

# Beyond 2013 – A Transformation Strategy

## Strategic Analysis of State Park System

Using the document “State Parks Strategic Alternatives Analysis” as a guide, at meetings held through western Washington the public provided their thoughts about financing program changes for our state parks system below. You can provide your thoughts through E-mail to the Washington State Parks planning team at [StrategicPlanning@parks.wa.gov](mailto:StrategicPlanning@parks.wa.gov).

| Name of Park: Statewide significant comments from western Washington public meetings. |   |   |   |   |  |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|--|---|
|   | Theme 1: Parks as an Enterprise   |   | Theme 2: Parks as a Community Non-Profit  |   | Theme 3: Parks as a Public Asset   |   |
| Key Question  | Why would people and private companies choose state parks?  |   | Why would non-profit organizations and other governments partner with state parks?  |   | Why would state government invest in state parks?  |   |
|   | Program   | Financing   | Program   | Financing   | Program  | Financing   |
| General Description   | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Like theme 1.</li> <li>If the agency could develop a dynamic pricing (like hotels or air lines) so there are heavy discounts when a park has vacancies it may improve bottom line.</li> <li>Look hard at privatized examples in other public sectors (e.g. Prison system) that are experiencing net increased public costs due to external and free market system.</li> <li>Determine who are the users of each activity and then charge according to participants’ abilities to pay.</li> <li>Each park property should find its own identity rather than system-wide direction.</li> <li>Commercial infrastructure in natural areas degrades the very thing they serve, e.g., cell tower \$173,000/yr.</li> <li>How do you define a profit center?</li> <li>Restrictive covenants</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>See benefits regarding utilizing some portions of each theme in plan for parks as complimentary.</li> <li>State Parks license plates should be valid in lieu of Discover Pass – away to thank these supporters.</li> <li>Campers should be required to have a Discover Pass. Discover Pass purchasers are subsidizing campers use of non-camp amenities/resources.</li> <li>As you look at methods to cover operating revenues, I would hope that the legislature would agree that the current economic situation is temporary (someday, revenues will be back to normal) and at that time, money should again flow from state coffers to State</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Partner with federal to jointly manage parks.</li> <li>Expand volunteer program – volunteer teacher/naturalists. Charge fee for naturalist services as in other states.</li> <li>Explain what the State Parks Foundation is – is it in existence now? How much could it reasonably raise?</li> <li>Where is a safety net (in theme 2) when communities fail? Counties, cities are probably not able to provide that insurance.</li> <li>Principle fund raiser – State Parks Foundation – partnership with individual friends groups. Foundation generates funds that friends groups could apply for.</li> <li>To make improvements the parks seem to be restricted to particular contractual processes that greatly increase the cost and delay the work.</li> <li>Camping needs to increase – more wilderness camping please.</li> <li>The value of community involvement will be immense if it is coordinated by someone like “State Parks Foundation” – to lobby for funding with outside help. Give opportunities to those volunteers who want to contribute but have no outlet at the moment.</li> <li>Community non-profits are not big enough to pull it off. One example of this type of failure is Bridal Falls which is half paid for as a non-profit by homeowners around the property and those are the only people that end up</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Why remove? The Become “rustic” in a few years and when economy improves place to spend money!</li> <li>Can port authorities take over launch or shoreline maintenance?</li> <li>Friends groups should be developed for all parks that have 710,000 visitors (year should be required to raise revenues to support their park’s operating expenses.</li> <li>RV campers should be self-supporting.</li> <li>How can local communities prevent campground closures? How do you get the word out?</li> <li>Support community non-profit and sharing</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Merge natural resource agencies</li> <li>Just watching opening slide show of different parks makes me want to go see them/support them. What would it take to make that a public service announcement?</li> <li>State Parks needs to advertise and inform the public of available services and events to promote participation.</li> <li>Raise the price of camping by \$5/night.</li> <li>I don’t understand why camping would be reduced (significantly) if parks as a community non-profit becomes the model.</li> <li>Make campsites more primitive before closing them.</li> <li>If camping produces income, why reduce the availability?</li> <li>General description – basic services (day use) – funded by general fund and Discover Pass.</li> <li>Historical &amp; habitat use are ok, but only with general taxes.</li> <li>Theme 3 program top box –</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We need to support a congressional bill that would create a federal (and state) CCC – like organization to employ youth and work on park infrastructures and maintenance.</li> <li>Mandatory Discover pass purchase with registration of vehicle in Washington State.</li> <li>Local government contributions to parks because you increase their revenue.</li> <li>Camping public asset – camping should be expanded – camping fees should be raised to match private camp grounds.</li> <li>Fully fund a robust state parks program from the general fund. Use other funding or assets to enhance base program.</li> <li>Can the unemployed</li> </ol> |

|  |   |   |   |   |  |   |
|--|---|---|---|---|--|---|
|  | <p>need to be defined to ensure “enterprise” doesn’t become commercialism.</p> <p>9. Most campsites are not full now except during the summer and on weekends.</p> <p>10. How do we control justifying revenue created by amenities that ultimately “dumb down” the experience that state parks currently offer?, i.e., Larabee State Park or Taco Bell’s Larabee State Park featuring a digital WI-FI experience.</p> <p>11. Keep the parks billboard &amp; commercial sign free.</p> <p>12. Should ask what aspect...? In all three themes –these should be addressed as alternative “approach” not models. It’s not all or nothing.</p> <p>13. Additional and premium services camping, boating service use basic fee structure.</p> <p>14. Camping improve services – modernize and limit.</p> <p>15. Please do not increase privatization of state parks.</p> <p>16. Special events &amp; enterprise – Mt. bike races, trail thons and endurance races</p> <p>17. WI-FI, cable and laundry are not really needed for a camping</p> | <p>Parks.</p> <p>5. Taxes should provide at least 25% of needed revenue. The legislature needs to bite the bullet and Washington voters need to vote in state income tax for the top 1% of earners.</p> <p>6. Do not charge market pricing for all service or facility rentals. The parks are a public trust and must not price out low-income citizens.</p> <p>7. Please resist the legislature’s expression that parks should be self-sustaining.</p> | <p>using that park.</p> <p>10. As a co-op would we be out of the legislation?</p> <p>11. Being on the historic registry what is the legal means of the original gift from Robert Moran? We are not federally owned. Moran will remain a state facility. If the park is money making we will take the money and the legislators can take a hike. Moran was donated for all the people as a public park.</p> <p>12. Capabilities of non-profits. YMCA’s budget is 3x the budget of Moran; the definition should include larger organizations. It not participatory.</p> | <p>like friends of Moran State Park.</p> <p>7. Consider transferring park properties to federal/county or city and park and recreation districts if these other groups can meet mission.</p> <p>8. Non-profits – get money from same sources. They are already in dire straits.</p> | <p>part should read “limit services and facilities to those with groups public recreation and add education benefit. The program can pay for its self. Re-instituting ASAP the environmental learning center outdoor school overnight program under direction of a full-time director with a degree and experience in environmental education, and experience in recruiting school districts to the program.</p> <p>11. The legislature has abandon State Parks system with no state park generated tax coming back to the parks. The general fund needs to give parks money; and money generated by parks come back to parks.</p> | <p>be put to work in parks as an alternative financial resource for them by working in the parks instead of joining the military?</p> <p>7. If things get even more grave financially for State Parks, consider that it probably serves the public interest better to lose headcount at headquarters before losing any more field positions.</p> <p>8. State has to generage dedicated to keep parks open.</p> <p>9. Legislature needs to levy a dedicated tax to support state parks for next 100 years.</p> |
|--|---|---|---|---|--|---|

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
|  | <p>experience.</p> <p>18. It took 100 years to build a great system. Please don't ruin it in one biennium – get back on the general fund.</p> <p>19. Taking over and making it for profit we lose autonomy. We cannot go without paying money? The parks are ours.</p> <p>20. Privatization: someone takes over a community value and makes it a private value and community is lost.</p> <p>21. Advertising: we want an oasis from ads. Marketing and sales permeates more and more aspects of our society. We need parks as the hold outs.</p> <p>22. "The Creep" First a private company at the gate, and then they are cutting down trees before we know it we will become New Jersey. You pay for everything; roads, taxes, you pay for every little thing, and there is nothing just for people.</p> <p>23. Having parks as an enterprise may not fulfill the mission statement. There may not be enough money to fund the parks for everybody and the mission is changes. Water slides are installed. This puts pressure on the</p> |  |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
|  | <p>mission. Enterprises are exclusionary. When you pay a fee and the fee is high some people cannot pay. People without money should have access to parks, it is just as important. What about poor people? Will we take parks away from them?</p> <p>24. Privatization takes money from the community and ships it elsewhere. Now that money is no longer being circulated on the island and islanders must make up the difference for services, road, fire dept. everyone is impacted.</p> <p>25. Puts pressure on the parks management: thousands of dollars are lost on projects ex. pumping water up to Mountain Lake, rehabbing the cabin. Be more businesslike and careful with which projects the park is undertaking.</p> <p>26. There is a huge push across the country to privatize and a gutting of social programs. The parks are in this situation. The country is spending 28.5 billion dollars on war, big business profits and citizens pay more. We are all affected by the larger system changes.</p> |  |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|

|                |   |   |  |   |  |  |
|----------------|---|---|--|---|--|--|
| <p>Camping</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How would this work? Fifty dollars a night for private camping?</li> <li>2. Theme 1,2,3 can all be used; some geographic areas being more related to 1 or 2 or 3. Camping revenue – North Carolina State Park does this.</li> <li>3. Good ideas but have 2-3 weekends where these groups have reduced rates at urban state parks.<br/>Camping – increase fees – could add some amenities – add spots.<br/>Create RV areas with all additional amenities WI-FI, laundry.</li> <li>4. Campgrounds – some are so old just need close. The better ones need to be used.</li> <li>5. Enlarge some camp sites.</li> <li>6. Increased expertise is necessary to support the services focused on public service. I think of this as an opportunity to draw more visitors to parks.</li> <li>7. Prioritize best views and present there use by the poor – no way.</li> <li>8. Why decrease camping? It is bringing in revenue. Already self-selected to people who can afford camping gear and RVs. People and RVs can pay more.</li> <li>9. Like the idea of coin operated laundry at campgrounds if water</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Camping – expand as needed to bring in more revenue.</li> <li>2. Camping – primarily as enterprise with some non-profit help.</li> <li>3. Camping/overnight structures: 2 tiers – enterprise (large parks), community fill in smaller near large communities.</li> <li>4. Add more campsites.</li> <li>5. Improve camping revenue by adding hook ups, showers &amp; concessions.</li> <li>6. Campers should also have a Discover Pass.</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Access for all camping and interpretive programs important.</li> <li>2. Campground – 1 eliminate pass programs, 2 – require day use fee in addition to camp fee.</li> <li>3. Campgrounds making profit? Give those who need it a break.</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Add day camps and recreation programs for youth as revenue and opportunity to teach natural system stewardship.</li> <li>2. Vacation rental owners benefit. Provide a pass for \$100 - \$300 for their guests to use the park.</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Destruction of flora by campers.</li> <li>2. Why have fewer utility hookups and paved road would bring fewer people in their RV.</li> <li>3. Why remove the facilities it cost to build them. Why remove them? Why would people buy state parks pass with camping site?</li> </ol> |  |
|----------------|---|---|--|---|--|--|

|   |   |   |  |   |   |  |
|---|---|---|--|---|---|--|
|   | <p>resources are available.</p> <p>10. Camping density – WI-FI, cable, etc. terrible idea so is reducing scope, intensity and amount of camping. Camping close to nature is a good idea. Surely using a combination of the three themes, camping opportunities could be expanded rather than reduced to meet the needs of an expanding population.</p>  |   |  |   |   |  |
| Indoor Accommodations   | <p>1. Support for an enterprise system which supports totally a contractually the core vision of the parks system.</p>  |   |  | <p>1. Invest in services amenities that would increase use/revenue: concessions, campground showers, yurts, cabins &amp; reserveable picnic shelters.</p> | <p>1. Theme 3 program goals are best – the values are sound. Uses development for RVs, etc. Best use of dollars. Saves natural feel.</p> <p>2. Financing should be taken from general funds. Excellent value. The listed distribution look very good.</p> <p>3. Good mountain bike trails are needed – Dash Point is good – need to develop Saltwater south and north hill tops for mountain bikes. Enlist bike clubs for volunteers.</p> | <p>1. Camping should not be exempt from Discover Pass. Some sort of a “blended” fee of Discover Pass for camping fees should be implemented.</p>   |
| General Day Use Activities (e.g., picnicking, hiking, biking, informal field games) | <p>1. Hiking should be in a category separate from parks games – passive engagement not enterprise.</p> <p>2. More taxes for funding instead of enterprise.</p> <p>3. Essential that specific criteria are established for private enterprise, i.e., fast food, chain stores. I like serving for camping if it makes it profitable or at least self-significant. Expand day use activities to</p> | <p>1. Under Theme 1 – day use activities: what do you mean by value added enterprises?</p> <p>2. Consider needs of low income individuals/families and how they can access parks.</p> <p>3. When appropriate, user fees for biking and other activities will be very profitable and self-sustaining. Open</p> | <p>1. Trails – Parks should embrace volunteer groups to provide outdoor experience their users are looking for.</p> <p>2. Access is more important than facilities.</p> <p>3. What is the mechanism for a community group to influence and contribute to the development and maintenance of trails?</p> <p>4. How can we increase recreation access for Mt. Biking at Larabee with this themac model?</p> <p>5. How can community groups prevent facilities or access from being closed?</p> <p>6. Including and partnering with non-profit organizations to build &amp; maintain usage. It is an untapped resource.</p> <p>7. Have shoulder seasons for use such as</p> | <p>1. High powered local non- profit.</p>   | <p>1. Predominately theme 3 but accommodating some of theme 1 services.</p> <p>2. Community keep access costs down and enable everyone one participate.</p> <p>3. Service programs should be self funded: boating, camping, special events - fees in addition to the Discover Pass should apply.</p> <p>4. Good because it priorities long-term stewardship.</p> <p>5. Area or park managers should have the ability to</p>               | <p>1. If people don’t use parks and want to pay for them – moth ball the facility until demand is needed.</p> <p>2. Increase Discover Pass annual fee.</p> <p>3. Keep the Moran park here simple. Less is better. The experience of a rental holiday is unique these days. The Discover Pass would make experience open to</p> |

|                                  |   |   |  |  |  |  |
|----------------------------------|---|---|--|--|--|--|
|                                  | <p>include more Mt. Bike trails.</p> <p>4. Charge out of state users higher fees.</p>   | <p>the door to recreational opportunity where it was not available before.</p>  | <p>Moran &amp; Mt. Biking.</p> <p>8. Ease of partnering with volunteer groups willing to put in time and money.</p> <p>9. Large enterprise – no corporations.</p> <p>10. More year round access for Mtn. biking. Shuttle services for Mtn. biking – charge per use.</p> <p>11. Non-profit can help but struggle already though they can be part of the solution.</p> |  | <p>use at least a few of the dozen free days as they see fit rather than having headquarters select all 12 free days.</p> <p>6. We must keep calling and emailing even with government.</p> <p>7. No to theme park solution: parks need to be public asset, run it efficiently as possible, hook-ups and other luxuries are not necessary to enjoy nature.</p> | <p>all. Learning about plants, etc. is a plus o- no commercial.</p> <p>4. Parks as an enterprise shuts out struggling people – also greed is ramped as we know.</p>  |
| Beach Activities/<br>Swimming    | <p>1. Add \$10 fee to vehicle license tabs to fund state recreation areas.</p> <p>2. Beach activities – increase costs to use – swimming should be fee based.</p> <p>3. Expand day use for non-powered boats (kayaks, canoes, etc.)</p>   | <p>1. Like the day use parking failure last decade, making user fee activities like swimming, picnicking, boating would be either ignored and either way, enforcement would eat up all the focus generated.</p> | <p>Theme 2 would be best model with a bit more enterprise mixed in, being wary of allowing the best park experience being limited to those with more money.</p>  | <p>1. Support theme 2 financial model.</p>         |  |  |
| Marine<br>Recreation/<br>Boating | <p>1. Theme 1 primarily.</p> <p>2. Marine and recreation could be increased – moorage pass is a steal.</p>  | <p>1. Theme 1 &amp; 2: involvement by enterprise/no-profits makes more people have stake in parks success.</p>  |  |  |  |  |
| Interpretation/<br>Education     | <p>1. Interpretive programs have such long-term value and impact it is difficult to limit them to dollars and cents value.</p> <p>2. Private sector is best choice where efficiency and range of quality of services is important; not so good at equity or universal provision of service.</p> <p>3. Daniel said that statewide most meetings participants favor parks as a public asset. I hope you listen!</p> | <p>1. Support theme 1 financial model.</p>  | <p>1. Educational opportunities work with schools.</p>   | <p>1. Support theme 2 &amp; 3 financial model.</p> | <p>1. Interpretative &amp; Education theme. Make parks more valuable and integral to K-12 education. Promote field trips and longer term class projects. Interpretation need not be reduced. Taxes could fund them.</p>  | <p>1. It's clear that many public assets in the parks system won't pay for themselves and shouldn't. General fund appropriations are still essential, and the agency should aim for what it needs, not let OFM dictate an impossible path.</p> <p>2. Interpretative education is a public asset.</p> <p>3. Education is part of the mission of state</p> |

|                             |   |  |   |  |   |  |
|-----------------------------|---|--|---|--|---|--|
|                             | 4. Interpretation and enterprise would be a disaster. It's like charging kids to go to school.  |  |   |  |   | <p>parks. Connect interpretation of natural, cultural and historic resources with educational system. Get some funding from State Education budget to teach the younger people the magic of their public places.</p> |
|                             | <b>Theme 1: Parks as an Enterprise</b>  |  | <b>Theme 2: Parks as a Community Non-Profit</b>   |  | <b>Theme 3: Parks as a Public Asset</b>   |  |
| Natural Systems Stewardship | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Create RV areas with all additional amenities WI-FI, laundry.</li> <li>2. Natural systems – stewardship under enterprise would be severely under valued and mitigation is never to replacement for preservation of our natural resources.</li> <li>3. This plainly circumvents long-term stewardship.</li> <li>4. Private enterprise should be required to be registered B- corps if over a certain size. Also should be eco-environmental in mission – there are thousands of values led companies that could meet this criteria.</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Add more campsites.</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Communities are waking up and taking charge of their economic future. Local economies can be great. Opportunities for private and public partnerships.</li> <li>2. Charging more than administrative costs or scientific permits will simply eliminate the research, much of which benefits state parks stewardship and education missions. Marketing is badly needed. Think</li> <li>3. Facebook, public radio, etc. as well as ones which cost. Need a “motto” for state park – a ranger is my choice.</li> <li>4. Need to work with local government and non-profits to let people know you are coming.</li> <li>5. Federal and local agencies are actively collaborating and have been for some time. State Parks seems to lack the capacity to pro-actively participate in locally generated planning activities.</li> <li>6. Combination of non-profit and the park as an asset.</li> <li>7. How about visitors who cannot pay market rates?</li> <li>8. Partner with land trusts.</li> <li>9. Non-profit/friends in rural areas do not have the man power or resources to carry even 40% of keeping resources open.</li> </ol> |  | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Public assets.</li> <li>2. Strengthen accountability and efficiencies – treat them more like a business and know what really is being spent and what the margins on revenue centers – and find out what works and why.</li> <li>3. Keep it public with expected contributions.</li> <li>4. Must be an option. Duty to preserve a public trust.</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Our resources are a public asset and should be protected by State Parks.</li> <li>2. General funds to presence asset but other approaches to programming.</li> </ol>       |

|                                       |   |  |  |  |  |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|--|--|--|--|---|
| Historic Preservation                 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. I feel this public needs to know more about how much the Discover Pas is needed. We've been spoiled in past years.</li> <li>2. Historic preservation as enterprise would not work. The costs are huge and whom would you charge?</li> </ol>   |  | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Historic preservation community.</li> <li>2. Combination non-profit and public asset.</li> <li>3. Support a controlled recreation &amp; learning component that brings visitors and increase revenue.</li> <li>4. Partner with historic preservation organizations.</li> </ol> |  | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Historic preservation model theme 2 &amp; 3.</li> <li>2. Discover Pass is car oriented – want to see bike/bus/walking encouraged.</li> <li>3. The management structure should be looked at closely to reduce waste. Who in the upper can be cut in hours? Why cut the workers?</li> <li>4. Historic structures need not be mothballed – the legislature has the power to fund their preservations.</li> <li>5. Is this site an option? Taxes?</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Agency should ask the legislature for education money to pay for school groups to come to state parks.</li> </ol> |
| Pre-Historic Archeological Protection | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Where does the State Preservation Offices stand? Enterprise may or may not be preservation.</li> <li>2. Long-term stewardship must be the primary priority.</li> <li>3. Archaeology as enterprise would not work. Who do you charge? Archeology sites are for future generations. You can't charge future generations.</li> </ol> |  | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Public asset some key sites and non-profit portions.</li> </ol>  |  | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Prioritize for funding: parks that most need natural system, historic protection and pre-historic archeological protection.</li> <li>2. Mothball buildings have a bad track record of working. Reuse has a much better track record.</li> <li>3. This is a public asset.</li> <li>4. Archeology ditto as public trust.</li> </ol>  |   |
| Winter Recreation                     | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Good opportunity for profit.</li> </ol>   |  | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Support theme 2.</li> </ol>  |  | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Winter Recreation is a public access at public cost.</li> </ol>  |   |
| Special Events                        | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. I support idea! Special events must be consistent with the theme of the park.</li> <li>2. Not all parks are appropriate for this theme.</li> <li>3. Definition questionable – weddings?</li> <li>4. More use of buildings</li> </ol>  |  | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. More special events to raise revenue.</li> </ol>   |  | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. People visit parks because they consciously or unconsciously value the natural/cultural resources. Otherwise they could camp in the Walmart parking lot.</li> <li>2. I support the parks as a public asset. I support increase the money donation for licensing vehicles. The</li> </ol>   |   |

|                                    |   |  |   |   |   |  |
|------------------------------------|---|--|---|---|---|--|
|                                    | <p>with activities during bad weather – sort of like a summer day camp available on demand.</p> <p>5. We have a motel &amp; RV park and we have many guests traveling through the area. We need a way to offer our guests admission to parks in such a way that it would benefit us and provide money to parks. A guest pass sponsored by our parks.</p>  |  |   |   | <p>idea of people donating money in addition to the Discover Pass be kept within the local park.</p>  |  |
| Park Commerce                      | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The less commerce in the parks the better.</li> <li>2. Camping and indoor accommodations – private enterprise exclusively.</li> <li>3. I don't want the commercial look to be in parks. Restrict colors and signs.</li> <li>4. No businesses on site; however if McDonald's wanted to fund the upkeep of Beards Hollow Trail and have a sign stating "funding provided by McDonald's" would be ok.</li> </ol> |  | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. More health, adventure, ECO, naturalist. Programming – work with organizations to identify ways to collaborate on marketing and funding. When profits are made split them - share the risk and share the gain.</li> <li>2. ELC for Cape Disappointment, Ft. Columbia and guided hikes.</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Oregon State University – study on per site costs of camping have been done and could have been updated (Prof. V. Stoenner) – Oregon State University .Ag.economic</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How do children recreate physically today? Do parks accommodate these new uses? Are we prepared to accommodate them in the future?</li> <li>2. We need to lobby the legislature and do it as individuals.</li> </ol>                      |  |
| Visitor Safety and Law Enforcement | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. No ill trained rent-a-cops.</li> <li>2. We now imprison criminals in jail systems run by enterprises. Would the parks system get its law enforcers from enterprises?</li> <li>3. Do not use volunteers as replacement for park rangers.</li> <li>4. Law enforcement</li> </ol>  |  | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The lack of rangers presence enables and promotes illegal activity that does not occur only six months a year.</li> <li>2. Increase partnership in staffing nearby parks – maintenance, interpretation, policing.</li> </ol>  |   | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Law enforcement for hunting/fishing violations. Booting out long-term campers (homeless).</li> <li>2. Visitor safety law enforcement must remain responsibility of the state. State law enforcement commission not rent-a-cop.</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Considering parks a public asset usually removes the public from creative thinking and protective attention to parks.</li> </ol> |

|                                   |   |  |   |  |   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|--|---|--|---|---|
|                                   | would not work.<br>Criminals won't/can't pay for all the cops.<br>Washington State Parks has too much law enforcement personnel.  |  |   |  |   |   |
| Other (within three themes)       | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Seems obvious we need combo of all three models and then rely on the wisdom of the commission to develop that.</li> <li>2. The legislature position on parks funding ignores the fact that ensuring fairness and equal access to the parks is an inherently governmental function. Neither the enterprise model nor the non-profit model can fulfill these obligations because fairness as equality are not their mission.</li> <li>3. Keep concessionaires local after \$30 Discover Pass goes to state, allow additional contributions to stay at Moran.</li> </ol>   |  | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. Too much emphasis on Discover pass. Discover Pass is self limiting or there will be a ceiling of people willing to purchase one.</li> <li>5. Vocational Tech college programs to rehab and education document 1930's WPA/CCC structures.</li> <li>6. Charging fees like Discover Pass only starts a downward spiral.</li> <li>7. Ecology = \$500 million natural preserves = \$400 million parks \$0? What is wrong with this picture?</li> <li>8. Discover Pass verses welfare.</li> </ol> |  | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Park stewardship and visitor safety and law enforcement should remain in the hands of park rangers.</li> <li>2. Corporative agreements with other government entities should be implemented for parks with fewer than 10,000 visitors per year and no revenue and no expenditures should be attached.</li> <li>3. To some extent this whole conservation is silly and pointless. The legislature is spending its income stupidly, leaving not enough to pay for necessary infrastructure like parks.</li> <li>4. Transparency is essential to public confidence regardless this public transformation.</li> <li>5. Public common needs. Keep our tax dollars in Washington state. Stop wars that drain tax dollars. Park access for every income level necessary. We can do this.</li> <li>6. Make it easier to buy Discover Passes. Make them transitive from car to car.</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The whole idea of living in communities is we support the greater good...work harder with legislators to get tax \$.</li> </ol> |
| Other (outside of Theme Approach) | <p>General Discussion comments – what are park users afraid of happening under each of the three themes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. I fear overly successful enterprise because either the enterprise will try to obtain it for themselves or the legislature will decide they are an easy way to dispose of parks.</li> <li>2. Not enough opportunities for horseback riding in state parks. We pay taxes too and purchase Discover Passes, which we mostly use on DNR &amp; WDFW lands.</li> <li>3. Off leash dog areas are needed and for lot of reasons most benefit theme 1,2 &amp; 3. The WAC was changed – we now need the program and policies, procedures developed.</li> <li>4. The agency should reach out to the next generations of children. The agency needs to take lead in teaching children to recreate. Children are learning how to use electronic devices, but not how to hike.</li> <li>5. Some children will be voters – how will they value our parks if they are not familiar with them?</li> <li>6. Can the money for parks be mandatory? Instead of opt-out. (Staff - Yes. By the legislature 2/3 vote because it would be a tax.)</li> <li>7. Discover Pass should include bumper stickers “I support state parks.”</li> <li>8. Increase cost of the Discover Pass and make a better quality card pass.</li> </ol> |  |   |  |   |   |

9. \$160K for the Director's salary - park aid only makes pennies above minimum wage. (Staff - State Parks Director does not make \$160K, closer to 40K less).
10. Showers – do you really make money on showers? Considering money, time in it takes to collect and maintain token machines?
11. Construct bicycle trails for events.
12. More motorcycle trails.
13. Hang glide.
14. Update CAMIS to mark unreserved campsites as open. Now first come first served campsites are marked “reserved” so people don't come thinking the park is full. This goes to producing more revenue.
15. Regardless of what theme is chosen –should keep discounts for low income foster families, disabled Vets. This is providing recreation for all our mission.
16. Disabled Vets take credit cards like any other reservation if no show, charged for 1 day like everyone else; if they show up no fee charged and no multiple reservations covering same time frame (revenue loss).
17. Fines for not having a Discover Pass if it goes to collection, state parks get nothing is my understanding. Have the fines tagged to driver license renewal pay or not license (revenue loss).
18. Specific opportunity for those that want to contribute. They will pay user fees; they will build trails; they will maintain sites and without asking for anything.
19. Marketing properties, logo, their value to the public needs to be increased. Increase social media.
20. Professional staff important to help guide park and its relationship to the public and community locally and statewide – volunteers benefit from support and consistency.
21. Non-profits not always reliable when run on volunteer power.
22. Why not get some local advice from the local community? (Staff - Public meetings are held in areas where there are state parks to get advice from local communities.)
23. I have watched over the years hundreds of thousands of dollar spent on foolish projects.
24. You have to have Discover Pass instant to buy easy 24/7.
25. State parks needs to market your treasures using friends' media, social media and paid ads.
26. Can state prisons be changed to sell products? The revenue goes to parks and DFW. Right now prison can make products and donate them to a group.
27. Need to get new users to love parks. There are lots of people who think of parks as just camping, but if that is only 7% you need tell the masses what the 93% are enjoying.
28. The Discover Pass is not a silver bullet. Is too much emphasis being made in it?
29. This is no way to treat a 100 year public trust.
30. Theme 4 – elect legislators that can figure out how to fund parks out of \$50 billion.
31. Parks are one thing the state does right.
32. The park commission has its agenda for the park and its projects with little reality as to the necessity for these projects.
33. The park commission wants help it should clearly define some of financial aspects of what is needed.
34. What does it cost to presently operate the parks? (Staff – we do not know the exact funding needed to support State Parks. We know revenue by source, but need to develop a method for expenses by sources.)
35. How much specific revenue does the park receive? (identify all sources and amount)
36. What is the surplus or shortfall? (Staff – Difficult to determine, since the level of service is an important concept yet to be defined.)
37. Ways to increase park revenue – thinning to make a healthy forest and mitigate the damper of fire. Install a toll road booth and charge non-discover pass holders a fee to go to the top the mountain staffed by friends of Moran.
38. To improve low income access develop a tired rated where user selects – subsidized fee, cost of service fee, premium fee.
39. Provide opportunity to adopt a campsite program. To increase volunteer help in marinating park.
40. Fees can be more efficiency with automated kiosks instead of staffed offices.
41. Ice vending machines could be revenue source.
42. It is important to recognize Moran's watershed supplies potable water for Orcas' four largest water systems.
43. To every person in this meeting: I am a new reside to Orcas Island. I was born and raised in the Midwest, in Illinois. The remaining forest preserves in the area where I was raised are stratified by freight lines and six line highways. To say the least, it was very refreshing to have the blessing of arriving in the remaining untainted corners of this continent. What brought me to this meeting was the concern that privatization of Moran State Park will lead us down a similar route as the remaining natural sites from my adolescence. In reading the program changes under theme 1 – parks as an enterprise, I find it laughable that the word “efficiency” is used to describe the returns from maximum camping density. It seems apparent to me that the privatization of state parks comprises their health, dignity, and in no way ensure safety to the local economy. If anything, it encourages foreign (meaning off-island/out of state) investments rather than their conquest. If you need laundry and WI-FI to go camping you obviously are severely disconnected from the natural world. I don't' have solutions, but I do know that the privatization of these parks will only steal dignity from this land and its citizens.
44. What legislative changes would you request of the state for the different thematic alternatives? (Staff – agenda item will be developed for the August 2012 Commission meeting.)
45. Camping as enterprise will degrade the experience. Too many campsites would be added; WI-FI, cable, etc. will ruin parks as we know them.
46. Emergency conservation sites for local disaster funded money.
47. There should be joint donations, tax support, grants, fees for state parks.

48. Parks as enterprise developing natural areas would destroy the very thing we want people to support, enjoy and love.
49. What is the way forward that keeps state parks mission?
50. What about a state parks tax? If majority of people want to pay on tax and have their services.
51. Anyway to extend transition from state fund dollars? This is way too big of a change, too fast. What business could do that?
52. Call the Discover Pass a parking pass then people may understand a user fee is needed for a lifetime tour, etc.
53. Many of the reductions call for in this option is not necessary. Taxes used to fund these things – they can again.
54. We don't need to reduce services. We need to convenience the legislature that funding is a priority.
55. This is what parks should focus on – some services may fix in to enterprise, but most do not.
56. One guided tourist, useful hikes, one building/clubs dedicated to group housing schools and ELCs. Money for user fees.
57. Instead of looking at an enterprise as only a state park; we should operate as an enterprise based on the community needs: ex. Moran is tourism based and local businesses rely on this enterprise. An enterprise intended for the community benefit.
  
58. 110 non-profits on the island it is hard to get grants on the island because there are so many Community Non-Profits (CNP) for grants. San Juan Island shares grants among themselves including the San Juan Nature Institute and Friends of San Juan. Money is distributed between CNPs.
59. There is an inequitable distribution of resource: one location where the community is more involved and some parks that are more remote that the community do not rely on. San Juan, Spokane and Deception pass are the locations where state parks matter most.
60. There is no reliability as a public asset. Parks should be looked at as a public trust. The legislature appropriates all the funds. Faced with choices about taxes decision making had to be with majority.
61. Public assets take money; our income is down, we are out of money. What will the parks department do to close the gap?
62. I would be willing to put more money into the Discover Pass if I knew that the money was going to Moran and other SJI parks. People might be willing to pay more if they knew that the money would stay here. Provide incentive for volunteers: 24 hours for a Discover Pass is a lot to ask for.
63. Poor people: this is a genuine issue.
64. There is no other option. The money is available for people who are willing to participate in adventure activities. Triathlons and competitions people who are willing to pay for events and experiences. Take advantage of these potential sources of revenues.
65. When will people start turning a profit from penal institutions? Prisons are costing a arm and leg, if we weren't spending tax more money could go to state parks.
66. What happened to the piece of the pie that used to go to state parks? The pie is smaller and parks' piece is completely gone? Can we solicit the legislation for that money back? Parks is a huge revenue generator; by right should not the revenue generated from business go to parks?
67. Can the community 'float' another position? If the park suffers, businesses that rely on park visitation suffer as well.
68. A few things that aren't pleasant about having an enterprise system are: everything has to be developed. We don't want to see state parks continuing to develop the land. It may not meet the mission.
69. Parks will become commercialized. Only the rich will enjoy the enterprise system. Parks are for all people.
70. An enterprise system will change the park experience.
71. Too many commercial entities invest in how the parks should run. State parks would be taking a risk of losing the full accessibility for all people.
72. If the enterprise plan doesn't work, the enterprise company will drop it and leave parks responsible to fix the problem.
73. Non-profit organizations may have a different mission. Their mission will always be the primary priority.
74. Non-profit may not be effective or efficient. It may become an issue with being reimbursed, too.
75. Non-profit may not have the level of skills or confidence to run the organization.
76. Under theme 2: volunteers may not be willing to return each year to provide the services.

77. We don't want to lose the public assets.

78. Under theme 3: The legislature may not provide the funding to support state parks. We have already lost funding.

79. Is the 7% of camping in Washington state parks offered to more out-of-state campers?

80. State Parks needs to develop away for people who may not want to visit the park for the entire day – just want to look around (particularly foreigners) less expensive. (Staff - we do offer a \$10 day use fee if they do not want to pay \$30.) (Staff – We do offer a \$10 day fee that can be used at any state park and recreational land of the day of purchase.)