

Palouse Falls, Lyons Ferry, Lewis and Clark Trail State Parks CAMP- Preliminary Recommendation
Lewis and Clark Trail State Park Description and Recreation Activity Table – September 20, 2021



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Lewis and Clark Trail State Park

Lewis and Clark Trail State Park is a 36-acre camping park with 1,333 feet of freshwater shoreline on the Touchet River. Located between Dayton and Waitsburg, in Columbia County, and bisected by Highway 12, State Parks’ two properties provide camping on the north side and day-use on the south side, which also includes interpretive displays, a WPA historic building and group kitchen facility. The Park has a peaceful and low-key vibe at both locations. On the camping side, the vegetation is left mostly natural offering privacy between campsites and being gently sculpted along the Touchet River, the trail winding in and out along the park perimeter, offering alternating views and access to the water and to campsites and restrooms at the center of the property.

The preliminary recommendation for the park includes a proposed expansion on the north side of the park to the west and to the east. With the continued increase in the state’s population and the high level of interest in outdoor recreation of Washingtonians and state visitors the proposed expansion would provide additional opportunities for camping, day-use, water access, fishing, trails along with additional opportunities for more interpretation of the natural function and features of the river, rich tribal history and the agricultural evolution of the area and the green oasis that is Lewis and Clark Trail State Park in the middle of shrub-steppe Palouse habitat.

Lewis and Clark Trail State Park Land Classifications

Area	Land Class	Recreation Activities	Conditional Recreation Activities	Questions/Comments
<p>North of Hwy 12</p> <p>Existing developed areas of the park include the camping, park office and other high intensity recreation facilities. Where possible, recreation is to be expanded to the east and west in the Recreation LTB to include additional high intensity uses such as the following:</p>	<p>Recreation and Recreation (LTB)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand camping with a mix of overnight accommodations appealing to broad range of interests, equipment, and income levels, including cabins, RV sites, teepees, tent, primitive and group sites, etc. • Comfort stations, picnic, and day-use areas • State Parks shop area • Parking 	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Consider future development of facilities and other amenities to support trail users of the future multi-purpose trail between Dayton to Waitsburg</p> <p>Consider appropriate messaging around teepees and the ‘cultural appropriation’ that is implied.</p>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional day-use areas offering river access, picnicking and playground, etc. 		
<p>North of Hwy 12</p> <p>Existing developed areas of the park include trail use and river access for visitors to enjoy the Touchet River. Where possible, Resource Recreation to be expanded to the north, east and west in the Resource Recreation LTB to include additional lower intensity uses.</p>	<p>Resource Recreation and Resource Recreation LTB</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-motorized water access • Fishing • Parking • Trail connection opportunities along the Touchet river and throughout the park • Interpretation opportunities include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Natural functions of site: riverine ecology and riparian forest ○ Fishing ○ Cultural significance of Lewis and Clark ○ Tribal significance with the landscape, land-use and any significance as a trail route • Riparian protection 	<p>N/A</p>	
<p>North of Hwy 12- Corridor adjacent to the Hwy and connector trail south of Hwy 12 to the south side of park</p>	<p>Recreation LTB</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site of a future potential multi-purpose trail between Dayton and Waitsburg. Continue working with the Port of Columbia to plan and develop the trail corridor with amenities to serve future trail users. • Establish trail corridor to access south side of park without having to cross Hwy 12. 	<p>N/A</p>	

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Area	Land Class	Recreation Activities	Conditional Recreation Activities	Questions/Comments
South of Hwy 12	Recreation for surplus/exchange	The existing recreation classification allows for high intensity use including comfort stations, picnicking and day-use facilities, etc.	N/A	<p>Consider surplusage of the south side of park contingent on north side park expansion completion or near completion. The interpretation of the park is primarily located on the south side of the park along with historic structures. Consider the plan for interpretation and historic structures prior to surplus of property.</p> <p>Note there is a Hwy Heritage marker on Hwy 12 for the park.</p>