

Westport Light State Park Public Comments

September 4 – October 10, 2025

I oppose the construction of a golf course.

I would ask the commission to consider the agenda of the stakeholders involved. There is no denying that Scotch broom is abundant and invasive at Westport Light. There is also no denying that the ecosystem that exists now is not the ecosystem that originally existed at the site of the park. These are not arguments for why a golf course should be built, but for why there needs to be a management strategy for the park in order to reflect the desires of the City of Westport residents and reflect the mission and core values of Washington State Parks. While I cannot speak broadly or specifically for the residents of Westport, I can pose to you the values of 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.

Core values:

Commitment to stewardship that transmits high quality park assets to future generations
Dedication to outdoor recreation and public enjoyment that welcomes all our citizens to their public parks

Excellence in all we do

Involving the public in our policy development and decision making

Support for one another as we translate our mission into reality"

It is clear when considering this set of mission and goals that managing Scotch broom, gorse, and other invasive species, mitigating risk of fire that threatens public wellness and safety, enhancing public recreation opportunities, and caring for the unique ecosystem that now exists should be paramount.

The removal of invasive species would reduce fire risk immensely, increase recreation opportunities, and provide resilience to an already existing ecosystem. A multifaceted approach to the restoration of Westport Light, including mechanical, biological, chemical, and cultural control methods for noxious weeds, could provide the public with a park that offers many additional recreation opportunities. These additional

opportunities could include increased wildlife interaction, with greater diversity and frequency of wildlife, particularly birds. Another recreation opportunity could be trails and boardwalks that enrich the experience of park visitors; making this particularly attractive is the storied history and transformation of the park, and the ecology of the second largest site for intercoastal dunes in the state of Washington. An enhanced trail system encourages more time outdoors in a physically accessible space for people to exercise, encouraging improved health and wellness. The accessibility of these types of trails deserves to be highlighted. Today I saw parents with young children on training bicycles, many elderly couples, a few groups of elderly women, more dog-walkers than I could count, children carrying kites, and individuals and couples who finished surfing all enjoying the full length of the trail, both directions.

I would also ask if additional stakeholders could be included,-- those most interested in the preservation, conservation, and restoration of the ecosystems that Westport Light State Park encompass and represent. There are opportunities to manage the park's health and ecosystem, some of which are already being utilized, but to a limited degree that could be increased. Resources like Noxious Weed Control Boards, 10,000 Years Institute, Department of Ecology, and State Parks itself offer a multitude of resources of all types, and all would likely be needed in different capacities to turn Westport Light into the park that City of Westport residents and visitors can access in meaningful and increasingly enjoyable ways.

I hope the commission can consider the opportunities that exist at Westport Light State Park and will consider management strategies for the park that don't include the construction of a golf course.

Thank you! ¹

I would like to take the time to comment against the proposed development of the area adjacent to the westport light planning area. My first surfing experiences were in this area and I have spent my life committed to this outdoor recreation that has given my family and myself boundless joy. Our state is filled with many great areas to go golfing, but few which provide world class waves on their day. Building a golf course can be done in many locations which are more favorable to the game. The wind can be ferocious at times here. There is only one consistently world class wave on the Washington coast and it should be protected and have steward forever. Further development could change wind patterns and sand distribution. It may also disturb wildlife areas which are healthy for the overall ecosystem. Feel free to contact me about any questions regarding the importance of this existing park! ²

This is a comment AGAINST the golf course development at Westport. This land is already used for public recreation for the community and the state. A golf course will limit this incredibly special place and only benefit a limited few, while simultaneously having an extremely negative environmental impact, not only on the land but on the sea life through run off that the dunes currently protect. This is a no brainer. You don't build a

golf course by our salmon and dungeness's home. Keep this space open for all Washingtonians, not the privileged few. ³
To whom it may concern: A golf course at Westport will harm water quality, hurt wildlife, and compromise surfability for local adventure seekers and the community's water sports tourism industry. Please do not build! ⁴
No golf course! ⁵
This is not a great option for this land. It would disrupt wildlife (deer, birds wtc) and tje weather can get pretty crazy = not golf friendly. Not a sustainable business here. ⁶
State parks are for the general public and we fund parks with our tax dollars. They are intended to provide access for all. A golf course is for the limited group that plays golf. They also tend to a group with privilege. This goes against all principles that created state parks. As some one who enjoys state parks I am shocked and horrified this is even being considered. ⁷
NA ⁸
No to the golf course! This is a surfing and fishing town and it'll be terrible for the environment! Please protect our state land! ⁹
No golf course, bad for ecology and community ¹⁰
Please keep Westport the same, nobody needs more golf courses. Let the natural beauty of our lands develop naturally and keep this a beach for everyone to enjoy. These our our state parks for everyone, it needs to stay inclusive for people who actually enjoy beaches not for golfers and developers that only care about revenue and personal gain. ¹¹
Please don't put a golf course here. It would have so many impacts on the area and financial impacts (higher costs) associated with it. ¹²
I am strongly opposed to the golf course, as a surfer and future park ranger, I strongly feel this would not bring any good to the habitat. Golf courses have destroyed many areas in this state and the removal of costal grasses would be detrimental to the erosion of this beach. Not to mention the resource of razor clams, they are so crucial to this area and there is no world where a golf course would create no run off. This is damaging to every community other than the wealthy that would spend a single day on the course. ¹³
I oppose the golf course. This interrupts the natural coastal habitat and will ruin the history and enjoyment of our natural state park. Potential chemical run off, it will effect our waters, fish, and our clean beaches. I vote NO!!!! ¹⁴
I am against this development. This will not benefit to my community I live in. I want to preserve this land for my child. With the environment of our public lands sales, we need to preserve our lands. We value the outdoors as Washington. We have enough golf course but we not have enough public beaches. ¹⁵
Please no golf course on the Westport jetty. This is a special place and special habitat. I surf here and would hate to see it developed. There are not that many surf spots in this state. Please conserve this area. ¹⁶
There is plenty of land sout if the park for a golf course. ¹⁷

Please NO golf course in Westport! Toxic chemicals to keep the greens perfect are poisonous to people and the environment including Razer Clams! There will be massive amounts of water wasted to keep the grass green! NO! Large area will be closed to the public! ¹⁸
We need to preserve the natural beauty of the beach. No golf course with chemical runoff destroying the razor clams/environment. ¹⁹
No golf course. It would ruin the culture and vibe of Westport for so many people ²⁰
We have 1,000 golf courses all over Washington but one small beach surf spot with natural sandy dunes that has been left untouched please leave it alone. ²¹
The Westhaven park are is critical land and there is already a crisis in keeping the jetty secure. Wetland banking isn't a option in this either. Any construction is a detriment to this valuable area! ²²
Please keep the coast natural, don't put a golf course along the side ²³
No golf course. It will ruin the natural character of our state park. There has to be another place this can go ²⁴
I come here to surf and don't think the golf course would be good for the beach and it would kill the vibe this place is special. ²⁵
As a surfer Westport for over 25 years I've watched the dunes erode several times and this project appears to impede directly into those very same dunes that have washed away. After looking at the purposed map of the golf course it would directly effect that parking of the jetty and effect the dunes. Please stop this project or move the golf course more inland to not effect the dunes. Thanks ²⁶
As a Westport resident and neighbor of the Westport Light State Park, I am strongly opposed to the Westport Golf Links project and its proposed management of what is public land. Thank you for defending the park and the undisturbed wetland. I didn't move here to golf or to look at a golf course. There are plenty of other places to do that. ²⁷
I am against the golf course. That land offers a lot to the environment and the wildlife that lives in there. It is peaceful and quiet We have owned our place for 30 years and like community just the way it is. Keep tourism in Oceanshores ²⁸
Hello, I see that QIN comment is available on the Parks Planning page for Westport Light, but the Department of Ecology letter comment for the DEIS is not. Is there a reason the Dept of Ecology letter isn't included? If not, I offer it here for inclusion as public comment on the parks planning page.

Thanks, ²⁹
Please do not allow this golf course project. It is not worth!! The damage it will cause to the rare and irreplaceable wetlands in the project area will be permanent. If the torn up and excavated space does not destroy the plants, animals, and sea life there, then the pesticides will. This would be an ongoing, long term, generational loss. A golf course is not a necessity. It is an elite business, planned to disrupt and exclude the area from being desirable/accessible by all tourists and all residents. NO! ³⁰
Adamantly opposed to this project. This a very unique and pristine area and should not be developed. Leave the area natural for all to enjoy. Do not allow a golf course to be built that relatively few will enjoy. ³¹
The world has enough golf courses. Wetlands are fragile and necessary. Do not destroy this special area in Westport for the pleasure and enrichment of a few. ³²