



Washington State Parks & Recreation Commission

Item E-2

Steptoe Butte State Park Heritage Site— Washington State Department of Natural Resources - Perpetual Easement – Requested Action

Presented by: Michelle Burke
Property and Acquisition Specialist

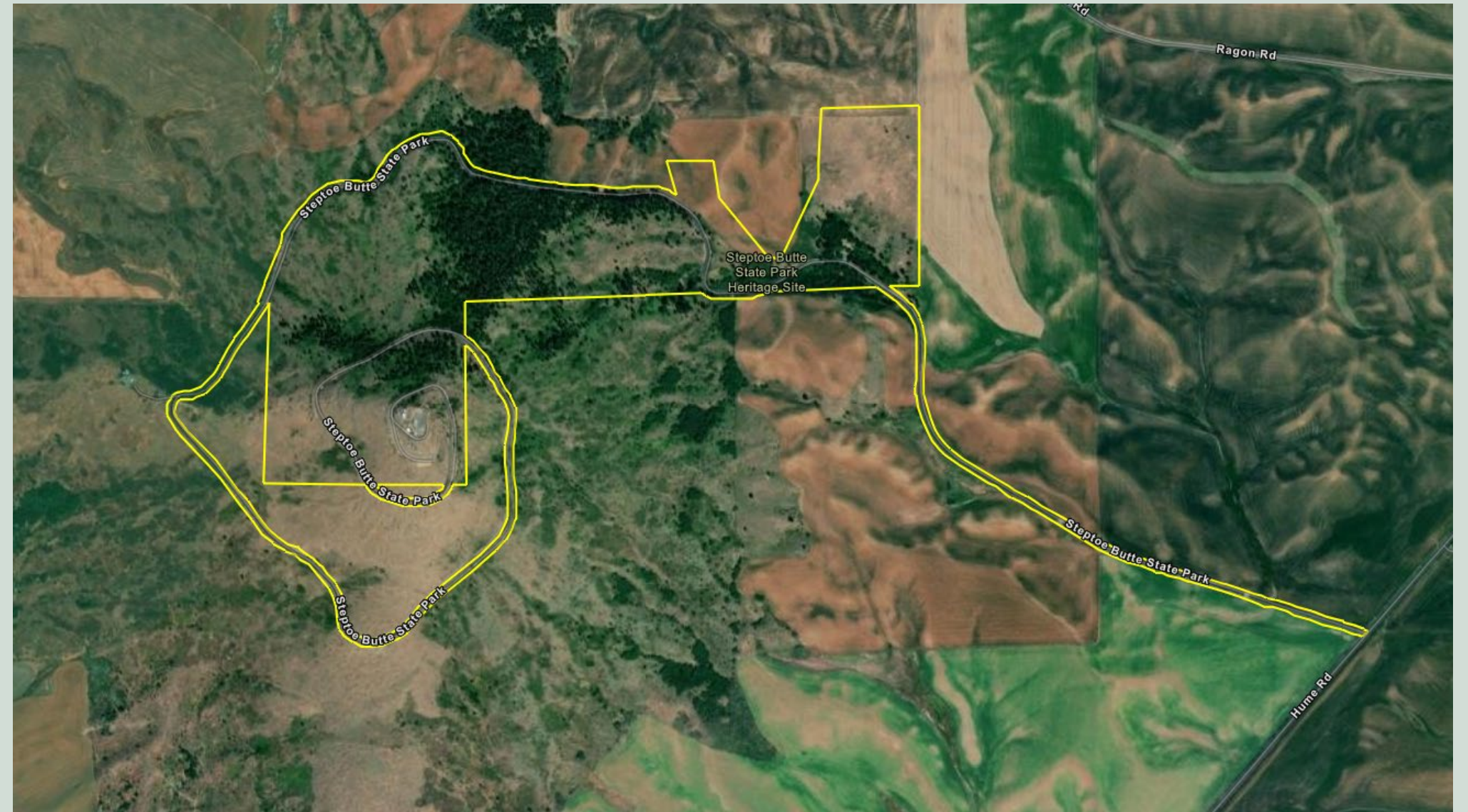
April 16, 2026





Steptoe Butte State Park Heritage Site

- ✓ 3,612 ft tall quartzite butte
- ✓ 168 acres
- ✓ Viewpoints
- ✓ Day use only with a picnic area
- ✓ Interpretive panels



Road Easement History



- ✓ Purchased adjacent parcels for conservation.
- ✓ State Parks granted a 40 yr. appurtenant easement for road access in 2016.
- ✓ Steptoe Butte Prairie Reserve LLC sold to DNR in 2021 to preserve this beautiful land and last known Palouse Prairie ecosystems.





Washington State Parks Mission

The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission cares for Washington's most treasured lands, waters, and historic places. State parks connect all Washingtonians to their diverse natural and cultural heritage and provide memorable recreational and educational experiences that enhance their lives.



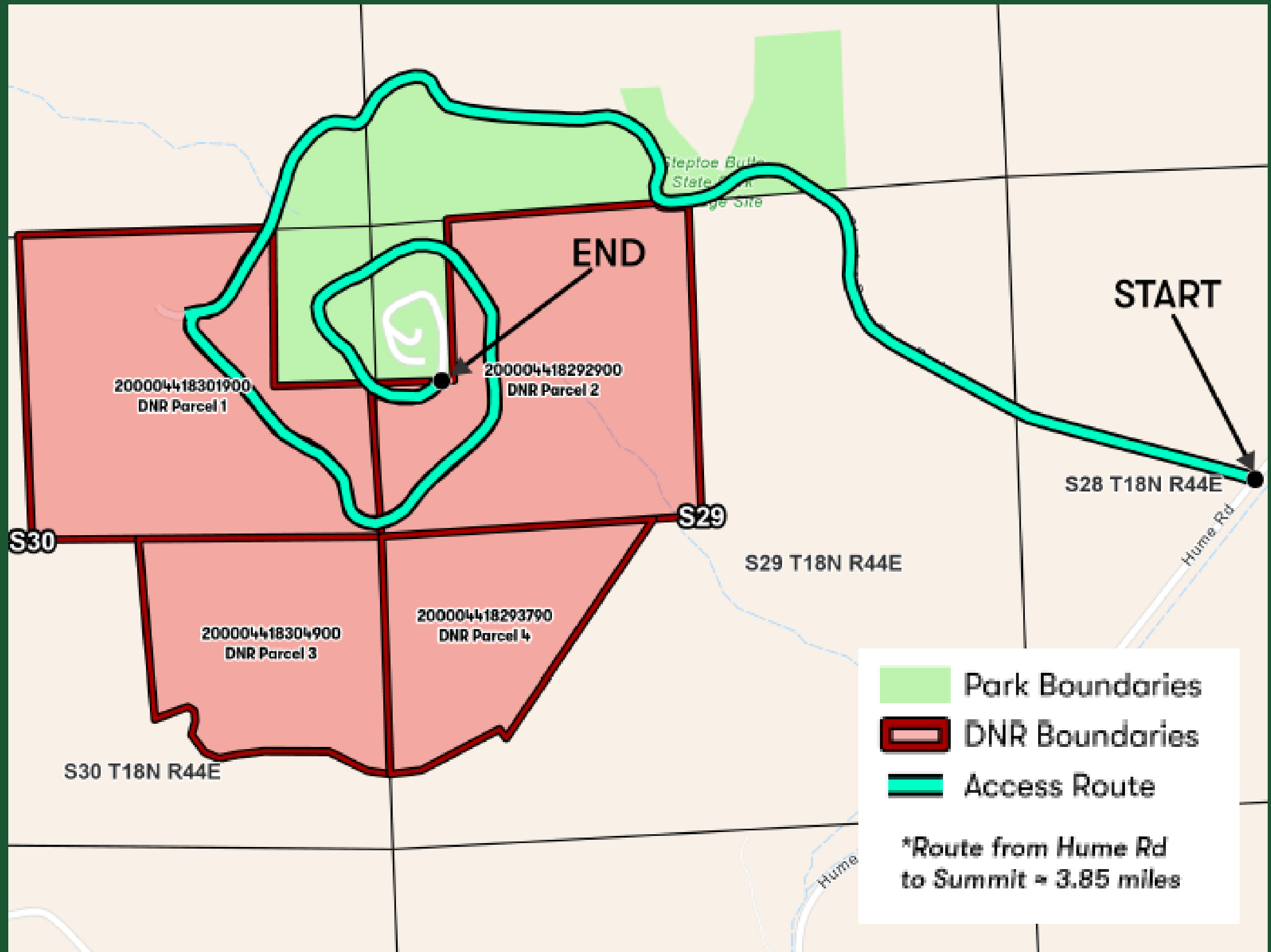


Supporting Priorities

Strengthen strategic relationships to advance the agency's priorities and secure ongoing support.

Collaboration with sister agencies, stakeholders, partners.





PROPOSED PROJECT

- ✓ 3.85-mile road easement
- ✓ Located off Hume County Road
- ✓ Requested by Washington State Department of Natural Resources



Restrictions

This easement does not fit the criteria found in the Commission Real Estate Policy 25-07-1 Delegated Director Approval therefore this easement must be approved by the commission

- The easement does not meet two of the criteria required for Director-level approval:
 - The easement is not underground or provides access for residential use.
 - The easement area is more than 1,000 linear feet (20,328).
 - The easement is not located within a rail-trail corridor.



Road Use & Paving Project

- ✓ **Public, Staff, Lessees, and Subleases**
- ✓ **DNR proposed road use visits, road use payments**
- ✓ **Paving Cost \$3,410,000.00**

Road User	Annual Visits	Percent Use
Lessees	42	0.08%
DNR	125	0.24%
Park Staff	117	0.23%
Public	51,228	99.45%

Requested Action

That the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission

1. Authorize the Director or designee to execute an easement agreement with DNR that is substantially in the form or that in Appendix 3.



Questions?



Thank you

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