

NOVEMBER COMMISSION MEETING RECAP

WASHINGTON STATE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION



124
PARKS



120,000
ACRES



1,300 miles
OF TRAILS



45 million
ANNUAL VISITS



7
COMMISSIONERS

The Commission wrapped up a productive meeting in Chelan that included presentations, work sessions, guest speakers and more. Here's an overview of topics covered.

COMMISSION ACTION

Item E-1: Riverside State Park – Sontag Park transfer to Nine Mile Falls School District

The Commission considered a proposal to delegate to the Parks Director the authority to transfer a portion of Sontag Park to the Nine Mile Falls School District.

This item was unanimously approved.

>> [View presentation](#)



Commissioner Milner, Director Dupuis, Commissioner Williams and Commissioner Brown at Lake Chelan State Park

Item E-2: Nisqually Property Transfer

The Commission considered a proposal to delegate to the Parks Director the authority to transfer portions of Nisqually State Park to the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) for future right-of-way purposes. This also includes the transfer of any ownership interest held by the Commission on Mashel Prairie Road to Pierce County (County).

This item was unanimously approved.

» [View presentation](#)

Item E-3: Financial Update

The Commission was provided with a report on the status of Parks' 2021-23 biennium operating and capital budget expenditures and the Parks Renewal and Stewardship Account (PRSA) revenue.

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Diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) discussion

Parks DEI Director Janette Chien and DEI Manager Melinda Posner presented an overview of Parks DEI work, including updates and next steps for the Parks DEI plan.

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Pre-arranged guest speakers

Jim VanLoben Sels, General Manager, Mount Spokane 2000

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David Timmons, Executive Director, Fort Worden Public Development Authority

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Kevin Goodrich, Public Works Director, City of Westport

WORK SESSION PRESENTATIONS

Maintenance Program Update

Statewide Maintenance Manager Ryan Layton was joined by Parks' regional maintenance managers to provide the Commission with an overview of the maintenance and construction work being done within the agency, including the scope, scale, and volume of projects.

>> [View presentation](#)

Westport Light Update

Partnership and Planning Manager Heather Saunders, Natural Resources Program Manager Dr. Andrea Thorpe and Environmental Program Manager Jessica Logan updated the Commission on the progress of the ongoing master planning effort at Westport Light State Park to consider a Scottish-style links golf course. Their presentation included a summary of findings in the environmental and economic site analysis and introduced the golf course conceptual design. Finally, they discussed next steps in the planning process.

>> [View presentation](#)

Forest Health Update

Agency Forester David Cass presented the Commission with an annual report on Parks forest health activities, which included a summary of work completed in the last year and planned projects for the upcoming year.

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Statewide Maintenance Managers updating the Commission during the work session

WORK SESSION PRESENTATIONS

Discover Pass Marketing

Marketing Manager Holly Wood provided the commission with an update on Discover Pass marketing for the 21-23 biennium. The presentation provided updates on past and present marketing initiatives as well as an overview of current marketing projects. These projects highlight the inter-agency focus of Discover Pass promotions that showcase the value of the pass because it provides access to all state-managed lands — including State Parks, the Department of Natural Resources and Department of Fish and Wildlife.

The currently-running commercial produced from this initiative can be viewed in the presentation or online on the [Discover Pass website](#).

>> [View presentation](#)

Commission Roles and Responsibilities

This presentation provided an opportunity to discuss the roles and responsibilities of commissioners and share information on best practices.

>> [View presentation](#)



Staff tour of Bridgeport State Park

MEET OUR COMMISSIONERS & DIRECTOR



MIKE
LATIMER
COMMISSIONER



MARK O.
BROWN
CHAIR



LAURIE
CONNELLY
COMMISSIONER



KEN
BOUNDS,
VICE CHAIR



SOPHIA
DANENBERG
SECRETARY



STEVE
MILNER
COMMISSIONER



HOLLY
WILLIAMS
COMMISSIONER



DIANA
DUPUIS
DIRECTOR

GOLD STAR AWARDS

Corey Tolar, Winter Recreation Program

We're recognizing Corey for being the foundational rock of finances for the Boating Program. He's our steady eddy — never too low and never too high. Corey is always providing great consultation regarding anything having to do with the budgeting process.

Thank you Corey for everything you have done to support the Boating Program and congratulations on your new role with the Winter Recreation Program!

Boone Badda, Palouse to Cascades Trail

We're thrilled to award a gold star to Boone for providing quick and helpful assistance on the Palouse to Cascades Trail West by clearing damaged drainage structures. Your help made all the difference.

Thank you for all of your hard work!

Alex Rosen, Information Technology (IT)

We're recognizing Alex for the creation of the Foster Family pass tab in the PAS access database. Alex's excellent work on this project has been a huge help to the Info Center. Alex has great communication skills, especially when explaining complex database design. Alex's work is always completed promptly and collaboratively.

Thank you for making the new FFP tab, we couldn't have done it without you!

Best wishes for your retirement, Commissioner Milner!

Current and former commissioners recognized and thanked Steve Milner for his many years of service as a Washington State Parks Commissioner. Jon Snyder, Outdoor Recreation and Economic Development Senior Policy Advisor for the Washington State Governor's Office, presented a thank you letter from Governor Inslee.



Recognizing Commissioner Milner's retirement