



December 21, 2022

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917

RE: West Boundary Trail associated projects

Dear evaluation committee members,

On behalf of The Mountaineers, I write to support the following trail development and maintenance grants for Mount Rainier National Park and Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest lands:

- 22-2216 DEV, CARBON RIVER/MOWICH LAKE TRAILS
- 22-2217 MNT, CARBON RIVER/MOWICH LAKE TRAILS
- 22-2149 MNT, SNOQUALMIE 410 CORRIDOR TRAILS

The Mountaineers, based in Seattle, Washington and founded in 1906, is a nonprofit outdoor education, conservation, and recreation organization whose mission is “to enrich the community by helping people explore, conserve, learn about and enjoy the lands and waters of the Pacific Northwest and beyond.”

1,200 skilled volunteers lead 3,200 outdoor education trips and courses annually for more than 15,000 members. Our youth programs provide over 10,000 opportunities each year for children to get outside. We are a passionate, engaged, and knowledgeable community that cares about the outdoors, and protects the outdoor experience for current and future generations.

For over 100 years, Mountaineers members have cherished the natural beauty and challenges offered by the Mount Rainier area, and have worked to steward these landscapes so that future generations of recreationists may experience the wonder of this truly special place.

Mount Rainier National Park and the Snoqualmie Ranger District are currently collaborating and working together on shared trails in the SR 410 corridor and The Mountaineers is proud to partner with these agencies in an effort to provide a higher level of service to a broad demographic of trail enthusiasts. The combination of grants proposed by these agencies seeks to re-establish a trail that was originally constructed by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) and connects the Carbon River Entrance to the Mowich Lake Entrance of Mount Rainier National Park (the closest park entrances to the greater Seattle/Tacoma metropolitan area). The trail weaves in and out between National Park and National Forest Lands providing more opportunities for diverse trail users to immerse themselves in one of the only slivers of temperate rainforests left in the continental United States. The Mountaineers is excited to partner with Mount Rainier National Park and the Snoqualmie Ranger District to make this project come to fruition.



**THE
MOUNTAINEERS**

7700 Sand Point Way NE
Seattle, WA 98115

www.mountaineers.org

On behalf of our community of more than 15,000 outdoor enthusiasts, The Mountaineers enthusiastically supports these projects.

Sincerely,

Betsy Robblee
Conservation & Advocacy Director
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