



Don Hoch
Director

STATE OF WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON STATE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

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DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE

Description of Proposal: This planning project, also known as Classification and Management Planning (CAMP), addresses overall visitor experiences, natural and cultural resource management, long-term property boundary decisions (acquiring and/or surplus land, as well as other land management agreements, etc.), defining use and upgrading existing park facilities, and other topics of interest to the community and park visitors.

The planning area for this project includes the following State Park properties:

South Whidbey State Park is located on the west side of Whidbey Island near Freeland in Island County. It's a 350 acre park with 4,500 feet of saltwater shoreline and 3.5 miles of hiking trail. Amenities include a 46 site campground (currently closed), an amphitheater, picnic shelters, and beach access (currently closed).

Useless Bay Tidelands are located approximately six miles south of South Whidbey State Park on the west shore of Whidbey Island. These 560 acres of tidelands were acquired in 1947 from the Washington Department of Natural Resources and portions include walkable beach area during low tides.

Possession Point State Park Property is a 25 acre property with 2500 feet of saltwater shoreline located on the southern tip of Whidbey Island. It was acquired in 2001 for purposes of establishing a Cascadia Marine Trail campsite. Current facilities include a small parking lot, hiking trails and a staff residence that was on-site at the time of acquisition.

This proposal seeks Commission approval of:

- 1) Specific land classifications for the parks and their long-term boundaries. The purpose of land classification is to provide general policy guidance for staff on appropriate management and use of State Parks' land holdings for recreational activities and developments on the trail. The land classification system is codified under WAC 352-16.
- 2) A long-term park boundary for the parks in the South Whidbey Area CAMP. The long-term boundary represents areas which the agency deems desirable for management consistent with each park's mission.

Proponent: Washington State Parks & Recreation Commission

Location of Proposal, including street address, if any:

The planning area for this project includes South Whidbey State Park, Useless Bay Tidelands and Possession Point State Park Property located on Whidbey Island near Langely, WA. Whidbey Island is the largest island in Puget Sound and is located between the Olympic Peninsula and the mainland of Snohomish and Skagit counties.

Lead Agency: Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission

The lead agency for this proposal has determined that it does not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement is not required under RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c). This decision was made after review of a completed environmental checklist and other information on file with the lead agency. This information is available to the public on request.

XX There is no comment period for this DNS.

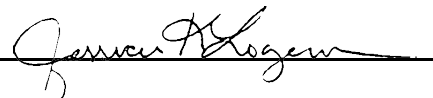
Although there is no comment period for this DNS, all comments are welcome and will be fully considered. Please submit all comments by April 28, 2017 to ensure they are considered. In addition, adoption of this proposal is scheduled for the Washington State Park and Recreation Commission's regularly scheduled meeting on May 18th Leavenworth City Hall, 700 US HWY 2, Leavenworth 98826. The Commission meeting is scheduled to begin at 9:00 AM, but the proposed items have not been scheduled a specific time for action at the meeting. Testimony on this proposal may be presented and is welcome at the May 18th Leavenworth Commission meeting. For additional information on this proposal, please contact Randy Kline, Parks Planner, at (360) 902-8632.

_____ **This DNS is issued under WAC 197-11-340(2); the lead agency will not act on this proposal for 14 days from the date below. A 14-day comment period is required for this DNS.**

Responsible Official: Jessica K Logan
Position/Title: Environmental Program Manager
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Date April 6, 2017

Signature 

"All Washington State Parks are developed and maintained for the enjoyment of all persons regardless of age, sex, creed, ethnic origin, or physical limitations." There is no agency SEPA appeal process; however, all comments are welcome and will be thoroughly considered.