FUNDING PROPOSAL – NEW OR EXPANDED for 2022-2023

NON-MOTORIZED PROGRAM

The Winter Recreation Program may consider proposals for funding for new or expanded, Priority 5 and 6, budget commitments for the 2022-2023 winter season in the non-motorized program. To apply for funding, please complete the following form. Please Note: All Proposals must be postmarked by June 1, 2021 to be considered. No late applications will be accepted. Examples of new or expanded funding requests could include: requests for grooming frequency increases, expanded or new trail systems, new Sno-Parks, trail improvements, increased enforcement, etc.

PROPONENT INFORMATION

<table>
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<tr>
<th>NAME OF INDIVIDUAL, ORGANIZATION OR AGENCY</th>
<th>NAME OF REPRESENTATIVE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Snoqualmie Ranger District Enumclaw Office</td>
<td>Todd C. Schmutz</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MAILING ADDRESS</th>
<th>TITLE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>450 Roosevelt Ave. East</td>
<td>Snoqualmie Ranger District 410 Corridor Manager</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>CITY, STATE, ZIP</th>
<th>E-MAIL ADDRESS</th>
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<tr>
<td>Enumclaw, WA. 98022</td>
<td><a href="mailto:todd.schmutz@usda.gov">todd.schmutz@usda.gov</a></td>
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<tr>
<th>TELEPHONE NUMBER &amp; EXTENSION</th>
<th>FAX NUMBER</th>
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<td>360-802-5308</td>
<td>360-825-6585</td>
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1) Please give a thorough description of the intended purpose of the proposed funding, including location, and affected Sno-Parks and trail systems.

   Two Winter Snow Rangers administer the Suntop/Huckleberry and Silver Springs Sno-Parks. These Forest Protection Officer (FPO) Rangers work Fridays through Tuesdays and are supported by a supplemental 40% Force Account funding that provides additional Education and Enforcement presence for our program and the public. This is in addition to the Snoqualmie Ranger District's Law Enforcement Officer, which generally works a Tuesday through Saturday schedule through the winter months. These Winter Snow Rangers make regular stops in all of our Sno Park locations to ensure all signage is present and gates and Sno Park location are established for parking at the appropriate location based upon road and snow conditions and the plow operator's capabilities. In addition, Winter Snow Rangers make contacts with visitors that are present while checking registrations and for appropriate Sno Park passes. Winter Snow Rangers will then visit the Suntop/Huckleberry Creek and Silver Springs Sno Park and perform tasks and objectives similar to those identified previously at Pyramid. After each Sno Park has been visited, the Winter Snow Rangers return to the Pyramid Sno Park and repeat counts and contacts. These Winter Snow Rangers also engage in facility maintenance of the CXT outhouses and parking areas. Usage has been consistent over the past several years. FPO presence has been extremely consistent and reliable, and has proven to be a valuable asset to our program and the visiting forest visitor.

a. Does your total request factor in the potential need for Snow Removal, Grooming, Sanitation, Education, Enforcement and possible need for dirt/land work?

   Sanitation needs are incorporated in the continuing non-motorized and motorized grants that the Snoqualmie Ranger District have traditionally applied for. Washington State Parks Winter Sno Parks program provides a porta-potty at the Suntop and Silver Springs Sno Park trailhead locations. Plowing and snow removal is accomplished through a contract with Robert Lind and L and C Services.
1) Amount of funding requested. Please give as much detail as possible and the dollar amount required for each element of the proposal. For new trail grooming requests fill out the Table A. NEW TRAIL GROOMING MILES REQUESTED FOR 2022-2023 (on the last page of this application)

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Element</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<td>$ 6,000 for additional Education and Enforcement</td>
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2) What is the estimated target audience (snowmobilers, dog mushers, cross country skiers, snowshoers, others) and what percentage do you anticipate each use at?
Hikers, Snowshoers, Cross country skiers, Fate Tire Pedal Bikes, Sledders, Dog mushers.

3) Why is this project essential? (New or expanded area, local economic impacts, recreational demands)
The Sno Park is enforced by two seasonal Forest Protection Officers. This additional funding request in combination with the 40% Force Account match has provided the necessary funding to offer these individuals full-time employment at a livable wage, and has made this a more competitive and desirable seasonal federal job opportunity. There are challenges attracting skilled and qualified individuals to work a part-time schedule while other winter programs in the state and throughout the west have the capacity to offer full-time employment. This additional funding request is increased again in this second year to reflect the amount required to staff two full-time Winter Snow Rangers with the skills, qualifications and experience required to operate a viable Education and Enforcement program. Having a consistent and knowledgeable presence of two rangers that are equipped to provide Education and Enforcement, both in the parking areas and on the trails would be most beneficial. A consistent presence has been noticed among the motorized and non-motorized communities that use these Sno Park areas over the last field season and have proven to be appreciated by the vast majority of our visiting public.

4) Briefly describe the recreational benefits of the proposal. How will this funding improve the recreational experience of visitors? What types of recreational uses will be enhanced?
Additional funding will allow increased presence and additional Education and Enforcement efforts by Forest Service Winter Snow Rangers during the 2022-2023 winter season. This continued presence will ensure added security for forest visitors and has enhanced our ability to promote Washington State Parks' Winter Sno Parks' program. This Forest Service staffing is greatly valued by forest visitors from a security and general presence standpoint, as well as an enhanced and more readily available informational capacity. Informing individuals of snow levels and winter conditions, and directing visitors to more suitable sledding areas are examples of questions and concerns our Forest Service staff regularly address.

5) Is the requested funding one-time only, or on-going?
One Time ☐
On-going ☒

6) Has Landowner Permission been obtained? (Funding agreements may be approved on condition that Landowner Permission will be obtained prior to the beginning of the project)
N/A -- All landowner permissions have been provided through the District Ranger line officer. All winter recreation Sno-Parks operations occur on Snoqualmie Ranger District National Forest federal public lands.
7) If adjacent homeowners/housing developments/land owners will be impacted by the proposed action, do they support the proposal?
N/A -- There are no homeowners, housing developments or landowners impacted by the Snoqualmie Ranger District's winter recreation Sno-Parks operations, and there is no anticipated impact with this request for additional funding. All winter recreation Sno-Parks operations occur on Snoqualmie Ranger District National Forest federal public

8) Describe what communications were conducted to obtain homeowners/housing developments/land owners support.
N/A -- This dynamic does not apply to Snoqualmie Ranger District's winter Sno-Parks operations. All winter recreation Sno-Parks operations occur on Snoqualmie Ranger District National Forest and federally managed public lands.

9) Are there any permitting or environmental review requirements associated with implementation of the proposal? (i.e. NEPA, SEPA, Environmental Assessment, Hydraulics Permit, Building Permit, etc.)
No -- All environmental analysis have been performed by agency specialists and approved by the District Ranger line officer.

10) Is the funding proposal consistent with the elements of the Winter Recreation Strategic Plan (to be found at http://parks.state.wa.us/149/Strategic-Plan) Explain how:
This funding proposal would continue to fund an increased staff presence while improving our responsiveness to user demands along the non-motorized winter trails opportunities on the Snoqualmie Ranger District and State Highway 410 Corridor. This additional funding will continue to allow staff to participate in regularly scheduled local recreation and user group meetings, to better understand the improvements needed within the Snoqualmie Ranger District and Highway 410 Corridor Sno-Parks opportunities, and the ability to develop proposals for new Sno Parks and other Snow Play areas.

The increased staff presence this additional funding has provided has improved our ability to manage the occasional recreational user group conflict we experience in both non-motorized and motorized recreation opportunities alike. A more robust presence can more readily educate and inform recreational users of other user groups and more easily enforce violations with the intention of reducing conflict.

The proposal will also ensure well maintained parking lots and trails. With this funding there is a greater ability to improve and modernize our signage and mapping needs on trails.

This funding proposal has increased safety, education and our ability to carry out the resource stewardship responsibilities consistent with our agency’s goals.

11) Has the Area Winter Recreation Program Advisory Committee member been advised of this request?
Yes -- Both James Rhodes and Emilie Blevins of the Winter Recreation Advisory Committee have been informed of the Snoqualmie Ranger District’s non-motorized Winter Recreation’s request for this continued funding increase request.
12) Who will be presenting this proposal at the funding meeting?  
Todd Schmutz or Brian McNeil

See Question 2.

A. NEW TRAIL GROOMING MILES REQUESTED FOR 2022-2023 (16 week season)
   - List the trail grooming miles planned for next season for each groomed trail system.
   - Grooming schedules will be required by October 16, 2022.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Trail Name or Road Number</th>
<th>From which Sno-Park</th>
<th>Map Miles</th>
<th>Trip Miles</th>
<th>Trips per Week</th>
<th>Trips Per Season</th>
<th>Total Miles</th>
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**TOTAL GROOMING MILES FOR TRAIL SYSTEMS LISTED ABOVE:**

| Total funds requested for new grooming miles. | $ |

**Agreement**

*In the event funding is recommended by the Snowmobile Advisory Committee or by the Winter Recreation Advisory Committee for this project and approved by State Parks, either an existing Purchased Services Contract will be modified to reflect the approved budget, or a new Purchased Services Contract will be awarded through a public bidding process.*

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

Todd C. Schmutz  
-- Snoqualmie RD 410 Corridor Manager  
05/26/2022