

Kinnikinnick Native Plant Society, Inc.

P O Box 1092, Sandpoint, ID 83864

April 6, 2015

North Zone AOP Improvement Project

The Kinnikinnick Native Plant Society is active in North Idaho educating on the value of native plants and their ecosystems, monitoring and advocating the conservation of sensitive species and participating in restoration.

We thank you for the opportunity to comment on the North AOP Improvement Project. We support the goals of the project. Aquatic and riparian zones need to be as healthy and natural as possible.

We ask that:

Thorough botanic surveys be conducted prior to planning or conducting work, and that sensitive plants be protected. Moist areas are home to some of our important species and BMPs should be applied to sensitive flora.

All possible actions to prevent weeds be taken. Treatment near waterways is difficult and prevention is best. However, invasive noxious weeds found near and in the work areas need ongoing monitoring and treatment.

We appreciate that new roadways will not be opened up.

Please keep us on the list for this project. Correspondence can be sent to <u>conservation@nativeplantsociety.org</u>.

Sincerely,

Rae Charlton, President

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