

Lisa Wood, SEPA Coordinator  
WDFW Regulatory Services Section  
600 Capitol Way N  
Olympia, WA 98501

September 11, 2014

Dear Ms Wood,

We were dismayed to hear just yesterday that a second Stray Gulch Road is to be constructed within 50 feet of the one closed approximately two years ago for its resource damage. Considering we were involved with letters encouraging the continued closing of a road in the Whiskey Dick area of the Naneum/Colockum last winter for the benefit of elk, why did we not receive any notification that this second road affecting Tekison Creek in the Colockum Wildlife Area was being considered? .

**How does the Determination of Non-Significance for the Stray Gulch Road support the mission of WDFW by allowing “protection and perpetuate fish, wildlife and ecosystems while providing sustainable fish and wildlife recreational and commercial opportunities”? ‘Sustainable’ is an extremely important goal in your mission.**

It is known that wildlife, including birds, needs protection from noise and intrusion to reduce stress to allow reproduction to the maximum. Creeks need to be protected from erosion to enhance riparian areas and allow healthy habitat for fish. How can destruction of shrub-steppe, the fastest disappearing habitat in the northwest, to build another road benefit any wildlife? All wildlife that depends on shrub-steppe is in steep decline. All these factors discourage building an additional road in this area.

Why would WDFW spend the monies to build a road in an area that already has numerous roads with many miles of riding opportunities? Would not the monies be better spent monitor the area to prevent destruction to the already existing habitat?

We are extremely disappointed the WDFW has again tossed aside its goals to the detriment of wildlife and habitat enhancement. Please consider these comments to the Stray Gulch Road DNS.....and reconsider your decision.

Sincerely,  
Gloria & Jeb Baldi  
440 Riverbottom Road  
Ellensburg, WA 98926