



Illegal snowmobiling created tracks on Mt. Adams' Klickitat Glacier resulting in ruts 6-8 feet wide visible from miles away. Photos mid-summer 2007.

Mt. Adams – a Sacred Place

The Yakama Reservation is a unique area for the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation in that Indian people who now reside on this sacred land have lived here since time immemorial. The Reservation was established under the Treaty of 1855 for the “exclusive use and benefit” of the Yakama people. Yakama Tribal members have strong cultural ties to their land; it provides for food, water, shelter, medicines, and religious, cultural and spiritual practices. One of the most prominent features on the Yakama Reservation is Mt. Adams known as Pahto to Tribal people.

Based on erroneous boundary lines, more than 21,000 acres were excluded from the Reservation and were formerly part of the Gifford Pinchot National Forest. A 1972 Presidential Executive Order returned this area, known as Tract D to the Yakama Nation. Tract D, Mt. Adams Recreation Area, has been closed to snowmobiling since it was returned to the Yakama Nation in 1972.

Mt. Adams Recreation Area

The Yakama Nation manages its lands consistent with its Natural Resources Policy Plan and Forest Management Plan to protect natural resources. Tract D-Mt. Adams Recreation Area is open to the public by permit generally early July to early October. Entry, camping and fishing permits are issued on-site at the Mirror Lake area. Basic campsites, trails and facilities are provided. The Yakama Nation asks that you respect this sacred area and abide by its Rules and Regulations.

Snowmobiling & Winter Public Use Illegal

Off-road vehicles, including snowmobiles, are prohibited in all areas of the Yakama Nation Mt. Adams Recreation Area. Snowmobiling on the sacred Pahto not only violates Yakama Nation laws, it shows disrespect to religious and cultural beliefs of Tribal members.

The Mt. Adams Recreation Area is closed to all public use including skiing and snowshoeing from early October to early July. Those who violate the rules will be subject to prosecution under the Revised Yakama Tribal Code, Sections 10.01.181, 10.01.183, and 10.07.109. All vehicles are subject to search per Section 50.54.01.

Snowmobiling trespass jeopardizes sensitive species as mountain goats, white-tailed ptarmigan and wolverine. Snowmobiling causes ruts that widen and deepen in summer-accelerating melting and scarring once pristine landscapes. Snowmobiling also harms the area’s sacredness.



One reason snowmobiling is prohibited is to protect Mountain Goat winter habitat.

YAKAMA NATION

Mt. Adams
Recreation Area

Snowmobiling & Winter Public Use Prohibited



Mt. Adams, SE face, Yakama Nation



Yakama Nation

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