

Wenas Advisory Committee Meeting 2 – Attachment 1 (of 8)

Wenas Wildlife Area Target Shooting Advisory Committee Charter

May 2017

I. Background & Problem Statement

The 105,000-acre Wenas Wildlife Area is in Yakima and Kittitas counties, includes WDFW, DNR and BLM lands managed primarily by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW). ~~Recreational~~ ~~T~~target shooting has long occurred on the Wildlife Area and is expected to continue. Use of Wenas Wildlife Area by other recreation users (motorized, nature watching, hunting, etc.) also is expected to continue.

An increase in target shooting¹ in recent years has caused several challenges including wildfires, concerns over public safety and private property, littering, and damage to wildlife habitat. Previous proposals to address target shooting generated concerns by the public. As a result, WDFW is initiating a new effort in which a stakeholder advisory committee will provide recommendations on the best way(s) to provide for target shooting on the Wildlife Area, while addressing challenges listed above.

II. Purpose and Objectives

WDFW convened the Wenas Target Shooting (WTS) Advisory Committee to develop recommendations for how WDFW can best provide ~~recreational~~ target shooting on the Wenas Wildlife Area. The ~~Department has requested~~ recommendations ~~must which~~ meet WDFW's mission: "To preserve, protect and perpetuate fish, wildlife and ecosystems, while providing sustainable fish and wildlife recreational and commercial opportunities" and ~~which must also~~: (1) ~~are be~~ supported by the local communities; (2) reduce risk to Wildlife Area users and neighbors; (3) improve habitat protection; (4) reduce fire risks; (5) ~~are be~~ financially attainable and manageable; (6) provide predictability for all users; and (7) adhere to clear and concise standards.

III. Membership

The WTS Advisory Committee is intended to represent broad recreational and neighbor interests in the Wenas Wildlife Area, and is comprised of 20 members representing: neighbors and affected landowners, hunters, target shooters, horseback riders, mountain bike riders, hikers, wildlife watchers, bird dog trainers, motorized users, and others. Government agencies including WDFW and the Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR) will participate in the Committee as Ex Officio participants. Local elected officials also may (at their discretion) participate as Ex Officio participants. Ex Officio participants serve as resources to the Target Shooting Committee.

¹ "Target shooting" refers to practiced use of firearms as the active fulfillment of "A well regulated Militia begin necessary to the security of a free State", as stated in the Second Amendment of the US Constitution.

WDFW sent a broad invitation asking stakeholders to apply to participate in the WTS Committee. WDFW selected Advisory Committee members from among the applicants based on the following:

- Active user of the Wenas Wildlife Area
- Acceptance of the basic problem statement and Committee purpose and objectives
- Interest in developing a sustainable solution to recreational target shooting management at Wenas Wildlife Area
- Past experience with collaborative processes
- Ability to represent a broader user group constituency
- Willingness to participate in regular Committee meetings

IV. Expectations of WTS Advisory Committee Members

Advisory Committee members agree to reach out to their broader community of interest and strive to represent their community's perspective. Direct participation of all Committee members is essential to success. For that reason, members are asked to make every effort to attend in-person meetings and participate in conference calls. Committee meetings will be in person and are expected to be monthly, May – December 2017, in the late afternoon or evening in the Ellensburg or Selah area. There also will be 2-4 public listening sessions in the Ellensburg and Selah Areas for Committee members to hear input from the broader community.

All Advisory Committee members are expected to participate throughout the duration of the process. If a member must leave the process before it is finished, he or she is asked to provide a written statement indicating the reasons for leaving.

State agencies and local elected officials participating as Ex Officio members are present as resources to the Advisory Committee to offer perspectives and answer questions. They are not part of the Target Shooting Committee consensus. ~~(i.e.~~

Advisory Committee members will work with the Committee facilitator to develop ground rules for meeting conduct and participation. Draft ground rules will be provided by the Committee facilitator as a starting place for discussion.

V. Open Meetings

Meetings will be open to the public and at each meeting a time will be set aside for public comment. Observers will otherwise not participate in the deliberation of the group. Meetings will be announced on the WDFW website. The WTS Advisory Committee's recommendations will be made available for public comment.

VI. Advisory Committee Recommendations and Consensus

The WTS Advisory Committee process will include a set of facilitator-assisted collaborative discussions at a series of regularly-scheduled meetings, as well as between-meeting work, and drafting (and review/comment/revision) of group documents. The goal of the Advisory Committee is to provide consensus recommendations to WDFW. For purposes of the Committee's deliberations "consensus"

means that all members of the group can at least “live with” a recommendation, even if it is not their first (or even their preferred) choice.

Consensus will be evaluated through a variety of other techniques, including one-on-one conversations with Advisory Committee members, straw polling during meetings, and other methods. Throughout the process there will be documentation of Committee deliberations in meeting notes, a draft Advisory Committee report, and other documents (if needed). The primary purpose of these documents is to summarize Advisory Committee deliberations, explore and describe emerging and final Committee consensus, and keep track of remaining issues. Final consensus recommendations will be included in an Advisory Committee report.

In the event the Committee does not reach consensus on an issue the full range of member perspectives and opinions on that issue will be described in the Committee report. So called “minority/majority” reports will not be developed, rather there will be one report which describes consensus recommendations and, to the extent consensus is not reached, describes the full range of Committee perspectives on the non-consensus issues.

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Wenas Advisory Committee Meeting 2 – Attachment 2 (of 8)

Wenas Target Shooting Advisory Committee – Ground Rules

1. All Advisory Committee Members have equal opportunities to participate; committee members agree to work together, treat other members with respect, and work together to help ensure one another's voices are heard and to avoid individuals dominating the conversation.
2. Advisory Committee members agree to work within the framework of the process and not work behind the scenes to undermine the process. This means, ideas, proposals, and concerns generated during conversations outside Committee meetings should be brought to the process, so we have a chance to work on them together.
3. Advisory Committee members agree to the basic premise of the effort – development of recommendations for how WDFW can best provide target shooting on the Wenas Wildlife Area consistent with WDFW's mission to "preserve, protect, and perpetuate fish, wildlife, and ecosystems, while providing sustainable fish and wildlife recreational and commercial opportunities" and agree to work in good faith toward this outcome. Members will strive for honest and direct communication, allow open discussion and the right to disagree, and look for opportunities to find common interests, agreements, and solutions. The underlying effort emphasizes joint problem-solving rather than attempting to change other peoples' values.
4. Committee members acknowledge that WDFW has provided a copy of the Department's mission statement, and that the Department has asked for recommendations which are within the mission and: (1) are supported by the local communities; (2) reduce risk to Wildlife area users and neighbors; (3) improve habitat protection; (4) reduce fire risk; (5) are financially attainable and manageable; (6) provide predictability for all users; and (7) adhere to clear and concise standards.
5. The Committee is being asked to make recommendations for the Wenas Wildlife Area; the Committee may choose to address in its report if and/ or how it sees its recommendations as relevant to other areas where dispersed shooting also occurs on other public lands.
6. Advisory Committee members agree to attend meetings.
7. Advisory Committee members agree to stay current with information provided to the group and come to meetings prepared to participate fully, including in discussions of whether they can agree to the specifics of emerging and draft Committee recommendations.
8. Advisory Committee members agree to focus on clarifying their own needs and interests, providing objective, fact-based comments and alternatives during discussions, and to refrain from personal criticisms.
9. The facilitator is a neutral third party with no stake in the outcome of the project. Ross Strategic will structure meetings to support a respectful atmosphere and the development of trust among members.

10. Advisory Committee members and/or the facilitator may request a caucus break at any time during a meeting. In order to keep the flow of meetings on track, individual caucus breaks may not exceed 15 minutes.
11. Meetings are expected to start and end on time.
12. At the end of each meeting the facilitator will summarize for Committee review: key discussion points, areas of agreement or emerging agreement, remaining topics, next steps (including who is doing what), and anticipated future meeting topics.

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Wenas Advisory Committee Meeting 2 – Attachment 3 (of 8)

WTS Advisory Committee--Draft Topics by Meeting

<p><i>Thursday, June 22 (Ellensburg)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete discussion of charter and ground rules • Initial discussion of information including: WDFW budget, Fires, and Trash. Updates on information gathering on safety and other topics. • Discussion of how to best get information on days/places of use by user group (anticipate Committee Members will have a role in working with their networks to help assemble this information) • Initial discussion of preliminary ideas based on the one-on-one conversations; add to and refine list • Discuss upcoming public Listening Sessions (June 27 and 28) • Future meeting topics • Public comment
<p><i>Tuesday, July 25 (Selah/Yakima)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information including: safety and other topics; updates/follow up on other information (from June) as needed • Discuss days/places of use information • Experience of Trash No Land, a nonprofit supporting responsible shooting on public lands (presentation by Trash No Land founder and discussion) • Update / refine preliminary ideas, identify ideas you want to carry forward and turn into draft recommendations (if any) • Future meeting topics • Public comment
<p><i>Tuesday, August 15 (Ellensburg)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information: follow up on information provided in June and July (if needed) • Refining days/places of use information (if needed) • Review and refine initial draft recommendations (if any); identify other issues you might want to address (if any) • Schedule fall public Listening Sessions • Future meeting topics • Public comment
<p><i>Thursday, September 14 (Selah/Yakima)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information: follow up on information (if needed) • Further refining days/places of use information (if needed) • Draft recommendations – continue to review, refine, and add to draft recommendations (if any) • Preliminary identification of areas where you are unlikely to reach consensus – discussion of how to reflect individual perspectives on these areas in the Committee report (or could do this earlier, e.g., in August, if warranted) • Prepare for public Listening Sessions (or in October, depending on when scheduled) • Future meeting topics • Public comment

<i>Thursday, October 19 (Ellensburg)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review draft recommendations (if any) and initial draft report; refine; identify gaps (if any)• Future meeting topics• Publiccomment
<i>Tuesday, November 14 (Selah/Yakima)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review revised draft recommendations (if any) and revised draft report.• Future meeting topics• Publiccomment
<i>Wednesday, December 13 (Ellensburg)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Final decisions on recommendations (if any) and report.• Publiccomment

Wenas Wildlife Area Fire Events 2003 – 2014

Overview

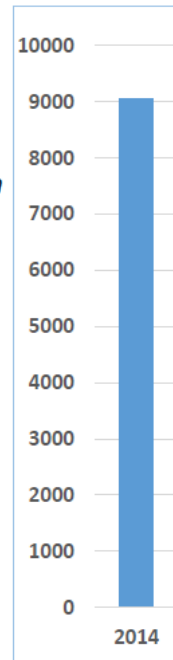
The following information summarizes fire activity at Wenas Wildlife Area from all likely causes (e.g., campfires, lightning strikes, shooting) between 2003 and 2014. There were a total of 30 named fires during that period. Based on data provide by WDFW. Investigations as to fire source performed by various parties, noted with additional information in the raw data spreadsheet, available [here](#).



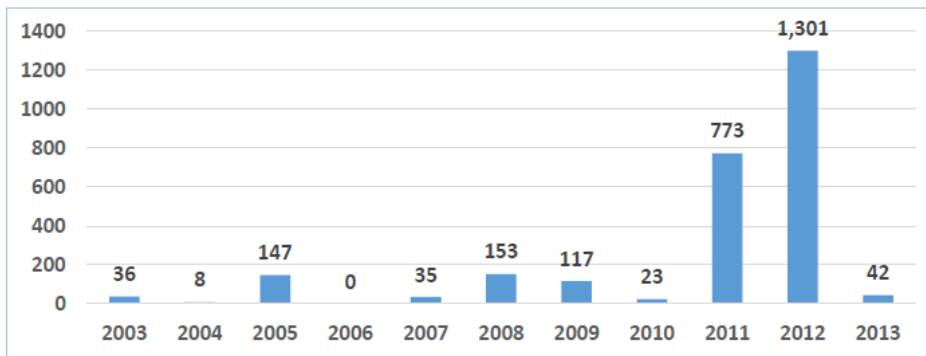
Number of acres burned at Wenas Wildlife Area between 2003 and 2014



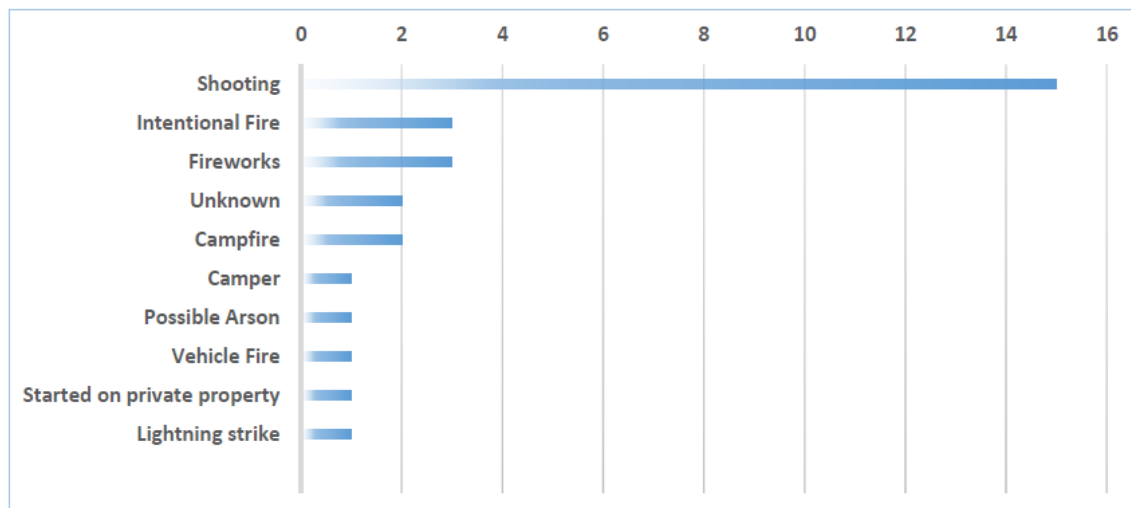
Costs (\$3 m total)
 \$1.1 m - Restoration
 \$1.9 m - Suppression



A. Number of acres burned, 2003 – 2013. 2014 is shown at right for visualization purposes.



B. Number of fires by likely cause.



Fire Statistics – Shooting Related

The following information summarizes fire activity at Wenas Wildlife Area likely attributable to shooting activity between 2003 and 2014.

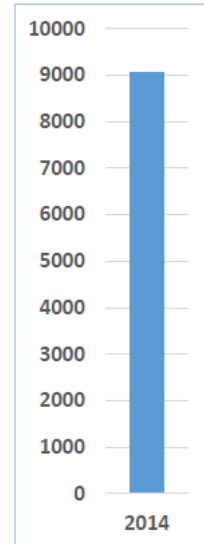
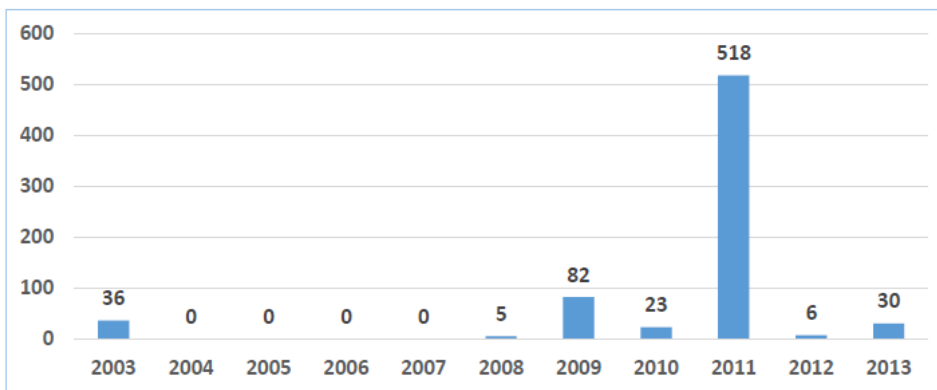


Number of acres burned at Wenas Wildlife Area between 2003 and 2014



Costs (\$1.6 m total)
 \$0.6 m - Restoration
 \$1.0 m - Suppression

C. Number of acres burned, 2003 – 2013. 2014 is shown at right for visualization purposes.



Fire Date	Fire Name / Location
Sept 2003	Durr Road / Mellergaard Parking Area
Sept 2008	Yakima River / Lower Buffalo
Jun 2009	Durr Road / Durr Rd. Umtanum Pt. Shooting Area
August 2009	Double Durr / Durr Rd. East Shooting Area
Sept 2010	False Labor / Sheep Company Shooting Area
Jul 2011	Sheep Company #1 / East of Bull Pasture
Aug 2011	Sheep Company #2 / Sheep Co. Shooting Area
Oct 2011	Durr Rd #2 / Durr Rd - West Shooting Areas*
Jun 23, 2012	Cottonwood #1 / Cottonwood Shooting Area
Jun 1, 2013	Buffalo Rd / Buffalo Shooting Area
Jun 2, 2013	Umtanum Pt / Durr Road - Umtanum Pt Shooting Area
Jun 8, 2013	Durr Rd West / Durr Rd - West Shooting Areas
May 26, 2014	Overlook / Umtanum Road Shooting Areas
Jun 1, 2014	Sheep Co #2 / Sheep Co Shooting Area
Jun 17, 2014	Cottonwood #2 / Cottonwood Shooting Area

Shooting Restriction Timeline	
Year	Restriction
2012	1st year. July 1 - Sept 30; Sunrise to 11am
2013	June 8 - Sept 30; Sunrise to 11am
2014	June 1 - Sept 30; Sunrise to 11am
2014	Complete Closure June 19 - Sept 30
2015	May 22 - Sept 30; Sunrise to 10am
2015	Complete Closure July 1 - Sept 30, high fire risk
2016	June 1 - Sept 30; Sunrise to 10am

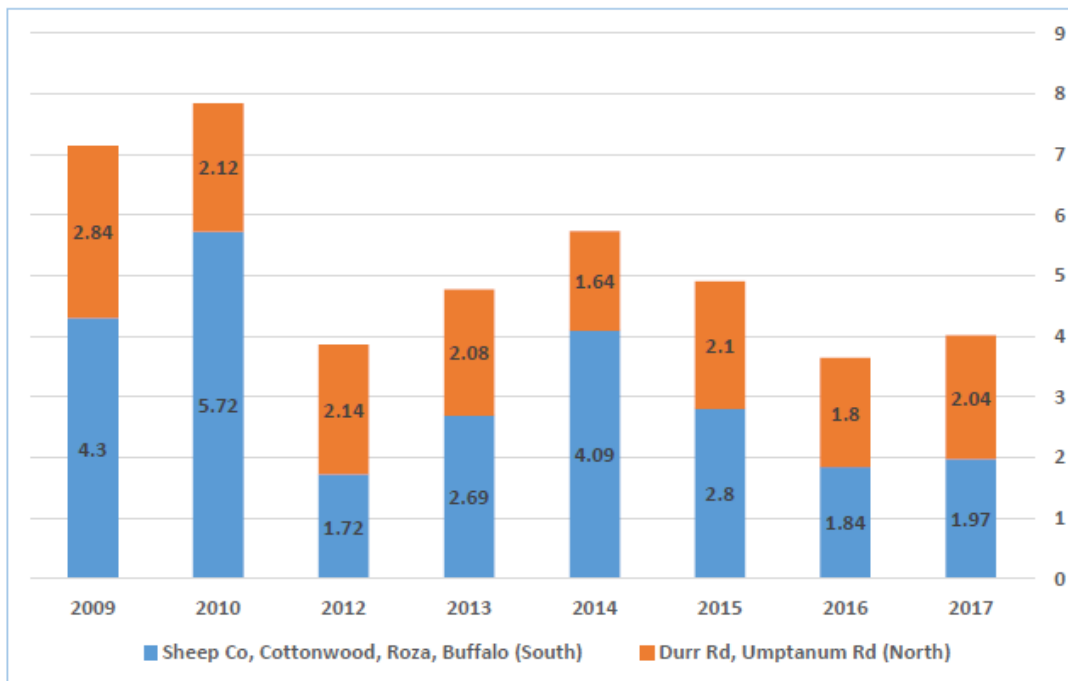
Only 1 shooting-related fire occurred during the restricted time, i.e., when shooting was not allowed

Wenas Wildlife Area Trash Removal 2009 – 2017

Overview

Volunteers from Wenas Valley Muzzleloaders and Kittitas County Field & Stream provide valuable time and energy cleaning up debris at Sheep Company, Cottonwood, Roza, Buffalo Road, Durr Road, and Umptanum Road shooting sites. Since 2009, volunteers have removed nearly 42 tons of trash.

A. Tons of trash removed 2009 – 2017



Notes

- In 2010 the Wenas Valley Muzzleloaders also removed 1,200 pounds of tires
- Data for 2011 trash removal not available

Wenas Advisory Committee Meeting 2 – Attachment 6 (of 8)

WTS Advisory Committee – Themes and Ideas from Initial Conversations

This document summarizes initial (“meet and greet”) conversations with WTS Advisory Committee members. Ross Strategic met either in-person or over the phone with 19 of 20 Advisory Committee members during May 2017 (1 Committee member was unavailable). The discussions with Committee members revealed several themes and information needs. Committee members also began sharing their ideas for improvements at the Wildlife Area (see Table 1). The purpose of this document is to describe themes, not to present an exhaustive summary of each individual conversation.

“Draft Principles”

Below are draft areas of emerging convergence (or “draft principles”) for Committee member consideration. Many ideas were discussed during the one-on-one conversations; this is an effort to capture the ideas that Committee members seem closest to agreement on for review and discussion in full Committee. Other or different principles might emerge from ongoing Committee discussions.

- **Use and access:** All current users (including at least: hiking, nature watching, dispersed shooting, hunting/fishing, motorized, horse riding, mountain bike riding, and dog training) should continue to be available at the Wildlife Area. No one wants to close the Wildlife Area to any users.
- **Safety:** Safety is primary. With management, all users should be able to safely carry out their activities at the Wildlife Area.
- **Education, Information, Outreach:** More education, information, and outreach are needed for all users, and more “casual” and first-time users of the Wildlife Area. Education, information, and outreach are needed both for dispersed shooters (especially those who do not go through hunter education) and for other user groups.
- **Enforcement:** More enforcement and better enforcement strategies are needed.
- **North/South:** There are issues unique to the North and South ends of the Wildlife Area, and one size may not fit all in recommendations.

Additional Themes

These are additional themes that came up in many of the one-on-one conversations. This list may be revised and/or added to over time. Other or different themes may emerge from ongoing Committee discussions.

- Most users are responsible, follow the existing rules and regulations, and use safe practices; there is a subset of users which is breaking the rules because of lack of awareness; there is another subset of users which is breaking the rules with full knowledge (they just do not care about rules).
 - The first group (responsible users) has been (and will continue to be) valuable to DFW as a resource.

- The middle group (users breaking rules due to lack of knowledge) needs to be reached through a combination of enforcement, outreach, and education.
 - The last group will need to be dealt with almost exclusively through enforcement.
- There is enough space at the Wildlife Area to accommodate all users' needs.
- Almost everyone that uses the Wildlife Area has multiple recreation interests. Users are supportive of one another's recreation uses.
- A number of groups are interested in being part of solutions at the Wenas through, for example, increased volunteer activities and hours.
- There is a distinct seasonal aspect to use of the Wildlife Area:
 - Horseback riders tend to use the area more in the spring and fall (due to heat and rattlesnakes).
 - Shooting use is particularly high in the two weeks or so prior to hunting season, as hunters sight in their weapons, although there is shooting year round for practice.
 - Litter tends to increase at the North end of the Wildlife Area around the end of the college school year, as students get rid of unwanted furniture, appliances, etc.
- There are concerns (e.g., dissatisfaction, anger, lack of support) with WDFW's current management and priorities at the Wenas, with WDFW's mission and how they have executed it, with the process WDFW has previously used to explore how best to support dispersed shooting at the Wenas, and with WDFW's past proposals on dispersed shooting including both the concept of building a range and potential range locations.
- Many Committee members lack trust in WDFW and are concerned that this Committee's proposals will not be seriously considered, that past proposals will resurface, and/or the Wenas will be closed to shooting or other activities.

Information Needs

Committee members indicated a variety of information needs during the one-on-one conversations. WDFW is compiling and will provide the information they have on these questions. Information also is being sought from Committee members and suggestions for other sources of relevant information are welcome. Also, if information needs are missing on this list please let us know so we can add them.

- **History & Priorities.** What is the history of the Wenas Wildlife Area
 1. How did the land come to be managed by WDFW?
 2. What have management priorities been over the years? What are they now?
 3. How and by whom are management priorities set?
- **Existing Laws and Rules.** What are the current rules that apply to dispersed shooting? Information is needed on general state laws/rules, general WDFW laws/rules/policies, and any rules or policies specific to the Wenas (like the seasonal time of day closures that currently exist).
 1. How are these laws/rules/policies communicated to people?
 2. Who is allowed to dispersed shoot at the Wenas?
 3. Is there any education/competency requirement or other requirement needed? (e.g., hunter's education and hunting license/tags)
 4. Are any areas closed to dispersed shooting now?
- **Use/Use Days.** What is known about how many users use different areas of the Wenas, the usual ways different areas tend to be used (e.g., horses off Buffalo Rd), and the usual days of the week / times of day / seasons of use for different users.

- **Concerns.** What documentation is available on specific concerns (e.g., safety, fire, habitat)?
 1. Where do we have first-hand accounts of concerns?
 2. Where have concerns / complaints been investigated and what are the results of those investigations?
- **Enforcement Resources and Approach.** What is WDFW's current approach to and resources for enforcement at the Wenas? Who makes the decisions about enforcement resources (e.g., decision about how many resources; where and how they are deployed)?
- **Education, Outreach, Info Resources, and Approach.** What are WDFW's current approaches to outreach and providing information on dispersed shooting?
 1. What audiences are being reached, through what mechanisms?
 2. What information is available?
 3. What is the approach to signage?
- **Agency Mission.** What is WDFW's mission - when, and how was it established? How is it used? What force does it have? How is it relevant, if at all, to recommendations about the Wenas?
- **DFW Management and Organization.** How is WDFW organized/funded to manage the wildlife area?
 1. What are the different management roles and funding sources?
 2. What are the roles of Department biologists vs. other Department staff?
 3. Where and how are management decisions made?
 4. Infrastructure (Roads). What is WDFW's current approach to/resources for road maintenance at the Wenas? Who makes the decisions about roads and road maintenance?
 5. Infrastructure (Signage). What is WDFW's current approach to/resources for signs and information? What types of information are a priority to be placed on the Wildlife Area? Who makes the decisions about information sharing and signs?
- **Ideas from Other Places.** How is dispersed shooting supported in other locations, what can be learned from strategies used elsewhere?
- **Inter-agency Relationship.** What is the management relationship at the Wenas between DFW, DNR, and BLM?

Table 1: Initial Committee Members Ideas for Specific Actions – For Discussion

These are ideas that came out of one-on-one interviews for Committee discussion. The Committee will decide which, if any, of these ideas to pursue further. No decisions have yet been made. **Additional ideas for this list are welcome** and are expected to emerge from Committee deliberations.

	Idea	Category			
		Enforcement	Outreach &	Management	Other
1	<p>“Low tech” improvements to existing traditional shooting locations to enhance inherent safety features and encourage responsible behavior. Potential improvements mentioned:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved signage • Improved road access • Fire safety features (fire breaks) • Concrete benches • Clearer shooting lanes • Improvements to natural berms • Trash cans/dumpsters <p>Areas for improvement would have to be identified, along with specific suggested improvements for each area. Not all current commonly used areas may be appropriate for improvement – there are some concerns about safety at some of the current areas and these would need to be understood and discussed.</p>			X	
2	<p>Clear signage indicating traditional shooting locations, potentially with differentiation for different types of shooting activities. For example: an area (or areas) encouraged for pistols, an area (or areas) encouraged for shotguns, an area (or areas) encouraged for rifles, an area (or areas) encouraged for trap and skeet. This is to encourage concentrated shooting in the managed areas.</p>			X	
3	<p>Discourage certain uses in certain locations at certain times based on use data. For example, discourage concentrated shooting during certain times of year in areas that are heavily used by horse riders at those times. And/or discourage hiking/horse riding or other uses in areas managed to support shooting.</p>		X	X	
4	<p>Develop simple, clear materials for people interested in dispersed shooting at the Wenas. Ideas for materials:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flyers/handouts that summarize existing shooting rules/regulations, best practices, and areas encouraged / managed for shooting • Maps (see also #8) 		X		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information on fire restrictions (if any) and when they apply <p>Ideas for distribution:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outreach to local stores that sell guns and ammunition and local firing ranges – ask them to distribute flyers when people purchase a weapon or ammunition Outreach to CWU Share at WDFW events, at offices, and on the website Distribute to local law enforcement and fire departments Outreach to hunting and shooting organizations so they can share information with their members and at events. Organizations mentioned: NRA, Field & Stream Chapters, Private ranges, 4H, Master Hunters Outreach to other user groups who use the Wenas so they can share information with their members and at events. For example: Backcountry Horsemen, mountain bikers, Audubon Chapters, hiking groups, Washington Trails 				
5	Increased presence of WDFW staff to offer information.		X	X	
6	Use multiple communications methods to reach different user groups.		X		
7	Clearer/increased signage. Putting US flag images or stickers on signs may deter vandalism.		X	X	
8	Green square map or maps – similar to the green dot map system but showing areas of concentrated shooting use and areas of lower shooting use, along with high/low use areas for recreations such as hiking trails, areas commonly used by horse riders, dog trainers, etc. Could also incorporate info on times of year of high(er) uses.		X	X	
9	Increased enforcement – both formal enforcement when warranted and increased presence/informal contacts to provide information and to discourage bad behavior.	X			
10	Targeted enforcement during high-use periods (e.g., pre-season when people are sighting in their weapons, or in Ellensburg area when CWU school year is ending).	X			
11	Use technology to better understand what is happening: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remote monitoring of shooting areas, such as motion activated cameras Remote gunshot detection sensors 	X		X	
12	Support/expand use of volunteers. Ideas for volunteers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide information at areas commonly used shooting areas to encourage safe and responsible behavior Provide information at entrances about where various types of use are most likely and how users can stay out of one another's way Trash pickup (already being done but could be expanded) 		X	X	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Adopt an area” similar to “adopt a highway” for trash pick up 				
1 3	Develop a program like Eyes in the Woods to empower all users to report bad behavior (e.g., littering, unsafe practices) without the need for direct confrontation.	X	X		
1 4	Sign areas to ensure people understand that children and families may be playing / recreating there. (Akin to the “slow children at play” signs in many neighborhoods.)				
	<i>Other ideas may be added</i>				

Wenas Advisory Committee Meeting 2 – Attachment 7 (of 8)

Wenas Wildlife Area Shooting Range Project Questionnaire

Please help us understand user interests recreation users and types of shooting activities that occur at the Wenas Wildlife Area (WLA).

1. **What areas of the Wenas Wildlife Area do you use for shooting sports and how frequently have you visited over the last year?**

Areas Visited		Number of visits per season			
		Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter
Check box below (X)					
Sheep Company shooting area					
Cottonwood shooting area					
Buffalo shooting area					
Dispersed shooting throughout WLA					
North end of WLA					
Durr Road sites					
Other (please write-in)					

2. What times of day do you typically visit, and, on average, how long do you stay? Please check one in each category:

Time of Day

6-10 AM _____ 10-2 PM _____ 2-6 PM _____

Average Hours per Visit

1-2 hours _____ 2-4 hours _____ 4-6 hours _____ Over 6 hours _____

3. Which shooting activities do you enjoy at the Wenas WLA? Check all that apply.

Trap _____ Pistol _____ Silhouette _____ Plinking _____ Paper Target _____

Long-Distance _____ Preferred Distance (please write-in) _____

Hunting _____

4. Please check any of the opportunities below if you are interesting in volunteering.
*Please include your name and contact information.

Volunteering at the range _____ Organizing other volunteers _____

Wenas Advisory Committee Meeting 2 – Attachment 8 (of 8)

Wenas Target Shooting Advisory Committee

Public Comments Received via Web Form as of 6/19/17

Date	Category	Comment
05/16/2017	General	For the roster of members, could you please post the member affiliation and/or interest that they are representing (i.e.- NRA/target shooting, Rocky Mt. Elk Foundation, resident, hunter, horse back rider, mt biker, horse back rider, Sierra Club, etc.)
05/20/2017	safety	Two issues: (1) On 5-18-17 early evening I heard shots towards my house. I live near Black Canyon Road and my property borders state land but not by the elk fence. You can't see my house from Wenas Rd or BC road. The target shooters were behind a big natural berm which was good, but there is no way for them to know that my 2 horses in their corral and I were right over the top. Had they shot too high it could have been bad. (2) I never know where people are going to be shooting in the Black Canyon area or in the LT Murray. If I did, then I could avoid those areas when riding.
06/13/2017	Shooting	It seems borderline absurd to limit shooting to one or two areas. With the growth of the shooting sports this would put many shooters in the same area. Needless to say safety is going to be a real concern for everyone. One would think that four areas would be a minimum. It also seems like two areas will be an enforcement nightmare. My 2 cents. Thanks to all serving on this committee. Dennis Chapman
06/13/2017	General	I believe that recreational shooting should always be allowed in public lands. I also believe that the WTS and public should draft and pass a joint rules and guidelines for the Management, Safety, and any funding needs.
06/14/2017	recreational shooting	Please continue to keep the Wenas Wildlife area open to recreational shooting. It is a family tradition for us and a time honored right the citizens of this nation enjoy.
06/14/2017	Shooting	As a person born and raised in Washington, with multi-generational family roots including the Yakima / Kittitas areas, I implore you to not use your committee to undertake bans or draconian anti shooting measures of a political nature. Of course, firearms safety must be exercised not matter where shooting or hunting occurs, and shooters must observe them. If the issue is debris, arrange for trash collection receptacles or

		periodic dumpster delivery for cleanups. In my experience, shooters clean up when they can, and sometimes have cleanup parties. If the issue is fire suppression, make sure your shooting backstop areas are clear of sagebrush and tumbleweeds. Banning steel plates and tracer ammunition may be in order if this won't work. Banning "tannerite" exploding targets is also something to consider. However, I do not support eliminating shooting areas in a politically motivated manner whatsoever. For those that don't like shooting, they don't have to! But they should also stay away from those that do.
06/14/2017	Hunting	Please keep the Wenas Wildlife area open to hunting.
06/14/2017	Shooting	Dear Sir: I would like all of the Wenas area to remain open to public shooting, as it currently is.
06/14/2017	shooting	Am against "target" shooting in the Wenas or any other hunting area. There should be designated target shooting areas outside the hunting grounds.
06/15/2017	General	If people want more public lands open for shooting, make them pay money for the privilege.its not free.
06/18/2017	General	People are going to shoot in the woods. Providing safe areas with good backstops and reduced risk of fire will make the woods and general public safer. Please do not listen to the antigun crowd that will pack meetings with their imported agenda.I've seen it happen often enough to know it's a thing.
06/19/2017	The topic of my inquiry has to do with the relationship of the "Citizens Advisory Group" or similar clones that have been developed to make decisions regarding public lands management.	Although the Citizens Advisory Groups were originally intended to advise, they seem to have expanded their influence to issues like the site for the original shooting range next to buildings and the building of the Wenas Chapter parking corral. Both of these projects did not have to pass a public hearing and although the corral was probably needed, not sure how it escaped the scrutiny of the public hearings. My question to the committee is, after you have made some decisions, will be Citizens Advisory Groups be able to overrule your work and conclusions over the next few months?