

**Washington State Parks
WINTER RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Summer Meeting Minutes**

July 23-24, 2021

In-Person and Virtual Meeting/Zoom and Wenatchee, WA

ATTENDANCE

ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Jim Rhodes (Area 1)
Lynn Alderson (Area 2)
Michael Burns (Virtual, Area 3)
Michael Greenstreet (Area 4)
John Baranowski (Chair, Area 5)
Mike Couch (Absent, Snowmobiler)
Bob Seelye (Vice Chair, Snowmobiler)
Tim Penelerick (Snowmobiler)
Joe Chavez (DNR)
Laura Osiadacz (Absent, WAOC)
Vacant (Area 6)
Webster Bergford (Absent, WDFW)

Washington State Parks Staff:

Pamela McConkey (Winter Recreation Program, Manager)
Jason Goldstein (Winter Recreation Program)
Corey Tolar (Winter Recreation Program)
Travis Larson (Winter Recreation Program)
AJ Parlan (Winter Recreation Program)

Guests:

Nick Whitman (LandTek)
Karen Behm (CCWRC)
Diana Dupuis (Mt. Spokane State Park)
Brian McNeil (US Forest Service, Snoqualmie RD)
Todd Schmutz (US Forest Service, Snoqualmie RD)
Tom McKeon (MTTA)
Tim Becker (Snoqualmie Nordic Club)
Walter Henze (Highlands Nordic Ski Club)
Michael Johnston (NWSDA)
Dave Claar (The Mountaineers)
Frank Harris (Konsbergers)
Suzanne Corchoran (Konsbergers)
Alex Ott (Pearrygin Lake State Park)
Kyung Koh (US Forest Service, Mount Adams RD)
John Badda "Boone" (Lake Easton State Park)
Rosemary Sefried (US Forest Service, Methow Valley RD)
Jeremy Jalali (Fields Spring State Park)
Lee Ellis (US Forest Service, Naches RD)
Scott Schell (NWAC)
Jack Thurston (Highlands Nordic Ski Club)

Friday, July 23, 2021, Agenda

Item	Summary	Action
CALL TO ORDER	John Baranowski called the meeting to order.	No Action
INTRODUCTIONS	All committee members present and virtual introduced themselves.	Information Only
REVIEW OF MEETING PLANS	<p>AJ went over the presentations that were going to happen the next day and stated that there were only 3 that were going to be in person.</p> <p>Pamela asked Michael Burns if there was any etiquette that people that are presenting online should know about.</p> <p>Michael Burns stated that the best way is for people that are not talking online to mute to avoid any background noise and for presenters to have their camera on.</p> <p>Pamela and Michael Burns went over some of the logistics of the virtual attendees regarding questions and decided that AJ would monitor for questions.</p>	Information Only
OVERVIEW OF COMMISSION MEETING	<p>John B stated that the board was asked to make a presentation at the commission and that Mike Burns presented on behalf of the WRAC.</p> <p>Mike Burns stated that the presentation was awhile ago but since then the commissioners have visited the Mt. Spokane area.</p> <p>He also stated that during his presentation he received good feedback from the commission and stated they were excited about the operations and the activity that the winter program was getting.</p>	Information Only
EQUIPMENT REVIEW	<p>Jason presented about equipment and began with the budget and repairs that occurred last season.</p> <p>Jason also stated that the State Parks Eastern Region staff has purchased two new snow cats free of charge to the program to go to Lake Wenatchee and Mt. Spokane.</p> <p>Bob Seelye asked how the program was able to get two snow cats free of charge.</p> <p>Pamela clarified that the purchases were from State Parks Eastern Region budgets and was previously frustrated with the equipment situation and went to work in finding a solution.</p>	Information Only
GPS/MAPPING	<p>Jason presented our new GPS map that was released during the season including the pricing details.</p> <p>Jason explained that the GPS map works with the gps units</p>	

	<p>that are currently on the current equipment and uploads as the gps tracks the data.</p> <p>He also talked about mobile maps that are accessible via phone that will track the users' position on the phone.</p> <p>Pamela asked Jason about the feedback that was received during the season.</p> <p>Jason explained the groomer in the room (Nick) could attest to how much it helps and helps staff be able to pull up the data directly and guide the user to the data.</p> <p>Pamela explained that the map can help prove that the groomers have been on the trail and being able to give the link directly to the user is helping with complaints.</p> <p>Jim Rhodes asked if people could buy sno-park permits with the QR code.</p> <p>Jason responded that they can.</p> <p>Jim asked how E&E would be able to handle that.</p> <p>Jason responded that they could write down the info for the sno park permit purchase.</p> <p>Emilie asked if another gps unit could be added to her area.</p> <p>Jason explained how the groomer had a gps unit on their cat but had a more lightweight equipment they used that didn't have a gps unit, but that he would like to add a unit to that equipment.</p>	Information Only
ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORTS	<p>Jim started the advisory committee reports and stated that due to covid he had not been out during the season and had been not going out. He stated that he believed they had record usage and a lot of people had fun.</p> <p>Bob stated that the busyness of the season helped highlight some issues that they had been talking about for the past couple of seasons regarding education and enforcement.</p> <p>John B stated that Chinook and White pass had record numbers like everyone else and was pleased with the compliance of sno park permits. He also stated that he sees some issues coming for dual use parks like Bumping Lake that with record usage and will have to address parking issues.</p> <p>Lynn talked about volunteers going out and being aggressive about taking out fallen trees.</p> <p>Joe Chavez talked about huts that were closed on 92 road and have been closed since March of 2020. He talked about avalanche concerns that even caused Mt. Rainier National</p>	Information Only

	<p>Park to be closed and praised Mount Tahoma Trails Association for their work during the season. He continued to state that there were a lot of new people due to the national parks being closed.</p> <p>Tim P talked about enforcement and maybe being a little more present during busy weekends and stated that Salmon La Sac got the overflow from Crystal Springs and that there would be miles of cars parked illegally. He talked about Blewett Pass and how it would be hard to find a spot at 8 a.m. not on the weekend, but during the week as well and reiterated that enforcement is key.</p> <p>Emilie talked about this being her first year as her area rep and was happy to see a big jump in use this year and was asking users how they had found the sno-parks and that they had just googled where to go play in the snow. She stated that the plowing was consistent and that the bathrooms were cleaned consistently. She stated that she knows enforcement was out there due to a friend receiving a note after not bringing a sno-park permit. She also talked about the snow coming all at once and hoping to solve that issue regarding the groomer and having a bunch of snow all at once.</p> <p>Pamela talked about the Cle Elum Ranger District no longer doing snow removal and she has reached out to some other government agencies to see if they can plow but also that Cle Elum Ranger District will no longer groom after this upcoming season.</p> <p>Michael Burns stated that he had a fantastic year and that Mt. Spokane had a great year and that the sno-parks were packed. He also stated that the quality was great this year including sanitation, grooming, plowing and all aspects.</p>	
<p>COST PER MILE FOR PUBLIC GROOMING</p>	<p>Pamela stated that maybe the commission should consider taking a closer look at the cost per mile and maybe update it to be a bit more realistic.</p> <p>Pamela asked the committee to look over the cost per mile for all the areas.</p> <p>Joe asked for a little more info.</p> <p>Jason explained that the number is the average cost per mile for a groomer to operate and breaking it down to each mile.</p> <p>Pamela explained that this number is used to calculate the budget of each area.</p> <p>Jim stated that he believes that this number needs to be doubled and the cost is much higher than the number show.</p> <p>John stated that every year he has to write letters for the Naches District to keep grooming because it is threatened every year.</p>	<p>Information Only</p>

	<p>Pamela believes that the forest service is more than likely wanting to get out of the winter rec program, and she believed the orders were coming from higher up due to the people she has talked being hesitant.</p> <p>Pamela also talked about some new taxes that are coming up January first including a new gas tax.</p> <p>Tim requested that State Parks bring a breakdown of the two programs cost per mile to the winter meeting.</p> <p>Pamela stated that there are 5 scenarios to look over regarding budget proposals.</p> <p>Pamela asked the committee how many years they would like of data regarding cost per mile.</p> <p>John B requested 3 years of data.</p> <p>Emilie requested that it be broken down by area.</p> <p>Pamela stated that could be done.</p> <p>Jason stated that Wayne Mohler does a good report every year for the snowmobile program.</p> <p>John asked if there were any other comments.</p>	
<p>RECESS FOR THE EVENING</p>	<p>John stated the meeting will recess until 8 a.m. tomorrow</p>	<p>Meeting recessed</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Saturday, July 24, 2021, Agenda</p>		

<p>Call to Order</p>	<p>John B called the meeting to order and turned to Mike Burns for Zoom Etiquette</p>	<p>No Action</p>
<p>Quick Zoom Etiquette</p>	<p>Mike Burns went over some Zoom controls for people attending virtually.</p>	<p>Information Only</p>
<p>Introductions</p>	<p>John asked the members to introduce themselves and all members present in person and via zoom introduced themselves.</p>	<p>Information Only</p>
<p>Review/Approve Winter Meeting Minutes</p>	<p>Bob Seelye motioned to approve minutes</p> <p>Emilie seconded</p> <p>John called for a vote</p> <p>Motion Passed unanimously.</p>	<p>Motion Passed</p>
<p>Sno-Park Permit Sales Update</p>	<p>Travis gave an update on sno-park permit sales update from the previous season comparing this last season's numbers to the season before. He stated that there was a significant increase in sales and that would be reflected in the budget.</p>	<p>Information Only</p>
<p>Financial Review of 2020/2021 Season</p>	<p>Corey went over the budget and money spent from last season beginning with priority 1.</p> <p>John asked why NWAC only took 259 dollars.</p> <p>Pamela stated that they left 259 dollars compared to only spending that much.</p> <p>Corey explained that rent for the program went up and that is why the program was over budget there.</p> <p>Corey moved on to priority 2 (snow removal).</p> <p>John asked for a breakdown of costs that are split with the snowmobile program and what percentage the WRAC is paying for of those dual use parks.</p> <p>John noted that this was another year where Gold Creek DOT has underspent their amount and maybe if the budget was tighter, it would be somewhere to consider.</p> <p>Corey moved onto Priority 3 beginning with sanitation (sanitation and grooming)</p> <p>John noted that the totals didn't match up in the spreadsheet.</p> <p>Jim Rhodes noted an error in the Fields Spring total and that was where the error was. Also, there was an error on Easton Reload.</p> <p>Corey moved on to state owned trail grooming.</p> <p>Pamela mentioned there was a coding issue of funds with Parks Headquarters and that the program is still working through that to make sure the funds are correct.</p> <p>Corey moved onto private trail grooming.</p>	<p>Information Only</p>

	<p>Corey moved onto the emergency reserve and went over the remaining balance and various expenditures including sanitation and major repairs.</p> <p>Corey pointed out that there were some funds noted on the sheet that were donations and not program money that helped fund additional grooming at Cabin Creek.</p> <p>Corey moved on to education and enforcement and gave the total expenditures from priority 3.</p> <p>Corey briefly went over priority 4 (equipment replacement)</p> <p>Corey moved on to priority 5 & 6.</p> <p>Pamela explained that there was a parking transaction that was charged to Snoqualmie RD rather than going back and forth with billing</p> <p>Corey concluded the review of the budget from last year.</p>	
<p>Priority 5 and 6 presentations</p>	<p>John B stated the next thing is priority 5 and 6 presentations</p> <p>Emilie requested in the future a list of all parks in each area as a new member and found that it would be helpful.</p> <p>USFS Snoqualmie RD New Sno-Park Brian McNeil (Forest Service) presented and proposed a new sno-park to help with the congestion that has occurred on the I-90 corridor that could include up to 100 spots for parking. He also stated there are a couple options for this project as there are some parts that are county road compared to all being forest service road. He shared photos of the trail and where the parking lot as well what the trails look like currently. He also went over the costs associated with the opening of the sno park including enforcement, toilet pumping and snow plowing estimates.</p> <p>Tim asked if there were any sledding opportunities for kids.</p> <p>Brian answered that there are some opportunities in the campground there are some hills are they could take snow and make a hill. He also mentioned that there could be an opportunity for another sno-park.</p> <p>Jim asked if there would need any additional funding for preparation.</p> <p>Brian said the area is ready to go other than the possibility than no snow.</p> <p>USFS Snoqualmie RD Increased E&E- Todd Schmutz stated that the Forest Service is requesting \$6,000 for two full time Forest Service Rangers to help increase enforcement and compliance of sno-park permits as well as improve relationships with partners that include groomers.</p>	<p>Information Only</p>

	<p>Pamela stated that she appreciated Todd talking about people parking and going to Crystal Mountain because it is an issue.</p> <p>Joe asked if this is additional funding to existing E&E.</p> <p>Todd responded stating it would go from 3 8 hour shifts to 5 8 hour shifts and it would make it easier to hire for a full-time position.</p> <p>John stated they aren't going to make someone present for 813 dollars.</p> <p>Pamela stated that it has been a great partnership and what the Snoqualmie Info center does including selling permits.</p> <p>MTTA Trail Grooming- Tom McKeon presented and begun with background on what MTTA is and what they do. He also showed a graph of the increase in reservations for MTTA's huts as well as the economic and social impacts that MTTA has for the program. He shared how the organization saves the program money with grooming and how MTTA has its own ski patrol.</p> <p>Bob asked if it is a 2nd year request.</p> <p>Tom answered that it is.</p> <p>Pearrygin Lake Snowmobile Skandic SWT- Alex Ott presented on Pearrygin Lake requesting an additional snowmobile</p> <p>MT SPOKANE ADDITIONAL GROOMING- Diana Dupuis presented on behalf of Mt. Spokane for additional grooming. She stated that they haven't asked for additional funds in the past but because of the increase in use and attendance, they are requesting additional funding. Diana stated this will help the inner trails that mostly beginners use and with the huge influx of new users it would be very helpful. She also stated it would help in storms. It would also allow both groomers to go out at the same time and would also help the outer trails. She also mentioned that state parks had invested money in a new cat that didn't cost the program anything.</p> <p>Pamela mentioned that they had the opportunity last night to share photos of the new equipment at the meeting last night.</p> <p>Diana stated that also state parks has helped fund the equipment operator position for the rest of the year that the committee funds for four months.</p> <p>John asked how many days a week Mt. Spokane grooms.</p> <p>Diana responded that they groom 5 days a week.</p>	<p>Information Only</p>
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MT.ST HELENS ADDITIONAL GROOMING MARBLE MOUNTAIN-

Kyung Koh presented and gave details on exactly what the funding is going to provide as far as grooming and miles. She also stated that even if half the request is granted, they could set the base and the forest service could come through with a snowmobile. She stated it will allow another option for winter recreation in an area where there isn't a lot of opportunities.

Emilie asked about the gap in the map and if that would require a new parking lot or if it is just one parking lot.

Kyung stated that it all goes out of marble mountain and just one parking lot.

Jason stated that there is a shared trail that connects them.

Jim asked if 1,000 is just a one-time cost because it is lumber.

Kyung stated that that was correct.

CABIN CREEK ADDITIONAL GROOMING AND GATE-

Frank Harris and Suzanne Corchoran presented on behalf of Rune Harkestad, they stated they are requesting a 10% increase in grooming and have had more trails use and a longer season. Suzanne stated volunteers have come together to help successfully extend the season last year. She then moved on to the gate request and shared a picture of a trail that was damaged badly due to vehicles using the trail early in the season.

Pamela stated that Konsbergers would maintain the gate.

Suzanne responded yes and that the gate would protect the trails and then she went back to grooming and that the use has been incredible, but the use has been a lot.

John asked if they are grooming more than 5 days a week if they are running out of funds in early March.

Suzanne stated that they are only grooming more than 5 days a week on holidays and that the groomer will skip days some days to help with those weekends.

Pamela asked if they were able to do events this year because of covid.

Suzanne responded that they had virtual events and applauded their covid for their work this year.

Emilie asked if in the past the ski club has contributed to grooming or if this year was a one-time thing.

Suzanne responded they have contributed other things such as portable toilets at the interchange and has paid for additional grooming in the past.

Information Only

	<p>Lynn asked what days they groom</p> <p>Nick answered that they groom Wednesday-Monday</p> <p>Joe asked if they will be able to get the permit to install the gate for this year.</p> <p>Tim Becker stated that he believed this would save state parks time and money with installing a gate because they spend a ton of time and money repairing the trails from the wheeled vehicles that go in the area.</p> <p>Suzanne stated that they have begun that process, but she doesn't see any roadblocks to getting that permit.</p> <p>Mike Burns asked for details on the location of the gate.</p> <p>Suzanne said it would be beyond the cabin at the intersection.</p> <p>Mike Burns gave kudos to the club and all its members for the work they do and how much they help advance skiing in the Pacific Northwest.</p> <p>CRYSTAL SPRINGS PRESENTATIONS-</p> <p>Michael Johnston presented first a parking lot revision at Crystal Springs expanding the parking lot to the north about 30 feet. The south parking lot will move south 50 feet and help remove the dip and curve that people are getting stuck in.</p> <p>He then moved on to the DP100 rock/culvert and explained that when it rains, and the snow gets wet it causes people to get stuck.</p> <p>Tim asked if it is on state parks land.</p> <p>Michael responded that it is on Forest Service land and that he had spoken to someone and said there should be no issue with getting this through.</p> <p>He then moved on to the Lower Route Culvert and it being another issue with water and how a small excavator and creating two drainage ponds should solve the issue.</p> <p>He moved on to the drainage install and how he has extra piping to solve the water issue and explained he should be able to rent a small excavator and do it in one day.</p> <p>John B stated that he thought Michael Johnston had underbudgeted for these projects.</p> <p>Michael stated he doesn't mind volunteering his time.</p> <p>Pamela stated that they weren't worried about him having too much money, but that he hasn't budgeted enough for the projects.</p> <p>Jim asked if he had approval from Forest Service.</p>	<p>Information Only</p>
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	<p>concerns with the trail quality and caused some safety concerns.</p> <p>Boone stated this would be used in the early in the season when there is less snow.</p> <p>Pamela asked if the groomer went back through with the cat and conditions improved.</p> <p>Emilie stated they got much better with the cat.</p> <p>Tim asked the groomers in the room if they have used this equipment and if there are alternatives.</p> <p>Michael Johnston and Mike Burns both stated the quality can be good with the equipment.</p> <p>Pamela asked for Nick Whitman's opinion on the equipment.</p> <p>Nick explained that he has only used the Ginzu equipment once in ten years and prefers a snowmobile with a roller over the Ginzu.</p> <p>Joe asked if they could use a snowmobile rather than a UTV.</p> <p>Pamela stated the rules change if they are on a snowmobile and believes they must have two people out there.</p> <p>NACHES RD V PLOW BLADE- Lee Ellis presented on behalf of Naches RD. Lee stated that this would help the groomer and prevent the groomer from having to go back to change vehicles. The funds would provide a v nose style plow for the truck.</p> <p>John asked if this is mostly intended for use of the snowmobile program.</p> <p>Lee stated it would be used for both programs.</p> <p>Pamela stated that it would be a split cost and 15,000 for each program.</p> <p>Bob Seelye asked if the cost is really 30,000 and asked for Nick Whitman's opinion.</p> <p>Nick stated in his opinion it could be done for 10,000.</p> <p>Jason asked what vehicle it was intended for.</p> <p>Lee stated it would be on a ¾ ton pickup that has a fuel tank on the back.</p> <p>NACHES RD TRACK SETTER GROOMER- Lee stated that he apologized and didn't have the information for the track setter as he thought he would be presenting that next week rather than this week.</p>	<p>Information Only</p>
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Pamela asked the committee to refer to their binders and the funding request. She also went over the costs that are associated with the request and what it will provide from the funding application.

Lee thanked Pamela for going over that and apologized.

Pamela asked Lee if he would be able to talk about the increase in salary for staff request.

NACHES RD SALARY INCREASE-

Lee stated as people go up the steps and get paid more it would allow the Naches RD to keep staff at the current rate and allow for some cushion. He also included what the current staffing is.

Lynn asked what the duties of the staff would be.

Lee responded that they do education and enforcement as well as routine maintenance.

ERLING STORDAHL SIGNPOST REPLACEMENT-

Karen Behm presented and included examples of the signs she is hoping to have. She stated that the signs should increase visibility and help new users by simplifying information.

Tim Becker also spoke on some of the confusion that the users are going through and how the signs would help reduce that confusion.

STATEWIDE TRAIL ETTIQUETTE SIGN-

Karen presented on this as well and is hoping to have a statewide sign that would help improve trail etiquette throughout the state and be able to slightly modify the sign to the areas. She provided an example of a sign and stated how she liked the simplicity of the sign and not having words and how studies have shown the simpler the sign the more likely it is to help the user.

METHOW VALLEY RD SNO-RANGERS-

Rosemary Sefried presented on behalf of the Methow Valley Ranger District. She stated her main target audience but also other users it could help. Rosemary talked about how not only the rangers are enforcement but also help with education via social media posts and sanitation. She talked about the increased use that all parks have seen and how the education about avalanche safety could help those new users. She stated how there is currently no dedicated staff, and this will give 25 additional days of staffing.

FIELDS SPRING PARK AID-

Jeremy Jalali presented on behalf with Fields Spring state park and the Blue Mountains area. He gave background information on the park including 2 sled hills including one bigger hill and a smaller hill for younger kids. He talked about the trails system

Information Only

	<p>and how the staff grooms those trail systems. He also showed some huts that they have in the parks. He talked about his request and how the funding would help ease the current load on the current staff and give the Fields Spring staff that is currently there to do more enforcement rather than routine work.</p> <p>NWAC NEW HIRE- Scott from NWAC presented and begun by explaining what NWAC does and the current staffing that they have. He stated that they are going to all their partners asking for increased funding and talked about how other areas with similar square footage compare in staffing. Scott gave the numbers from the previous season regarding usage on their website and talked about avalanche incidents and state that he believed we were lucky to not have more incidents. He announced that they are hiring a new forecaster position in their southeast region.</p> <p>Tim asked if they are requesting that same amount from the motorized program or if it is split.</p> <p>Scott stated they are asking for 10,000 from the motorized program. Scott stated that there are around 30,000 non-motorized users in avalanche risk areas compared to not as many snowmobilers.</p> <p>John B stated that it was hard to wrap his head around the number of users that Scott stated.</p> <p>Scott stated that the number of snowshoers has increase immensely and that NWAC is looking at who they are serving and is seeing more snowshoers that they are serving.</p> <p>Pamela stated that a couple of years ago that Washington had a record year of avalanche fatalities for the state.</p> <p>Scott stated that snowshoers in Washington account for 54% of the national fatalities with snowshoers.</p> <p>Pamela gave some history of the support that State Parks has given NWAC.</p> <p>Jim asked what the huge increase in money would provide.</p> <p>Scott responded with helping improve aging weather stations as well as funding new forecasters to help provide accurate information to the public to help educate them.</p> <p>Emilie asked if they forecast in Oregon as well and if that is included in the cost shown.</p> <p>Scott said it is a single forecasted so is included.</p> <p>Pamela requested that if the committee moves forward with this request that they move it from priority 1 to priority 3 as part of education and enforcement due to the education effort.</p>	<p>Information Only</p>
<p>Lunch</p>	<p>John B recessed the meeting for a lunch break.</p>	

<p>Continue P5 & P6 Presentations</p>	<p>LOUP LOUP ADDITIONAL GROOMING- Sharla Lynn presented on behalf of Loup Loup Ski Foundation and is hoping for funding to increase grooming from once a week to twice a week and stated she was primarily presenting to answer any questions.</p> <p>HIGHLANDS NORDIC SNOWMOBILE- Walter Henze presented on behalf of Highlands Nordic in purchasing a replacement snowmobile to replace their aging snowmobile</p> <p>MOUNTAINEERS ADDITIONAL GROOMING- Dave Claar presented as the representative of The Mountaineers in requesting additional grooming. He stated he grooms this section already but isn't paid for it.</p> <p>John B told the group that was the final presentation, and it was time to vote on the proposals and rank them.</p>	<p>Information Only</p>
<p>Budget Review and Approval</p>	<p>The committee was brought back after scoring was turned in and processed by Corey.</p> <p>John B asked a question about Karen's statewide sign proposal and if that would fall under the admin sign budget.</p> <p>Pamela said she believed it would fall under the current sign budget in admin.</p> <p>John also asked while waiting through technical difficulties if it would be possible to have the state operators all being on the same page regarding grooming and at what time.</p> <p>Pamela stated she doesn't have authority over the groomers that are state workers, they are under their area managers.</p> <p>Tim asked if it would be possible to have a state employee man the gate at Crystal Springs on Friday and Saturdays.</p> <p>Pamela said she can't control what region and parks do with their staff.</p> <p>Corey went over the proposed budget and what the FY22 budget is. He also stated that staff has prepared 5 different scenarios to go over.</p> <p>Corey begun with priority 1 and stated there are a few areas where there are increases such as salary and benefits due to Pamela retiring in January and her having a payout for leftover paid time off. Corey also mentioned an increase in the equipment budget in the office as staff is wanting to purchase a new plotter for map printing. He stated there is a recommendation for an increase in travel because it was cut last year because of covid.</p> <p>Pamela stated that the travel budget also covers the committee and not just Pamela and Jason.</p>	

	<p>John asked if the possibility of double filling of Pamela's position like some positions have in the past.</p> <p>Corey stated that as of right now, the budget does not have that factored in the budget because it is an unknown. Pamela also stated that as of right now NWAC is not in priority 1 because of the possibility of moving it to priority 3.</p> <p>Corey moved to priority 2 and went over areas that rolled over from priority 5 last year that were third year requests.</p> <p>Pamela mentioned that Easton Reload was temporary sno park last year and it has been decided it should be permanent and work is currently being done through a grant to grade the area and have a snowshoe trail.</p> <p>Corey then went over the sanitation expenditures from last season and areas where increases were proposed.</p> <p>Corey moved onto priority 3 and started with state owned trail grooming.</p> <p>Pamela stated for the new committee members that proposals that have been accepted for 3 years in a row they roll over into the permanent budget.</p> <p>Tim Becker asked how Hyak, and Lake Easton used so much of their budget when they started late.</p> <p>Pamela stated she would have to see the grooming logs and she did not have them on hand.</p> <p>Corey moved to private trail grooming and went over remaining balances.</p> <p>Corey went over the emergency reserve and the expenditures from last season.</p> <p>Dave Claar asked if they have considered grading the hill at Crystal Springs and making it an official hill.</p> <p>Pamela stated there has been discussions, but nothing decided, and her concern is that Crystal is already at full capacity and is nervous to invite more people to crystal.</p> <p>Joe asked why Hyak has overspent two years in a row for sanitation and it has been taken from emergency reserve.</p> <p>Pamela stated that Hyak hadn't charged for sanitation but said they could no longer do it.</p> <p>Joe asked if that would remain in that category then.</p> <p>Pamela responded yes.</p> <p>Corey moved onto education and enforcement and the</p>	
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	<p>expenditures from last season.</p> <p>Pamela had Corey put up a snapshot of the 5 proposed budgets.</p> <p>The committed discussed and asked questions about the different scenarios.</p> <p>Diana stated that more money is always great, but at some point, she isn't going to be able to use that money with current staffing.</p> <p>Pamela stated that maybe instead of fully funding priority 5 and 6's the percentage increases would maybe make it so those aren't needing to be fully funded.</p> <p>Pamela also brought up that fuel is going to go up in price and this would help balance that type of increase.</p> <p>Tim requested to see the scoring for the priority 5 and 6's</p> <p>John B motioned to increase Michael Johnston's fees of Crystal Springs improvements from \$960 to \$1,100, \$1,200 to \$1,500, \$375 to \$500 and \$375 to \$500.</p> <p>Tim P seconded</p> <p>Motion passed unanimously.</p> <p>Pamela stated she can't make a motion but asked committee to consider removing line item 35 as it is a part of priority 1 budget.</p> <p>Tim motioned to remove line item 35 (Statewide trail etiquette sign).</p> <p>John B seconded.</p> <p>Motion passed unanimously.</p> <p>Motioned to change Naches RD truck to \$7,500 rather than \$15,000.</p> <p>Bob Seelye seconded that motion.</p> <p>Motion passed unanimously.</p> <p>John B brought up the idea of NWAC and 30,000 being very high.</p> <p>Jim stated that he had a big issue with that number and believed they need to live within their budget.</p> <p>Bob made a motion to change NWAC from 30,000 to 6,000</p> <p>Jim Rhodes seconded</p>	<p>Motion Passed</p> <p>Motion Passed</p> <p>Motion Passed</p>
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	<p>John stated he agrees with Emilie and would rather see 10,000 than six.</p> <p>Emilie motioned to change it to \$15,000</p> <p>Joe seconded motion to change it to \$15,000</p> <p>Bob motioned to amend to the original to \$10,000</p> <p>Mike Burns seconded the motion to change it to \$10,000</p> <p>Joe voted no</p> <p>Lynn voted yes</p> <p>Emilie voted no</p> <p>Bob voted yes</p> <p>Tim voted no</p> <p>Jim voted yes</p> <p>Michael B voted yes</p> <p>John B voted yes</p> <p>Motion passed 5-3</p> <p>Michael Burns asked about Naches RD new track setter and groomer and trailer and how their current system worked.</p> <p>Pamela answered that they have one track setter and two snowmobiles and would get a second track setter and a trailer to pull the snowmobiles.</p> <p>Tim motioned to approve line items 1-34.</p> <p>Jim seconded that motion.</p> <p>Michael Burns stated that he thinks that additional grooming should be approved because of the fee increases and the possible pushback.</p> <p>John stated that everyone is getting increases across the board and that the request could be partially spent.</p> <p>Nick stated that without a huge upscale that money can't be spent as quickly as people would like and said that he never thought a 12% increase would be possible.</p> <p>John asked if the committee should consider increasing the Mountaineers proposal to help cover the cost of the second day that he is currently grooming for free.</p> <p>Tim and Karen reiterated that it is an important piece and that snowmobilers go out after the groomer does on Friday and the</p>	<p>Motion Passed</p> <p>No Vote</p>
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	<p>groomer doesn't return until Monday and makes skiing on it impossible during the weekend.</p> <p>John asked if anybody had any thoughts on increasing the budget for The Mountaineers request.</p> <p>He didn't hear anything and said it could be brought up again next year.</p> <p>Mike Burns asked if anybody had any other comments.</p> <p>Pamela asked Corey to see the grooming with the additional percentage increases.</p> <p>Corey stated maybe they should complete the priority 5 and 6s until moving away from that.</p> <p>John stated that maybe it would be beneficial to solve the scenario options proposed by staff before going to priority 5 and 6.</p> <p>Jim motioned to accept scenario c.</p> <p>Tim motioned to amend scenario c to include the 150,000 land from the equipment replacement.</p> <p>Bob second motion to accept Scenario C.</p> <p>Emilie asked what the rationale for the bigger increases to special groomed areas.</p> <p>Pamela stated they are getting higher increases in fees than the standard areas fees.</p> <p>Emilie asked what the structure of fees are going to be.</p> <p>Travis answered saying the seasonal permits are going from 40 to 50, one day permits are going from 20 to 25 and special groomed stickers are going from 40 to 70.</p> <p>Jim motioned to approve scenario C</p> <p>Tim seconded the motion</p> <p>Motion approved unanimously.</p> <p>Jim motioned to approve priority 5 and 6 as listed.</p> <p>Bob Seelye seconded the motion to approve</p> <p>Mike Burns asked if the groomer from Cabin Creek said they wouldn't be able to use the money.</p> <p>Pamela stated that the groomer said his budget adequate.</p> <p>Nick stated that was correct.</p>	<p>No vote</p> <p>Motion Passed</p>
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	<p>John called for a vote</p> <p>Motion passed unanimously.</p>	Motion Passed
WRAC Votes on operating procedure	<p>Pamela asked the committee to look at changes to operating procedure 85-04</p> <p>Mike Burns motioned to approve</p> <p>Tim second the motion</p> <p>Motion passed unanimously.</p>	Motion Passed
Public Comments	<p>Pamela asked if anybody had any public comments</p> <p>Jack Thurston thanked for the option of a virtual meeting.</p>	
Set Date, Time and Location for winter meeting	<p>Pamela asked the three members that terms were expiring to stay another year due to the knowledge of the fee increase.</p> <p>Lynn, John, and Bob accepted another year.</p> <p>Pamela asked AJ whose terms were expiring next year.</p> <p>AJ stated that Tim and Jim could reup for another term.</p> <p>Pamela brought up the idea of Cle Elum and the I-90 corridor due to the passing of the new sno-park and the board never being there.</p> <p>Pamela brought up the last weekend of January (28-29th) as what the meeting has been traditionally. She also brought up the week before January 21st and 22nd. Or it could be the week after February 4th on 5th.</p> <p>The board chose January 28th-29th for their winter meeting to take place in Cle Elum to view the new sno-park Denny Creek.</p>	
Adjourn	<p>Bob Seelye motioned to adjourn.</p> <p>Lynn seconded the motion.</p> <p>Motion passed unanimously.</p> <p>Meeting adjourned.</p>	Motion Passed