FUNDING REQUEST 2022-2023

Education and Enforcement • Ongoing
Report and request for continued funding

☐ Motorized  ◐ Non-Motorized

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

This funding request is for an on-going education program for the Outdoor Recreation Information Center (ORIC), the Interagency Ranger Station located inside the Seattle REI store. This will be year nine of our funding. ORIC is a partnership between the National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service, Washington State Parks, and Discover Your Northwest (DYNW). DYNW is a non-profit partner with all three agencies. REI provides space and use of facilities to the agency staff, at no cost to the government.

The ORIC desk is focused on providing accurate and up-to-date outdoor recreation information for Washington State public lands. Through DYNW, the uniformed staff at ORIC sell both federal and state recreation passes, including the non-motorized Sno-Park passes. ORIC staff train and work with local agencies and non-profits to obtain the most accurate information to provide to the public, and spend extended time explaining the various recreation pass options. Currently, ORIC sells or issues 14 different recreation passes. Unlike REI cashiers or customer service, the ORIC staff are able to take the time to validate visitor needs to obtain the correct pass for their recreational outings.

ORIC staff provides a host of safety, leave-no-trace, “recreate responsibly,” and etiquette tips to the public through a variety of delivery methods (in-person, phone, printed, and digital). In addition, ORIC staff participate in local outreach events to increase awareness of public lands. The ORIC desk is busy, but we try to take time to impress upon the public lands visitor important safety themes such as avalanche awareness and driving conditions, leave-no-trace principles and winter etiquette such as snowshoeing away from cross-country ski tracks, staying to the side, dog etiquette / locations, and avoiding private land and freeway off-ramps.

With the ORIC desk located in a growing and diverse neighborhood, we have found our visitation growing most years. With the COVID-19 pandemic, we have had reduced hours, but are working to return to a seven days per week operation in the near future. We have experienced an increasing demand for safe winter recreation locations, especially for snowshoeing and snow play for families. Many of our newer customers are planning to experience a snowy/winter outing for their first time. With many of our visitors new to the Seattle area, it is important that they obtain the proper information for a safe and enjoyable winter outing.

Our annual Sno-Park funding has helped add staff at ORIC during our busier winter season (typically mid-November through March). We are also able to attend meetings of our local winter recreation council and keep current on changes in the Sno-Park program. During the 2021-22 Sno-Park Season, the ORIC desk had over 6,500 visitor contacts and sold 111 daily Sno-Park passes, 466 season Sno-Park passes, and 325 special groomed trails permits.

TOTAL FUNDS REQUESTED

$ Motorized  $4,995.00 Non-Motorized

TOTAL FUNDS / IN-KIND SERVICES / MATERIALS PROVIDED

$5,000 (store space, desk, phones, computers)

TOTAL VALUE OF PARTNERSHIP

$54,763.00
## 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sno-Park Name</th>
<th>Vehicle Capacity</th>
<th>Estimate Average Percentage of Vehicle Use</th>
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**Weekends/Holiday**
Non-snowmobile Users/Snowmobile

**Weekday**
Non-snowmobile Users/Snowmobile Users
1. Date enforcement began November 12th, 2021. Date enforcement ended April 1st, 2022.
2. a. How many officer days per season did your agency provide education/enforcement? 143
b. Of the total days per season, how many officer* days per weekday did your agency provide education/enforcement?

   27 Sun 0 Mon 0 Tues 20 Wed 27 Thurs 37 Fri 32 Sat

*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? 100
4. What is the average number of Sno-Park visits per officer day? N/A
5. Average amount of time spent in each Sno-Park visited: N/A
6. What percentage of patrol hours occur on:
   a. Weekends/holidays N/A%  +  Weekdays N/A%  = 100%
   b. Parking lot patrol N/A%  +  Trail patrol N/A%  = 100%
7. Total number of personal contacts for season. 6,546
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? N/A
10. Number of citations issued. N/A. Of this total, N/A are parking and N/A are on trails.

    Number of citations for registration violations N/A
11. Number of warnings issued. N/AReason(s) (Top 3 reasons):

    N/A

12. Please give an approximate percentage for the following:

    N/A% 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.

13. Do the officers employed under the funding provided have the authority to issue citations? No
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.

    For the 2021-22 winter season, ORIC was open and staffed five days per week with one ranger at the desk some days, and
    two rangers at the desk when possible on busier days. The COVID-19 pandemic kept our staffing lower, including some staff
    availability issues. However, with all US Forest Service field offices still closed, we were a busy station and the public appreciated
    that we were open to in-person service.

    ORIC focuses on education, safety, and recreation pass sales. During the Sno-Park season, most of our contacts have
    questions about Sno-Park passes, locations, and safety. ORIC staff attend the Central Cascades Winter Recreation Council (CCWRC)
    meetings (via Zoom in the 2021-22 season) and stay in direct communication with the chair and several members of the CCWRC.
    We have good communication on updated conditions, procedures, and suggestions on redirecting some of the overcrowding
    issues along the I-90 Corridor. In addition, ORIC staff keeps in close contact with area offices and Sno-Parks including the North
    Bend, Cle Elum and Leavenworth US Forest Service offices as well as Lake Easton and Lake Wenatchee State Parks. Others we keep
    in touch with include the Mount Tahoma Trails Association, the Methow Trails and Winthrop USFS office, and Mount St Helens
    National Volcanic Monument.
When ORIC staff are available, we assist with recreation programs provided by REI staff as well as outreach events. In addition, ORIC staff have helped with off-site safety briefings for area Military. We are able to provide current safety information including road conditions (including live cameras and current traction requirements), avalanche and weather forecasts. Our local knowledge allows us to direct visitors to safer areas during periods of elevated avalanche danger. We work with the public to recreate safely & responsibly, including etiquette at busier locations and leave-no-trace techniques.

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.

ORIC staff receive occasional complaints on the Sno-Park program, primarily on the complexity and variety of pass options. Complaints include the use and handling of carbon paper, personal information gathered, and the lack of flexibility for two vehicle license plates like the Discover Pass offers. Visitors are directed to the Sno-Park webpage, winter recreation email address & phone number, and their State Representatives if they choose. ORIC does not take a paper / written complaint, but we would be willing to do so if the Sno-Park program would prefer.

Recurring conflicts between user groups that we try to address prior to the visitor reaching a Sno-Park lot is separation of cross-country skiers and snowshoers, directing those with dogs to avoid set-track / groomed cross-country ski Sno-Park lots, as well as separation of motorized and non-motorized users. ORIC staff offers options that are preferred for snowshoers and snow play, trying to steer away those users from the busier cross-country ski areas, especially on weekends. Hyak, Lake Easton, and Lake Wenatchee are exceptions to this, since all three activities are offered. ORIC staff also directs non-motorized users away from motorized areas as much as possible, or explain shared-use in Sno-Park lots. We spend more time each year directing individuals and families to locations that are open to dogs and snow play.

There is a strong demand for additional, safe locations within a 50-75 mile drive of the densely populated urban areas. The Asahel Curtis Sno-Park (new in the 2021-22 season) helped with this some, however we feel this option could be further promoted. Also, visitors reported that the plowing into Asahel Curtis was not sufficient for cars to pass (narrow). Many Sno-Park users prefer shorter drives during the dark, winter months so it is difficult to redirect Seattle area winter recreationalists much further than Lake Easton / Snoqualmie Pass or the west side of State Highway 410. Once we reach mid-February (more daylight), we have better success directing users to locations that are further away (i.e. Blewett Pass, Lake Wenatchee, Cle Elum River drainage, or the Teanaway). The temporary Sno-Park lots that opened for the 2020-21 season helped spread out the demand. We have seen an increased demand for the Mount Tahoma Trail System as well as the Silver Springs Sno-Park related to the Crystal Mountain Ski Area overnight parking restrictions.

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

N/A

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

NOTE: THIS APPLICATION IS FOR
ONGOING EDUCATION & ENFORCEMENT REPORT AND REQUEST FOR CONTINUED FUNDING
ONLY

| TYPE OF COST | FUNDS BEING REQUESTED | NATURE OF MATCHING, COST SHARING OR VOLUNTEER SERVICES PROVIDED | VALUE OF (C) (D) * | SOURCE OF MATCHING, COST SHARING FUNDS OR VOLUNTEER SERVICES PROVIDED | (E) *
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(A) Officier/Ranger Salaries/ Benefits</td>
<td>$4,995.00</td>
<td>Staff time of other employees (NPS, USFS, &amp; DYNW funded)</td>
<td>$49,763.00</td>
<td>Federal Agency Appropriations (NPS &amp; USFS &amp; DYNW)</td>
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<td>(B)</td>
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<tr>
<td>(C) Vehicle Operation Costs</td>
<td>$n/a</td>
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<td>(D) Mileage</td>
<td>$n/a</td>
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<td>(E) Other</td>
<td>$n/a</td>
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<td>(F) Administration</td>
<td>$n/a</td>
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<td>(G) Other (Please describe)</td>
<td>$n/a</td>
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<td>$5,000.00 (REI space, phone, Internet)</td>
<td>REI (office host)</td>
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**TOTALS**

(should match totals on Pg 1) $4,995.00 $54,763.00

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.

N/A - ORIC volunteer and/or intern is now only scheduled for our Summer season.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Salaries</th>
<th>Days 5 @ $190 = $950</th>
<th>Salaries</th>
<th>Days 77 @ $352/day = $27,104.00</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Position name Don Simmons Hourly rate $185 per day (including overhead)</td>
<td>Days 13 @ $185/day = 2,405.00 $</td>
<td>Position name David Minaglia, NPS Hourly rate $44.03 (including overhead &amp; benefits)</td>
<td>Days 91 @ $249/day = 22,659.00 $</td>
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<tr>
<td>Position name Erik Antonelli Hourly rate $185 per day (including overhead)</td>
<td>Days 14 @ $185/day = 2,590.00 $</td>
<td>Position name Ed Robison, USFS Hourly rate $31.20 (including overhead &amp; benefits)</td>
<td>Days $</td>
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<td>Position name Hourly rate</td>
<td>Days @ $ = $</td>
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<td>Position name Hourly rate</td>
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<td>Total funds requested $ 4,995.00</td>
<td>Total Matching $ 49,763.00</td>
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**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] [Printed Name and Title of Applicant] [Date]