**Nason Ridge Advisory Committee**

**August 7, 2019 Meeting Notes**

Participants:

Mik McKee (Western Rivers Conservancy), Neslon Mathews (Western Rivers Concervancy), Curt Soper (CDLT), Rollie Schmitten (Nason View), Bill Miller (Kahler Glen), George Wilson (resident), Rick Halstead (State Parks), Mat Lyons (TREAD), Tad Summersett (resident), Patrick Haggerty (Cascadia), Eric Prestbo (resident), Bog Bugert (Chelan County Commissioner), Rob Shurtleff (Info Lake Wenatchee), Erin McKay (Chelan County), David Walker (LWFD)

Introductions and Updates (Curt):

* Chelan County was successful in securing 1.25 million dollars toward acquisition through Salmon Recovery Funding and PUD Tributary Committees
* CDLT secured $185,000 toward Kahler Creek property
* Legislative tour planned for September 23

Forest Management Update (Mik McKee)

* Purpose of Community Forests: to keep revenue local and allow community members drive management decisions
* Nason Ridge has all resource values and can provide a model for community forests incorporating all aspects of management
* Forestry will be an active part of management, and revenue will stay here. Stewardship will require money, and we need to show that the forest can at least partially sustain itself. Other grant sources also available for continued stewardship, but we don’t want to keep asking for legislative support after establishment
* Explanation of Forest Management Chapter and stand maps: see attached powerpoint
* ESA species and viewshed will have to be considered, but there can be forestry without destroying habitat and viewshed (example of Natapoc Ridge helicopter logging
* Plan will include short term actions (1-10 years), long term actions (11-20 years), then needs to be revisited to renew action plan

Recreation Chapter

* Objectives from last meeting (see powerpoint)

Current Use

* Access points
	+ Kahler Glen gate: surrounded by private landowners, used mostly by locals in summer, more out-of-town visitation in winter for groomed ski trails, has minimal parking
	+ Butcher Creek gate: mostly local access, adjacent to private landowners, very little parking in current location
	+ Nason Ridge Trailhead: between Kahler Glen and State Park, on USFS land, mostly non-motorized use although motos are allowed, also used by equestrian and snowshoers
	+ Round Mountain Trail: access from top through USFS land
* Established uses/resources:
	+ Mostly road beds used as trails for hiking, biking, skiing, equestrian, and some moto
	+ Nason Ridge trail is only single track trail
	+ Parking is limited, only significant parking is at State Park and driving range
	+ Viewpoints/areas of interest: Big Red, avalanche overlook, views from south side, landing above Nason Ridge trail
* Priorities for continuing existing use:
	+ Continue trends of existing use types
	+ Improve access for children/educational opportunities
	+ Improve existing access/parking
	+ Signage for existing travel routes
	+ Continue existing winter use structure (WA Parks Program, signage, etc)

Future Recreation Use

* Desired future conditions/opportunities
	+ Fat-tire biking trails, separate from groomed ski trails
	+ Bird watching/wildlife viewing areas/opportunities
	+ Interpretive signage for educational opportunity
	+ Guided walks
	+ Ski-in/bike-in/hike-in hut system for summer and winter use, ex: Rendevous Hut System in Methow
	+ Strategically increase parking at access points
	+ Trail connections with USFS/WSDOT lands
	+ River trail
	+ More singletrack trail for linkages and making loops
	+ Range of options (steep direct route to overlook, shorter easier routes for families)

Consideration: Increasing recreation opportunity is an objective for the Community Forest, but increased use will require strategic planning to prevent unwanted impacts on the forest and on adjacent landowners. More detailed planning for these desired future opportunities will occur following completion of the overall Community Forest Management Plan.

Next Steps:

* Next meeting planned for September 4th, on Aquatics and Roads Management
* Goal is to have draft text for Chapters 1-5 (Community Benefits, Forest Management, Aquatics, Roads Management, Recreation) complete by end of September so group can review and provide input