



Other Items to Note

Extent Necessary Determination

Section 4(c) of the Wilderness Act of 1964 states “Except as specifically provided for in this Act, and subject to existing private rights, there shall be no commercial enterprise and no permanent road within any wilderness area designated by this Act and, except as necessary to meet minimum requirements for the administration of the area for the purpose of this Act...”

Additionally, section 4(d) of the Act sets forth some narrow exceptions to the general prohibitions contained in Section 4(c). Specifically with regard to commercial activities, Section 4(d)(6) of the Wilderness Act states, “Commercial services may be performed within the wilderness areas designated by this Act to the extent necessary for activities which are proper for realizing the recreational or other wilderness purposes of the areas.”

Through the Wilderness Stewardship Plan, a specialized finding of the extent of commercial services necessary (Extent Necessary Determination) to meet the purposes of the wilderness will be completed. If commercial services are shown to be necessary, alternatives could include allowing existing commercial uses, reducing commercial uses, authorizing new types of commercial services, and restricting commercial services in certain zones or areas.

The following types of commercial services are currently authorized with the Olympic Wilderness. An Extent Necessary Determination would be conducted to determine what level these uses could continue to be provided within the wilderness: day hiking, backpacking (recreational), mountaineering/climbing, stock packing, winter travel: ski touring and snowshoeing (overnight or day use), kayaking/canoeing, photography workshops.
