**Stemilt-Squilchuck Recreation Committee Charter**

**Vision:** Establish sustainable recreation opportunities in the Stemilt-Squilchuck Basin through a community based planning process that embraces community values, protection of water and wildlife resources, and collaboration with all stakeholders.

**Lead Agency**

Chelan County Natural Resources Department is the lead agency coordinating the recreation planning process.

*Technical Assistance*: The National Park Service’s Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program is providing technical assistance to Chelan County and its partners.

**Recreation Committee Role:** The recreation committee has been formed to help guide and advise Chelan County, Stemilt Partnership, and land managers on the development of the Stemilt-Squilchuck Recreation Plan. The role of the recreation committee is to represent the community and its varied interests groups during the planning process. The recreation committee members will have the opportunity to participate in and provide input throughout the planning process prior to a broader public review.

The recreation committee’s responsibilities are:

* Attend approximately 5 to 7 meetings (3 hours each) over the next 15-18 months (Spring 2017 to Summer/Fall 2018) These meetings will be to review and comment on draft information and to participate in discussions and brainstorming session designed to incorporate their thinking into the process. In addition, it is likely that two or more public events will occur during the planning process with which committee members will be invited to participate in.
* Provide support, expertise, and direction on all elements of the planning process from start to finish (i.e. outreach strategy, desired conditions, recreation and resource inventory, recreation plan concepts, draft plan, monitoring strategy). Committee members will participate fully in the process and share their ideas and concerns early and often. Committee members will seek to work collaboratively with other members to reach consensus.
* Serve as a liaison to their respective agency, nonprofit group, recreation user group, partnership team, or company. As a liaison, the committee member will bring input into the process from their larger constituency group as well as share the results of the recreation planning process with their recreation user group, partnership group, agency leadership, or company leadership. This is critical role and vital to the success of the plan.

**Decision-making Process:**

* The recreation committee will make recommendations to the Stemilt Partnership.
* The recreation committee will seek to make decisions by consensus, if consensus can’t be reached by all, then they would first seek to modify the proposals to reach consensus. If consensus could still not be reached, the recreation committee would describe the different perspectives and present this to the Stemilt Partnership.
* The Stemilt Partnership will consider this input and working by consensus vote as described in their operating procedures will make final recommendations to the designated land manager/owner.
* The ultimate decision lies with the land manager. Any recommendations approved by the land manager would be incorporated into the plan.

Land Manager

Final approval for components on their land

Stemilt-Squilchuck Recreation Plan

Stemilt Partnership

Approve by consensus vote

Recreation committee

Recommend by consensus; if consensus can’t be reached present all sides

**Consensus:**

All members must support a decision for it to carry. A decision reached by consensus can sometimes represent a wide a range of support. When useful, a simple rating system will be used to help committee members individually and collectively evaluate where they stand in their consensus-based decisions.

1. Support (Consensus)

2. I can live with the decision and accept it, even though it may not be exactly what I want. (Consensus)

3. Cannot support (No Consensus)

**Committee Membership**

The recreation committee membership is listed below. The committee will strive to include one (or two) representative(s) from each of the recreation user groups who either use the area or have the potential to use the area. Members are encouraged to actively participate in the process (see role and responsibilities above).

**Active Membership**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Organization** | **Representative** |
| Chamber of Commerce | Matt Kearny |
| Evergreen Mountain Bike | Travis Hornby |
| Backcountry Ski/Snowshoe | Gus Bekker |
| Wenatchee Valley Fly Fishers | Bruce Merighi |
| Wenatchee Sportsmen | Garr Racus |
| Apple Valley Snowmobile Club | John and Marty Erickson |
| Wenatchee Outdoors | Sarah Schafer |
| Chelan-Douglas Land Trust | Mickey Fleming |
| Backcountry Horsemen | Ken Bailey |
| Wenatchee Valley College | Ariahna Jones |
| Our Valley What's Next | Steve Mayor |
| Chelan County Natural Resource Department | Erin McKay and Mike Kaputa |
| Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife | Pete Lopushinsky |
| Wildlife Specialist | John Lehmkuhl |
| Stemilt Growers | Ben Alworth |
| Washington State Parks | Brian Patnode |
| Mission Ridge | Josh Jorgensen |
| Washington Department of Natural Resources | Larry Leach |
| Stemilt Partnership Steering Committee | Jerry Gutzwiler, Herb Troxel, James W. Wiggs |
| Chelan County Commissioner | Kevin Overbay |
| Washington Trails Association | Cody Gillin |
| Residents of the Stemilt-Squilchuck Basin | Cindy Uren |
| United States Forest Service | Mason Shcurr |

**Potential Membership**

The following organizations have been invited to join, but have not yet been able to participate to date. Participation is encouraged, but will be up to that organization. Chelan County will be continuing to reach out to them to keep them informed about the planning process and a representative may join at a later time.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Organization** | **Representative** |
| Motor sports user group |  |
| Local running group |  |

In addition, it is possible that other community members may be interested in participating in the future. Any potential new members should reach out to Chelan County. Chelan County seeks to create an open and transparent planning process and will grant new memberships when feasible. New members will need to be able to review relevant information regarding the progress made in the planning process so they can engage effectively.

**Observer Guidelines.** Anyone from the public is welcome to observe the recreation committee meetings. Any observer wanting to make comments can let Chelan County know ahead of time and they will be incorporated into the agenda for the meeting. Observers interested in joining the committee can work with Chelan County as described above.

**Public Input/Outreach**. In addition to the recreation committee members, Chelan County and its partners will be reaching out to the other interested and potentially affected community members and funders at key times in the planning process to share information and gather input. Outreach methods may include e-newsletter articles, website updates, press releases, open houses, and surveys.