

KLICKITAT TRAIL MANAGEMENT PLAN

November 2010



Washington State Parks Mission

The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission acquires, operates, enhances, and protects a diverse system of recreational, cultural, and natural sites. The Commission fosters outdoor recreation and education statewide to provide enjoyment and enrichment for all and a valued legacy to future generations.



WASHINGTON STATE
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION



CAMP
Washington State Parks
Classification and Management Planning Project

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS AND CONTACTS

The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission gratefully acknowledges the many stakeholders and the staff of the Goldendale Area/Columbia Hills State Park and the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area who participated in public meetings, reviewed voluminous materials, and made this a better plan because of it.

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Klickitat Trail Land Classes, Resource Issues and Management Approaches

CERTIFICATE OF ADOPTION

The signatures below certify the adoption of this document by Washington State Parks for the continued management of the Klickitat Trail.

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PREFACE

The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission (Commission) manages a diverse array of 120 parks located throughout the state.

The Commission adopted the Centennial 2013 Plan in October, 2003, thereby creating a focus intended to energize and bring together the agency, state leadership and the public, to work toward a parks system all can celebrate as it turns 100 years old and prepares for a second century of service. The Centennial 2013 Plan blends public and private funding, engages more partnerships and creates greater public ownership of the system. An important goal for the Centennial 2013 Plan reads, "All 120 parks have land-use plans supported by the public and Commission (which includes the direction of care of historic buildings and sites and natural resources)."

These land-use plans follow a process that has been used by the Commission since 1996, called the CAMP (Classification and Management Plan) Project. Modifications made to CAMP in recent years have resulted in a simplified and efficient process that can be used by a wider number of staff to complete all 120 plans by 2013.

The important elements of the CAMP project have been retained, including the land classification system, adopted by the Commission in 1995. Application of the system creates zones, or land classifications, within a park (see [Appendix A: Washington State Parks Land Classification System](#)). Six distinct classifications determine what recreational uses and types of developments are appropriate in different areas of a park. In general, sensitive areas are classified restrictively and allow only low-intensity uses and development of minor facilities. Less sensitive areas are classified to allow higher-intensity uses and more extensive facilities development.

A CAMP brings together the customers, nearby community, stakeholders and State Parks staff in a public process that forges a common vision of what the state park should become (see [Appendix B: CAMP Project Planning Principles](#).) Through a public process that we believe to be as open as any, staff and public participants identify resource management issues, and look at alternative approaches for addressing them. The outcome is this plan that will help focus all our efforts to balance resource protection with recreational opportunities in a park. For State Parks' staff, this document represents policy approval and a means to create a state park that meets the Centennial 2013 Vision:

In 2013, Washington's state parks will be premier destinations of uncommon quality, including state and regionally significant natural, cultural, historical and recreational resources that are outstanding for the experience, health, enjoyment and learning of all people.

SUMMARY

This document is the result of a multi-staged planning process. The document is divided into six sections, with several appendices:

- Section 1: Provides a brief overview of the park including its geography, historical background, major attributes, and public use.
- Section 2: Describes both the agency's system-wide park management planning program and its specific application to this park.
- Section 3: Outlines management objectives established for the park.
- Section 4: Describes the park's land classifications (management zoning) and long-term park boundary.
- Section 5: Lists natural, cultural, and recreational/facility resource issues identified through the public planning and outlines general approaches toward addressing them.
- Section 6: Lists other plans pertinent to this park.

Appendices contain additional supporting documentation pertinent to this plan.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this document is to: 1) orient readers to the park and the agency's park management planning system, 2) identify park natural, cultural, and recreation/facility management issues, and 3) provide initial direction to park staff (suggested management approaches) to address these issues. The ultimate purpose of this document is to describe how the agency intends to balance recreational use with measures to protect natural and cultural resources.

SECTION 1: PARK DESCRIPTION

In August 1993, the Rails to Trails Conservancy purchased the Klickitat railroad corridor (and four other railroad right-of-ways) from Burlington Northern for interim trail use under the National Trails System Act. In January 1994, Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission accepted title of the corridor.

The Klickitat Trail runs 31 miles from just west of the town of Lyle in the Columbia Gorge, up along the Klickitat River through the town of Klickitat to Wahkiacus, then up Swale Canyon to Uecker Rd on the Goldendale plateau. See [Figure 1](#): Klickitat Trail Vicinity Map. The lowest 13 miles, from the Lyle trailhead to Klickitat is managed by the Forest Service, and the upper 18 miles is managed by State Parks.

The Klickitat Trail, a day-use area, provides opportunities for a wide variety of non-motorized recreation uses including hiking, biking, horse riding, and appreciation of local natural and cultural resources. Five trailheads will be developed, with restroom facilities and interpretive/informational signage.

Attendance: Columbia Hills staff will start to monitor trail attendance in 2008.

Interpretation: The Klickitat Trail Conservancy leads periodic hikes and bicycle trips on the Klickitat Trail. There are no other interpretive activities at the present time.

Staffing: Presently, there is no staff impact specifically for the Klickitat Trail. Columbia Hills area staffing is as follows:

<u>Position</u>	<u>Staff Months</u>
Ranger 4	12
Ranger 3	12
Ranger 2	24
Park Aide (4)	22.3

Figure 1: Klickitat Trail Vicinity Map

Vicinity Map Klickitat Trail State Park

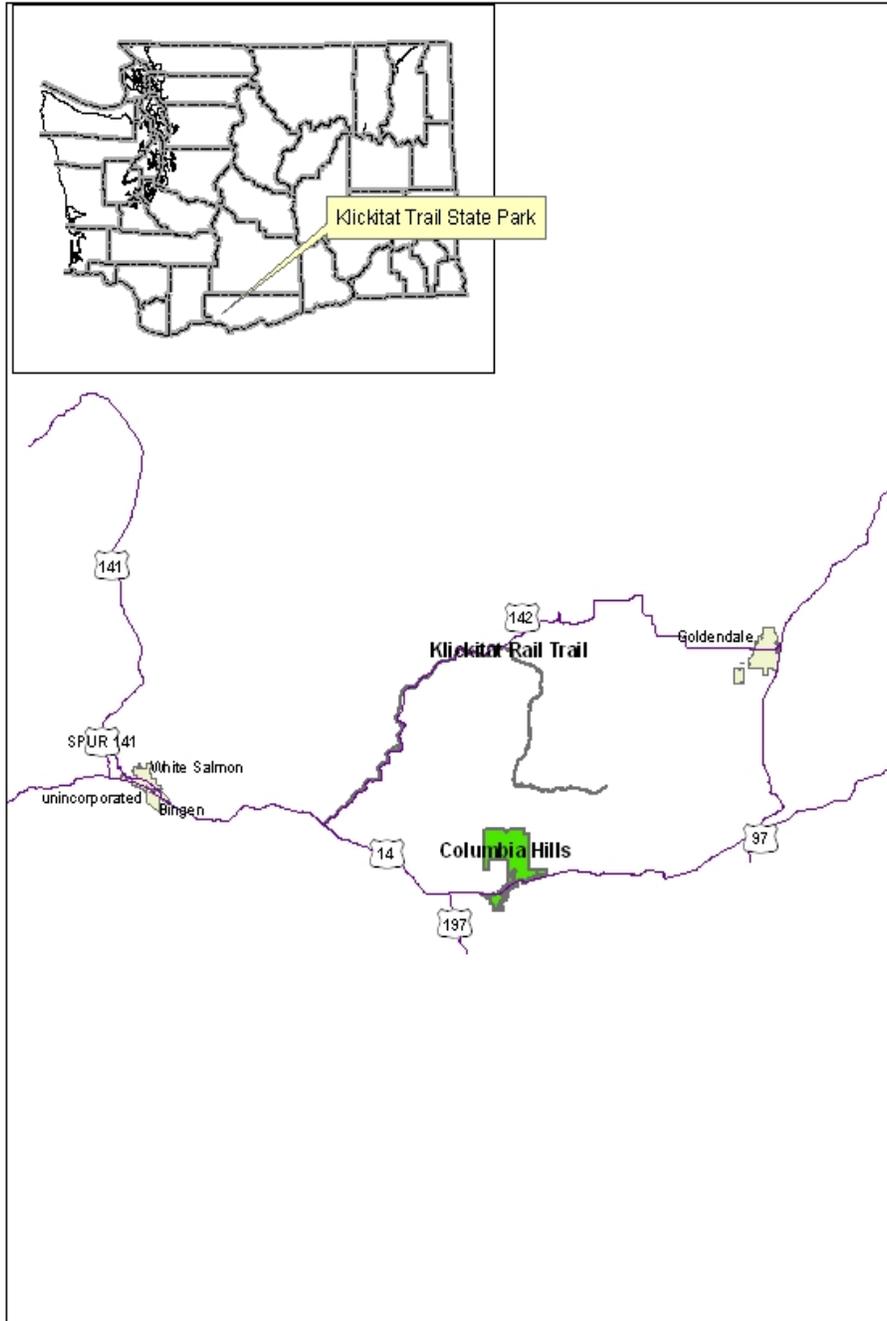


Table 1. Summary of Klickitat Trail Issues.

<p>Recreation Resource Issues</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> .. Users (page 19) .. Trail support facilities (page 19) .. Cost of trail development and long term management-maintenance costs (page 20) .. Effects to nearby residents and landowners- Quality of life/resident privacy (page 20) .. Effects to nearby residents and landowners- Vehicle Access (page 20) .. Effects to nearby residents and landowners- Cattle and Sheep/Recreationist Conflicts (page 20) .. Safety, Emergency Response, Fire Management, Law Enforcement- safety (page 20) .. Safety, Emergency Response, Fire Management, Law Enforcement- Highway and road safety (page 21) .. Safety, Emergency Response, Fire Management, Law Enforcement- Emergency Response (page 21) .. Safety, Emergency Response, Fire Management, Law Enforcement- Fire Prevention (page 21) .. Safety, Emergency Response, Fire Management, Law Enforcement- Law Enforcement (page 22) .. Trailheads (page 22) .. Trail surface (page 23) .. Natural / Cultural resource interpretation and environmental education (page 23) .. Hunter access and firearm control (page 23) .. Fencing (page 23) .. Trail hours of operation and closures (page 24) .. Cooperative relationship between the Forest Service, State Parks, and the Cooperators Working Group (CWG) concerning the management of the trail (page 24) .. Customer service and employee training (page 24) .. Management of adjacent property (page 24) .. Need for additional Klickitat Trail State Park administration/office space (page 24) .. Klickitat Trailhead (page 24) .. New trailhead west of Harms Road (page 25) .. Suburbia trail interruption (page 25)
<p>Cultural Resource Issues</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> .. Protection of cemetery and fishery (page 25) .. Protection of traditional American Indian uses (page 25) .. Protection of cultural, archaeological, and historic properties (page 25)
<p>Natural Resource Issues</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> .. Water resources (page 26) .. Flood control (page 26)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> “ Fish and wildlife (page 26) “ Plants (page 27) “ Noxious weeds (page 27) “ Air Quality (page 27) “ Swale Creek channel degradation (page 27)
Administration issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> “ Trail and park name (page 28) “ Removal of large woody debris (page 28)

SECTION 2: PARK PLANNING PROCESS

The first planning process for the Klickitat Trail began when the Forest Service held a series of public scoping meetings (from July 1994 to April 1996) to determine public interest in trail development and to discuss trail-related issues. State Parks held public meetings in Lyle and Olympia in November and December 2002. In January 2003, the State Parks Commission (Commission) decided to retain the trail property. In August 2003, after additional public outreach, the Forest Service released the draft environmental assessment; the decision was finalized in December 2003. In 2005, State Parks adopted the Forest Service Environmental Assessment as the document used for the Determination of Non-significance to satisfy the State Environmental Policy Act. The Environmental Assessment has also been used by both agencies as a de-facto management plan.

In June 2007, State Parks' CAMP planning process for the entire thirty one mile trail began with the selection of a core planning team comprised of the Goldendale Area Manager, Columbia Hills State Park Ranger, Eastern Region staff, and the U.S. Forest Service Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area (CRGNSA) Recreation Manager, with State Parks Headquarters planning staff mentoring and assisting. The process continued with a staff scoping meeting to gather initial planning information and identify new management issues raised since publication of the Environmental Assessment in 2003. In this first meeting, the planning team decided that the most useful end product of this process would be a joint document, crafted and approved by State Parks and the Forest Service that would combine the 2003 Environment Assessment and the main elements of the standard CAMP plan: the land classification, long-term boundary, and management plan.

Since such an extensive public planning process has already been conducted by both State Parks and the U.S. Forest Service, the planning team decided that the first two steps of the “standard” four stage CAMP process (*Stage 1: Identify hopes and concerns of the community and park customers, and Stage 2: Explore alternative approaches to address community and customer issues*) had already been addressed, and went directly to:

Stage 3: Prepare preliminary recommendations to address issues. The planning team developed preliminary (then final) staff recommendations considering the management approaches already adopted in the Environmental Assessment, adding additional issues where appropriate, and addressing new issues that were raised. Public participation and input was also encouraged by holding another public meeting on November 28, 2007 at Lyle, making personal visits, and sending emails to park neighbors, local businesses, organizations, and interested parties, and by posting documents and comments on the park planning webpage (with follow-up e-mails sent each time a new document was posted).

This Management Plan is an effort to capture the principle resource issues, and suggested management approaches to address them, identified during the public and staff input sessions. This document has undergone extensive staff review and sign-off process prior to being accepted by the agency Deputy Director. In the future, park and region staff, through open houses and other public forums, will solicit stakeholder comments on the progress made towards addressing the issues presented herein and to assist staff in the identification of new emerging issues. The intent is to keep this document viable and up-to-date with changing and emerging issues that affect park management.

Table 2: Key Public Workshops and Information Release Dates

Title/Purpose	Date	Location
Public meeting	11/28/07	Lyle, WA
Public workshop comments and issue summary postings	Various postings	website
Klickitat Trail Management Objectives	1/08	website
Planning process updates	Various postings	Website and mailings
Preliminary Recommendations	1/08 and 2/08 (updated)	Website
Meetings with Klickitat County Commissioners (3)	2/08, 3/08, and	Goldendale, WA
Final Recommendations		website
State Parks Commission meeting	11/19/2010	Yakima, WA

SECTION 3: PARK OBJECTIVES

During initial stages of planning, staff worked with stakeholders to craft a series of objectives to guide future management of the park. Management objectives are outlined below.

Klickitat Trail Management Objectives

Management objectives describe the *purpose* of our state parks- why we are here. These objectives must be consistent with state and federal laws, park policies, and the mission statement of the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission:

The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission acquires, operates, enhances, and protects a diverse system of recreational, cultural, historical, and natural sites. The Commission fosters outdoor recreation and education statewide to provide enjoyment and enrichment for all and a valued legacy to future generations.

Likewise, the management objectives must also be consistent with the Centennial 2013 Vision, which provides guidance as the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission begins its second century of service:

In 2013, Washington’s State Parks will be premier destinations of uncommon quality, including state and regionally significant natural, cultural, historical and recreational resources that are outstanding for the experience, health, enjoyment and learning of all people.

The overarching “umbrella” management objective for the Klickitat Trail is to:

Protect the trail’s unique natural, cultural, and recreation resources, and provide a setting and opportunities that allow visitors to experience renewal of their mental state, physical condition, and spiritual attitude.

Specific management objectives for the Klickitat Trail follow on the next page.

Relationship to Adjacent Property Owners and the Community:

- § Recognize the park's importance in the economic and social life of the community and actively participate in local economic development and community programs.
- § Be aware of the potential positive and/or negative impacts on adjacent property owners of continued park development and management. All actions should focus on a "good neighbor" policy of park management.

Recreation:

- § Provide an attractive welcoming site to access a variety of non-motorized trail-based activities, including hiking, mountain biking, and horses, llamas, sled dogs, or similar animals used for recreation.
- § Provide segments of the trail that will allow all people to enjoy accessible recreation opportunities.

Financial Strategy:

- § Develop high quality programs and facilities that encourage visitors to spend time at the park.
- § Seek and foster corporate and nonprofit partners and encourage support that will help the park provide the kind of high quality facilities, services, and programs requested by the community and park customers.

Natural Resources:

- § Protect, preserve, and interpret significant natural resources of the park, including rare, fragile and/or high quality examples of vegetative and animal communities, associations and species; important wildlife corridors and habitat areas, and geologic features.
- § Apply the best available management practices to provide for sustainability of natural resources and ecological functions.

Cultural Resources:

- § Protect, preserve, and appropriately interpret the key cultural resources of the park.

Park Boundary:

- Seek opportunities to meet the goals of the long-term boundary plan. The plan will establish priorities for land acquisition, surplus of non-essential park properties, easements over adjacent lands, and a variety of cooperative management approaches with trail partners.

SECTION 4: PARK LAND CLASSIFICATIONS AND LONG-TERM BOUNDARY

Land Classification

An important part of the planning for the Klickitat Trail involves the zoning or classification of park lands. State Parks has developed a system of six land classifications. When assigned to a specific area within a park, each classification sets an appropriate intensity for recreational activity and development of facilities. Classifications are aligned along a spectrum ranging from low to high-intensity recreational uses and developments. By classifying park lands, the agency is able to consciously strike a balance between protecting park resources and providing an appropriate variety of recreational opportunities to park visitors.

The agency's land classification system includes six classifications: Natural Area Preserves, Natural/Natural forest Areas, Resource Recreation Areas, Recreation Areas, and Heritage Areas. Detailed definitions of each land classification are available from the agency on request. Through critical analysis of natural and cultural resource inventories and evaluation of future recreational facilities needs, staff recommends that park lands be classified as shown in [Figure 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7](#).

Long-Term Boundary

Delineation of a long-term park boundary is a relatively new and often misunderstood aspect of park planning. In short, the purpose of establishing a long-term boundary is to take a big picture look at what lands, independent of ownership, might advance the conservation and recreation mission of the park. Including a privately owned property in a long-term boundary does not necessarily mean the agency wants to purchase it. It simply means that the Commission might be interested in working with the property owner on a variety of options, ranging from management agreements to purchase. Any of the following possibilities could apply:

The agency ***might***:

- Seek to formalize an agreement with an adjacent property owner to advance a shared property management goal
- Solicit a conservation easement from an adjacent property owner to protect certain natural or cultural features
- Readily accept a donation of all or part of a private property
- Consider exchanging agency-owned property for a private property
- Consider purchase of a private property in fee
- Consider whether agency-owned property should be retained or might appropriately be considered surplus to park needs

It is very important to note that any of these options would be pursued only if the property owner is willing to participate.

Figure 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 also delineate the parks' long-term boundary where darker shaded colors indicate properties already in agency ownership and lighter shaded colors indicate properties not in agency ownership but desirable for long-term boundary inclusion. The lighter and darker shaded areas together represent the long-term park boundary.

Figure 2-7: Klickitat Trail Land Classification and Long-Term Boundary Maps

Note: These maps can be difficult to read. It has been a challenge to produce maps for the 31 mile trail that are clear, readable, and sized small enough to not overwhelm a home computer. To aid in your understanding of the recommended long-term boundary and land classification recommendations, the following “highlights” are listed below. Please refer to the previous page for definitions of the various classifications and the Long Term Boundary concept or the Park Management Issues section (starting on page 18) for more details on the properties recommended to be included in the long term boundary. Please also note that the trail is purposely drawn with a thick line for readability only, not to imply that there are any plans to widen the trail corridor from its present size.

- **Lyle trailhead:** recommended to be classified "Recreation" to accommodate the possibility of a future restroom with flush toilets.
- **Klickitat trailhead:** recommended to be classified "Recreation included in Long Term Boundary" to accommodate the possibility of a future restroom with flush toilets.
- **Pitt, Wahkiacus, and Harms Road trailheads and the trail itself:** recommended to be classified “Resource Recreation”.
- **The adjoining Forest Service/Klickitat County properties, Vernier property, Haul Road, and Crocker property:** recommended to be classified “Resource Recreation included in Long Term Boundary”.

Figure 2: Overall Klickitat Trail Land Classification and Long- Term Boundary Map

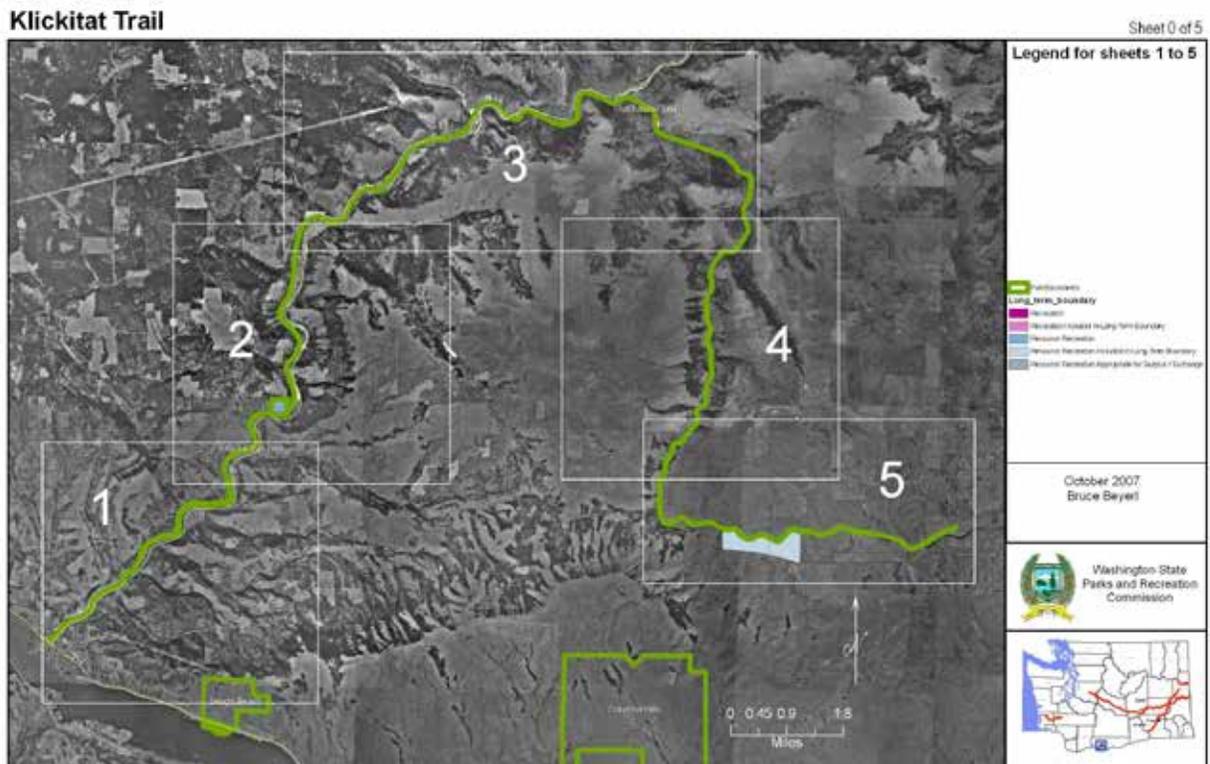


Figure 3: Klickitat Trail Land Classification and Long- Term Boundary Map- section 1



Figure 4: Klickitat Trail Land Classification and Long- Term Boundary Map- section 2

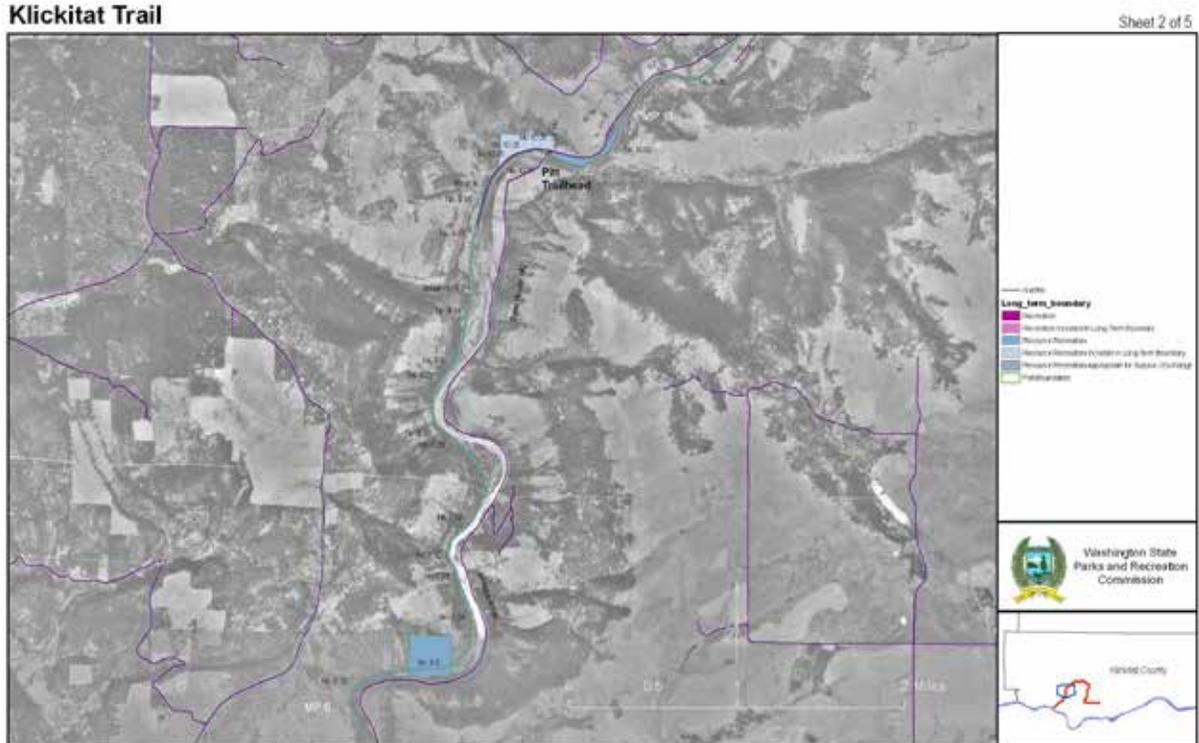


Figure 5: Klickitat Trail Land Classification and Long- Term Boundary Map- section 3



Figure 6: Klickitat Trail Land Classification and Long- Term Boundary Map- section 4



Figure 7: Klickitat Trail Land Classification and Long- Term Boundary Map- section 5

Klickitat Trail

Sheet 5 of 5



SECTION 5: PARK ISSUES AND MANAGEMENT APPROACHES

This section of the document outlines the principle natural, cultural, and recreation / facility resource issues identified by the public and staff during the CAMP and master planning processes, and suggested management approaches to address them (see Tables below). As in any real world situation, some issues do not neatly fit into any one of these three categories, while others may span more than one. Some license has been taken for the sake of consistent presentation. Addressing these issues will in almost all cases involve park staff working with Regional Stewardship, Environmental, and Planning staff. Additional stakeholder involvement is also anticipated, and may include (but not be limited to): HQ service centers, sister natural resources agencies (including the Department of Natural Resources, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Washington Department of Ecology, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation), local government institutions (weed control boards, permitting), non-profit organizations (Washington Native Plant Society, The Nature Conservancy, Audubon), the tribes, institutions of higher education, and adjacent land-owners and interested citizens. All management actions will be consistent with the laws and policies¹ governing the agency, in addition to all federal, state, and local regulations. As the issues and their management

¹ Specifically, for natural resources: Protecting Washington State Parks' Natural Resources – A Comprehensive Natural Resource Management Policy (Commission Agenda Item F-11, December 2004); and for cultural resources: Cultural Resources Management Policy (Commission Agenda Item E-1, October 1998 + three amendments).

approaches are addressed in the future, associated materials (e.g., inventories, plans, monitoring records) will be added as appendices to this document.

Readers should note that the issues presented below represent a significant staff workload and may also create very high expectations among agency staff and park stakeholders. Clearly, completing or even beginning all the suggested management approaches in the short-term is not realistic. The issues should be seen as a "to do" list where items will be prioritized as staff and financial resources permit.

Park Management Issues

The tables below are a listing of park management issues and management recommendations identified through the public planning process for the Klickitat Trail. The issues are listed in the order that they appear in the U.S. Forest Service 2003 Environmental Assessment for the Klickitat Trail, with additional issues added where appropriate.

The management recommendations are written to convey a basic management philosophy to address the issues listed. For more detailed management recommendations, please refer to the Environmental Assessment where listed. To refer to the EA, click on the following link: http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/columbia/klick_rails/documents/klick-rtt-ea-web.pdf. Warning: the EA is a very large document (7.5 MB). If you have trouble downloading it, the EA is available on a compact disc by request from Andrew Fielding, Washington State Parks East Region Headquarters, phone 509-665-4312.

Recreation Resources	
Issue	Preliminary Management Recommendation
Users	The Klickitat Trail will provide opportunities for a wide variety of non-motorized recreation uses, and sections of the trail will be designed to be compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act. <i>Refer to EA, page 31 (Users) and Effects to nearby residents and landowners- Vehicle Access (below).</i>
Trail support facilities	Trail support facilities and signage will be designed and located in a manner that provides necessary services to trail users, promotes responsible trail use, and encourages respect for adjoining private property. <i>Refer to EA, page 31-32 (Trail Support Facilities, Quality of Life/Resident Privacy) and page 36- 38 (Design Guidelines for Alternatives 2 and 3).</i> An achievable plan for maintenance of the existing park facilities and development of the proposed facilities will be drafted by the Cooperator Working Group (CWG) and approved by State Parks and the Forest Service.

	<p>Park staff should work with Resource Stewardship and planning staff to prepare a trail signing plan for the Klickitat Trail. All trail signing activities should be guided by this plan and, if necessary, the plan should be revised to reflect new trailhead construction or any changes to existing trail facilities and/or policy.</p>
<p>Cost of trail development and long term management-maintenance costs</p>	<p>Utilize the services of volunteers and other partners to assist with trail maintenance. <i>Refer to EA, page 31 (Maintenance Costs).</i></p>
<p>Effects to nearby residents and landowners- Quality of life/resident privacy</p>	<p>See Trail Support facilities above.</p> <p>Adding vegetation along the trail (at Warwick) will be done to provide screening for nearby residents. <i>Refer to EA, page 32 (Quality of Life/Resident Privacy).</i></p> <p>Dogs will be allowed on leash only. <i>Refer to EA, page 32 (Quality of Life/Resident Privacy).</i></p>
<p>Effects to nearby residents and landowners- Vehicle Access</p>	<p>Although motorized recreation vehicles are prohibited, emergency and administrative vehicles are allowed on the trail. <i>Refer to EA, page 32 (Vehicle Access).</i></p> <p>Private vehicles (with prior written approval of Washington State Parks per State Parks Policy 55-01-1) may be allowed to cross the trail. Property owners wanting to use the trail or right-of-way as an access route to their private property will have to seek an easement from Washington State Parks. <i>Refer to EA, page 32 (Vehicle Access).</i></p>
<p>Effects to nearby residents and landowners- Cattle and Sheep/Recreationist Conflicts</p>	<p>State Parks will work with the Forest Service to consider requests from ranchers to permit livestock on the trail and right-of-way. <i>Refer to EA, page 33 (Cattle and Sheep/Recreationist Conflicts).</i></p>
<p>Safety, Emergency Response, Fire Management, Law Enforcement- safety</p>	<p>Deck and add safety rails to all trestles for user safety. <i>Refer to EA, page 33 (Safety).</i></p> <p>The welfare and safety of park visitors is of primary concern to Klickitat Trail State Park and U.S. Forest Service staff. Staff will strive to maintain the overall safety of the park environment by promptly addressing identified unsafe conditions (facilities, work environment, etc.), continuing staff emergency preparedness training, continuing frequent law enforcement patrols and coordination with other jurisdictions, and encouraging on-going monitoring and reporting by park users and neighbors. Park and Forest Service staff should continue to coordinate with each other, agency management and Health and Safety managers, local emergency service providers, and other interested individuals, to</p>

	<p>formulate and implement additional management policies and prescriptions to address issues related to the overall safety of park visitors and staff.</p> <p>Park and Forest Service staff will ensure that at the time of any emergency closure of the trail, agency decision making and notification procedures are followed.</p> <p>Emergency closure of trail segments: When the trail, or part of the trail, is considered unsafe by State Parks and/or U. S. Forest Service staff, staff will post signs, establish barriers, and notify trail users of closures. Notification procedures should include: 1) submission of local and state-wide press release to news organizations (both when trail is closed and when temporarily or permanently reopened); 2) addition of closures on agency information hotlines and websites.</p>
<p>Safety, Emergency Response, Fire Management, Law Enforcement- Highway and road safety</p>	<p>Perform needed safety improvements to trailheads and road crossings. <i>Refer to EA, page 33 (Highway and road safety).</i></p>
<p>Safety, Emergency Response, Fire Management, Law Enforcement- Emergency Response</p>	<p>Maintain trail and trestles to a width and weight specification that gives consideration to emergency response and administrative vehicles where practical. Map areas where vehicle access is not possible. <i>Refer to EA, page 33 (Emergency Response).</i></p> <p>Develop emergency response plan with State Parks, U. S. Forest Service, County, and adjacent landowners. <i>Refer to EA, page 33 (Emergency Response).</i></p>
<p>Safety, Emergency Response, Fire Management, Law Enforcement- Fire Prevention</p>	<p>Prohibit camping, campfires, and fireworks. Close portions of trail as needed during extreme fire conditions. <i>Refer to EA, page 34 (Fire Prevention).</i></p> <p>Park and Forest Service staff will coordinate with region and headquarters Stewardship Program staff and solicit cooperation from Regional DNR Office, local fire district officials, and other park neighbors to develop and implement a “Klickitat Trail Wildfire Management Plan”. This plan will consolidate any existing wildfire management plans and be expanded to include: 1) Specific fire hazard reduction policies, protection measures and prescriptions consistent with the park’s natural resource management program. 2) Fire suppression policies. 3) Fire suppression equipment inventory and needs assessment. 4) Human resources inventory for fire suppression (i.e. Wildland firefighter red card holders and other properly trained staff), and needs assessment. 5) Communications and response plans. The presence</p>

	<p>of threatened and endangered plant (and animal) species may influence fire management tactics and activities and should be given careful consideration when developing the trail Wildfire Management Plan. The impact on exotic plant species and the possible opportunity to create or improve wildlife habitat should also be considered. <i>Refer to EA, page 34 (Fire Prevention)</i></p> <p>The wildfire management program will be focused on providing adequate protection to trail visitors, neighbors, facilities, ecological communities, and watershed function. Wildfire prevention and suppression activities conducted by park staff should continue to be guided by the fire element of the park’s Emergency Plan, until a comprehensive wildfire prevention and suppression plan is prepared.</p> <p>At the park level, consideration should be given to requiring that Park Rangers be “Red Carded” for wildland firefighting.</p> <p>During fire season, State Park patrol vehicles will be equipped with a fire pumper to control spot fires. Local fire districts and the Forest Service have authorized trail access to control fires on and near State Parks property. Mileage markers will aid fire fighters in locating a fire.</p>
<p>Safety, Emergency Response, Fire Management, Law Enforcement- Law Enforcement</p>	<p>See Safety, Emergency Response, Fire Management, Law Enforcement- Safety above.</p> <p>Law enforcement efforts along the Klickitat Trail will focus on public service. Most law enforcement actions should include educational efforts as a means of gaining voluntary compliance. Commissioned Park Rangers and Forest Service Law Enforcement and Forest Protection Officers will patrol the trail to enforce hunting laws, state laws and park rules for the safety and well-being of park visitors and the protection of property and resources.</p> <p>Park staff (with Region staff assistance) will develop a comprehensive law enforcement plan for Klickitat Trail State Park and work closely with the Forest Service, WDFW, and the Klickitat County Sheriff to ensure that law enforcement policies will be consistent along the entire trail. <i>Refer to State Parks Law Enforcement Manual and RCW 79A.05.160, Police Powers Vested in Commission and Employees. Also refer to EA, page 34 (Law Enforcement).</i></p>
<p>Trailheads</p>	<p>Trailheads will be established at Lyle (mile 0.0), Pitt (mile 10.0), Klickitat (mile 13.0), Wahkiacus (mile 16.0), and Harms Road (mile 28.5- temporary- pending development of trailhead off of Centerville Highway). <i>Refer to Klickitat Trail decision news</i></p>

	<p><i>release:</i> http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/columbia/forest/news/2003/121903.shtml.</p>
Trail surface	<p>The trail surface will be six foot wide compacted surface, except for a twelve foot wide hardened surface from Lyle to Fisher Hill and adjacent to the town of Klickitat. <i>Refer to Klickitat Trail decision news release:</i> http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/columbia/forest/news/2003/121903.shtml.</p>
Natural / Cultural resource interpretation and environmental education	<p>The Klickitat Trail interpretive program should provide for and encourage opportunities for education, interpretation, and understanding and appreciation of natural, cultural, and historic resources related to the trail and past uses of the trail corridor by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) supporting the production of websites, maps, brochures, and other interpretive products by private partners when they are consistent with the park's goals and policies; 2) providing interpretive signage and viewpoints at appropriate locations to identify and explain resources in the trail corridor; and 3) working cooperatively with local school districts to provide for and enhance resource education opportunities.
Hunter access and firearm control	<p>Hunters can utilize the trail corridor to access legally established hunting areas and areas where permission to hunt has been granted by private landowners. However, no firearms can be discharged into, from, or across park property (WAC 352-32-120). <i>Refer to Washington State Parks Law Enforcement Manual.</i></p> <p>Commissioned Park Rangers will patrol the State Park during hunting season (and year-round) to enforce hunting laws (and state laws and park rules), and will have communication capabilities with Wildlife Agents, County Sheriff officers, the Forest Service, and the State Patrol (who are all authorized to access the trail with motorized vehicles).</p> <p>“No Hunting” signs should be clearly posted at all designated public vehicle access points, especially during annual hunting seasons.</p> <p>Segments of the trail may be closed to public use during specific seasons of hunting, following a public meeting to obtain input from adjacent land owners, recreational users, other government agencies, and local elected officials. This does not preclude temporary emergency closures, prior to a public meeting.</p>
Fencing	<p>Where boundary fences are desired, they will be erected along the State Parks boundary line. Fences that are currently not on park boundary lines will be moved to the boundary line where feasible and practical.</p> <p>There may be approved internal fences built for wildlife and livestock control. Some existing fences that are not serving a</p>

	<p>useful purpose will be removed.</p> <p>Park staff will continue to work with adjacent landowners to resolve fencing issues such as determining whether fencing improvements in various areas should be the state’s responsibility (e.g. to keep trail users from trespassing on private property) or the responsibility of the private landowner (e.g. to keep cows off of the trail), or a shared responsibility in some cases. Some instances may not be clear cut and will require some creative problem solving. <i>Statewide fencing policy 72-98-1 outlines where the responsibility lies for constructing and maintaining fence on State Parks property. RCW 16.24.010 Open and Closed Range Responsibilities outlines the authority and limitations of counties to designate stock restricted areas and range areas. Also refer to RCW 16.60.010 Lawful fence defined.</i></p>
Trail hours of operation and closures	<p>Park hours are dawn to dusk, year-round. The trail may be closed temporarily due to emergencies, high fire danger, fires, flooding, rock slides, and other occurrences. Trail closures will be posted. See Safety, Emergency Response, Fire Management, Law Enforcement- safety above.</p>
Cooperative relationship between the Forest Service, State Parks, and the Cooperators Working Group (CWG) concerning the management of the trail	<p>The Forest Service and State Parks agree that the trail corridor can most advantageously be managed with coordinated development, operation, maintenance, and law enforcement responsibilities. <i>Refer to the Cooperating Agreement Between the United States of America and the State of Washington For the Management of Recreation at the Klickitat Rails-to-Trails Trail in Klickitat County, Washington, dated February 22, 2006.</i></p> <p>Continue to work cooperatively with the CWG on planning, funding, operational, and other issues.</p>
Customer service and employee training	<p>Strive for an excellent level of customer service as measured by customer feedback. Carry out regular surveys of park visitors.</p> <p>Employee training will focus on improving customer service and communication skills, appropriate care and maintenance of facilities and grounds, and natural resource management.</p>
Management of adjacent property	<p>Support a management agreement between the Forest Service, Klickitat County, and the Klickitat Trail Conservancy to improve and operate the County and Forest Service properties located .9 miles upriver from Lyle- within the Forest Service management area (parcel #03123523000600 and #03123400000300).</p>
Need for additional Klickitat Trail State Park administration/office space	<p>With development of Klickitat Trail State Park staff, acquire additional administrative space, through (preferably) lease, or purchase.</p>
Klickitat Trailhead	<p>Work with Klickitat County, the Klickitat school district, and the Fire District to develop a shared-use trailhead adjacent to the town</p>

	of Klickitat.
New trailhead west of Harms Road	WDFW has purchased the property formerly owned by Stanley Crocker, located on the Centerville Highway, west of Harms Road. The Klickitat Trail planning team supports entering into a management agreement to use part of the property for a trailhead. (The present de-facto trailhead at Harms Road has poor visibility, vandalism problems, and inadequate parking space).
Suburbia trail interruption	<p>First choice: replace the Suburbia bridge and restore the original trail corridor.</p> <p>Second choice: replace the Suburbia bridge and move the trail to WDFW land adjacent to the trail between Suburbia and Wahkiacus.</p> <p>Seek to obtain use or lease the “Haul Road” as a temporary trail detour until the “Suburbia” bridge and the section of washed out trail north of the bridge can be replaced. At the present time, the owner- Columbia Land Trust, is not interested in pursuing such an agreement.</p> <p>Work with the Washington State Department of Transportation to reclaim the trail corridor between the Klickitat mill site and Suburbia to allow for trail use.</p>

Cultural Resources	
Issue	Preliminary Management Recommendation
Protection of cemetery and fishery	Use screening along trail near Fisher Hill to reduce visibility of cemetery and fishery if requested by Yakama Tribal officials. <i>Refer to EA, page 34 (Cultural Resources and Traditional American Indian Uses).</i>
Protection of traditional American Indian uses	Consult with the Yakama Tribe regarding closing appropriate sections of the trail during traditional Indian ceremonies. <i>Refer to EA, page 34 (Cultural Resources and Traditional American Indian Uses).</i>
Protection of cultural, archaeological, and historic properties	<p>Consult with tribes that may have an interest in the archaeological and cultural resources on the trail prior to any development activities.</p> <p>State Parks staff will follow the direction contained in the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission’s Cultural Resources Policy 12-98-1.</p> <p>Treatments applied to historic properties, including rehabilitation or enhancement of existing historic structures or new facility construction in historically significant areas, must conform to</p>

	<p><i>Commission Policy 12-98-01: Cultural Resource Management Policy</i> (see agency Policy and Procedure Handbook) <i>or the Forest Service’s Heritage Resource Management Policy</i> (as set forth in the <i>Forest Service Manual, Chapter 2360, Part 2361</i>) and other applicable federal laws and policies on the Forest Service-managed section of the trail.</p> <p>A cultural resource management plan should be developed. This plan must be consistent with State Park’s Cultural Resource Management Policy and the Forest Service’s Heritage Resource Management Policy (on the Forest Service- managed section of the trail) and at a minimum include: 1) a description of the park’s cultural resources, 2) evaluation and conclusions about their significance, 3) outline of the park’s goals and objectives in managing these resources, 4) description and evaluation of current cultural resource management activities, and 5) prescription for an action program to meet the most urgent needs. The cultural resource management plan will be updated as new information and techniques become available to park staff.</p> <p>No significant historic properties will be disturbed as the result of operation, maintenance, or development activities prior to a determination of treatment as part of the trail’s cultural resource management plan.</p> <p>Park staff will consult with the State Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (OAHP), State Parks and the Forest Service’s region Resource Stewardship staff, Historic Preservation section, Interpretive Program Manager, Archaeologist, and local historical societies when appropriate, for assistance in protection and management of historic sites and structures, archaeological sites, and Native American cultural sites.</p>
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Natural Resources	
Issue	Preliminary Management Recommendation
Water resources	Prepare an erosion control plan prior to ground disturbing activities that will specify measures to minimize erosion and sedimentation. <i>Refer to EA, page 34-35 (Natural and Water Resources- Water Resources).</i>
Flood control	Plan and implement flood control methods (e.g. ditching, bridges, “grade sags”) where appropriate. <i>Refer to EA, page 34-35 (Natural and Water Resources- Water Resources).</i>
Fish and wildlife	Consult with appropriate regulatory agencies before starting construction projects, and use appropriate work windows and buffer zones to minimize disturbance to fish, Bald Eagles, Western

	<p>Gray Squirrels, deer, and other wildlife. <i>Refer to EA, page 35 (Natural and Water Resources- Fish and Wildlife).</i></p> <p>Employ appropriate mitigation and habitat enhancement methods (e.g. minimizing brush clearing along trail, fish passages, pine retention and plantings for eagle perches, bird boxes, and interpretive signage). Explore other opportunities to enhance habitat. <i>Refer to EA, page 35 (Natural and Water Resources- Fish and Wildlife).</i></p>
Plants	<p>Minimize impacts on priority plant species during trail development (improvement) and maintenance activities by identifying and protecting critical areas. <i>Refer to EA, page 35 (Natural and Water Resources- Plants).</i></p>
Noxious weeds	<p>As part of the parks natural resource management program, control of noxious weeds should follow an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach including the use of biological, chemical, and mechanical control prescriptions. The least toxic, yet effective, overall approach consistent with State and Klickitat County Weed Board requirements should be favored whenever possible. <i>All activities associated with IPM will be in accordance with chapter 17.15 RCW: Integrated Pest Management, and State Parks' Operations Directive O-99-3: Integrated Pest Management Policy. Refer to the park's Integrated Pest Management Plan (see Appendix D). Refer to EA, page 36 (Noxious Weeds).</i></p> <p>Park staff should actively solicit technical expertise and cooperation of the Klickitat County Noxious Weed Board, DNR Natural Heritage Program, local chapters of the Native Plant Society, and other interested individuals/organizations to identify concentrations of non-native plants and noxious weeds in Klickitat Trail State Park. All herbicide applications shall follow Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requirements. <i>Refer to EA, page 36 (Noxious Weeds).</i></p> <p>Limits of Acceptable Change (LAC) Monitoring and Adaptive Management: As part of the park's natural resource management program, the number and size of established populations of noxious weeds/exotic plants should be monitored as a general indication of the impact of these plants on native plant species. <i>Refer to EA, page 36 (Noxious Weeds).</i></p>
Air Quality	<p>In dusty conditions, apply water to surfaces during construction. <i>Refer to EA, page 36 (Air Quality).</i></p>
Swale Creek channel degradation	<p>Support the Yakama Nation Fisheries program's Swale Creek channel enhancement projects when they are in agreement with State Parks and Forest Service trail objectives and the National Trails System Act (16 U.S.C. 1247(d)). The enhancement projects proposed at this time fall into three categories: 1. Those</p>

	designed to mitigate the railroad prism’s “diking” effect on the stream channel by reestablishing the stream’s oxbow curves. 2. Those designed to mitigate the railroad prism’s “crowding” effect by opening up the channel. 3. Revegetation and restoration projects designed to increase streambank stability.
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Administration	
Trail and park name	Officially name the entire trail the Klickitat Trail. The portion of the trail that is managed by Washington State Parks would be called Klickitat Trail State Park.
Removal of large woody debris	Removal of large woody debris from either the trail or its structures shall be done in a way that strikes a balance between ecological function and practicality.

SECTION 6: OTHER PARK PLANS

Previously prepared plans provide additional guidance for the management of specific resources or activities in a park. Examples of these types of plans are trail use and development plans. Park master plans are generally oriented toward capital facilities development, but also commonly provide policy direction. The relationship between this plan, other existing plans, and recommended future plans should be seen as iterative. As new information is derived from more detailed resource-specific planning, existing plans should be reviewed and modified to reflect changed circumstances. No single plan should be vested with ultimate authority, but rather, the ongoing process of creating new plans and revising exiting plans should be seen as forming an increasingly comprehensive base of policy direction. The role of this document is to serve as an 'umbrella' under which all park-related plans are referenced. A listing and location of existing plans prepared for (insert) State Park is included in Appendix E: List of plans for (insert) State Park. The Glossary in Appendix F provides expanded definitions of terms used throughout this document.