



Confederated Tribes and Bands
Of the Yakama Nation

Established by the
Treaty of June 9, 1855

October 21, 2025

Sent via email

Mike Kaputa
Chelan County Department of Natural Resources
411 Washington St. Suite 201
Wenatchee, WA 98801
missionridgeeis@outlook.com

Re: Mission Ridge Expansion Master Planned Resort Draft EIS

Dear Mr. Kaputa,

I write on behalf of the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation ("Yakama Nation") to provide comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Mission Ridge Expansion Master Planned Resort.

Yakama Nation is a sovereign Native Nation with reserved rights and privileges pursuant to the 1855 Treaty between the United States and the Yakamas. The proposed expansion area is within our ancestral lands where we have reserved treaty-rights and actions under this project may adversely impact Tribal members' rights to hunt, fish, or gather. Yakama Nation remains committed to protecting the natural and cultural resources on Yakama lands both on Reservation and within our ceded lands for our membership.

Yakama Nation is concerned that the project will have a negative impact on resources, such as wildlife and native species, due to the size of the expansion, the permanent year-round residences, and year-round recreational use, adverse wildlife impacts are predicted from negative human/wildlife interactions. Additionally, mitigation measures are provided for the removal of the ESA-listed whitebark pine, however, the species is a slow growing keystone species that plays a role in stabilizing alpine slopes and managing snowmelt.

Respectfully, Yakama Nation would like to be consulted to express our concerns about the project and are requesting a meeting. Yakama Nation looks forward to additional discussion on the project as it is refined and implemented. Please contact the Yakama Nation via me Phil Rigdon, Superintendent for the Yakama Nation Department of Natural Resources, at phil_rigdon@yakama.com.

Sincerely,

Philip Rigdon, Superintendent
Yakama Nation Department of Natural Resources

Post Office Box 151, Fort Road, Toppenish, WA 98948 (509) 865-5121