

**Nisqually-Mashel
Classification and Management Planning (CAMP) Project
Workshop #2 – July 15, 2006**

Public Comments

Natural Resource Issues

- Wildlife viewing areas
- Ranger guided tours
- Yes: Accelerated old growth
- Yes: Natural/Cultural research protection alternatives
- Can the WA State Parks work with Dept. of Fish & Wildlife to designate the Nisqually/Mashel rivers as catch and release only?
- Like more natural approach to linking park to Eatonville
- Actively solicit partnerships with the regional school districts to provide environmental education opportunities.

Cultural Resource Issues

- Interpretive information on wildlife and native plants/trees
- Develop Indian culture information

Long-Term Boundary Issues

- Buy as much land as possible
- Manke property seems mandatory to make this a viable park.
- I and others own property on Medical Springs Rd., in Eatonville in the middle of the proposed state park site. Is it in the planning to acquire "all" the privately owned land within the proposed site? Do the owner(s) have the option to stay put?
- It appears on your map and stage 2 documents from your website that you will be 'seeking to acquire' land [on Medical Springs Road]. Is this true? Will [homeowners] have a choice in the decision? I am concerned and was hoping you could give me some answers. If [homeowners] don't choose to sell will the park go up all around [them]?

Management Issues

- Don't forget enforcement
- Public safety: Fire safety, homeowners safety from crazy public
- Manke Timber Co. land is open for the general public to hunt on. If the Park Department is unable to purchase this land, please discuss the possibility of Manke Co. prohibiting hunting on this parcel of their land. With the park and residential lands abutting the timber land, the possibility of stray bullets flying through the main part of park is very high.

Facilities Issues

- Handicap parking and boat launch at river
- Rebuild bridge
- Would like some type of bridge even if it is just a foot bridge across Nisqually River
- Any place to have a wedding and outside pavilion

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- Keep rustic or tent sites well separated from RV utility sites
- Can the campground be made bigger later to see how many people would come here first
- I would like to see a park with many camp sites for overnight camping.
- Why not put such trails [paved pathways that accommodate wheelchairs and electric scooters] as a priority? If such trails are built, have them go somewhere other than a small circle or to a dead end.
- PLEASE do not let this [installing ADA cabins or yurts, with no ADA restrooms nearby, and not having ADA hook-up campsites] happen in the new state park
- A perimeter loop trail around the greater majority of the lands, with a couple of cross section trails for multi-users (hiking, bicycling, horse back riding).
- Shorter loop trails near the camp sites restricted to hiking only.
- At least 2 shorter trails that are handicap accessible.
- At least 1 Wetlands Interpretive trail. Two major wetland areas come to mind.
- An interpretive hiking trail in the older timbered, moss grown area, which is to the left near the gate going down to the Nisqually/Ohop confluence. Also, one off the ridge overlooking Ohop Valley.
- I do not see it feasible to install what you refer to as, "Potential Nisqually River Trail". Even if the cliff areas could be transformed into a trail, the land is too unstable to sustain it. Liabilities and maintenance would be an issue.
- I think it is important to have multi-user trails that join the, already stock accessible, Manke Timber Land, Charles Pack Forest, and (excitedly) Weyerhaeuser Timber land across the river. (In case you are not aware, Weyerhaeuser welcomes stock, hiker, and bicyclist users on all their lands in our state, for day use only. These lands will allow users more acreage than they will ever need for exploring)
- 1 group horse camping site. There will be many aspects of this that you may not be aware of. Horse transporting vehicles can be 40+ feet long. Horses should be highlined (tied) with a minimum of 15 feet between them, for overnight stays. A water source is necessary. Some surfaces in the camp will need to be hardened with various sizes of rock. The major problem with this type of camp is manure disposal. From experience, the best type of horse manure containment is made of large jersey barriers (concrete blocks). Then there is the job of using equipment to empty them and find a proper facility to dump the manure at.
- Even with this horse camping area, there should be a day parking lot for the large rigs that haul in for day riding. Again, the size of the vehicles could be a problem. With all user groups intermingling on the property, safety of non-stock users coming into contact with 1,000 lb. animals must be of great concern. Using acreage and natural vegetation to buffer others from the horse camping/parking areas would deter the equine uneducated and children from danger. This type of buffering would also keep the natural look in the park and provide a more "out doorsy" atmosphere for park the visitors.
- I believe vehicle access should be provided to the Nisqually/Ohop confluence for boaters and fishermen. A launch to unload, smaller craft, and a parking area back off the water ways between Ohop Creek and the river.
- I believe a picnicking area should be available at the above and Nisqually/Mashel confluence.

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- I believe to utilize the acreage across the Nisqually River for recreation, a single lane bridge will be necessary. With recreation there, the Parks Department will need to be able to monitor recreation, do maintenance, and be able to respond quickly in emergencies. This bridge should be gated, allowing only hikers, bicycles, and stock travel regular access.

Activity Issues

- Separate trail system
- No ATV's
- No motor dirt bikes or ATV's
- Like this plan for the park but would like to see more access to the river for bikes, boats, horses and hiking
- Separate equestrian bicycle and pedestrian trails
- Easy and more challenging trails
- Need raft and canoe launch and trail access from Mashel-Nisqually confluence to Ohop-Nisqually confluence
- 300 dry campsites situated under power lines does not appeal to me as a place to spend a weekend
- If you call it Nisqually-Mashel River Park it must have easy river access
- Would like to see plenty of cycling trails/access
- Like "outdoor" activities, i.e. fishing, boating, easy access to water
- No gas motors
- No ATV vehicles or trails

Other Issues

- Parking lots not too close together
- Designated areas for bikers, walkers, and horse riders – three separate trail systems