpretive opportunities to support the goals of the CNRC, DNR, and WDFW.

Objective B: Encourage new volunteer and partnership opportunities.

Strategies

1. Encourage users to volunteer through programs such as DNR's Forest Watch Program, WDFW's Eyes in the Woods Program, cooperative projects and other organized maintenance and clean-up events.
2. Partner with local coalition groups for the development of recreation projects. (For example, when working on trails and facilities projects in the Stemilt - Squilchuck watershed, partner with the Stemilt Partnership to develop project plans for trails and facilities.)
3. DNR will form partnerships with citizen volunteers who can assist in planning, designing, constructing and maintaining trails, restoration, act as camp hosts, and provide an overall increased presence in the landscape.
4. WDFW will continue to partner with volunteer groups through its Wildlife Area Plans.

Objective C: Pursue partnering opportunities for recreation, service, education, and restoration projects with adjacent public agencies, counties, municipalities, schools, nearby landowners, user groups, and youth groups.

Strategies

1. Develop partnerships with adjacent landowners such as the Squilchuck State Park, Gingko Petrified Forest State Park, Kittitas County, Chelan County, City of Ellensburg, City of Wenatchee, private neighbors, chambers of commerce, and local interest groups.
2. Promote youth awareness by partnering with schools, scout organizations, and service clubs and by involving students in maintenance, education, and restoration activities.
3. Coordinate winter recreation opportunities with the Mission Ridge Ski Area, as appropriate.
4. Collaborate with Kittitas County and/or Chelan County to evaluate and identify methods for maintaining level of services as site-specific projects are implemented in the Recreation Planning Area.
5. Continue to seek Yakama Nation input during the implementation of specific project actions deriving from the Recreation Plan, particularly relevant to natural and cultural resources protection and potential site restoration.

Objective D: Pursue partnerships that enhance safety and support education and enforcement efforts.

Strategy

1. Pursue additional opportunities to partner between DNR and WDFW, and with enforcement personnel from Washington State Parks, Kittitas and Chelan counties sheriff's offices, Kittitas County Search and Rescue, and Chelan County Sheriff's Office Search and Rescue.

Education and Enforcement

Education and enforcement efforts are essential to meet DNR's and WDFW's environmental stewardship responsibilities, DNR's trust mandate obligations, WDFW's mandate and wildlife program management, as well as provide quality recreational opportunities to the public.

Objective A: Improve signage and user awareness of the designated Green Dot Road System locations and compliance with the road rules.

Strategies

1. Consider a range of road closure devices for non-Green Dot Road access such as red dot signage, gates, natural barriers, etc. non-Green Dot Road closure devices will be site-specific, meet land management needs, and seek to make road access more apparent to the recreating public.
2. Restrict non-Green Dot Road 4x4 hill climb use in the Stemilt Sub-Area (and other areas where necessary) and correct environmental damage.
3. Partner with the public to get input on non-Green Dot Road use and feedback on non-Green Dot Road closure devices and their effectiveness.
4. Add signage to existing system.
5. Provide additional Green Dot Road maps as practical, to the public and include the non-Green Dot Roads on the maps for reference.

Objective B: Promote a more active education and enforcement presence.

Strategies

1. Employ an integrated enforcement strategy that establishes a routine presence through DNR and WDFW Law Enforcement, Recreation Wardens, DNR and WDFW staff, DNR’s Forest Watch Volunteer Program, and WDFW’s Eyes in the Woods Program.
2. Coordinate with law enforcement for Kittitas and Chelan Counties and local municipalities, where appropriate.
3. Develop tools and partnerships to protect property and resources to increase security on trails and at trailheads.

Objective C: Increase the availability of educational information about the Recreation Planning Area.

Strategies

1. Provide consistent signage that educates the public about allowed uses, existing regulations, campfire use, fire danger, adjoining watershed lands, and other applicable rules.
2. Provide signage and outreach to reduce trespass potential in areas where checkerboard ownership occurs.
3. Clearly communicate status information related to Green Dot Roads, recreational facilities, and trails through methods such as DNR and WDFW websites, signage, and outreach.
4. Update web-based resources to include downloadable maps of the area, recreation rules, and recreation access information.
5. Pursue efforts and partnerships for the development of maps and smart phone applications.
6. Pursue efforts and partnerships with Kittitas County or Chelan County to develop communication tools to inform recreationists about the working forests and the rural, agricultural nature of the lands adjacent to the Recreation Planning Area.

Objective D: Increase public awareness of each agency’s vision; DNR’s trust mandate, the multiple-use concept, and WDFW’s mission “to preserve, protect and perpetuate fish, wildlife and ecosystems while providing sustainable fish and wildlife recreational and commercial opportunities.”

Strategies

1. Utilize written and electronic communication efforts in educating and encouraging volunteer participation in maintenance and planning projects.
2. Provide additional outreach on the unique features of the Recreation Planning Area through the website, maps, blogs, social media, and coordination with local businesses.
3. Provide information about DNR and WDFW management objectives and responsibilities in various electronic formats including website, blogs, and social media.
4. Attend user group meetings periodically to provide information and answer questions from the public.

Objective E: Enhance emergency access to the developed areas of the Recreation Planning Area.

Strategy

1. Work with local emergency responders and jurisdictions to develop adaptive emergency access plans for the Recreation Planning Area.

Adaptive Management

Adaptive management provides for ongoing modifications of land and resource management practices in order to respond to new ecological information or Best Management Practices (BMPs) changes in site-specific circumstances or the regulatory environment, innovative technological developments, or evolving recreation patterns.

Objective A: Employ adaptive management practices to implement this Recreation Plan, adjusting recreation management practices to respond to changing laws, environmental information, recreation trends, and on-the-ground circumstances.

Strategies

1. Evaluate site-specific conditions when implementing projects on the ground.
2. Respond and adapt to new or changing information and variable site conditions.
3. Consider proposals submitted to DNR or WDFW by others that are consistent with achieving Recreation Plan concepts, goals, strategies and objectives, and are compatible with agency requirements.
4. Evaluate new or emerging recreation activities for compatibility with the management objectives laid out in this plan and the vision and management goals of DNR’s statewide Recreation Program and WDFW’s Lands Division goals.
5. Hunting and fishing will continue to operate under the rules promulgated by the WDFW Commission, which includes a separate public process.

Sustainable Funding

Sustainable funding is essential to meeting DNR and WDFW’s goal of providing quality recreation opportunities for the public. It supports facility and trail maintenance needs, facility development and improvements, and enforcement efforts.

Objective A: Pursue sustainable funding opportunities that allow for education, enforcement, and ongoing facility and trail maintenance.

Strategies

1. Continue to apply for grant funding for maintenance, enforcement, and facility and trail construction projects.
2. Work to increase public understanding regarding the costs associated with maintaining and operating trails and facilities.
3. Consider and pursue alternative funding sources for accomplishing plan objectives.
4. Identify and pursue funding sources to maintain facilities on a long term basis.

Implementation

Implementation priorities and phases were established based on committee input, agency resource protection priorities, and logical sequencing of related projects. Development and construction of the Implementation Priorities and Phases are dependent on funding availability for construction, maintenance, operations, and enforcement.

Table 2. Implementation Priorities and Phases

Project Implementation Priorities and Phasing	
Phase I	Evaluate and develop public road access to the Naneum Ridge State Forest from the south
	Establish a winter non-motorized trail system
	Locate and develop a target shooting range
	Integrate the disabled hunter road access entry program into the Recreation Planning Area
	Plan for the long term sustainability of the road system and begin implementation of RMAP criteria in the shrub-steppe
	Develop a non-motorized trail system and trailhead in the Naneum Ridge State Forest
	Provide seasonal support facilities at high-use dispersed use areas
	Restore areas damaged by recreational use
Phase II	Identify and restore camping-related damage along stream banks
	Create a north/south regional connector trail
	Develop a motorized trailhead and trails in the Naneum Ridge State Forest
	Develop a multi-use (motorized and non-motorized) single-track trail connector to USFS land
	Develop a multi-use (motorized and non-motorized) 4WD trail/road connector to USFS land
	Design and construct small day-use facilities at three lakes in the Stemilt Sub-Area
Phase III	Locate, design, and construct a campground in the Naneum Ridge State Forest
	Convert Dawson Ridge Road to a motorized trail; convert Pettit Road, south of the Arthur Coffin Game Reserve, to non-motorized public access only
	Upgrade Parke Creek Road and add interpretive stops
	Establish a Green Dot Road loop in the Green Gate Sub-Area
	Partner with the Colockum Natural Resources Center to provide education and interpretation opportunities
	Locate, design, and construct a non-motorized trailhead in the Green Gate Sub-Area

Part III. Planning Area Background

Regions and Recreation

DNR

DNR's Southeast Region is expansive. It covers central and southeastern Washington from mixed pine and conifer forest foothills of the Cascade Range east to arid shrub-steppe and extensive agricultural lands. The region implements DNR's land management activities, stewardship, and regulatory programs in Adams, Asotin, Benton, Chelan, Columbia, Douglas, Franklin, Garfield, Grant, Kittitas, Klickitat, Walla Walla, Whitman and Yakima Counties and portions of Lincoln and Skamania Counties. The regional office is located in Ellensburg, the county seat of Kittitas County.

The region manages 994,574 acres of state trust lands in forest, agriculture, grazing, or commercial uses; and 12,900 acres for conservation. The majority of agriculturally leased state trust lands, 620,000 acres or 85 percent are in the Southeast Region. They are leased for orchards, vineyards, grazing, range lands, and irrigated and dryland crops.

Recreational use levels on state trust lands have increased over time and are expected to continue to rise. Popular recreation areas in the Southeast Region include not only the Naneum Ridge State Forest, but also areas such as Ahtanum State Forest, Manastash Winter Recreation Area, Beverly Sand Dunes Recreation Area, and Chelan Butte Sky Park.

DNR's Southeast Region manages recreation and public access in conjunction with DNR's Recreation Program based in Olympia. Recreation in the Southeast Region is generally guided by past planning efforts such as the Ahtanum State Forest Recreation Plan, as well as the 2010 Southeast Region HCP Planning Unit Forest Land Plan.

Southeast Region currently offers the developed recreation amenities listed below:

- 22 recreational sites
 - 5 trailheads
 - 10 campgrounds
 - 4 winter recreation areas
 - 1 off-road vehicle area
 - 1 paragliding/hang-gliding area
 - 1 non-motorized trail corridor
- 4 trail systems + 5 snowmobile trail systems
 - 23 miles of multiple use trails
 - 68 miles of non-motorized trails
 - 182 miles of groomed snowmobile trails

WDFW

WDFW Region 2 covers north-central Washington and includes Adams, Chelan, Douglas, Grant, and Okanogan counties. From the boreal forests of the North Cascades to the irrigated

farm lands of the Columbia Basin Project, diverse landscapes provide habitat for wolverine, grizzly and black bears, lynx, elk, mule deer and white-tailed deer, sage and sharptail grouse, pygmy rabbits, and a variety of other wildlife. This important waterfowl area provides habitat for wintering, migrating, and breeding ducks and geese migrating from Western Canada and Alaska to warmer climates.

The Department of Fish and Wildlife manages more than 300,000 acres in the region that have been set aside for wildlife and fish and wildlife recreation. Most areas are open to hunting, fishing, camping, and a variety of other outdoor experiences. The agency also maintains 200 water and wildlife access areas adjacent to public lands, lakes, and streams.

This region's rivers and lakes support salmon and steelhead and provide some of the most popular bass, walleye, bluegill, and trout fishing opportunities in the state. Approximately 400 high elevation lakes dot the Cascade Range within this region, most with self-sustaining populations of trout. More than 200 lakes in lowland areas are managed for trout and/or a variety of warm water species.

WDFW Region 3 covers south-central Washington and includes Benton, Franklin, Yakima and Kittitas counties. The region hosts a diversity of broad life zones and habitats from mountain peaks to desert. From the west, the region includes the Cascade crest where more than 100 inches of precipitation falls annually, supporting extensive conifer forests, alpine meadows, and glaciers. The "rain shadow" effect, which is created by the Cascade Range, results in progressively drier conditions eastward until the forests eventually yield to arid shrub-steppe. Rainfall in drier portions of the region can be as little as five inches a year.

The Yakima River and the Hanford Reach of the Columbia River are among the region's more well-known water resources. There are many other aquatic habitats ranging from alpine lakes and streams to warm water lakes and ponds. White sturgeon, summer steelhead, fall Chinook salmon, and walleye are available in the Columbia River; bass, perch and bluegill may be caught in many local ponds; higher elevation streams support rainbow, cutthroat, and brook trout. The region's lakes offer quality rainbow and cutthroat trout fishing. While the waters of the region are closed to fishing for bull trout, and currently have limited fishing for spring Chinook salmon, the region offers many outstanding vantages for viewing these remarkable fish during their fall spawning seasons.

This region manages more than 400,000 acres of department owned land, all of which is open for fish and wildlife recreation. The department has also secured hunter access to an additional 180,000 acres of private land. These lands offer great hunting prospects for upland birds, waterfowl, and big game.

WDWF lands mostly offer dispersed recreation experiences. However, developed recreation facilities that are available include those located on water access sites. Some sites include boat launches, parking areas, and restrooms. Trails and roads may exist on wildlife areas, often because they were developed prior to the agency's ownership or by independent recreational users.

Recreation Planning Area Context

The Recreation Planning Area sits within two different counties, Chelan and Kittitas, and is surrounded and influenced by numerous land uses including federal forests, state parks, forested lands with multiple ownerships and purposes, orchards, agricultural uses, rural development, alternative energy generation/production, and open rangeland.

Chelan County is on the eastern slopes of the Cascade Range in central Washington. Okanogan, Douglas, Kittitas, King, Snohomish and Skagit counties border the county. Wenatchee is its county seat. Chelan County's very diverse geographic area includes mountains and lakes, and flat areas next to the Columbia River. Lake Chelan is the third deepest lake in the country. With its nearly year-round sunshine, it has developed into an all-season outdoor recreational destination.

Chelan County's population in 2012 was 73,687. The largest city in Chelan County is Wenatchee. Other notable cities are Cashmere and Chelan. As of 2012, Chelan County ranks third in the state in land area, with 2,920 square miles, and is populated with 24.8 people per square mile (Chelan County webpage).

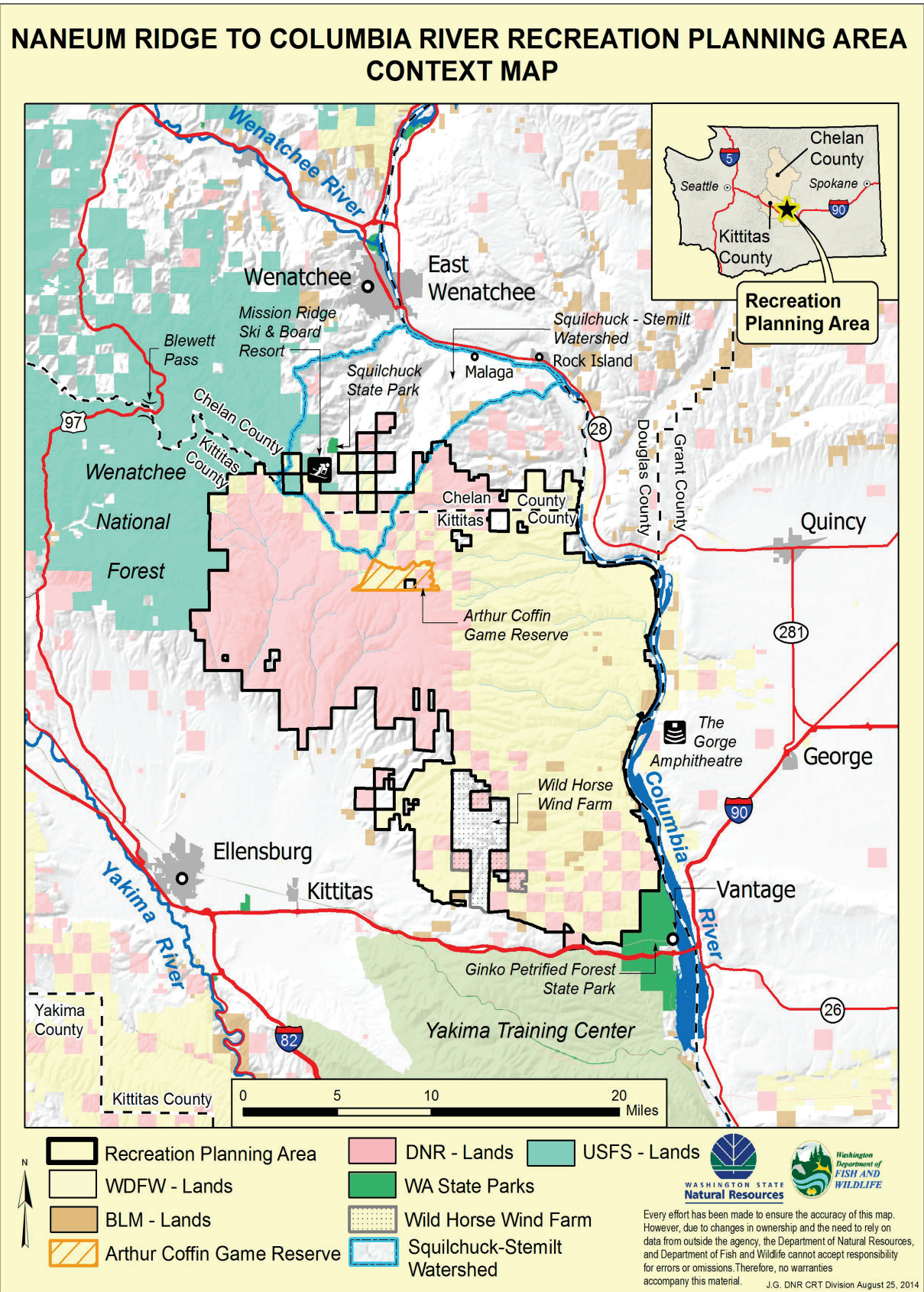
Kittitas County is in the center of the state and 100 miles east of Seattle across the Cascade Range. The majority of the Recreation Planning Area is in this county. The county is bordered by Chelan, Grant, and Yakima counties. With 2,297 square miles, it is the seventh largest county in the state. More than two-thirds of its area consists of foothills and mountains; it is sparsely populated with 17.8 people per square mile compared to 101.1 in Washington State overall in 2010. Kittitas County's population in 2012 was 41,672. The largest city in Kittitas County is Ellensburg, the county seat (Kittitas County webpage).

Regional access and nearby municipalities

The Recreation Planning Area is located between the cities of Wenatchee and Ellensburg (see Figure 8). Wenatchee lies about 12 miles directly north of the Recreation Planning Area and has several major highway that provide regional access; US Highways 2 and 97, and State Route 28. The Malaga Alcoa Highway connects to Colockum Road, a direct access route into the Recreation Planning Area. Numerous rural county roads also feed into the Recreation Planning Area from the north. Ellensburg is located approximately 10 miles southwest of the Recreation Planning Area, directly off Interstate 90. There are no primary routes connecting Ellensburg to the Recreation Planning Area.

Wenatchee sits in a fertile valley at the confluence of the Wenatchee and Columbia Rivers. The climate and rich volcanic soils prove to be an excellent combination for agriculture, making this city the "Apple Capital of the World" (City of Wenatchee, 2007). Wenatchee is the second largest city in Central Washington, and the 34th largest city in the state at more than 32,000 people (United States Census Bureau, 2014).

Figure 8. Recreation Planning Area Context Map



The city of Ellensburg was formally incorporated in 1883 and named after Mary Ellen, the wife of the town's founder, John A. Shoudy (CityTownInfo, n.d.). Ellensburg was considered for becoming the capital of Washington, until a fire on July 4, 1889 destroyed most of the city (City of Ellensburg, n.d.). In 2010, Ellensburg was the 69th largest city in Washington State with a population of more than 18,000 ("United States Census Bureau", 2014). Ellensburg is also the home of the main campus of Central Washington University with a population of approximately 10,750 students each year (Central Washington University, n.d.).

Smaller communities in the area surrounding the Recreation Planning Area include Kittitas and Malaga. Kittitas is approximately 3 miles east of Ellensburg; Malaga is located several miles to the north of the Colockum Wildlife Area.

Stemilt-Squilchuck Watershed

The Stemilt-Squilchuck Watershed is located within and to the north of the Recreation Planning Area and has been the focus of a community visioning effort to conserve water, wildlife, and recreation. The Stemilt-Squilchuck Community Vision was produced by Chelan County and the Trust for Public Land on behalf of the Stemilt Partnership, a broad coalition of agriculture, wildlife, recreation, development, and conservation interests. The Stemilt-Squilchuck Community Vision outlines recommendations for protecting the watershed, and includes a conceptual plan for locating agriculture, wildlife, habitat, recreation, and water storage priority areas (Stemilt-Squilchuck Community Vision, 2008).

Squilchuck State Park

Squilchuck State Park is a 288-acre park covered with forests of fir and ponderosa pine. The park sits below Mission Ridge at an elevation of 3,200 feet. Seasonal highlights include spring wildflowers, abundant wildlife viewing, brilliant fall colors, and winter sledding and snowshoeing. The park includes a trail system of approximately 4 miles, group camping, and hiking opportunities (Squilchuck State Park, 2014).

Ginkgo Petrified Forest State Park

Ginkgo Petrified Forest State Park/Wanapum Recreational Area is a 7,470-acre state park in Vantage, Washington including 27,000 feet of freshwater shoreline on the Wanapum Reservoir on the Columbia River. In the 1930s petrified wood was discovered, which led to creation of the park as a national historic preserve. The park offers hiking, picnicking, boat launch and parking, as well as wildlife viewing (Ginkgo Petrified Forest State Park, 2014).

U.S. Forest Service – Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest

The U.S. Forest Service Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest is located to the northwest side of the Recreation Planning Area. The forest is approximately four million acres and offers opportunities for hiking, camping, fishing, hunting, horseback riding, mountain biking, climbing, off road vehicles, and winter activities such as cross-country and downhill skiing and snowmobiling. Miles of forest roads offer access and sightseeing opportunities and Forest Service cabins are available for recreational renting in some locations (Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, 2014).

Mission Ridge Ski and Board Resort

Mission Ridge Ski Resort is located 12 miles northwest of the city of Wenatchee, in a 2,000-acre basin on the eastern side of the Cascade Range. The mountain offers downhill, cross-country and backcountry skiing, and terrain parks (Mission Ridge, 2014). A portion of the ski resort lies within the Recreation Planning Area, and operates on a lease with WDFW. Backcountry skiers often access the Recreation Planning Area from the top of the ski lifts at the ski resort.

Wild Horse Wind and Solar Facility

Puget Sound Energy operates a wind and solar facility on 11,000 acres of rangeland in the vicinity of the Whiskey Dick Wildlife Unit. There are 149 wind turbines that generate 273 megawatts of electricity at the wind farm. Additionally, there is an interpretive facility, the Renewable Energy Center, which provides information on wind and solar energy as well as regional natural and cultural history. The land is open to public access for hunting, hiking, bird watching, horseback riding, and other recreational activities by written permission (Wild Horse Wind and Solar Facility, 2014).

Protection of Naneum Creek Watershed

The city of Ellensburg owns about 100 acres of land in the Naneum Ridge State Forest, within the Naneum Creek watershed. The land lies in the lower part of the state forest along Naneum Creek. The land was originally part of the city's water supply system, drawing water from Naneum Creek. Currently, the land is managed by the city of Ellensburg as a passive non-motorized recreation site that continues to support protection of the Naneum Creek watershed (D. D'Hondt, personal communication, December 12, 2013) (not shown on maps).

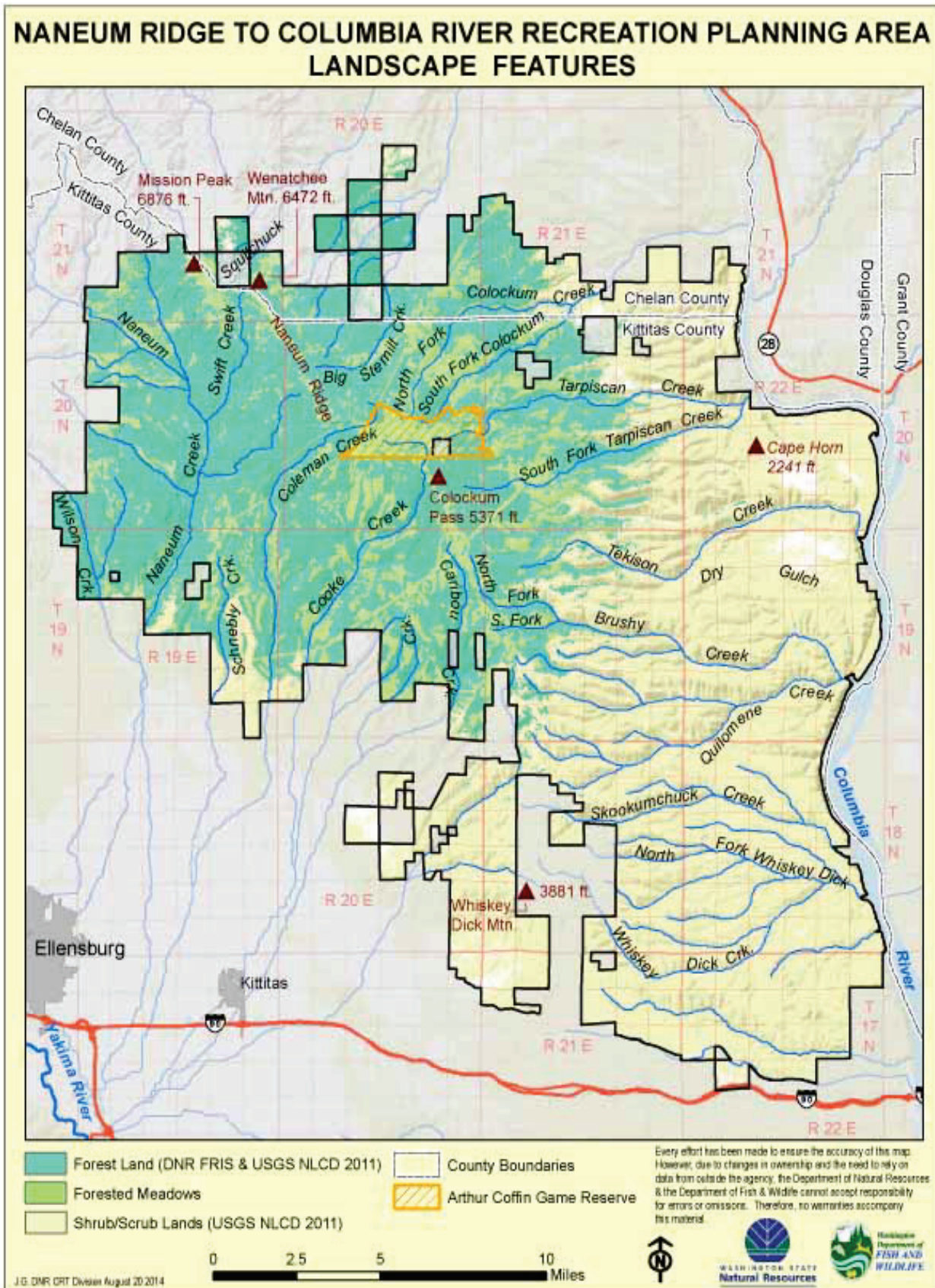
Private Ownerships of Surrounding Lands

There are a variety of privately owned parcels with an array of land uses surrounding the Recreation Planning Area, including forest management, conservation, agricultural, ranching, and residential developments.

Ecological Description

The Recreation Planning Area is located in central Washington and part of the borderlands between the eastern Cascades and the western half of the Columbia Basin. Wenatchee Mountain is the dominant peak in the landscape with an elevation of 6,742 feet. High mountain ridges in the west give way to distinct cliffs and carved edges along the Columbia River. Generally, it is characterized by moderate topography incised by a network of creeks and streams that drain toward the Yakama River and the Columbia River. The many creeks and streams include Naneum Creek, Coleman Creek, Cook Creek, Stemilt Creek, Colockum Creek, Tarpiscan Creek, Tekison Creek, Brushy Creek, Quilomene Creek, Skookumchuck Creek, and Whiskey Dick Creek. The river edge is dominated by steep cliffs from Quilomene Bay to Scammons Landing at the inlet of Skookumchuck Creek (see Figure 9).

Figure 9. Recreation Planning Area Landscape Features



Much of the Recreation Planning Area has soils derived from basalt. Basalt derived soils tend to be shallow and include plateaus, hill slopes, summits of hills and hill slopes, canyon walls, dissected plateaus, and mountain slopes (NRCS, USDA, Soils Survey Kittitas County).

Ponderosa pine, interior Douglas-fir and shrub-steppe plant communities are the primary plant communities in the Recreation Planning Area. The average annual precipitation ranges from 3 to 6 inches in the lower, more arid lands, to an average annual precipitation of 12 – 18 inches in the forested zones at the higher elevations.

The native coniferous forest is primarily made up of ponderosa pine and Douglas-fir; secondary species include lodgepole pine, grand fir, and western larch. Aspen, willow, water birch, Douglas maple, and cottonwood are found in the riparian areas. Historically, wildfires frequently burned through the ponderosa pine forests and to a lesser degree the shrub-steppe landscape.

The higher elevation forested areas of the Recreation Planning Area give way to the shrub-steppe ecosystem in the eastern portion of the landscape. Shrub-steppe refers to the dominant plant components: brush and steppe, or perennial bunchgrasses. Numerous annual and perennial wildflowers thrive in the spaces between the shrubs and the bunchgrasses. The shrubs are essential in capturing litter and providing shade, which influence other components of the plant community (Washington Native Plant Society, 2013).

Understory plants across the Recreation Planning Area include yarrow, balsamroot, silky lupine, orange arnica, mock-orange, red-osier dogwood, and elk sedge. Commonly found grasses in the forested environment include Idaho fescue, pine grass, mountain fescue and Bluebunch wheatgrass. Shrub-steppe plant species include big sage, low sage and three-tip sagebrush, bitterbrush, service berry, chokecherry, several buckwheat species, arrowleaf and Hooker's balsamroot, lupine, and several Lomatiums (perennial herbs) such as biscuitroots. Plants species listed as rare or state sensitive include longsepal globemallow, gray cryptantha, pauper milk vetch, and snowball cactus.

The forests, shrub-steppe, and river corridor provide habitat for a wide diversity of birds and other wildlife species. Mammals that may be found in the Recreation Planning Area and vicinity include mule deer, elk, cougars, coyotes, gray wolves, bighorn sheep, black bears, raccoons, beavers, tree and ground squirrels, and chipmunks. Examples of bird species include golden eagles, peregrine falcons, goshawks, red-tailed hawks, chukars, Washington sage grouse, western meadowlarks, vesper sparrows, and other passerine birds. The riparian areas within the Recreation Planning Area also serve as habitat for rainbow and eastern brook trout, Westslope cutthroat trout, summer steelhead, Coho and juvenile Chinook salmon, toads, frogs, and a variety of other amphibians and reptiles.

Federal or State Listed Species

Species known to currently experience, or have previously experienced, failing or declining populations due to limited numbers, disease, predation, exploitation, or a loss of suitable habitat are identified as needing protection at the state and/or federal level. Federally listed species (or those proposed for listing) are designated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or the National Marine Fisheries Service, and state listed species are designated by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. State listing classifications are as follows:

- Endangered (E) – any species native to the state of Washington that is seriously threatened with extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range within the state.
- Threatened (T) – any species native to the state of Washington that is likely to become an endangered species within the foreseeable future throughout a significant portion of its range within the state without cooperative management or removal of threats.
- Sensitive (S) – any species native to the state of Washington that is vulnerable or declining and is likely to become endangered or threatened throughout a significant portion of its range within the state without cooperative management or removal of threats.
- Candidate (C) – species that WDFW will review for possible listing if evidence suggests that they meet listing criteria defined for State Endangered, Threatened, or Sensitive categories.
- Species of Concern (SoC) – species that are being monitored, or need further data to warrant listing.

Table 3. State and Federally Listed Wildlife Species (That may occur in the Naneum Ridge to Columbia River Recreation Planning Area)

Common Name	Scientific Name	State Status	Federal Status
MAMMALS			
Gray wolf	<i>Canis lupus</i>	E	E
Black-tailed jackrabbit	<i>Lepus californicus</i>	C	none
White-tailed jackrabbit	<i>Lepus townsendii</i>	C	none
Townsend's ground squirrel	<i>Uroditellus townsendii</i>	C	SoC
Merriam's shrew	<i>Sorex merriami</i>	C	none
Townsend's big-eared bat	<i>Corynorhinus townsendii</i>	C	SoC
BIRDS			
Bald eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	S	SoC
Merlin	<i>Falco columbarius</i>	C	none
Northern goshawk	<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>	C	SoC
Golden eagle	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>	C	none
Peregrine falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	S	SoC
Flammulated owl	<i>Otus flammeolus</i>	C	none
Northern spotted owl	<i>Strix occidentalis</i>	E	T
Burrowing owl	<i>Athene cunicularia</i>	C	SoC
Pileated woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus pileatus</i>	C	none
White-headed woodpecker	<i>Picoides albolarvatus</i>	C	none
Black-backed woodpecker	<i>Picoides arcticus</i>	C	none
Greater sage-grouse	<i>Centrocercus urophasianus</i>	T	C
Sage sparrow	<i>Amphispiza belli</i>	C	none
Sagebrush sparrow	<i>Amphipiza nevadensis</i>		
Sage thrasher	<i>Oreoscoptes montanus</i>	C	none
Loggerhead shrike	<i>Lanius ludovicianus</i>	C	SoC
Vaux's swift	<i>Chaetura vauxi</i>	C	none
REPTILES			
Sagebrush lizard	<i>Sceloporus graciosus</i>	C	SoC
Striped whipsnake	<i>Masticophis taeniatus</i>	C	none
AMPHIBIANS			
Columbia spotted frog	<i>Rana luteiventris</i>	C	none
Western toad	<i>Anaxyrus boreas</i>	C	SoC
FISH			
Upper Columbia River Steelhead	<i>Oncorhynchus tshawytscha</i>		
Chinook Salmon	<i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i>		

Agency Land Management Policy/Programs

Colockum Elk Herd

The modern Colockum elk herd had its origins in 45 Montana Rocky Mountain elk released northwest of Vantage in 1915. By 1939, the Colockum herd was estimated at 300-350 elk. The Colockum herd continued to grow and increase its occupied range in the 1940s and 50s. Today, the Colockum elk herd occupies about 1,600 square miles, bordered by the Columbia River to the east, the Cascade crest to the west, U.S. Highway 2 to the north, and Interstate 90 to the south.

Most of the Colockum elk population is seasonally migratory. Elk are usually concentrated on winter-spring range from mid-November until April-May. The main concentrations are in Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Game Management Units (GMU) 251, 328, 329, 330, and 335. During winter-spring, Colockum elk often use open rangeland habitats with elevations and aspects favoring snow-free conditions in winter and early forage growth during spring. Recreationists also favor such areas, especially in the spring. Areas elk select in these seasons often have very limited security cover (*i.e.*, closed canopy conifer habitat). The majority of Colockum elk summer in the Naneum and Colockum drainages, with fewer elk in the Swauk and Teanaway Drainages. Much of the core summer range for Colockum elk is on higher elevation, conifer dominated habitats managed by DNR and the U.S. Forest Service. The current population objective for the Colockum elk herd is 4,275-4,725 elk (Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife 2006). The recent trend in population estimates for the Colockum elk herd suggests the population was below objective and relatively stable 2000-2008, but has been increasing steadily since that time. The population has been slightly above objective since 2011.

Elk-centered recreation, particularly hunting, draws many people to the Colockum landscape each year. Since 1997, the number of elk hunters in the 2 GMUs within the recreation planning area (GMU 328 and 329) has ranged roughly 3,500-8,000 annually and the general season bull elk harvest has ranged about 200-350. The Colockum also provides excellent elk viewing opportunities for non-hunters. Elk-centered recreation provides substantial economic benefits to local communities each year.

Whiskey Dick Winter Motorized Vehicle Restrictions

In 2008 WDFW issued a 12-week winter closure for motorized vehicles in the southern portion of the Whiskey Dick Wildlife Unit. Vehicle counter data from the area prior to the closure indicated consistent vehicle use at or above levels that have been previously shown to affect elk movements and elk distribution broadly across the West. Formal public opinion survey data collected by WDFW Game Division on a variety of topics suggested broad support/acceptance of seasonal access restrictions to provide security to wintering wildlife. The Whiskey Dick closure concept was similar to other seasonal closures of big game winter ranges used in the West (*e.g.*, the Toppenish Creek winter range closure on the Yakama Nation Reservation, some public land winter game ranges in Oregon, Idaho, and Montana). Although

shorter in duration and less restrictive than many, only motorized access was restricted in the Whiskey Dick closure. Non-motorized recreation remained unrestricted year-round across the area. Compliance with the winter vehicle closure has been adequate.

Much of the Whiskey Dick Wildlife Unit is low elevation shrub-steppe habitat that provides valuable historic winter range for large elk and deer concentrations. The area is snow-free most of the year, and therefore accessible by motorized vehicles in the winter when wildlife are present in large numbers. Technology advances and the increasing amount of motorized use has resulted in increased use of areas historically isolated due to difficult terrain or conditions (snow, mud, steep terrain etc.). The rising popularity in shed antler hunting has also increased early spring recreational activity on big game winter ranges across eastern Washington in the last 2 decades. A large number of published research studies of elk across the western US have demonstrated that elk movements and habitat use are often influenced by vehicle traffic with the probability of elk use declining with proximity to open, travelled roads.

A cow elk telemetry study was implemented in 2008 and was designed to document seasonal movements, habitat use, and vital rates among Colockum elk sub-herds. The timing of spring migration defined by radioed elk movements was variable from year to year; forage condition appeared to be an important influence on the timing of elk migration, and traffic on roads also appeared to influence elk movements and distribution.

Previous Planning Efforts

On WDFW lands, wildlife area plans manage wildlife areas within the Recreation Planning Area. A wildlife area plan guides the management of activities conducted on the wildlife areas. The plans include goals, objectives, strategies and implementation measures to support WDFW's mission. Plans are updated every 2 years and completely revised about every 6 years.

Since the first wildlife area plans were written in the mid-1990s, WDFW has involved the public in its development through Wildlife Area Advisory Committees (WAACs). Formerly known as Citizen Advisory Groups (CAGs), WAACs work collaboratively to review information and provide feedback through the wildlife area planning process, and support plan implementation. WAACs also provide input about ongoing lands management activities that support successful implementation of the wildlife area plans, consistent with the agency mandate, purpose of lands and statewide goals.

No previous recreation planning efforts have occurred on DNR-managed lands within the Recreation Planning Area.

PART IV. The Planning Process

The Naneum Ridge to Columbia River Recreation and Access Plan was developed with input and assistance of various individuals and organizations representing a wide range of interests and backgrounds. The public planning process included open public meetings, Recreation Planning Committee meetings, a user survey, and public ideas and suggestions submitted via email, phone calls, and letters. DNR also developed a Naneum Ridge to Columbia River Recreation Plan webpage to provide updates and information during the planning process.

The Recreation Planning Committee was a vital component of the planning process. This group of volunteers consisted of 15 community members who represented a wide variety of user interests, and the committee helped to guide the course of the planning effort and offer input and suggestions. The collaborative process yielded a plan that is consistent with DNR's trust mandate and WDFW's resource management duties, addresses environmental responsibilities, and provides for continued public access and safe and sustainable recreational opportunities. The plan also promotes the development of new recreational opportunities on public lands of the Naneum basin and Colockum.

Developing the Naneum Ridge to Columbia River Recreation Plan

The process to develop this plan included the following seven phases:

Phase 1: Pre-Planning

- Develop project scope
- Identify data collection needs
- Create stakeholder involvement plan
- Identify need and process for interagency planning

Phase 2: Recreation Land Suitability

- Identify and map areas with long-term limiting factors for recreational use
- Conduct field trips

Phase 3: Inventory and Public Involvement

- Identify public issues and concerns
- Hold public meetings
- Establish a Recreation Planning Committee
- Conduct an online user survey

Phase 4: Assessment

- Evaluate and discuss biological, geological/soils, and management suitability data with Recreation Planning Committee
- Compile the data from the online user survey
- Develop preliminary concepts for recreation management

Phase 5: Concepts

- Refine recreation concepts into one recommended plan
- Develop objectives and strategies for the plan
- Develop an implementation approach for the proposed plan
- Complete a draft write up of the plan

Phase 6: State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) Review

- Conduct a non-project SEPA review for the proposed plan

Phase 7: Plan Completion

- Finalize the plan for publication
- DNR and WDFW adopt the recommended plan

Recreation Land Suitability

Biological, geological/soils, and management suitability assessments were completed for recreation opportunities in the Recreation Planning Area in the second phase of this project. The assessments resulted in composite maps that helped to guide the Recreation Planning Committee and the planning effort. The purpose of the assessments was to identify and map areas within the Recreation Planning Area that have long-term limiting factors that could affect recreation planning.

The composite maps identify locations within the Recreation Planning Area that have low or moderate suitability for recreational facilities, motorized trails, non-motorized trails for bikes and horses, and hiking trails. Winter activities were also mapped for non-motorized recreation and motorized activities. The suitability assessment was intended to be broad scale and does not replace future site-specific analysis for individual projects where they are required.

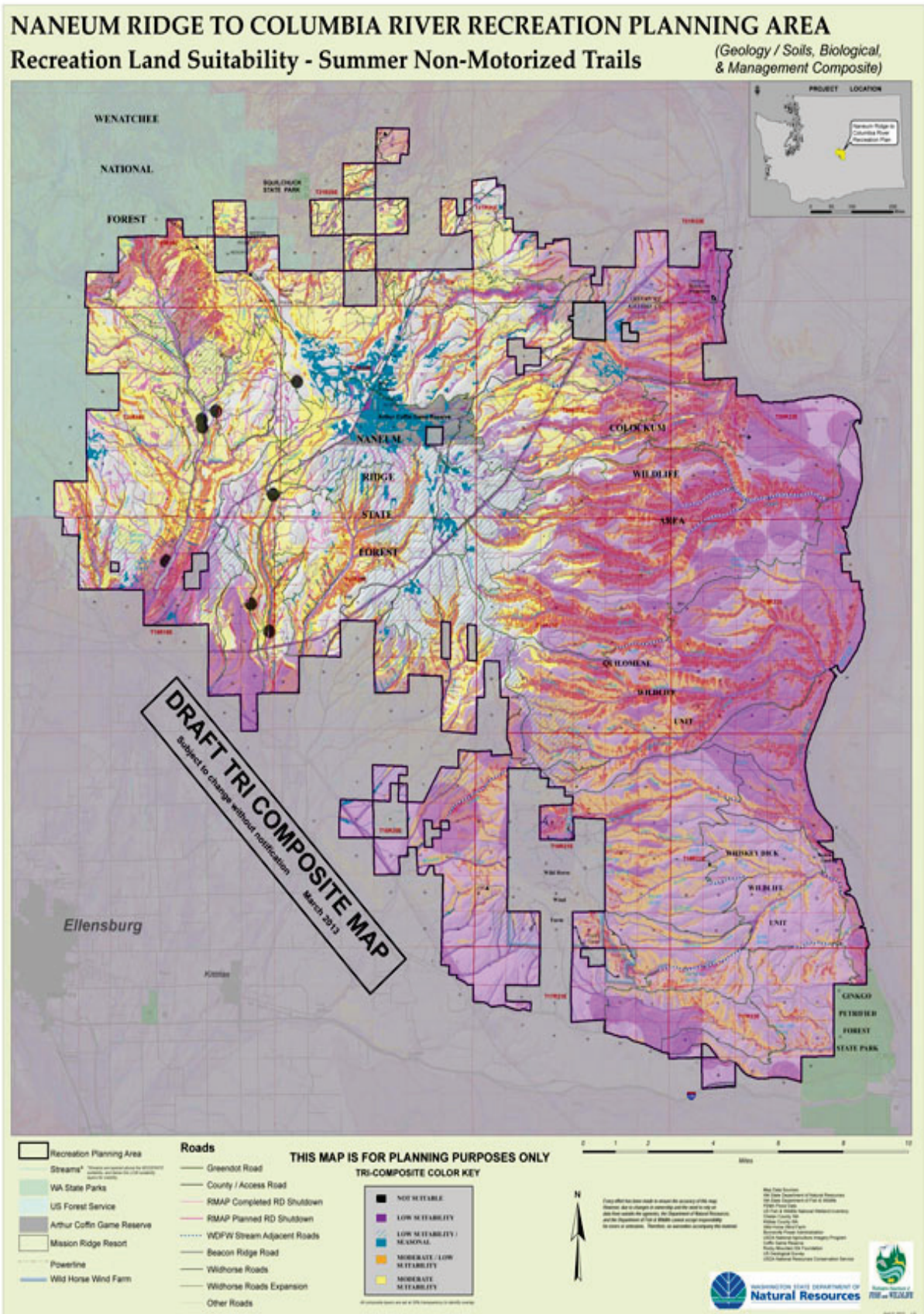
Scientists, planners, Geographic Information Systems (GIS) analysts, and land managers developed the suitability maps. The process included identifying and mapping biologic, soils/geologic, and management criteria within the Recreation Planning Area.

Examples of composite suitability maps are found on pages 49 - 52 of this plan. Additional maps are located on DNR's website.

Table 4. Suitability Criteria

Criteria Category	Specific Criteria
Biological Criteria	Wetlands and wetland buffers
	Fish habitat
	Riparian areas and riparian buffers
	Elk calving areas
	Elk late summer forage areas
	Big horn sheep
	Mule deer
	Cliffs and bluffs
	High quality and rare plant communities
	Shrub-steppe habitat
	Peregrine falcons and goshawks
	Sensitive, threatened, or endangered species
	Soils/Geological Criteria
Soils with poor drainage	
Deep-seated landslides	
Areas that have moved in previous landslides	
Areas with high potential for landslides	
Slope percentage	
Special geographic features	
100 year floodplain	
Management Criteria	Communication sites
	Rock sources
	Utility easements
	Land adjacent to other properties
	Water sources
	Cultural and archeological resources

Figure 10. Non-Motorized Tri-Composite Map



Public Involvement

Public participation in the recreation planning process was an integral part of creating this plan. The outreach process included several main components:

- Preparation of an outreach plan that identified key stakeholders and user groups for inclusion in external communications.
- E-newsletters sent to more than 800 people interested in the recreation planning process.
- A set of public kick-off meetings to introduce the project and collect public input.
- Two sets of community workshops (four meetings total) to gather input and ideas from the public and interested community members.
- Participation in a web-based survey.
- Formation of a citizen-based Recreation Planning Committee to work with staff to discuss challenges and recommend improvements within the Recreation Planning Area.
- External information gathering and issue identification from a variety of sources.
- Creation of a webpage to provide general information on the planning process and activities, and solicit comments.

The Public Kick-off Meeting

To kick off the recreation planning process, DNR invited the public to a set of open house meetings held on April 25, 2012 at the Hal Holmes Center in Ellensburg and April 26, 2012 at the Wenatchee Convention Center in Wenatchee. The purpose of these meetings was to provide the public an opportunity to share thoughts and ideas about recreation in the Naneum Ridge State Forest and learn more about the recreation planning process. Close to 160 people attended the kick-off meetings, sharing their favorite activities and experiences in the forest.

Kick-off meeting participants were asked to share feedback about:

- Opportunities for partnerships.
- Enjoyable recreation activities in Naneum Ridge State Forest.
- Missing recreation opportunities in Naneum Ridge State Forest.
- Favorite places within the forest to visit.

Agency Collaboration

Following the kick off meetings and a series of meetings between DNR and WDFW, the two agencies agreed to join forces and develop a joint recreation plan covering the state forest and the adjoining wildlife areas. The Recreation Planning Area grew considerably, from the original 130,000 acres of the Naneum Ridge State Forest to more than 229,000 acres with the inclusion of Colockum Wildlife Area and Quilomene and Whiskey Dick Wildlife Units of the L.T. Murray Wildlife Area.

Community Workshops

In April 2013, DNR and WDFW held two community workshops; one at the Hal Holmes Center in Ellensburg and one at the Wenatchee Convention Center in Wenatchee. The intent of the meetings was to present the results of the land suitability assessment and gather input

from the public about recreational opportunities and their impact on Ellensburg, Wenatchee, Kittitas, and Chelan Counties' economic vitality, quality of life, and recreational experiences. Attendees shared insights and ideas that were later presented to the Recreation Planning Committee during the planning process.

In October 2013, the agencies held another set of community meetings to present two preliminary concept maps developed with the Recreation Planning Committee during the summer of 2013. The meetings were held at the Hal Holmes Center in Ellensburg and the Wenatchee Convention Center in Wenatchee. Attendees shared insights, ideas, and comments on the preliminary concept for proposed recreation development in the Recreation Planning Area with the agencies and planning staff.

User Survey

During December 2012 and January 2013, the agencies conducted a voluntary online survey to gather information on people's recreation experiences and needs in the Naneum Ridge State Forest, Colockum Wildlife Area, and Quilomene and Whiskey Dick Wildlife Units. More than 1,800 people responded.

The survey asked participants about a variety of topics including travel distance, camping, recreational concerns, and demographics. The survey was not intended to be a statistical representation of use. It was utilized as a tool to gain additional information about how the Recreation Planning Area was used for recreation. The Recreation Planning Area is a common destination for many forms of motorized, non-motorized, and dispersed recreational activities. Approximately 51 percent of respondents to the survey indicated they visit on a monthly basis, 34 percent visit once a year, approximately 14 percent visit on a weekly basis, and about 1 percent visit the planning area daily. A summary of the survey can be found at: http://www.dnr.wa.gov/Publications/amp_rec_naneum_survey_results.pdf

Recreation Planning Committee

A committee of 15 citizen volunteers with diverse recreational interests was selected to assist in the recreation planning process. These volunteers initially committed to a 12 month planning process consisting of monthly meetings, field trips, and outreach with various user groups for input and ideas. As the initial planning efforts developed, committee members and agency staff expanded the timeframe of the planning process to 18 – 24 months. The committee was guided by a Recreation Planning Committee Charter that described each agency's mission, guiding principles, vision, and goals as well as the Committee's mission, commitment, and authority.

The committee included representatives with a broad variety of recreational backgrounds including mountain biking, motorcycle use, camping, equestrian use, 4x4 driving, hiking, snowmobiling, backcountry skiing, hunting, and fishing interests. Additional members included citizens from surrounding areas concerned with impacts to surrounding residential areas and agricultural operations and lands, family recreation opportunities, wildlife habitat, and environmental responsibility.

The committee members provided the agencies with information about various recreation interests in the Recreation Planning Area. The agencies shared information with the committee regarding trust obligations, habitat protections, environmental and resource responsibilities, and funding limitations. Committee members served as a conduit of information to the recreational groups they represented. The collective information was critical in making recreational use recommendations within the Recreation Planning Area.

The first several meetings focused on providing information about the Recreation Planning Area and the agencies' responsibilities. Recreation Planning Committee members were given an overview of the Recreation Planning Area including the history of ownership and use, developed versus dispersed recreation, current use patterns, and illegal or inappropriate use.

Committee members were asked to share their own knowledge about the Recreation Planning Area and surrounding lands. Each member also shared a brief description of the recreational activities they pursued in the Recreation Planning Area and provided insight into what specific user groups would like to see happen in the recreation plan.

Several meetings were dedicated to presentations that provided critical information about biological, geological/soils, and management criteria as it relates to land suitability for recreational use. Suitability maps were developed that helped identify general areas less suitable for recreational use. These maps provided a foundation for the recreational-use draft concept maps of the Recreation Planning Area. Specific locations of all proposed facilities and trails were not identified as part of this process and they will be determined by on-the-ground site assessments and planning.

The committee spent a large amount of time reviewing and discussing various recreational use draft concepts for the Recreation Planning Area, with an objective of finding a concept they all could support. Historic use, current conditions, land suitability, resource protection, public use needs, and other identified issues were considered during the draft concept review and discussion process.

The final recreational use concept maps recommended by the committee reflect the comprehensive planning process and was supported by the majority of the Recreation Planning Committee.

Planning Area Issues

A vital part of the planning process involved identifying existing issues within the Recreation Planning Area and discussing and developing strategies to address those issues. Issue identification was achieved through a variety of means including outreach to the public and nearby residents, recreational user input, Recreation Planning Committee feedback, community meetings, an online survey, and general comments from email, letters, and phone conversations.

The Naneum Ridge to Columbia River Recreation and Access Plan aims to address a number of key issues identified through this process. The following summary captures many of the main issues discussed; however, it is not intended to be comprehensive of all issues or suggestions the public submitted to the agencies:

- Maintaining the Green Dot Road System for public access.
- Providing primitive Green Dot Road access in the shrub-steppe landscape with only limited development.
- Locating facilities near the perimeter of the Recreation Planning Area.
- Developing recreational trails in the forested portions of the Recreation Planning Area.
- Finding a location for southern access into Naneum Ridge State Forest from a county owned road .
- Winter access in the Whiskey Dick Wildlife Unit.
- Developing a target range to direct shooting activities to a designated facility.
- Identifying opportunities to experience winter non-motorized activities as well as concerns related to snowmobile use.
- Protecting the meadows and reservoirs in the Stemilt Basin area of the Recreation Planning Area.
- Maintaining dispersed recreation activities.
- Improving education and enforcement where the land has been impacted and abused.
- Protecting important elk habitat such as elk calving areas and late summer forage areas.

In Closing

This plan is intended to guide recreation and public access opportunities within the Recreation Planning Area for the next 10-15 years. Objectives and strategies and implementation priorities and phasing were developed with the active participation of the Recreation Planning Committee and public input.

Implementation of individual projects is contingent on acquiring adequate funding, and future development of facilities and trails will undergo site-specific analysis. The plan will be evaluated periodically as part of adaptive management, and changes will be made as necessary to ensure compatibility with trust obligations and forest management objectives.

PART V. Background Information and Decision Criteria

DNR is required to comply with all local, state, and federal laws. Important components of the legal and policy framework that apply to recreation on DNR-managed trust lands include the following:

Public Lands Act (Title 79RCW)

Many of DNR’s obligations and authorities as a land manager are established in the state Public Lands Act. This statute defines both “multiple use”, “state lands”, and “sustainable harvest”, which are key concepts that help shape the Policy for Sustainable Forests.

The Multiple Use Concept (79.10RCW)

This chapter authorizes DNR to manage lands for multiple uses that are compatible with basic activities necessary to fulfill the financial obligations of trust management. Additionally, DNR is authorized to construct, operate, and maintain primitive outdoor recreation and conservation facilities to achieve maximum effective development consistent with the purposes for which the lands are held.

Public Access and Recreation Policy

Adopted in 2006, this policy manages public access and recreation use on forested state trust lands. It protects trust interests while seeking to balance economic, ecological, and social concerns.

The Policy for Sustainable Forests

Adopted in 2006, this policy aims to conserve and enhance the natural systems and resources of forested state trust lands managed by DNR to produce long-term, sustainable trust income and environmental and other benefits for the people of Washington.

DNR’s Trust Mandate

DNR manages Washington state’s public trust lands are managed by DNR for the trust beneficiaries. DNR is guided by a “trust mandate,” which is a legal obligation to manage state lands to generate sustainable revenue for the beneficiaries, which include counties and designated state institutions. The role of trustee directs DNR to act with undivided loyalty to the trust beneficiaries, manage the trust assets prudently, preserve the trust property (the “corpus” of the trust), make the trust property productive, deal impartially with beneficiaries, and consider the interests of successive beneficiaries.

State Environmental Policy Act – SEPA (43.21CRCW)

SEPA is a state policy that requires state and local agencies to consider the likely environmental consequences of a proposal before approving or denying the proposal.

DNR's Public Access and Recreation Rules (332-52WAC)

The purpose of these rules is to set standards for public use on DNR-managed lands. These rules promote public health and safety and protect DNR-managed lands, property, and resources. All persons who use DNR-managed lands should know and follow the department's rules.

DNR State Trust Lands Habitat Conservation Plan 1997

The State Trust Land Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) guides management of approximately 1.8 million acres of forested state trust lands within the range of the northern spotted owl. This HCP is a partnership between the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Fisheries Service, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, and DNR.

This plan guides the management of state forested trust lands and enables compliance with the Endangered Species Act requirements. By providing conservation objectives and strategies that provide habitat for listed and unlisted species while providing greater certainty, flexibility, and stability, the trust is better able to meet its responsibilities of generating revenue for the beneficiaries.

WDFW is required to comply with all local, state, and federal laws. Important components of the legal and policy framework that apply to recreation on WDFW-managed lands include the following:

Department of Fish and Wildlife Mandate (77.04.012RCW)

The commission, director, and the department shall preserve, protect, perpetuate, and manage the wildlife and food fish, game fish, and shellfish in state waters and offshore waters.

Wildlife Program Management (77.12.880RCW)

The department shall manage wildlife programs in a manner that provides for public opportunities to view wildlife and supports nature-based and wildlife viewing tourism without impairing the state's wildlife resources.

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Policy 6012 Managing Public Access on Department Lands and Procedure 6012

Access management shall be consistent with policies regarding compliance with: Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 2000d; DOJ 28 CFR Part 35; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended, 20 U.S.C. 1681 et. seq.; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, 29 U.S.C. 794; Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 6101 et. seq.; the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and 2010, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 12101 et. seq.

Colockum Wildlife Area Management Plan

Adopted in 2006, this management plan addresses the status of wildlife species and their habitat, habitat restoration, public recreation, weed management, and other activities to meet the department's mission of mission of preserving, protecting and perpetuating fish, wildlife, and ecosystems.

L.T. Murray, Quilomene and Whiskey Dick Wildlife Areas Management Plan

Adopted in 2006, this management plan addresses the status of wildlife species and their habitat, habitat restoration, public recreation, weed management, and other activities to meet the department's mission of mission of preserving, protecting and perpetuating fish, wildlife, and ecosystems.

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Appendix A

Glossary of Terms

For the purposes of this Recreation and Access Plan, the terms below have the following meanings:

Adaptive management - a concept that provides for ongoing modifications of management practices in order to respond to new information, changes in circumstances on the ground, changes in laws, and new scientific developments.

Checkerboard ownership - refers to a situation where land ownership is intermingled between two or more owners (e.g. DNR, WDFW and other landowners), resulting in a checkerboard pattern.

Columbia Plateau ecoregion - the largest ecoregion in Washington occupying nearly one-third of the state. It is dominated by the Columbia River and its tributaries and bordered by the Cascade Range and the Rocky and Blue mountains.

Day-use area - an area that supports daytime recreational activities but is not designed for overnight camping activities.

Deep-seated landslides - a slow but continuous movement of a large volume of soil and rock, that sometimes transforms into a catastrophic movement. Depths of deep-seated landslides are usually more than 10 meters and generally mobilize the bedrock underneath. Most deep-seated landslides tend to fail incrementally. Movement is usually triggered by cumulative rainfall over long periods or by high ground accelerations experienced during large magnitude earthquakes.

Department of Natural Resources (DNR) - Washington state government department dedicated to educating and preserving Washington's natural resources. DNR manages 5.6 million acres of state lands, including approximately 3 million acres of trust lands.

Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) - Washington state government department dedicated to preserving, protecting and perpetuating fish, wildlife and ecosystems while providing sustainable fish and wildlife recreational and commercial opportunities.

Designated trails - trails planned for and managed by DNR or WDFW.

Developed recreation - recreation that occurs at a designated site or location; built or improved for recreation on agency managed land such as a trailhead, vista, parking area, boat launch, picnic area, campground, or water trail site.

Dispersed recreation - activities that occur outside the boundaries of designated recreational facilities and trails. Examples of dispersed use include, but are not limited to, fishing, hunting, mushroom and berry picking, nature viewing, and geocaching.

Eastern Cascades ecoregion - the Eastern Cascade slopes and foothills are in the rain shadow of the Cascade Range. Its climate exhibits greater temperature extremes and less precipitation than ecoregions to the west. Open forests of ponderosa pine and some lodge pole pine distinguish this region from the higher ecoregions to the west and the lower dryer ecoregions to the east. The vegetation is adapted to the prevailing dry continental climate and is highly susceptible to wildfire.

Eyes in the Woods Program - a volunteer program that partners with WDFW to assist with the reduction of poaching, other resource abuses, and biological information gathering and resource enhancement projects. See: <http://www.eyesinthewoods.org/index.php/en/>

Floodplains - flat or nearly flat land adjacent to a stream or river that experiences occasional or periodic flooding.

Forest Watch Program – a DNR sponsored volunteer program that helps protect and enhance DNR-managed land while working with the public to encourage appropriate recreation use.

Green Dot Roads - roads that are open to the public for vehicular and ORV use on DNR and WDFW-managed lands and private lands in some instances.

Multiple-use recreation (shared use) - trails and facilities that allow and support different kinds of trail-based recreational activities, which can include hiking, mountain biking, equestrian, off-road vehicles, etc.

Pittman Robertson Act - an act to provide funding for restoration of wild birds and mammals and to acquire, develop, and manage their habitats. The act was amended in 1970 to include funding for hunter training programs and the development, operation and maintenance of public shooting ranges.

Rain shadow effect - a dry area on the side of a mountainous area away from the wind. The mountains block the passage of rain-producing weather systems and cast a “shadow” of dryness behind them.

Recreation land suitability assessment - a process where biological, geological, soils, and management data were applied in geographic layers and overlaid to produce composite maps. These maps assisted the committee in identifying areas with long-term limiting factors that would alter or affect recreation planning in the Recreation Planning Area

Recreation Planning Area - DNR and WDFW-managed lands that are included in the planning process for this plan. This includes Naneum Ridge State Forest, Colockum Wildlife Area and Quilomene and Whiskey Dick Wildlife Units (of the L.T. Murray Wildlife Area).

Recreation Planning Committee - a committee of citizen volunteers with diverse recreational interests, selected to assist in the recreation planning process.

Recreation Planning Sub-Areas - geographic sections of the Recreation Planning Area that typically contain land managed by DNR and/or WDFW.

Restoration - for the purposes of this plan, restoration implies repairing resource damage that has occurred due to past recreational use. Fundamental to restoration is redirecting recreational access away from unsustainable areas, correcting erosion and sediment delivery issues and supporting re-vegetation as necessary.

Road Management and Abandonment Plan (RMAP) - the Road Maintenance and Abandonment Plan process was developed as part of the Forest and Fish Rules in 2001. The planning process provides landowners with a method to evaluate their forest roads, identify areas that do not meet forest practices rule standards, and schedule needed upgrades and/or repairs to be completed by 2016. Large landowners are required to implement the RMAP process while small landowners can choose the RMAP process or comply with the small forest landowner road maintenance planning process (i.e., checklist).

Shrub-steppe - is a type of low rainfall natural grassland which has sufficient moisture levels to support a cover of perennial grasses and/or shrubs.

Sidecast - moving excavated material to the downslope side during road and landing construction.

State trust lands - DNR-managed state lands held as a fiduciary (financial) trust and managed to benefit specific trust beneficiaries such as public K-12 schools and universities, capitol buildings, counties, and local services such as libraries.

Suitability criteria - characteristics used to identify locations within the Recreation Planning Area that have low or moderate suitability for recreational facilities or trails.

Trail Management Objective (TMO) - a description of the planned purpose for a specific trail or trail segment. TMOs include information such as the primary recreational use of the trail as well as any other allowed uses, design criteria, and any special considerations.

Trailhead - Designated parking area for trail access

Undesignated trails - trails that have not been developed or managed by DNR or WDFW. They are not formally recognized, managed or signed to support sustainable recreation opportunities on DNR or WDFW-managed lands.

Watershed - an area of land where all the water that is under it or drains off of it goes to the same place.

Wildlife Area - WDFW-managed state lands that provide habitat for fish and wildlife and as appropriate, land for outdoor recreation.

Appendix B

Recreation Planning Area Ownership History

The history of the creation, development of, and reconfiguration of the boundaries between all four of the public land areas comprising the Recreation Planning Area has evolved from the mid-1950s to 2014 when the current boundaries were established. The Naneum Ridge State Forest, managed by DNR, Colockum Wildlife Area, Quilomene Wildlife Unit, and the Whiskey Dick Wildlife Unit, managed by WDFW, make up the 229,000-acre Recreation Planning Area and are rich with land-management history. The checkerboard land-management pattern in some of the area is largely present in Eastern Washington and echoes that of the original federal land grants to the state in 1889.

In 2008, DNR formed Naneum Ridge State Forest when it completed the largest Washington state land exchange with a public entity, Western Pacific Timber. In the exchange, the State acquired from Western Pacific Timber about 82,000 acres of forested land in Kittitas and Yakima counties. This exchange helped to eliminate some of the checkerboard land-management pattern in the area.

The Washington Department of Game, now WDFW, purchased the Colockum Wildlife Area in the mid-1950s from area landowners, including the Arthur Coffin family. The Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Program provided funding for the purchase, which expanded winter range for Colockum deer and elk herds, and improved habitat for game birds. Of the 91,603 acres that make up the area, WDFW owns 46,019 acres and DNR owns 34,561 acres through a land exchange in 2011.

WDFW purchased the area that is now the Quilomene Wildlife Unit in 1962 with 11,180 acres of rangeland. Another purchase in 1974 added 343 acres to the Quilomene. WDFW acquired the 1,382-acre Skookumchuck unit, which connects Whiskey Dick and Quilomene Wildlife Units and is managed within the Quilomene Wildlife Area.

WDFW purchased the Whiskey Dick Wildlife Unit in 1966, and it owns 17,027 acres interspersed with 11,522 acres of DNR property. The US Bureau of Land Management also owns land in this area.

Looking to balance natural resource protection, wildlife management and recreation needs in the area, the two agencies developed the Green Dot Road system in 1988. Currently there are approximately 270 miles of Green Dot Roads within the Recreation Planning Area.

Appendix C

Recreation Planning Committee Meetings, Field Trips, and Main Agenda Items

Meeting Date	Main Agenda Items
June 13, 2012	Introductory meeting: meet DNR and WDFW staff, committee members, overview of the planning process, group charter, DNR and WDFW land management objectives
July 14, 2012	Field trip of the Recreation Planning Area including Whiskey Dick and Quilomene Wildlife Units, the Colockum Wildlife Area, and the Naneum Ridge State Forest
September 10, 2012	Discussion on recreation plan development, presentations on landscape units in Recreation Planning Area
October 4, 2012	Review the land suitability analysis process and specific modules used in the study; learn about an ongoing elk study conducted by the WDFW and participate in group mapping exercise
November 14, 2012	Biological Suitability Criteria presentation
November 16, 2012	Second field trip of the Recreation Planning Area including Colockum Wildlife Area and Naneum Ridge State Forest
January 9, 2013	Geology and Soils Suitability Criteria presentation
February 20, 2013	Management Criteria presentation, committee member presentations on recreational activities in the Recreation Planning Area
March 20, 2013	Tri-composite suitability maps presentation, identify Recreation Planning Area issues, committee member presentations on recreational activities in the Recreation Planning Area, group discussion and questions on presentations
April 17, 2013	Committee member presentations, review community meetings findings
May 22, 2013	Issue sorting and discussion, review planning committee brainstorming ideas, identify outstanding concepts
June 6, 2013	Issue sorting and discussion, review planning committee brainstorming ideas, identify outstanding concepts
July 31, 2013	Present and discuss draft options A, B, and C
September 18, 2013	Present and discuss draft concepts D and E
October 9, 2013	Present and discuss new draft concept ideas, discuss and identify partnerships and education and enforcement opportunities
November 6, 2013	Review and discuss revisions to draft concept ideas, review community meetings findings
March 19, 2014	Present and discuss draft concept F, plan objectives/strategies
April 23, 2014	Review and discuss draft concept F, discuss implementation priorities and plan strategies

Appendix D

2013 WDFW Budget Proviso

NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3204. FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE**

4 Minor Works Programmatic (300000644)

5

6 The appropriation in this section is subject to the following
7 conditions and limitations:

8 (1) \$150,000 of the appropriation is provided solely for expansion
9 of the incubation room at the Hurd Creek Hatchery.

10 (2) \$350,000 of the appropriation is provided solely for net pens
11 infrastructure and equipment at Mayfield Lake.

12 (3) \$25,000 of the appropriation is provided solely for the
13 department to construct a primitive road, of a minimum of one mile,
14 with no adverse impacts on streams or riparian areas, in the Naneum
15 road planning area within Kittitas county. This is to replace the
lost

16 general public access as a result of the Stray-Tekison road
17 abandonment. The department shall collaborate in the placement of
the

18 road with the Kittitas county field and stream club. Further, as
part

19 of the Naneum to Columbia river recreational planning process, the
20 department is instructed to adopt a plan that results in a net
increase

21 of green dot access roads in Kittitas county.

22 Appropriation:

23 State Building Construction Account--State \$500,000

24 Prior Biennia (Expenditures) \$0

25 Future Biennia (Projected Costs) \$0

26 TOTAL \$500,000

Appendix E

Public Comments

Public comments from the following community meetings are posted on the Naneum Ridge to Columbia River Recreation planning webpage:

- Public Kick-off Meetings April 25 – 26, 2012
- Public Open House Community Meetings April 9 – 10, 2013
- Public Open House Community Meetings October 23 – 24, 2013

The comments can be found at: http://www.dnr.wa.gov/RecreationEducation/Topics/RecreationPlanning/Pages/amp_rec_naneum_rec_planning.aspx

Appendix F

Certificate of Adoption



Naneum Ridge to Columbia River Recreation and Access Plan

CERTIFICATE OF ADOPTION

The signatures below certify the adoption of this document by the Washington State Departments of Natural Resources and Fish and Wildlife for recreation and access management of Naneum Ridge State Forest, Colockum Wildlife Area, and Quilomene and Whiskey Dick Wildlife Units.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kyle Blum".

Kyle Blum, Deputy Supervisor for State Uplands
Washington State Department of Natural Resources

A handwritten date in blue ink that reads "1/27/15".

Date

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Philip Anderson".

Philip Anderson, Director
Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife

A handwritten date in blue ink that reads "1/5/2015".

Date