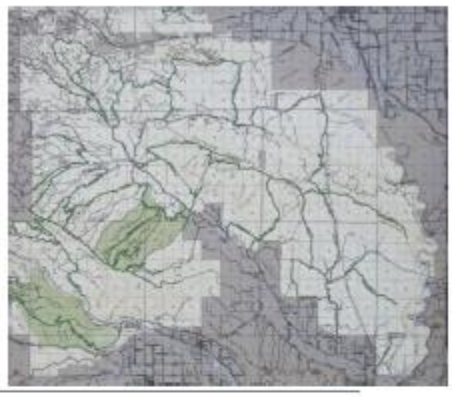
Wenas Advisory Committee Meeting 7 – Attachment 1 (of 4)

Wenas Wildlife Area Target Shooting Advisory Committee



SEVENTH MEETING

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 14, 2017

ROSS STRATEGIC

Agenda Review

6:00 pm	Get settled, introductions (10 min)
6:10 pm	Draft Committee Recommendations & Report (1 hour 30 min)
7:40 pm	Implementation Considerations (20 min)
8:00 pm	Next Steps for Draft Recommendations (15 min)
8:15 pm	Public Comment (10 min scheduled, may need to adjust)
8:25 pm	Final Wrap Up (5 minutes)
8:30 pm	Adjourn

Options for Public Comment

- At Committee meetings
  - *Please stick to 2 minutes or less, because*
  - *Time may be limited by Committee work*
- Through web form
- Through paper form

Straw Poll – Rating Scale

1 - I strongly support this recommendation
2 - I support this recommendation in the context of the overall report
3 - I can live with this recommendation
4 - I am okay with this idea, but I need changes to the wording (please use comment section to describe changes below)
5 - I can't live with this recommendation (please use comment section below to describe your views and what you want to see)

Draft Recommendations - Grouping

Group A
Recommendations that Committee members rated as 1, 2, or 3, meaning no further discussion is required.

Group B
Recommendations that Committee members rated as 1, 2, 3, or 4 meaning all Committee members were satisfied with the basic intent of the recommendation and some further revising of text is needed.

Group C
Recommendations one or more Committee Member rated a 5, meaning not all Committee members can live with the draft recommendation.

Status of Draft Recommendations

Recommendation	Group A	Group B	Group C
1			
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Draft Recommendations Group A

Draft recommendation 6: WDFW should develop maps showing access points, primary roads and trails, areas managed for concentrated shooting, and any other designed use areas (e.g., dog training areas).

Draft recommendation 7: WDFW, working with groups such as those represented on the WTS Advisory Committee, should ensure broad distribution of educational materials and maps via multiple distribution methods.

Draft Recommendations Group A (cont'd)

Draft recommendation 15: WDFW should improve its enforcement records management and work towards a records management system capable of producing analysis-ready reports specific to public safety.

Draft recommendation 18: WDFW should make limited enhancements to the existing area of user-defined shooting at East Umtanum with a goal of improving safety and the predictability of firing direction for dispersed shooting users who avail themselves of that site.

Draft recommendation 14: WDFW should improve existing tools and/or develop new tools to make it simpler for people to document and report illegal behavior.

Draft Recommendations Group B

Draft recommendation 2: WDFW should take a phased approach to making improvements at the Wenas Wildlife Area.

Draft recommendation 3: The WTS Advisory Committee should continue to meet to offer WDFW advice and support as recommendations are implemented. Meetings should be quarterly for the first year and semi-annually after that until the Department and the Committee determine that further support is not needed.

Draft recommendation 4: WDFW should develop and install clearer and increased signage at the Wildlife Area including at access points, at areas enhanced for concentrated shooting, and at least three identified sites of known likely overlap between shooting and other types of uses at the Wenas.

Draft Recommendations Group B (Cont'd)

Draft recommendation 5: WDFW, working with user groups such as those represented on the WTS Advisory Committee, should develop simple and clear educational materials for all users of the Wenas Wildlife Area, with a particular emphasis on clear materials addressing regulations and best practices for shooting on public lands.

Draft recommendation 8: WDFW should increase staff presence at the Wildlife Area to offer information to users.

Draft recommendation 10: WDFW, in coordination with local groups, should support and expand the use of volunteers at the Wenas Wildlife Area to help distribute information, continue cleanups, and assist with other activities as appropriate.

Draft Recommendations Group B (Cont'd)

Draft recommendation 11: WDFW should revise its regulations on shooting on public lands (WAC 220-500-140 and WAC 220-500-220) to match DNR's regulations on shooting on public lands (WAC 332-52-145) so the regulations are consistent.

Draft recommendation 12: WDFW should enhance coordination with local law enforcement, non-enforcement WDFW programs, and volunteer groups (as appropriate) to focus their available patrols and on-site presence for the Wenas at sites of concentrated shooting during anticipated high-use periods and should prioritize enforcement hiring, including filling enforcement vacancies, to provide at least one additional enforcement officer position for Region 3.

Draft Recommendations Group B (Cont'd)

Draft recommendation 13: WDFW should collaborate with the Eyes in the Woods organization and offer one or more Eyes in the Woods courses and support for the Wenas Wildlife Area, preferably with an initial course in early spring 2018.

Draft Recommendations Group C

Draft Recommendation 1: WDFW should apply the following principles to future decisions about dispersed shooting: (1) the purpose of the Wildlife Area is for recreation and for habitat/wildlife – both need to be supported by WDFW; (2) there should be equal support across types of recreational uses, one use shouldn't be prioritized over others, all should be facilitated; (3) improvements to education and outreach are needed for all users so people better understand the rules and expectations for behavior and know what to expect; (4) dispersed shooting in compliance with applicable rules and regulations is currently allowed and should remain so throughout the Wildlife Area; however, improvements to management of dispersed shooting are needed.

Draft Recommendations Group C (Cont'd)

Draft recommendation 9: To further increase staff presence at the Wenas Wildlife Area and provide for ongoing education and outreach, WDFW should work with the WTS Advisory Committee to create and fill the position of Outreach Liaison for WDFW Region 3.

Draft recommendation 16: WDFW should immediately identify existing concentrated shooting sites at Sheep Company Rd. and Durr Rd as locations to be enhanced for concentrated shooting, and should implement initial enhancements – particularly around education and outreach – at these sites as soon as possible and other enhancements as quickly as funding can be secured. Enhancements should be limited and designed to increase the likelihood of safe and predictable behavior and encourage compliance with requirements and expectations.

Draft Recommendations Group C (Cont'd)

Draft recommendation 17: WDFW should make limited enhancements to the existing area of user-defined shooting at Buffalo Rd. the result of which should be to provide an area purposed for concentrated discharge of shotguns only. This location is those lands lying east of Green Dot Buffalo Rd. and north of the Bonneville Power Transmission Line. The preferred direction of fire from this location should be north to northeast. Such space should include a "do not enter" or "no go zone" of safety which should be a distance of not less than 400 yards down range from all activities within the impact zone. The impact zone should be a radius of 180 degrees measured from the shooter's position, southeast to the northwest. In addition, areas currently and historically used for dispersed shooting in the Buffalo Rd. vicinity that do not comply with rules and requirements for shooting on public lands should be clearly signed to notify shooters, and areas historically used by hikers and horse riders that intersect with the enhanced concentrated shooting area should be signed to notify those users of shooting activity.

Implementation Considerations

- WDFW responses to draft recommendations
- WDFW initial cost estimates for outreach and education

Example Kiosk

Next Steps for Draft Recommendations

- Summary of key points from today
- Next steps

Public Comments

Please stick to 2 minutes or less

Wrap, Next Steps

Final Meeting Date and Location:
Wednesday, December 13 – Ellensburg (Hal Holmes Center)

Wenas Advisory Committee Meeting 7 – Attachment 2 (of 4)

WTS Advisory Committee – Status of Draft Recommendations

This document summarizes the responses to the WTS Advisory Committee straw poll of draft recommendations. 17 Committee members completed the survey. Responses were downloaded about 9:30 am 11/14 and were current as of that point. One Committee Member has resigned the Committee for personal reasons. One additional Committee member has not participated in approximately six meetings and has not expressed interest in returning to the Committee. Therefore, the 17 responses received reflect all current Committee members – except one – who are actively participating as of this time. Advisory Committee members rated each draft recommendation and associated supporting text using the scale below. They also provided clarifying comments, and these comments are included in the summary, largely verbatim.

Figure 1 – Rating Scale

1 - I strongly support this recommendation
2 - I support this recommendation in the context of the overall report
3 - I can live with this recommendation
4 - I am okay with this idea, but I need changes to the wording (please use comment section to describe changes below)
5 - I can't live with this recommendation (please use comment section below to describe your views and what you want to see)

For the purpose of this summary, the draft Committee recommendations are sorted into three groups based on the survey responses:

- **Group A**: Recommendations that Committee members rated as 1, 2, or 3, meaning no further discussion is required.
- **Group B**: Recommendations that Committee members rated as 1, 2, 3, or 4 meaning all Committee members were satisfied with the basic intent of the recommendation and some further revising of text is needed.
- **Group C**: Recommendations one or more Committee Member rated a 5, meaning not all Committee members can live with the draft recommendation.

Summary Table 1 – Group of Recommendations

Recommendation	Group A	Group B	Group C
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Summary Table 2 – Count of Responses to Recommendations (each dot equals a Committee Member response)

Rec #	Group	Recommendation Count					Supportive Text Count				
		1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
1	C	•••••	•••	•	••••••	•	•••	••••••••••	••	•	
2	B	••••••••••	•••	••	••		•••••••	•••••••	••	•	
3	B	•••••••••	•••	•••	••		•••••••••	••••	•	•••	•
4	B	••••••••••	•••••		•		••••••	••••	•••	•	•
5	B	••••••••••••••	••	•			•••••••••	•••••••	•	•	
6	A	••••••••••••••••		•			••••••••••••	•••	•		
7	A	••••••••••••••	••	•			••••••••••••	••••	•		
8	B	•••••••••	••••	•	•••		••••••••••	••••	•	•	
9	C	••••	•••••	•••••		•••	••••••	•••••••	•••		•
10	B	••••••••••••••	••		•		••••••••••••	••••		•	
11	B	••••••••••••	•••	•			••••••••••••••	•	•	•	
12	B	••••••••••	••••	••			•••••••••	•••••	••		•
13	B	••••••••••	••••	•	•		••••••••••	••••	•		
14	A	••••••••••••••	••	•			••••••••••••••	•••			
15	A	••••••••••	•••	•••			••••••••••	•••	•••		
16	C	•••••••••	••••	••		••	••••••••	•••••	•	•	••
17	C	••••	•••••	••••	•	•••	•••	•••••••	•••	••	••
18	A	••••••	•••••	••••••			•••••	•••••	•••••••		

Group A: All responses to draft recommendation and supporting text 1, 2, or 3

Draft recommendation 6: WDFW should develop maps showing access points, primary roads and trails, areas managed for concentrated shooting, and any other designed use areas (e.g., dog training areas).
Draft recommendation 7: WDFW, working with groups such as those represented on the WTS Advisory Committee, should ensure broad distribution of educational materials and maps via multiple distribution methods.
Draft recommendation 14: WDFW should improve existing tools and/or develop new tools to make it simpler for people to document and report illegal behavior.
Draft recommendation 15: WDFW should improve its enforcement records management and work towards a records management system capable of producing analysis-ready reports specific to public safety.
Draft recommendation 18: WDFW should make limited enhancements to the existing area of user-defined shooting at East Umtanum with a goal of improving safety and the predictability of firing direction for dispersed shooting users who avail themselves of that site.

Group B: Responses to draft recommendation language 1, 2, 3, or 4; some responses to draft supporting text 5

Draft recommendation 2: WDFW should take a phased approach to making improvements at the Wenas Wildlife Area.	
Comments on Recommendation	Comments on Supportive Text
• Phased approach is too vague. • Improvements aren't that expensive so a time frame should be easy to arrive at.	• Phase 2, part one, won't happen so I anticipate this will give WDFW an excuse why things aren't happening. The hiring of two additional positions.
• WDFW should take a phased approach to making enhancements to each site chosen while working closely with the Wenas Target Shooting Committee, meeting once each quarter or more as needed to establish a time table of such enhancements.	• Need to see wording added which strengthens the terminology pertaining to enhanced shooting sites. Critical to seeing positive results impacting the four initial concerns voiced by WDFW, is that actions be taken as early as possible toward implementing the enhancements recommended for either or both of the shooting sites and completing these as soon as possible. • Need to see wording added to phase one terminology such as; “within the first quarter of 2018 DFW Region 3 staff should have identified the specific enhancements to be made at each location and completed design and engineering in cooperation with the committee using resources such as NRA Range Design staff, performed cost analysis, identified funding sources, completed planning for

	implementation of these actions including a time table for completion, within the second quarter of 2018 or sooner, DFW should have begun if not completed procurement of adequate funding including but not limited to state but also consideration for use of outside funding sources. Before ending of the 3rd quarter of 2018 should have begun actual enhancements and completed same no later than the middle of the fourth quarter."
• Given breadth of recommendations, implementation (if accepted) will of necessity be in phases, over time if for no other reason than legislative, Commission, planning and budgeting requirements.	
• Concerned the "phased approach" may be phased in over a very long time period. This concern seems to be addressed in the supportive text below.	
• Add : with specific measurable milestones for implementation	
• I can live with a phased approach with specific deadlines. We all know that nothing in government moves fast, but the still needs to be some accountability.	
• Phased approaches allow for better planning and implementation.	

Draft recommendation 3: The WTS Advisory Committee should continue to meet to offer WDFW advice and support as recommendations are implemented. Meetings should be quarterly for the first year and semi-annually after that until the Department and the Committee determine that further support is not needed.	
Comments on Recommendation	Comments on Supportive Text
	• Strongly support - however should not be a requirement for members to be replaced by a representative of a similar constituency. There should be an effort to replace them, but the committee can continue its work regardless.
	• Works with user groups, and local and STATE elected officials etc.
• ...semi-annually or as needed and agreed to by Committee members and WDFW...	

• Willing to continue donating my time and efforts to see the implementation of these suggestions.	
• Committee has served the purpose for which it was formed.	• Not necessary for the committee to continue in an “oversight" function.
	• New members would not have the background/history to provide input.
• I am willing to participate during the initial phase of implementation. Beyond that the WDFW is accountable to the public at large and should have public meetings to share progress.	• Essentially we will fulfill our obligation with our final report. WDFW should solicit volunteers for an oversight committee if they want one. The current committee members can sign up if they so desire and new people can participate if they choose volunteer.
• I think it’s important that the committee continues to give input and direction, but also to give feedback on any improvements effectiveness.	
• Ok with meeting to offer perspective and recommendations. Would remove the word, "advise".	• Would remove the last paragraph, beginning with; The committee acknowledges... Possible put a Min & Max number of committee members.

Other comment on recommendation 3: *I believe it valuable that following the holidays, not waiting until late in the first quarter of 2018, that in the first month of the first quarter of 2018, WDFW set down with the committee to review what has been recommended, discuss a general timetable for the early do-able's and details associated such as terminology for signs and maps plus discussing expectations moving toward spring.*

Draft recommendation 4: WDFW should develop and install clearer and increased signage at the Wildlife Area including at access points, at areas enhanced for concentrated shooting, and at least three identified sites of known likely overlap between shooting and other types of uses at the Wenas.	
Comments on Recommendation	Comments on Supportive Text
	• Overall supportive, however if people know the no shooting zones signs are up in areas it's unsafe to shoot, does the absence of a sign in an area make them think that it must be ok or it would have a sign? Does that create any liability on WDFW if they fail to place a sign in an unsafe area and someone is injured?
	• How will enforcement be done where WDFW has set up an area that only certain firearms are allowed to be fired?

	• B. Locations enhanced for concentrated Shooting: **ADD** Green Dot BUFFALO ROAD (GDBR), at a location to be identified laying north of the electrical power transmission line and east of the GDBR. **Replace**; Type of firearm best suited for discharge at each location (I understand you are trying to generalize a description. However it is important to the understanding of those who are concerned to know what firearms and ammunition is intended as authorized for use. Add: Authorized Shooting Discipline Shotgun Range Only - Shot size (larger) heavier than Number 4 or Buck Shot and slugs are NOT PERMITTED Rifle and Handgun Range Rifle - 50 Caliber BMG and larger NOT PERMITTED Black Powder Ammunition is PERMITTED Fully Automatic Fire is NOT PERMITTED Any Firearm equipped with an accessory which by its function replicates full Automatic fire IS NOT PERMITTED Handgun Range - Rimfire and Centerfire Pistol Ammunition ONLY ARE PERMITTED not to exceed 500 Smith and Wesson Caliber. Black Powder AMMUNITION is PERMITTED Centerfire Rifle Calibers - NOT PERMITTED Rimfire Rifle Range - Rimfire Caliber Factory Manufactured Ammunition only is PERMITTED Any Firearm equipped with an accessory which by its function replicates Full Automatic Fire IS NOT PERMITTED C. Replace the word "MANAGED" with the word "ENHANCED" locations for concentrated shooting. Replace: The intended shooting lanes and direction Add: The intended shooting lanes and DIRECTION OF FIRE.
• Not opposed to signage setting out regulatory or statutory basis for preventing shooting/firearms discharge for recreational or sporting purposes in areas to which the regulations or statutes apply.	• Opposed to use of the U.S. flag as background for a sign, strongly and unequivocally. I believe most veterans of military service would feel similarly; I put my life on the line for what that flag stands for, and it is not as a background for educational signs.
	• Concerning C especially at the Buffalo Road area - rather than implying shooting needs to stop we need to explore relocating the user defined cut off trail to the Sky line trail. Because the shooting area was there first and other users implemented a trail through the shooting

	area we need to at least explore rerouting it to a safe location.
• Looking forward to signage and am willing to help in placement and wording.	
• Heavy on the signage directing users to improved concentrated shooting area. Adding permitted and not permitted disciplines.	
• Would end it after the words, 'Concentrated shooting'. It could prove very problematic to identify and mark some but not others.	

Draft recommendation 5: WDFW, working with user groups such as those represented on the WTS Advisory Committee, should develop simple and clear educational materials for all users of the Wenas Wildlife Area, with a particular emphasis on clear materials addressing regulations and best practices for shooting on public lands.	
Comments on Recommendation	Comments on Supportive Text
	• Brochure: Common Rules for Shooting on Public Lands. Backstop; Recommendation In a natural environment what qualifies as an adequate Backstop? Include a written suggestion (not a legal description) to aid shooters in understanding what would reasonably qualify as an adequate Backstop for safe use of any firearm. Buffalo Road has adequate Backstops in numerous locations depending upon the firearm and distance the firearm is being discharged from the target. That is what most people do not understand about Buffalo Road. Much of the area is not safe for rifle, knowledgeable person shooting handgun can find numerous locations for safe discharge of the firearm. Buffalo Road is a safe environment, within certain limits applied to the firearm. This is why there is an obvious need to aid (new/inexperienced) shooters in making good decisions. Not only does none of the publication you note not assist with defining this critical need, but none of the others I have searched on line provides a definition for this condition. I have written what I think is a simple applicable guideline. However It needs review and discussion before being added to any WDFW published pubic information document. This is why it is unnecessary to terminate dispersed shooting at

	Buffalo Road. WDFW has NO QUALIFIED LEADERSHIP STAFF (certain officers? Probably) who are able to make the distinction between a safe Backstop and an Unsafe Backstop. As such to WDFW leadership the course of least resistance and the reasonable thing to do is close the area. When all that is needed is to provide aids to make good decisions which is what this section is all about. What is lacking is an interest in providing this type aid. I will stand against "course of least resistance management". I can stand with "well informed decision making management".

Draft recommendation 8: WDFW should increase staff presence at the Wildlife Area to offer information to users.	
Comments on Recommendation	Comments on Supportive Text
• State agencies generally are operating 'on a shoestring' and are likely out (in the field) as much as possible given the duties assigned. This is a nice concept, and may not mesh with agency workload expectations.	
• This is awfully brief, what are we asking for here?	• This seems very different than initially. Who are we expecting do this?
• We are not talking about just enforcement officers here. I have never met any representative of WDFW on the Wenas area except enforcement. Using some more of DFW man power makes sense.	
• Would eliminate the last 5 words.	

Draft recommendation 10: WDFW, in coordination with local groups, should support and expand the use of volunteers at the Wenas Wildlife Area to help distribute information, continue cleanups, and assist with other activities as appropriate.	
Comments on Recommendation	Comments on Supportive Text
	• My black powder group has been helping WDFW clean LT Murray range for the last 25 years.
• Volunteers cannot and should not be used to displace needed, salaried or hourly permanent, temporary, project or part-time state staff needed to meet agency requirements and objectives.	

• Those of us that use it should be willing to contribute time and talents to help maintain our public lands.	
• If user groups would speak to each other when they come into contact, it would help. No one should feel intimidated but that is not always the case.	
• The department already shut down the idea of a volunteer-manned area - this is one reason the Committee was formed!	
• In no way should volunteerism supplant WDFW responsibilities. Volunteerism should augment what the public should expect from WDFW as primary steward of the Wenas area.	
• Seems that other group already do this. Would be nice to have WDFW representatives there too	

Draft recommendation 11: WDFW should revise its regulations on shooting on public lands (WAC 220-500-140 and WAC 220-500-220) to match DNR's regulations on shooting on public lands (WAC 332-52-145) so the regulations are consistent.	
Comments on Recommendation	Comments on Supportive Text
• With the exception of 1(a) that references another WAC regarding DNR's ability to restrict target shooting. WDFW should continue to follow their own agencies regulations in that regard.	
• Wording should be added: Regulations are consistent making enforcement easier for enforcement officers.	
	• Line #4 near its end, a new sentence begins; Revising the etc. in line five is; clarify requirements, Add the following; Including a well worded suggestion (description) for what qualifies as an adequate Backstop.
• I doubt they will be able to duplicate DNR's regulations but come close so we have a better idea of what we should and shouldn't be doing.	• I guess I didn't know there was a WDNR I thought DNR was national. Maybe I learned something today and that's a good thing.
• (1) if there is a priority in purpose it should be listed (stated) as such (2) clarify wording in this subparagraph	• I agree with the philosophy of this statement but overall it is too verbose. Committee needs to agree on rewording- discussion needed
• This makes enforcement easier, all areas would have the same rules.	

Draft recommendation 12: WDFW should enhance coordination with local law enforcement, non-enforcement WDFW programs, and volunteer groups (as appropriate) to focus their available patrols and on-site presence for the Wenas at sites of concentrated shooting during anticipated high-use periods and should prioritize enforcement hiring, including filling enforcement vacancies, to provide at least one additional enforcement officer position for Region 3.	
Comments on Recommendation	Comments on Supportive Text
• Filling of a vacant position won't happen.	
	• Line # 4; near its end begins a new sentence which runs into line 5. begins; the committee also understands etc., the following wording gives a incorrect impression. WDFW may devote (assign) more than half of the current number of officers to the Wenas. However those officers NO NOT DEVOTE more than half of their service time to the Wenas. During the April 2017 meeting, which I attended, Cindi Confer Morris presented her 2017 Wenas Wildlife Area management plan. I was seated immediately in front of WDFW Officer Myer. He was asked about coverage of the Wenas stated; I am the only officer most of the time, occasionally I am assisted by another officer form this end and on occasion have assistance from one of the 2 officers from the north end. Questions further clarified that totally no officer is able to apply more than 1/3 of his hours of service to the Wenas. If I am incorrect in what I profess as correct, WDFW needs to show me the log for hours spent where over a years' time. There should be records to prove this either way. The wording needs to truthfully reflect the number of onsite service hours which are applied to the Wenas. Not give the impression there are a total of 6 officers employed, 4 or more of them are assigned FULL TIME to the Wenas. In and of itself it may be a true statement that 4 of 6 are assigned WHEN POSSIBLE to Wenas, however how many hours of actual service time is physically spent on the Wenas. I assure you it is not 51% of 2250 hours nor may it need to be.
• Probably won't happen, but it is needed.	
• The Wenas is a priority for us, but there may be areas around the state, or even the neighboring counties, where there are significantly higher priorities relating to public safety.	

Draft recommendation 13: WDFW should collaborate with the Eyes in the Woods organization and offer one or more Eyes in the Woods courses and support for the Wenas Wildlife Area, preferably with an initial course in early spring 2018.	
• Is 'Eyes in the woods' a program or organization? Would modify the text to reflect implementation of the program, or development of a similar program	

Group C: Recommendations with 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5

Draft Recommendation 1: WDFW should apply the following principles to future decisions about dispersed shooting: (1) the purpose of the Wildlife Area is for recreation and for habitat/wildlife – both need to be supported by WDFW; (2) there should be equal support across types of recreational uses, one use shouldn't be prioritized over others, all should be facilitated; (3) improvements to education and outreach are needed for all users so people better understand the rules and expectations for behavior and know what to expect; (4) dispersed shooting in compliance with applicable rules and regulations is currently allowed and should remain so throughout the Wildlife Area; however, improvements to management of dispersed shooting are needed.	
Comments on Recommendation	Comments on Supportive Text
• Preferred wording: "Dispersed shooting in compliance with applicable rules and regulations is currently allowed and should remain so throughout the Wildlife Area; however, improvements to the management of dispersed shooting are needed. WDFW should consider the following principals in their management of the Wenas Wildlife Area: (1) the purpose of the Wildlife Area is for recreation and for habitat/wildlife – both need to be supported by WDFW; (2) the WDFW should support and facilitate all types of recreational uses; (3) improvements to education and outreach are needed for all users so people better understand the rules and expectations for behavior and know what to expect."	• This would depend on the final wording of the recommendation.
• Concerns that "dispersed shooting in compliance with applicable rules and regs is allowed and should remain so". This is a phased approach...change the rules, educate the public, enforce the rules and if there are still problems with multi-use safety and loss of range habitat because dispersed target	

shooters won't follow the rules, change the rules to only allow shooting in improved sites.	
• Can live with this, but this area was paid for with Pittman-Robertson dollars. It should be prioritized for shooters and hunters.	
• With respect to the statement (2) beginning; "there should be equal support etc." The definition to this phrase can be interpreted in many ways. Equal in what way(s)?, equal amount of surface land area devoted to a recreational activity, miles of road or trails for access, financial investment? All activities, including actively providing habitat necessary to sustain a particular species, or human recreational activity, by their very nature require more or less of any of these and more. As an example; is it realistic that WDFW budget the same financial investment, devote the same surface land area or number of miles for access for Audubon as is necessary to be provided as enhancements to locations encouraged for concentrated discharge of firearms?	
• With the exception of habitat/wildlife being the first priority of wildlife areas (by statute & rule), I strongly support this recommendation. Recreation is in the class of secondary of the multiple-use concept.	
• I'm having trouble with the last part of (4) "however, improvements to management of dispersed shooting are needed." That is too vague - someone could interpret "improvements to management" as I think the best management is closing it down. I could live with "however improvements to concentrated shooting areas are needed."	
• Designated shooting areas should be obvious and encouraged	
• Dispersed shooting is going to get someone hurt. They already said they don't have the manpower for enforcement.	

Draft recommendation 9: To further increase staff presence at the Wenas Wildlife Area and provide for ongoing education and outreach, WDFW should work with the WTS Advisory Committee to create and fill the position of Outreach Liaison for WDFW Region 3.	
Comments on Recommendation	Comments on Supportive Text

• I'm confident that WDFW won't fill any position and if they could the more presence would not be noticed.	
	• This might be handled by relatively low cost communication interns working with staff for 3-6 months. I don't see this as an ongoing FTE position.
• Fundamentally against anything that will raise taxes, as increasing staff will do, but can live with the recommendation if need be.	
• Not necessary for the committee to assist in the process.	
• No. They do NOT need to work with us. They need to hire someone- why on earth should we be involved in this? Not our area of expertise. They need to look to Becky, the already existing liaison to properly fill this position. Do not agree with this at all.	
• I don't think it is within the scope of the committee to be advising WDFW on hiring staff. We can recommend the need but that's all.	
• I agree we need more staff presences, but I don't see how spending money on a liaison would help enforce rules or sway public perception. It takes more than a recommendation to fund a government position if we need another position, we should look for enforcement position.	

Draft recommendation 16: WDFW should immediately identify existing concentrated shooting sites at Sheep Company Rd. and Durr Rd as locations to be enhanced for concentrated shooting, and should implement initial enhancements – particularly around education and outreach – at these sites as soon as possible and other enhancements as quickly as funding can be secured. Enhancements should be limited and designed to increase the likelihood of safe and predictable behavior and encourage compliance with requirements and expectations.	
Comments on Recommendation	Comments on Supportive Text
• Concentrated shooting sites should be labeled as Open Range shooting site	• Do not agree with toilets or trash collection because only asking shooters to spend too much time at range. Also trash collection company will not go out to Wenas Wildlife Area to pick trash up. Outdoor toilets will only get shot so it's possible that someone could get shot while inside a toilet. Safety first.
	• Improve road conditions to these sites so that they are passenger car accessible. (Many

	Wenas WA roads are accessible only if you are in a government owned vehicle that you yourself do not have to pay for the repairs on...)
• Why even exclude Buffalo Road (BR) this consideration? OK fine you deal with it separately in 17. During the October Meeting, in Full Committee, yes not well attended (not a disqualifier), I presented the enhanced area of Buffalo Road as Shotgun Only. There was Committee agreement. Prior to that presentation it was well defined and agreed in full Committee that "Dispersed Shooting THROUGHOUT the Wenas was to continue. Not WDFW nor any Committee person present during the May through September meetings ever objected to Dispersed Shooting continuing. At no time was BR ever suggested or discussed as an exception. In my recollection it was UNANIMOUSLY AGREED TO. If not unanimous there was no follow up discussion pertaining to not only Buffalo Road but also NO OTHER single identified area of the Wenas. Logically if BR is the location where the greater number of user conflicts has been identified having occurring, which is what the Committee is superficially lead to believe, why would the actions described in Draft Recommendation 16 NOT INCLUDE BUFFALO ROAD??? Why indeed!! It just seems odd this won't end?? Are enough or certain significant persons on or off the committee still holding out hope that if they beat to death the discussion about dispersed shooting and shotgun only just a little more they will get the Committee tired enough of hearing about it that they will surrender and give the whole location (whatever that may be) over to horses and hikers? If so let them identify themselves, including any WDFW staff and let's discuss it in open Committee so they who don't understand can gain understanding. THERE IS NO JUSTIFICATION for closing dispersed shooting ANYWHERE which occurs in compliance with yet, but soon to be published, refined WDFW/WDNR rules and regulations throughout the Wenas. IN COMPLIANCE IS KEY!! Which goes back to my earlier comment pertaining to WHAT IS AN ADEQUATE BACKSTOP??? It too (identifying an adequate	• The Committee has IDENTIFIED THREE (3) existing location to be enhanced for dispersed shooting. See previous comments.

Backstop) is key to "in compliance". What part of this do others not understand??? Or are we really talking about "DO NOT ACCEPT"??? There is need for all the committee has recommended to be implemented. If after a year there needs to be additional steps taken that apply to identified concerns, those are what the extended committee will work on with WDFW staff at the appropriate time. That is why I recommended the phased approach and the extended the committee presence working with WDFW. It will all work together if we ever get to implement it.	
	• The proposal for Sheep Company Rd. seems to vary somewhat from this recommendation. Is there a need to modify one or the other or both for consistency?
	• Again- we need to assure we are also adhering to the mission statement of the DFW and please identify the fact that while making changes biologists are consulted to assure habitat protection!

Draft recommendation 17: WDFW should make limited enhancements to the existing area of user-defined shooting at Buffalo Rd. the result of which should be to provide an area purposed for concentrated discharge of shotguns only. This location is those lands lying east of Green Dot Buffalo Rd. and north of the Bonneville Power Transmission Line. The preferred direction of fire from this location should be north to northeast. Such space should include a "do not enter" or "no go zone" of safety which should be a distance of not less than 400 yards down range from all activities within the impact zone. The impact zone should be a radius of 180 degrees measured from the shooter's position, southeast to the northwest. In addition, areas currently and historically used for dispersed shooting in the Buffalo Rd. vicinity that do not comply with rules and requirements for shooting on public lands should be clearly signed to notify shooters, and areas historically used by hikers and horse riders that intersect with the enhanced concentrated shooting area should be signed to notify those users of shooting activity.	
Comments on Recommendation	Comments on Supportive Text
• I believe I'm supportive of this but would like to hear it explained at our next meeting.	
• Enforcement would be done HOW? What happens to other types of shooters?	• Enforcement would be done HOW? What happens to other types of shooters?
• Disagree with the siting of a needed range on Buffalo road. In essence, this site would have to be 400+ yards North of the current powerline so that the range could extend 400 yards south from where shooters would be. At that point,	• Can live with the text; it's the siting of the proposed range that I'm still having trouble with. We do not use the cutoff trail to access the skyline trail; we use it to access these minor

you would still be shooting towards where the N-S spur roads lead off of the powerline road. If you are going to go up 400+ yards from the powerline road, why not go up to the hills to the northwest of the road further up the road? You would not shoot across any roads, have hills as a backstop and would still be 0.6-0.7 miles from any residences.	roads and trails in the northeast part of that location.
• Had Buffalo Road simply been included in recommendation 16 as recommended there would have been no need for this recommendation. The conversation if any may be interesting.	• I recommend removing the mention of lead from recommendation 17 and creating a separate recommendation for lead. I believe the presence of lead and lead management i.e., lead removal, is important to the discussion but is a totally separate category which by now should have had meaningful discussion. As a separate category apart from any other mentioned in the recommendation 17. It should have been dealt with in open Committee including input from professionals who are qualified to share information on this important subject. To this date there has been no substantive discussion of lead, considerations for it allowance of use and lawful requirements for its management.
• Something about the last sentence "The impact zone should be a radius of 180 degrees measured from the shooter's position, southeast to the northwest. In addition, areas currently and historically used for dispersed shooting in the Buffalo Rd. vicinity that do not comply with rules and requirements for shooting on public lands should be clearly signed to notify shooters, and areas historically used by hikers and horse riders that intersect with the enhanced concentrated shooting area should be signed to notify those users of shooting activity." That isn't sitting right and I don't know what it is. I'll keep pondering it and let you know if I come up with something.	
• For this recommendation and others where the term dispersed shooting, shooters or discharge of firearms is used we should clarify that the prohibited activity is for target shooting, or discharge of firearms for target shooting. The limitations described for target shooting, except for entering posted areas serving as backstops	• For this recommendation and others where the term dispersed shooting, shooters or discharge of firearms is used we should clarify that the prohibited activity is for target shooting, or discharge of firearms for target shooting. The limitations described for target shooting, except for entering posted areas serving as backstops

for concentrated shooting areas, do not include legal hunting activities on the Wildlife Area.	for concentrated shooting areas, do not include legal hunting activities on the Wildlife Area.
• That is a popular riding area	

DFW comments to WTS Committee Recommendations

WDFW has reviewed the draft recommendations contained in the 10-25-17 draft Committee report. The Department is supportive of the recommendations overall and eager to work with the Committee to continue to refine these ideas and bring them to fruition.

We have a number of clarifying questions, observations, and suggestions, listed below.

Draft Recommendation 1: WDFW should apply the following principles to future decisions about dispersed shooting: (1) the purpose of the Wildlife Area is for recreation and for habitat/wildlife – both need to be supported by WDFW; (2) there should be equal support across types of recreational uses, one use shouldn't be prioritized over others, all should be facilitated; (3) improvements to education and outreach are needed for all users so people better understand the rules and expectations for behavior and know what to expect; (4) dispersed shooting in compliance with applicable rules and regulations is currently allowed and should remain so throughout the Wildlife Area; however, improvements to management of dispersed shooting are needed.

WDFW response:

- WDFW supports dispersed target shooting consistent with rules and regulations but recognizes that if recommendation 11 is adopted, some potential sites would not meet the new WAC requirements.
- Item 1 is not accurate in light of the agency's legislated mandate and probably should be changed (see RCW 77.04.012 and WAC 220-500-010). Also hunting and fishing are the RCW-mandated recreation priorities for the department.
- WDFW attempts to accommodate diverse recreational interests, but not every activity can occur on every acre. For example, hunting seasons for archery and muzzleloader hunters are provided, but not every GMU has both opportunities.
- DFW has asked the Committee for thoughts about a process for if/when a dispersed shooting site starts to have unacceptable habitat impacts (including potential increased fire risk) or neighbor impacts and what DFW should do to address those challenges. It would be good to have input from the committee relative to working through such issues.
- There should be recognition that smaller-scale areas might need to be managed under a safety area (shooting or weapon restriction) concept apart from the dispersed shooting model.

Draft recommendation 2: WDFW should take a phased approach to making improvements at the Wenas Wildlife Area.

WDFW Response

- WDFW supports this; we can provide updates to the Committee on progress of each recommendation; we may recommend some minor adjustments to timing as more details are finalized.
- Monitoring is mentioned in the report, we will need to work with the Committee soon to determine what this looks like. What is monitored? What is success?

Draft recommendation 3: The WTS Advisory Committee should continue to meet to offer WDFW advice and support as recommendations are implemented. Meetings should be quarterly for the first year and semi-annually after that until the Department and the Committee determine that further support is not needed.

WDFW Response

- WDFW supports this; We would like to eventually discuss with the committee on how to bring the function of the WTSAC into the Wildlife Area Advisory Committee, perhaps via representation on the WAAC.

Draft recommendation 4: WDFW should develop and install clearer and increased signage at the Wildlife Area including at access points, at areas enhanced for concentrated shooting, and at least three identified sites of known likely overlap between shooting and other types of uses at the Wenas.

WDFW Response

- WDFW can begin working on adding signs and info to all public entrance points and parking areas.
- See handout for cost estimates.
- It will take some time to develop content and language for signs at the designated sites. We will seek committee input as we develop materials.
- The impact zone downrange of developed sites will need to be posted to educate people of potential danger.
- We like the creative ideas for signs and think that adding logos or other ideas may help build ownership.

Draft recommendation 5: WDFW, working with user groups such as those represented on the WTS Advisory Committee, should develop simple and clear educational materials for all users of the Wenas Wildlife Area, with a particular emphasis on clear materials addressing regulations and best practices for shooting on public lands.

WDFW Response

- We support this and think there is already a lot of great info out there to use (NSSF and NRA).
- WDFW would like to also add info on other places people can shoot (The Range, Sun Targets, Pomona Gun Club, other wildlife areas). This supports local businesses and informs the public of the array of shooting opportunities in the area.

Draft recommendation 6: WDFW should develop maps showing access points, primary roads and trails, areas managed for concentrated shooting, and any other designed use areas (e.g., dog training areas).

WDFW Response

- WDFW supports improving maps and adding improved shooting sites to green dot maps.

- Some types of concentrated uses would be difficult to map. WDFW also is cognizant that mapping some areas might mislead people to think they can't shoot in those places, or other users to think that shooting won't occur there.
- New maps like the Teanaway Community Forest example would need new funding to create.
- There may be an opportunity to address these ideas further as part of continued engagement with the Advisory Committee.

Draft recommendation 7: WDFW, working with groups such as those represented on the WTS Advisory Committee, should ensure broad distribution of educational materials and maps via multiple distribution methods.

WDFW Response

- WDFW supports this and can move forward quickly as materials are developed.
- See handout for cost estimates.

Draft recommendation 8: WDFW should increase staff presence at the Wildlife Area to offer information to users.

WDFW Response

- WDFW supports this; it will require some thought in how to implement with existing staff and workloads.
- We also think it would help if all staff had education information in their vehicles to share as they contact people.

Draft recommendation 9: To further increase staff presence at the Wenas Wildlife Area and provide for ongoing education and outreach, WDFW should work with the WTS Advisory Committee to create and fill the position of Outreach Liaison for WDFW Region 3.

WDFW Response

- We support this and welcome help in trying to secure funding and approve adding appropriate FTEs.
- A pilot effort for the Wenas might be a good first step.
- WDFW is currently dealing with a budget deficit across all programs, so this is unlikely to be funded in the current biennium without a new allocation.
- We also support the idea of looking into grant funding to get this started, and would welcome support in the grant process.
- Other creative ideas are certainly welcome on this topic.

Draft recommendation 10: WDFW, in coordination with local groups, should support and expand the use of volunteers at the Wenas Wildlife Area to help distribute information, continue cleanups, and assist with other activities as appropriate.

WDFW Response

- WDFW supports this.
- *Adopt an Access Site* has been used on the west side in a few locations.

Draft recommendation 11: WDFW should revise its regulations on shooting on public lands (WAC 220-500-140 and WAC 220-500-220) to match DNR's regulations on shooting on public lands (WAC 332-52-145) so the regulations are consistent.

WDFW Response

- WDFW supports this and is already pursuing the initial process steps. Because this will affect all WDFW managed land in the state, we are initiating a thorough process to determine the effects. Our discussions with managers across the state have revealed support for the content change, however, there is recognition that we need to know all potential effects before making the change. Revising state law has some formalities, so this will take time.
- Some minor improvement of WDNR language might provide some additional clarity.
- WDFW welcomes the Advisory Committee's support on this topic at Commission meetings.

Draft recommendation 12: WDFW should enhance coordination with local law enforcement, non-enforcement WDFW programs, and volunteer groups (as appropriate) to focus their available patrols and on-site presence for the Wenas at sites of concentrated shooting during anticipated high-use periods and should prioritize enforcement hiring, including filling enforcement vacancies, to provide at least one additional enforcement officer position for Region 3.

WDFW Response

- WDFW enforcement currently coordinates and receives assistance from other enforcement agencies and will continue to do this and seek opportunities for increased enforcement presence.
- The Sheriff's offices also have limited numbers of officers and must prioritize calls. Serious crimes will always be priority calls.
- We also support adding an additional officer and would welcome the Committee's support in securing funding and gaining authority to add FTEs.
- WDFW Recently re-established a Sergeant position in Detachment 17 (Kittitas County) and is working to fill other vacancies.

Draft recommendation 13: WDFW should collaborate with the Eyes in the Woods organization and offer one or more Eyes in the Woods courses and support for the Wenas Wildlife Area, preferably with an initial course in early spring 2018.

WDFW Response

- WDFW supports this recommendation.

Draft recommendation 14: WDFW should improve existing tools and/or develop new tools to make it simpler for people to document and report illegal behavior.

WDFW Response

- WDFW supports this recommendation.
- This would require additional funding.

Draft recommendation 15: WDFW should improve its enforcement records management and work towards a records management system capable of producing analysis-ready reports specific to public safety.

WDFW Response

- This is an Enforcement Program element, and they have begun working on something. We appreciate the Committee's support for these efforts.
- Agency public records policies will potentially affect outcomes here.

Draft recommendation 16: WDFW should immediately identify existing concentrated shooting sites at Sheep Company Rd. and Durr Rd as locations to be enhanced for concentrated shooting, and should implement initial enhancements – particularly around education and outreach – at these sites as soon as possible and other enhancements as quickly as funding can be secured. Enhancements should be limited and designed to increase the likelihood of safe and predictable behavior and encourage compliance with requirements and expectations.

WDFW Response

- WDFW supports these two locations.
- We would like clarification on why Sheep Company is not recommended for Shotgun use if that is the intent.
- Conversation is needed regarding the proposed development at Durr Rd on east side of the road and north end.
- List of draft recommendations seems overly detailed for the current stage of process.
- Level of development would trigger different requirements for permitting, etc.
- ADA is a legal requirement with specific triggers. Not optional nor discretionary to a large degree.

Draft recommendation 17: WDFW should make limited enhancements to the existing area of user-defined shooting at Buffalo Rd. the result of which should be to provide an area purposed for concentrated discharge of shotguns only. This location is those lands lying east of Green Dot Buffalo Rd. and north of the Bonneville Power Transmission Line. The preferred direction of fire from this location should be north to northeast. Such space should include a "do not enter" or "no go zone" of safety which should be a distance of not less than 400 yards down range from all activities within the impact zone. The impact zone should be a radius of 180 degrees measured from the shooter's position, southeast to the northwest. In addition, areas currently and historically used for dispersed shooting in the Buffalo Rd. vicinity that do not comply with rules and requirements for shooting on public lands should be clearly signed to notify shooters, and areas historically used by hikers and horse riders that intersect with the enhanced concentrated shooting area should be signed to notify those users of shooting activity.

WDFW Response

- Our ability to implement the exact details of this recommendation are unknown. Until we begin to implement we will not be sure if these exact prescriptions are doable. We request the Committee remove the exact distances, directions, etc. Please be assured we have every intent

to work with the Committee as we implement. However, we want to recognize there are many unknowns we may encounter once we start to implement.

- For WDFW to support a recommendation at Buffalo Rd it needs to be clear, concise, and enforceable. It must also provide predictability for all users of the area and the neighbors.
- It should be clear that "*shotgun only*" means rifles and pistols would not be allowed for target shooting in some subset of the area (to be determined). The high density of homes, proximity to public roads and other infrastructure, and concentrated multiple uses with a history of conflict make some area near Buffalo a high safety risk for longer range weapons. We had believed this was the intent of the Committee's designation of a "*shotgun only*" opportunity. This current text is not clear, concise, and enforceable as written.

Draft recommendation 18: WDFW should make limited enhancements to the existing area of user-defined shooting at East Umtanum with a goal of improving safety and the predictability of firing direction for dispersed shooting users who avail themselves of that site.

WDFW Response:

- In concept WDFW is supportive.
- Is there a trigger or recommendation if additional issues arise because we are not improving the area and we see increased use over time?
- At the October Committee meeting there seemed to be disagreement as to how to achieve the direction of fire guidance at this site without making substantive alterations to the site that would suggest it is an improved site. We would like to hear more from the Committee on this.

Cost Estimates for Wenas WLA Signage & Public Information

Signs

Sign Type (All Aluminum)	Cost
No Trespassing **(18x18 Square)**	$21.49
Parking Area **(12x12 Square)**	$11.19
Safety Zone **(12x12 Diamond)**	$8.29

Kiosks

Item	Size	Quantity per Kiosk	Cost Per Kiosk
Treated Post	6" x 6" x 12'	2	$81.60
MDO 2S Plywood	3/4" x 48" x 96"	1	$59.95
Treated Plywood	1/2" x 48" x 96"	2	$46.94
#2btr s4s Cedar	2" x 6" x 12'	5	$123.00
Paint	one quart	1	$20.00
Stain	one quart	1	$34.00
Galvanized Carriage Bolt w/Washer and Nuts	3/8" x 8"	12	$13.80
Galvanized Carriage Bolt w/Washer and Nuts	5/8" x 8"	12	$37.62
1212HT USP T-strap Tie	na	4	$115.56
Metal Roof Pack	na	1	$107.02
Subtotal Per Kiosk (does not include labor to install)			**$639.49**

Printed Materials

Item	Qty	Cost
Tri-Fold Brochures	500-5,000	$375-$800
Rack card	1,000-5,000	$125-$500
Large poster/display with lamination	1	$90
Banner, vinyl with grommets	1	$250-300
Large display banner	1	$450
Permanent display/interpretive panel printed by Fossil Graphics (36x48)	1	$525