

Mount Spokane State Park

Master Plan



Alternatives Report
May 14, 2025



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Introduction and Purpose

The Alternatives Report (“Report”) is an interim product for continuing the development of and soliciting input for the Mount Spokane State Park Master Plan, a 20-year future vision for the park.

The Report proposes two future alternative scenarios for the park that were synthesized by the project planning team to reflect input from a planning workshop held on September 28, 2024, at Bear Creek Lodge, and builds on earlier community event input received at the June 1, 2024, Master Plan “kick-off” event held at the Wonder Building in Spokane. The Report and associated alternatives also reflect input from Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission (“State Parks”) staff including executive sponsors and agency discipline leads including stewardship, planning, trails, capital program, operations, interpretation, historic preservation and archaeology.

The alternatives are proposed in themes and include a range of projects with varying degrees of development and conservation intention. The alternative visions help stakeholders, the greater park community, and staff consider the ideas, opinions and concepts that have come up throughout the process and invite reactions that can ultimately be consolidated into a preferred vision that will be the basis for the master plan’s development.

In addition to bundling the park projects and features that would be the responsibility of State Parks, the alternatives integrate the projects that are considered for the Mount Spokane Ski and Snowboard Park, led by concessionaire Mount Spokane 2000 (“MS 2000”). These projects have not been “endorsed” or evaluated by State Parks; they represent the strategic vision MS 2000 has developed for the long-term future of the ski area. Each project is assigned to a specific alternative, consistent with that development theme.

Funding sources and strategies have not been identified and developed for any of the projects identified and described herein. Upon the development of a preferred alternative, an implementation plan will be developed to identify potential funding sources, strategies, and timing.

Please note: The projects identified in this report are conceptual ideas proposed by stakeholders and the community. While the planning team has reviewed projects to assess general feasibility (e.g. legal, physical, financial over a 20-year period, etc.), the preferred alternative vision and the projects associated with it will be assessed through the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA). In short, the projects identified herein could ultimately be

removed or included with certain conditions to recognize budgetary, environmental, and operational constraints.

Tribal Outreach

In coordination with State Parks' Tribal Relations team, the planning team initiated outreach in June 2024 to several area tribes, including the Spokane Tribe of Indians, Kalispel Tribe of Indians, Coeur d'Alene Tribe, Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation, and Yakama Nation. Tribal consultation is and will continue to be an ongoing effort throughout the life of this project.

September 28th Workshop – Bear Creek Lodge

All community members who expressed interest were invited to the September 28 workshop. Participants represented diverse users who brought unique park experiences, backgrounds and a range of issues and concerns from groups such as Washington Trails Association, Backcountry Horsemen of Washington, Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance, Mount Spokane Ski and Snowboard Park, Spokane Nordic, adaptive recreation community, and many others. Area tribes were invited to attend and participate, but elected not to or did not respond to the invitation. The full list of participants can be found in Attachment "A."

Prior to the workshop, the planning team hosted two orientation meetings for participants, providing an overview of the park (e.g. features, history, etc.), opportunities and constraints including natural resources, current recreational use, management concerns, and challenges currently facing the park. A summary of the comments from the June 1 event were also provided to participants for additional context. Participants were organized into small groups based on four geographic quadrants of the park: Basin, Summit, Quartz and Bald Knob. Each group was asked to address questions about park vision, trails, long-term boundary, land classification, facilities, recreational activities, parking/circulation and questions unique to their assigned area. Each group was assigned a staff facilitator to help work through the questions with answers captured on maps and flip charts.

Alternatives Introduction

Based on the range of project actions recommended by participants at the September 28 workshop and other inputs mentioned above, two alternative visions were developed and organized thematically to illustrate differences and opportunities provided by both. As such, these alternative visions are organized as follows:

- Alternative A: Community Mountain
- Alternative B: Recreation Destination

Each alternative vision contains a list of project actions that collectively align with and support each alternative. A summary of each alternative vision is included below with a full list of projects included in Attachment B.

Helpful hint: When reviewing each alternative, please keep in mind that State Parks isn't asking you to select one alternative over another. Rather, please consider these alternatives as your "a la carte" menu of proposed actions and projects. Ultimately, the preferred and desirable components of each alternative may be blended into what could become a third or preferred alternative.

Alternative A: Community Mountain

Vision: Enhance visitor experience and improve management capabilities with focused facility upgrades of Selkirk Lodge, some trails and Downhill Ski and Snowboard Park. The park continues "winter-summer" business model of robust winter use and less intensive summer use.

Development Approach: Preference of enhancing existing recreational facilities aligned with the descriptors below:

Descriptors		
More summer	More camping	More variety
"Go bigger"	Expansive	Future growth
Overnight	Events	Transportation
Mountain biking	Vibrant	Conservation
New faces	Diverse	Historic
Branding	Single-use	Active recreation

Alternative A - Sample Features and Projects

- **Long-term boundary** - Expand to provide a conservation buffer around the entire park with the intent, through partnerships and non-fee simple actions, to encourage park-adjacent lands to be managed consistent with State Parks conservation values.

- **Land classification** – Change portions of the park classified as Resource Recreation to Natural Forest or Natural Area to align with ecological integrity data, current and future use, and recognition of Mount Spokane State Park as a large, critical, protected habitat for several species important to area tribes and high priority for Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (“WDFW”).
- **Trail system** – Focus on improvements to existing trails with minor expansion to address trail system functionality; provide additional beginner-level trails.
- **Bear Creek Lodge** – Demolish existing building(s) and improve site for parking, trailhead, gateway functions.
- **Selkirk Lodge** – Modest expansion of existing footprint and parking area, and limited facility enhancements (e.g. updated electrical) to improve experience and accommodate more visitors.
- **Summit Road** – Monitor and close to public vehicle use should road become unsafe without funding to improve.
- **Overnight accommodations** – Expand Bald Knob campground to include additional hike-in / bike-in sites, replace Jerry’s House with yurt or cabin pod for year-round rental.
- **Winter-dependent activities (non-MS2000)** - Continue existing winter dependent activities that may be marginalized by climate change, which may include a snow play area at Bear Creek Lodge and snowmobiling. Continue to evaluate viability of those uses in light of climate change.
- **Other**
 - Develop a new park gateway.
 - Prioritize forest management work in Deadman Creek watershed.
 - Restore historic viewpoint at Bald Knob including potential historic restoration of the picnic shelter.

Alternative A – Mount Spokane Ski and Snowboard Park

- Chairlift replacements
 - Vista Cruiser – Summer operable, but mountain bike lift service not permitted
 - Parkway Express – Non-summer operable
 - Hidden Treasure
 - Beginner’s Luck

- Expanded parking capacity – This project would consider a combination of increased parking capacity where feasible at the lodge and satellite park / MS 2000-operated shuttle service from Bear Creek Lodge or outside of the park.
- New vehicle maintenance / cat storage building
- Water storage – This is primarily to supply adequate water supply and pressure to fire suppression sprinklers in Lodge 2 and any future buildings. This reservoir could also serve limited snow making for the beginner area, dependent upon Washington State Department of Ecology issuing new water right sufficient to supply the reservoir.
- Lodge 2 Welcome Center / expanded indoor spaces
- Expanded learning area / terrain
- New welcome/entrance and road signage
- Ropes course

Alternative A – Trail Projects

- No expansion of trails within the concession area.
- Implement a new naming system and retain historic trail numbering. This would align with the United States Forest Service’s approach to trail signage (e.g. Pacific Crest Trail #2000).
- Continue unmanaged / ungroomed multi-use trail management objectives (i.e. uses allowed in summer carryover to allowed winter uses) with exceptions:
 - Trail 100 (East) would become hiker-only
 - Trail 110 (Upper) would become hiker-only
 - Trail 290 (Upper, L’Upper, Lower) would be confirmed as downhill, mountain bike only
 - Trail 140 (Lower, Middle, Upper) would become mountain biker / hiker only
- Develop a new single-track, beginner-level trail loop along Linder Ridge (hiker / mountain biker only)
- Develop a new connector trail from Bear Creek Lodge to Entrance Trailhead / trails.
- Reconstruct Upper and Lower 140 to encourage slower downhill speed and emphasize multi-use
- Redesignate Trail 130 east of Bald Knob to KC Loop from “Trail 130” to “Fire Road”

Alternative B: Recreation Destination

Vision: Strategic expansion of some existing and the addition of some new facilities including new trail connections and single-use designations, overnight accommodations, Bear Creek Lodge renovation and more expansive improvements at the Mount Spokane Ski and Snowboard Park including expanded summer programs.

Development Approach: Enhance existing recreational facilities and expand recreational facilities and offerings that collectively create a multi-season recreation area, aligned with the descriptors below:

Descriptors		
More summer	More camping	More variety
“Go bigger”	Expansive	Future growth
Overnight	Events	Transportation
Mountain biking	Vibrant	Conservation
New faces	Diverse	Historic
Branding	Single-use	Active recreation

Alternative B - Sample Features and Projects

Includes all Alternative A projects unless otherwise described below.

- **Long term boundary** – Expand and include properties for fee simple action (i.e. State Parks ownership) primarily to expand recreational opportunities.
- **Land classification** – Retain existing (1999) with minor adjustments (e.g. CCC Heritage Area).
- **Trail system** – Expand trail system to support more summer use, including lift-served downhill mountain bike trails.
- **Bear Creek Lodge** – Renovate the lodge and seek concession to operate welcome and information center, restaurant (w/ beer/wine service), rental shop, etc. Relocate park office to the lodge.
- **Selkirk Lodge** – See *Alternative A*.
- **Winter-dependent activities (non-MS2000)** – Phase out marginal, winter-dependent activities in climate-impacted areas over time. Some exceptions to this could include the tubing hill at Bear Creek Lodge. **Overnight accommodations**

- Develop backcountry camping along Eagle Crest (Linder Ridge)
- Develop overnight huts, including near the NOVA hut
- Develop new campground at Camp Fosseens property (contingent upon acquisition)

Alternative B – Mount Spokane Ski and Snowboard Park

Includes all Alternative A projects unless otherwise described below.

- Chairlift replacements – Same as Alternative A with the following changes:
 - Vista Cruiser – Summer operable AND mountain bike service permitted. This would include a requirement for MS 2000 to maintain Upper 290, L’Upper 290 trails
 - Parkway Express – Summer operable and mountain bike service permitted
- Lift-served mountain biking and hiking trail development with the following conditions: MS2000 required to professionally design and professionally construct trails and required to be 100% responsible for maintenance and require summer operable Parkway Express lift.
- Summit-to-Base cat track / fire road – This would create a “green” rated cat track ski run from summit to base. Other benefits could include operational and fire access.
- New beginner treed area.

Alternative B – Trail Projects

Includes all Alternative A projects unless otherwise described below.

- Expansion of downhill mountain biking and hiking trails within the concession area
- Develop Parkway Express lift-served trail system (see above)
- Modify Vista Cruiser lift-served trail system
 - Contingent upon a summer operable lift permitted to allow mountain bikes.
 - Upper 290, L’Upper 290 would be maintained at the sole expense of the concessionaire.
 - Former power line corridor adjacent park road would be improved and maintained at the sole expense of the concessionaire and would serve as the return route back to Vista Cruiser lift.
- Develop a new bi-directional mountain bike-only trail from Entrance Trailhead to Lower Selkirk Trailhead.
- Develop a new Bald Knob to summit, hiker-only trail
- Develop a “round the mountain” trail to replace Trail 130 east of Bald Knob and KC Loop

- Separate trail systems for snowshoeing and fat biking

Theme Discussion

State Parks Planning Philosophy

Consistent with agency mission, the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission is committed to connecting all Washingtonians to their diverse heritage and providing memorable recreational and educational experiences. New improvements, facilities and park spaces are designed to provide the mainstays of developed park landscapes – campgrounds, picnic areas, hiking and walking trails – and to make them as easy and convenient for the most number of people to enjoy the outdoors. State Parks are low-cost (compared to many outdoor recreation opportunities), do not require specialized equipment or training, and are designed to appeal to a wide range of interests and abilities.

State parks are places for new and aspiring recreation enthusiasts, for those returning time and time again, or are places where visitors gather for a special event or educational opportunity. State parks offer safe and accessible ways to learn a new activity, be introduced to diverse natural environments and to practice becoming more proficient at something before heading off to more remote locations or more rigorous expeditions. Another important factor in the planning of state parks is considering existing recreation opportunities within the region and developing parks that complement, not duplicate, the local offerings.

Local vs Regional Draw

Because of the park's close proximity to the city of Spokane, in both alternatives Mount Spokane State Park visitors are predominantly from the Spokane area. Alternative A envisions the park as a local community mountain, more focused on serving a local audience, typically living within the Spokane-Coeur d'Alene corridor, which is consistent with the existing visitor base and operations model. The park's proximity to the downtown core of Spokane and nearby urban and suburban neighborhoods makes it easy for regular users to come to the park for short and frequent visits (e.g. a ski before work, bike ride or run at the end of the workday). The mountain will become even easier to visit with the future completion of the North Spokane Corridor project, an extension of US-395.

In addition to serving the existing visitor base, Alternative B adds new facilities, recreation opportunities, and potentially from willing sellers, expanded land base to draw visitors from the greater Inland Northwest region. Alternative B includes new facilities and services that support full and multiple day visits to Mount Spokane State Park. Maintaining and improving existing facilities continues to be important, as is expanding to accommodate increased population growth. Accordingly, Alternative B puts a greater emphasis on

developing “destination” type recreational facilities, including lift served mountain bike trails, winter and summer recreation programming, and expanded overnight accommodations, though contemplated additional camping / overnight options would not necessarily lead to the park becoming an overnight destination.

Long-Term Boundary

Alternatives A and B propose an expansion of the park’s long-term boundary with different goals in mind. Alternative A seeks to create a “conservation buffer” around Mount Spokane to retain the park biodiversity and wildlife corridor connectivity for species such as elk and moose. As the primary function of the expansion is to ensure the conservation of these adjacent lands, the primary role of Washington State Parks within this conservation buffer is to support partners’ and property owners’ efforts to conserve these lands through less-than-fee-simple means such as the recording of conservation easements. Fee simple ownership within this buffer is not contemplated in this alternative. This isn’t a new approach for Washington State Parks where a more extensive long-term boundary for conservation purposes was recently applied on the Klickitat State Park Trail.

Alternative B contemplates an expanded long-term boundary with the primary goal of acquiring select adjacent lands to expand long-term recreational opportunities including facilities such as trailheads, trails, and backcountry huts.

Bear Creek Lodge

Alternative A contemplates the complete demolition of the lodge. This scenario is being proposed due to the significant anticipated costs and years (possibly several biennium budget cycles of funding) to renovate and restore the lodge for public use, bring many aspects of the structure up to current code, and provide exterior site improvements.

Alternative B contemplates full renovation of the lodge, which could likely only occur through a private-public partnership ([See St. Edward Lodge](#)) as historic funding levels for the agency’s capital budget would signal a decade of successful funding requests to complete the needed building updates as well as a corresponding increase in the agency’s operational budget long-term to support a staffing model and building costs associated with operating a renovated lodge.

Initial conversations to help inform the development of each alternative indicate that Washington State Parks would need to invest significantly in the building to create a “turnkey” opportunity for a private sector operator. Only then would the agency be able to *potentially* successfully attract a private sector operator / concessionaire.

Financial Considerations

While it's too early in the planning process to develop cost estimates, Alternative A is likely more aligned with Washington State Parks' historic budgets – both operational and capital. For example, Alternative A assumes demolition of the Bear Creek Lodge, which eliminates a large future capital expensive as well as long-term operational costs associated with maintaining and staffing the building. It also strives to maintain the current operating model (heavy winter / lighter summer use; predominantly day-use park). In addition, it contemplates limited additional future ownership primarily focused on in-holdings and preserving park facilities (e.g. including the full Nordic trail system in the long-term boundary).

Alternative B, if fully implemented, would likely exceed Washington State Parks' historic budgets and would require additional and new funding sources. The large additions of land contemplated in this alternative would not only require significant capital funding to acquire the identified properties, but would also need a significant, perpetual increase in the park's operating budget to account for new costs associated with maintaining access roads, culverts, forest management, and law enforcement required to steward and manage each new property acquired. Bear Creek Lodge, if renovated, would increase park operational costs unless assumed by a third-party operator / concessionaire. If fully implemented, Alternative B would alter the park's current operating model by creating high demand summer *and* winter seasons and to a lesser degree, additional overnight options.

While not aligned with historic budgets, other funding sources could be identified to support Alternative B projects. However, given the current budget climate, this is unlikely in the short-term. It is anticipated that State funding will be severely constrained over the next 3+ biennium budgets while the Federal funding situation appears similarly constrained through, at minimum, 2028.

Inclusive and Inviting to All Ages

Both alternatives support more proactive steps to attract more diverse visitors, which would be implemented through a focus on youth programming, targeted outreach to underserved communities and other actions to remove barriers to participation.

Transportation, parking fees, recreation equipment, instruction and curated tours are all possibilities. The master plan doesn't speak specifically to how these programs will be implemented; instead it provides overall direction and anticipates that operations staff will develop staffing and funding plans in each year's budget cycle.

Particularly because of the downhill and Nordic ski areas, many residents have grown up visiting and recreating at Mount Spokane and have ancestors who helped shape what it has

become today. In stakeholder interviews and community events, participants spoke of how the park is viewed and used by friends and family. The park's family orientation stays a priority in both alternatives with similar emphasis on adding entry-level (accessible, interpretive) experiences to provide a range of abilities and interests. This includes supporting efforts to attract younger people to the park.

“Close-In” Wilderness

Both alternatives retain the existing wilderness feel of the park. In Alternative A this is supported with an expanded Long-term Boundary that seeks to permanently protect more land adjacent to the park (assuming interested and willing landowners) primarily through non-fee simple actions such as partnership projects and conservation easements. And, while Alternative B recommends expansion of the Long-term Boundary for expansion of recreation facilities like trails, it is likely that much of this expansion would allow the park to retain its “wilderness” character.

Ecological Integrity, Priority Species, and Meadow Protection

Both alternatives, to a lesser and greater degree, recognize the park's significant ecological attributes, emphasizing conservation and preservation of natural lands. Mount Spokane's multiple occurrences of rare and high-quality ecosystems, some of which are imperiled (i.e. extremely rare) in both Washington and throughout the world, are protected, as are plant communities that are more common but noteworthy due to their high quality.

- **Ecological Integrity** - Ecosystem Integrity is a measure used to catalog the condition of plant communities, factoring in rarity and quality. It is used by State Parks for natural systems management and stewardship. Development of roads and trails, invasive species and other impacts that fragment an ecosystem can reduce the ecological integrity score of an area. Washington State Parks goal is to manage natural lands in an A or B state and restore degraded areas (C, D and F) to an A or B. Mount Spokane is unique in the state park system as having most lands in A or B quality today; with some limited areas of C+. Both alternatives recognize these important ecosystems and limit development in areas of highest quality/at greatest risk (map). Alternative A recognizes the high ecological integrity of Mount Spokane by shifting many areas of the park classified as Resource Recreation to Natural Forest.
- **Priority Species** - Mount Spokane is home to several priority species ([Priority Habitats and Species \(PHS\) | Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife](#)) including moose, Northern Goshawk, Pika, Grey Wolf and Elk, which have implications for master plan development. Avoidance is the primary strategy for limiting harmful

effects. Elk, in particular, are more sensitive to human activity, and are an important species to Tribes. Both alternatives will protect wildlife species and their habitats; however, Alternative A, due to fewer proposed projects and limited expansion of existing facilities, prescribes a higher level of protection and less overall fragmentation of habitat with a smaller trail system footprint and an increase in the percentage of the park classified as Natural Forest or Natural Area.

- **Meadow Protection** – Mount Spokane is home to several, well-inventoried high elevation, high quality meadows. Meadow habitats are sensitive to degradation from increased use and development due to the increased likelihood of importing non-native species. Both alternatives propose project actions to increase meadow protection including expanding the Natural Area land classification to better match the extent of these meadows as well as trail projects to reroute informal trails at Horse Mountain to reduce threat of invasive species introduction.

Climate Change

Climate change is a major consideration for future planning at Mount Spokane State Park. It has been identified in numerous reports as an area likely to be significantly impacted by climate change primarily through higher winter temperatures and reduced future snowpacks. These reports include the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (“NOAA”) produced report titled *Spokane Climate Vulnerability and Resilience Assessment* (2019) as well as a University of Washington-produced report titled *Preparing Washington State Parks for Climate Change* (2017). Key takeaways from the reports include:

- By 2050, the ski season could shrink by 29-39 days on average.
- Depending on the global response to climate change, a less robust response could mean the difference between a non-viable ski season and a degraded, but viable season.
- Snow dependent recreation industries in the Spokane area such as skiing, snowboarding, snowshoeing, and snowmobiling need to prepare for seasons that start later, are shorter, and have less snow.
- Winter recreation industries in Spokane region should consider diversifying their business model. This should include emphasizing warmer weather recreation activities.

Alternative A generally “stays the course” on winter recreation with a more passive approach to winter recreation management. While Alternative A contemplates a series of future investments within the Mount Spokane Ski and Snowboard Park, these aren’t intended to change the overall business model (primarily a winter recreation business).

Other uses would be monitored and potentially phased out if they are no longer viable due to limited season or lower elevation trail system connectivity.

Alternative B contemplates a more robust approach to winter recreation management, including more actively phasing out some winter recreational activities that are comparatively marginal in the context of other regional opportunities. The additional investments contemplated within the Mount Spokane Ski and Snowboard Park would align with climate change resiliency strategies, including the development of a more robust summer operational model.

Lastly, in recognition of climate change and the associated unknowns (e.g. global response and reduction of greenhouse gas production) there would likely be conditions placed on those future investments to recognize climate change. For example, projects anticipated beyond 2035, including proposed lift replacements, may include a condition such as “final project approval dependent upon State Parks’ determination that the downhill ski and snowboard park can remain a viable operation in light of climate change impacts.”

Appendix

Attachment A – List of September 28th Workshop Participants

Participant	Workshop Group
Duane Crockett	Summit
Haley Cooper-Scott	Summit
Jim Meyer	Summit
Jeff Gibson	Summit
Jim van Löben Sels	Summit
Joe Hall	Summit
Ross Niblock	Summit
Stephen Baran	Summit
Andy Hoyer	Summit
Duane Crockett	Summit
Haley Cooper-Scott	Summit
Andy Hoyer	Summit
Bruce Utsey	Quartz
Dawn Schaaf	Quartz
Larry Bettinger	Quartz
Matt Halloran	Quartz
Michael J. Ryan	Quartz
Mike Brede	Quartz
Robert Millsap	Quartz
Todd Dunfield	Quartz
Frances Mortel	Quartz
Brian Vrablick	Basin
Caroline Calder	Basin
Chris Whitcomb	Basin
Craig Payne	Basin
Cris Currie	Basin
Jacob Calder	Basin
Jane Baker	Basin
Scott Kuhta	Basin
Jeff Warner	Basin
Adam Gebauer	Bald Knob
David Kovac	Bald Knob
Irene Gammon	Bald Knob
Michael Nixon	Bald Knob
Paul Hatten	Bald Knob
Robert Pool	Bald Knob

Ken Carmichael	Bald Knob
Robin L Redman	Bald Knob
Sean Brewer	Bald Knob
Greg Figg	Bald Knob

Attachment B – Alternatives Project List

Map Reference	Proposed Action	Description	Alt A - Community Mountain	Alt B – Recreation Destination
Land Classification 1	Expand Recreation around Bear Creek Lodge	This action would expand the existing Recreation classification around Bear Creek Lodge to allow for greater flexibility of use.	X	X
2	Change Natural Forest Area to Resource Recreation near Trail 140 / Trail 110	This action would allow for Trail 140 to be rerouted and developed into a more sustainable multi-use trail. Ensure Trail 110 is excluded from NFA.	X	X
3	Change Riley Creek Inholding west of Trail 170 from Resource Recreation to Natural Forest	This action was suggested to help “balance” modifications to existing Natural Forest Area adjacent to Trail 140 (See LC-2).	X	
4	Designate LTB-3 properties as Resource Recreation	This action would be contingent upon Round Top Mountain being included in long-term boundary.		X
5	Change select LTB-2 properties from Natural Forest to Resource Recreation	This action would be contingent upon these properties being included in the LTB.		X
6	Designate LTB-4 properties as Resource Recreation.	This action would be contingent upon these properties being included in LTB.	X	X
7	Designate LTB-5 properties as Resource Recreation	This action would be contingent upon these properties being included in LTB.		X

Map Reference	Proposed Action	Description	Alt A - Community Mountain	Alt B – Recreation Destination
8	Designate LTB-7 properties as Natural Forest in Alternative A and Resource Recreation in Alternative B	This action would be contingent upon these properties being included in LTB.	X	X
9	Designate LTB-8 properties as Resource Recreation	This action would be contingent upon these properties being included in LTB		X
10	Clarify and clearly define Heritage designation around CCC Heritage Area	This action would more clearly define the boundaries of the Heritage classification as it relates to trail use if the area is going to restrict trail uses to hiker-only. Examples where use conflicts with classification – KC Loop and Trail 130.	X	X
11	Designate LTB 10 property as Natural Forest Area	This action would be contingent upon these properties being included in LTB	X	X
12	Change Resource Recreation designations to Natural Forest Area designations to better align with Ecological Integrity Assessment Data	These areas are not currently developed; do not include trails or other active recreation use.	X	
13	Change from Resource Recreation to Natural Area to match inventoried meadow on Horse Mountain	This will support a re-routed trail to reduce impacts to the meadow.	X	

Map Reference	Proposed Action	Description	Alt A - Community Mountain	Alt B – Recreation Destination
14	Change Recreation designation currently applied on West Summit Meadows to Natural Area	Same as above	X	
15	Change Recreation designation south of Lodge 1 and east of Trail 130 to Resource Recreation	Makes designation is consistent with current use.	X	
16	Designate Conservation Buffer (<i>See Map</i>)		X	
Long-term Boundary 1	Expand LTB to include entirety of Bear Creek Lodge acquired in 2023	Only a portion of the Bear Creek Lodge is currently included in the long-term boundary	X	X
2	Retain current inholdings (Riley Creek, Camp Fosseen, and Mountaineers properties in LTB) and prioritize their acquisition	These properties are currently surrounded or bordered on multiple sides by State Parks property	X	X
3	Expand LTB near park entrance to include adjacent commercial timberlands that could be in danger of conversion	These properties bordering the LTB could potentially be converted to other non-conservation, non-natural resource use and could host expanded habitat and recreation opportunities.		X

Map Reference	Proposed Action	Description	Alt A - Community Mountain	Alt B – Recreation Destination
4	Expand LTB to include Round Mountain in LTB	This action would include a prominent high point adjacent to the park that could potentially host some level of recreational development.		X
5	Expand LTB to include portion of Nordic Ski Area currently outside of the LTB	Include property currently under agreement with Inland Empire Paper in LTB to provide future ability for State Parks to acquire property and preserve existing trail system if opportunity arises.	X	X
6	Expand LTB to include the Warner property between current LTB and Newman Lake	This 3,000+ acre property is the largest non-commercial timber private holding bordering the park. Inland NW Land Conservancy has been in talks with the family for several years. This would expand the options for recreation in this area of the park and add potential new access points		X
7	Revise “Exchange Only” designated properties for acquisition and surplus designations in NE corner of park and include in the LTB boundary without conditions. Remove any reference to “surplus.”	These properties were identified as properties to acquire by exchange only or surplus through exchange in the 2003 CAMP.	X	X
8	Expand LTB to include “Larch Mountain” ridge line NE of the summit.	This prominent ridge line is situated 4,500’ - 5,000’ in elevation between the ski area and the state border.		X

Map Reference	Proposed Action	Description	Alt A - Community Mountain	Alt B – Recreation Destination
9	Surplus 40-acre Elk parcel	Parcel recently burned. No function or benefit to the park.	X	X
10	Expand LTB to include Hyssing Spring	Property is adjacent to Ragged Ridge and includes a year-round natural spring.	X	X
11	Designate a “conservation buffer” around Mount Spokane State Park	This action creates a conservation buffer around Mount Spokane State Park to identify lands that are desirable to conserve and protect primarily through non-fee simple acquisition actions (e.g. conservation easements, partnerships) for the primary purpose of preserving the park’s biodiversity and wildlife corridors to and from the park.	X	
Trails-1	Lower Trail 140 Realignment	Trail 140 is the only base-to-summit trail. It is designated as a multi-use trail but looks and functions like a downhill MTB trail. This project would allow the trail to be designed and realigned to function as a bi-directional, multi-use (hiker/biker only) trail.	X	X
2	Upper Trail 140 Realignment	Upper Trail 140 currently favors downhill MTB use vs multi-use. Realign to slow downhill speed and improve sight lines.	X	X
3	Trail 100 East Realignment	Realign Trail 100 East where feasible to improve experience and enhance sustainability.	X	X
4	Trail Management Objective for Trail 100 East	Trail 100 East between Trail 103 and Lower Selkirk Trailhead has limited site lines and	X	X

Map Reference	Proposed Action	Description	Alt A - Community Mountain	Alt B – Recreation Destination
	to change from multi-use to hiker-only	opportunities to complete significant realignments due to topography and other constraints.		
5	Develop a new, bi-directional mountain biking-only trail generally paralleling the park road from Entrance Trailhead to Lower Selkirk Trailhead	This new trail development will separate mountain bike trail use from other multi-use trails and take mountain biking pressure off of Lower Trail 140.		X
6	Develop a new hiker-only trail from Bald Knob to Summit as an alternate to 140	This project was proposed in the 2014 Trail Plan but never constructed. Trail would generally follow winter snowshoe route to summit.		X
7	Develop a new, multi-use trail through / around Linder Ridge (Lower Selkirk Trailhead to Quartz Peak / Horse Mountain)	This trail would provide a beginner-level trail experience and alleviate pressure on more popular trailheads.	X	X
8	Develop downhill, lift served mountain biking / hiking trails within the Concession Area served by Parkway Express Lift	This project would expand summer use of the downhill ski area. The project would be contingent upon Parkway Express Lift being summer operable.		X
9	Develop a “round-the-mountain” trail at the 5,000’ contour that	This project was proposed in the 2014 Trail Plan but not constructed. Would involve a multi-phase project to replace existing Trail 130, which is effectively a service road, east		X

Map Reference	Proposed Action	Description	Alt A - Community Mountain	Alt B – Recreation Destination
	replaces or becomes the new Trail 130	of Bald Knob and east of junction with KC Loop		
10	Develop new multi-use trail from Summit east to Trail 130 (Lamonga Pass)	This project would create a new trail connection to the summit and alternate to Trail 140. Closest trailhead would be Lodge 2 lot.		X
11	Develop new multi-use trail on the northside of park road between Bear Creek Lodge and Entrance Trailhead the connects the lodge, Trail 140, Trail 110, and Entrance Trailhead.	This project would construct a new trail with the goal of better integrating Bear Creek Lodge with lower elevation trails and creating a shorter, lower elevation option.	X	X
12	Develop an ABA / accessible interpretive trail in the vicinity of and connect to Bear Creek Lodge	Interpretive trail may be tied thematically to interpretive center in lodge.	X	X
13	Develop a sustainable trail to Horse Mountain that mitigates impacts to meadow community.	Reroute existing trail to Horse Mountain that runs through the center of the meadow to a large rock outcropping; consider rerouting to edge of meadow and connect to trail system to eliminate out and back.	X	X
14	Develop trail along powerline corridor running between Lower Selkirk	Former overhead power lines were buried, creating a potential trail corridor that would connect Lodges 1 and 2 with Lower Selkirk.		X

Map Reference	Proposed Action	Description	Alt A - Community Mountain	Alt B – Recreation Destination
	Trailhead and lodges 1 and 2	This would be a multi-use trail. Trail could serve as an alternative to Trail 130.		
15	Develop ABA / accessible trail loop at Bald Knob	This trail would connect the parking lot, bathroom, and day use picnic area, with potential viewpoints.	X	X
16	Redesignate Trail 130 east of Bald Knob to KC Loop from “Trail 130” to “Fire Road.”		X	
Built Environment-1A	Demolish Bear Creek Lodge	Demolish lodge and consider site improvements including parking.	X	
1B	Renovate Bear Creek Lodge for community and larger region visitors	This version includes interpretive space, expanded visitor services including possibility of overnight accommodations and sit-down dining. Dependent on concessionaire to operate this model.		X
2	Develop new park gateway feature	Include landscaping and architectural components incorporated in and around new park entrance signage. Include pull off area with informational signage and parking.	X	
3	Retain and enhance tubing hill at Bear Creek Lodge	Along with the renovation of Bear Creek Lodge and it being operated by a concession, this project would include completing safety upgrades to the tubing hill, upgrading tow		X

Map Reference	Proposed Action	Description	Alt A - Community Mountain	Alt B – Recreation Destination
		rope, and developing SOPs using Hyak and other hills as a guide.		
4	Rename Bear Creek Lodge to Linder Lodge	“Bear Creek Lodge” is the most recent iteration of this historic lodge, originally built by the Linder Family. The Linder family contributed to the park, including adding significant properties (e.g. Linder Ridge).		X
5	Demolish garage with living unit above, remove campground utilities and complete site improvements consistent with supporting lodge / entrance function.	Existing garage is a highly visible feature that detracts from the entrance experience and utilizes valuable limited space that could be utilized to better support lodge operation / function.	X	X
6	Upgrade utilities and services to Bear Creek Lodge, including, but not limited to water, sewer, and electrical			X
7	Construct Bear Creek site (exterior) improvements	Provide accessibility and parking improvements. Consider shuttle / transit service in site design. Develop outdoor firepits and gathering spaces. Add picnic shelters.	X	X
8	Expand Bald Knob campground to provide	This project would expand the campground to its original size (or close to it) and limit expansion area sites to hike-in/bike-in only	X	

Map Reference	Proposed Action	Description	Alt A - Community Mountain	Alt B – Recreation Destination
	additional hike-in/bike-only sites	with corresponding level of site development and amenities.		
9	Develop overnight accommodations at current location of “Jerry’s House”	Yurt or cabin “pod” would be constructed and tied into the trail system.	X	X
10	Demolish and remove existing maintenance shop and complete riparian and habitat restoration work.	The maintenance shop is required to be removed.	X	X
11	Develop a new campground at Camp Fosseen contingent upon property being acquired (See LTB 1)	The current CAMP identifies a campground at this location. Development of a campground could include tent, RV, yurts/cabins depending on site constraints.		X
12	Develop backpacking camping sites on Linder Ridge near Eagle Crest Trail	Project would construct up to 5 backcountry dry camping sites near the top of the Eagle Crest Trail. Closest restroom is at NOVA hut. Potential to add well at NOVA hut?		X
13	Develop overnight huts (ski-in/out) w/ CXT on Round Mountain contingent upon property being acquired (See LTB 3)	Project would develop several reservable overnight cabins / yurts on Round Mountain predominantly for winter use.		X
14	Expand Bald Knob Day Use Area Parking	Parking lot at Bald Knob Day Use Area may be undersized. Consider ways to add capacity.	X	X

Map Reference	Proposed Action	Description	Alt A - Community Mountain	Alt B – Recreation Destination
15	Modernize Selkirk Lodge	Conceptual design developed to modernize and modestly expand existing building: Enhanced kitchen for potlucks/events, outlets for crock pots, more bathrooms, improved wifi and cell reception, ADA, expand parking lot.	X	X
16	Modernize Vista House	Modernize as possible for current operations, convenience, and comfort.		X
17	Expand and reconfigure Upper Kit Carson Trailhead to ensure efficient parking access	Current parking lot is not well delineated, leading to inefficient parking patterns and poor use of space. Parking lot could be expanded and reconfigured (paved?) to increase capacity and lead to an improved visitor experience. Could function as turnaround if Summit Road is closed past this point (tho this is not proposed in either alternative)	X	X
18	Develop Day Road Trailhead	Current trailhead is a widened dead end with limited provisions for turnaround. The recent completion of Trail 182 will drive increased use of this access point. Design and construct trailhead for adequate turnaround for horse trailers and other users.	X	X
19	Replace Vista Cruiser Chairlift with modern chairlift that allows for	The oldest chairlift on the mountain and the highest priority for MS2000, this chairlift	X	X

Map Reference	Proposed Action	Description	Alt A - Community Mountain	Alt B – Recreation Destination
	summer operation*, replace Parkway Express**, replace Hidden Treasure, and Beginner's Luck lifts. (MS2000)	would provide an alternative for summer access. <i>*Alternative B permits mountain bike lift service and would require MS2000 responsible for Upper 290 / L'Upper 290 trail maintenance.</i> <i>**Alternative B would create a summer operable Parkway express lift.</i>		
20	Expand parking capacity for Mount Spokane Ski and Snowboard Park.	Create a more uniform width lot, reconfigure and expand capacity.	X	X
21	New Vehicle Maintenance Building & Cat Storage (MS2000)	The ideal location for this facility is between Lodge 1 and Lodge 2, allowing for safe and efficient movement of snowcats across the mountain without disrupting traffic zones. While we are exploring other potential locations, we will prioritize options that do not encroach on current parking or ski terrain.	X	X
22	Summit-to-Base Cat Track / Fire Road (MS2000)	Would create a “green” rated cat track ski run from summit to base. Also would enhance operational and fire access.		X
23	Welcome Entrance and Road Signage (MS2000)	Project includes welcome signage on the way to the lodges, wayfinding at the lodges and ski runs, and safety signage. This project would be done in phases as funding is available.	X	X
24	On-mountain Water Storage* (MS2000)	Fire suppression and fire readiness are essential components for maintaining low	X	X

Map Reference	Proposed Action	Description	Alt A - Community Mountain	Alt B – Recreation Destination
		insurance rates. MS2000 requires a reliable source of water for fire flow year-round, as domestic water tank cannot meet this need. Could supply future snow making. *Contingent upon Department of Ecology granting new water right to Washington State Parks.		
25	Lodge 2 new/expanded indoor spaces and facilities (MS2000)	MS2000 proposes creating a unified space for guest services, retail, rentals, and ticketing, which would steam line customer flow and reduce labor costs.	X	X
26	Expanded Learning Area & Terrain (MS2000)	MS2000's beginner learning area is typically operating at full capacity, which limits number of students / lessons MS2000 can program.	X	X
27	Ropes Course	This project would compliment and support MS2000 summer camp programming. The construction of a timber-framed ropes course is aimed at enhancing the existing summer camp programming and providing a dynamic and exhilarating experience for youth.	X	X
28	Identify and develop additional areas for expanded backcountry camping beyond BE-12.	This action does not have a specific location identified, but locations mentioned in the September 28 th workshop include Mount Kit Carson, near Bear Creek Lodge, and Day Mountain.		X

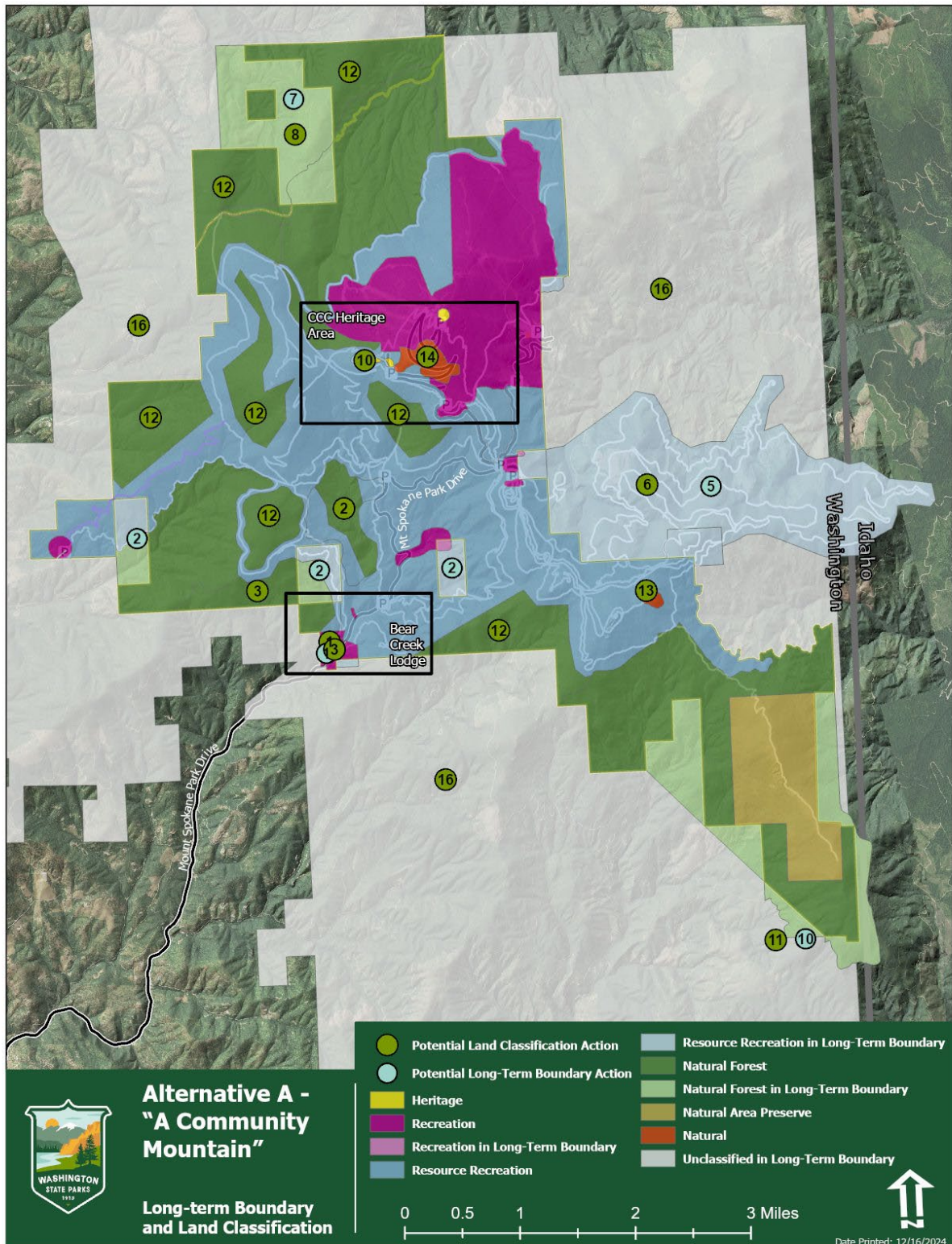
Map Reference	Proposed Action	Description	Alt A - Community Mountain	Alt B – Recreation Destination
29	Thematically and visually connect Bald Knob and CCC Heritage Areas through signage and architectural treatments.	This action would develop a visual and thematic connection between these two sites within the park, including unique signage, color coordination, and architectural treatments to signs and other features.	X	X
Stewardship-1	Develop a Forest Management Plan for SW portion of the park	This was identified by several foresters in the 9/28 workshop as the area of most concern due to predominant direction of wildfires, stocking levels, and forest types.	X	X
2	Selectively thin trees at Bald Knob Day Use Area to re-establish historic viewpoint from the picnic shelter.	Originally built with an expansive view to the south, the shelter currently has no view, likely reducing use and rendering the location and design of the shelter somewhat obsolete. Could include historic restoration of the shelter structure.	X	X
3	Selectively remove trees to create treed beginner ski area (MS2000)	This project would help expand the beginner terrain available for people learning to ski/snowboard.		X
Interpretation-1	Develop interpretive component to Bald Knob Day Use Area		X	X
2	Expand interpretive information at CCC Heritage Area		X	X

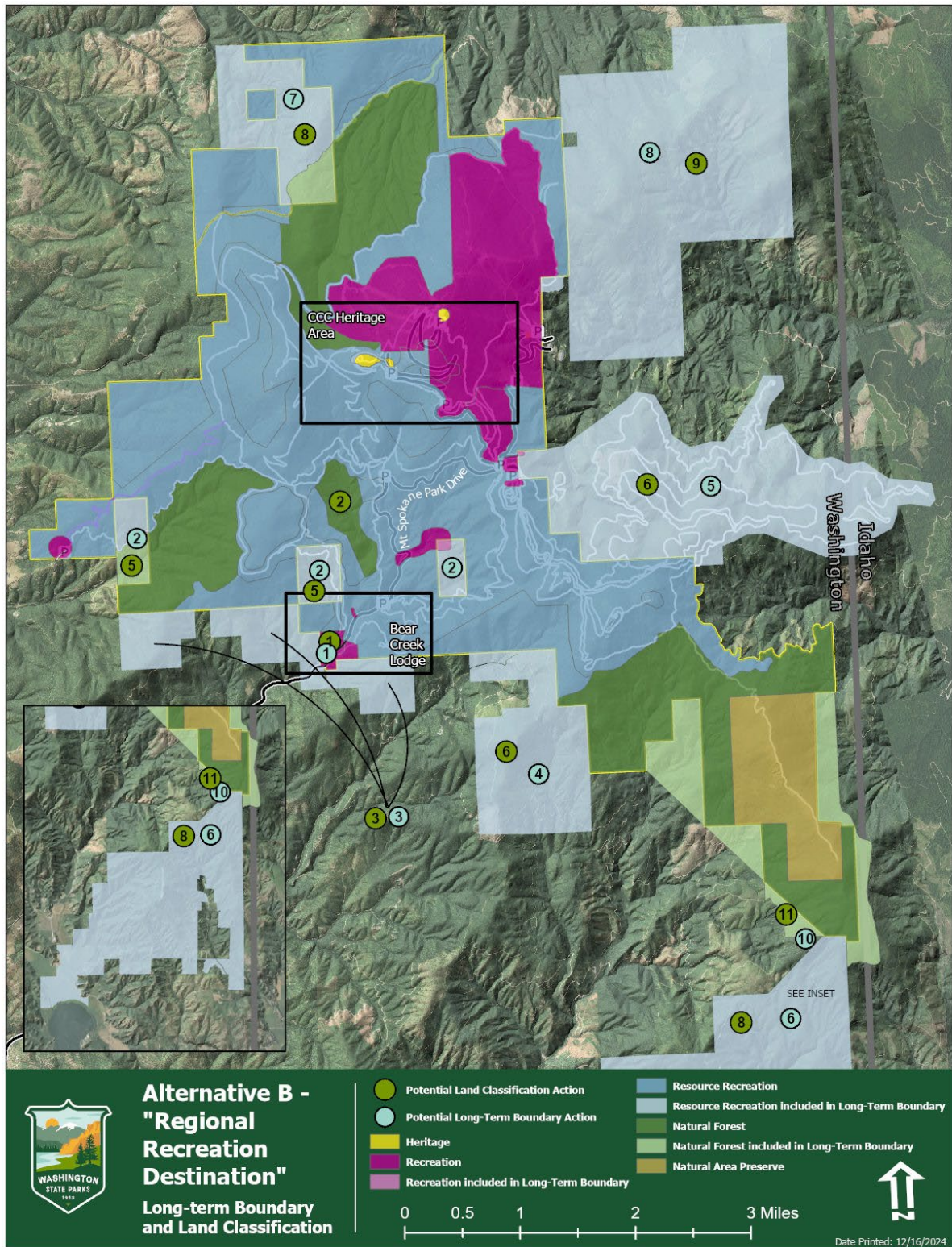
Map Reference	Proposed Action	Description	Alt A - Community Mountain	Alt B – Recreation Destination
3	Add interpretive elements at Selkirk Lodge		X	X
4	Develop interpretive center / space at Bear Creek Lodge			X
5	Develop interpretive elements along Bear Creek Lodge interpretive trail	See T-12 for more detail	X	X
Communication-1	Create and implement an updated naming convention for trail system. Potentially retain some historic trail numbers or include together with new names.	The current trail system follows a numeric naming convention that many don't understand. A new trail naming convention would incorporate descriptive names that are easy to remember and might help illuminate the experience or destination. Historic numbers would be retained (similar to Forest Service, e.g. "Boundary Trail 533").	X	X
2	Update and upgrade kiosks to include more information about trail experiences and potentially customize zoom extent to include areas together (e.g. Bald Knob and CCC Heritage Area) as one "unit"	Current kiosks include smaller trail map that covers the entire park and, in many instances, do not include a "You are here" icon or indicator. Kiosk signage would be revamped to include a larger trail map that could be "zoomed in" on the subarea within the park (e.g. Selkirk Lodge / Linder Ridge could focus on that portion of the park).	X	X

Map Reference	Proposed Action	Description	Alt A - Community Mountain	Alt B – Recreation Destination
3	Develop unique park branding for marketing purposes that includes both the park and downhill ski area	This branding and marketing effort would look to expand summer use and be targeted to attracting more visitors from the larger region.		X
4	Add clear signage at each trailhead identifying the trailhead name and design to be seen clearly from the road.	Current trailheads do not include larger, “entrance-type” signage that identify the trailhead by name.	X	X
5	Add enhanced trail information at trailheads, including accessibility info, grades, widths, etc. using HETAP.	The Trails Program is in the process of purchasing a High Efficiency Trail Assessment Process (“HETAP”) device to collect this information. The program intends to work with other programs to determine how to apply this information to trail-related signage.	X	X
Policy-1	Skijoring	Work with winter user groups to consider options for expanding skijoring opportunities and for improving safety (e.g. certification, ski patrol enforcement).		X
2	Develop an emergency evacuation plan and communicate with the community. Signage should potentially mark each evacuation route.	Stakeholders are under the assumption that the only way in / out of the park during emergencies is SR 206 and, as such, suggested State Parks explore and develop numerous alternative emergency access points to / out of the park.	X	X

Map Reference	Proposed Action	Description	Alt A - Community Mountain	Alt B – Recreation Destination
3	Promote summer use of the park.	Through marketing, partnerships, and development of expanded summer recreational opportunities, State Parks should promote and market summer use. Currently, summer use is approximately 25% of winter use. Actively reach out to underserved communities and schools.		X
4	Facilitate hang gliding use	Consider pilot program to allow hang gliding launch opportunity		X
5A	Monitor snow-based recreation and phase out as dictated by reduction in winter season / lower elevation snow.	Continue existing winter dependent activities such as tubing at Bear Creek Lodge and snowmobiling. Continue to evaluate viability of those uses in light of climate change.	X	
5B	Phase out winter-dependent activities in climate-impacted areas.	Plan to phase out winter-dependent activities in climate-impacted areas.		X

Attachment C – Maps





Bald Knob Focus Area

Trail Projects*

Alternatives A & B

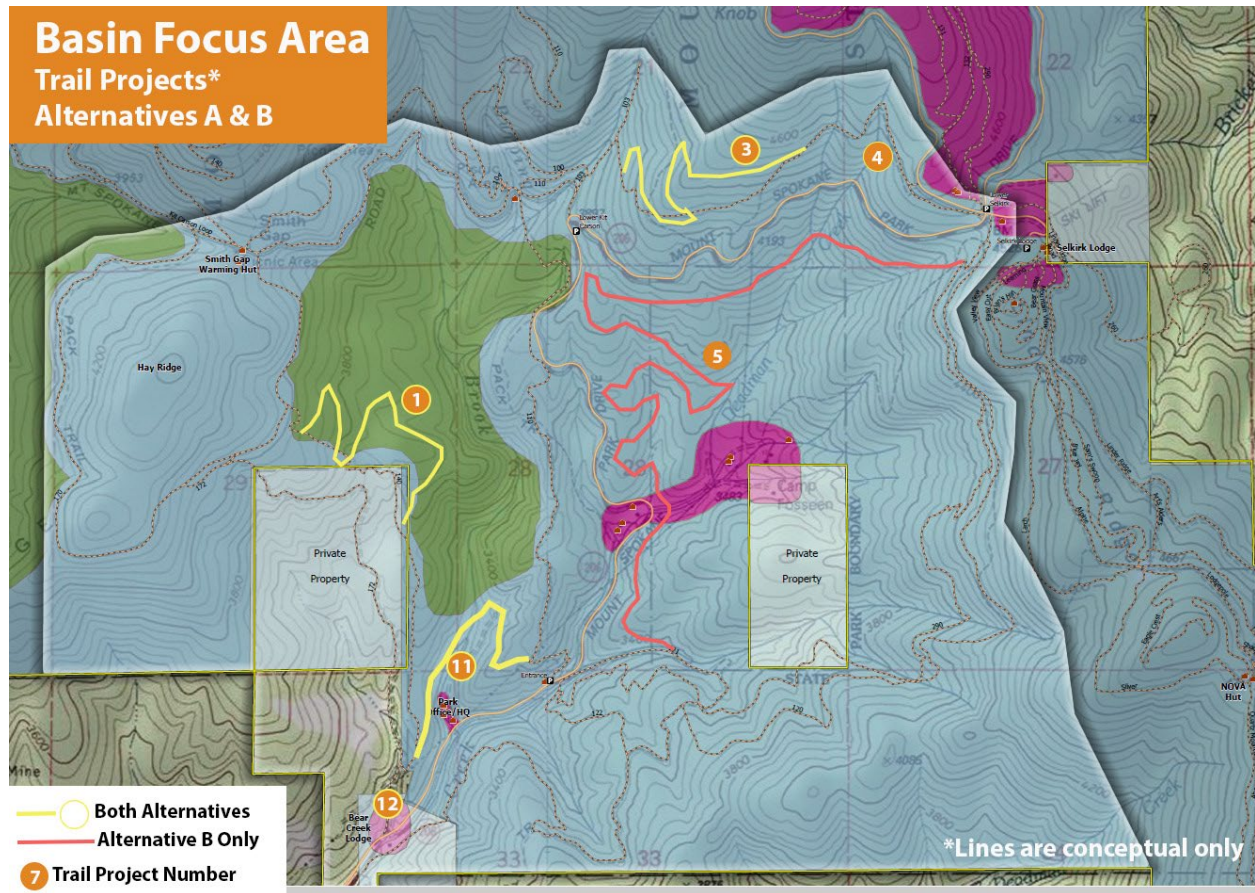
This topographic map illustrates the proposed trail projects in the Bald Knob area. The map features contour lines indicating elevation, with major peaks like Day Mountain and Bald Knob labeled. Two trail alternatives are shown: Alternative A (yellow dashed line) and Alternative B (red solid line). Key locations include Saddle Junction, Cook's Cabin, and Bald Knob Campground. The map also shows existing roads, picnic areas, and private property boundaries. A legend at the bottom left identifies the trail alternatives and project numbers. A note at the bottom right states that the lines are conceptual only.

Legend:

- Both Alternatives (Yellow dashed line)
- Alternative B Only (Red solid line)

Trail Project Number: 7

*Lines are conceptual only



Summit Focus Area
Trail Projects*
Alternatives A & B

Legend:
 — Both Alternatives
 — Alternative B Only
 7 Trail Project Number

*Lines are conceptual only