



To: Pend Oreille Pedalers c/o Jason Welker

Re: Letter of Support for Lower Basin Buildout Project

Date: December 29, 2020

To whom it may concern,

The Selkirk Recreation District (SRD) represents the more than 700 property owners on Schweitzer Mountain. As the representatives of Schweitzer Mountain property owners, we are in support of Pend Oreille Pedalers (POP) plans to expand the Lower Basin trail network.

SRD has built and continues to maintain multi-use trails immediately above the Lower Basin trail network on behalf of the property owners on Schweitzer Mountain. Our trails tie in seamlessly with Pend Oreille Pedalers trails in the Lower Basin, as well as POP trails higher up in the Little Sand Creek Watershed. POP and SRD trails are not only utilized by property owners, but by the visitors to Schweitzer Mountain Resort, which can include in excess of 200 mountain bikers per day during peak summer months.

Although SRD oversees development and maintenance of trails in their district, POP is responsible for trails on City of Sandpoint property farther down the watershed. The congestion and regular user conflicts within the trail network indicates that the existing offering of trails does not adequately serve the combined demand from Schweitzer property owners and visitors who come to ride the Lower Basin trails. The expansion of the Lower Basin trail network will alleviate overuse of trails, expand opportunities for riders with a broader range of skills, and meet the increasing demand for recreation opportunities within the Little Sand Creek watershed.

As the number of residences within the Selkirk Recreation District continues to expand (new home construction is taking place at a rate greater than during the housing boom of the early 2000s), SRD will explore new trail opportunities to serve the growing population on the mountain. The SRD strongly supports POP's efforts to expand trails on City property farther down the Lower Basin. This expansion will ensure that trail access increases at the same rate as trail use, allowing us to maintain the degree of amenity offered by our combined trail network, which is poised to continue growing steadily in the years to come.

For these reasons we enthusiastically support POP's request for funding for the Lower Basin Build Out project.

Warm regards,

Patrick Werry

DocuSigned by: 12/29/2020
patrick werry

Steve Elgar

DocuSigned by: 12/29/2020
Steve Elgar

Tim Boden

DocuSigned by: 12/29/2020
Tim Boden

Selkirk Recreation District