

8/11/25 NRCF Stewardship Group Meeting- Online

Participating:

Elle Robinson
Erin McKay
Eric Prestbo
Rollie Smitten
Chad Spies
Shon Smith
Trevor Wylie
Bill Deters
Ryan McGrew
Don Long
Mike Kaputa
Sean Simmons
Sue McCausland
Mic McLane

Intro- last Stewardship Group meeting in January (and a Community Forest update at the Nason Watershed Community Meeting in May focused on Nason Creek restoration projects)

Nason Ridgetop fuel break project is moving forward (212 acres). It has gone out for bid and a contractor has been identified. Dual benefit thinning project, is also within mule deer migration corridor. Starts at the warming hut on the west side and continues SE along the ridge top. Funding is NRCS and is coordinated with CDLT. Southeastern unit is funded through CWDG (community wildfire defense grants) Project will likely start and be completed in 2026. Future work may include prescribed burn. Thinning will favor western white pine and will take out grand fir. Material will be masticated in place.

Wildlife Corridor Thinning project- received RMRF grant (requires 1:1 match). Will open up stands to allow better forage and more resilience to wildfire. Project is still under development, actual unit not identified yet.

Current projects: Signage- Install large wooden sign given to the County by Western Rivers at the second gate parking area on the 6910-112 road. NRCF at Nason Ridge trailhead. Mary: need NRCF sign and infrastructure at lower Kahler gate due to high use by mt bikers and hunters etc. Erin: could also do game cam on that side to record use on the KG side.

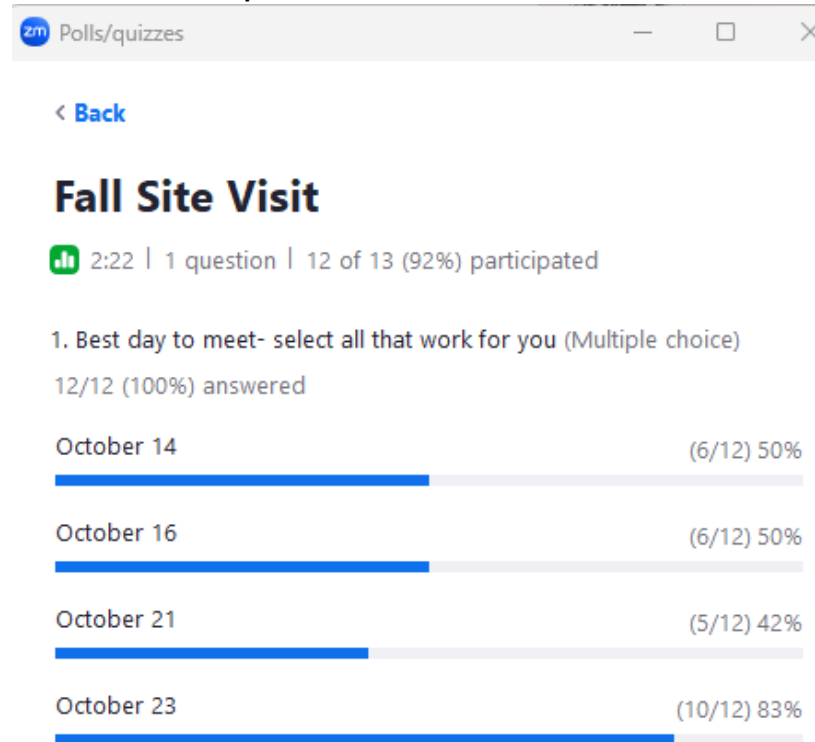
Kahler Glen gate: needs to be leveled and needs a new bike gate (V gate) that would allow bikes but not motorcycles. Chad has offered to build the gate (CCNRD will pay for supplies), KGMA will use their equipment to level the gate and move boulders on side.

Kahler Creek Restoration project is not happening this year as a result from feedback from WDFW- designs are undergoing revision and project will likely happen next year or 2027.

WA Parks- currently working through bureaucracy to get approval to get a new master agreement in place with the County that would cover things like road maintenance, grooming, and other shared

stewardship projects. Sno Park application will be due in June, with an in-person presentation in July or August. State Parks is moving forward with scheduling boom mower for roads on groomed ski trails for this fall. Will coordinate with Erin on areas to stay out of due to thinning projects.

October 23rd is the preferred date for the fall site visit.



Chad- update on trail maintenance. Brushed out old skid roads. Road bed is intact so mostly brush removal. Started a second trail that comes off the ridgetop to decommissioned road. No signage on the trails.

Mary- need chemical removal plus hand removal for knapweed control. Bill Deters is making tools for knapweed removal. 3 bags are up at the warming hut- maybe Trevor can pick them up or we can grab them at the field trip. What is good to replant once the plant is removed.

Eric- if the plant hasn't gone to seed, you can leave them where you pull them.

Erin- if seeding with native grasses, seed in the fall with seed spreader. Over the winter, come up with weed management approach. Weed spraying next year could include backpack spraying effort. Try to control high traffic routes.

Chad- Before spray, roads should be surveyed. Bill- knapweed can be controlled

Erin- we can make this a future topic and put some time into making a plan for control.

Parking Lot: Improve KG access point (signs, gate)