

**Washington State Parks  
WINTER RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
Summer Meeting Minutes**

**August 9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
Yakima WA/ Microsoft Teams Meeting  
ATTENDANCE**

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS:**

Jim Rhodes (Area 1)  
Peter Valaas (Vice Chair, Area 2)  
Michael Burns - (Area 3)  
Emilie Blevins (Chair, Area 4)  
John Baranowski (Area 5)  
Dave Phillips (Area 6)  
Tim Penelerick (Motorized)  
Mike Couch (Absent, Motorized)  
Glenn Warren (Motorized)  
Joe Chavez (DNR)  
Rob Jones - (Absent, WAOC)  
Tony Leonetti (Absent, WDFW)

**Washington State Parks Staff:**

Corey Tolar (Winter Recreation Program, Manager)  
Montse Walker My (Winter Recreation Program)  
Kari McNay (Washington State Parks)  
Rob Sendak (Virtual, Washington State Parks)  
Peter Herzog (Virtual, Washington State Parks)

**Guests:**

Jack Thurston (Virtual)  
Janie Pardo (Virtual, USFS)  
David Wickwire (Virtual, USFS)  
Electra Bellizzi (Virtual, DNR)  
Adin Simmons (Virtual, DNR)  
Walter Henze (Virtual)  
Karen Behm  
Kyle McCrohan  
Marla Husnik  
Lynne Oliver  
Andy Dappen  
Tim Becker  
Debbie Kolp  
Sarin Molnar  
Nicholas Lichtenstadter (USFS)

**Friday August 09, 2024, Agenda**

<b>CALL TO ORDER</b>	Emilie calls the meeting to order	<b>No Action</b>
<b>INTRODUCTIONS</b>	Introductions made by committee members, staff, and in-person guests.  Emilie reviews agenda with committee and audience.	<b>No Action.</b>
<b>REVIEW/APPROVE WINTER MEETING MINUTES</b>	Emilie calls for corrections or additions to winter meeting minutes.  <b>Peter moves to approve minutes as published.</b>  <b>Tim seconds the motion.</b>  <b>Emilie calls for a vote.</b>  <b>Motion passes unanimously.</b>	<b>Motion passes unanimously to approve the 2024 Winter Meeting minutes.</b>
<b>2023/24 SEASON REVIEW</b>	Corey begins review of budget.  Montse begins presentation and walks committee through WRAC Budget Review.  Montse notes that most expenditures come from Priority 3.  Corey notes that a new, used snowcat was purchased for Lake Easton last season, which can be noted under Equipment Replacement.  <b>Priority 1 Review</b>  Peter asks about the Western Rivers Conservancy and why it was not spent for. Corey notes that it is not a yearly expense and will be reviewed for renewal moving forward.  Mike Burns asks if the shuttle service did not take place. Corey confirms.  Mike asks if there was no marketing. Corey confirms, stating that there were no expenditures directly related to marketing.  <b>Priority 2 Review</b>  John asks about overages in Cabin Creek and Crystal Springs sanitation. Corey notes this was due to the addition of ADA outhouses. Notes that overages were in those areas but not for contract as whole.  <b>Priority 3 Review</b>  Peter asks about the Crystal Springs grading project under the Miscellaneous Emergency Reserve expenditures. Corey explains that these expenditures were split between WRAC and SMAC for this project. Peter suggests making this a line item moving forward. Corey notes there is a suggested line item for this in the proposed budget.  <b>Priority 4 Review</b>  Jim notes that the end-of-life dates for equipment are inconsistent. Corey explains that the end dates are based on 10 years from date of purchase. Tim states that we	<b>Information Only</b>

	<p>need to look more into engine hours over years. Tim notes that the machines with most hours have most repairs.</p> <p>John states that groomers are in good shape, snowmobiles need attention.</p> <p>Joe notes that the Rollback truck for Lake Easton is not shown in equipment list. Montse states that WSPRC will check on the Mt Spokane BR180 and the Lake Easton truck.</p> <p><b>Priority 5/6 Review</b></p> <p>Montse reviews projects and expenditures. Notes issues for some projects. Corey notes that White Pine proposed sno-park never received written landowner approval and did not receive funds or have expenses.</p> <p>John mentions the Snoqualmie RD request for Franklin Falls. Notes Asahel Curtis and Annette Lake sno-parks. Asks if we would close those sno-parks to fund Franklin Falls. Corey states that his current understanding is that Asahel Curtis funds would likely move to Franklin Falls.</p> <p>Joe asks if Kahler Glen submitted a 3<sup>rd</sup> year request. Corey confirms that we did not receive an application for Kahler Glen or any billing in the 23-24 season.</p> <p>Montse calls for questions about budget review.</p> <p>Joe notes that last winter, WRAC mentioned moving away from paying for repairs for RD equipment. Notes upcoming purchase request for Naches RD Skandic. Asks if we would be paying for the repairs for this. Corey states that equipment purchased by program has repairs paid for by WSPRC currently.</p>	
<b>SNO-PARK SALES UPDATE</b>	<p>Kari begins sno-park permit sales update. Reviews chart with sales data over last 5 years broken down by permit type and sale type.</p> <p>Permit sales were down in 2023-2024 from previous season by ~\$379k primarily due to low snow year.</p> <p>Some vendor reports still missing, so gap could be slightly smaller once those come through. Need to investigate how Parkeon sales are counted to get more thorough account of sales.</p> <p>Kari calls for questions.</p> <p>Jim comments that committee needs to begin living within means.</p> <p>John suggests, based on data, that program is a couple years from having to look hard at increase.</p> <p>Karen Behm reminds committee of pending Gold Creek closure, may affect permits. John notes Priority 5/6 projects to be introduced tomorrow which address this.</p>	<b>Information Only</b>
<b>PERMIT FORMAT DISCUSSION</b>	<p>Emilie moves onto review of multiple license plate investigation.</p> <p>Notes that subcommittee formed in Winter meeting met virtually in March.</p> <p>Emilie reminds committee that this has been floated in the past.</p> <p>Emilie states that WSPRC plans to investigate permit sales by household.</p>	<b>Information Only</b>

	<p>Karen states that pre-sticker (window) days, permits were shared often. Cites examples from Gold Creek. Emilie states that subcommittee did discuss permit sharing.</p> <p>Emilie states that where subcommittee was left is that more data is to be gathered regarding potential impact on revenue. States that potential rollout would not be done in this fiscal year.</p> <p>Mike asks if issue of the Discover Pass was brought up. Emilie states that it was. Tim notes that hanger permits may cost more, notes permit sharing potential. Mike states that if this happens, would require increase in fees. Emilie suggests this could be palatable way to increase revenue while addressing issue.</p> <p>Dave asks about motorized conversation. Tim explains distribution and nature of snowmobile permits. Notes that registration revenue goes into snowmobile account, excluding one-day permits which solely go to non-motorized program.</p> <p>Tim states that the biggest part will be aligning this with non-motorized program. Corey states that if WRAC increased cost of seasonal permits, it would increase the cost of the snowmobile seasonal permits as well. John reminds committee that legislative action is required for SMAC.</p>	
<b>COMMITTEE MEMBER AREA REPORTS</b>	<p><b>Area 1, Jim Rhodes</b> Nothing significant to report.</p> <p><b>Area 2, Peter Valaas</b> Good year in terms of snowfall/snowpack. Notes that Highlands suffered from low snowfall due to being too far east. Lake Wenatchee had middling year. Notes that South Summit trails are well prepped with little canopy, were able to groom easily with new PB100. Peter notes that many positive comments were forwarded to WSPRC staff regarding South Summit. Notes that South Summit needs to improve grooming reports but was high point of season.</p> <p><b>Area 3, Mike Burns</b> States that Mt Spokane had good snow year. Had record visitors and revenue this year. Several big events throughout season. Notes that delegates from East Coast cited skiing was best they'd skied on.</p> <p><b>Area 4, Emilie Blevins</b> States that season came with grooming challenges at Mt Adams area. Notes that there will be grooming management changes in area being submitted with funding applications. Emilie notes good trail maintenance at Oldman Pass.</p> <p><b>Area 5, John Baranowski</b> John states that he received many letters regarding South Summit. Asks if WRAC would consider South Summit coming under Nordic Pulse. John notes poor snow early in the season and machine issues. States that USFS requesting new sleds this year.</p> <p><b>Area 6, Dave Phillips</b> Started season with low snow but March and April turned out well for area.</p> <p>Emilie concludes area reports.</p>	<b>Information Only</b>
<b>MEETING ADJOURNED</b>	<b>Emilie calls to adjourn the meeting for the night of Friday August 9<sup>th</sup>, set to reconvene Saturday, August 10<sup>th</sup> at 8:00am.</b>	<b>August 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting Adjourned,</b>

	<b>Meeting is adjourned.</b>	<b>Set to Reconvene August 10<sup>th</sup>.</b>
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<b>Saturday August 10, 2024, Agenda</b>		
<b>CALL TO ORDER</b>	Emilie Blevins called the meeting to order.	<b>Information Only.</b>
<b>INTRODUCTIONS</b>	Committee Members, in-person attendees, and virtual attendees made introductions.	<b>No Action.</b>
<b>TEAMS ETIQUETTE</b>	Kari briefed attendees on Teams etiquette.	<b>Information Only.</b>
<b>PROGRAM UPDATE</b>	<p>Corey briefly reviews the agenda and begins program update.</p> <p>Notes staff updates, temporarily unfilled staff position.</p> <p>Discusses Winter Season Highlights.</p> <p>Lake Easton snowcat purchase &amp; youth outreach success.</p> <p>Notes 23-24 non-motorized revenue decrease of \$221k.</p> <p>Notes SMAC approval to suspend 16 sno-parks for snow removal and sanitation services. Notes that Easton Reload's snowmobile side and Elk Heights are impacted. Emilie mentions Atkisson sno-park. Notes that Atkisson is fully funded by snowmobile side but is used in part by non-motorized community. Corey confirms and states that further discussion of this will occur.</p> <p>Corey notes Gold Creek upcoming spring 2025 closure. Notes new Franklin Falls sno-park funding application. States that this may help with I-90 winter rec congestion.</p> <p>Corey notes decreased snow and subsequent decrease in revenue. Reminds committee that with staff decrease comes less field time for Winter Rec.</p> <p>Emilie asks if delaying staff for one season would eliminate the position and make it unfillable. Corey states that the position will not go away, just remain temporarily vacant.</p> <p>Dave Phillips asks about the number of adults involved in underrepresented youth outreach. Corey explains that this was a dual focused effort to get youth and underrepresented communities involved, so many parents were present as well.</p>	<b>Information Only.</b>
<b>PRIORITY 5/6 PRESENTATIONS</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Year South Summit Additional Expanded Grooming, Sarin Molnar</b>	<b>Information and Discussion Only</b>

	<p>Reviews past season: Roughly 39 grooming days at South Summit. Community received very well. Notes that prior to this, there were many equipment breakdowns, only had funding to groom day and a half per week. Notes that they had full parking lot every day, including weekdays this season. Does not have numbers for specific increase in sno-park permit sales in region. Opens for questions.</p> <p>Peter: How many days per week are you planning on grooming?</p> <p>Sarin: About 3 days per week in event of complete snow season. Were able to do more last season due to shortened snowfall season.</p> <p>Peter: Grooming schedule. Hard to know exactly when grooming will occur. Implement fixed schedule?</p> <p>Sarin: We can do that. Notes Facebook page from groomer posts updated grooming schedule. Not sure how updated WSPRC website stays, not sure why there are issues on that front.</p> <p>Peter: Spontaneous grooming updates via FB are good, but not for those coming from out of area. Need more fixed schedule.</p> <p>Sarin: Can implement this on website.</p> <p>Mike Burns: Who is primary user group at that location?</p> <p>Sarin: Okanogan Valley only has two accessible sno-parks, one is South Summit. People from Omak/Okanogan. More dual users from Methow/Okanogan last year due to low snow elsewhere. Public who doesn't have the means to buy large, private trail pass. Sno-park permits are more affordable.</p> <p>Discussion of possible Nordic Pulse implementation occurs amongst committee. No decision is made, but idea can be reviewed.</p> <p>Tim notes that if grooming occurs 4 times per week, special groomed status would be triggered once project moves out of P5/6 status.</p>	
	<p><b>2<sup>nd</sup> Year Stemilt Snow Removal, Andy Dappen</b></p> <p>Begins to brief on Stemilt. Notes that access point for request is starred on map. Discusses features of area. Trails that can be used for dog walking, snow play, etc. Notes partners involved: El Sendero, Wenatchee Outdoors, WDFW (land-manager), WSPRC (coordinating plowing and sanitation).</p> <p>Shows photos of location. Notes decommissioned road seen in photos. Part of project is to take berm out to allow for parking area. Put in gate to keep motorized vehicles off the area in the winter. As part of process, Wenatchee Outdoors involved in creating GPS route maps (shown on screen). Maps have been posted along trails. Had complication with plowing in area last season. County was responsible for plowing and did not plow last season. Notes that</p>	

	<p>there was a berm that made it impossible to get to sno-park parking area. Minimal use in area without plowing. Continued need is winter plowing to allow safe access. Request is to receive 5k to allow for plowing and bring in port-a-potty. Opens for questions.</p> <p>John: Trail map showed access to Squalchuck State Park, are they supporting this project?</p> <p>Andy: No, they are not, currently. It has connectivity to park but is not promoted as an access point.</p> <p>Tim: Was money not spent for this last year?</p> <p>Montse: We didn't get invoiced.</p> <p>John: Reminder. This is not a sno-park, this was a trial run. Providing snow removal and port-a-potty would make it a sno-park.</p> <p>Jim: No sno-park, no money.</p> <p>Corey: We can sign it to make it a sno-park. WDFW did give landowner permission.</p> <p>Peter: Not many non-motorized rec opportunities in Wenatchee Valley area. Will allow access to non-motorized areas there. Back county hut near area as well.</p> <p>Andy: Many people in Wenatchee area cannot be active in winter as many areas close Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>.</p>	
	<p><b>2<sup>nd</sup> Year 1 Rd / 92 Rd E&amp;E, Electra Belizzi</b></p> <p>Summarizes goals of E&amp;E request. Spending: \$17,400 total project cost. \$16.9k salary cost. \$500 for printing, education, etc.</p> <p>Summarizes need: DNR only visited once per month on average prior to Electra starting. Notes avg. of 40 visitors per day. Notes that huts in area had 5k visitors in season. Proximity to Mt Rainier has caused increased visitation.</p> <p>Reviews operations and summarizes how request meets the Winter Rec Strategic Plan. Opens for questions.</p> <p>Jim: Information indicates 100% compliance- tickets or warnings?</p> <p>Electra: We try to do education. Only recently got the ability to write tickets. Have had good compliance.</p>	
	<p><b>2<sup>nd</sup> Year Salmon Ridge Trail Grooming, Lynne Oliver</b></p> <p>No snow last year, so groomer left a lot of ongoing money on table. Never had a chance to use their funding. Introduces Salmon Ridge trail system. Shows areas groomed. Notes snowshoe trails and dog-</p>	

	<p>friendly trails. Did 24-hour car count- even with poor snow, count was 4,181 from 12/1 - 3/31.</p> <p>Worked with Bellingham Parks and Rec for ambassador days and do this 2-3 times per season. Shows chart with breakdown for funding.</p> <p>Explains desire for \$30,067 supplemental grooming. Has grant which is sufficient for 1 time per week for most of season. Frequent grooming will lessen impact/damage from dogs/snowshoers. No on-site monitoring in area to assist. Request is for 2x/wk grooming. Opens for questions.</p> <p>Tim: How many miles?</p> <p>Lynne: About 22.</p> <p>Corey: How did you monitor car count?</p> <p>Lynne: Game camera that counts motion. Worked well.</p> <p>Corey: How long did you keep up camera?</p> <p>Lynne: 6 months. Counted all cars. Accounted for leaving as well.</p>	
	<p><b>2<sup>nd</sup> Year Additional Grooming- Pineside, David Wickwire</b></p> <p>Proposal was new last year to add funds to give contractor more opportunity to groom East side. Not as successful last year, had conversation with WSPRC. USFS would like to take over grooming on East side. Has current contract for sanitation. Contractor last year unable to groom east side. USFS moved equipment from Atkisson and finished grooming to address public demand. 9k is for grooming Pineside and Snow King.</p> <p>Peter: Groomer stopped grooming due to safety concerns. Are those still an issue?</p> <p>David: Groomer stopped due to his equipment being too wide. Individual who was “hazard” was not reason for grooming stoppage. Peter: No ongoing risk to personnel? David: No.</p> <p>Tim: Is contractor okay giving this up?</p> <p>Corey: Yes, that has been worked out with both parties.</p> <p>Tim: Done by USFS with smaller snowcat?</p> <p>David: Yes, that is next part. Hired staff who have extensive snowmobile experience. They keep Atkisson going all season. Because USFS is very close, they can react after potential snow dump.</p> <p>Emilie moves on to second application for David.</p>	



	<p><b>NEW Mt Adams Equipment, David Wickwire</b></p> <p>David: Notes pressure from Columbia Gorge area, Portland, and Vancouver. Would like to do own grooming but can only do with new equipment. Would like to purchase Sno-master kit and Skandic Snowmobile. USFS Winter Technician has picked these out pieces requested. Requesting one-time cost of \$21,403 to purchase. Affected trails are 245 miles of grooming. Of two requests, equipment piece is priority, grooming piece is appreciated.</p> <p>Mike: Does 245 miles consist of all trail areas?</p> <p>David: Just Pineside, Snow King.</p> <p>Mike: How to get from location to location?</p> <p>David: Trails are connected, one location.</p> <p>No questions.</p>	
	<p><b>NEW Lake Keechelus Boat Ramp Grooming, Marla Husnik and Tim Becker.</b></p> <p>Marla: Wrote similar grant in 2014 requesting funding to groom Iron Horse trail. This request is for road that leads to flat trail system. This funding would add a couple hills. Proposed as a one time for a ski race in 2014. Asking for grooming on Saturdays and 2 additional Sundays. Add additional terrain to Iron Horse trail. Club bought warming hut for area and has 5-year concession permit to locate ski hut in USFS parking lot which is entry to additional property which goes to lake. People have been asking to ski in this area but cannot due to lack of grooming. Ski for All handicapped group uses warming hut in area.</p> <p>Tim Becker: Working with John Ernster to increase access in area over the years that connect to snowshoeing or use as access point to get into other area. See this as mitigation to help in event of Gold Creek closure moving forward. Would like infrastructure to deal with increase. Trying to start slow, to ask for 14 days of grooming (done by State Parks staff in area who know what needs to be done- not huge change to their operations).</p> <p>Mike: State Parks does grooming?</p> <p>Tim Becker: Yes, Lake Easton does the grooming.</p> <p>Mike: Parking is where?</p> <p>Marla &amp; Tim: Hyak Sno-park (notes that club does signage and maintenance).</p> <p>Corey: Road is USFS Road. Need written USFS landowner permission. This is all contingent on USFS approval.</p>	

	<p>Marla: Yes, application is in. They are working on this, but conversation is happening. Dealing with a lot of new staff.</p> <p>Mike: Will this alleviate Cabin Creek congestion?</p> <p>Marla &amp; Tim: Yes, already taken over Jente Loppet race after being approached by the Konsbergers for help.</p> <p>Tim Becker: Outdoors for all program for disabled individuals are run in that area. Their current station by Hyak is about to be developed into condos. They will be relocated soon.</p>	
	<p><b>NEW Naches RD 2 Skandic Snowmobiles, Janie Pardo</b></p> <p>Past 2 years, been ineffective with grooming due to equipment breakdowns. Due to breakdowns and supply change issues, there have been not only days without grooming, but weeks without grooming. Safety issues that come with faulty equipment. Not having groomed trails leads to safety issues in area.</p> <p>Naches RD has the staff to do the work, certified, etc. Have gotten creative to groom. Have borrowed from some programs to make up for equipment issues.</p> <p>Work closely with Yakima Ski &amp; Nordic Council. Attend groomer meetings in area. Taken possession of Bumping Lake warming hut. Would like to continue to see underserved community members in area get involved in snow sports. Need good grooming for that to happen successfully.</p> <p>USFS dealing with budget constraints. Funding received internally will go toward salaries, likely not toward new equipment. Lists all trail systems, notes these see about 4,500 users per season. Connects to strategic plan by noting helping economic viability in areas, contributes to healthy lifestyles.</p> <p>Tim: Will drags from old equipment still be used?</p> <p>Yes.</p> <p>Jim: One of your pieces of equipment is old, one (2017) is not. Why ask for 2?</p> <p>Janie: 2017 is giving the most mechanical issues. Been in shop since March due to inability to get fuel pump. Big fan of doing permitted maintenance. Not sure if that was happening before arrival or not but with new equipment, logs would be kept.</p>	
	<p><b>3<sup>rd</sup> Year Cabin Creek Additional Grooming, Debbie Kolp</b></p> <p>75,800 users (according to counter on trail; measured by clicks not 75,800 people specifically). Have good partnership with Nick Whitman/Landtek. Last year had 2,000 hours of volunteer work. Stay within USFS restrictions. Has group that clears brush and</p>	

	<p>taking out small trees and separate sawing group to remove down trees prior to season. This allowed Landtek to spend budget on grooming and not snow removal.</p> <p>Last season, road was shut down pre-season to allow for prep and grooming. Had some of earliest groomed skiing.</p> <p>Reviews photos. Notes that due to great grooming, were allowed to to ski through March 31<sup>st</sup>. Notes racing in areas. Shows photo of full parking lot on March 31<sup>st</sup>.</p> <p>Requesting funding at same level as received last year.</p> <p>Mike: How many clubs operating out of Cabin Creek?</p> <p>Debbie: Kongsbergers, Ellensberg and Momentum (race teams).</p> <p>Mike: Catering to bigger geographic area than most understand (Methow, Montana, BC).</p> <p>Joe: Sounds like Kongsbergers took WRAC feedback on getting sawing certifications and it worked out well?</p> <p>Debbie: Yes, worked out well. Landtek was able to save budget and people love chainsawing.</p> <p>John: Almost a requirement due to Nick's rate doubling. Expected them to get half as many grooming hours.</p> <p>Debbie: Got fewer hours but managed to do full season.</p>	
	<p><b>NEW Franklin Falls Sno-Park, Nicholas Lichtenstadter</b></p> <p>Introduces proposal. Been working with county. Reviews maps. Notes parking lot, snowshoe route which would mimic Franklin Falls trail. Notes upper area which would need to be fenced off as it enters avalanche terrain. Notes county section of road which would need to be gone through to get to USFS section. Entered into memorandum of understanding with County if this is funded. Notes that county section will occasionally be plowed to get to USFS section.</p> <p>Snowplay is main focus with slopes for sledding. Parking area invested in and designed with thought of winter use.</p> <p>Management Notes- County originally denied due to parking being done on road. With USFS staffing here, and new parking area, hoping to get people in and out safely.</p> <p>Goes into Budget Breakdown. Notes that enforcement can be done but comes at higher GS level (higher budget).</p>	

	<p>Review budget breakdown slide which shows current request broken down by Personnel, Snow Removal, and Toilet Pumping costs. Request placed side-by-side with Asahel Curtis funds.</p> <p>Notes broad appeal letter of support with partner groups.</p> <p>Corey: If Franklin Falls is opened, Asahel Curtis can be moved. If approved, would have to go out to bid for snow removal contract. Concern with quoted snow removal contractor. Can work on amount per hour as \$900/hr is too high.</p> <p>Joe nods in agreement. Corey states that Asahel Curtis funds could be moved.</p> <p>Mike: Where would grooming be done.</p> <p>Nick: No planned grooming.</p> <p>Jim: Spending a lot of money on E&amp;E, need to pay for 3 employees?</p> <p>Nick: USFS would be doing on ground enforcement to keep people from parking on roads</p> <p>Corey: Employees can write tickets?</p> <p>Nick: Yes</p>	
<b>BREAK</b>	Committee breaks for 20 minutes.	<b>No Action.</b>
<b>FY25 WINTER REC BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS</b>	<p>Committee resumes meeting.</p> <p>Corey begins FY25 Budget Recommendations. Notes some very minor tweaks from PDF budget that was sent out.</p> <p>Notes Admin staff reduction, and reallocation of salaries and benefits to be 50/50 with SMAC. Notes two dual-use sno-parks may be affected by SMAC service suspensions/closures. Notes Priority 3 rollovers from 3<sup>rd</sup> year into main budget as well as purchase of snowcat for Lake Easton under Priority 4.</p> <p>Moves on to introduce all sno-park suspensions by SMAC. Notes that Easton Reload is still open on non-motorized side, only motorized slide closed, due to bridge collapse. Notes Elk Heights as dual-use sno-park being affected. Explains various factors in closing these SMAC sno-parks.</p> <p>Tim: All sno-parks in Washington are open to non-motorized users, only certain sno-parks are open to motorized. If WRAC feels that a snowmobile sno-park should be kept open, can make moves on that regard.</p> <p>Corey: State Parks leadership is wary of WRAC funding motorized sno-parks due to possibilities of issues with landowner agreements, and possible motorized user confusion.</p>	<b>Information Only.</b>

	<p>Emilie notes desire from non-motorized community to possibly keep Atkisson open.</p> <p>Corey moves to slide with starting balances vs. expenditures. Notes that expenditures are on the rise, could reach point where expenditures outpace revenue eventually.</p> <p>Corey shows all Priority 5/6 Request amounts since 2019 moving into main budget. Reviews Permit sales from last 5 seasons compared to expenditures. Highlights that in FY24, expenditures were higher than income/revenue for first time in 5 years. Cautions the committee to keep this in mind when reviewing budgets moving forward. John notes that \$303k of expenditures in FY24 due to groomer purchase. Ongoing is flat but could go up moving forward. Corey agrees, noting that this year's budget should be fine, but worth reviewing in future.</p> <p>Montse pulls up WSPRC Staff Proposed Budget.</p> <p>Montse explains budget model to committee. States \$3.1 million starting balance for FY24, \$2.9 million for FY25. Proposing \$2.1 million budget, Available funds of \$2.9 million, keeping \$777,801 in reserves. Notes admin and P5/6 decreases.</p> <p>Jim: Why did E&amp;E jump up?</p> <p>Corey: Previous P5/6 would be rolled into main budget.</p> <p><b>Proposed Priority 1- Admin</b></p> <p>Notes decrease in expenditures.</p> <p>Corey: Last year, shuttle service was part of Admin budget. Removed from proposed budget due to not making headway with project last year.</p> <p><b>Proposed Priority 2- Snow Removal</b></p> <p>Corey: Notes Asahel Curtis addition due to moving over from P5/6. Notes Snow King as dual-use sno-park that has been funded by SMAC side. Added to WRAC budget.</p> <p>Corey: Notes Bumping Lake increase. Winter Rec had to reach out to a private contractor which cost more than USFS. Proposing to add the money given to them through emergency reserve (in FY24) as part of their budget.</p> <p>Corey notes proposed increase of \$14,514 in snow removal.</p> <p>Peter: Was Elk Heights partially funded by motorized and do we need to bump up WRAC contribution?</p>	
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	<p>Corey: That can be part of WRAC discussion.</p> <p><b>Proposed Priority 2- Sanitation</b></p> <p>Corey notes the Cougar/Pineside/Wind River increase in sanitation. Redistributed line item from last year (which was lumped into one item) into the three corresponding sno-parks but budget amount stays same.</p> <p>Corey notes proposed increase of \$11,227.</p> <p><b>Proposed Priority 3- Trail Grooming</b></p> <p>Corey: No changes recommended to state grooming funding, same as previous year.</p> <p>Corey: For private trail grooming, some P5/6s rolled over into main budget. Loup Loup/South Summit and Mountaineers Access grooming.</p> <p><b>Proposed Priority 3- Emergency Reserve</b></p> <p>Corey: No change recommended, same as last year.</p> <p><b>Proposed Priority 3- E&amp;E</b></p> <p>Corey: Some P5/6 projects moved over to main budget. Snoqualmie RD/Asahel Curtis, Snoqualmie RD Increased E&amp;E, Methow Valley RD Sno-Rangers, Field Springs Park Aide, and NWAC. All rolled into main budget. All other line items will maintain last year's budget amount.</p> <p><b>Proposed Priority 4- Equipment Replacement/Reserves</b></p> <p>Corey: No new equipment recommendations. Priority 4 would remain as reserves.</p> <p><b>Proposed Priority 5/6</b></p> <p>Montse: We can make alterations to P5/6 to see adjustments to overall budget.</p> <p>Corey: This is WSPRC proposal for FY25.</p> <p>Emilie calls for questions from WRAC.</p> <p>No questions.</p>	
<b>PUBLIC COMMENTS</b>	<p>Emilie calls for public comment.</p> <p>Comment: We would like WSPRC to go back to DOT for plowing.</p>	<b>No Action.</b>

	Corey: Good in theory, but DOT would have to agree. Additionally, some counties are dropping out of plowing. Will still reach out when comes time to move forward with contract.	
<b>PRIORITY 5/6 WRAC SCORING</b>	<p>Audience is released to lunch.</p> <p>WRAC Committee uses score sheets to independently rank the ten Priority 5/6 applications received.</p> <p>Score sheets are submitted to Winter Rec staff.</p> <p>Montse enters the score data.</p>	<b>Priority 5/6 scores submitted by WRAC members.</b>
<b>LUNCH</b>	Committee adjourns for lunch.	<b>No Action.</b>
<b>BUDGET REVIEW &amp; APPROVAL</b>	<p>Committee reconvenes after lunch break.</p> <p>Montse pulls up rankings for funding projects.</p> <p>Peter states that the Mt Adams snowmobile item and grooming item were linked.</p> <p>David Wickwire confirms that it is possible to do grooming with snowmobile proposal approved, but not the additional grooming approval. States that he would have to submit for additional funds later but would be able to make it work. Even half of that would help.</p> <p>E&amp;E discussion follows. Committee notes that E&amp;E has almost doubled, which is why several members ranked DNR E&amp;E request lower.</p> <p>Mike: Ranked realistically by trimming all requests by some numbers. Came up with new amount to approve.</p> <p><b>Tim motions to fund line items 6 &amp; 3 (Naches RD equipment &amp; Mt Adams RD equipment requests) out of Equipment Reserve.</b></p> <p><b>Mike seconds.</b></p> <p><b>Mike amends to approve just 1 Naches Skandic, and 1 snowmobile (&amp; grooming attachment) for Mt Adams.</b></p> <p><b>Tim agrees to amendment.</b></p> <p><b>Jim seconds the amendment.</b></p> <p>Montse adjusts numbers to reflect amendment.</p> <p><b>Emilie calls for vote to fund 1 Mt Adams ski club snowmobile, 1 Naches RD snowmobile.</b></p> <p><b>Motion passes unanimously.</b></p>	<b>Motion passes unanimously to fund 1 Mt Adams snowmobile, 1 Naches RD snowmobile out of equipment reserve.</b>

	<p>Committee investigates budgets.</p> <p>Committee determines that Franklin Falls request would be requesting \$43k on top of the Asahel Curtis transfer.</p> <p>Mike: Unclear whether plowing would be required from beginning of road all the way up to parking lot. Suggesting cutting money out of the snow removal portion of the request.</p> <p>John: If this replaces Gold Creek, important to get something on the ground to replace it. May be expensive this year.</p> <p><b>Mike motions to fund Franklin Falls item at \$45,000.</b></p> <p><b>Motion is seconded by Tim.</b></p> <p><b>Emilie calls for a vote.</b></p> <p><b>Motion passes unanimously.</b></p> <p>Committee moves through remaining Priority 5/6 items, discussing them.</p> <p>Emilie: Pineside trails last year didn't see much grooming last year. Second year request, but first year to use funding due to issues with groomer that was out of their control.</p> <p>Joe: Need to keep an eye on that, if they don't spend this coming year, shouldn't move into main budget.</p> <p>Emilie briefly moves back to snow removal portion of budget. Mentions Atkisson in Area 4. Reiterates the amount of non-motorized use.</p> <p>Tim asks what Atkisson was budgeted at in SMAC.</p> <p>Corey: \$15,000 funded in the SMAC. If WRAC does approve the non-motorized program funding this sno-park, it would be conditional upon certain factors. Would need to work through items to make sure this is doable in bylaws. Would need to be run by land managers to make sure this would be able to happen.</p> <p>David Wickwire: Atkisson has become premier Nordic spot in area due to being further east. There is a four-season rental cabin that is accessed from this site. Closure would affect rental program. Used by both programs, but use is heavily Nordic.</p> <p>Corey: Any concern with snowmobilers using trails if funded?</p> <p>David: It is mixed-use but wouldn't be a problem.</p>	<p><b>Motion passes unanimously to fund Franklin Falls sno-park at \$45,000.</b></p>
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	<p>Emilie motions to add Atkisson back into budget contingent on meeting the requirements noted by Parks leadership.</p> <p>Committee discusses and tables motion until Priority 5/6 items have been determined.</p> <p>Emilie calls for additional questions about P5/6 items and rankings.</p> <p>Joe: Notes that proposed budget is higher than any revenue earned post-pandemic. Would be eating into budget.</p> <p>John: This is just part of the system. Gain surplus then eat into it. Then raise fees. Cycle repeats.</p> <p><b>John motions to approve all remaining Priority 5/6 requests as listed.</b></p> <p><b>Peter seconds.</b></p> <p>Mike: Motion to cut DNR to make \$10k flat, and Nooksack to \$25k.</p> <p>Emilie: How did you decide this?</p> <p>Mike: Percentages. Try to get budget to \$150k.</p> <p>Mike rescinds motion.</p> <p><b>Emilie calls for vote on motion to approve all remaining Priority 5/6 items as listed.</b></p> <p><b>Motion passes 6-2.</b></p> <p><b>Priority 5/6 approved at \$168,727.</b></p>	<p><b>Motion to approve all remaining Priority 5/6 items as listed passes 6-2.</b></p> <p><b>Priority 5/6 budget approved at \$168,727.</b></p>
	<p><b>Priority 1 Proposed Budget</b></p> <p>John states that budget will need to be adjusted back up when staffing goes back up in future years.</p> <p>Corey notes that admin reductions were made to account for reduction in revenue. Believes that it was prudent to cut down budget according to staff adjustments.</p> <p><b>Peter motions to approve</b></p> <p><b>Mike seconds</b></p> <p><b>Emilie calls for vote.</b></p> <p><b>Motion passes unanimously.</b></p> <p><b>Priority 1 budget approved at \$357,500.</b></p>	<p><b>Motion passes unanimously to approve Priority 1 budget as proposed by WSPRC.</b></p> <p><b>Priority 1 budget approved at \$357,500.</b></p>

	<p><b>Priority 2 Proposed Budget</b></p> <p>Emilie motions to approve addition of Atkisson sno-park to Priority 2 at \$11,500 for snow removal and \$589 for sanitation contingent on conditions provided and to accept Priority 2 as budgeted.</p> <p>John seconds motion</p> <p>Emilie calls for vote.</p> <p>Motion passes unanimously.</p> <p>Priority 2 budget approved at \$523,163.</p>	<p>Motion passes unanimously to approve Atkisson Sno-Park to Priority 2 at \$11,500 (snow removal) &amp; \$589 (sanitation) contingent upon conditions provided by WSPRC and to accept Priority 2 as budgeted.</p> <p>Priority 2 budget approved at \$523,163.</p>
	<p><b>Priority 3 Proposed Budget</b></p> <p>Peter motions to accept Priority 3 as proposed by staff.</p> <p>Jim seconds.</p> <p>Emilie calls for vote.</p> <p>Motion passes unanimously.</p> <p>Priority 3 budget approved at \$1,076,942.</p>	<p>Motion passes unanimously to approve Priority 3 budget as proposed by WSPRC.</p> <p>Priority 3 budget approved at \$1,076,942.</p>
<b>WINTER MEETING SET</b>	<p>Emilie calls to set Winter Meeting and time.</p> <p>Committee discusses possible locations. Settles on Omak, so excursion can be planned to South Summit.</p> <p>Meeting location set for Omak.</p> <p>Meeting date suggested for January 24<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup>.</p>	<p>WRAC Winter Meeting set for January 25<sup>th</sup> in Omak.</p>
	<p>Meeting adjourns.</p>	