

National Recreation Area

Management of the Mt. Baker National Recreation Area will focus on providing snowmobile and cross-country skiing opportunities during the winter, and non-motorized recreational uses during the summer season.

During the winter, snowmobile access will be provided on road #13 to Schrieber's Meadow, into upper Rocky and upper Sulphur Creeks, the upper Railroad Grade, Metcalfe Moraine, and lower Easton Glacier. A new road being developed by a Federal Regulatory Commission (FERC) applicant will also access this area. The Forest will work with the Washington State Sno-Park Program and various user groups to manage the winter use in this area. Snowmobile and cross-country ski traffic will be separated where possible, by such methods as providing an alternate access route to Schrieber's Meadow and surrounding alpine- areas.

Summer use will focus on hiker and horse use. Construction of the Easton Crossing trail segment will complete a loop trail system for overnight use. Horse use will be permitted on the western edge of the area.

Wild and Scenic Rivers

During implementation of the Plan, steps will be taken to recommend for formal designation the river segments shown below, to the recommended classifications. This recommendation is a preliminary administrative recommendation that will receive further review and possible modification by the Chief of the Forest Service, Secretary of Agriculture, and the President of the United States. The Congress has reserved the authority to make final decisions on designation of rivers as part of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. Until Congressional action, the values contributing to a rivers particular classification will be protected.



Table 4-5
Recommended Wild and Scenic Rivers

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<u>River</u>	<u>Segment</u>	<u>Recommended Classification</u>	<u>Miles</u>
North Fork Nooksack	* Headwaters in the North Cascades National Park to the Mt. Baker Wilderness boundary.	Wild	3.5
	* Mt. Baker Wilderness Boundary to Nooksack Falls diversion dam.	Scenic	9.9
	* Nooksack Falls diversion dam to Nooksack Falls power plant.	Recreation	1.6
	* Nooksack Falls power plant to the fish hatchery near Kendall.	Scenic	18.8
	* Fish hatchery to the confluence with the South Fork Nooksack.	Recreation	9.5
South Fork Nooksack	* Headwaters of the South Fork Nooksack to Bell Creek.	Wild	2.3
	* Bell Creek to the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest boundary.	Scenic	4.3
Bell Creek	* Bell Creek headwaters on Loomis Mtn to confluence with South Fork Nooksack.	Scenic	3.0
Baker River	* Headwaters in North Cascades National Park near Perfect Pass to Blum Creek.	Wild	11.2
	* Blum Creek to Baker Lake.	Scenic	2.1
Noisy Creek	* Headwaters on Bacon Creek to Baker Lake.	Wild	6.1
Diobsud Creek	* Headwaters on Mt. Watson to the south section line of Section 24.	Wild	8.3
	* South section line of Section 24 to the confluence with the Skagit River.	Recreation	2.2
Illabot Creek	* Headwaters to Glacier Peak Wilderness boundary.	Wild	4.3
	* Glacier Peak Wilderness boundary to confluence with Skagit River.	Recreation	11.0
Buck Creek	* Headwaters to Glacier Peak Wilderness boundary.	Wild	10.1
	* Glacier Peak Wilderness boundary to the confluence with the Suiattle River.	Scenic	1.0

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Downey Creek	* Headwaters on Lizard Mtn. to Glacier Peak Wilderness boundary.	Wild	10.0
	* Glacier Peak Wilderness boundary to the confluence with the Suitttle River.	Scenic	.8
White Chuck River	* Headwaters to Glacier Peak Wilderness boundary.	Wild	10.5
	* Glacier Peak Wilderness boundary to confluence with Sauk River.	Recreation	12.0
North Fork Sauk River	* Headwaters to the boundary of the designated Skagit Wild and Scenic River.	Wild	9.2
Boulder River	* Headwaters to Boulder River Wilderness boundary.	Wild	9.0
	* Boulder River Wilderness boundary to confluence with NF Stillaguamish River.	Recreation	4.0
South Fork Stillaguamish	* Headwaters between Morning Star and Lewis Peaks to Canyon Creek.	Scenic	36.6
	* Canyon Creek to the confluence with North Fork Stillaguamish River.	Recreation	15.9
North Fork Skykomish	* Headwaters to the end of FS Road #63.	Wild	8.2
	* Road end to Troublesome Creek.	Scenic	8.4
	* Troublesome Creek to confluence with South Fork Skykomish River.	Recreation	12.0
Troublesome Creek	* Headwaters at Blanca Lake to FS Rd #63.	Wild	4.4
	* FS Road #63 to the confluence with the North Fork Skykomish River.	Scenic	0.1
West Cady Creek	* Headwaters to bridge in Sec. 21.	Wild	4.8
	* Bridge to confluence with North Fork Skykomish River.	Recreation	2.7
South Fork Skykomish	* Confluence with Tye and Foss Rivers to the confluence with the Snohomish.	Recreation	28.3
Tye River	* Headwaters of the Tye River to the confluence with the South Fork Skykomish and Foss River.	Recreation	14.5
Miller River (to fork)	* Miller River from the confluence of the East and West Forks of the Miller River to the confluence with the South Fork Skykomish River.	Scenic	3.7
West Fork Miller River	* Headwaters to the Alpine Lakes Wilderness boundary.	Wild	2.1
	* Alpine Lakes Wilderness boundary to the confluence with the East Fork Miller River.	Scenic	4.2

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East Fork Miller River	* Lake Dorothy to the Alpine Lakes Wilderness boundary.	Wild	0.8
	* Alpine Lakes Wilderness boundary to the confluence with the West Fork Miller River.	Scenic	6.0
Foss River (to fork)	* Confluence of East and West forks of Foss River to confluence with Tye River.	Recreation	4.4
West Fork Foss River	* Headwaters at Delta Lake to the Alpine Lakes Wilderness boundary.	Wild	3.1
	* Alpine Lakes Wilderness boundary to the confluence with the East Fork Foss River.	Recreation	1.5
East Fork Foss River	* Headwaters at Lynch Glacier to the Alpine Lakes Wilderness boundary.	Wild	6.7
	* Alpine Lakes Wilderness boundary to the confluence with the West Fork Foss River.	Recreation	1.2
Deception Creek	* Headwaters at Trico Lake to the Alpine Lakes Wilderness boundary.	Wild	9.8
	* Alpine Lakes Wilderness boundary to the confluence with the Tye River.	Recreation	0.5
NF Snoqualmie River	* Wagner Bridge to confluence with Middle Fork Snoqualmie River.	Scenic	12.1
MF Snoqualmie River	* Headwaters near La Bohn Gap to the Alpine Lakes Wilderness boundary.	Wild	6.4
	* Alpine Lakes Wilderness boundary to the confluence with the Taylor River.	Scenic	13.2
	* Taylor River confluence to near the community of Tanner.	Recreation	15.9
	* Tanner to the confluence with the North Fork Snoqualmie River.	Recreation	4.2
Taylor River	* Snoqualmie Lake to the Alpine Lakes Wilderness boundary.	Wild	1.2
	* Alpine Lakes Wilderness boundary to Quartz Creek Road.	Scenic	5.4
	* Quartz Creek Road to the confluence with Middle Fork Snoqualmie River.	Recreation	1.6
Pratt River	* Headwaters at Melakwa Lake to the Alpine Lakes Wilderness boundary.	Wild	1.6
	* Alpine Lakes Wilderness boundary to confluence with MF Snoqualmie River.	Recreation	7.9
White River	* Headwaters at Emmons Glacier to Huckleberry Creek.	Scenic	20.0
	* Huckleberry Creek to the confluence with the Clearwater River.	Recreation	17.7

It is also the responsibility of the Forest to protect the “outstandingly remarkable” values on those rivers which were eligible for designation but not selected as suitable in the preferred alternative. Refer to Appendix E of the FEIS for further details.

Sensitivity Levels of Wild and Scenic River Corridors:

Table 4-6, shows the sensitivity levels for the wild and scenic river corridors. This table is used in conjunction with the guidelines contained under Forest Wide Standards and Guidelines for Visual Resources, and guides visual resource management in designated wild and scenic river corridors

Table 4-6
SENSITIVITY LEVEL - WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS

<u>River Name</u>	<u>Sensitivity Level</u>	<u>Suitable for Designation</u>
Silesia Creek	2/3	No
North Fork Nooksack	1	Yes
Wells Creek	2/3	No
Middle Fork Nooksack	2/3	No
South Fork Nooksack	2/3	Yes
Bell Creek	2/3	Yes
Baker River	1	Yes
Noisy Creek	2/3	Yes
Diobsud Creek	1	Yes
Illabot Creek	2/3	Yes
Buck Creek	2/3	Yes
Downey Creek	2/3	Yes
White Chuck River	I	Yes
North Fork Sauk River Extension	2/3	Yes
South Fork Sauk River	1	No
North Fork Stillaguamish	2/3	No
North Branch	2/3	No
Deer Creek	2/3	No
Boulder River	2/3	Yes
South Fork Stillaguamish	1	Yes
Canyon Creek (to fork)	2/3	No
South Fork Canyon Creek	2/3	No
South Fork Skykomish	1	Yes
North Fork Skykomish	I	Yes
Troublesome Creek	2/3	Yes
West Cady Creek	2/3	Yes
Tye River	1	Yes
Miller River (to fork)	I	Yes
West Fork Miller River	1	Yes
East Fork Miller River	I	Yes
Foss River (to fork)	1	Yes
West Fork Foss River	1	Yes
East Fork Foss River	1	Yes
Beckler River	2/3	No

Table 4-6
SENSITIVITY LEVEL - WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS

<u>River Name</u>	<u>Sensitivity Level</u>	<u>Suitable for Designation</u>
Rapid River	2/3	No
Deception Creek	2/3	Yes
South Fork Tolt River	2/3	No
North Fork Snoqualmie River	1	Yes
Lennox Creek	2/3	No
Middle Fork Snoqualmie	1	Yes
Taylor River	I	Yes
Pratt River	I	Yes
South Fork Snoqualmie River	1	No
Carbon River	2/3	No
White River	1	Yes
Clearwater River	2/3	No
Greenwater River	2/3	No

American Indian Religious and Cultural Uses

The 1981 “Inventory of Native American Religious Use, Practices, Localities and Resources” (Blukis Onat and Hollenbeck 1981) resulted in the identification of over 300 sites and approximately 450,000 acres of significance to 15 different Indian tribes. Five categories of use areas and sites were mapped and described in the Inventory: (1) spirit quest sites; (2) legend sites; (3) cedar areas; (4) ceremonial flora areas; and (5) archaeological sites and cemeteries.

Archaeological sites and cemeteries are addressed in the following resource summary, “Archaeological and Historic Properties.” All cemeteries will be protected from development impacts.

As a minimum, the Forest will consult with affected Tribes when proposed ground-disturbing projects fall within inventoried use areas or sites, as noted in the Forest-wide Standards and Guidelines. Appropriate mitigation measures will be developed by the Forest Service and Tribal religious leaders.

While over 450,000 acres were identified as sites and areas important for religious and cultural practices, the Inventory stressed that religious and cultural significance was not limited to the identified areas. Additional areas, yet to be specifically identified, contain the potential environmental conditions suitable for religious practices and use. Suitable environmental conditions include unmodified streams, old-growth forest, cedar, ceremonial plants, the qualities of isolation, privacy, and purity of the environment. Scheduled studies will refine the data in the 1981 Inventory.