

Rex Derr  
Director



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
WASHINGTON STATE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

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## DETERMINATION OF NON-SIGNIFICANCE

### *Description of proposal:*

This proposal provides non-project conceptual design recommendations and guidelines for rehabilitation to guide the programming, design, and adaptive reuse of existing buildings occupying approximately 434,000 square feet of space on the existing 434-acre (18,905,040 sq.ft.) site known as Fort Worden State Park. These recommendations and guidelines were developed consistent with the vision, mission, and values statements, land classifications, and the site and facilities use and development principles previously adopted by the Commission for Fort Worden State Park.

The full range of potential actions by the Commission is outlined in the Fort Worden Site and Facilities Use and Development Plan Preliminary Recommendations, June 30, 2008 and the Fort Worden Guidelines for Rehabilitation Preliminary Recommendations, June 30, 2008, which are incorporated in total by reference into this document. Persons interested in a detailed understanding of the proposal should familiarize themselves with descriptive materials in these documents. The document is available on the agency's website: [www.parks.wa.gov/plans/ftworden2](http://www.parks.wa.gov/plans/ftworden2) or in hard copy by request. For a hard copy contact Nata Hurst at PO Box 42650, Olympia, WA 98504-2650, by phone: (360) 902-8638, or by E-mail: [nata.hurst@parks.wa.gov](mailto:nata.hurst@parks.wa.gov).

The proposal seeks Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission approval of:

- 1) Fort Worden Site and Facilities Use and Development Plan
- 2) Fort Worden Site and Facilities Guidelines for Rehabilitation

The proposal may also seek Commission authorization to select a non-profit organization with which to negotiate a memorandum of understanding setting conditions each party must meet before negotiating any long-term agreements that transfer selected management functions to the non-profit.

### Site and Facilities Use and Development Plan

The Fort Worden Site and Facilities Use and Development Plan recommendations are for site, facility, and building reuse improvements based on business programming goals outlined in the Fort Worden State Park Business and Operations Implementation Plan prepared for the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission by Pros Consulting and BCRA, in June 2008. The goal of the plan is to optimize park use consistent with the State Parks and Recreation Commission's Vision and to expand use more evenly throughout the year. By following and applying the business model recommended by the plan, it is anticipated that incorporating more flexible management practices of a non-

governmental managing entity into park management will improve, program and service offerings, improve financial performance, and increase philanthropic support of park facilities and operations. With such a model, State Parks will be able to significantly expand public services provided by Fort Worden State Park without necessarily increasing its operating budget subsidy.

Programming best situated to achieve expanded off-peak-season use and to achieve the vision for Fort Worden as a lifelong, year-round destination learning center could include the following additional programs:

- Photography
- Outdoor Concessionaires
- Instructional Culinary Programs
- Multi-day Natural Science Encounters

The improved park programming would help generate additional overnight stays. The following development-related improvements should be considered to support increased uses:

- Initial visitor contact and check-in improvements
- Signage and way finding improvements
- Coordination of vehicular and pedestrian circulation
- Reduce impervious surfaces consistent with protection of the cultural landscape
- Provide adequate, well-placed, designed parking for daily use and pervious overflow parking for peak use.
- Provide spaces for current and planned changes in park programming
- Upgrade accommodations and redesign to fit the desired mix of overnight accommodations
- Relocate and consolidate park administration and check-in functions to optimize operations and circulation
- Adaptively reuse existing buildings to accommodate existing and future needs of current partners and to support the strategic programming recommendations towards establishing a Lifelong Destination Learning Center
- Enhance and maintain the natural environmental qualities of this unique site
- Through adoption of the Guidelines for Rehabilitation, protect the historic nature of the park.

#### Fort Worden Guidelines for Rehabilitation

The purpose of the Guidelines is to help ensure retention of the park's historical integrity and that its notable appearance remains intact as new uses are found for buildings and new development of the park is proposed.

**Proponent:** Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission

**Location of proposal, including street address, if any:**

Fort Worden State Park is an approximately 434-acre site, located at the northeastern tip of the Quimper Peninsula where the Strait of Juan de Fuca meets Admiralty Inlet. The park is located

in Sections 25, 26, 27, 34, 35, 36; Township 31 North; Range 1 West. The park address is 200 Battery Way, Port Townsend, WA 98368.

**Lead agency:** Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission

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

There is no comment period for this DNS.  
**ALTHOUGH THERE IS NO COMMENT PERIOD FOR THIS DNS, ALL COMMENTS ARE WELCOME AND WILL BE CONSIDERED. TO ENSURE YOUR COMMENTS ARE INCORPORATED INTO THE PLANNING PROCESS, PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR COMMENTS TO PETER HERZOG, PARKS PLANNER, AT (360) 902-8652, OR BY E-MAIL AT [Peter.Herzog@parks.wa.gov](mailto:Peter.Herzog@parks.wa.gov) BY AUGUST 25, 2008.**

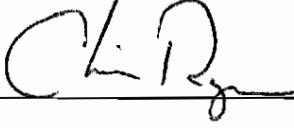
This DNS is issued under 197-11-340(2); the lead agency will not act on this proposal for 14 days from the date below. Comments must be submitted by \_\_\_\_\_ or they may not be considered.

Responsible Official: Chris Regan

Position/Title Environmental Program Manager  
**Phone** (360) 902-8632  
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Address Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission  
Parks Development Service Center  
7150 Cleanwater Lane  
P.O. Box 42650  
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Date August 6, 2008

Signature  \_\_\_\_\_

"All Washington State Parks are developed and maintained for the enjoyment of all persons regardless of age, sex, creed, ethnic origin, or physical limitations."

There is no agency SEPA appeal; however all comments are welcome and will be thoroughly considered.