PATROL AREA – Provide name of Sno-Parks / Trail System(s) patrolled

The Washington State Parks funding request allows the US Forest Service to open the Snoqualmie Pass Visitor Information Center before Christmas and stay open continuously (4 days a week, Thursday-Sundays) through March. It has been crucial to have a presence during the busy holiday season with the substantial influx of visitation in the Snoqualmie Pass area and the Sno-Park system along the Interstate-90 corridor. In winter 2021-2022, the new site of the Snoqualmie Pass Visitor Information Center moved to the remodeled "Firehouse". The new location includes an outdoor recreation retail center and cafe/market. We anticipate visitor interactions increasing at the new location. In addition, a Washington State Park ticket machine will be relocated outside the center allowing the public to conveniently purchase a Sno-Park pass on site 24/7. The U.S. Forest Service is preparing to return to in-person services at the Snoqualmie Pass Visitor Information Center for the winter 2022-2023 season.

Please note that the Visitor Center was closed to the public for the winter 2021-2022 season due to COVID-19 safety precautions. No Sno-Park passes were sold on site and all interactions were conducted by phone or email from late December through March (Sat-Sun). During the 2021-2022 season, the visitor services team responded to 134 phone and 21 email inquiries related to Sno-Parks, winter recreation and current conditions. The U.S. Forest Service resumed limited Snoqualmie Pass snowshoe programming in March 2022, engaging 25 volunteers and 144 visitors including 80 youth. The Forest Service also hosted winter snow rangers to provide Sno-Park and recreation information at base/parking area of the Summit at Snoqualmie Resort and monitor visitor use and compliance at the new Asahel Curtis Sno-Park, winter trailheads and backcountry sites.

Washington State Parks funding will support staffing at the Snoqualmie Pass Visitor Information Center to sell Sno-Park passes and provide winter recreation information to the public during the busy holiday season including from Christmas to New Years. It also funds staff to patrol and engage the public in backcountry routes within the Interstate 90 corridor. Pass sales provide an opportunity to educate users on avalanche concerns, current trail conditions, trip planning guidance and clarify what passes are needed where. The US Forest Service will provide a cash match that funds additional days for staff to sell passes, provide education, operate the visitor center, monitor visitor use patterns, and patrol backcountry routes.

Other than the Hyak Sno-Park and intermittent staffing at the Gold Creek Sno-Park, we are the only vendor who sells all the Sno-Park permits and the Discover Pass for quite a distance on either side of Snoqualmie Pass. Funding the Visitor Information Center ensures that visitors are buying the pass that is correct for the Sno-Park they will be visiting and are less likely to be issued a citation. We can also inform users about overcrowding in certain Sno-Parks and encourage them to visit other areas that could meet their needs.

Sno-Parks served are: Hyak, Gold Creek, Lake Easton, Kachess, Swuak, Pipe Creek, Iron Creek, Old Blewett, Mineral Springs, Teanaway. The Visitor Information Center provides information and sells Sno-park passes for all the Sno-Parks on the Interstate 90 corridor and the Highway 97 corridor.

Areas patrolled are backcountry winter recreation routes along the Interstate 90 corridor from Exit 47 - 54. Granite Mountain, Pratt Lake, Annette Lake, Franklin Falls, Source Lake, Commonwealth Basin, Kendall Ridge, Gold Creek Pond, Keechelus Ridge, Mt. Catherine and Cold Creek.

Due to closure of the Visitor Center to in-person services in 2021-2022, no Washington State Park funds were spent on virtual visitor services or snowshoe backcountry education programming.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sno-Park Name</th>
<th>Vehicle Capacity</th>
<th>Weekends/Holiday</th>
<th>Weekday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Non-snowmobile Users/Snowmobile</td>
<td>Non-snowmobile Users/Snowmobile</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
|              |                  | / | /
|              |                  | / | /
|              |                  | / | /
|              |                  | / | /

**TOTAL FUNDS REQUESTED**

- Motorized: $3,640
- Non-Motorized: $12,592

**TOTAL FUNDS / IN-KIND SERVICES / MATERIALS PROVIDED**

- $16,232

**APPLICANT INFORMATION**

- **NAME OF APPLICANT**: USDA Forest Service, Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest
- **NAME OF REPRESENTATIVE**: Aleta Eng
- **APPLICANT MAILING ADDRESS**: 2930 Wetmore Ave Suite 3A
- **CITY, STATE, ZIP**: Everett
- **TELEPHONE NUMBER & EXTENSION**: 425.293.1780

**CONTACT PERSON (if different than above)**

- **NAME**: Brian McNeil
- **TITLE**: Snoqualmie Natural Resource Manager
- **MAILING ADDRESS**: 902 SE North Bend Way, Bldg 1
- **CITY, STATE, ZIP**: North Bend, WA 98045
- **TELEPHONE NUMBER & EXTENSION**: 425-888-8769

**Ongoing Education & Enforcement Report and Request for Continued Funding Summary Sheet**

List the Sno-Park, single vehicle capacity and estimated average percentage of vehicle use for each (If additional space is needed, add an additional sheet).
1. Date enforcement began **Dec 26, 2021**. Date enforcement ended **March 27, 2022**.

2. a. How many officer days per season did your agency provide education/enforcement? **27 Virtual Visitor Services** and **18 winter education - total 45 days**
   
b. Of the total days per season, how many officer* days per weekday did your agency provide education/enforcement?

```
14Sun 4Mon 4Tues  ____Wed  ____Thurs  2Fri 21Sat
```

*Officer days – any portion of a day when one officer is educating/enforcing (one day/two officers = two officer days).

3. This past season, how many calendar days did your agency provide education/enforcement? **18**

4. What is the average number of Sno-Park visits per officer day? **0**

5. Average amount of time spent in each Sno-Park visited: **0**

6. What percentage of patrol hours occur on:
   a. Weekends/holidays **44%**  +  Weekdays **56%**  =  **100%**
   b. Parking lot patrol **20%**  +  Trail patrol **80%**  =  **100%**

7. Total number of personal contacts for season. **155 phone and emails contacts, 144 field contacts**

8. Total number of users in areas patrolled for season. **N/A**

9. a. Total number of vehicles parked in Sno-Parks for season. **N/A**
   
b. What is your formula/method to determine the count? _____

10. Number of citations issued. **None**  Of this total, _____ are parking and _____ are on trails.

    Number of citations for registration violations **N/A**

11. Number of warnings issued. **None**  Reason(s) (Top 3 reasons):

    ____________________________ . ____________________________ . ____________________________

12. Please give an approximate percentage for the following:

    0%  % of personal contacts resulting in a citation or warning being issued.

    N/A  % of vehicles displaying a valid sno-park permit during parking lot patrol

    N/A  % of snowmobiles displaying a valid registration during trail patrol.

13. Do the officers employed under the funding provided have the authority to issue citations? **0**

14. Provide a brief summary of the 2020-2021 season to include:
   a) A description of an average education/enforcement day and participation in safety training classes, local grooming council meetings, area trail council meetings, etc.

The Snoqualmie Pass Visitor Center was closed to the public for the winter 2021-2022 season due to COVID-19 safety precautions. No Sno-Park passes were sold and all interactions were conducted by phone or email from late December through March (Sat-Sun). Snoqualmie Pass Visitor Center telephone calls on Monday - Friday were forwarded to the North Bend Office. The U.S. Forest Service resumed limited snowshoe programming in March 2022, engaging 144 visitors including 80 youth. Organizations/schools that participated in the snowshoe program include Veterans Affairs, Student Conservation Association, Interim Community Development Association, Outdoor Asian, and West Seattle Elementary.
b) Describe your complaint process (how are they recorded and tracked), the number and kind of complaints received, recurring themes and issues, and any known conflict between user groups.

Complaints typically come in from the field. If the staff member can address the complaint in the field that is optimal. If they cannot, their contact information is collected, and staff would follow up. Complaints that come into the Visitor Center are handled by the person who is working the desk. Anything that needs to be elevated get reported to the Visitor Center manager. The staff tries to mitigate the potential user group conflicts by informing visitors of areas that are multi-use and educating them of the user groups that they may come into contact with and any information on best practices to help them move diplomatically through areas by groups who's concerns they may not have otherwise known of (ex. explaining to snowshoers about cross country ski grooming tracks and where they should walk or maybe redirecting them to a location that can avoid that conflict altogether.

14. How is on the trail enforcement provided? What would you need to make on the trail enforcement more effective?

Trail enforcement is provided in person using radios as needed to verify any questions that come up in regard to regulations. Infractions observed without a present individual connected to it are addressed on a case by case basis (ex. garbage found with no one to cite is packed out). Issues that cannot be addressed immediately with personnel on hand are written up in an Incident Report and brought to the Visitor Center manager's attention).

15. How is Sno-Park enforcement provided? What would you need to make Sno-Park enforcement more effective?

Sno-Park enforcement is mostly accomplished by the US Forest Service winter rangers at the Snoqualmie and Cle Elum Ranger Districts and by Washington State Park Rangers. We work very closely with those rangers keeping contact by monitoring their radio traffic and contacting them directly to ensure current and accurate information is going out to the public.
NOTE: THIS APPLICATION IS FOR
ONGOING EDUCATION & ENFORCEMENT REPORT AND REQUEST FOR CONTINUED FUNDING
ONLY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Cost (A)</th>
<th>Funds Requested (B)</th>
<th>Nature of Matching/Cost Sharing Funds or Volunteer Service Provided (C)</th>
<th>Value of (C) (D) *</th>
<th>Source of Matching/Cost Sharing Funds or Volunteer Service Provided (E) *</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Officer/Ranger Salaries/ Benefits</td>
<td>$3,640</td>
<td>Pass sales, visitor center operations, public information, education, and rec site monitoring</td>
<td>$5,600</td>
<td>Forest Service Budget</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vehicle Operation Costs</td>
<td>$</td>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
<td>Forest Service Budget</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mileage</td>
<td>$</td>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
<td>Forest Service Budget</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>$</td>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>Visitor Center Manager</td>
<td>$2,500</td>
<td>Forest Service Budget</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other (Please describe)</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>Volunteer Contribution</td>
<td>$4,492</td>
<td>Volunteer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTALS</strong> (should match totals on Pg 1)</td>
<td><strong>$3,640</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$12,592</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total number of volunteer or donated hours provided for this area last season and type(s) of volunteer or donated work performed. Example: local grooming council participation, safety class training.

* Volunteer or donated hours cannot be duplicated in other applications and have to relate to enforcement.

Due to the Snoqualmie Pass Visitor Center closure in winter 2021-2022 and limited snowshoe programming, volunteers contributed 125 hours (public education and patrols). We intend to resume in-person visitor services, volunteer programming and public snowshoe hikes in winter 2022-2023. We anticipate approximately 1,150 volunteer hours contributed for operations of Visitor Center, backcountry patrols, and public education.

1,150 hours x $29.95/hour (volunteer rate from Independent Sector- https://independentsector.org/value-of-volunteer-time-2022/) = $34,442 volunteer value. Of this total, approximately 150 hours are related to enforcement, Sno-Park and pass education, and backcountry safety. 150 hours x $29.95 = $4,492.50

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funds Requested</th>
<th>Fund Contributed</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salaries Ex: GS-11</td>
<td>Salaries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Position name GS-05 (Visitor Information Specialist, 10 hr day) Hourly rate $17.50</td>
<td>Days 10 @ $175= 1,750$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Position name GS-05 (Educator, 10 hour day) Hourly rate $17.50</td>
<td>Days 10.8 @ $175= 1,890$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Position name Hourly rate</td>
<td>Days  @ $ = $</td>
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<tr>
<td>Position name</td>
<td>Hourly rate</td>
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</table>

**Agreement**

*In the event funding is provided by the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission Winter Recreation Program, a cooperative or funding agreement of one to five years will be offered to the Applicant that will prescribe how the funding is to be utilized and how to apply for reimbursement for services provided.*

*The applicant certifies that, to the best of his/her knowledge, the information in this application is true and correct.*

__________________________  ____________________________  ____________
Signature of Applicant       Aleta Eng, Partnership Specialist       Date

Printed Name and Title of Applicant

05/25/2022