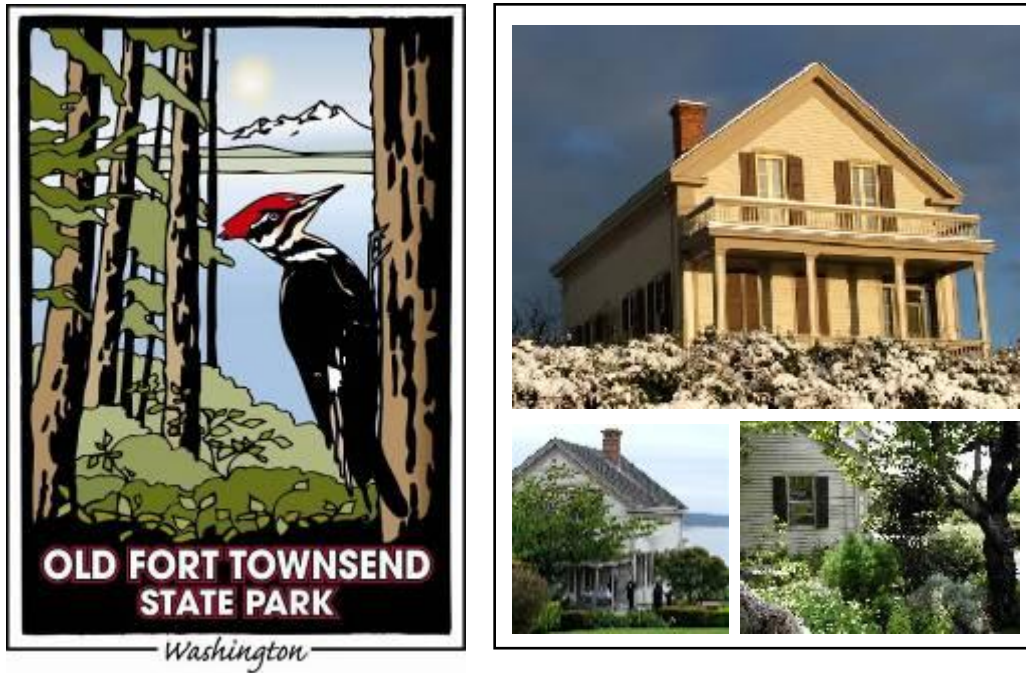


Rothschild House and Old Fort Townsend CAMP Project



Stage 2 – Exploring Alternative Approaches

April 9, 2009



WASHINGTON STATE
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION



CAMP
Washington State Parks
Classification and Management Planning Project

Preface

This document, along with supporting maps, explores alternative approaches for management of Rothschild House and Old Fort Townsend State Park as part of State Parks' Classification and Management Planning (CAMP) Project. During the first stage of planning, public and staff participants identified a host of issues facing these parks.

Now, for the second stage, the agency planning team has developed alternative approaches that response to identified issues. This work is posted on the project webpage:

www.parks.wa.gov/plans/oldforttownsend.

The team will also present alternative approaches for public input at a planning workshop scheduled for April 9, 2009, from 6:30 to 8:30 PM, at the Fort Worden Commons. Written follow-up comments are encouraged and should be sent to Peter Herzog, Parks Planner at peter.herzog@parks.wa.gov or mailed to: Washington State Parks, Planning and Research Program, PO Box 42650 Olympia, WA 98504-2650.

Your input will help us select the best ideas from each alternative and incorporate them into a single preliminary plan for further public review. It is difficult to communicate entirely in writing and misunderstandings happen. If you have a question or concern, please do not hesitate to us.

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Introduction

The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission (Commission) manages a diverse system of 121 parks located throughout the state. Dramatic growth in population and the popularity of outdoor recreation has increased pressure on the agency to provide more recreational opportunities while continuing to preserve the unique natural and cultural resources under its management.

In October of 2003, the Commission adopted the Centennial 2013 Plan to focus the agency, state leadership, and the public on improving Washington's state park system as it turns 100 years old and prepares for another century of service.

The first priority of the Centennial 2013 Plan is to fix up the state park system you enjoy today, while looking to the future and determining what the system should become. To help achieve this, the agency set an ambitious goal to prepare land-use plans for each of its 121 parks.

State Parks prepares land use plans through an agency-wide planning system called Classification and Management Planning or CAMP. CAMP is a multi-staged, public participation-based planning process for individual parks that culminates with adoption of park land classifications, a long-term park boundary, and a park management plan.

For each planning project, the agency assembles a planning team. The team includes planners, resource stewards, and park staff. As necessary, the planning team also calls upon the expertise of resource and facility specialists – both from within and outside the agency.

The State Parks' Planning webpage includes information on active planning projects throughout the state at: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/plans>. Hard copies of documents are also available upon request.

Planning Process

The CAMP planning process involves four sequential stages. Each stage usually includes a public workshop and an opportunity to provide follow-up comments in writing by mail or e-mail. The process does not conclude until the State Parks and Recreation Commission, the agency's seven-member governing board, formally adopts land classifications and long-term park boundaries and the Director approves a finalized park management plan. Standard planning stages include:

Stage One – Identify issues and concerns

The purpose of this stage is to understand what is important to the park community and identifies issues to address through the planning process.

Stage Two – Exploring alternative approaches

At this stage, the planning team suggests potential alternative approaches to address the various issues and concerns raised by people in stage one. No preferred alternative is established; rather this is an opportunity to examine and understand the range of possibilities.

Stage Three – Preparing preliminary recommendations

The best ideas from the alternative approaches developed in stage two are combined into a preliminary plan in this stage. The preliminary plan includes recommendations for use and

development of park lands, changes to property boundaries, and ways to address issues raised during the process.

Stage Four – Preparing final recommendations

At stage four, final adjustments are made to recommendations and submitted to the seven-member Parks and Recreation Commission for approval. The public is encouraged to attend the Commission meeting and provide testimony or to provide written comment.

The planning process incorporates requirements of SEPA for communicating to the public potential environmental effects of agency actions. During Stage 2, a document describing the environmental implications of each alternative is prepared. This document will be posted on the project webpage.

Information gathered during the planning process will be included in a checklist describing the environmental effects of enacting the plan. The agency will then make a formal determination of the significance of any environmental impacts and whether additional environmental analysis and documentation is necessary. The environmental checklist and threshold determination is prepared during Stage 3.

Planning Products

The CAMP planning process produces three main products for each park: land classifications, long-term boundary, and a park management plan. The combination of these deliverables constitutes a land use plan.

Land Classification

A central part of CAMP involves zoning, or classification of park lands. State Parks has developed a system of six land classifications: Natural Area Preserves, Natural/Natural Forest Areas, Resource Recreation Areas, Recreation Areas, and Heritage Areas. When assigned to a specific area within a park, each classification sets an appropriate intensity for recreational activity and development of facilities. Classifications align along a spectrum, ranging from low to high-intensity land uses. By classifying park lands, the agency is able to consciously strike a balance between protecting park resources and providing an appropriate variety of recreational opportunities for park visitors.

State Parks and land classifications are defined in Chapter 352-16 in the Washington Administrative Code (WAC), which reads in part:

State park areas are of state-wide natural, cultural, and/or recreational significance and/or outstanding scenic beauty. They provide varied facilities serving low-intensity, medium intensity, and high intensity outdoor recreation activities, areas reserved for preservation, scientific research, education, public assembly, and/or environmental interpretation, and support facilities.

They may be classified in whole or part as follows:

- (1) Recreational areas are suited and/or developed for high-intensity outdoor recreational use, conference, cultural and/or educational centers, or other uses serving large numbers of people.

- (2) Resource recreation areas are suited and/or developed for natural and/or cultural resource-based medium-intensity and low-intensity outdoor recreational use.
- (3) Natural areas are designated for preservation, restoration, and interpretation of natural processes and/or features of significant ecological, geological or paleontological value while providing for low-intensity outdoor recreation activities as subordinate uses.
- (4) Heritage areas are designated for preservation, restoration, and interpretation of unique or unusual archaeological, historical, scientific, and/or cultural features, and traditional cultural properties, which are of state-wide or national significance.
- (5) Natural forest areas are designated for preservation, restoration, and interpretation of natural forest processes while providing for low-intensity outdoor recreation activities as subordinate uses, and which contain:
 - (a) Old-growth forest communities that have developed for one hundred fifty years or longer and have the following structural characteristics: Large old-growth trees, large snags, large logs on land, and large logs in streams; or
 - (b) Mature forest communities that have developed for ninety years or longer; or
 - (c) Unusual forest communities and/or interrelated vegetative communities of significant ecological value.
- (6) Natural area preserves are designated for preservation of rare or vanishing flora, fauna, geological, natural historical or similar features of scientific or educational value and which are registered and committed as a natural area preserve through a cooperative agreement with an appropriate natural resource agency pursuant to chapter 79.70 RCW and chapter 332-60 WAC.

For each land classification, the agency Director has developed detailed management guidelines. These guidelines set specific activities and facilities permitted in each designation. The complete land classification system and management guidelines are included in Appendix 1.

Long-Term Park Boundary

A second product of CAMP is adoption of a long-term park boundary. This is a frequently misunderstood aspect of park planning. The purpose of delineating a long-term boundary is to take a big picture look at what lands, independent of ownership, might advance the conservation and recreation mission of a park. It also considers whether agency-owned property should be retained or be considered surplus to park needs.

Including privately owned property in a long-term boundary gives Commission direction to staff to work with nearby landowners on potential land transactions. Transactions may range from simple agreements, to recreation and conservation easements, and sometimes even to agency purchase of property. If a landowner is not interested in participating, State Parks is unlikely to pursue the matter further. However, since land frequently changes hands, the agency uses delineation of a long-term boundary to set its long-term property planning goals.

For properties included within a long-term boundary, any of a number of possibilities may apply. State Parks might:

- Seek to formalize an agreement with an adjacent property owner to advance a shared property management goal

- Solicit a conservation easement from an adjacent property owner to protect certain natural or cultural features
- Readily accept a donation of all or part of a private property
- Consider exchanging agency-owned property for a private property
- Consider purchase of a private property in fee

Including private land within a long-term boundary can sometimes alarm property owners. The planning team makes every effort to contact affected landowners and explain implications of this process. Property owners should be assured that long-term boundary and land classification decisions are for Commission policy direction only and should not affect private property values, be used as an indication of their willingness to sell, or be used as a basis for making state or local government regulatory, permitting, or zoning decisions.

Property owners should also consider that working with State Parks to voluntarily protect natural resources contiguous with those on park lands may achieve the desired conservation effect and avoid the need for acquisition of these properties by the agency. In all but the rarest circumstances, State Parks acquires land on a willing seller basis.

Park Management Plan

The third product of CAMP is preparation of a park management plan. Park management plans are relatively simple documents that describe a park's principal features, set park-wide management objectives, and outline specific approaches and prescriptions in response to issues identified through the planning process. These plans also document the planning process and serve as a clearinghouse for supporting information. A preliminary park management plan is usually prepared during the next (third) stage of the planning process.

Exploring Alternative Approaches

During the first stage of planning, public and staff participants identified a host of issues facing Rothschild House and Old Fort Townsend State Park. Now, for the second stage, the agency planning team has developed alternative approaches that respond to identified issues.

Alternatives are organized thematically to emphasize a major aspect of State Parks' mission, sometimes taking provisions to logical extremes. Thematic alternatives developed for Old Fort Townsend include:

- Protecting natural and cultural features
- Enhancing recreational opportunities

By addressing management and development issues through the lens of a particular aspect of the agency's mission, new possibilities emerge as to the park's ultimate potential. Then, assuming no single aspect is universally desirable throughout the park, the next step is to determine which ideas in each alternative are most appropriate. This allows us to emphasize resource protection to address some issues, recreational opportunity for others, and so on. Ultimately, the right mix should emerge.

Since Rothschild House is principally a historical site, the planning team developed alternatives that emphasize one of two historic preservation treatments: *restoration* or *rehabilitation*.

Restoration takes a relatively purist approach, focusing on preserving historic features of Rothschild House and the surrounding landscape much as they were during the historic era. The rehabilitation alternative by contrast, takes a more pragmatic approach and seeks to find appropriate contemporary uses for the house and grounds (e.g., performances, weddings, and other special events) while protecting the site's character defining features.

We ask that you study the alternative land classification and long-term boundary maps and written management approaches below, not to choose one alternative, but to find individual elements in each that appeal to you. Then let us know what you think. We are also interested in hearing new ideas we have not considered yet.

Old Fort Townsend Land Classifications and Long-Term Boundary Alternatives

Figure 1 and Figure 2 (pages 10-11) show schematically the alternative land classifications and long-term boundaries under consideration. A narrative description is provided below.

Protecting Natural and Cultural Features Alternative

Land Classification

In general, this alternative classifies areas with significant natural plant and animal communities as Natural Areas or Natural Forest Areas. Areas shown for Natural Area classification include shoreline, intertidal areas, and bedlands important for protection of forage fish spawning. Areas shown for classification as Natural Forest Area (NFA) include all forest lands classified NFA by the State Parks and Recreation Commission in 1994; newly acquired forest lands at the northeast boundary; and areas between the existing forest campground loop and group camp, excluded from the 1994 NFA for potential campground expansion.

Several corridors through the NFA were excluded from the original NFA designation to allow for cycling and equestrian trail uses. These areas and the main park access roadway are shown as Resource Recreation Areas to allow these activities to continue. The existing developed campground is shown as Recreation Area. In tact portions of the Fort Townsend cultural landscape and the World War II era torpedo structure at the group camp are included in separate Heritage Areas.

Long-Term Park Boundary

In this alternative, three distinct properties are included in the park's long-term boundary. A 240-acre parcel north of the park owned by Port Townsend Paper Corporation currently with a conservation easement granted to State Parks, the approximately 40-acre Kimball property, and the approximately 140-acre Jefferson Land Trust Bulis Preserve.

In 2008, State Parks acquired a conservation easement for approximately 240 acres north of the park from the Port Townsend Paper Corporation. The conservation easement allows Port Townsend Paper to harvest timber and continue its use of the property as an inert solid waste (fly ash) distribution site, but precludes any residential or additional commercial development. While State Parks owns an interest in this property, public use is not permitted under terms of

the easement. Precluding public use is primarily to ensure the continued safe and unfettered industrial use of the land by Port Townsend Paper.

Under the natural and cultural resource protection option, should State Parks ever acquire underlying ownership, this property would be classified as a combination of Natural Area, Natural Forest Area, and Resource Recreation Area. Natural Areas would include the shoreline, intertidal areas, and bedlands for protection of eelgrass and forage fish spawning areas. Upland feeder bluffs and forested areas south and east of the cleared landfill area would be included in a Natural Forest Area. A Resource Recreation Area would encompass the balance of the property, allowing for development of a multi-use trail system and other low to medium-intensity recreational uses.

Under this alternative, the Kimball property would be classified Resource Recreation. Its conservation through an easement or long-term acquisition would provide a logical extension of the park's natural forests and trail system, potentially permitting additional multi-use trail opportunities.

A final property included in the park's long-term boundary under the natural and cultural resource protection alternative is the 140-acre Bulis Preserve owned by the Jefferson Land Trust. Including the portion of this property west of the power line acknowledges the preserve as an extension to the park's Natural Forest Area and the additional protection it provides. Working with the Jefferson Land Trust, this property could potentially provide additional trail opportunities in the future. In this option, the existing residence is classified as a recreation area and the homestead cabin and orchard are classified as a Heritage Area.

Enhancing Recreational Opportunities Alternative

Land Classification

In general, this alternative area retains Natural Forest Areas classified in 1994. Corridors excluded from the original NFA classification and the newly acquired property at the northeast boundary are classified as Resource Recreation to allow expanded multi-use trail activities. The armored shoreline landing and nearby area is also classified Resource Recreation and would allow for development of a kayak launch/dinghy dock, water trails campsite, and vault/composting toilet.

Recreation Areas shown in this alternative provide space for significant expansion of the park's campground, allowing development of additional hookup sites and potentially rustic cabins. An area surrounding the existing group camp and torpedo tower is also classified as Recreation Area to allow development of an indoor nature center. This center would house the park's environmental education program in collaboration with Fort Worden's Life-Long Learning Center.

This alternative classifies contributing areas of the Fort Townsend cultural landscape, excluding the expanded campground, as Heritage Area.

Long-Term Park Boundary

The recreation opportunity alternative includes mostly the same properties in the parks' long-term boundary, but would classify them differently. This alternative would classify the Port Townsend Paper conservation easement area as a combination of Recreation and Resource

Recreation Area. The area classified Recreation would include all of the cleared site in and around the fly ash distribution site to allow for future development of camping and other high-intensity recreational development. However, federal funding conditions under which State Parks purchased the conservation easement for this property require that any development not compromise the natural resource conservation values for which the easement was purchased. This alternative classifies shorelines and the balance of the conservation easement area the same as in the natural and cultural resource protection alternative.

In this alternative, classification of the Kimball property and the Jefferson Land Trust's Bulis Preserve would also remain the same as the other option. The portion of the Bulis Preserve west of the power line however is included within the long-term boundary for potential future development of multi-use trail opportunities – should the Land Trust find this use appropriate.

Figure 1: Old Fort Townsend Land Classification and Long-Term Boundary – Protecting Natural and Cultural Features Alternative

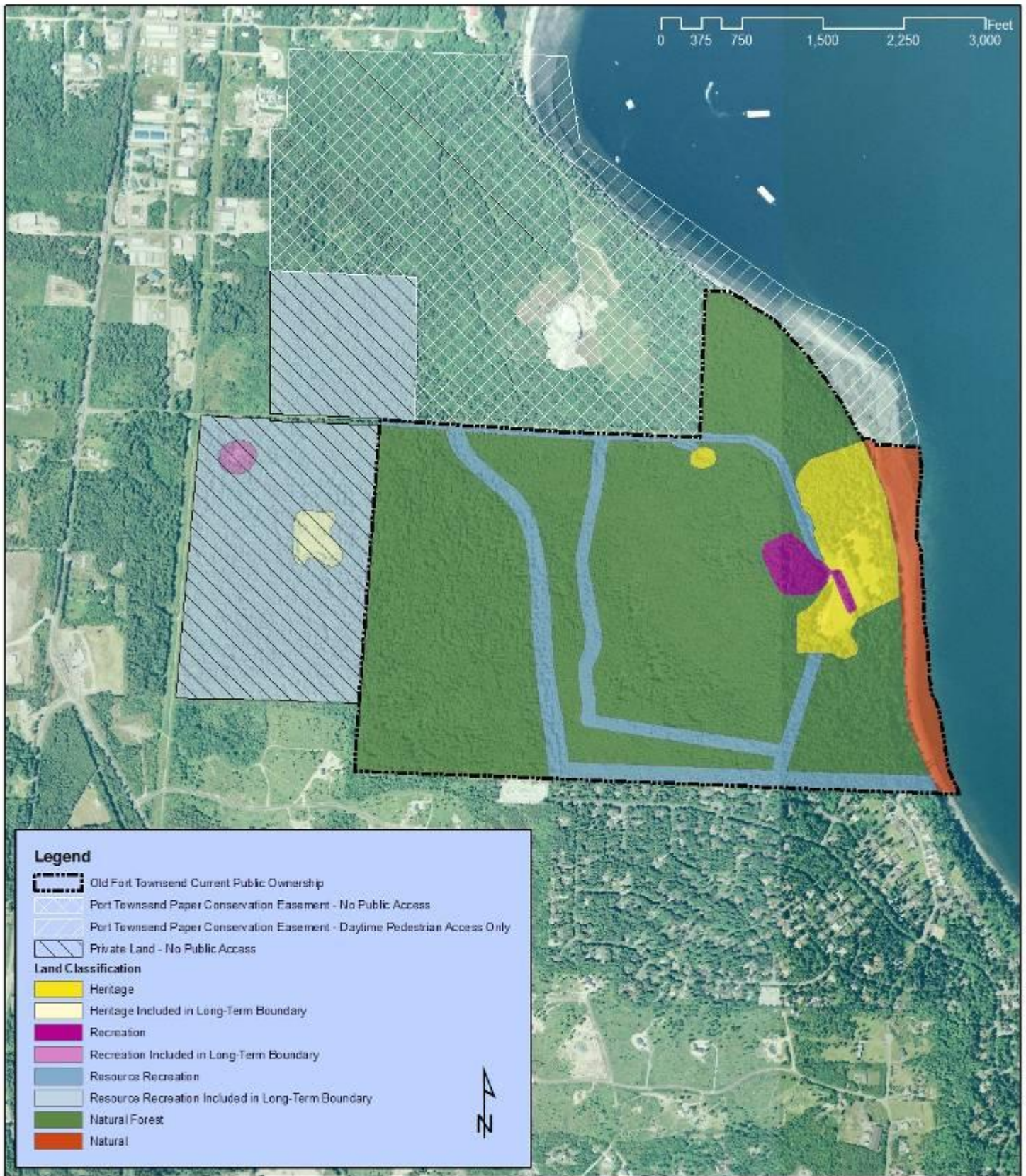
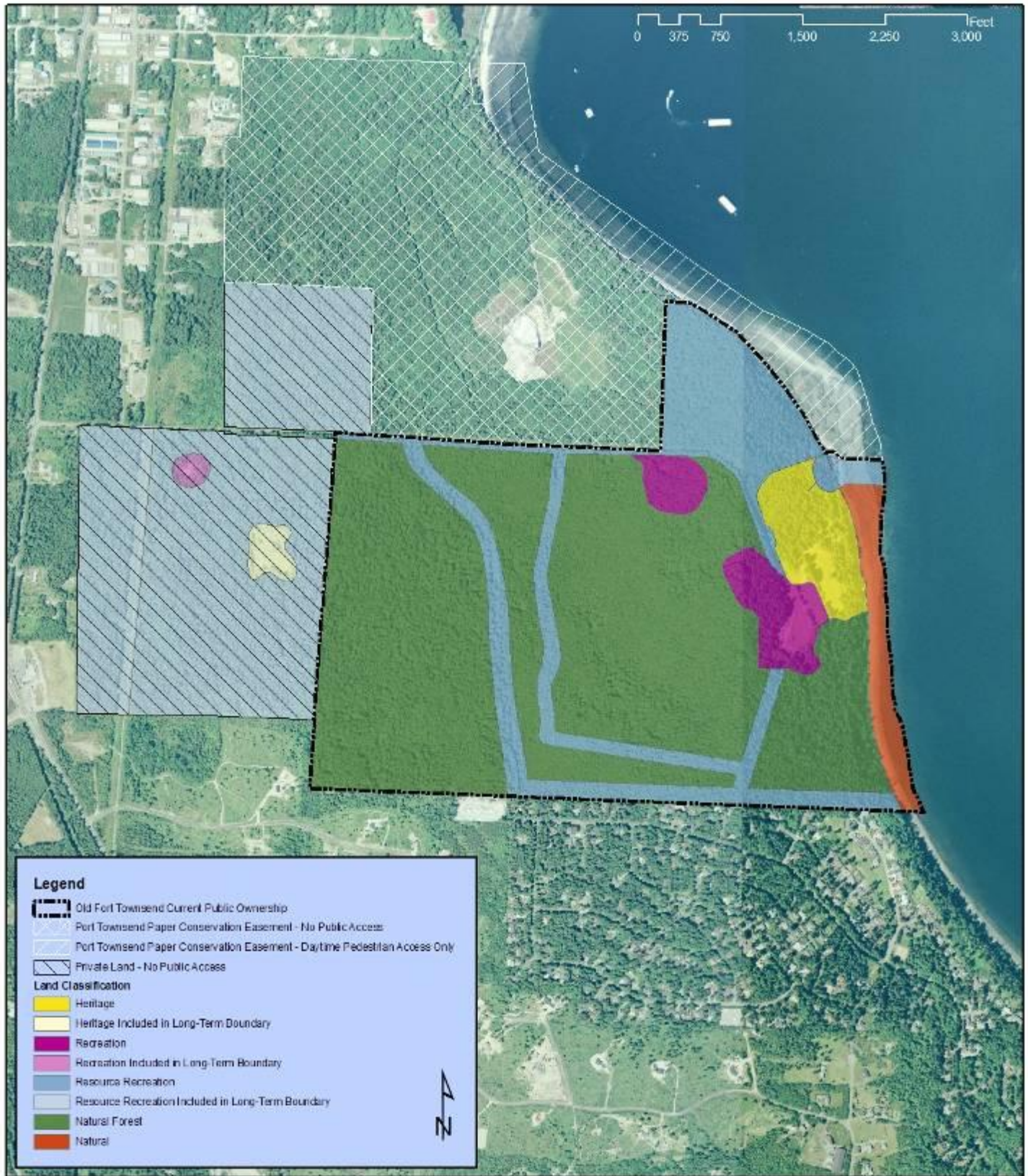


Figure 2: Old Fort Townsend Land Classification and Long-Term Boundary - Enhancing Recreational Opportunities Alternative



Old Fort Townsend Issues and Alternative Management Approaches

Natural Resource Issues		
Issue	Protecting Natural and Cultural Features	Enhancing Recreational Opportunities
Protection of natural plant and animal communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classify additional forested areas around campground, on newly acquired bluff property, and adjacent bluffs within the conservation easement area as Natural Forest Area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retain existing Natural Forest classified areas only
Fungi harvesting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consistent with agency-established harvest limits, work with local fungi experts to develop a plan and mechanism for monitoring fungi populations and establish prescriptions to ensure sustainability of fungi harvest 	
Commercial salal harvesting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to prohibit commercial salal harvest activities unless as part of a specific plan to accomplish some resource conservation or stewardship purpose • Coordinate with park neighbors to report salal harvest to park staff 	
Protection of Eagle Nests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop eagle management plan in cooperation with the Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) • Consistent with this plan limit administrative activities (trail maintenance, etc.) in nearby areas during critical nesting periods 	
Protection of rare plant species	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to work with park steward and local plant experts to develop a rare plant protection plan to identify, monitor, and establish protective prescriptions for Hookers ground cone and other rare plants in the park. 	
Invasive plant species (e.g., holly, ivy, Roberts geranium)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to work with Jefferson County Noxious Weed Board, park steward, local native plant society, Jefferson Land Trust, and volunteers to develop and implement an integrated pest management plan and continue to draw on local experts to monitor progress 	
Protection of Eelgrass beds and forage fish spawning habitat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove shore armoring and restore natural shoreline • Remove existing mooring buoys 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retain existing landing and shore armoring as an abutment for small kayak launch/dinghy dock to focus public use in this disturbed area • Replace existing concrete buoy anchors with helical-type anchor system
Wildfire prevention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinate with agency forestry specialist to develop a forest health plan that considers removal of ladder fuels where appropriate to protect neighboring properties and otherwise reduce the risk of wildfires 	
Recreational shellfish harvest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to allow recreational shellfish harvest on park beaches (south of the landing) consistent with WDFW harvest regulations • Do not consider stocking of park beaches with shellfish • Continue to prohibit recreational shellfish harvest on conservation easement property, but consider opening area to harvest if ever acquired by State Parks 	

Cultural Resource Issues		
Issue	Protecting Natural and Cultural Features	Enhancing Recreational Opportunities
Park naming	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formally rename park "Fort Townsend State Park" 	
Protection of Fort Townsend cultural landscape	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> With the exception of contemporary campgrounds, classify developed footprint of Fort Townsend and contributing landforms as Heritage Area Limit contemporary development to existing structures and facilities Classify torpedo tower and contributing landscape as a Heritage Area Prepare a cultural resources management plan to determine appropriate treatments for all historic features Consider exposing covered brick walkways Stabilize flagpole and other small-scale features from further deterioration Consider reconstructing key fort structures (e.g., guardhouse) to increase understanding of the Fort's purpose and function 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> With the exception of campground expansion and administrative area, classify intact portions of the Fort Townsend cultural landscape as a Heritage Area Limit campground expansion to upper terraces in and around the existing campsites, administrative area, and surrounding cleared areas (includes about half of the middle terrace below the existing RV sites – see Figure 2) Prepare a cultural landscape report for the park to identify contributing, character defining features and avoid activities that significantly compromise the site's historical integrity
Protection of archaeological resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake concerted effort to survey and excavate archaeological sites in partnership with higher education institutions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to conduct archaeological surveys as part of capital development projects
Listing on National Register of Historic Places	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nominate Fort Townsend cultural landscape for listing on the National Register 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Don't pursue National Register listing

Recreational Resource Issues		
Issue	Protecting Natural and Cultural Features	Enhancing Recreational Opportunities
Camping	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limit camping to its present configuration Consider long-term removal of camping from within forest and restore natural forest structure and function Focus development of additional camping and overnight accommodations in the Port Townsend Paper conservation easement area if ever acquired 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expand camping as per current design project to maximize number of sites consistent with protection of the cultural landscape (provide utilities to all new sites) Intersperse rustic cabins into campground expansion area (use shared campground restroom) Develop camper contact station Develop water trails site near landing with vault/composting toilet

Recreational Resource Issues (Continued)		
Issue	Protecting Natural and Cultural Features	Enhancing Recreational Opportunities
Trail use and development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to permit pedestrian trail and overland uses throughout park Limit cycling and equestrian opportunities as currently permitted in park (corridors through Natural Forest Area only) Seek to link regional trail (Larry Scott Trail) connecting Kala Point through park to Port Townsend Focus long-term development of cycling and equestrian opportunities to Port Townsend Paper conservation easement area if ever acquired 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Include Jefferson Land Trust property in long-term boundary for development of potential cycling and equestrian opportunities if the Land Trust determines these uses are appropriate on their land Include Port Townsend Paper conservation easement in long-term boundary to provide multiple use trail opportunities if property is ever acquired
Development of Interpretive Opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Focus interpretation on environmental education opportunities in coordination with Friends of Old Fort Townsend and Fort Worden Life Long Learning Center 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop interpretive nature center at the group camp area in cooperation with Friends of Old Fort Townsend and the Fort Worden Life-Long Learning Center Provide forest canopy interpretive opportunity through rehabilitation of the torpedo tower rehabilitation Reconstruct guardhouse for use as an interpretive center Provide visual cues for interpretation of removed fort structures
Water access facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remove shore armoring and restore natural shoreline Construct beach access (stairs, ramp, etc.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Retain shore armoring and develop small kayak launch/dinghy dock at landing Construct water trails campsite with vault/composting toilet near landing
Promotion of special events (e.g., festivals and weddings)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordinate with Fort Worden Life-Long Learning Center to market park for weddings and other special events Include park shelter and potentially park amphitheater on Fort Worden's reservation system Improve ADA access to shelter Coordinate with Fort Worden Life-Long Learning Center to develop natural and cultural resource programming, using the park as an environmental education field opportunity 	
Playground facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remove playground facilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remove old playground equipment Replace with par course trail type of equipment for recreation purposes

Rothschild House Land Classification and Long-Term Boundary Alternatives Issues and Alternative Management Approaches

Cultural Resource Issues		
Issue	Restoration of Historic Features	Rehabilitation for Contemporary Use
Protection of Historical Integrity of Site and Structures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classify entire site as Heritage Area • Seek long-term acquisition of properties associated with house and restore them to their historical appearance • Seek off-site parking alternative or limit parking to streetside only 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classify existing site as Heritage Area • Seek long-term acquisition of contributing properties for additional parking and to re-establish landscape • Classify contributing properties as Resource Recreation to limit uses to outdoor, supporting functions (e.g., parking, picnicking, outdoor presentation/performance space)
On-going maintenance needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote of the site's "model stewardship park" designation as a means of focusing agency attention on on-going preservation measures • Complete treatment recommendations from 2008 HSR • Investigate soil stability on southern end of lot, this may be affecting south porch (front door side) stability • Submit items as part of 20011-13 capital budget • Work with Jefferson County Historical Society (JCHS) to seek funding and otherwise develop partnerships to complete periodic maintenance 	
Exterior landscaping	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restore exterior landscaping on existing site and contributing properties to the period of significance • Remove existing parking area and restore landscape 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retain exterior landscaping in its present state • Upon acquisition of contributing properties, remove parking area • Establish outdoor seating area for special events and small performances
Site development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reconstruct former buildings on site for interpretive purposes • Shift parking to street • Restore landscape of entire block to reflect historic appearance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reconstruct (with modifications) former buildings for use as event space, or as a component of Ft. Worden's Life Long Learning concept • Shift parking to north part of east lot (sold by family in 1940) • Use existing residence on east lot for support functions • Re-establish orchard landscape on southern portion of east lot • Consider sensitive modifications or use restrictions within house to provide space for small gatherings indoors
Partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further relationship with JCHS to manage and restore the property 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue JCHS partnership; seek additional opportunities for revenue generation and appropriate uses

Appendix A

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission Land Classification System

Washington Administrative Code (WAC) Establishing the Land Classification System

WAC 352-16-020 Land classification system. State park areas are of statewide natural, cultural, and/or recreational significance and/or outstanding scenic beauty. They provide varied facilities serving low-intensity, medium intensity, and high intensity outdoor recreation activities, areas reserved for preservation, scientific research, education, public assembly, and/or environmental interpretation, and support facilities. They may be classified in whole or part as follows:

- (1) Recreational areas are suited and/or developed for high-intensity outdoor recreational use, conference, cultural and/or educational centers, or other uses serving large numbers of people.
- (2) Resource recreation areas are suited and/or developed for natural and/or cultural resource-based medium-intensity and low-intensity outdoor recreational use.
- (3) Natural areas are designated for preservation, restoration, and interpretation of natural processes and/or features of significant ecological, geological or paleontological value while providing for low-intensity outdoor recreation activities as subordinate uses.
- (4) Heritage areas are designated for preservation, restoration, and interpretation of unique or unusual archaeological, historical, scientific, and/or cultural features, and traditional cultural properties, which are of statewide or national significance.
- (5) Natural forest areas are designated for preservation, restoration, and interpretation of natural forest processes while providing for low-intensity outdoor recreation activities as subordinate uses, and which contain:
 - (a) Old-growth forest communities that have developed for one hundred fifty years or longer and have the following structural characteristics: Large old-growth trees, large snags, large logs on land, and large logs in streams; or
 - (b) Mature forest communities that have developed for ninety years or longer; or
 - (c) Unusual forest communities and/or interrelated vegetative communities of significant ecological value.
- (6) Natural area preserves are designated for preservation of rare or vanishing flora, fauna, geological, natural historical or similar features of scientific or educational value and which are registered and committed as a natural area preserve through a cooperative agreement with an appropriate natural resource agency pursuant to chapter 79.70 RCW and chapter 332-60 WAC.

WAC 352-16-030 Management within land classifications. (1) The director shall develop management guidelines for each land classification listed in WAC 352-16-020. The guidelines shall provide specific direction for each classification, outlining the philosophy of each classification, its appropriate physical features, location, allowed and prohibited activities, and allowed and prohibited developments. (2) Nothing in this section shall be construed to allow uses that are otherwise prohibited, nor prohibit uses that are otherwise expressly allowed, by the commission, this code, or by statute.

Land Classification Management Guidelines Recreation Areas

TITLE	DEFINITION	PHILOSOPHY	PHYSICAL FEATURES	LOCATION	ACTIVITIES	DEVELOPMENTS
<p>Washington State Parks Recreation Areas</p>	<p><u>State Parks Recreation Areas</u> are suited and/or developed for high-intensity outdoor recreational use, conference, cultural and/or educational centers, or other uses serving large numbers of people.</p>	<p><u>State Parks Recreation Areas</u> are to respond to the human needs for readily available areas for outdoor recreation and facilities to congregate for education, artistic expression and other ennobling pursuits. They are to provide a variety of outdoor recreational, educational, artistic, and cultural opportunities to large numbers of participants. Primary emphasis is on the provision of quality recreational services and facilities with secondary recognition given to protection of the areas natural qualities.</p>	<p><u>State Parks Recreation Areas</u> physiographic features such as topography, soil type, drainage, etc., shall be adaptable to varied types of intensive uses and development. An attractive natural setting is desirable, however, human-made settings are acceptable. There are no specific size criteria.</p>	<p><u>State Parks Recreation Areas</u> generally are made, not found. They shall be located throughout the state with primary emphasis to service major centers of urban populations and/or outstanding recreational tourist attractions. Scenic and inspirational values shall be considered but are secondary to the site adaptability and population criteria. When part of a large diverse park, recreation areas should be sited in proximity to public roads and utilities.</p>	<p><u>State Parks Recreation Areas</u> may allow and provide for a wide variety of indoor and outdoor day, weekend and vacation activities. Provision may be made for high intensity participation in camping, picnicking, trail use, water sports, winter sports, group field games, and other activities for many people. Off-trail equestrian and/or bicycle use may be appropriate in selected areas if approved by the commission. Activities requiring high levels of social interaction are encouraged.</p>	<p><u>State Parks Recreation Areas</u> shall provide appropriate facilities and services for the participation and enjoyment of high concentrations of outdoor recreationists and/or participants in indoor educational, cultural and artistic activities. A high degree of development is anticipated. Facilities may include road and parking networks, swimming beaches, full service marinas, trails, bathhouses, artificial lakes and pools, play fields, large sanitary and eating facilities; standard and utility campgrounds, stores, picnic grounds, group shelters, conference centers, environmental learning centers, hostels, and administrative support facilities.</p>

Land Classification Management Guidelines Resource Recreation Areas

TITLE	DEFINITION	PHILOSOPHY	PHYSICAL FEATURES	LOCATION	ACTIVITIES	DEVELOPMENTS
<p>Washington State Parks Resource Recreation Areas</p>	<p><u>State Parks Resource Recreation Areas</u> are suited and/or developed for natural and/or cultural resource-based medium- and low-intensity recreational use.</p>	<p><u>State Parks Resource Recreation Areas</u> are sites where the high quality of a particular natural or cultural resource or set of such resources is the lure for human recreation. Thus, the rationale for recreation is based on the value of attractive natural or cultural resources. Management of these areas must stress the centrality of preserving the quality of the natural and cultural resources while allowing appropriate and sustainable levels of human use and enjoyment.</p>	<p><u>State Parks Resource Recreation Areas</u> have a variety of physiographic features. While they may contain areas of environmental sensitivity, most portions of each area will be able to withstand low- to medium-intensity recreation use without significant environmental degradation.</p>	<p><u>State Parks Resource Recreation Areas</u> may be located anywhere in the state where natural or cultural factors produce land and water sites particularly suited for recreation in a natural setting. Access to these sites should be reasonably proximate to major urban centers, but some access restriction may be necessary to avoid overuse of resources. Within large diverse parks, these areas should be located at least a moderate distance from public roads and high use intensity areas, while still maintaining reasonable public access for their intended use.</p>	<p><u>State Parks Resource Recreation Areas</u> provide opportunities for low- and medium-intensity recreational experiences including, but not limited to, picnicking, primitive camping, a variety of recreational trail experiences, interpretive facilities, historic/cultural exhibits, nature observation, photography, orienteering, kayaking, canoeing, floating, and fishing. Off-trail equestrian and/or bicycle use may be appropriate in selected areas if approved by the commission. Basketball, tennis, organized group sporting activities requiring formal sports fields, commercial-sized piers and docks, standard and utility camping, indoor accommodations and centers, developed swimming areas, and other similarly intense uses are not appropriate. Scientific research is permitted.</p>	<p><u>State Parks Resource Recreation Areas</u> development shall be permitted to the extent necessary to serve allowed activities. Parking, sanitary facilities, and other ancillary developments and support facilities should be constructed in a manner that is consistent with the site's ability to manage environmental change.</p>

Land Classification Management Guidelines Natural Areas

TITLE	DEFINITION	PHILOSOPHY	PHYSICAL FEATURES	LOCATION	ACTIVITIES	DEVELOPMENTS
Washington State Parks Natural Areas	<u>State Parks Natural Areas</u> are designated for preservation, restoration, and interpretation of natural processes and/or features of significant ecological, geological or paleontological value while providing for low-intensity outdoor recreation activities as subordinate uses.	<u>State Parks Natural Areas</u> are to respond to the human need for readily available "conservatories" of nature and open spaces. Emphasis is directed toward nature and the conservation of native flora and fauna, special geologic or paleontologic resources, and the natural amenities of the area. Human wants for other than naturally existing educational and recreational opportunities are considered secondary to nature's requirement for the sustained maintenance of its natural balances, or the preservation of special geologic or paleontologic features.	<u>State Parks Natural Areas</u> have a variety of topography and features to provide a diversified natural environment with interesting but not necessarily unique flora and fauna, or geologic or paleontologic features. Where classification is based on biological considerations, sites should consist of land areas large enough to maintain natural biological processes in a nearly undeveloped state and provide users with a feeling of solitude and tranquility, and an opportunity to view nature in its "uncontrolled" form. They may be partially or wholly on land, subterranean, or part of the marine environment.	<u>State Parks Natural Areas</u> are not "made", but rather currently exist due to historical circumstances that have resulted in little or no human interference in the natural environment. Those areas most desirable in terms of physical features and size usually are "found" and "held" against creeping encroachments and raising land values. They often become over used and "lost" as populations spread around them. As a part of the overall system, these areas should be geographically spread throughout the state. When classifying specific park areas, consideration must be given to the ability to adequately manage the areas against undesirable human encroachment.	<u>State Parks Natural Areas</u> provide opportunities for outdoor recreation on designated trails. Those trails may be developed and used only to the extent that they do not significantly degrade the system of natural processes in a classified area. Hiking, non-groomed cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, or other trail uses of similar impact to natural systems and providing a compatible recreational opportunity, may be permitted, after consultation with appropriate local, state, federal and tribal resource management agencies, and upon a finding by the agency that such trails are not likely to significantly degrade natural processes. Relocation of existing equestrian, bicycle, nordic track or other similar trails into a natural area may be permitted upon a finding by the director that such relocation is for the purpose of reducing overall resource impacts. All trails may be moved, redesigned, closed and/or removed upon a finding that their use is causing significant degradation to the system of natural processes. Technical rock climbing requires authorization by the commission. Off-trail use for nature observation, photography, cross-country skiing, harvesting of mushrooms and berries and similar uses are permitted to the degree that they do not significantly degrade natural processes. Scientific research is permitted.	<u>State Parks Natural Area</u> development shall be limited to facilities required for health, safety and protection of users and features consistent with allowed activities. Facilities to enhance public enjoyment shall be limited to primitive items such as trails, trail structures and minor interpretive exhibits. All improvements shall harmonize with, and not detract from, the natural setting. Parking and other trailhead facilities should be located outside of a classified area.

Land Classification Management Guidelines Heritage Areas

TITLE	DEFINITION	PHILOSOPHY	PHYSICAL FEATURES	LOCATION	ACTIVITIES	DEVELOPMENTS
Washington State Parks Heritage Areas	<p><u>State Parks Heritage Areas</u> are designated for preservation, restoration, and interpretation of outstanding, unique or unusual archaeological, historical, scientific, and/or cultural features, and traditional cultural properties, which are of statewide or national significance.</p>	<p><u>State Parks Heritage Areas</u> are designated to preserve and/or interpret selected areas or features for the education and enjoyment of the public, an area's intrinsic cultural value, and/or for scientific research.</p>	<p><u>State Parks Heritage Areas</u> vary in size and physiographic makeup according to their location and reason for existence. Historic landscapes may require relatively large acreage while archaeological sites may be measured in square feet.</p>	<p><u>State Parks Heritage Areas</u> usually are located where they are found or the feature exists. However, in some instances relocation or re-creation of artifacts, resources or facilities is possible. In these situations they may be located in appropriate settings and concentrated near major population centers and along primary travel routes.</p>	<p><u>State Parks Heritage Area</u> activities shall generally be limited to those directly associated with the interpretation of the area or feature, and the education of the patrons. Picnicking, recreational trails, and other low- to medium-intensity recreation uses may be allowed if they do not detract from the principal purpose of the area, its setting, structures, sites and objects.</p>	<p><u>State Parks Heritage Area</u> development shall generally be limited to that necessary for the protection and interpretation of the area or feature, and the education and safety of the patrons. Sanitary facilities, recreation trails, and picnicking facilities may be provided in a manner which does not detract from the aesthetic, educational or environmental quality of the area, its setting, structures, sites or objects, or, if applicable, its value for scientific research.</p>

Land Classification Management Guidelines Natural Forest Areas

TITLE	DEFINITION	PHILOSOPHY	PHYSICAL FEATURES	LOCATION	ACTIVITIES	DEVELOPMENTS
Washington State Parks Natural Forest Areas	<p><u>State Parks Natural Forest Areas</u> are designated for preservation, restoration, and interpretation of natural forest processes while providing for low-intensity outdoor recreation activities as subordinate uses, and which contain:</p> <p>(a) Old-growth forest communities that have developed for 150 years or longer and have the following structural characteristics: Large old-growth trees, large snags, large logs on land, and large logs in streams; or (b) Mature forest communities that have developed for 90 years or longer; or □ Unusual forest communities and/or interrelated vegetative communities of significant ecological value.</p>	<p><u>State Parks Natural Forest Areas</u> are places where human access to and interpretation and enjoyment of natural forest processes are limited to those activities and facilities that do not significantly degrade natural forest processes. Public access into these areas emphasizes appreciation of nature through experiencing nature. The principal function of these areas is to assist in maintaining the state's bio-diversity while expanding human understanding and appreciation of natural values.</p>	<p><u>State Parks Natural Forest Areas</u> have a variety of topographic and vegetative conditions. They are generally large enough (300 or more acres) to contain one or more distinct and relatively intact vegetative communities. Smaller areas may be appropriate if representative of a unique or unusual forest community. Desirably, they are part of a large system of open space, wildlife habitat, and vegetative communities that provide a good opportunity for long-term ecosystem sustainability.</p>	<p><u>State Parks Natural Forest Areas</u> may be located anywhere in the state where natural factors produce forest vegetative cover. These areas are not "made", but rather currently exist due to historical circumstances that have resulted in little or no human interference in natural forest progression. As a part of an overall system, these areas should be geographically spread throughout the state, recognizing that maintenance of bio-diversity is one of the primary functions of their classification. When classifying specific park areas, consideration must be given to the ability to adequately manage the areas against undesirable human encroachment.</p>	<p><u>State Parks Natural Forest Areas</u> provide opportunities for outdoor recreation on designated recreation trails. Those trails may be developed and used only to the extent that they do not significantly degrade the system of natural forest processes in a classified area. Careful design of recreation trails should match intended uses, to maintain consistency with the purpose and philosophy of the classification. Hiking, non-groomed cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, or other trail uses of similar impact to natural systems and providing a compatible recreational opportunity, may be permitted, after consultation with appropriate local, state, federal and tribal resource management agencies, and upon a finding by the agency that such trails are not likely to significantly degrade natural forest processes. Relocation of existing equestrian, bicycle, nordic track or other similar trails into a natural forest area may be permitted upon a finding by the director that such relocation is for the purpose of reducing overall resource impacts. All trails may be moved, redesigned, closed and/or removed upon a finding that they are causing significant degradation to the system of natural forest processes. Technical rock climbing requires authorization by the commission. Off-trail use for nature observation, cross-country skiing, photography, harvesting of mushrooms and berries and similar uses are permitted to the degree that they do not significantly degrade natural forest processes. Scientific research is permitted.</p>	<p><u>State Parks Natural Forest Areas</u> development shall be limited to facilities required for health, safety and protection of users and features consistent with allowed activities. Facilities to enhance public enjoyment shall be limited to trails, trail structures, and minor interpretive exhibits. All improvements shall harmonize with, and not detract from, the natural setting. Parking and other trailhead facilities should be located outside of a classified area.</p>

Land Classification Management Guidelines Natural Area Preserves

TITLE	DEFINITION	PHILOSOPHY	PHYSICAL FEATURES	LOCATION	ACTIVITIES	DEVELOPMENTS
<p>Washington State Parks Natural Area Preserves</p>	<p><u>State Parks Natural Area Preserves</u> are designated for preservation of rare or vanishing flora, fauna, geological, natural historical or similar features of scientific or educational value and which are registered and committed as a natural area preserve through a cooperative agreement with an appropriate natural resource agency pursuant to chapter 79.70 RCW and chapter 332-60 WAC.</p>	<p><u>State Parks Natural Area Preserves</u> are sites where human access is limited to educational and scientific purposes. The principal function of these areas is to preserve natural ecosystems or geologic features of statewide significance. Public access for recreation must be subordinate to the principal function of the classification.</p>	<p><u>State Parks Natural Area Preserves</u> have a variety of topographic and vegetative conditions. They are generally large enough (300 or more acres) to contain one or more distinct and intact ecological communities. Smaller areas may be appropriate if representative of a unique or unusual ecological community or geologic feature. They may be partially or wholly on land, subterranean, or part of the marine environment. Desirably, they are part of a large system of open space, wildlife habitat, and vegetative communities that provide a good opportunity for long-term ecosystem sustainability.</p>	<p><u>State Parks Natural Area Preserves</u> may be located anywhere in the state where natural ecological systems or significant geologic features exist. These areas are not "made", but rather exist due to historical circumstances that have resulted in little or no human interference in the natural system. As a part of an overall system, these areas should be geographically spread throughout the state.</p>	<p><u>State Parks Natural Area Preserves</u> provide opportunities for scientific research and education about natural systems, geologic features, sensitive, rare, threatened or endangered species or communities. Recreational use of existing or relocated trails may be permitted, provided that it can be clearly demonstrated that such use does not degrade the system of natural processes occurring in the preserve. Otherwise, trails are limited to administrative, scientific and organized educational activities and uses. No other activities are permitted.</p>	<p><u>State Parks Natural Area Preserves</u> development shall be limited to access facilities for permitted activities and structures to inhibit general public access. No other facilities or structures are permitted.</p>

Land Use and Land Classification Compatibility Matrix – Facilities

	Recreation	Resource Recreation	Heritage	Natural/Natural Forest Area	Natural Area Preserve*
Amphitheater	P	C	C	N	N
Archery/Target Range	C	C	N	N	N
Camping - Std and Util	P	N	N	N	N
Camping - Primitive	P	P	C	N	N
Camping - Adirondack	P	C	N	N	N
Camping - Horse-oriented	C	C	N	N	N
Camping - Water Trail	P	P	C	N	N
Children's Play Area	P	C	C	N	N
Day Use Picnic - Tables	P	P	C	N	N
Day Use Picnic - Group Shelter	P	N	C	N	N
Day Use Lodges/Centers	P	N	C	N	N
Environmental Learning Centers	C	N	C	N	N
Equestrian Facilities	C	C	C	N	N
Fields - Informal Play/Mowed	P	C	C	N	N
Indoor Accommodations	P	N	C	N	N
Interpretive - Centers	P	N	P	N	N
Interpretive - Kiosks	P	P	P	C	N
Interpretive Trail	P	P	P	P	C
Interpretive - Signs	P	P	P	P	C
Parking - Vehicles	P	P	C	N	N
Roads	P	P	C	N	N

Land Use and Land Classification Compatibility Matrix – Facilities (Continued)

	Recreation	Resource Recreation	Heritage	Natural/Natural Forest Area	Natural Area Preserve*
Sanitary: Comfort Stations	P	N	C	N	N
Sanitary: Composting/Vault	P	P	C	C	N
Sports Fields	C	N	N	N	N
Skiing - Alpine Facilities	C	C	N	N	N
Swimming Facilities	P	N	C	N	N
Trails - Hiking	P	P	P	P	C
Trails - Mountain Biking	P	C	C	N**	N
Trails - Equestrian	C	C	C	N**	N
Trails - Nordic Track Skiing	P	P	C	N**	N
Trails - C-C skiing	P	P	P	P	C
Trails - Snowmobile	P	C	C	N**	N
Trails - Paved non-motor	P	C	C	C	N
Water: Docks/Piers ≥ 10 boats	P	N	C	N	N
Water: Docks/Piers < 10 boats	P	P	C	C	N
Water: Launch Ramps	P	C	N	N	N
Water: Hand Launch Areas	P	P	C	C	N
Water: Mooring Buoys	P	P	C	C	N

P (Permitted) - Use permitted with normal agency design review

C (Conditional) - Use may be permitted, but conditioned to assure design is compatible w/purpose of land classification and abutting classification objectives.

N (Not Permitted)- Use not permitted.

NA - Not Applicable

* All uses in a Natural Area Preserve must be specifically approved by the Park and Recreation Commission as part of a management plan.

**Relocation of existing trails into a natural or natural forest area is permitted per WAC 352-32-070(3) and WAC 352-32-075(2)(b).

Land Use and Land Classification Compatibility Matrix – Activities

	Recreation	Resource Recreation	Heritage	Natural/Natural Forest Area	Natural Area Preserve*
Farming/Orchards	C	C	C	N	N
Filming/Special Events	P	P	P	C	N
Grazing	C	C	C	N	N
Harvesting - Edible Fruiting Bodies	P	P	P	P	N
Harvesting - Mushrooms	P	P	P	P	N
Harvesting - Shellfish	P	P	P	P	N
Harvesting - Fish	P	P	P	P	N
Harvesting - Algae, etc.	P	P	P	P	N
Haying	P	P	P	N	N
Metal Detecting	P	P	C	N	N
Orienteering	P	P	C	N	N
Ocean Beach Driving	P	C	N	N	N
Off-Trail: Equestrian	C	C	C	N	N
Off-Trail: Hiking	P	P	P	P	N
Off-trail biking	C	C	C	N	N
Paragliding	P	P	C	N	N
Technical Rock Climbing	P	P	C	C	N

Land Use and Land Classification Compatibility Matrix – Activities (Continued)

	Recreation	Resource Recreation	Heritage	Natural/Natural Forest Area	Natural Area Preserve*
Water: Jet Skiing	P	C	N	N	N
Water: Kayak/Canoeing	P	P	P	C	N
Water: Power Boating	P	C	N	C	N
Water: White Water Boating	P	P	C	C	N
Water: Sailing	P	P	P	C	N
Water: Skiing	P	C	N	N	N
Water: Swimming	P	P	P	P	N
Water: Wind Surfing	P	C	C	N	N
Winter: Alpine Skiing	C	C	N	N	N
Winter: C-C Skiing (off-trail)	P	P	P	P	C
Winter: Mushing/Sled Dogs	C	C	C	N	N
Winter: Snowshoeing	P	P	P	P	C
Winter: Snowmobiling (off-trail)	P	P	C	N	N
Wood Debris Collection	P	P	P	N	N

P (Permitted) - Use permitted with normal agency design review

C (Conditional) - Use may be permitted with Commission concurrence, but conditioned to assure compatibility w/purpose of land classification and abutting classifications.

N (Not Permitted)- Use not permitted.

NA - Not Applicable

* All uses in a Natural Area Preserve must be specifically approved by the Park and Recreation Commission as part of a management plan.

**Relocation of existing trails into a natural or natural forest area is permitted per WAC 352-32-070(3) and WAC 352-32-075(2)(b).