

Dear Superintendent Dudgeon,

On behalf of the undersigned organizations and their members, we request a 45-day extension of the comment period for the Environmental Assessment of the Visitor Use Management Plan for the Nisqually to Paradise Road Corridor at Mount Rainier National Park. Specifically, we ask that the current deadline for comments be extended to Wednesday, July 26, 2023. As organizations dedicated to the preservation and wellbeing of the park and its surrounding communities, we believe that a full ninety-day comment period is necessary to ensure that the public has adequate time to review and provide feedback on this critical document.

Mount Rainier National Park is a beloved and cherished resource for millions of people and the Visitor Use Management Plan will have a significant impact on the park's future. Therefore, it is essential that the public have sufficient time to review and comment on the proposal. A full ninety-day comment period would allow for a more thorough review of the document and would provide the public and stakeholders with ample time to provide meaningful feedback. A 45-day extension of the deadline will not materially affect the National Park Service's ability to finalize the plan within a reasonable time.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and respectfully request granting this request by May 22nd. We look forward to working with you to ensure that Mount Rainier National Park continues to be a treasured resource for generations to come.

Sincerely,

Rob Smith
NW Regional Director
National Parks Conservation Association

Hilary Eisen
Policy Director
Winter Wildlands Alliance

Michael DeCramer
Policy and Planning Manager
Washington Trails Association

Kyle McCrohan
President
Cascade Backcountry Alliance

Betsy Robblee
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