#### WASHINGTON STATE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

### Seattle, Washington

December 4, 1992

#### COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Mel D. Wortman, Chairman Glenna S. Hall, Vice-Chairman Anne Cox Preecs, Secretary Bob Petersen Jack Shreve

Chairman Wortman called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Commissioners Queenie Allado and Bruce Hilyer were excused. The flag salute was led by Allan Jacobson, Park Manager, Kopachuck State Park.

#### MINUTES

MOTION by Commissioner Hall, seconded by Commissioner Cox Preecs, that the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission approve the minutes of the October 23, 1992 meeting.

## <u>AGENDA</u>

In order to accommodate members of the public, some items were taken out of order.

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No presentation

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MOTION by Commissioner Hall, seconded by Commissioner Petersen, that the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission:

- Finds that the proposed Skykomish Scenic River Recreation Corridor provides a needed and valuable recreation resource which reflects the expressed desires of the Skykomish Advisory Board and other local citizens to provide public access to the Skykomish River, and protect the aesthetic and natural values of the area while providing enhanced recreation opportunities.
- Direct staff to pursue acquisition of the 1,287 acres of Department of Natural Resources trust lands authorized under the 1991 appropriation.
- Direct staff to formally request DNR's acquisition of the 35 acre privately owned parcel along the Skykomish River for addition to the Skykomish River Trust Land Purchase Package.

Presentations were made by:

Rolf R. Nieuwejaar, CCSV - Scenic River Advisory Board, Gold Bar Gerd Nieuwejaar, Sky Cab - Scenic River Program, Gold Bar Ron Morgenthaler, Northwest Motorcycle Association, Woodinville Robert P. Hubbard, Index Dick Hammer, ALRT, Bellingham Ray Hammer, ALRT, Bellingham

MOTION carried unanimously.

# E-6 Miller Peninsula - Clallam County - Trust Land Property - Addition of Parcel E - Requested Action

Data presented by Tom France, Assistant Director, Resource Development.

#### **SUMMARY:**

As a part of the October 23, 1992 Commission action to add lands to the proposed State Parks Miller Peninsula ownership, State Parks staff was directed to further investigate the approximate 335 acre Parcel E as to its suitability for state park purposes. Staff conducted two on-site reviews and determined that Parcel E offers the opportunity to develop the primary access road to future park development with less impact on the Diamond Point Road than the currently envisioned access at the Northwest Technical Industries, Inc. (NTI) intersection.

#### BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS:

Parcel E includes approximately 335 acres located east of NTI and west of the east "leg" of the originally identified trust land acquisition. Access to Parcel E is via Cat Lake Road, which is a county road at its southern boundary, and via a Department of Natural Resources (DNR) access road off of Diamond Point Road, currently used by NTI through a road use permit with DNR. Additional old log hauling roads enter Parcel E off of Cat Lake Road.

The topography of Parcel E is generally a gradual south facing slope which climbs from approximately 155 feet above sea level (a.s.l.) at the south boundary to a high point 421 feet a.s.l. one mile to the north. Approximately 50 percent of the parcel is in forest cover, the balance of the parcel is cleared.

Staff has investigated the possible use of all portions of Parcel E to improve access into the central portion of the proposed park and alleviate access off of Diamond Point Road near the Diamond Point and Sunshine Acres communities. Diamond Point Road is a two-lane county road which winds for 1.7 miles through thick forest from the Cat Lake intersection to the two communities.

During investigation of the Miller Peninsula trust lands in the 1985 DNR trust lands study, staff identified the need to acquire the west half of Section 21 to allow access off Diamond Point Road. Staff determined that the present NTI access road connected to an old haul road which leads to the "ravine" would provide the shortest public access from the county road system to the beach access ravine. One and one-half miles of road construction through dense forest would be required to reach the top of the beach access ravine.

Parcel E offers road access away from Diamond Point Road through more open land. The length of new road construction from the Cat Lake Road intersection to the top of the beach access ravine would be one and one-half to two miles, depending on selection of alternative routes. Road alignment could be designed to accommodate greater turning radii and longer sight distances than the above described NTI route. This would heighten visitor safety. A series of existing roads and ridge lines would be used in the system design. Parcel E provides for alternative routes. It would be possible to:

- Route the entrance road off Cat Lake Road up to the southeast corner of Section 20, then cross a saddle in Section 21 to connect with existing roads leading to the beach access ravine, or
- Route the entrance road off Cat Lake Road from the southeast corner to the north line of Parcel E.

Final selection of either route would require the determination of the viability of road construction on higher ground in the west half of Parcel B. Access through the east leg of the previously identified parcel would still remain necessary for any future public park facilities located on Parcel D on Discovery Bay.

Staff has discussed access options with the county staff regarding impacts of potential future park development on Diamond Point Road. Use of the county road for park access purposes would require capital expense for mitigation. Use of the NTI route requires use of a greater portion of Diamond Point Road than an access through Parcel E. Consequently, mitigation costs would be reduced by use of Parcel E. Staff has discussed access options with DNR staff. DNR desires that all of Parcel E be acquired instead of leaving remnant areas under DNR control. Staff has also met with NTI representatives who are supportive of the Commission's acquisition of Parcel E.

#### STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff finds that Parcel E is advantageous to park development to provide for improved road access and minimize impacts to Diamond Point Road. This recommendation will provide access options which may become necessary as a result of the park planning/EIS process.

#### **SEPA REFERENCE:**

Following review, staff has determined that the action proposed by the Commission is exempt from the State Environmental Policy Act of 1971 under WAC 197-11-800(5)(a).

MOTION by Commissioner Hall, seconded by Commissioner Shreve, that the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission authorize staff to pursue acquisition of all of Parcel E which is approximately 335 acres of Department of Natural Resources Trust Land.

Presentations were made by:

Gary L. Hussey, RV Park Association of Clallam County, Sequim Otto W. Herman, Jr., Rebound, Seattle Louis T. Coglas, Brier

MOTION carried unanimously.

#### E-7 1993 Boating Safety Council Appointments - Requested Action

Data was presented by Rose Villanueva Amurao, Assistant Director, Administrative Services.

#### SUMMARY:

The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission obtains advice on boating safety related issues from its Boating Safety Council comprised of representatives from the boating community. Appointments are necessary at this time to fill vacancies due to membership terms expiring.