

Frank Stevick
WA Department of Fish and Wildlife
SEPA #2022-05898
November 30, 2022

Re: WT WOOTEN WILDLIFE AREA CAMPGROUND #9

Dear Mr. Stevick,

My name is Shane Sheppard, I am a Green River College student studying Natural Resources. Since starting the program, I've worked two seasonal jobs. The first as a contract forestry technician for Weyerhaeuser and the second for EcoStudies Institute as a Fire/Restoration Technician. I write to voice my support for this project. As an enjoyer of the outdoors, I'm happy to hear the WDFW is repairing the campground. If this campground was abandoned, there could be increased foot traffic in the remaining campsites. More foot traffic could mean an increased amount of trampling on native vegetation, soil erosion, and a host of other problems. Having campground 9 repaired gives me faith that any further damage would be controlled with the restored and improved designated parking lot.

However, after looking at the Wooten Camp 9 maps and seeing the before and after damage from the flood, I wonder if the floodplain data should be updated. In section B: Environment, number 3: Water, question 5 states, "No, this project is located in Zone X (area of minimal flood risk) per FEMA firm 53013C0200B, effective date 5/4/1988". Because of the age of the data and how topography can change from time and weather events, wouldn't gathering modernized floodplain data be beneficial for future projects and ensuring this kind of flood damage won't happen again?

Lastly, I would like to request to become a party of record for the WT WOOTEN WILDLIFE AREA CAMPGROUND #9. My contact information is Sheppard.shane@student.greenriver.edu.

Best regards,
Shane Sheppard

