**Overview Aspects of the White River Valley Shooting Problem** wscholl October 2015

1. **Unsafe / Illegal**
2. No earthen backstop, using and destroying vegetation / trees as target mounts
3. Shooting across and/or down roads, tributaries, hiking trails and numerous unsafe forest locations
4. Flammable / incendiary targets – fuel tanks, aerosol cans, manufactured exploding targets
5. Drinking while shooting
6. **Enforcement – Law Enforcement Officer (LEO)**
7. Inadequate coverage, budget reductions, citizen monitoring and reporting = no follow-up
8. Cross jurisdictional enforcement issues (NFS land, DNR land, National Park land, Private land, Tribal land)
9. No NFS budget to pay “Cooperative Law Enforcement Agreement” for 911 dispatch communication to NFS LEO on reported incidents at least 3 years. Shooting incidents = no 911, unless medical emergency.
10. Majority of illegal shooting behavior = misdemeanor, rare in Pierce County to prosecute misdemeanors
11. **Public safety risk**
12. Communities (close drive access to sites including long road sections in range)
13. 60+ unsafe sites in range of campers, hikers, cyclists, fishermen, (other recreational users)
14. Blocking or close the drive in access to risk sites minimal by NFS - more required (FS7013, FS72, FS73, NF-010, FS75)
15. **Resource destruction – natural, private and commercial – costly clean-up, replacement, repair**
16. Vegetation destruction (trees shot down), wildfire (flammable targets, popular steel bullets can cause fire)
17. Heavy metal lead beyond EPA mandatory toxic clean-up level at historic shooting pits
18. Non-decomposing trigger trash (TV’s, computers, heaters, refrigerators, microwaves, glass, metal, cars, etc.)
19. **Shooting incident data lacking, inconsistent, not shared between enforcement and fire fighting entities**
20. Unreliable emergency communication cell signal – majority of incidents unreported
21. 3 fire-fighting entities (FD#26, NFS, DNR), 4 law enforcement entities (PC Sheriff, Wa state patrol, NFS, DNR)
22. **Recreational bad behaving target shooting activity over running and thwarting other recreational users**
23. Reduced NFS use by campers, hikers, cyclists, fishermen, horseback riders, hunters, mushroom foragers, etc.
24. Sounds like a war zone
25. Visually hideous trigger trash
26. **Education not required of recreational target (sport) shooters**
27. Lack of regulations knowledge, safe firearm use, ammunition distance, shooting location proximity to camp sites, trails, communities, etc.
28. Rare that unsafe shooters connected to responsible shooters nor are unsafe ones education motivated
29. **Problem growth**
30. Increased population in metropolitan proximity areas
31. Hancock / Muckleshoot established access land permit, installed more gates, posted abundance of signs
32. Firearm sales historic high 2012 and 2013 in Wa state
33. Social media – multiple sites with posted Greenwater shoot experience, shoot locations, YouTube videos
34. **Posted signs typically destroyed within 48 hours to 90 days**
35. NFS signs ineffective, as too many shooters ignore them
36. Pierce County firearm commission 2007 (24 signs) visually small and not authorized installation on NFS land
37. **Political**
38. NFS lack of resources to communicate or effectively improve public safety, protect resources and/or work with NRA, other gun enthusiast groups (SeattleGuns.net, Hunting-washington.com, WaGuns.org)
39. Common public land activity for decades, but bad behaving shooter numbers / incidents continue escalating
40. Circle of money flows from gun organizations, political lobbyists and activities to federal agencies and back
41. **Federal / State / County / NFS firearm regulation violations unless bodily harm = misdemeanor**
42. WA Pre-emption Statute to federal level laws ties or politically dictates state / county firearm regulations