



**DATE: March 14, 2023**

**TO: USFS Snoqualmie Ranger District**

**FROM: White River FPA**

**SUBJECT: February 2023 Report & Hours**

**Organizational Issues**

Nothing new.

**Forest Report**

Quite a bit of new snow in the mountains and on forest roads last month and into March. Sign damage and vandalism is light.

Conversation. NW has indicated they wish to plant trees and have our volunteers help. Several of our folks would like to help with that. Laurel asked about snow conditions, and here are a few photos from the last few days of the lower 70 road:





Here is the lower Greenwater River 3 miles up from SR 410:



Here is the lower 70 road area near 28 Mile Creek:





We suggest that tree planting in the near term would not be successful—maybe nearer the end of April, depending on the snow between now and then.

We started early this year in graffiti removal up in the forest areas to get ahead of things. Graffiti seems to parallel the “broken window” principle of other types of crime. Evidence of other crimes invites more. Staying on top of graffiti in the woods seems to be the best deterrence. Here is an example of what we have been doing in the forest areas this month:



The only area we do not remove graffiti is the 70 pit, as that is a useless venture. Within a day or so, criminal street gangs, white supremacists, and Nazi organizations will have new graffiti at all locations of the 70 pit. Trying to paint it out is a waste of time, so we do not bother anymore. It costs us too much money to remove graffiti there. Good weather-proof paint is expensive.

Here is what it looked like five years ago before being closed – the exact same spot:

Our opinions on uncontrolled target shooting in this area's forests remain the same as last month's report.

### **70 Pit**

No improvement from the last reports –disgusting and extremely unsafe activity remains there daily.

### **7013 Area**

Perfect this last month!

### **Illegal Camping**

Excellent compliance on the Greenwater River.

### **Cedar Springs Site Concept**

Pending. Conservation NW has a plan we endorsed and sent a letter of support. We hope they will gain funding and be able to move forward on this significant project in the coming years!

### **Volunteer Hours**

Current Month volunteer hours for the WRFPA are: **56**

Total Hours for WRFPA since November 2018: **5,862**

### **Sign Inventory**

Okay, for now, sign loss has been minimal this last month.

### **Issues Moving Forward**

- Discussion on permanent closure of 70 pit (see the report from last month).
- Permanent closure of the 7013 and access road remediation – move the gate out to the very edge of the 70 road.