

***DETERMINATION OF SIGNIFICANCE  
AND REQUEST FOR COMMENTS ON SCOPE OF EIS***

**Description of proposal:**

The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission (State Parks) is considering an update to the Lake Sammamish State Park Redevelopment and Restoration Concept Plan. The updated plan will consider a range of new facilities that could enhance the park's recreational opportunities while protecting critical natural and cultural resources. New elements under consideration for the plan include:

- Confluence Center, a central gathering space for the park
- Waterfront Activities Center, a rowing or paddling storage facility with a café and rental concession
- Urban Campground, yurts, cabins, or RV sites
- Hans Jensen Retreat Lodge, a lodge with bunkhouse-style accommodations, primarily for youth group camping
- Multi-Sport Athletic Fields, a potential partnership with the Issaquah Soccer Club and other organized sports groups to develop lighted fields with artificial turf for year-round use
- Ropes Course, a potential partnership with High Trek Ventures to develop a 60-foot high aerial adventure park
- SwimGym, a potential partnership with Dive Seattle to develop a floating water platform for diving, sliding, swinging, or jumping into the lake
- Parking Garage, a proposal to consolidate the parking into a central location, freeing up additional space for recreational development or restoration projects
- Fire Station, a proposal by the City of Issaquah to develop a fire station near the park's boat launch to serve northern Issaquah
- New Park Entrance, a proposal to relocate the park entrance to provide greater visibility and functionality
- Issaquah Creek Restoration, a proposal by the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust to add large woody debris to Issaquah Creek to improve fish habitat
- Laughing Jacobs Restoration, a proposal by Trout Unlimited to improve fish habitat by restoring or realigning Laughing Jacobs Creek

Several of the proposed facilities have a likely potential to result in significant adverse environmental impacts to the park's environmental resources. As such, State Parks is requiring the development of an environmental impact statement to better inform this process.

**Proponent and Lead Agency:** Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission

**Location of proposal:** Lake Sammamish State Park, Issaquah, Washington

**EIS Required:** The lead agency has determined this proposal is likely to have a significant adverse impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is required under RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c) and will be prepared.

The lead agency has identified the following potential areas for discussion in the EIS:

- Biological impacts of expanding recreational opportunities within the park
- Impacts to watershed sensitivity areas including streams and wetlands due to placement of recreational facilities and water withdrawals due to the increased need for water by the park and concessions
- Benefits and impacts to recreation, historic and cultural preservation, base facilities and public services
- Consistency with existing regulations, plans, and ordinances

**Scoping:** Agencies, affected tribes, and members of the public are invited to comment on the scope of the EIS. You may comment on alternatives, mitigation measures, probable significant adverse impacts, and licenses or other approvals that may be required.

Comments are being solicited by Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission on the scope of the EIS through written comments received on or before **July 16**. Additionally, a **public workshop** is scheduled for 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, June 25, at Pickering Barn, 1730 10th Ave. N.W., Issaquah. Staff will be available to answer questions and collect comments.

Please direct your written comments to:

**Responsible official:** Jessica Logan, Environmental Program Manager

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**Date:** June 11, 2019

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

