

Chapter IV: Assessment of Natural, Cultural, and Recreational Resources

Introduction

Managing a diverse collection of natural, cultural, and recreational resources is a balancing act. Park managers face increasing pressure to accommodate public recreational use of natural and cultural resources while also protecting those resources from unacceptable degradation. How much public use is too much? What kinds of use can a resource sustain? Over the last 30 years several approaches to resource management have been developed to increase harmony between recreational use and resource preservation. This chapter explains the evolution of Washington State Park's approach to resource management. The tables that follow apply the current approach to the resources of Rasar State Park.

Carrying Capacity Model

Traditionally, State Parks has approached protection of resources using the "carrying capacity" model. The crux of this concept is that a selected park has definable resources and facilities and that each park visitor causes a given amount of impact to those resources. By setting a maximum number of visitors allowed to enter an area, a resource manager presumably can control the amount of impact, thereby sustaining resources at a given level. If the maximum capacity is exceeded, resources may be significantly degraded or facilities over-burdened. The carrying capacity model has been widely embraced because it is easily understood and appears to be attainable. However, applying this approach to a specific site has significant difficulties and limitations. These include:

- # Difficulty in establishing a scientific basis or empirical evidence to support a proposed maximum capacity. Why are 10 people per day allowed but not 11?
- # Impacts per person are not always equal. Some visitors have greater sensitivity to the fragility of resources and tend to tread more lightly.
- # Great variety exists in the amount of impact, based on the type and extent of management tools in place. A primitive area with clearly defined trails, defined seasons of use and certain permit restrictions may be able to withstand a certain level of use with less impact than a similar area without such controls.
- # In many cases controlling the number of visitors accessing an area is simply not a practical option.

The above difficulties and limitations led the agency to search for an entirely different approach. In 1993, State Parks staff identified the "Limits of Acceptable Change" model (or LAC) as the successor to the carrying capacity model. The carrying capacity model is not used in this management plan.

Limits of Acceptable Change (LAC) Model

LAC was formally published by the U.S. Forest Service in 1985 (Stankey, Cole, Lucas, Petersen, Frissel: The Limits of Acceptable Change (LAC) System for Wilderness Planning. General Technical Report INT-176, January 1985). LAC was first adapted by State Parks staff for use in resource planning of Hope Island. Public support for LAC at Hope Island further solidified the agency's acceptance of this approach and ultimately led to its use in this plan.

The LAC model embodies a fundamental shift in approach to resource management. Instead of trying to answer the question "how much access to natural and cultural resources is too much?", the

LAC model focuses on the condition of resources and asks □how much *change to resources*, as a result of public access and development, is too much?□

Application of LAC to state park management has been modified from the original Forest Service model, but retains its basic framework. The Washington State Parks adaptation can be summarized as follows:

- 1) **Identify key resource management issues:** generally resource impacts or social conflicts.
- 2) **Select measurable indicators of natural, cultural, and recreational resource conditions:** identify quantifiable events or physical properties that gauge resource conditions, e.g., area of bare ground in campsites, incidents of vandalism, reported visitor conflicts, etc.
- 3) **Inventory and measure resource indicators:** determine methods for measuring indicators and make measurements.
- 4) **Analyze indicators:** assess raw data to reach qualitative or quantitative conclusions of resource condition.
- 5) **Determine resource standards:** identify an acceptable numeric range for the extent, distribution, and/or condition of resource indicators.
- 6) **Explore management options:** identify a range of management prescriptions designed to achieve or maintain resource standards.
- 7) **Select most appropriate management option(s):** initiate one or more identified management options if indicators do not meet determined standards.
- 8) **Monitor resource indicators:** schedule the monitoring or □reinventory□ of resource indicators over a period of time.
- 9) **Evaluate management actions:** determine successes and/or failures of applied management actions and, if necessary, modify either management actions or resource standards.
- 10) **Involve the public:** encourage park stakeholder participation during all of the above steps.

The LAC process recognizes that any recreational use of natural or cultural resources will cause some degree of change to those resources. The overarching goal of the LAC process is to involve managers, specialists, and stakeholders in identifying key park resources and determining how much change to those resources is acceptable. These key resources can then be assessed over time to determine if their condition achieves or remains within acceptable limits. If condition standards are not met, either additional management actions may be selected and implemented or resource standards may be changed, whichever is deemed appropriate.

In most cases, measuring changes or impacts to all resources in an area is impractical. For this reason LAC is an issue-driven process. LAC only addresses resource-related matters of heightened public concern or matters where the □most appropriate□ approach to resource protection may be in dispute. Another practical consideration of LAC is the use of resource condition □indicators□. Indicators are quantifiable observations or events that gauge the condition of a particular resource or resources. The use of indicators reduces the need for comprehensive resource inventories and allows persons without extensive technical expertise to monitor change.

LAC and the State Parks Land Classification System

The Washington State Parks Land Classification System is comprised of six land classifications: Recreation Areas; Resource Recreation Areas; Natural Areas; Heritage Areas; Natural Forest Areas; and Natural Area Preserves. Each classification has a distinct management philosophy, specific management guidelines, certain physical features, geographic context, compatible recreational activities, suitable facilities, and appropriate types of development (See Appendix C). Each classification also ascribes a relative importance to natural, cultural, and recreational resources within a particular area. For example, in Recreation Areas primary management emphasis is on providing high-intensity recreational experiences, with natural and cultural resource values being subordinate. In Natural and Heritage Areas primary management emphasis is on protection of natural and cultural resources with recreational use being subordinate.

The six classifications establish a framework for application of the LAC process in specific areas. As a general rule, changes to high priority resources (within a particular classification) will be less acceptable than changes to low priority resources. For example, changes to the condition of natural resources in a Natural Area will be less acceptable than changes to recreational or cultural resources in the same area. Similarly, changes to the condition of cultural resources in a Heritage Area will be less acceptable than changes to natural or recreational resources in the same area. This general rule is especially relevant to step 5 of the LAC process stated above, where acceptable limits of change to specific resources are determined.

Resource Assessment and Management Tables

Resource assessment and management information specific to Rasar State Park is presented in the tables that follow. Tables are used to avoid lengthy and repetitive narratives, simplify completion, and facilitate the transfer of park-specific information for other agency purposes. They are grouped by natural, cultural, and recreational resources and by classified area. From left to right, each table lays out an LAC analysis for each management issue as follows:

- 1) **Issue:** A general statement of the issue facing the park.
- 2) **Indicators:** A quantifiable, recorded event or physical property used to gauge a resource's condition.
- 3) **Inventory:** A description of how an indicator will be inventoried and how numeric measurements will be made.
- 4) **Analysis:** A listing of inventory results and a qualitative or quantitative conclusion as to what the results mean in terms of a resource's condition.
- 5) **Standards:** A numeric objective or objectives for each indicator.
- 6) **Management Options:** A broad set of management approaches that may be applied to a resource in order to achieve or maintain standards.
- 7) **Management Actions Selected:** A list of dates and times management options will be or have been taken.
- 8) **Monitoring of Indicators:** A schedule of when and how often indicators will be inventoried and measured.
- 9) **Evaluation of Management Actions:** An overall evaluation of the effectiveness of applied management actions in achieving standards and/or the appropriateness of chosen standards.

The following tables summarize resource management of this park. Natural, cultural, and recreational resource monitoring forms (See Appendix B) and other resource materials will also be employed by park managers to track resource health.

TABLE 16: RASAR STATE PARK NATURAL RESOURCE ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT.

Issue	Indicators	Inventory	Analysis	Standards	Management Options	Management Actions (Management options chosen for Implementation)	Monitoring of Indicator	Evaluation of Management Actions
<p>Protection of threatened/ endangered/ sensitive wildlife species (bald eagles)</p>	<p>Perceptible changes in eagles behavior due to human activity observed during winter feeding period</p>	<p>Eagle activity during the winter feeding period. See monitoring protocol.</p>		<p>To be determined after first review year in cooperation with Dept of Fish and Wildlife.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Construct interpretive displays outlining eagle feeding area protection strategies and resulting closure of recreational river bank access during critical feeding period. 2. Expand staff contacts with park visitors to inform them of fragility of eagle resource. 3. Establish volunteer eagle watch interpretive/educational program to reduce intrusive human activities. 4. Close river access trails during critical winter feeding season (Dec. 15 - Feb. 15). 	<p>Construct interpretive displays outlining eagle feeding area protection strategies and resulting closure of recreational river bank access during critical feeding period</p>	<p>Follow specific monitoring protocol established between State Parks and the Dept. of F&W in <input type="checkbox"/> Monitoring Recreational Use and <input type="checkbox"/> Wintering Bald Eagles at Rasar State Park on the Skagit River:</p>	<p>Evaluation of Bald Eagle winter feeding habitat protection measures every 4 years or as directed by cooperating wildlife conservation agencies (Skagit River Bald Eagle Natural Area Cooperative - SRBENA).</p>
<p>Flood plain flood damage prevention</p>	<p>Area of scoured bare soil or depressions in flood plain</p>	<p>Inventory and locate on monitoring grid map all areas of bare soil or depressions within flood plain greater than 100sqft.</p>	<p>Determine whether designed trails and other high-intensity use areas may be contributing to flood plain scouring.</p>	<p>No increase in number of bare ground patches greater than 400 sqft. caused by human activity or natural flooding events is acceptable, unless the risk of additional erosion from flood events can be proven to be minimal.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Close/obliterate social trails in flood plain. 2. Enhance trail signage to clarify legitimate trail locations. 3. Revegetate bare soil areas with grasses used for haying purposes. 4. Fill depressions with a gradation of soil/rock particle sizes and compost mixed into the top 6-8 inch rooting zone and revegetate with grasses used for haying purposes. 5. Revegetate bare soil areas with same grasses grown for haying purposes and use matting to support rooting system. 		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Every year during first week of April inventory all areas of scoured bare ground (exposed mineral soil) in flood plain area larger than 100 sqft.. 2. Following any significant flood events inventory all areas of scoured bare ground (exposed mineral soil) in flood plain area larger than 100 sqft. 	<p>Evaluation of flood plain erosion measures following significant flooding events.</p>

<p>Control of river bank erosion</p>	<p>Number of non-designated river access trails that cross river bank (exposed soil wider than 1 foot)</p>	<p>1. Starting at upstream park boundary, walk along river bank and inventory any non-designated trails, 1 foot or greater in width, that cross the river bank (transition berm between river bed and vegetated uplands). 2. Determine grid number and assign a sequential, unique trail I.D. number to each inventoried trail using monitoring grid map. 3. Enter data on monitoring sheet.</p>		<p>No non-designated river access trails that cross river bank are acceptable.</p>	<p>1. Close/obliterate trails that traverse river bank. 2. Enhance river bank vegetation with Osier Dogwood, Willow, or Cottonwood cuttings. 3. Place interpretive signage explaining management approach to human caused erosion of river bank. 4. Structural erosion protection (matting) combined with planting of Osier Dogwood, Willow, or Cottonwood cuttings. 5. Construct barriers along river bank trails where non-designated trails continue to erode river bank. 6. Construct structural erosion protection (riprap, retaining walls). 7. Seasonal closures of river bank area.</p>		<p>During second week of each quarter (July, October, January, April) inventory all non-designated trails that cross the river bank (exposed soil 1 foot or greater in width).</p>	<p>Management evaluation of river bank erosion protection measures every year following peak use season.</p>
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<p>Control of non-native vegetation (Blackberries)</p>	<p>Area, height, and number of established Evergreen blackberry (<i>Rubus laciniatus</i>) and Himalayan blackberry (<i>Rubus discolor</i>) patches.</p>	<p>1. During first inventory cycle use monitoring grid map to determine the grid number of all established linear and non-linear blackberry patches greater than 100 square feet (estimated by eye). 2. Assign a sequential, unique I.D. number to each patch and indicate its configuration - linear/non-linear (draw specific patch I.D. numbers on a separate monitoring grid map if necessary). 3. Using a tape measure estimate the total area of all non-linear patches (in square feet). Measure along two perpendicular axes and at the widest length and width of the patch. 4. Using a tape measure estimate the height and width of all non-linear patches (in lineal feet). Take measurements at the tallest and widest portion of patches. 5. Enter data on monitoring sheet.</p>		<p>1. No established non-linear blackberry patches greater than 900 square feet are acceptable. 2. No non-linear blackberry patches taller than 10 feet or wider than 10 feet are acceptable. 3. No new blackberry patches greater than 100 square feet are acceptable.</p>	<p>1. Cutting of Blackberry patches to give competitive advantage to native vegetation. 2. Mechanical removal of Blackberry patches. 3. Hot water injection of Blackberry stalks. 4. Herbicide treatment of blackberry patches. 5. Prescribed burn of affected areas.</p>		<p>Every year during first week in September, prior to, or during regular control actions inventory all established patches of Evergreen blackberry (<i>Rubus laciniatus</i>) and Himalayan blackberry (<i>Rubus discolor</i>) greater than 100 square feet.</p>	<p>Management evaluation of non-native plant species control measures every 2 years.</p>
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<p>Control of Class B Noxious Weeds</p>	<p>1. Number of established patches of Scotch broom (Cytisus scoparius)</p> <p>2. Total number of individual Tansy ragwort (Senecio jacobaea) plants.</p>	<p><u>Scotch broom</u> 1. During first inventory cycle use monitoring grid map to determine all grid numbers where Scotch broom is established. 2. Count the number of Scotch broom patches that have at least 3 individual plants in all grids where Scotch broom was found during first inventory cycle. 3. Enter data on monitoring sheet</p> <p><u>Tansy ragwort</u> 1. During first inventory cycle use monitoring grid map to determine all grid numbers where Tansy ragwort is established. 2. Count the number of individual Tansy ragwort plants in all grids where Tansy ragwort was found during first inventory cycle. 3. Enter data on monitoring sheet</p>		<p><u>Scotch broom</u> Total number of established patches of Scotch broom will be reduced by 50% each year in first three years and eradicated entirely by the fourth year.</p> <p><u>Tansy ragwort</u> Total number of individual Tansy ragwort plants will be reduced by 50% each year in first three years and eradicated entirely by the fourth year.</p>	<p><u>Scotch broom</u> 1. Mechanical removal of Scotchbroom and roots. 2. Cutting Scotch broom stalks and daubing herbicide on cut stalks.</p> <p><u>Tansy ragwort</u> 1. Pull individual plants manually. 2. Repeated mowing/cutting of larger patches. 3. SCWB has biological control measures active in the area.</p>		<p><u>Scotch broom</u> Every year during first week in August prior to, or during regular control actions inventory all established patches of Scotch broom (3 individual plants or more)</p> <p><u>Tansy ragwort</u> Every year in first week in August prior to, or during regular control actions inventory the total number of individual Tansy ragwort (Senecio jacobaea) plants.</p>	<p>Management evaluation of noxious weed control measures every year in August.</p>
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<p>Control of Class C Noxious Weeds</p>	<p>1. Number of established patches of Japanese Knotweed (<i>Polygonum cuspidatum</i>) taller than 4 feet and larger than 25 square feet.</p> <p>2. Area and number of Canada thistle (<i>Cirsium arvense</i>) patches.</p>	<p><u>Japanese knotweed</u> 1. During first inventory cycle use monitoring grid map to determine all grid numbers where Japanese Knotweed is established. 2. Count the number of Japanese Knotweed patches that have at least 3 individual plants in all grids where Japanese Knotweed was found during first inventory cycle. 3. Enter data on monitoring sheet</p> <p><u>Canada thistle</u> 1. During first inventory cycle use monitoring grid map to determine the grid number of all established Canada thistle patches greater than 100 square feet (estimated by eye). 2. Assign a sequential, unique I.D. number to each patch (draw specific patch I.D. numbers on a separate monitoring grid map if necessary). 3. Using a tape measure estimate the total area of the patch (in square feet). Measure along two perpendicular axes and at the widest length and width of the patch. 4. Enter data on monitoring sheet.</p>		<p><u>Japanese knotweed</u> Total number of established patches of Japanese Knotweed will be reduced by 25% each year in first five years and eradicated entirely by the sixth year.</p> <p><u>Canada thistle</u> No established patches of Canada thistle greater than 400 square feet are acceptable. No new patches of Canada thistle greater than 100 square feet are acceptable.</p>	<p><u>Japanese knotweed</u> 1. Manual removal of individual plants in areas where herbicide spraying may cause collateral damage to desired vegetation. 2. Spray individual plants with mild systemic herbicide (roundup/rodeo) and cover desired vegetation with plastic tarp during application. 3. Spray individual plants with harsh systemic herbicide (weedmaster 2% with surfactant) and cover desired vegetation with plastic tarp during application.</p> <p><u>Canada thistle</u> 1. Manual pulling of individual plants. 2. Repeated mowing/cutting of established patches to give competitive advantage to other desired vegetation. 3. Spray established patches with mild systemic herbicide (roundup/rodeo).</p>		<p><u>Japanese knotweed</u> Every year during first week in August prior to, or during regular control actions inventory all established patches of Japanese Knotweed taller than 4 feet and larger than 25 square feet.</p> <p><u>Canada thistle</u> Every year during first week in August prior to, or during regular control actions inventory all established patches of Canada thistle (<i>Cirsium arvense</i>) greater than 100 square feet.</p>	<p>Management evaluation of noxious weed control measures every year in August.</p>
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TABLE 17: RASAR STATE PARK CULTURAL RESOURCE ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT.

Issue	Indicators	Inventory	Analyses	Standards	Management Options	Management Actions (Management options chosen for Implementation)	Monitoring of Indicator	Evaluation of Management Actions
<p>Preservation of active cultural landscape (hay field and haying operation)</p>	<p>Area of hayfield trampled by visitors (non-harvestable area).</p>	<p>1. From the marked observation station on the upper terrace (near day use area) look through the transparent graph paper at arms length and delineate the visible boundary of the hayfield with permanent marker directly on the transparency. 2.Count and enter total number of squares within the delineated hayfield boundary on monitoring sheet. 3. Looking through the transparency, mark with water based pen all squares where hay field shows evidence of trampling. 4. Count and enter the number of squares where hayfield shows evidence of trampling on monitoring sheet.</p>		<p>Greater than 20% of the total area of hayfield trampled by visitors per harvest is not acceptable.</p>	<p>1. Interpretive displays explaining haying operation and cultural/recreational (view corridor) significance. 2. Keep off grass signage during period immediately prior to hay harvests. 3. Temporary fencing of hay permit area prior to harvests. 4. Maintain mowed pathways through harvest area.</p>		<p>Immediately prior to hay harvesting operations (approximately two times per summer) inventory the approximate percentage area of the hayfield that has been trampled by visitors and is therefore not harvestable.</p>	<p>Management evaluation of recreation impacts to active hay harvesting operation every year. Intensive management evaluation prior to renewal of hay cutting permit (every three years).</p>

TABLE 18: RASAR STATE PARK RECREATIONAL RESOURCE/FACILITY ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT.

Issue	Indicators	Inventory	Analyses	Standards	Management Options	Management Actions (Management options chosen for Implementation)	Monitoring of Indicator	Evaluation of Management Actions
Hay harvesting operation impacts on recreational experience	Number of fertilizer odor and noise complaints received from visitors.	During harvesting operation periods (fertilizer application or harvesting), enter the date of operation, date of complaint, type of complaint (noise/odor), and name of visitor.		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No more than 5 odor complaints from separate parties per harvest are acceptable. 2. No more than 5 noise complaints from separate parties per harvest are acceptable. 	<u>Odor</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Allow only application of <input type="checkbox"/>dry<input type="checkbox"/>fertilizer (chicken manure) 2. Limit application of fertilizer (chicken manure) to certain off season periods only. 3. Disallow fertilizer application 4. Replace operator of hay cutting permit <u>Noise</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Limit hay cutting to afternoon periods only. 2. Inform visitors of harvesting operations through signage and central information center. 3. Replace operator of hay cutting permit. 		During hay harvesting operations (either fertilizer application or harvesting) and for two following enter on monitoring sheets any haying related odor or noise complaints received from visitors.	Management evaluation of measures to mitigate hay harvesting operation impacts on recreation every year. Intensive management evaluation prior to renewal of hay cutting permit.
Trail use conflicts between bicyclists and hikers	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Number of trail user complaints. 2. Number of visitor accidents attributable to trail use conflicts. 3. Ratio of cyclists to hikers using trails. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Year-round enter all trail user complaints and reported accidents on monitor sheet. 2. Using monitoring grid map enter the approximate location of conflict or accident. 3. Complete one full trail circuit walk using the trail circuit map and enter on monitoring sheet the total number of individuals encountered and the activity they are engaged in. 		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No more than 5 trail conflict complaints per year from separate parties in a year are acceptable. 2. No more than 3 visitor accidents per year attributable to trail use conflicts are acceptable. 3. A ratio of higher than 1:4 of individual cycling to individuals hiking is not acceptable. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Educational displays and signage explaining trail etiquette and use rules. 2. Limit specific uses during months when complaints, accidents, or proportional activity use exceed standards 3. Establish walk-only zones. 4. Establish speed limits. 5. Enhance signs to identify hazardous areas and/or conditions. 6. Prohibit uses on trails where complaints or accidents consistently exceed standards. Ideally, trail uses prohibited on one multi-purpose trail should be allowed elsewhere in the nearby vicinity (park) 		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Year-round enter all trail user complaints and reported accidents attributable to trail use conflicts on monitor sheets. 2. During summer use season (May through September) during regular weekly trail walks (Saturday or Sunday) enter number of all individuals encountered on trail and the activity they are engaged in (hiking/cycling). 	Management evaluation of bicyclist-hiker trail use conflict mitigation measures every year following peak use season.

Maintaining vegetative buffers between campsites	Number of non-designated trails (greater than 2 feet wide) through vegetative buffers between campsites.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. During first inventory cycle draw map of all vegetative buffers between campsites and assign a unique buffer I.D. number to each. 2. Walk through campground and inspect each mapped vegetative buffer for evidence of non-designated trails. 3. Using a tape measure estimate the average width of each non-designated trail and enter on monitor sheet if wider than 2 feet.. 		No non-designated trails (wider than 2 feet) through vegetative buffers between campsites are acceptable.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Obliterate/close social trails. 2. Revegetation of denuded areas with native shade tolerant under story species where appropriate. 3. Manipulate vegetative species composition to favor dense, leafy species through pruning measures. 4. Thin forest over story to increase light penetration and encourage under story vegetation. 5. Prune vegetation to increase density of individual plants. 6. Clearly delineate and enforce boundaries of campsites to avoid enlargement of sites. 		Every year during last week in September, inventory all non-designated trails through mapped vegetative buffers.	Management evaluation of measures to control social trails through vegetative screens every year.
Visitor security and safety	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Number of park staff initiated law enforcement contacts (incidents). 2. Number of reported law enforcement type incidents. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Year-round enter all staff initiated law enforcement contacts that result in the writing of an incident report. 2. Year-round enter all reported law enforcement type incidents that result in the writing of an incident report. 		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To be determined following first inventory cycle 2. To be determined following first inventory cycle 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Institute preemptive park walk through and visitor contacts by park enforcement staff. 2. Adjust park enforcement staff schedule to increase presence during peak conflict periods. 3. Formulate agreement with Skagit County Sheriffs Office and/or State Patrol to request <input type="checkbox"/>roll by<input type="checkbox"/> during peak conflict periods. 4. Request class-A or B enforcement vehicle for park. 5. Consider <input type="checkbox"/>noalcohol areas<input type="checkbox"/> or prohibit alcohol in entire park. 6. Request additional seasonal law enforcement staff. 		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Year-round enter all staff initiated law enforcement contacts that result in the writing of an incident report. 2. Year-round enter all reported law enforcement type incidents that result in the writing of an incident report. 	Management evaluation of park security measures every year.

Chapter V: Linking Park Management Planning to Existing Agency Administrative Systems

Introduction

As in any planning process, there is always concern that management actions may not be implemented. Funding shortfalls, time constraints, and lack of management unanimity are some factors that may compromise successful implementation. This management plan provides not only justification for management action, but a link to the agency's existing administrative framework through which actions are ultimately implemented. This section provides two primary tools. First, it provides an up-to-date description of a park's administrative programs. Second, it provides a framework in which the park manager can propose administrative changes or enhancements as identified through the resource assessment process.

Park Operating Program

Operating program elements include park recreational/service programs, staffing, facilities maintenance, equipment management, and procurement of materials and supplies. Operating program information is primarily summarized in tables, although in some instances existing administrative documents have been included to provide additional detail.

Recreational and service programs include interpretive, volunteer, enterprise, and community service elements. These program elements are summarized in Table 19, *Recreational and Service Programs*. Park staffing information is outlined in Table 20, *Park Staffing*, followed by individual position descriptions (classification questionnaires). The park facilities/utilities maintenance program consists primarily of planned maintenance projects. Project requests are made by submitting 0-34 Work Project Request forms up through the agency chain of command for approval and eventual funding. Past, current, and proposed work project requests are summarized in Table 21, *0-34 Planned Maintenance Projects*. Major equipment is inventoried and tracked through the park's Master Equipment Plan or MEP. The park MEP lists equipment identification numbers, model numbers, purchase dates, and life expectancies. In addition to the park's MEP, up-to-date maintenance information is kept with each piece of equipment. This section includes only the MEP. Procurement of materials and supplies follows a requisition process not unlike most businesses. Details of this process are in the agency's Purchasing Manual. This section includes a number of past requisitions as a guide to where common materials and supplies generally are purchased and in what amounts.

Park Capital Program

The parks capital program consists primarily of work projects contracted to commercial contractors. Requests for capital projects are also made by submitting 0-34 Work Project Request forms up the agency's chain of command and ultimately to the State Legislature for approval and funding. Funded projects are then submitted to the agency's Resources Development Division for engineering, permitting, and solicitation of competitive contract bids. Past and current park capital project requests are summarized in Table 22, *0-34 Capital Projects*. Proposed projects are described and ranked in this table.

Operating and Capital Program Triggers

Operating program change requests, 0-34 planned maintenance requests, and 0-34 capital requests are generally triggered in one of two ways. They can either be identified as necessary for implementation of a management action as part of the park's management planning process or they can be proposed independently as part of a new agency or public initiative. In both cases this management plan serves as the evaluative tool that ensures any proposed initiatives are consistent with a park's resource management objectives.

TABLE 19: RASAR STATE PARK RECREATIONAL AND SERVICE PROGRAMS.

Program Name	Program Description
Sunday Morning Interpretive Walks	On Sunday mornings between July 4 and Labor day Park staff conduct interpretive walks that center around the natural and cultural influences of the Skagit River. A second separate walk for children ages 8 to 14 may be added at a later date.
Campground Host Program	In exchange for camping privileges a volunteer provides at least four hours of service per day or alternatively, at least twenty-eight hours of service per seven-day week and spread over at least five days. Service includes greeting visitors, information dissemination, campground surveillance, and some light maintenance tasks. Hosts are recruited through the agency volunteer program coordinator.
Contact Station Volunteer	Volunteer works out of contact station orienting visitors to park amenities and services, directs visitors to campsites, and provides general information.
Court Referral Program	Park manager coordinates with Skagit County Juvenile Services Administrator. Juvenile offenders perform community service hours under supervision of seasonal ranger picking up litter, washing park vehicles, and other tasks as directed.
Private Industry Council (PIC) Participation	Park manager coordinates with Skagit County PIC administrator to place young people in internship type positions in the park. Participants are compensated through the PIC program in exchange for up to 20 hours per week of park service. PIC interns receive job skills training and work experience in the park as well as additional training through the PIC program.

TABLE 20: RASAR STATE PARK STAFFING.

Rasar/Rockport State Park Area							
Position Number	Position Title	Employee Name	FTE	Special Licenses/ Certifications	Direct Supervisor	Peak Season Schedule	Off-Season Schedule
226	Park Ranger 3	Gailen Troxel	1	L.E. Commission, Basic First Aid	NW Region Manager, Terry Doran	Thursday through Monday, 8-5	Monday through Friday, 8-5
	Park Ranger 2	vacant	1	L.E. Commission, Basic First Aid	Park Manager, Gailen Troxel	to be determined	to be determined
	Park Ranger Seasonal	vacant	0.5	L.E. Commission, Basic First Aid	Park Ranger 2	April through September @ Rasar and Rockport	NA
T342	Park Aide	Edward Cronk	5.2 mo		Park Ranger, Seas.	April 1 through September 4 @ Rockport	NA
T746	Park Aide	Jane Connor	3.0 mo		Park Ranger, Seas.	June 1 through August 30 @ Rasar	NA
T309	Park Aide	Carol McCormick	2.9 mo		Park Ranger, Seas.	June 10 through September 4 @ Rockport	NA
	Park Aide	vacant	2.9 mo		Park Ranger, Seas.	June 4 through August 30 @ Rasar	NA

TABLE 21: RASAR STATE PARK 0-34 PLANNED MAINTENANCE PROJECTS.

TABLE 22: RASAR STATE PARK 0-34 CAPITAL PROJECTS.

Project Number	Project Description	Park Priority Number	Agency Priority Number	Estimated Cost	Funding Source	Initiator/ Project Lead	Project Phasing/ Completion Dates	Life Expectancy	Party Completing Work	O&M Manual (yes/no)
Previous Projects										
	Rasar State Park Phase I Construction-	NA	NA							
Current Projects										
	Rasar State Park Phase II Construction- 1. East camp loop 2. Misc. parking spaces 3. Building sewers, septic tanks, drain fields 4. 10 walk-in campsites 5. Two bay shop 6. Residence building 7. Contact station 8. Dump station 9. Campground comfort station 10. Day use comfort station 11. Kitchen shelter 12. Adirondack shelters 13. Interpretive display 14. Repair lower terrace roadway damaged by flood	NA	NA			Park master planning and construction team coordinator Daniel Farber		unknown		
	Rasar Group Camp on property north of Cape Horn Road	NA	NA		FEMA	Park master planning and construction team coord. Daniel Farber		unknown		
Proposed Projects										
	Big Toy' type playground structure and associated ground cover and curbing	1	unknown	unknown	unknown	Park master plan objective, park manager	to be decided	unknown	to be decided	
	Pave ADA trail from day use area to river access point	2	unknown	unknown	unknown	Park manager	to be decided	unknown	to be decided	
	Construct interpretive trail along existing trail near river	3	unknown	unknown	unknown	park master plan objective, park manager	to be decided	unknown	State Parks Interpretive Supervisor, park staff, park volunteers	

Appendices

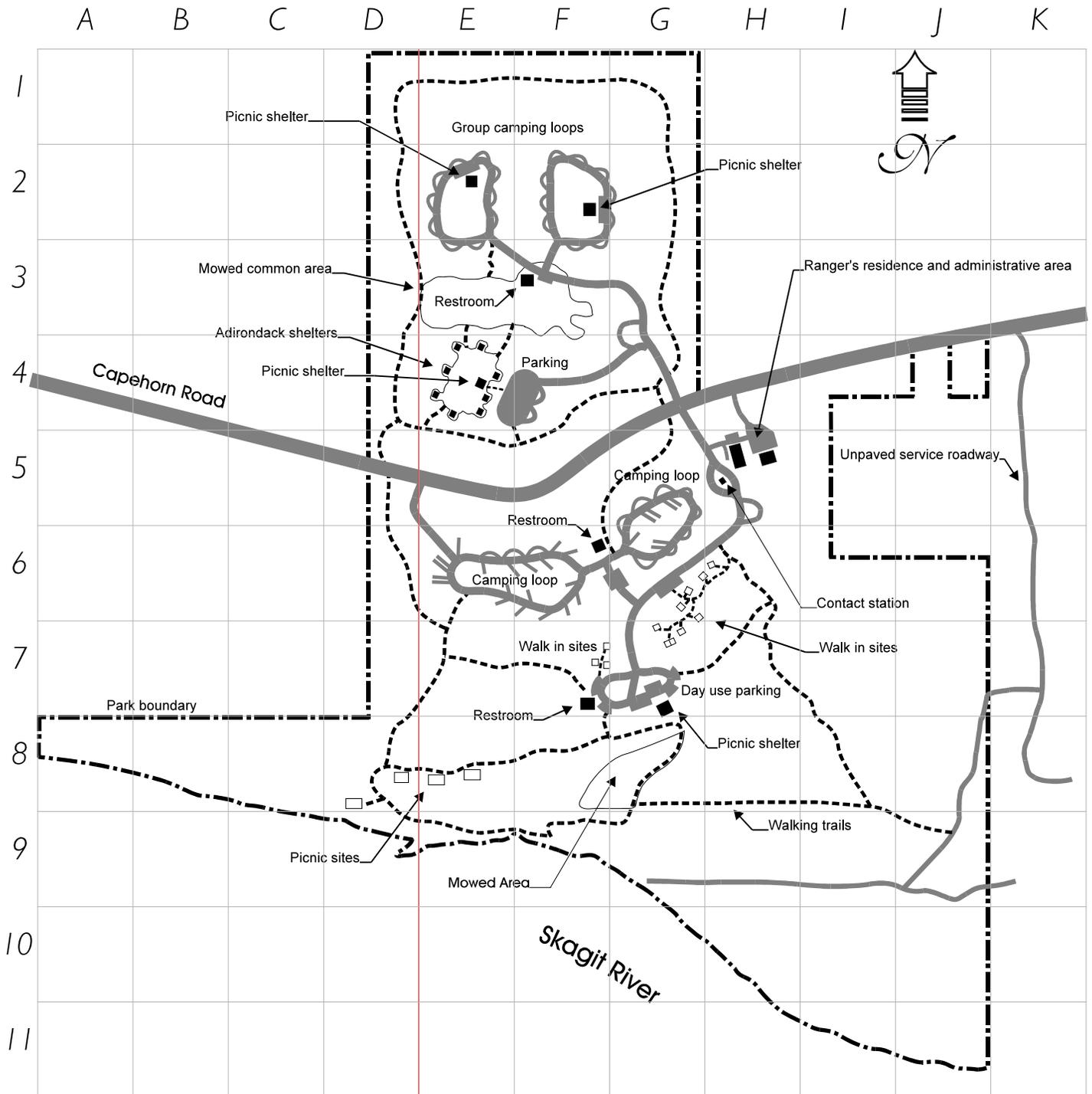
Appendix A: Table of Referenced and Related Documents

Title	Description	Location
Federal Laws Applicable to State Park Management	Selected laws from The Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) and the United States Code (USC).	Computer disk <input type="checkbox"/> fedlaw <input type="checkbox"/> park office
National Wild and Scenic Rivers - Skagit River Management Plan	In-depth river management analysis and management plan for the Skagit Wild and Scenic River prepared by the U.S. Forest Service, Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest.	Park Office
State Laws Applicable to Park Management	Selected laws from the Revised Code of Washington (RCW) and Washington Administrative Code (WAC)	Computer disk "statelaw" - park office
Policy and Procedure Manual	Complete text of all agency policies, procedures, directives, and memoranda of understanding.	Park Office
State Parks Purchasing Manual	Manual that details state agency purchasing authorities, guidelines, contracts and procedures.	Park Office
Skagit County Comprehensive Plan	Comprehensive plan revised September, 1996	not available
Skagit County Shoreline Master Program	Shoreline Master Program revised December, 1983	Park office
Skagit County Noxious Weed List	Listing and classification of noxious weeds as defined by Skagit County Noxious Weed Board	Appendix D
Park Master Plan - partially completed	Plan that details long range park development and stewardship objectives.	Park Office
Rasar State Park Mitigated Determination of Nonsignificance	SEPA checklist for park construction	Appendix D
Rasar State Park Shoreline Substantial Development Permit	Approved shoreline permit for park construction. Includes on-going management directions.	Appendix D
Rasar State Park Special Use Permit	Approved special use permit for park development and operation	Appendix D
Rasar State Park Bald Eagle Management Plan	Bald eagle management plan co-authored by State Parks Environmental Section and Washington State Dept. of Fish & Wildlife designed to study recreational impacts on eagle winter feeding area (river sand bars).	Appendix D
Property Deeds	Copies of Statutory Warranty Deeds transferring ownership of property to WSP&RC.	Appendix D
Hay Cutting Permit	Copy of 3-year hay cutting permit granted to James Bates & Sons	Appendix D
Fire Suppression Plan	Fire preparedness plan outlining type and location of fire suppression equipment and steps for park staff to follow in the event of wildland fires.	Park Office
Emergency	Plan that details the type and location of emergency equipment, evacuation routes, and steps for staff to take in the event of earthquake, flood, bomb	Park Office

Title	Description	Location
Preparedness Plan	threat, riot, and other large scale natural and human caused emergencies.	
Security of Assets Plan	Plan outlining requirements for the collection, securing, and transmittal of park revenues.	Park Office
Land Classification Management Guidelines	Tables that outline the definition, philosophy, appropriate physical features, appropriate location, allowed activities, and allowed developments in each land classification.	Appendix E

**Appendix B: Natural, Cultural, and Recreational Resource
Monitoring Protocols and Data**

Rasar State Park Monitoring Grid Map



July 31, 1996 P.W. Herzog

Approximate Scale: 1 inch = 600 feet

Control of Class B and Class C Noxious Weeds

Indicator: (1 of 4) Number of established patches of **Scotch broom** (*Cytisus scoparius*)

Protocol:

Schedule

Every year during first week in August **prior to, or during regular control actions** inventory all established patches of Scotch broom (3 individual plants or more)

Equipment/Supplies

1. Monitoring Sheet and Monitoring Grid Map attached to clipboard
2. Pens

Procedure

1. During first inventory cycle use monitoring grid map to determine all grid numbers where Scotch broom is established.
2. Count the number of Scotch broom patches that have at least 3 individual plants in all grids where Scotch broom was found during first inventory cycle.
3. Enter data on monitoring sheet

Standard: Total number of established patches of Scotch broom will be reduced by 50% each year in first three years and eradicated entirely by the fourth year.

1997

Date of Survey	Affected Grid Numbers	1997 Number of patches			

1998

Date of Survey	Affected Grid Numbers	1997 Number of patches	1998 Number of patches	1998 Standard	1998 Standard exceeded (Y/N?)

1999

Date of Survey	Affected Grid Numbers	1998 Number of patches	1999 Number of patches	1999 Standard	1999 Standard exceeded (Y/N?)

2000

Date of Survey	Affected Grid Numbers	1999 Number of patches	2000 Number of patches	2000 Standard	2000 Standard exceeded (Y/N?)

2001

Date of Survey	Affected Grid Numbers	2000 Number of patches	2001 Number of patches	2001 Standard	2000 Standard exceeded (Y/N?)
				0	

Control of Class B and Class C Noxious Weeds

Indicator: (2 of 4) Total number of individual **Tansy ragwort** (*Senecio jacobaea*) plants.

Protocol:

Schedule

Every year in first week in August **prior to, or during regular control actions** inventory the total number of individual Tansy ragwort (*Senecio jacobaea*) plants.

Equipment/Supplies

1. Monitoring Sheet and Monitoring Grid Map attached to clipboard
2. Pens

Procedure

1. During first inventory cycle use monitoring grid map to determine all grid numbers where Tansy ragwort is established.
2. Count the number of individual Tansy ragwort plants in all grids where Tansy ragwort was found during first inventory cycle.
3. Enter data on monitoring sheet

Standard: Total number of individual Tansy ragwort plants will be reduced by 50% each year in first three years and eradicated entirely by the fourth year.

1997

Date of Survey	Affected Grid Numbers	1997 Number of plants			

1998

Date of Survey	Affected Grid Numbers	1997 Number of plants	1998 Number of plants	1998 Standard	1998 Standard exceeded (Y/N?)

1999

Date of Survey	Affected Grid Numbers	1998 Number of plants	1999 Number of plants	1999 Standard	1999 Standard exceeded (Y/N?)

2000

Date of Survey	Affected Grid Numbers	1999 Number of plants	2000 Number of plants	2000 Standard	2000 Standard exceeded (Y/N?)

2001

Date of Survey	Affected Grid Numbers	2000 Number of plants	2001 Number of plants	2001 Standard	2000 Standard exceeded (Y/N?)
				0	

Control of Class B and Class C Noxious Weeds

Indicator: (3 of 4) Number of established patches of **Japanese Knotweed** (*Polygonum cuspidatum*) taller than 4 feet and larger than 25 square feet.

Protocol:

Schedule

Every year during first week in August **prior to, or during regular control actions** inventory all established patches of Japanese Knotweed taller than 4 feet and larger than 25 square feet.

Equipment/Supplies

1. Monitoring Sheet and Monitoring Grid Map attached to clipboard
2. Pens

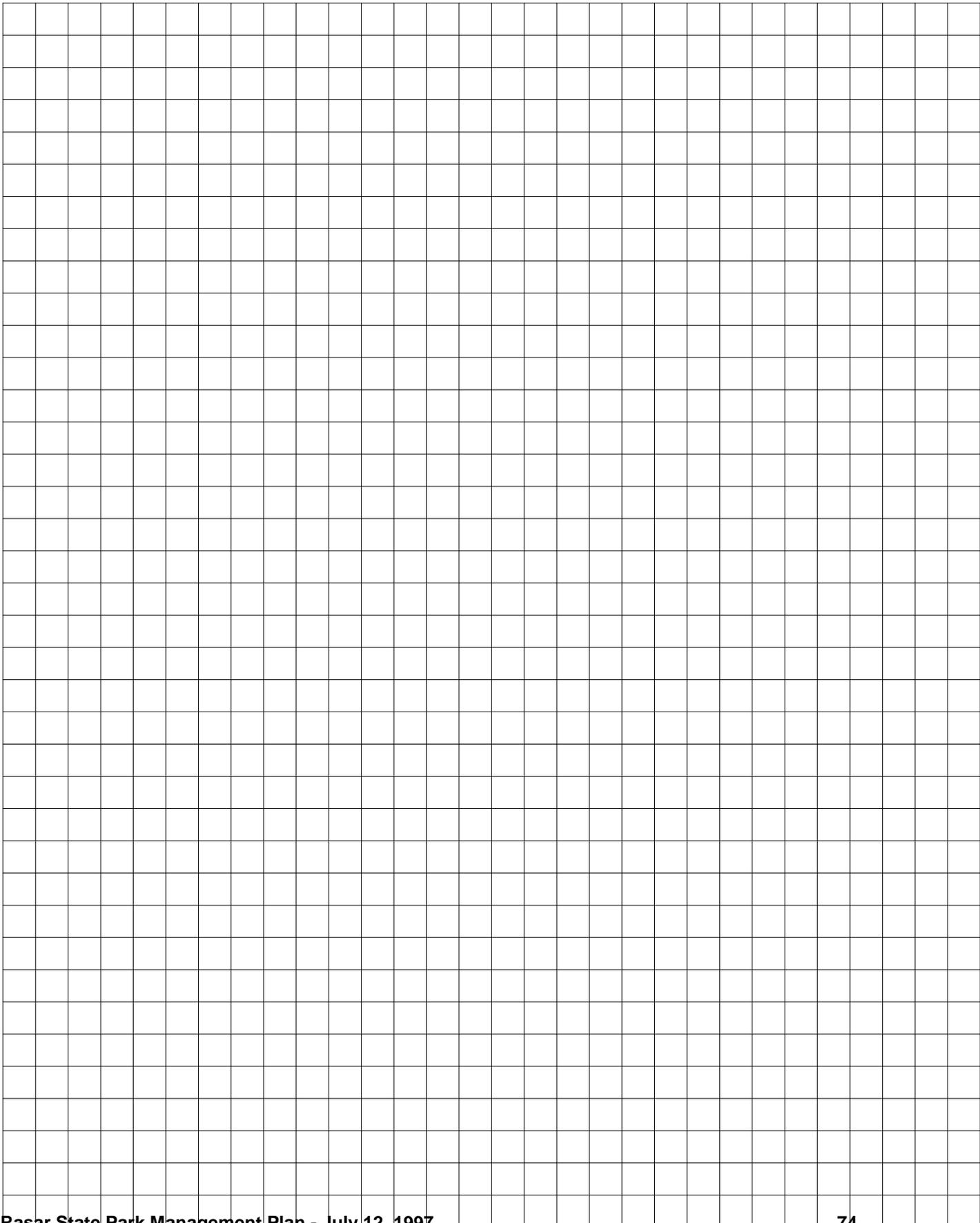
Procedure

1. During first inventory cycle use monitoring grid map to determine all grid numbers where Japanese Knotweed is established.
2. Count the number of Japanese Knotweed patches that have at least 3 individual plants in all grids where Japanese Knotweed was found during first inventory cycle.
3. Enter data on monitoring sheet

Standard: Total number of established patches of Japanese Knotweed will be reduced by 25% each year in first five years and eradicated entirely by the sixth year.

1997					
Date of Survey	Affected Grid Numbers	1997 Number of patches			
1998					
Date of Survey	Affected Grid Numbers	1997 Number of patches	1998 Number of patches	1998 Standard	1998 Standard exceeded Y/N
1999					
Date of Survey	Affected Grid Numbers	1998 Number of patches	1999 Number of patches	1999 Standard	1999 Standard exceeded Y/N
2000					
Date of Survey	Affected Grid Numbers	1999 Number of patches	2000 Number of patches	2000 Standard	2000 Standard exceeded Y/N
2001					
Date of Survey	Affected Grid Numbers	2000 Number of patches	2001 Number of patches	2001 Standard	2001 Standard exceeded Y/N
2002					
Date of Survey	Affected Grid Numbers	2001 Number of patches	2002 Number of patches	2002 Standard	2002 Standard exceeded Y/N
2003					
Date of Survey	Affected Grid Numbers	2002 Number of patches	2003 Number of patches	2003 Standard	2003 Standard exceeded Y/N

Preservation of Active Cultural Landscape Trampled Area of Hayfield - Transparent Grid



Maintaining Vegetative Buffer Between Campsites

Indicator: Number of non-designated trails (greater than 2 feet wide) through vegetative buffers between campsites.

Protocol:

Schedule

Every year during last week in September, inventory all non-designated trails through mapped vegetative buffers.

Equipment/Supplies

1. Monitoring Sheet
2. Vegetative screen map
3. Pens
3. Tape measure

Procedure

1. During first inventory cycle draw map of all vegetative buffers between campsites and assign a unique buffer I.D. number to each.
2. Walk through campground and inspect each mapped vegetative buffer for evidence of non-designated trails.
3. Using a tape measure estimate the average width of each non-designated trail and enter on monitor sheet if wider than 2 feet..

Standard: No non-designated trails (wider than 2 feet) through vegetative buffers between campsites are acceptable.

Date of Survey	Buffer Number	Number of Non-designated Trails Through Buffer	Standard	Standard Exceeded (Y/N)
Eg. 9/28/97	1	2	0	Yes
	2		0	
	3		0	
	4		0	
	5		0	
	6		0	
	7		0	
	8		0	
	9		0	
	10		0	
	11		0	
	12		0	
	13		0	
	14		0	
	15		0	
	16		0	
	17		0	
	18		0	
	19		0	
	20		0	
	21		0	
	22		0	

Maintaining Vegetative Screening Between Campsites (Continued)

Indicator: Number of non-designated trails (greater than 2 feet wide) through vegetative buffers between campsites.

Protocol:

Schedule

Every year during last week in September, inventory all non-designated trails through mapped vegetative buffers.

Equipment/Supplies

1. Monitoring Sheet
2. Vegetative screen map
3. Pens
3. Tape measure

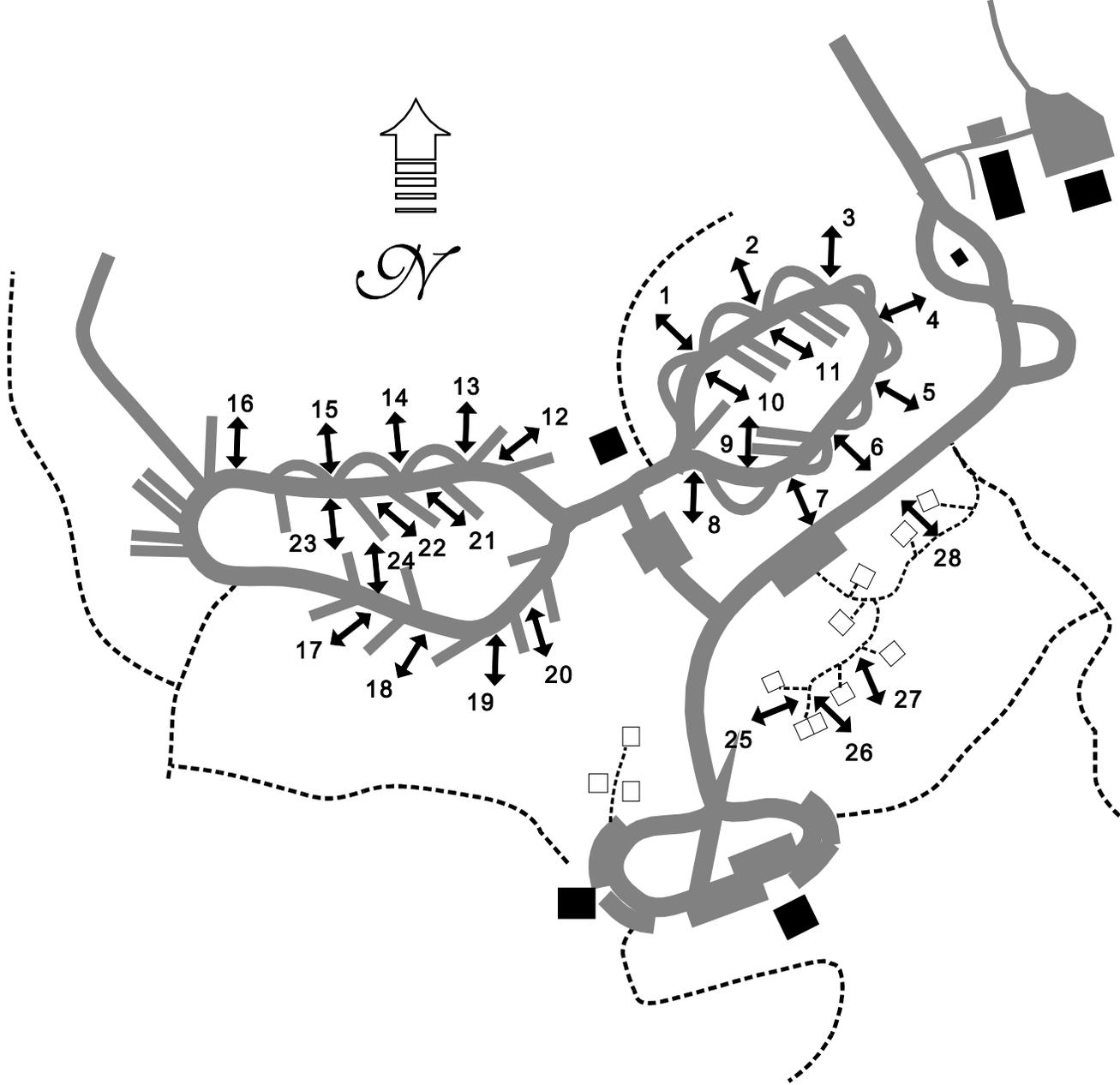
Procedure

1. During first inventory cycle draw map of all vegetative buffers between campsites and assign a unique buffer I.D. number to each.
2. Walk through campground and inspect each mapped vegetative buffer for evidence of non-designated trails.
3. Using a tape measure estimate the average width of each non-designated trail and enter on monitor sheet if wider than 2 feet..

Standard: No non-designated trails (wider than 2 feet) through vegetative buffers between campsites are acceptable.

Date of Survey	Buffer Number	Number of Non-designated Trails Through Buffer	Standard	Standard Exceeded (Y/N)
	25		0	
	26		0	
	27		0	
	28		0	

Vegetative Buffers Map



Appendix C: Washington State Parks Land Classification System and Management Guidelines

LAND CLASSIFICATION MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES RECREATION AREAS

As Approved By Director Cleve Pinnix, December 21, 1995 _____

TITLE	DEFINITION	PHILOSOPHY	PHYSICAL FEATURES	LOCATION	ACTIVITIES	DEVELOPMENTS
Washington State Parks Recreation Areas	<u>State Parks Recreation Areas</u> are suited and/or developed for high-intensity outdoor recreational use, conference, cultural and/or educational centers, or other uses serving large numbers of people.	<u>State Parks Recreation Areas</u> are to respond to the human needs for readily available areas for outdoor recreation and facilities to congregate for education, artistic expression and other ennobling pursuits. They are to provide a variety of outdoor recreational, educational, artistic, and cultural opportunities to large numbers of participants. Primary emphasis is on the provision of quality recreational services and facilities with secondary recognition given to protection of the areas' natural qualities.	<u>State Parks Recreation Areas</u> physiographic features such as topography, soil type, drainage, etc., shall be adaptable to varied types of intensive uses and development. An attractive natural setting is desirable, however, human-made settings are acceptable. There are no specific size criteria.	<u>State Parks Recreation Areas</u> generally are made, not found. They shall be located throughout the state with primary emphasis to service major centers of urban populations and/or outstanding recreational tourist attractions. Scenic and inspirational values shall be considered but are secondary to the site adaptability and population criteria. When part of a large diverse park, recreation areas should be sited in proximity to public roads and utilities.	<u>State Parks Recreation Areas</u> may allow and provide for a wide variety of indoor and outdoor day, weekend and vacation activities. Provision may be made for high intensity participation in camping, picnicking, trail use, water sports, winter sports, group field games, and other activities for many people. Off-trail equestrian and/or bicycle use may be appropriate in selected areas if approved by the commission. Activities requiring high levels of social interaction are encouraged.	<u>State Parks Recreation Areas</u> shall provide appropriate facilities and services for the participation and enjoyment of high concentrations of outdoor recreationists and/or participants in indoor educational, cultural and artistic activities. A high degree of development is anticipated. Facilities may include road and parking networks, swimming beaches, full service marinas, trails, bathhouses, artificial lakes and pools, play fields, large sanitary and eating facilities; standard and utility campgrounds, stores, picnic grounds, group shelters, conference centers, environmental learning centers, hostels, and administrative support facilities.

**LAND CLASSIFICATION MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES
RESOURCE RECREATION AREAS**

As Approved By Director Cleve Pinnix, December 21, 1995 _____

TITLE	DEFINITION	PHILOSOPHY	PHYSICAL FEATURES	LOCATION	ACTIVITIES	DEVELOPMENTS
Washington State Parks Resource Recreation Areas	<u>State Parks Resource Recreation Areas</u> are suited and/or developed for natural and/or cultural resource-based medium- and low-intensity recreational use.	<u>State Parks Resource Recreation Areas</u> are sites where the high quality of a particular natural or cultural resource or set of such resources is the lure for human recreation. Thus, the rationale for recreation is based on the value of attractive natural or cultural resources. Management of these areas must stress the centrality of preserving the quality of the natural and cultural resources while allowing appropriate and sustainable levels of human use and enjoyment.	<u>State Parks Resource Recreation Areas</u> have a variety of physiographic features. While they may contain areas of environmental sensitivity, most portions of each area will be able to withstand low- to medium-intensity recreation use without significant environmental degradation.	<u>State Parks Resource Recreation Areas</u> may be located anywhere in the state where natural or cultural factors produce land and water sites particularly suited for recreation in a natural setting. Access to these sites should be reasonably proximate to major urban centers, but some access restriction may be necessary to avoid overuse of resources. Within large diverse parks, these areas should be located at least a moderate distance from public roads and high use intensity areas, while still maintaining reasonable public access for their intended use.	<u>State Parks Resource Recreation Areas</u> provide opportunities for low- and medium-intensity recreational experiences including, but not limited to, picnicking, primitive camping, a variety of recreational trail experiences, interpretive facilities, historic/cultural exhibits, nature observation, photography, orienteering, kayaking, canoeing, floating, and fishing. Off-trail equestrian and/or bicycle use may be appropriate in selected areas if approved by the commission. Basketball, tennis, organized group sporting activities requiring formal sports fields, commercial-sized piers and docks, standard and utility camping, indoor accommodations and centers, developed swimming areas, and other similarly intense uses are not appropriate. Scientific research is permitted.	<u>State Parks Resource Recreation Areas</u> development shall be permitted to the extent necessary to serve allowed activities. Parking, sanitary facilities, and other ancillary developments and support facilities should be constructed in a manner that is consistent with the site's ability to manage environmental change.

LAND CLASSIFICATION MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES NATURAL AREAS

As Approved By Director Cleve Pinnix, December 21, 1995 _____

TITLE	DEFINITION	PHILOSOPHY	PHYSICAL FEATURES	LOCATION	ACTIVITIES	DEVELOPMENTS
Washington State Parks Natural Areas	<u>State Parks Natural Areas</u> are designated for preservation, restoration, and interpretation of natural processes and/or features of significant ecological, geological or paleontological value while providing for low-intensity outdoor recreation activities as subordinate uses.	<u>State Parks Natural Areas</u> are to respond to the human need for readily available "conservatories" of nature and open spaces. Emphasis is directed toward nature and the conservation of native flora and fauna, special geologic or paleontologic resources, and the natural amenities of the area. Human wants for other than naturally existing educational and recreational opportunities are considered secondary to nature's requirement for the sustained maintenance of its natural balances, or the preservation of special geologic or paleontologic features.	<u>State Parks Natural Areas</u> have a variety of topography and features to provide a diversified natural environment with interesting but not necessarily unique flora and fauna, or geologic or paleontologic features. Where classification is based on biological considerations, sites should consist of land areas large enough to maintain natural biological processes in a nearly undeveloped state and provide users with a feeling of solitude and tranquility, and an opportunity to view nature in its "uncontrolled" form. They may be partially or wholly on land, subterranean, or part of the marine environment.	<u>State Parks Natural Areas</u> are not "made", but rather currently exist due to historical circumstances that have resulted in little or no human interference in the natural environment. Those areas most desirable in terms of physical features and size usually are "found" and "held" against creeping encroachments and raising land values. They often become over used and "lost" as populations spread around them. As a part of the overall system, these areas should be geographically spread throughout the state. When classifying specific park areas, consideration must be given to the ability to adequately manage the areas against undesirable human encroachment.	<u>State Parks Natural Areas</u> provide opportunities for outdoor recreation on designated trails. Those trails may be developed and used only to the extent that they do not significantly degrade the system of natural processes in a classified area. Hiking, non-groomed cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, or other trail uses of similar impact to natural systems and providing a compatible recreational opportunity, may be permitted, after consultation with appropriate local, state, federal and tribal resource management agencies, and upon a finding by the agency that such trails are not likely to significantly degrade natural processes. Relocation of existing equestrian, bicycle, nordic track or other similar trails into a natural area may be permitted upon a finding by the director that such relocation is for the purpose of reducing overall resource impacts. All trails may be moved, redesigned, closed and/or removed upon a finding that their use is causing significant degradation to the system of natural processes. Technical rock climbing requires authorization by the commission. Off-trail use for nature observation, photography, cross-country skiing, harvesting of mushrooms and berries and similar uses are permitted to the degree that they do not significantly degrade natural processes. Scientific research is permitted.	<u>State Parks Natural Area</u> development shall be limited to facilities required for health, safety and protection of users and features consistent with allowed activities. Facilities to enhance public enjoyment shall be limited to primitive items such as trails, trail structures and minor interpretive exhibits . All improvements shall harmonize with, and not detract from, the natural setting. Parking and other trailhead facilities should be located outside of a classified area.

LAND CLASSIFICATION MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES HERITAGE AREAS

As Approved By Director Cleve Pinnix, December 21, 1995 _____

TITLE	DEFINITION	PHILOSOPHY	PHYSICAL FEATURES	LOCATION	ACTIVITIES	DEVELOPMENTS
Washington State Parks Heritage Areas	<u>State Parks Heritage Areas</u> are designated for preservation, restoration, and interpretation of outstanding, unique or unusual archaeological, historical, scientific, and/or cultural features, and traditional cultural properties, which are of state-wide or national significance.	<u>State Parks Heritage Areas</u> are designated to preserve and/or interpret selected areas or features for the education and enjoyment of the public, an area's intrinsic cultural value, and/or for scientific research.	<u>State Parks Heritage Areas</u> vary in size and physiographic makeup according to their location and reason for existence. Historic landscapes may require relatively large acreage while archaeological sites may be measured in square feet.	<u>State Parks Heritage Areas</u> usually are located where they are found or the feature exists. However, in some instances relocation or re-creation of artifacts, resources or facilities is possible. In these situations they may be located in appropriate settings and concentrated near major population centers and along primary travel routes.	<u>State Parks Heritage Area</u> activities shall generally be limited to those directly associated with the interpretation of the area or feature, and the education of the patrons. Picnicking, recreational trails, and other low- to medium-intensity recreation uses may be allowed if they do not detract from the principal purpose of the area, its setting, structures, sites and objects.	<u>State Parks Heritage Area</u> development shall generally be limited to that necessary for the protection and interpretation of the area or feature, and the education and safety of the patrons. Sanitary facilities, recreation trails, and picnicking facilities may be provided in a manner which does not detract from the aesthetic, educational or environmental quality of the area, its setting, structures, sites or objects, or, if applicable, its value for scientific research.

LAND CLASSIFICATION MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES NATURAL FOREST AREAS

As Approved By Director Cleve Pinnix, December 21, 1995 _____

TITLE	DEFINITION	PHILOSOPHY	PHYSICAL FEATURES	LOCATION	ACTIVITIES	DEVELOPMENTS
Washington State Parks Natural Forest Areas	<p><u>State Parks Natural Forest Areas</u> are designated for preservation, restoration, and interpretation of natural forest processes while providing for low-intensity outdoor recreation activities as subordinate uses, and which contain:</p> <p>(a) Old-growth forest communities that have developed for 150 years or longer and have the following structural characteristics: Large old-growth trees, large snags, large logs on land, and large logs in streams; or (b) Mature forest communities that have developed for 90 years or longer; or <input type="checkbox"/> Unusual forest communities and/or interrelated vegetative communities of significant ecological value.</p>	<p><u>State Parks Natural Forest Areas</u> are places where human access to and interpretation and enjoyment of natural forest processes are limited to those activities and facilities that do not significantly degrade natural forest processes. Public access into these areas emphasizes appreciation of nature through experiencing nature. The principal function of these areas is to assist in maintaining the state's bio-diversity while expanding human understanding and appreciation of natural values.</p>	<p><u>State Parks Natural Forest Areas</u> have a variety of topographic and vegetative conditions. They are generally large enough (300 or more acres) to contain one or more distinct and relatively intact vegetative communities. Smaller areas may be appropriate if representative of a unique or unusual forest community. Desirably, they are part of a large system of open space, wildlife habitat, and vegetative communities that provide a good opportunity for long-term ecosystem sustainability.</p>	<p><u>State Parks Natural Forest Areas</u> may be located anywhere in the state where natural factors produce forest vegetative cover. These areas are not "made", but rather currently exist due to historical circumstances that have resulted in little or no human interference in natural forest progression. As a part of an overall system, these areas should be geographically spread throughout the state, recognizing that maintenance of bio-diversity is one of the primary functions of their classification. When classifying specific park areas, consideration must be given to the ability to adequately manage the areas against undesirable human encroachment.</p>	<p><u>State Parks Natural Forest Areas</u> provide opportunities for outdoor recreation on designated recreation trails. Those trails may be developed and used only to the extent that they do not significantly degrade the system of natural forest processes in a classified area. Careful design of recreation trails should match intended uses, to maintain consistency with the purpose and philosophy of the classification. Hiking, non-groomed cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, or other trail uses of similar impact to natural systems and providing a compatible recreational opportunity, may be permitted, after consultation with appropriate local, state, federal and tribal resource management agencies, and upon a finding by the agency that such trails are not likely to significantly degrade natural forest processes. Relocation of existing equestrian, bicycle, nordic track or other similar trails into a natural forest area may be permitted upon a finding by the director that such relocation is for the purpose of reducing overall resource impacts. All trails may be moved, redesigned, closed and/or removed upon a finding that they are causing significant degradation to the system of natural forest processes. Technical rock climbing requires authorization by the commission. Off-trail use for nature observation, cross-country skiing, photography, harvesting of mushrooms and berries and similar uses are permitted to the degree that they do not significantly degrade natural forest processes. Scientific research is permitted.</p>	<p><u>State Parks Natural Forest Areas</u> development shall be limited to facilities required for health, safety and protection of users and features consistent with allowed activities. Facilities to enhance public enjoyment shall be limited to trails, trail structures, and minor interpretive exhibits. All improvements shall harmonize with, and not detract from, the natural setting. Parking and other trailhead facilities should be located outside of a classified area.</p>

**LAND CLASSIFICATION MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES
NATURAL AREA PRESERVES**

As Approved By Director Cleve Pinnix, December 21, 1995 _____

TITLE	DEFINITION	PHILOSOPHY	PHYSICAL FEATURES	LOCATION	ACTIVITIES	DEVELOPMENTS
<p>Washington State Parks Natural Area Preserves</p>	<p>State Parks Natural Area Preserves are designated for preservation of rare or vanishing flora, fauna, geological, natural historical or similar features of scientific or educational value and which are registered and committed as a natural area preserve through a cooperative agreement with an appropriate natural resource agency pursuant to chapter 79.70 RCW and chapter 332-60 WAC.</p>	<p>State Parks Natural Area Preserves are sites where human access is limited to educational and scientific purposes. The principal function of these areas is to preserve natural ecosystems or geologic features of statewide significance. Public access for recreation must be subordinate to the principal function of the classification.</p>	<p>State Parks Natural Area Preserves have a variety of topographic and vegetative conditions. They are generally large enough (300 or more acres) to contain one or more distinct and intact ecological communities. Smaller areas may be appropriate if representative of a unique or unusual ecological community or geologic feature. They may be partially or wholly on land, subterranean, or part of the marine environment. Desirably, they are part of a large system of open space, wildlife habitat, and vegetative communities that provide a good opportunity for long-term ecosystem sustainability.</p>	<p>State Parks Natural Area Preserves may be located anywhere in the state where natural ecological systems or significant geologic features exist. These areas are not "made", but rather exist due to historical circumstances that have resulted in little or no human interference in the natural system. As a part of an overall system, these areas should be geographically spread throughout the state.</p>	<p>State Parks Natural Area Preserves provide opportunities for scientific research and education about natural systems, geologic features, sensitive, rare, threatened or endangered species or communities. Recreational use of existing or relocated trails may be permitted, provided that it can be clearly demonstrated that such use does not degrade the system of natural processes occurring in the preserve. Otherwise, trails are limited to administrative, scientific and organized educational activities and uses. No other activities are permitted.</p>	<p>State Parks Natural Area Preserves development shall be limited to access facilities for permitted activities and structures to inhibit general public access. No other facilities or structures are permitted.</p>

Land Use and Land Classification Compatibility Matrix - Facilities
As Approved By Director Cleve Pinnix, December 21, 1995

	Recreation	Resource Recreation	Heritage	Natural/Natural Forest Area	Natural Area Preserve*
Amphitheater	P	C	C	N	N
Archery/Target Range	C	C	N	N	N
Camping - Std and Util	P	N	N	N	N
Camping - Primitive	P	P	C	N	N
Camping - Adirondack	P	C	N	N	N
Camping - Horse-oriented	C	C	N	N	N
Camping - Water Trail	P	P	C	N	N
Children's Play Area	P	C	C	N	N
Day Use Picnic - Tables	P	P	C	N	N
Day Use Picnic - Group Shelter	P	N	C	N	N
Day Use Lodges/Centers	P	N	C	N	N
Environmental Learning Centers	C	N	C	N	N
Equestrian Facilities	C	C	C	N	N
Fields - Informal Play/Mowed	P	C	C	N	N
Indoor Accommodations	P	N	C	N	N
Interpretive - Centers	P	N	P	N	N
Interpretive - Kiosks	P	P	P	C	N
Interpretive Trail	P	P	P	P	C
Interpretive - Signs	P	P	P	P	C

P (Permitted) - Use permitted with normal agency design review

C (Conditional) - Use may be permitted, but conditioned to assure design is compatible w/purpose of land classification and abutting classification objectives.

N (Not Permitted)- Use not permitted.

NA - Not Applicable

* All uses in a Natural Area Preserve must be specifically approved by the Park and Recreation Commission as part of a management plan.

Land Use and Land Classification Compatibility Matrix - Facilities
As Approved By Director Cleve Pinnix, December 21, 1995

	Recreation	Resource Recreation	Heritage	Natural/Natural Forest Area	Natural Area Preserve*
Parking - Vehicles	P	P	C	N	N
Roads	P	P	C	N	N
Sanitary: Comfort Stations	P	N	C	N	N
Sanitary: Composting/Vault	P	P	C	C	N
Sports Fields	C	N	N	N	N
Skiing - Alpine Facilities	C	C	N	N	N
Swimming Facilities	P	N	C	N	N
Trails - Hiking	P	P	P	P	C
Trails - Mountain Biking	P	C	C	N**	N
Trails - Equestrian	C	C	C	N**	N
Trails - Nordic Track Skiing	P	P	C	N**	N
Trails - C-C skiing	P	P	P	P	C
Trails - Snowmobile	P	C	C	N**	N
Trails - Paved non-motor	P	C	C	C	N
Water: Docks/Piers ≥ 10 boats	P	N	C	N	N
Water: Docks/Piers < 10 boats	P	P	C	C	N
Water: Launch Ramps	P	C	N	N	N
Water: Hand Launch Areas	P	P	C	C	N
Water: Mooring Buoys	P	P	C	C	N

P (Permitted) - Use permitted with normal agency design review

C (Conditional) - Use may be permitted, but conditioned to assure design is compatible w/purpose of land classification and abutting classification objectives.

N (Not Permitted)- Use not permitted.

NA - Not Applicable

* All uses in a Natural Area Preserve must be specifically approved by the Park and Recreation Commission as part of a management plan.

**Relocation of existing trails into a natural or natural forest area is permitted per WAC 352-32-070(3) and WAC 352-32-075(2)(b).

Land Use and Land Classification Compatibility Matrix - Activities
As Approved By Director Cleve Pinnix, December 21, 1995 _____

	Recreation	Resource Recreation	Heritage	Natural/Natural Forest Area	Natural Area Preserve*
Farming/Orchards	C	C	C	N	N
Filming/Special Events	P	P	P	C	N
Grazing	C	C	C	N	N
Harvesting - Edible Fruiting Bodies	P	P	P	P	N
Harvesting - Mushrooms	P	P	P	P	N
Harvesting - Shellfish	P	P	P	P	N
Harvesting - Fish	P	P	P	P	N
Harvesting - Algal, etc.	P	P	P	P	N
Haying	P	P	P	N	N
Metal Detecting	P	P	C	N	N
Orienteering	P	P	C	N	N
Ocean Beach Driving	P	C	N	N	N
Off-Trail: Equestrian	C	C	C	N	N
Off-Trail: Hiking	P	P	P	P	N
Off-trail biking	C	C	C	N	N
Paragliding	P	P	C	N	N
Technical Rock Climbing	P	P	C	C	N

P (Permitted) - Use permitted with normal agency design review

C (Conditional) - Use may be permitted with Commission concurrence, but conditioned to assure compatibility w/purpose of land classification and abutting classifications.

N (Not Permitted)- Use not permitted.

NA - Not Applicable

* All uses in a Natural Area Preserve must be specifically approved by the Park and Recreation Commission as part of a management plan.

Land Use and Land Classification Compatibility Matrix - Activities
As Approved By Director Cleve Pinnix, December 21, 1995 _____

	Recreation	Resource Recreation	Heritage	Natural/Natural Forest Area	Natural Area Preserve*
Water: Jet Skiing	P	C	N	N	N
Water: Kayak/Canoeing	P	P	P	C	N
Water: Power Boating	P	C	N	C	N
Water: White Water Boating	P	P	C	C	N
Water: Sailing	P	P	P	C	N
Water: Skiing	P	C	N	N	N
Water: Swimming	P	P	P	P	N
Water: Wind Surfing	P	C	C	N	N
Winter: Alpine Skiing	C	C	N	N	N
Winter: C-C Skiing (off-trail)	P	P	P	P	C
Winter: Mushing/Sled Dogs	C	C	C	N	N
Winter: Snowshoeing	P	P	P	P	C
Winter: Snowmobiling (off-trail)	P	P	C	N	N
Wood Debris Collection	P	P	P	N	N

P (Permitted) - Use permitted with normal agency design review

C (Conditional) - Use may be permitted with Commission concurrence, but conditioned to assure compatibility w/purpose of land classification and abutting classifications.

N (Not Permitted)- Use not permitted.

NA - Not Applicable

* All uses in a Natural Area Preserve must be specifically approved by the Park and Recreation Commission as part of a management plan

Appendix D: Additional Natural, Cultural, and Recreational Resource Data