

Rasar State Park Management Plan

Approved July 12, 1997



Washington State Parks Mission

The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission acquires, operates, enhances, and protects a diverse system of recreational, cultural, and natural sites. The Commission fosters outdoor recreation and education statewide to provide enjoyment and enrichment for all and a valued legacy to future generations.

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Rasar State Park Management Plan

Certificate of Adoption

The signatures below certify the adoption of this plan for the continued management of Rasar State Park.

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Rasar State Park Management Plan Summary

Management Plan Objectives and Organization

This Rasar State Park Management Plan is part of a statewide effort to provide for protection and appropriate use of the Washington State Park and Recreation Commission's recreational, natural and cultural resources. This plan is issue-driven. It identifies significant management issues at the park and then recommends management approaches and actions to respond to those issues.

The plan uses two fundamental approaches in response to identified issues. A first approach is to use a "Limits of Acceptable Change" (LAC) system to address a park's most significant resource management issues. LAC, originally developed by the United States Forest Service for use in Wilderness Areas, has been adapted for use in state parks. Fundamentally, it is an evaluative tool that establishes quantifiable standards of resource integrity and provides management options for park managers to achieve those standards. A second approach is to prepare a statement of park policy. A park policy simply states what actions park managers will take to resolve identified issues.

The plan is organized as follows:

- # **Rasar State Park Management Plan Summary** provides an overview of the park's management issues and the approaches selected to respond to them.
- # Washington State Parks Management Planning introduces the reader to the statewide management planning program and describes how this park management plan fits within that overall system.
- # **Introduction to Rasar State Park** provides an introduction to the park, its major attributes, and its use patterns.
- # **Management Context** describes the legal, social, and geographic context in which the park operates. It includes specific park policies that are not subject to LAC analysis, as well as a complete list of rules and regulations that must be considered in park management.
- # **Assessment of Natural, Cultural, and Recreational Resources** provides an overview of the LAC process and includes LAC assessment and management strategies for identified resource management issues.
- # **Park Programs and Implementation of Management Actions** provides a link between existing agency administrative systems and management actions recommended by this plan. These systems include park operating programs, staffing, planned maintenance project proposals, and capital project proposals.
- # **Appendices** present references to cited or related documents, a glossary, and other information that complements the main body of text and data tables.

The Table that follows briefly describes the major issues that have been identified by Rasar State Park staff and stakeholders and the management approaches selected to respond to these issues.

Summary Park Issues and Management Approaches

TABLE 1: SUMMARY AND DISPOSITION OF RASAR STATE PARK ISSUES

Management Issue	Source of Issue	Management Approach
Natural Resource Issues		
Wildlife values and protection of threatened, endangered, sensitive wildlife species (bald eagles)	Master Plan Objective and Legal requirement	Park policy of responding effectively to regional wildlife habitat issues and needs identified by state, federal, and tribal fisheries and wildlife professionals and any wildlife management plans adopted by their jurisdictions. Limits of Acceptable (LAC) assessment, monitoring, and management of recreation impacts on bald eagle winter feeding area.
River flood plain flood damage prevention	Master Plan Objective and Legal requirement	Park policy of compliance with all provisions of Skagit County's Flood Damage Prevention ordinance, minimizing soil disturbance, and controlling noxious weeds in flood plain. LAC assessment and monitoring of bare soil in flood plain.
Control of river bank erosion (human caused)	Agency Management Planning Team	LAC assessment, monitoring, and management of non-designated social trails that cross river bank.
Control of Non-native vegetation (blackberries)	Agency Management Planning Team	LAC assessment, monitoring, and management of blackberry patches in entire park.
Control of noxious weeds (Tansy ragwort, Scotch broom, Japanese knotweed, Canada thistle)	Legal requirement and Agency Management Planning Team	LAC assessment, monitoring, and management of Tansy ragwort, Scotch broom, Japanese knotweed, and Canada thistle in entire park.
Protection of surface and groundwater quality	Master Plan Objective	Park policy of 1) allowing no significant reduction in quality of groundwater or quality and quantity of surface water flows to or within the Skagit River due to human use; and 2) Effective response to directions of water quality regulatory agencies.
Preservation of riparian ecosystem and plant diversity	Master Plan Objective	Park policy of setting aside from development representative riparian forest environments through Natural Area land classifications.
Preservation of park visual/aesthetic beauty	Master Plan Objective	Park policy of 1) providing a 200 foot vegetative or distance buffer between neighboring properties and areas of more intensive recreational activity; and 2) establishing and maintaining a pleasing aesthetic experience for park visitors.
Cultural Resource Issues		
Preservation of active cultural landscape (hay field and haying operation)	Agency Management Planning Team	Park policy of maintaining hay field area as a cultural landscape in active agricultural production. LAC assessment, monitoring, and management of hay harvest area trampling by visitors.
Historic preservation (Dempsey Logging Co. activities)	Agency Management Planning Team	Park policy of including references to the Dempsey Logging Co. activities on the site and the company's relationship to prize fighter Jack Dempsey in the park's interpretive program.
Preservation of open space (cleared cultural landscape area)	Master Plan Objective	Park policy of maintaining open space as defined by existing peripheral vegetation at the time of park development.
Interpretive program theme	Master Plan Objective	Park policy of designing park interpretive program around the theme of the Skagit River's historical, natural, and cultural influence on the site and region.
Interpretive facilities development	Master Plan Objective	Initial park design and proposed capital project construction of interpretive trail along an existing river side trail.
Recreational Resource Issues		
Hay harvesting operation impacts on recreational experience	Agency Management Planning Team	LAC assessment, monitoring, and management of noises and smells associated with active hay harvesting operation.

Management Issue	Source of Issue	Management Approach
Trail use conflicts between cyclists and hikers	Agency Management Planning Team	LAC assessment, monitoring, and management of multi-purpose trail use conflicts and accidents.
Maintaining vegetative buffers between campsites	Agency Management Planning Team	LAC assessment, monitoring, and management of social trails through vegetative buffers.
Visitor security and safety	Agency Management Planning Team	LAC assessment, monitoring, and management of intra- and inter-party conflicts resulting in law enforcement actions.
Visitor protection from hazard trees	Agency Management Planning Team	Compliance with agency policy and procedure of identifying and removing "hazard trees".
ADA compliance	Legal requirement and Master Plan Objective	Initial park design and park policy of providing recreational opportunities for persons of disability and complying with provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act.
Meadow area fire prevention	Agency Management Planning Team	Park policy of: 1) Complying with all agency fire prevention/suppression policies and procedures; 2) complying with Skagit County fire district burning bans and regulations; and 3) initiating additional fire prevention measures including enhanced fire prevention related public information dissemination and fuel reduction actions.
Fishing access	Master Plan Objective	Initial park design and park policy of providing safe and proximate fishing access by providing appropriately located parking areas.
Boating/kayaking	Master Plan Objective	Initial park design and park policy of providing access point(s) for kayaks and other car top river craft that can be carried to the river.
Picnicking	Master Plan Objective	Initial park design and park policy of providing quality picnicking sites that take advantage of river views, accessibility and other park features.
Play areas	Master Plan Objective	Initial park design and park policy of providing play areas that target the needs of specific age groups and not providing facilities for organized sports, such as ball fields or tennis courts. Proposed capital project construction of "big toy" type playground area.
Trail development	Master Plan Objective	Initial park design and park policy of providing trails that enhance the scenic and interpretive experience of the site and that encourage visitors to walk as opposed to driving in the park.
Nature appreciation	Master Plan Objective	Initial park design and park policy of providing nature appreciation opportunities that are unobtrusive, aesthetically designed and placed in key locations of the park.
Camping	Master Plan Objective	Initial park design and park policy of providing a variety of camping facilities including hiker/biker, standard auto, hookup, and group sites.
Architectural/physical design of facilities	Master Plan Objective	Initial park design and park policy of designing all park structural elements to be harmonious with the sites natural and cultural heritage.
Road surfaces	Master Plan Objective	Initial park design and park policy of providing roadway and parking surfaces appropriate to the needs of resource management and long term public use.
Highway signage	Master Plan Objective	Initial park design and park policy of providing signage at both Lusk and Russell Roads to disperse park related traffic.
Utility sizing and appearance	Master Plan Objective	Initial park design and park policy of constructing all utilities under ground.
Internal vehicular circulation	Master Plan Objective	Initial park design and park policy of providing vehicular access to the park by way of a contact station and allowing incremental closure of park.
Future equestrian and bicycle facilities	Master Plan Objective	Park policy of future consideration of park capital construction of cycling and equestrian facilities on northern 45 acre parcel in association with Skagit River Railroad rails to trails conversion.

Future property boundary exchanges	Master Plan Objective	Park policy of future land acquisition priorities including rationalizing eastern property boundary and acquiring the flood plain area on the southern portion of the abutting property.
Regional recreation facilities	Master Plan Objective	Park policy of pursuing future opportunities to link Rasar with other regional recreation sites, i.e., river trails for pedestrians and beachable water craft.
Trespass of visitors onto adjacent private lands	Agency Management Planning Team	Potential future issue - will address as needed
Illegal dumping of garbage on park lands	Agency Management Planning Team	Potential future issue - will address as needed
Illegal trespassing onto park property	Agency Management Planning Team	Potential future issue - will address as needed
General conflicts with adjacent landowners	Agency Management Planning Team	Potential future issue - will address as needed

Chapter I: Washington State Parks Management Planning

Background

In January of 1992 the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission adopted a publicly developed Strategic and Action Plan. One question asked in part of the plan was "how do we provide for protection and wise use of park resources and assets?" In response to this question, the agency committed to a number of actions including the preparation of management plans for each park in the system.

The first step in the management planning program was to create a "model" plan to guide development of subsequent park management plans. By July of 1994 the model was developed using Deception Pass State Park as an example. Procedural questions and budgetary constraints delayed statewide implementation.

In late 1995 the Commission adopted a revised State Parks Land Classification System that renewed momentum for the management planning program. Because information and data required for the land classification process is also required for park management planning state parks staff decided to proceed with a combined land classification and management planning effort. This combined effort was titled the classification and management planning project (CAMP) and was initiated in March, 1996.

Park Management Planning Approach

Management Planning Principles

This Plan uses five basic principles to ensure the long-term public value of management planning:

- 1) **Park management plans will be continuously revised:** Park management planning is an on-going process. Individual plans will never be considered "completed" although, they will be considered "mature" ready to be acted upon, when they have been reviewed and approved by the Director of State Parks. As environmental, social, and political changes occur, plans will have the ability to reflect those changes.
- 2) **Park management plans are the primary document for communicating park resource management information:** Plans will be written to clearly communicate park-specific resource stewardship issues, management approaches, and actions to the rest of the agency, the public, and other stakeholders.
- 3) **Park managers and park staff play an integral role in producing and revising park management plans:** In this way, those responsible for implementing the plan have a vested interest in making it succeed.
- 4) **Members of the public participate in development of park management plans:** Directly involving park stakeholders in producing and revising plans fosters better understanding of how their particular interests fit into the larger resource management context while also giving them a stake in the plan's success.
- 5) **Key administrative functions are incorporated into the park management planning process:** To ensure that park management plans are regularly updated, the processes for triggering, justifying, and prioritizing park capital and operating program requests have been incorporated into the management planning process.

Management Planning Steps: A Park-Specific Plan Under a Statewide Format

For efficiency and consistency among park management plans, State Parks standardized the planning process by incorporating information that is applicable throughout the agency and providing this □model□ format for presenting park-specific information.

Park management planning includes:

1. Establishing the park management context.
2. Gathering preliminary natural, cultural, and recreational resource information about the park.
3. Requesting information and opinions from people interested in or affected by park management decisions (stakeholders) on issues of concern to them.
4. Clearly defining issues.
5. Identifying and evaluating options for resolving management issues.
6. Drafting a management plan that explains the management approach and the specific management actions proposed to address issues.
7. Soliciting stakeholders' □comments on the draft and incorporating this information into the park management plan.
8. Finalizing and implementing the park management plan.
9. Reviewing the management plan yearly with stakeholders to evaluate progress and identify new issues.
10. Revising the management plan to respond to new issues and to reflect management changes.

Park Management Decisions

While various parks may have significantly different resources and resource management issues, all park managers share the same essential dilemma -- increasing demand for recreational opportunities which utilize sensitive natural and cultural resources. The challenge at the heart of this dilemma is to accommodate recreational use and protect resources from deterioration. How much recreational use can resources sustain without compromising their value to the recreating public? The answer to this question is usually as subjective as it is technical. For this reason the □best□ resource management decisions incorporate public sentiment, yet are firmly based on reliable technical information. The ultimate responsibility for decision making rests with the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission.

Chapter II: Introduction to Rasar State Park

Rasar Area Report - 1995-97

Location: Rasar State Park is located along the north shore of the Skagit River in Skagit County approximately 19 miles east of the Interstate 5 Highway. To reach Rasar State Park from the west, take the Highway 20 (North Cascade Highway) exit at Burlington WA and continue east to Sedro-Woolley WA. Go east on Highway 20 from Sedro-Woolley approximately 14 miles. Turn right on Lusk road and continue 3/4 mile to Cape Horn road. Turn Left and proceed \square mile to the park entrance. Persons approaching from the east should continue 6 miles east from Concrete WA to Russell road. Turn left onto Russell road and go south about 3/4 of a mile. Turn right onto Cape Horn road and continue east 1 \square mile to the park entrance.

Acreage: 168 acres

Acquired: 128 acres of the Rasar State Park was acquired in 1986 through a generous donation from the Rasar family. The 40 adjacent acres (north of Cape Horn road) were acquired in 1990 from DNR.

Historical Background:

Facilities: Picnic sites, hiking trails, reservable kitchen shelter, day use parking sites, 2 comfort stations, 20 utility campsites (2 ea. ADA accessible), 18 standard campsites, 10 walk-in campsites (1 ea. ADA accessible and 3 ea. 4 person Adirondack shelters), 3 hike-in/bike-in campsites, 1 camp host utility site, trailer dumping station, residence, trailer pad (seasonal ranger), shop/garage, Office/Contact station and an ADA access trail from the day use area to the Skagit River.

Activities: Picnicking, hiking, and camping.

Of Special Interest: 4000 feet along Skagit River

Attendance: N/A

Operations

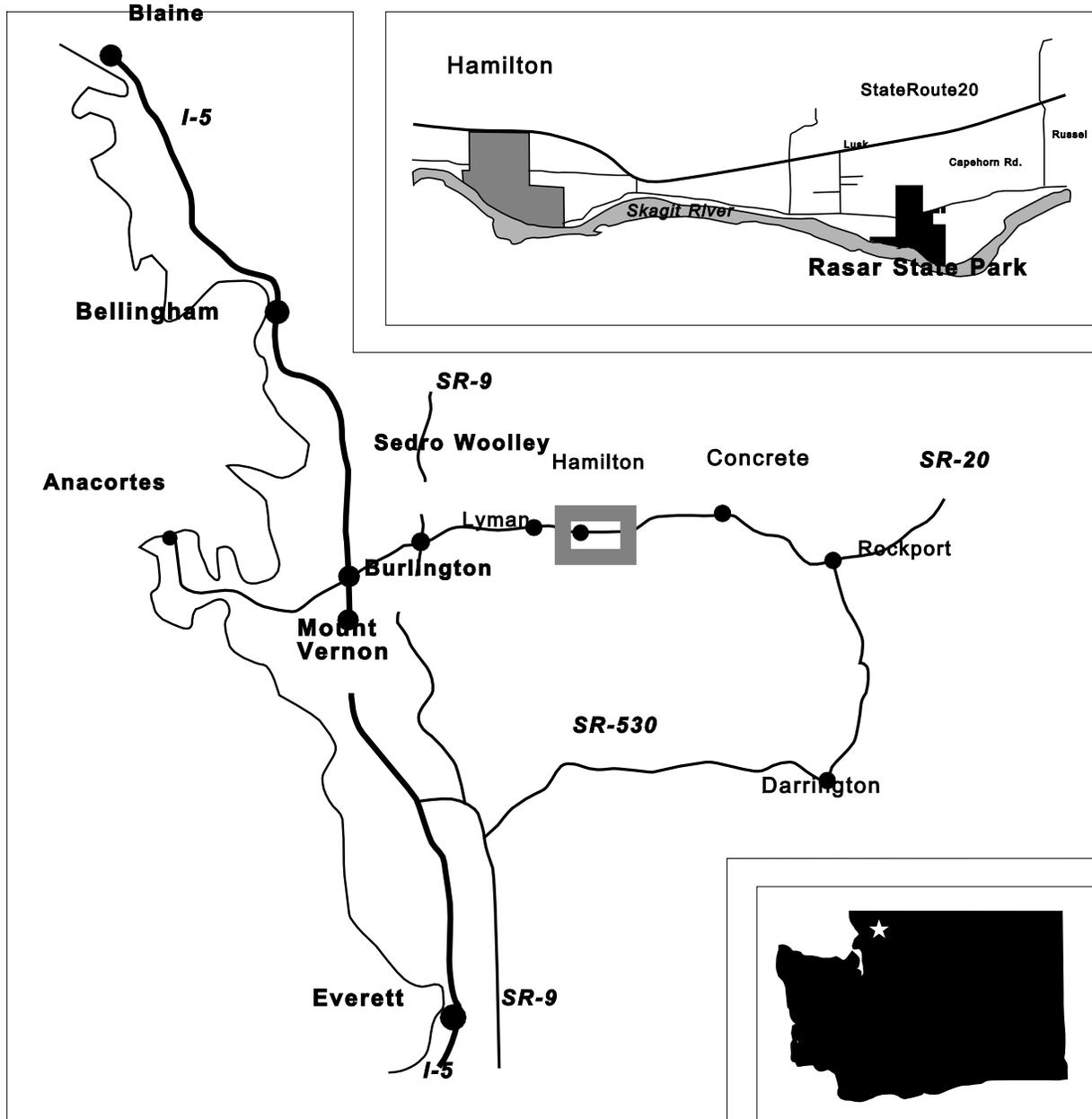
Interpretation: Interpretive shelter and interpretive trail signs

Staffing:	<u>Position</u>	<u>Staff Months</u>
	Park Ranger 3	12.00
	Park Ranger (seasonal)	6.00
	Park Aide (2ea.)	9.70

Administers These Satellites: Cascade Island, O \square Brien- Riggs State Park, Rockport State Park, Howard Property, Skagit River Property

Major Accomplishments in Last Two Years: Development plans completed and construction started at Rasar State Park. Park to open spring 1997.

Figure 1: Rasar State Park Vicinity Map



Chapter III: Management Context

Introduction

Park managers make day-to-day management decisions within a complex and multi-layered context of existing rules and regulations. In some cases the context is restrictive and identifies what a manager must or must not do. In other cases the context is permissive and identifies a range of possibilities that the manager may explore or consider. In both situations, knowledge of the context is essential to sound and legal park management.

This section explains the management context within which the park operates through four broad categories:

- 1) **Governmental Requirements and Policies:** federal, state and local jurisdictional rules, regulations and policies affecting the park.
- 2) **Land Ownership and Management Obligations:** a legal description of the park property boundaries as well as licenses, easements, permits, and other rights granted by or to State Parks that affect operation of the park or the legal status of ownership.
- 3) **Regional Recreational Supply and Demand:** the supply and demand for certain recreational opportunities in and near the park. It also provides some basis for discussing and anticipating trends that may affect user experience and/or park resources.
- 4) **Stakeholders and Constituencies:** persons and entities that have interests in the park and how they can be contacted. A listing of user groups, neighboring organizations and interested others is provided.

Governmental Requirements and Policies

A Washington state park operates within a framework of laws, rules, regulations, and policies that govern jurisdictional behavior. Interpretation of, and compliance with government rules and policies requires sound and thoughtful judgment. Managers frequently need to consult with agency technical staff for advice and clarification.

A brief description is provided below of the different levels and types of legal and administrative direction with which a park manager should be familiar before taking action. After this introduction, laws, rules, regulations, and policies affecting Rasar State Park are listed and described.

The Federal Level

The United States Constitution: This document is the fundamental law of the nation. All actions must be consistent with this document. Its evolving interpretation continues to have a substantial impact on all other law and governmental action. Federal constitutional provisions clearly affecting park management include provisions guaranteeing equal protection through non-discrimination in employment practices and provisions for the right of public assembly.

Federal Statutes (U.S. Code): Federal laws passed by the U.S. Congress and signed into law by the President comprise this ever-changing code. Many federal statutes involve the performance of federal government agencies, but some involve laws that directly affect all organizations and individuals. Examples of federal statutes affecting state parks include the Federal Minimum Wage Act, Endangered Species Act, and National Historic Preservation Act. Federal acts that directly apply to this park are listed in Table 2.

Federal Administrative Rules (Code of Federal Regulations): These are rules developed by the administrative arm of the federal government, principally federal agencies, to implement laws passed by Congress. When passing statutes, Congress often directs federal agencies to develop and enforce rules and procedures to ensure legal goals are accomplished. For example, the United States Department of Labor enforces the minimum wage law; the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service (and other agencies) oversee the Endangered Species Act; and the National Park Service implements the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (as Amended).

Federal Executive Orders and Declarations (Presidential Orders): The President of the United States may issue directives to staff and/or federal agencies under the implicit authority of the presidential office or delegated congressional authority. A presidential declaration of national disaster is one example of such a decision.

The State Level

Washington State Constitution: This is the fundamental law of the state. All state and local law must be consistent with this document. In addition to formulating the structure for state and local government, it contains several important provisions that affect operations of many state parks. For example, its □police power□ provision expressly allows for development and enforcement of state laws, including authority for rangers to enforce state laws in parks.

State Laws (Revised Codes of Washington - RCWs): These are laws adopted by the Washington State Legislature and signed by the Governor. They enable and govern formation and operation of state agencies and define the authority of county, city and special purpose local governments. An example of state law is Chapter 43.51 RCW, which forms the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission and specifies the composition, powers, and duties of the agency. RCW chapters applicable to state park management are outlined in Table 3.

State Administrative Rules (Washington Administrative Codes - WACs): These are rules and regulations developed by state agencies at the direction of the legislature, governing administration of programs for which the legislature has appropriated funds. Most WACs approved by the State Parks and Recreation Commission are contained in Title 352 WAC. For example, Chapter 352-16 WAC governs the naming of state parks and establishes the agency's land classification system. WAC chapters applicable to state park management are outlined in Table 3.

State Executive Authority (Executive Order): These are rules issued directly by the governor that must be followed by all state agencies. The Office of the Governor has limited constitutional authority to direct the work of state agencies not under gubernatorial control, including the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission. However, the legislature has delegated specific authority to the governor to issue certain executive orders. An example of such an order is a state declaration of emergency.

State Parks and Recreation Commission Policies (Commission Policy): These are decisions by the Commission that expand on and clarify WACs. Commission policies convey directions to the agency but don't require as complex a codification process as WACs. Such policies may involve one park, a collection of parks, or the whole system. An example of such a commission policy, actually a set of policies, is the 1996 Strategic and Action Plan of Washington State Parks. Selected Commission policies applicable to this park are outlined in Table 4.

Director's Administrative Policies: These are specific policies and/or directives issued by the director of state parks to staff to implement general commission policies. An example is the March 1994 directive from the Director to treat all properties deemed eligible for classification as natural forest areas and require that all new uses be consistent with that classification until the Commission can make final land classification decisions (see Table 5).

Administrative Directives: These are mandates from assistant directors (leading the Administrative Services, Resources, and Operations Divisions) under supervision of the Director. These

directives are the primary means by which assistant directors convey policy directions to their respective divisions. Because park management plans are implemented principally through the Operations Division, selected operations directives which apply to park resource management are listed in Table 6.

To convey policy considerations which involve more than one organizational division, assistant directors use *Memoranda of Understanding*. Selected *Memoranda of Understanding* which apply to park resource management are listed in Table 7.

To bridge the gap between agency policies and actions carried out by agency staff, an *Agency Procedure Manual* has been developed. The *Agency Procedure Manual* translates the □what □should be done to the □how□to do it and □who□will do it. Table 8 lists procedures which are pertinent to park resource management.

The Local Governmental Level

Local governments are political subdivisions of state government. State government allows for creation of local governments to promote more democratic access to public decision making and to accomplish certain cost efficiencies. The organization and authority of local governments varies widely. General Purpose Local Governments include counties, cities and towns. These governments have wide powers to regulate land and shoreline use and development, provide police and fire protection, and build and maintain roads. Special Purpose Local Governments provide services such as public utilities, ports, libraries, hospitals, fire suppression, and emergency services.

General Purpose Local Government Ordinances: These are laws that generally involve the regulation of construction and use. Examples include zoning, development, health, building and fire codes. For regulations affecting this park, see Table 9.

General Purpose Local Government Policies: These are usually found in documents that commonly form the policy basis for regulation of construction and use. Examples include comprehensive plans and shoreline master programs (policy portion). For policies affecting this park, see Table 9.

Special Purpose Local Government Regulations: These include rules and fees relating to the provision of certain services. For example, if a state park is within the boundaries of a public sewer district, that district may require certain standards for designing new hook up locations, or charge certain fees. For requirements affecting this park, see Table 10.

The Park Level

Park Master Plan: While there are usually no laws enacted for specific parks, there are often park-level policies that provide direction for day-to-day management and operation. The primary collection of park-specific policies and management objectives is contained in the park master plan. The purpose of master planning is to involve park stakeholders in a process to determine long-range development, stewardship, and other general management objectives. If completed, the park master plan is the companion document to this management plan and serves as the primary source for general management objectives. Master planning objectives, if completed, are outlined in Table 11. If completed, the master facilities site plan and or the master resource conservation and protection site plan can be found in Appendix D.

Park Land Classifications: If a master plan has not been completed for the park, policy direction is determined by park land classifications and corresponding management guidelines outlined in the agency□s land classification system (WAC Chapter 352-16 Naming of Parks and Land Classification System). A map of park land classifications can be found in the □Park Management Plan Summary□ section of this management plan. Corresponding management guidelines for each classification are referenced in Appendix E. Definitions of these classifications are outlined below:

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 in 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
 - 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.

Park Policies: In parks where master plans have not yet been developed or where specific issues have not been adequately addressed by a developed master plan or the land classification system, park policies may still be developed. These policies are only developed where clear management discretion is granted or otherwise indicated by law or other policy conveyances or where management issues are not adequately addressed by law or policy. Park policies are generally developed by the park manager and approved by the region manager. For a list of such policies see Table 11.

Land Ownership and Management Obligations

In addition to specific regulations and policies developed by State Parks to apply to itself and those developed by other governments that may apply to specific state park areas, other legal obligations and agreements have been formalized into legally binding documents.

Park Legal Description, Deeds, and Rights

Park properties are acquired in many different ways, including by donation from private individuals, as surplus from other government agencies, in trade with other public and private organizations, or purchased outright. Parks are usually acquired in several pieces or parcels over a period of time. As a result, legal boundary descriptions can be complex. Often included in property deeds are certain rights that the grantor or seller wishes to retain. Many donations and government surplus acquisitions include restrictions on what State Parks may do with the property. A common restriction is that the property must be used for "parks and recreation" or "state park" purposes. Water rights may also be reserved. In some cases, reversionary rights to properties held by grantors can be invoked based on lack of performance or other criteria. Table 12 outlines deeds and legal descriptions of parcels acquired for Rasar State Park, and identifies rights that have been reserved. Specific legal documentation of these rights is referenced in Appendix D.

Leases, Easements, Licenses, Permits, Contracts and Agreements

State Parks often enters into agreements with other public and private organizations and individuals on behalf of a park. These agreements generally help the park to fulfill its recreational or stewardship objectives while providing a service or benefit to the other party. Agreements of this type are legally binding, and as a result, form a critical element of a park's legal and policy context. Leases, easements, licenses, permits, contracts and other agreements entered into on behalf of this park are outlined in Table 13.

Regional Recreational Supply and Demand

The supply and demand for recreational opportunities provided near to and within the park are important in understanding what use pressures are or may be imposed on park resources. Table 14 analyzes the most significant recreational opportunities offered or potentially available to park users.

Stakeholders and Constituencies

Park management often involves the need to work closely with individuals and organizations that care about the public resource. The "stakeholders" may be park users; they may be neighbors; or they may be persons who are simply interested in the park's resources and who desire those resources to be managed in a certain way for certain outcomes. Table 15 lists known stakeholders and constituencies. They should be contacted during the annual park open house and informed of significant developments or changes that might occur in or for the park.

Federal Government Requirements and Policies



TABLE 2: FEDERAL LAWS APPLICABLE TO RASAR STATE PARK MANAGEMENT

Title	Description	Applicable Regulations
Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (16.28 USC)	Adopted in 1968, the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act established a system for classifying and protecting "selected rivers of the Nation which, with their immediate environments, possess outstandingly remarkable scenic, recreational, geologic, fish and wildlife, historic, cultural, or other similar values." The act defines three river classifications: Wild, Scenic, and Recreational Areas. The act also directs the preparation of management plans that "establish varying degrees of intensity for its protection and development, based on the special attributes of the area."	Rasar State Park lies partially in the Skagit Wild and Scenic River corridor established by the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. Included areas are subject to provisions of the act and the Skagit River Management Plan prepared by the U.S. Forest Service, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest. The portion of the Skagit River that Rasar abuts is classified as a Recreational River Area and all facilities and programs identified in this plan are consistent with that designation.
Endangered Species Act (16.35 USC)	The purpose of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 was to "provide a means whereby the ecosystems upon which endangered species and threatened species depend may be conserved, to provide a program for the conservation of such endangered species and threatened species..." The act directs the Secretary of the Interior to follow a specific process of classifying and listing various plants and animals as either threatened or endangered.	Rasar State Park provides a small amount of winter feeding habitat and roosting trees for bald eagles. State Parks is encouraged to coordinate with other federal and state wildlife conservation agencies for protection of this habitat.
Americans with Disabilities Act (42.126 USC)	The purpose of the 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) was to provide a "...national mandate for the elimination of discrimination against individuals with disabilities..." and to "...provide clear, strong, consistent, enforceable, standards addressing discrimination against individuals with disabilities..." Provisions of the act included prohibiting discrimination and setting standards for access to employment opportunity, public services, public transportation, public accommodations, and services operated by private entities.	ADA regulations apply to Rasar State Park particularly in the areas of employment practices and accessibility of park accommodations and other recreational facilities. Specific regulations concerning employment practices and accessibility of accommodations and other park facilities have been adopted by the agency in compliance with ADA and can be found in the agency policy and procedure manual.

Washington State Government

Requirements and Policies

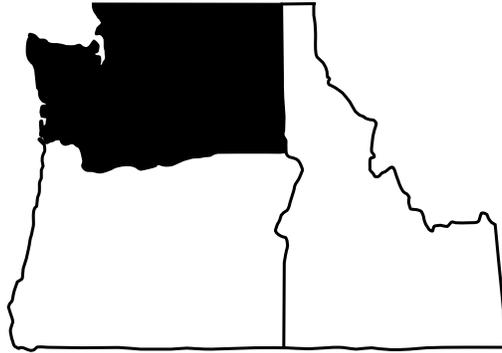


TABLE 3: STATE LAWS APPLICABLE TO RASAR STATE PARK MANAGEMENT

Number	Title
	Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission
RCW 43.51	Parks and Recreation Commission
RCW 79.72	Scenic Rivers System
RCW 88.12	Regulation of Recreational Vessels
WAC 352-04	Policy--Meetings, delegations, and land acquisition
WAC 352-11	SEPA procedures
WAC 352-16	Naming of sites and land classification system
WAC 352-20	Use of motor driven vehicles in state parks--Parking restrictions--Violations
WAC 352-24	Concessions and leases
WAC 352-28	Tree, Plant and Fungi Cutting, Removal and/or Disposal
WAC 352-32	Public use of state park areas
WAC 352-40	Public Records
WAC 352-74	Filming within state parks
	Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board
RCW 17.10	Noxious Weeds - Control Boards
WAC 16-750	State Noxious Weed List and Schedule of Monetary Penalties
	Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife
RCW 77.12.020	Wildlife to be classified (Endangered, Threatened, and Sensitive Wildlife Species Classification)
RCW 77.12.655	Habitat buffer zones for bald eagles -- Rules
WAC 232-12-297	Endangered, threatened, and sensitive wildlife species classification
WAC 232-12-292	Bald eagle protection rules
RCW 77.12.265	Trapping or killing wildlife doing damage
WAC 232-12-086	WDF&W Director or his designee is empowered to enter agreements to control nuisance or problem wildlife
RCW 75.20	Construction projects in state waters
WAC 232-14	State hydraulic code and guidelines
	Washington State Department of Ecology
RCW 43.21C	State Environmental Policy Act
WAC 197-11	State Environmental Policy Act, Rules
RCW 90.48	Water pollution control
WAC 173-201A	Water quality standards for surface waters of the State of Washington
RCW 90.58	Shoreline Management Act
WAC 173-14	Permits for Developments on Shorelines of the State
	Washington State Department of Natural Resources

Number	Title
RCW 76.09	Forest Practices Act
WAC 222	Forest Practices Rules
RCW 79.08	Trust Land Transfer Program
RCW 76.42	Wood Debris Collection (DNR)
	Other
RCW 36.70	Growth Management Act
RCW 10.93	Authority of commissioned Washington Peace officers
RCW 4.24.210	Recreational Liability Limitation
RCW 52.30.020	Fire Protection Districts -- Property of Public Agency Included Within District -- Contracts for Service

**TABLE 4: WSP&RC COMMISSION POLICIES APPLICABLE TO RASAR STATE PARK
MANAGEMENT**

Number	Title	Description
62-15-1	Definitions	Defines commission policies as broad statements, with modifiers, that provide a criteria for carrying out a course of action. Use is for clarification of duties, responsibilities and for overall efficiency in the total operation of the State Parks and Recreation Commission.
62-25-1	Duties and Authority of the Commission	Outlines authority and duties of the Commission.
62-25-2	Duties and Authority of the Director	Outlines authority and duties of the Director of State Parks.
62-25-3	Dual Functions of Commission and Director	Selection of sites for potential acquisition can be initiated by Commission, however, must be thoroughly evaluated by staff before acquisition.
62-50-1	Historic Sites	Defines attributes of a historic area and general guidelines for interpretive centers.
63-63-2	Flora Management	States general objective to preserve, promote, and protect natural native flora of the State and defines situations where removal of vegetation or establishment of non-native vegetation is allowed.
63-65-1	Reservations in State Parks	Allows Director to set up park reservation systems for various park activities.
64-45-1	Dedication of State Parks	Assigns responsibility for dedication ceremonies for State Parks to the Commission and staff.
65-10-1	Developmental Funds	In principle endorsement of the use of certain types of funding programs for development of recreational facilities.
65-72-1	Naming of Structures	Defines basic policy for the names that will appear on plaques.
67-72-1	State Trails Program	Grants approval for involvement of State Parks in acquisition, coordination, and encouragement of non-motorized trails statewide.
68-55-1	Land Acquisition	Outlines steps of the site acquisition process
71-15-1	Cooperative Programs	Lists acceptable types of cooperation with other government agencies.
72-10-1	Development by Private Capital	Authorizes the private operation of campgrounds as concessions within State Parks subject to State Park regulations
73-26-1	Concession Policy-Terms of Five Years or Less	Defines guidelines for allowing concessions and payment of a percentage of gross income of concessionaires to State Parks
74-55-1	Inholding Policy	States that in holdings should be acquired where boundary lines are illogical.
74-63-1	Hay Cutting/Grazing Permits, Blanket Authority	Authorizes Director to establish guidelines and solicit bids for hay cutting and grazing permits
76-55-1	Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition	Affirms compliance with the "Rules and Regulations for Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act.
77-65-1	Alcoholic Beverage Consumption in State Parks	Requires groups larger than 20 people engaged in consumption of alcoholic beverages to hire a law enforcement officer to patrol gathering.
78-15-1	Advisory Group Policy-Citizen	Defines policy for forming advisory committees, task forces, public meetings, and public hearings.
78-72-1	Naming of Parks	Provides guidelines for naming of State Parks.
79-10-1	Standard Fees Charged for Camping	Requires fees to be analyzed annually.
80-60-1	Interim Law Enforcement Policy	Sets policy for enforcing laws by commissioned State Parks staff.

Number	Title	Description
81-55-1	Appraisal Policy	Outlines policy for determining appraisal methods when acquiring real property for State Parks.
82-55-1	Consolidation of Blanket Authorities to the Director	Grants blanket authority to Director to issue licenses and permits for installation of utilities systems, use of park roads by other parties, and other minor uses of park lands.
82-60-1	Delegation of Police Powers	Delegates authority to Director to designate employees to be vested with police powers.
82-70-1	Volunteer Policy	Authorizes and encourages State Parks to provide volunteer opportunities.
84-25-1	Mission Policy Statement	Defines 1984 mission statement and goals for State Parks.
84-70-1	Interim Policy for Housing for Park Managers and Rangers	Outlines housing policy for park staff.

TABLE 5: WSP&RC ADMINISTRATIVE POLICIES APPLICABLE TO RASAR STATE PARK MANAGEMENT.

Number	Title	Description
10-3	Requesting and Receiving Grants-In-Aid	Outlines policy on researching and soliciting grants to support specific programs or projects.
15-3	Agency Motor Vehicle Assignment and Use	Defines policy for assignment and use of agency owned vehicles.
15-6	Standard Plans	Provides guidelines for preparing, revising, and adopting design plans, practices, and related maintenance of new facilities.
15-8	Research	Outlines policy for conducting agency research to provide the basis to guide agency actions to reach mission goals.
15-9	Citizen Participation	Outlines policy for receiving citizen input in decision making processes.
15-10	Emergency Operating Plan	Explains priorities for operating agency in times of disaster or emergency.
15-16	Fuel Storage Tanks	Provides policy to ensure compliance with state and federal UST regulations for park-owned underground fuel storage tanks.
45-2	Written Publications	Defines policy for all written publications including, interpretive brochures, administrative publications, and educational materials.
65-3	Park Capacity	Guides determination of the maximum number of park visitors the park can safely accommodate.
70-2	Securing Temporary Employees	Assigns responsibility for selecting, orienting, and evaluating temporary park staff.
70-4	Uniforms	Guides agency uniform policy
70-5	Volunteers	Guides use of volunteers by the agency
70-8	Equal Opportunity	Ensures of compliance with the Civil Rights Act of 1964.
70-12	Human Resource Development	Defines policy for ongoing training of agency staff.
70-15	Conflict of Interest	Provides policy for determining and dealing with conflicts of interest of agency employees and establishing a code of ethics.
70-23	Reasonable Accommodation	Defines policy to provide equal access to persons of disability and avoid discrimination.
80-1	Fixed Asset Inventory	Specifies policy to provide inventory control over agency property.
80-3	Disposition of Scrap and Surplus Materials	Explains policy for proper disposal of scrap from planned maintenance, M&O, and capital projects.
70-14	Personnel Classification	Outlines policy for processing and reporting new positions, changes in position duties, and requests for position review.

TABLE 6: WSP&RC DIRECTIVES APPLICABLE TO RASAR STATE PARK MANAGEMENT.

Number	Title	Description
72-11	Use of Metal Detectors in State Parks	Sets use period, areas, and reporting procedure.
73-7	Law Enforcement Officers - Camping	Permits law enforcement officers to camp free at State Parks if they identify themselves as such and intend to help park staff in the event of an emergency.
73-9	Litter Receptacles	Sets standards of appearance.
73-10	Law Enforcement Guidelines	Outlines the role and appropriate enforcement of laws in state parks by commissioned park rangers.
73-11	Operations Division Responses from the Field	Requires field responses to headquarters queries be compiled by the regions and forwarded to headquarters as a regional response.
73-15	Campsite Availability	Outlines first come/first served policy.
74-4	Emergencies Outside Park Boundaries	Guides allowable response by park staff to emergencies outside park boundaries.
74-5	Personal Belongings in Parks	Guides the storage of employee personal property on park premises.
75-1	Park Diary	Provides guidelines and responsibilities for the maintenance of park diaries.
76-4	Volunteer Fire Department Participation	Allows park personnel to render services as volunteer firefighters.
77-3	Reservations for Group Day Use	Establishes guidelines for the operating group day use facilities.
77-5	Contact with Attorney General's Office	Explains procedure for contacting Attorney General's Office.
77-6	Canadian Currency Discount	Establishes staff responsibilities for determining discount rate.
79-3	Fire Protection Responsibilities Fire Reports - Special Fire Equipment and Fire Caches - Fire Training	Outlines responsibilities and guidelines for fire prevention, preparation, training, suppression and reporting.
79-4	Standardization of State Park Telephone Listings	Establishes a standard for listing of state parks in telephone directories.
81-1	Guidelines for Scheduling Days Off - Parks	Guides scheduling days off for park employees to ensure adequate visitor services, resource management, law enforcement, and visitor protection year round.
81-2	Copies of Correspondence	Directs the routing of correspondence addressed to persons or entities outside the agency through the Assistant Director of Operations.
82-3	Conservation Permits - Wood Debris Removal	Guides public removal of wood debris in park areas.
82-4	Emergency Notification - Except Death	Directs the reporting of emergencies in parks up the chain of command.
83-2	Master Equipment Plan	Establishes responsibility for inventory control of park or pool equipment and guidelines for making additions or deletions.
83-3	Vehicle Appearance and Maintenance	Provides guidelines for appearance and maintenance of agency owned vehicles.
84-1	Park Hours/Seasons	Defines park operating hours and seasons.
84-3	Security of Assets	Clarifies responsibility and accountability of personnel who handle agency assets.

Number	Title	Description
84-4	Modification of Agency Owned Equipment	Prohibits modifications, or requires written prior approval before modifications to agency owned equipment can be made.
84-5	Personal Protective and Life Saving Equipment	Defines responsibility and guidelines for the wearing of personal protective equipment by agency staff.
86-1	Message Guidelines	Provides guidelines for recorded messages on park answering machines.
86-3	Camping Accommodations for Hikers/Bicyclists	Sets guidelines for accommodating hikers and bicyclists
86-4	Washington Clean Indoor Air Act	Prohibits Smoking in State owned buildings and vehicles
86-5	Posting of Park Rules	Guides proper display of park rules
86-6	In Park Posting of Emergency Information	Sets posting requirements of emergency information
86-7	Housing and Park Residency	Defines terms and conditions for employees and non-employees occupying state park housing.
87-1	Park Attendance	Explains data collection and reporting of park attendance figures.
87-2	Artifact Removal from State Park Properties	Prohibits the disturbance, collection, alteration, or removal of any historical items, documents, or artifacts, or any prehistorical artifacts.
89-1	Incident Reporting (plus instructions)	Identifies responsibilities and guidelines for reporting incidents in parks.
89-2	Driver's Licenses	Requires information to be obtained by supervisors before allowing employees to operate park vehicles.
91-1	Daily Registration Forms	Outlines requirements for competing daily campground registration forms.
95-3	Personnel Actions with Native American Agency Employees in Parks on Tribal Lands	Guides law enforcement and administrative actions involving State Parks employees who are enrolled members of Native American tribes and are working in parks located on tribal lands.
96-1	Violence/Harassment in the Workplace	Defines and prohibits acts of violence and harassment.

TABLE 7: WSP&RC MEMORANDA OF UNDERSTANDING APPLICABLE TO RASAR STATE PARK MANAGEMENT.

Number	Title	Description
17-72	Picking of fruits, berries, and gathering mushrooms and other edibles in State Parks	Defines allowable harvest of consumable park resources as a recreational activity for personal use. See also WAC 352-32-010(4).
18-72	Banquet permits-Group gatherings	Establishes need for groups gathering in State Park areas to have a banquet permit if alcohol is to be consumed.
73-3	Court Probation Personnel	Defines conditions for allowing court probation personnel to work in State Parks
77-3	Killing, collecting, removing of live objects or specimens from State Parks	Defines allowable conditions for killing or removing plants or animals from State Park areas.
77-8	Tree Removal	Clarifies working relationship between Operations and Resources Development divisions as it pertains to timber removal.
80-1	Gold panning, Dredging, and Mineral removal	Outlines request process for authorizing these endeavors.
81-1	Park Logs for construction and maintenance purposes	Identifies allowable conditions under which logs in State Parks may be utilized for construction and maintenance of park facilities.
82-1	Operations-Use of chemicals in weed and pest control	Specifies requirements for pesticide/herbicide application in State Parks.
82-4	Oil spill disasters	Outlines channels of communication in the event of an oil spill.
82-6	Forest practices interagency agreement and procedures	Defines agreement between WSP&RC and DNR on forest practices permit applications.
83-1	Personal Satellite Dish Installation	Guides appropriate location of satellite dishes of park staff in agency housing.
84-1	Campfire Wood Sales - Sale of Pressed Fuel by Park Forces	Outlines when wood fuel can be sold by park staff to avoid conflicts with concessionaires
84-3	Guidelines for Listing Businesses, Services, and Other Points of Interest	Guides placement of non-park information on park bulletin boards.
93-1	Interpretive Committee	Establishes the Agency Interpretive Committee.
95-1	Removal of Abandoned Vessels	Outlines responsibilities and procedures for removal of abandoned vessels at State Parks moorage facilities and other lands.

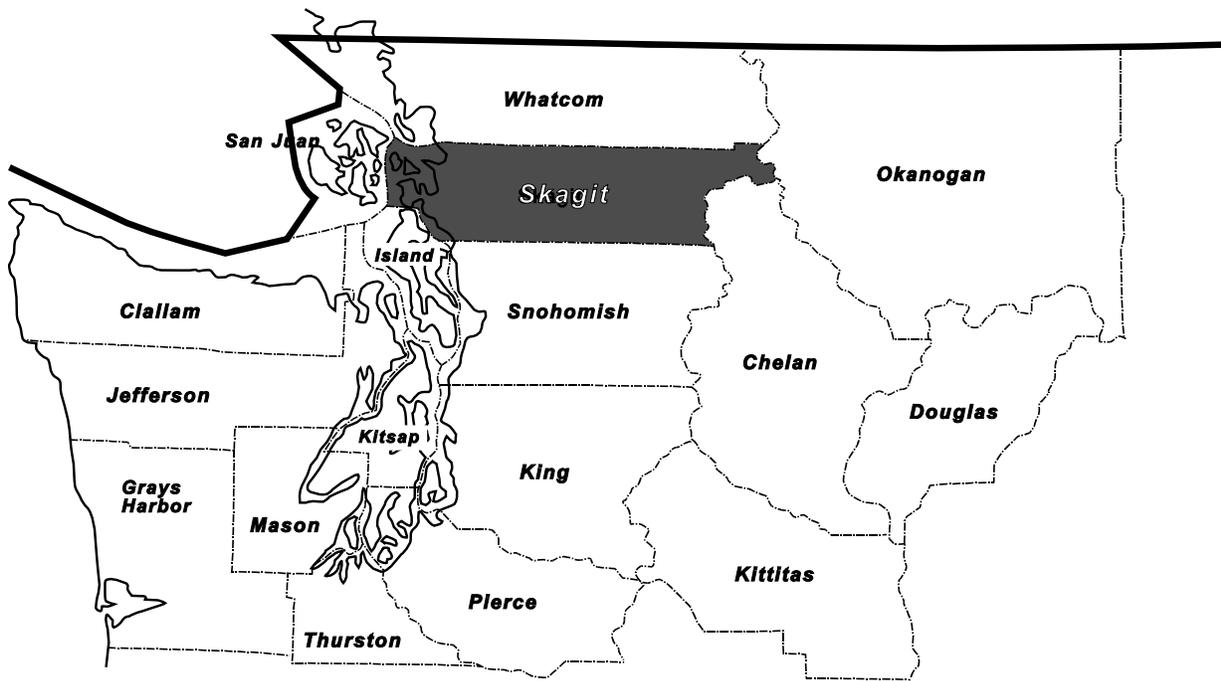
TABLE 8: WSP&RC PROCEDURES APPLICABLE TO RASAR STATE PARK MANAGEMENT

Number	Title
10	Accounting and Finance
10-2	Off-season Senior Citizen Pass
10-7	Off-season Senior Citizen Pass - Issuing of in State Parks
10-8	Use of Senior Citizen/Disabled Person/Disabled Veteran Lifetime Pass/DOL Issued Card, Decal.
10-9	Issuing a Pass to Limited Income Senior Citizens/Disabled Persons/Disabled Veterans
10-16	Allotments
10-19	American Express Travel Credit Cards
15	Administration
15-2	Personal/Consulting Service Contracting
15-4	Roster Updating; Telephone Lists; Mailing Lists
15-8	Essential Records
15-9	Publication Distribution to State Library
15-10	Issuing Permits for Filming in State Parks
15-21	Emergency Procedure/Fire, Explosion, Bomb Threat or Inquiry from News Media
26	Concessions
26-1	Commercial Leases - Temporary Concession Permit - Less Than Eight Days
26-3	Renewal, Extension or Amendment of Concession and Commercial Contracts and Commercial Site Leases
26-4	Complaint of Concessionaires Action
26-6	Commercial Leases - Concession or Commercial Lease Agreements Exceeding Seven Days
26-8	Concession Assignments
35	Environment
35-1	Evaluation of Flood Hazards
35-2	Relocation of Usable Chemical Products
45	Information
45-1	Public Speeches, Presentations
45-2	Written Publications
45-3	Dedication Ceremonies
60	Law - Legislation - Litigation
60-1	Coordination of WAC Adoption Amendment of Repeal
60-2	Handling of Claims for Damages (Tort Claims)
65	Operations
65-1	Problem Wildlife Management
65-007	Applications/Authorization for Archery/Firearms Safety Training

Number	Title
65-106	Self-Registration Campers, Boaters, Parking, Boat Launches and Trailer Dumping
65-301	Fire Prevention
65-302	Hay Cutting
65-304	Park Timber Management Programs
65-305	Timber Sales
65-700	Park Closures
65-701	Establishing Park Capacities
65-8	Employee Waste Reduction and Recycling Practices
65-9	Driver Training
65-1000	Park Profile Review
65-1001	Establishing Method for Producing Area Report
65-10	Heavy Equipment Operation
65-1012	Emergency Areas
65-1013	Entry by Campers After Hours
65-1020	Park Winterization
65-1301	Theft of Park Property
65-1302	Change of Park Manager
65-1306	Lost and Found Property
65-1403	Lost Persons
65-1404	Pets
65-1406	Death in State Parks
65-1407	Special Activity Permit/Application
65-1409	Camping Tickets - Processing Written Comments
65-1411	Handling and Disposing of Evidence
65-1412	Speed Bumps
65-1413	Radio System Equipment and Training
65-1702	Swimmers Itch
65-1703	Boat and Water Safety
65-1704	Life Preservers (PFDs)
70	Personnel
70-1	Temporary Park Aide Hiring
70-3	Temporary Interpretive Assistant Hiring
70-5	State Parks Housing for Employees
70-7	Local List Hiring
70-8	Reporting and Processing Job Related Injuries and Illnesses to Agency Employees

Number	Title
70-11	Reduction in Force
70-12	Volunteers
70-13	Participating in Human Resources Development and Training and Maintaining Training Records
70-16	State Park Housing for Non-Employees
70-18	Position Reallocation Requests
70-20	Corrective Action
70-21	Hiring of Permanent Classified Employees
72	Planning
72-1	Park Naming and Classification
80	Supply/Services
80-1	Requisitioning Supplies, Equipment, and Services
80-2	Repair of Agency Vehicles and Equipment
80-3	Emergency Purchases
80-5	Equipment Transfers - Intra Agency
80-6	Turn-in and Disposition of Equipment
80-10	Permanent Equipment Record Manual
80-16	Preparing Monthly Vehicle and Equipment Usage Reports
80-17	Camping Tickets - Distribution - Receipt - Accountability
80-19	Pressed Fuel - Initial Acquisition, Distribution, Receipt, and Transfer
80-24	Donated Assets
80-25	Acquisition and Removal of Buildings

Local Government Requirements and Policies



**TABLE 9: GENERAL PURPOSE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ORDINANCES/REGULATIONS
APPLICABLE TO RASAR STATE PARK MANAGEMENT.**

Number	Title	Description
NA	Skagit County Comprehensive Plan	Plan prepared by Skagit County under the Washington State Growth Management Act that defines county policies in the areas of urban growth, reduction of sprawl, transportation, housing, economic development, property rights, permits, natural resource industries, open space and recreation, environment, citizen participation, public facilities/services, and historic preservation. Provisions of the Skagit County Comprehensive Plan are implemented through building and other development review and permitting processes. See appendix A for location of plan.
NA	Skagit County Shoreline Master Program	Plan prepared by Skagit County under the Washington State Shoreline Management Act that defines county policies and regulations regarding land use and development along shorelines of statewide significance. Shoreline Master Program provisions are usually implemented through the county Shoreline Substantial Development review and permitting process. See appendix A for location of plan.
NA	Skagit County Noxious Weed Listing	Listing and classification of all noxious weeds in Skagit County. This listing also specifies weeds which the Skagit County Noxious Weed Control Board has selected for mandatory control and those that currently have active control programs in place.
SCUDC Title 14	Skagit County Unified Development Code	Skagit County building code that regulates development and other land uses in the county. Of particular note are provisions concerning flood damage prevention (SCUD 14.38). This chapter details specific development and land use regulations for areas prone to flooding to ☐promote the public health, safety, and general welfare, and to minimize public and private losses due to flood episodes.☐
	Skagit County Zoning Ordinance	
	Skagit County Camping Ordinance	
	Skagit County Health Code	

**TABLE 10: SPECIAL PURPOSE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ORDINANCES/REGULATIONS
APPLICABLE TO RASAR STATE PARK MANAGEMENT.**

Number	Title	Description
NA	Miscellaneous	Regulations associated with drinking water distribution. Water supplied by Skagit County Water District Number 1.

Rasar State Park

Park Policies, Plans and Classifications

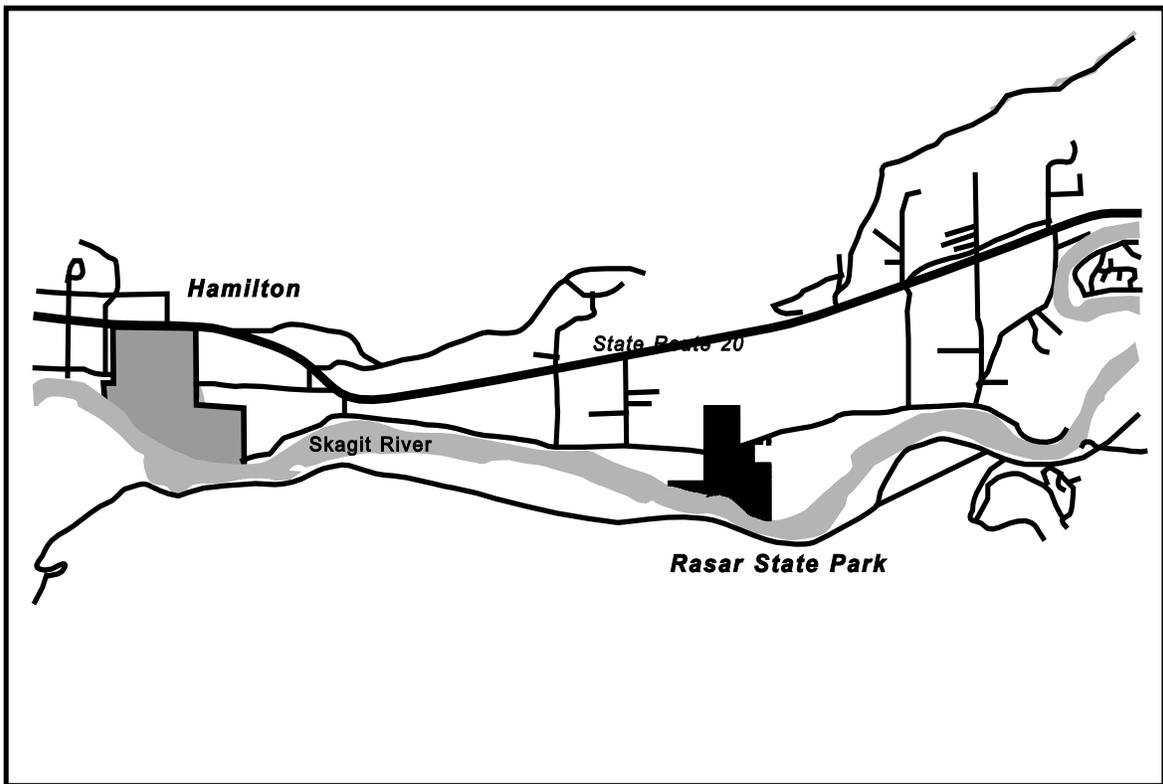


Figure 2: Rasar State Park Land Classification Map

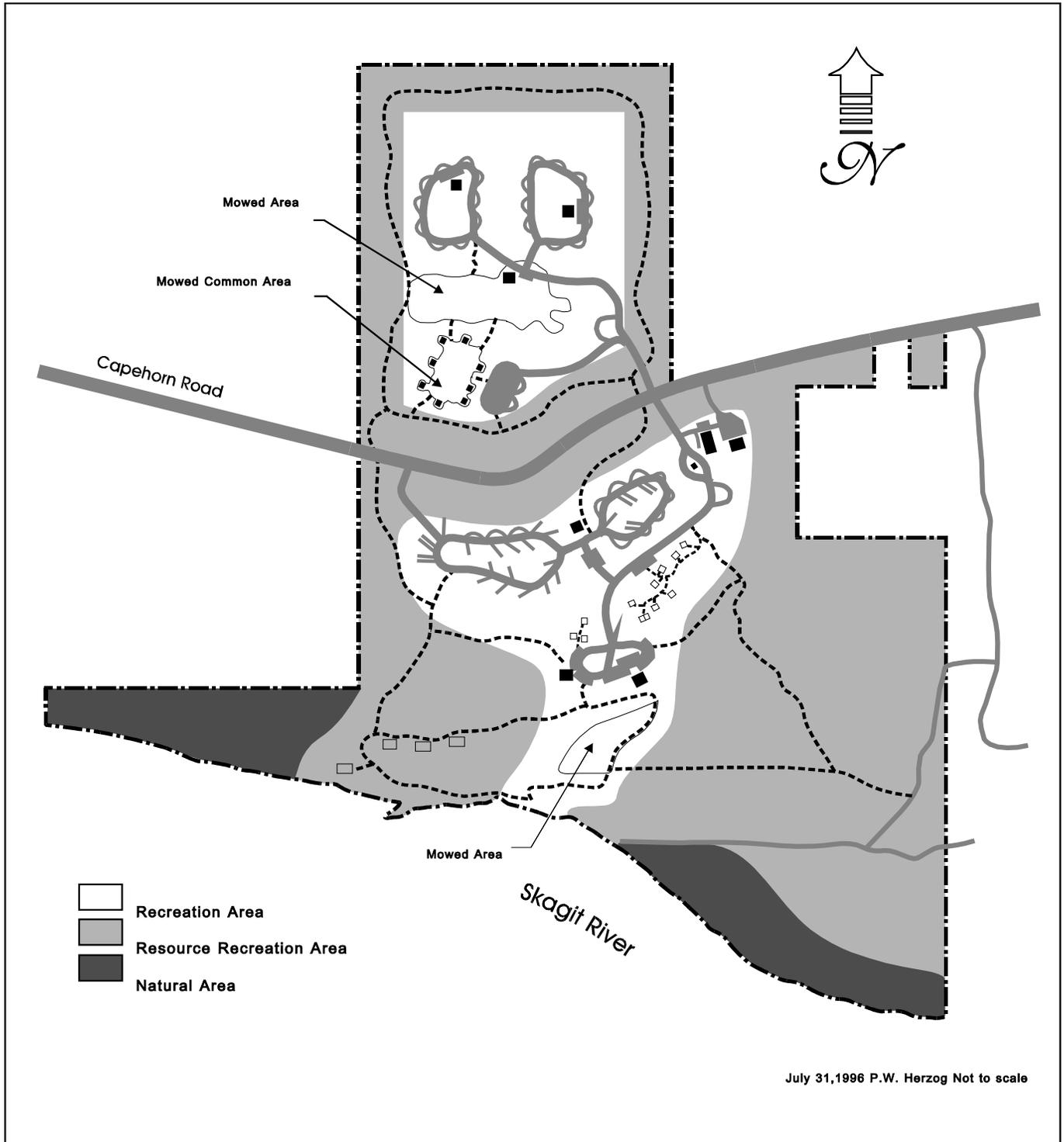
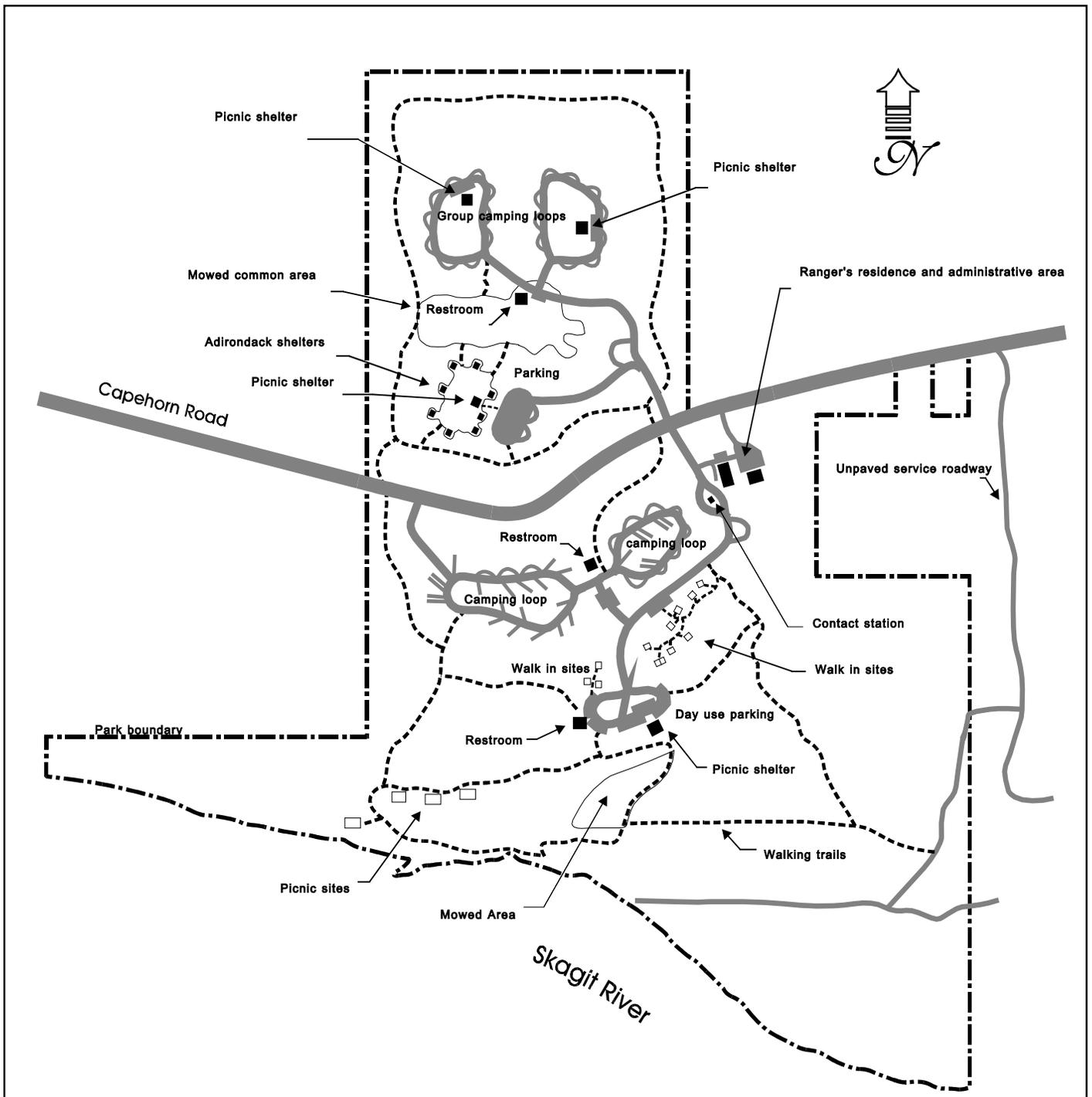


Figure 3: Rasar State Park Master Facilities Map



July 31, 1996 P.W. Herzog Not to scale

TABLE 11: RASAR STATE PARK POLICIES.

Number	Issue	Policy
N	Natural Resources	
96N-1	Wildlife values and protection of threatened, endangered, and sensitive wildlife species	Respond effectively to regional wildlife habitat issues and needs identified by state, federal and tribal fisheries and wildlife professionals, and any wildlife management plans adopted by their jurisdictions.
96N-2	River flood plain management	Comply with all aspects of the Skagit County Flood Plain Ordinance; minimize soil disturbance in the flood plain, including plowing of existing fields; and control of noxious weeds using the best management practices.
96N-3	Protection of surface and groundwater quality	Allow no significant reduction in the quality of ground water, or quality and quantity of surface water flows to or within the Skagit River due to human use or development.
96N-4	Preservation of riparian ecosystem and plant diversity	Set aside from development then allow for natural biological progression of representative riparian forest-type environments, significant plant species and/or related plant communities. The relationship between the Skagit River and the varied biology under its influence is a key component to the interpretive program.
96N-5	Preservation of park visual/aesthetic beauty	Provide an adequate vegetation or distance buffer between neighboring properties and areas of the park having more intense recreational activity. Establish and maintain a pleasing aesthetic experience for park users.
C	Cultural Resources	
96C-1	Preservation of active cultural landscape	Retain most of the hayfield as an cultural landscape in active agricultural production with a small portion mowed and designed for non-organized play.
96C-2	Historic preservation	Include in the Rasar State Park interpretive program references to the Dempsey Logging Company, owned and operated by the brother of famous prize fighter Jack Dempsey.
96C-3	Preservation of open space	Maintain open space as defined by existing peripheral vegetation at time of park development.
96C-4	Interpretive program theme	Design the Rasar State Park interpretive program around the theme of the Skagit River's historical, natural, and cultural influence on the site and the region.
96C-5	Interpretive facilities	Design an information kiosk and interpretive trail to increase the public's understanding, appreciation and enjoyment of the site through education and interpretation of natural and cultural history of the site and region.
R	Recreational Resources	
96R-1	ADA compliance	Provide safe and proximate access for persons of disability consistent with requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
96R-2	Meadow area fire prevention	Comply with agency policy of maintaining a fire suppression plan for entire park. Comply with all burn bans imposed by Skagit County fire district and implement additional park fire prevention measures deemed necessary including, but not limited to: Fire danger level signage, no smoking on park trails signs, mowing areas of dried grasses, and removal of dead and down fuel from adjacent woodlands.
96R-3	Fishing	Provide safe and proximate fishing access by providing appropriately located parking.
96R-4	Boating/kayaking	Provide access point(s) for kayaks and other craft that can be carried to the river.
96R-5	Picnicking	Provide quality picnic sites that capitalize on views, accessibility, and other park features.
96R-6	Play areas	Provide play areas that target the needs of specific age groups. Limit organized sports facilities and activities to those not requiring formal courts or playfields.
96R-7	Trail development	Provide trails that enhance the scenic and interpretive experience of the site. Establish and maintain trails to encourage visitors to walk as opposed to driving within the park.

96R-8	Nature appreciation	Provide opportunities for nature appreciation that are unobtrusive, aesthetically designed and placed in key locations of the site.
96R-9	Camping	Provide a variety of overnight camping facilities, including bicycle/hike-in only sites, walk-in sites, standard auto sites, and utility sites with electrical and water connections. Provide summer and winter camping opportunities. Provide group camping facilities on the northern 45 acre portion of the property.
96R-10	Architectural/Physical Design of Facilities	Design structural elements to be harmonious with the site's natural and cultural heritage and the regional character of the upper Skagit Valley.
96R-11	Road Surfaces	Provide roadway and parking surfaces that meet resource management needs of the site, and allow for cost-efficient, high quality maintenance for long-term public use.
96R-12	Highway Signage	Provide highway signs at both the Russell Road and Lusk Road intersections with SR-20; thus minimizing driving for park users and defusing traffic impacts.
96R-13	Utility Sizing and Appearance	Size utilities to accommodate facilities within the master plan at "build out". Construct all utilities underground.
96R-14	Internal Vehicular Circulation	Design the internal circulation system to provide entry by way of a contact station followed by a turn-around and then a gate. Design traffic flow to allow incremental closures and minimize congestion.
96R-15	Future Equestrian and Bicycle Facilities	Overnight equestrian/bicycle facilities should be considered for the northern 45 acre parcel in association with the rails to trails conversion along the current Skagit River Railroad. Acquisition of direct access between the trail and existing State Park property, through ownership or easement, may be desirable to link those facilities.
96R-16	Future Property Boundary Exchanges	State Parks should engage in a boundary line adjustment or other property transaction to eliminate the state's island holding to the east and otherwise rationalize its eastern boundary. Primary consideration should be given to acquiring all of the flood plain area on the southern portion of the abutting property (approximately 3-4 acres).
96R-16	Regional Recreation Facilities	Several opportunities may occur to link Rasar State Park with other river-oriented recreation sites and systems. In particular, State Parks should look closely at potential regional river trails (beachable river craft and on-bank pedestrian), and fishing access related to the potential Grandy Creek fish hatchery.

TABLE 12: RASAR STATE PARK LEGAL DESCRIPTION, DEEDS, AND RIGHTS.

Parcel	Date Acquired	Acquired From	Legal Description	Acreage	Rights Retained/ Restrictions
A	April 21, 1986	The Nature Conservancy / Daniel Rasar	Government lots 1, 2, and 3 in section 21, Except the East 132 feet of said Lot 1; Also, that portion of the NE1/4 of the SE1/4 of Section 16, lying Southerly of the County road;	128 +/-	Grantee covenants that said property shall be used for state park purposes. Subject to the following: 1. Reservations in deed from the State of Washington recorded under Auditor's File No. 376071, reserving to the grantor all oil, gases, coal, ores, minerals, fossils, etc., and the right of entry for opening, developing and working the same, and reserving also to the State of Washington the right to acquire rights of way for private railroads, skid roads, flumes, canals, water courses or other easements for transporting and moving timber, stone, minerals and other products from this and other property. 2. Any question that may arise due to shifting or changing in course of the Skagit River. 3. Right of the general public to the unrestricted use of all the waters of a navigable body of water not only for the primary purposes of navigation, but also for corollary purposes, including (but not limited to) fishing, boating, bathing, swimming, water skiing and other related recreational purposes, as those waters may affect the tidelands, shore lands, or adjoining uplands, and whether artificially to a maintained or fluctuating level, all as further defined by the decisional law of this state. (Affects all of the premises subject to such submergence.) 4. Maintenance provision contained in document establishing the easement set forth as a portion of Parcel A herein, as follows: "...providing that grantees shall hereafter share with other users of said easement in the cost of maintenance of said roadway. 5. Reclassification of a portion of said lands for tax purposes as farm and agricultural land, notice of which is given by instrument recorded May 7, 1971, under Auditor's File No. 752272. Said portion will be subject to further taxation and interest thereupon as provided by Chapter 84.34 RCW upon withdrawal from such classification or change in use. 6. Reclassification of a portion of said lands for tax purposes as timberland, notice of which is given by instrument recorded May 7, 1971 under Auditor's File No. 752271. Said portion will be subject to further taxation and interest thereupon as provided by Chapter 84.34 RCW upon withdrawal from such classification or change in use.
			Also, that portion of the NE1/4 of the SE1/4 of Section 16, lying Southerly of the County road; EXCEPT the East 132 feet thereof AND EXCEPT the West 150 feet of the East 450 feet thereof;		
			Also, the SE1/4 of the SE1/4 of Section 16, EXCEPT County Road AND EXCEPT the North 660 feet of the East 792 feet thereof, AND ALSO EXCEPT the East 132 feet of that portion of said SE1/4 of the SE1/4, lying South of said North 660 feet thereof.		
			All in Township 35 North, Range 7 East W.M.. TOGETHER WITH a non-exclusive easement, established by instrument recorded January 5, 1978 as Auditor's File No 871497, for right of way for ingress and egress and for power lines and other utilities over and across a strip of land 30 feet in width across the existing roadway extending from the County road along the North edge of the subject property; thence running South across that property described as the East 132 feet of the SE1/4 of the SE1/4 of said Section 16, Township 35 North, Range 7 East W.M..		
B	April 21, 1986	The Nature Conservancy / Daniel Rasar	The SW1/4 of the SE1/4 of Section 1, Township 35 North, Range 7 East W.M.; EXCEPT that certain 60 foot right of way granted to Skagit County for road purposes by instrument recorded January 13, 1931 as Auditor's File No 240222, in Volume 156 of Deeds, page 412, records of Skagit County, Washington.		
C	Feb 03, 1992	Washington State Dept. of Natural Resources	NW1/4 SE14, Section 16, Township 35 North, Range 7 East W.M.	40.9 +/-	Trust Land Transfer Program RCW 43.51.270

TABLE 13: RASAR STATE PARK LEASES, EASEMENTS, LICENSES, PERMITS, CONTRACTS, AND AGREEMENTS

Agreement Type	Agreeing Parties	Description	Duration/Period
Easement granted by deed to WSP&RC		Non-exclusive vehicular access easement across adjacent land owner's property along northern boundary of park using established primitive roadway. See Rasar State Park property deeds - Appendix D.	Perpetuity
Hay cutting permit granted by WSP&RC	WSP&RC and James Bates & Sons	Approx. 25 acre hay cutting permit. Entire permit agreement and maps - see appendix D.	July 8, 1996 - July 8, 1999
Mitigated Determination of Nonsignificance (SEPA checklist)	WSP&RC and WSDOE	Determination by WSP&RC that construction of Rasar State Park does not require preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), under the State Environmental Policy Act, provided certain environmental impacts are mitigated. Entire document including specific mitigations - see appendix D.	
Shoreline Substantial Development Permit	WSP&RC and Skagit County	Permit required from Skagit County, under the Washington State Shoreline Management Act, for any development within a shoreline area that may have adverse impacts on the shoreline resource or environment as defined by the Skagit County Shoreline Master Program. Entire document including specific permit conditions - see appendix D.	Nov. 1, 1994-Nov. 1, 1999
Special Use Permit	WSP&RC and Skagit County	Permit required from Skagit County, under the Washington State Growth Management Act, for special land uses determined by Skagit County to require review and permitting to ensure consistency with the Skagit County Comprehensive Plan. Entire document including specific permit conditions - see appendix D.	Nov. 21, 1994-Nov. 21, 1999
Bald Eagle Monitoring Plan	WSP&RC, WSDW, and Skagit County	Monitoring plan to assess possible recreation impacts on bald eagle winter feeding and roosting. Entire document and specific monitoring protocols - see appendix D.	Starting Dec. 18, 1994 and continuing for at least two years and a maximum of four years. Original intent was at least one year prior to and at least one year following the opening of Rasar to the public.

TABLE 14: REGIONAL RECREATION SUPPLY/DEMAND ANALYSIS

	Recreation Suppliers																		
	Rasar State Park	Timberline R.V. Park	Shannon Creek (USFS)	Boulder Creek (USFS)	Panorama Point (USFS)	Baker Lake Resort	Park Creek (USFS)	Rockport State Park	Steelhead Park (Skagit Co.)	Clarks Skagit River Resort	Horseshoe Cove (USFS)	Burlington KOA	Wilderness Village (PVT)	Riverbend R.V. Park (PVT)	Goodell Creek (NRA)	Newhalem Campground (NRA)	Gorge Lake (NRA)	Colonial Creek (NRA)	Possible need
Distance from Rasar State Park	0	5	14	15	16	17	17	18	18	20	20	20	22	25	35	35	45	45	
Provided Activities/Facilities																			
Camping - utility sites	20	32	no	no	no	60	no	50	60	28	no	53			no	no	no	no	
Camping - standard sites	18	20	18	5	15	25	12	0	3	15	26	40			no	115	no	100	
Camping - primitive sites	13	no	2	no	1	no	no	11	10	8	8	no			22	13	6	63	
Group Camping	yes	no	no	yes	no	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	no			yes	no	no	no	
Picnicking - small group	yes	no	yes	no	yes	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	no			yes	no	no	no	
Picnicking - large group	yes	no	no	no	no	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	no	no			no	no	no	no	yes
Picnicking - sheltered	yes	no	no	no	no	no	no	yes	yes	no	no	no			no	no	no	no	yes
Boat launching - hand carried	yes	no	yes	no	yes	yes	no	no	yes	yes	yes	no			yes	no	yes	yes	
Boat launching - trailered	no	no	yes	no	yes	yes	no	no	yes	yes	yes	no			no	no	yes	yes	
Trails - hiking	yes	no	no	no	no	no	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes			no	yes	no	yes	
Trails - bicycle	yes	no	no	no	no	no	no	no	yes	yes	no	yes			no	no	no	no	yes
Trails - equestrian	no	no	no	no	no	no	no	no	no	yes	no	no			no	no	no	yes	yes
Fishing access - piers	no	no	no	no	no	yes	no	no	no	no	no	no			no	no	no	no	
Fishing access - shoreline	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	no	yes	yes	yes	no			yes	yes	yes	yes	
Interpretive program-ming.-natural resources	yes	no	no	no	no	no	no	no	yes	no	no	no			no	yes	no	yes	
Interpretive program-ming.-cultural resources	no	no	no	no	no	no	no	no	no	no	no	no			no	yes	no	yes	

	Recreation Suppliers																		
	Rasar State Park	Timberline R.V. Park	Shannon Creek (USFS)	Boulder Creek (USFS)	Panorama Point (USFS)	Baker Lake Resort	Park Creek (USFS)	Rockport State Park	Steelhead Park (Skagit Co.)	Clarks Skagit River Resort	Horseshoe Cove (USFS)	Burlington KOA	Wilderness Village (PVT)	Riverbend R.V. Park (PVT)	Goodell Creek (NRA)	Newhalem Campground (NRA)	Gorge Lake (NRA)	Colonial Creek (NRA)	Possible need
Distance from Rasar State Park	0	5	14	15	16	17	17	18	18	20	20	20	22	25	35	35	45	45	
Provided Activities/Facilities																			
Playground equipment	no	yes	no	no	no	yes	no	no	yes	no	no	yes			no	no	no	no	
Play fields - unorganized games	yes	no	no	no	no	yes	no	no	yes	yes	no	yes			no	no	no	no	
Beach access - swimming	yes	no	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	no			yes	no	yes	no	
Overnight indoor accommodations, rustic, - small group	no	no	no	no	no	11	no	4	2	24	no	4			no	no	no	no	
Overnight indoor accommodations, rustic, large group	no	no	no	no	no	no	no	no	no	yes	no	no			no	no	no	no	
Conference/meeting hall	no	yes	no	no	no	no	no	no	yes	yes (20)	no	yes			no	no	no	no	

TABLE 15: RASAR STATE PARK STAKEHOLDERS AND CONSTITUENCIES

Name of Organization	Contact Person	Address, E-mail Address	Phone #, FAX #	Description of Interest in Park(s), Size of Org.	WSP&RC Contact Person
Outdoor Recreation User Groups					
Whid Isle Sams Club	Gerald Magness	4607 Cypress Drive Anacortes, WA 98221-1114	ph. 360 293 2713	Recreational vehicle camping	
Anacortes Ana Sams Club	Art Williams	1524 Central Anacortes, WA 98221	ph. 360 293 8097	Recreational vehicle camping	
Cascade Rovin Sams Club	Jim Iverson	1602 Fowler St. Mt Vernon, WA 98273	ph. 360 424 6241	Recreational vehicle camping	
What Com Good Sams	Phil Ross	1929 Kok Rd. Lynden, WA 98264- 1711	ph. 360 354 3924	Recreational vehicle camping	
Tote Em Sams	Dan Johnson	31020 203rd Ave NE Arlington, WA 98223	ph. 360 435 3077	Recreational vehicle camping	
Skagit Sams	E.M. Brown	905 Carter Rd, Sedro Woolley, WA 98284-9206	ph. 360 856 4736	Recreational vehicle camping	
Commercial Recreation Interests					
Wilderness Ventures		P.O. Box 2768 Jackson Hole, WY 83001		Group Camping along Skagit River	Gailen Troxel, PM
Neighboring Community Clubs and organizations					
Neighboring Businesses					
Skagit River Woods R.V. Park		3610 Cape Horn Rd. Concrete, WA 98273	ph. 360-826-3132	R.V. Park adjacent to Rasar	Gailen Troxel, PM
Clarks Skagit River Resort	Donald Clark	5675 highway 20 Rockport, WA 98283	ph. 360-873-2250	Camping resort near Rasar	Gailen Troxel, PM
		3794 Highway 20		Closest grocery, gas, propane, fishing	

Name of Organization	Contact Person	Address, E-mail Address	Phone #, FAX #	Description of Interest in Park(s), Size of Org.	WSP&RC Contact Person
Grandy Creek Grocery	Robert Cobban	Concrete, WA 98273	ph. 360-826-3690	equipment etc.	Gailen Troxel, PM
Birdsview Burgers		3798 Highway 20 Concrete, WA 98273	ph. 360-826-3553	Closest restaurant	Gailen Troxel, PM
Concrete Motel, Cascade Inn Restaurant		4286 Highway 20 Concrete, WA 98273	ph. 360-853-8870, 8771	Closest motel and nearby restaurant	Gailen Troxel, PM
Education Interests					
North Cascades Institute	Ms. Wendy Scherrer, Ms. Ruthy Porter	2105 Hwy 20 Sedro Woolley, WA 98284	ph. 360-856-5700 ext. 20	Group camping in outdoor setting and park ecosystems study	Gailen Troxel, PM
Environmental organizations					
SRBENA- Skagit River Bald Eagle Natural Area Cooperative					Gailen Troxel, member
Western Washington Resource Council	Ms. Helen Hendrix	P.O. Box 125 Marblemount, WA 98267			
The Nature Conservancy, Skagit River Area	Mary Wilkosz, Area Manager	P.O. Box 100 Rockport, WA 98283	ph. 360-853-7263	Ecosystem conservation	Peter Herzog, CAMP project lead
Skagit System Cooperative	Ms. Kathy Miller	P.O. Box 368 La Conner, WA 98257			
Government Interests					
Department of Fish & Wildlife	Mr. Murray Schlenker	16018 Mill Creek Blvd. Mill Creek WA,			
Department of Fish & Wildlife	Mr. Kurt Buchanan	333 East Blackburn Rd. Mount Vernon, WA 98273			
Skagit County Parks & Recreation	Mr. John Aarstad	315 South 3rd. Mount Vernon, WA 98273			
U.S. Forest Service	Mr. James Chu	2105 Highway 20 Sedro Woolley, WA	ph. 360-856-5700	Skagit Wild and Scenic River Manager	

Name of Organization	Contact Person	Address, E-mail Address	Phone #, FAX #	Description of Interest in Park(s), Size of Org.	WSP&RC Contact Person
		98284	ext. 230		
U.S. Forest Service	Mr. Dave Sodnick	2105 Highway 20 Sedro Woolley, WA 98284	ph. 360-856-5700 ext. 246	Alternate to James Chu	
Rasar State Park Advisory Committee					
	Jon Aarstad	315 South 3rd. Mount Vernon, WA 98273			
	Leslie Bates	725 Russell Rd. Concrete, WA 98237			
	Kurt Buchanan	333 East Blackburn Rd. Mount Vernon, WA 98273			
	James Chu	2105 Highway 20 Sedro Woolley, WA 98284			
	Woody Deryckx	3736 Cape Horn Rd. Concrete, WA 98237			
	Mary Ann Edwards	1630 Indian Rd. La Conner, WA 98257			
	Helen Hendrix	P.O. Box 449 Concrete, WA 98237			
	Ingeborg Hightower	5570 Highway 20 Rockport, WA 98283			
	Lois Holbrook	3696 Cape Horn Rd. Concrete, WA 98237			
	Gerald Magness	4607 Cypress Drive Anacortes, WA 98221-1114			
		604 S A St.			

Name of Organization	Contact Person	Address, E-mail Address	Phone #, FAX #	Description of Interest in Park(s), Size of Org.	WSP&RC Contact Person
	Lanny Morgan	Grangeville, ID 83530			
	Kathy Miller	P.O. Box 368 La Conner, WA 98257			
	Wendy Scherrer	2105 Hwy 20 Sedro Woolley, WA 98284	ph. 360-856-5700 ext. 20		
	Murray Schlenker	16018 Mill Creek Blvd. Mill Creek WA,			
	Doug Sorenson	4277 Grassmere Rd. P.O. Box 184 Concrete, WA 98237			
	Jan Wiggers	902 District Line Rd. Burlington, WA 98233			