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Kittitas County, Washington  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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Brett Wachsmith

December 31, 2020

Melinda Posner  
Project Lead  
Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission  
PO Box 42650  
Olympia, WA 98504-2650

Dear Ms. Posner,

We, the Kittitas County Board of Commissioners, thank you for your work and wish to provide comment on the proposed CAMP Alternatives under consideration for Ginkgo State Park.

After review of the three options, we find that **Alternative 3 (Trail Emphasis Theme) is the preferred alternative for this Board.** While Alternative 3 would maintain present road access, both Alternatives 1 and 2 would result in diminished or eliminated motorized access opportunities to the Whiskey Dick and Quilomene Wildlife Areas. This is critical as current access provides the only motorized point of egress during winter WDFW closures. Having previously passed Resolution 2019-061 entitled "No Net Loss for Public Access on Public Roads", this Board has maintained a core value of preserving motorized access, whether by existing or new roads, to county geographic areas at their current service levels. Therefore, we find Alternative 3 to be the only supportable option.

We also note with interest your apparent intent to develop a broader approach to recreation management across the entire Wanapum Pool area, specifically by identified areas currently administered by Grant Public Utility District (GPUD) as having joint management potential. The Vantage area is a historically underserved rural community heavily dependent on tourism. Given the recent renewed focus on improving the Beverly Bridge to improve the Palouse to Cascades State Park Trail and new housing development currently underway north of Wanapum State Park, this Board believes coordination amongst your agency, GPUD, and others is critical. Kittitas County is interested in developing a shared vision for the greater Vantage area to not only provide a top recreational destination, but also for those residents economically dependent on consistent visitor use.

Thank you again for the opportunity to provide comment on this plan. We look forward to our continued work together in this area and others throughout Kittitas County.

Sincerely,

Cory Wright  
District One

Laura Osiadacz  
District Two

Brett Wachsmith  
District Three