

Rex Derr
Director



STATE OF WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON STATE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

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Description of proposal: The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission is in the final stages of completing a land-use planning project for Steamboat Rock State Park in Grant County. The planning project, also known as Classification and Management Planning (CAMP), addresses overall visitor experiences, natural and cultural resource management, long-term property boundary decisions (acquiring and/or surplus land, as well as other land management agreements, etc.), defining use and upgrading existing park facilities, and other topics of interest to the community and park visitors.

Proponent: Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission

Location of Proposal: Steamboat Rock State Park is located at 51052 Highway 155, Electric City, WA 99123, Grant County, Washington. The park is located within Section 36, Township 29 North, Range 30 East, and Willamette Meridian.

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.

Although there is no comment period required for the proposed action all comments are welcome and will be considered. Please address your comments to Andrew Fielding, Eastern Region Resource Steward, at andrew.fielding@parks.wa.gov by November 4, 2010. You may also provide testimony at the November 19, 2010 regularly scheduled Commission meeting. The meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m. at the Millersylvania State Park Environmental Learning Center located at 12245 Tilley Road South, Olympia, Washington, 98512.

Responsible Official: Randy Kline
Position/Title: Environmental Program Manager
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Address: 1111 Israel Rd SW, PO Box 42650
Olympia, WA 98504

Date: October 21, 2010

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.

WAC 197-11-960 Environmental checklist.

ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

Purpose of checklist:

The State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA), chapter 43.21C RCW, requires all governmental agencies to consider the environmental impacts of a proposal before making decisions. An environmental impact statement (EIS) must be prepared for all proposals with probable significant adverse impacts on the quality of the environment. The purpose of this checklist is to provide information to help you and the agency identify impacts from your proposal (and to reduce or avoid impacts from the proposal, if it can be done) and to help the agency decide whether an EIS is required.

Instructions for applicants:

This environmental checklist asks you to describe some basic information about your proposal. Governmental agencies use this checklist to determine whether the environmental impacts of your proposal are significant, requiring preparation of an EIS. Answer the questions briefly, with the most precise information known, or give the best description you can.

You must answer each question accurately and carefully, to the best of your knowledge. In most cases, you should be able to answer the questions from your own observations or project plans without the need to hire experts. If you really do not know the answer, or if a question does not apply to your proposal, write "do not know" or "does not apply." Complete answers to the questions now may avoid unnecessary delays later.

Some questions ask about governmental regulations, such as zoning, shoreline, and landmark designations. Answer these questions if you can. If you have problems, the governmental agencies can assist you.

The checklist questions apply to all parts of your proposal, even if you plan to do them over a period of time or on different parcels of land. Attach any additional information that will help describe your proposal or its environmental effects. The agency to which you submit this checklist may ask you to explain your answers or provide additional information reasonably related to determining if there may be significant adverse impact.

Use of checklist for nonproject proposals:

Complete this checklist for nonproject proposals, even though questions may be answered "does not apply." IN ADDITION, complete the SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS (part D).

For nonproject actions, the references in the checklist to the words "project," "applicant," and "property or site" should be read as "proposal," "proposer," and "affected geographic area," respectively.

A. BACKGROUND

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:

Steamboat Rock State Park Land Classifications and Long-Term Boundary

2. Name of applicant:

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission

3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person:

Andrew fielding, Eastern Region Steward
Washington State Parks & Recreation Commission
270 9th St. NE, Suite 200, Wenatchee, WA 98801-1007
(509)662-665-4312/ FAX (509)886-4232 TDD (509)886-6233
[E-mail:andrew.fielding@parks.wa.gov](mailto:andrew.fielding@parks.wa.gov)

4. Date checklist prepared:

September 2010

5. Agency requesting checklist:

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission

6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable):

This checklist contains non-project SEPA analysis, which includes preliminary recommendations for land classifications and long-term boundaries for the Steamboat Rock area state parks, which includes: Crown Point Vista.

Washington State Parks held three public workshops during the planning process for this proposal.

- Public workshop was held from 7 to 9 P.M., October 1st, 2008 at the City of Coulee Dam City Hall, 300 Lincoln Ave., Coulee Dam, WA. The workshop goal was to identify issues to resolve in the planning process.
- Public workshop was held from 6-8pm August 10th, 2010 at Grand Coulee City Hall, Midway, Grand Coulee, WA. The workshop goals were to present preliminary management plan ideas to resolve issues identified at the previous workshop and receive public comment.

Advance notice was provided to a contact list of people that expressed an interest in the process. To develop the contact list, the staff:

- Sent 5500 E-mails to former park customers.
- Mailed letters to neighbors and other stakeholders.
- Distributed news releases to local newspapers and radio stations.
- Wrote letters to elected officials and other government staffs.

The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission (Commission) will take action on a staff recommendation for long-term boundaries and land classifications at its regularly scheduled meeting on November 19th 2010 . Individuals interested in commenting on this action may do so through this SEPA document, or may provide comments directly to the Commission at the meeting. If the final recommendation is significantly different than the preliminary recommendation, an addendum to the SEPA checklist and determination will be filed. The November 19th Commission meeting will be held at Millersylvania State Park in Olympia, Washington. Commission meetings are scheduled to begin at 9:00 am, but the proposed items have not been allotted a specific time on the agenda.

7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain.

Yes. This SEPA checklist analyzes the foreseeable impacts associated with the Commission's adoption of the proposed staff recommendations for the land classification plan and long-term boundary for Steamboat Rock Sate Park. The Commission's decision will provide policy direction to staff, and begin the agency's focus on completing tasks identified by that direction.

A draft management plan for the Steamboat Rock area state parks has been developed to implement the Commission's proposed land classifications and long-term boundary. The management plan is an administrative document that will be approved by the Deputy Director when finalized. Portions of the plan will be reviewed under SEPA, where applicable. The draft plan is available to any interested parties on the Commission's website: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/plans/steamboatrock/>

8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal.

Federal Emergency Management Agency flood maps 2004.

National Wetland Inventory GIS data. August 2006.

Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS). January, 2008. Web Soil Survey Data system research for the Steamboat Rock State Park.

Washington Department of Natural Resources. 2008. State of Washington Natural Heritage Program, data system search for Steamboat Rock State Park.

Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife. 2008. Priority Habitats and Species Program data system search for the Steamboat Rock State Park Area.

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission. 1998. Cultural Resources Management Policy.

Literature reviews for historic and archaeological surveys and significant sites for each park included in the Steamboat Rock State Park CAMP were conducted. Consultation with Native American Tribal officials and the Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation also occurred as part of the CAMP planning process.

Grant County Planning Commission and Board, 1996. Shoreline Master Plan, <http://www.grantcounty.org/Planning/>

Grant County Planning Commission and Board, 2002. Grant County Zoning Ordinance, Ordinance # 62678, <http://www.klickitatcounty.org/Planning/>.

Grant County Government. 2008. Data system research for Steamboat Rock State Park Area.

Okanogan County Government. 2008. Data system research for Steamboat Rock State Park Area/ Crown Point.

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission. 2008. Data system search for Steamboat Rock State Park.

Bureau of Reclamation Reservoir Management Plan. (July 2001)

Draft Environmental Assessment for Campground Addition (2008)

9. Do you know whether applications are pending for governmental approvals of other proposals directly affecting the property covered by your proposal? If yes, explain.

None

10. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known.

Approval by the Commission is required for this non-project action.

11. Give brief, complete description of your proposal, including the proposed uses and the size of the project and site. There are several questions later in this checklist that ask you to describe certain aspects of your proposal. You do not need to repeat those answers on this page. (Lead agencies may modify this form to include additional specific information on project description.)

Washington State Parks is in the final stages of completing a land-use planning project for the Steamboat Rock State Park in Grant County. The planning project, also known as Classification and Management Planning (CAMP), addresses overall visitor experiences, natural and cultural resource management, long-term property boundary decisions (acquiring and/or surplus land, as well as other land management agreements, etc.), defining use and upgrading existing park facilities, and other topics of interest to the community and park visitors.

The CAMP process sought input from the public including members of the local community, organizations, governmental agencies including Grant County, Washington Department of Natural Resources, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, the Confederation Tribes and bands of the Yakama Nation, Grant County Sheriff Dept., Grant County Buildings and Grounds Department (Parks), and State Parks staff. Through public meetings, various land classification and long-term boundary alternatives were evaluated and preliminary recommendations were developed.

The review for this proposal will be phased. "Phased review" means the coverage of general matters in broader analysis, with subsequent narrower documents concentrating solely on issues specific to later analysis (WAC197-11-776). Phased review will allow State Parks to focus on decisions regarding the proposed land classification designations and long-term boundary. This is the first phase of environmental analysis for Steamboat Rock State Park. Subsequent phases will include environmental analysis for specific project actions at such time developments or other actions are proposed. Further phases may include capital projects, implementation of the management plan objectives, and other facility improvements.

This proposal seeks Commission approval of:

- 1) A long-term park boundary for the Steamboat Rock State Park. The long-term boundary of the park represents areas which the agency deems desirable for management, consistent with each park's mission.
- 2) Specific land classifications for the properties within the long-term boundary for the Steamboat Rock State Park. The purpose of Land Classification is to provide general policy guidance for staff on appropriate management and use of land holdings in the state parks for recreational activities and developments in areas of a park. The land classification system was revised in October 1995, and is codified under WAC 352-16.

Land Classification:

Within the long-term boundary, staff has developed recommendations for land classifications, an internal zoning plan that is regulated by WAC 352-16-020. Although all classifications were considered for the trail, the land classifications proposed include:

- (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 recreation 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 archeological, historical, scientific, and/or cultural features, and traditional cultural properties, which are of state-wide 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 and 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 loges in streams; or
 - (b) Mature forest communities that have developed for ninety years or longer; or
 - (c) 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 or chapter 332-60 WAC.

Appropriate land classifications were identified by State Parks staff as part of the public planning process. The recommended classifications were chosen to provide a high level of protection to the trail's natural and cultural resources while considering current and future recreational uses and opportunities.

The proposal classifies State Parks' land, and certain adjacent private and public holdings within each park and/or park area

as potential additions to the State Parks' system. Use limitations imposed by specific classifications are discussed further in this document. (**Important note:** Proposed land classifications are for State Parks policy direction only and should not be used as a basis for local government decisions on private land holdings within the proposed long-term boundary of Steamboat Rock State Park.) Within the proposed long-term boundary, there are properties that the parks may be interested in co-managing or acquiring. All options will be subject to future decisions by the Commission and further SEPA analysis.

Maps of the vicinity and preliminary recommendations for the land classification and long-term boundary for the Steamboat Rock State Park are provided in the Preliminary Recommendations Document available on the planning webpage (see link below). Please note that the color coding of the classification types is as follows: Recreation (reddish color), Resource Recreation (bluish color) and Natural (Orange).

The half tones of those colors describe the land classification for lands not owned by State Parks, but will be included in the final staff recommendation to the Commission. The colors overlaid with hatch marks indicate surplus properties.

Proposed land classifications are also outlined in the CAMP Preliminary Recommendations document. For more information, please see the planning webpage: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/plans/steamboatrock/>

Preliminary staff recommendations:

The long-term boundary would include the existing trail park areas. The majority of the park would be classified as **Natural** or **Resource Recreation** to accommodate the existing recreational opportunities for non-motorized use while providing a high level of protection for natural resources including the shoreline habitat, wetlands, cultural resources, and other sensitive environments.

Non-State Park owned land included in the long-term boundary some land surrounding Northrup Canyon.. The purpose of a long-term boundary is to take a big picture look at what lands, independent of ownership, might advance the conservation and recreation mission of the park.

Some of the long-term boundary issues identified by the planning team and the public that will be addressed in the final management plan include:

Protection on the headwaters of Northrup Creek.

Protection of some of the surrounding areas of Northrup Canyon.

Please see Preliminary Recommendation Document available at: <http://www.parks.wa.gov/plans/steamboatrock/> for maps showing the long-term boundary and land classification.

New construction projects will depend upon future funding and grants. Subsequent environmental analysis will follow should the projects proceed if State Parks deems the environmental impacts of the project actions are inadequately described in this SEPA document. The projects could include the development of trailheads, restroom facilities, boating facilities, day use areas, camping areas, and trail resurfacing.

12. Location of the proposal. Give sufficient information for a person to understand the precise location of your proposed project, including a street address, if any, and section, township, and range, if known. If a proposal would occur over a range of area, provide the range or boundaries of the site(s). Provide a legal description, site plan, vicinity map, and topographic map, if reasonably available. While you should submit any plans required by the agency, you are not required to duplicate maps or detailed plans submitted with any permit applications related to this checklist.

Steamboat Rock State Park is the primary location for this project.

Located on Banks Lake 11 miles South of Electric City, WA and 16 miles North of Coulee City WA.

Immediately adjacent to Steamboat Rock and under its management is Northrup Canyon.

Also Crown Point Vista a scenic vista overlooking Coulee Dam in Douglas County near the City of Coulee Dam. Township 29N Range 30E Section 36

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

1. Earth

- a. General description of the site (underlined): Flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other

Sites vary from flat to steep slopes, rolling sand dunes to basalt cliffs.

- b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)?

70 percent slopes, vertical cliffs.

- c. What general types of soils are found on the site (for example, clay, sand, gravel, peat, muck)? If you know the classification of agricultural soils, specify them and note any prime farmland.

Steamboat Rock and Northrup Canyon - Badge-Bakeoven complex, Bagdad silt loam, Bakeoven very cobbly loam, Bakeoven-Anders complex, Bakeoven-Roloff complex, Benco gravelly loam, Benco stony loam, Chard very fine sandy loam, Ellisforde silt loam, Entiat-Rock outcrop complex, Finely very cobbly fine sandy loam, Hermiston silt loam, Quincy fine sand, Quincy loamy fine sand, Rubble land-Rock outcrop complex, Strat grave;;y loam, Stratford loam.

Crown Point Vista – Cashmont gravelly sandy loam, Ellisforde fine Sandy loam, Heytou-Subblefield complex, Quincy-Ellisforde-Cashmere complex, Rock outcrop-Couleedam-Roosevelt complex, Rubble land Rock outcrop complex, Soaplake-Roosevelt-rock outcrop complex.

No prime farmland.

- d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe.

No.

- e. Describe the purpose, type, and approximate quantities of any filling or grading proposed. Indicate source of fill.

No fill or grading activities are proposed for the non-project action elements of this proposal. Other future project actions associated with the preliminary recommendations and management plan for the Steamboat Rock State Park may result in filling or grading. There are no specific proposals at this time. Future proposals will include separate SEPA analysis. Future project actions will be analyzed to ensure minimization of environmental impacts and implementation of best management practices.

- f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe.

The proposed non-project action will not result in erosive activities. In addition, land classification designations for Steamboat Rock State Park have incorporated the consideration of sensitive geological hazard areas to prevent future project actions within such areas. Future project actions will include appropriate location, sustainable design, and implementation of Washington Department of Ecology’s Best Management Practices to prevent and reduce erosion and landslide activities.

- g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)?
None for this non-project action.

- h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any:

As stated above, staff considered sensitive geological hazard areas when developing land classifications. The

proposed non-project action avoids significant construction in those areas.

No further measures to reduce or control erosion are included in this non-project proposal. Future project actions will be in appropriate locations to avoid geologic hazards, incorporate sustainable design, and implement the Washington Department of Ecology's Best Management Practices to prevent and reduce erosion and landslide activity.

2. Air

- a. What types of emissions to the air would result from the proposal (i.e., dust, automobile, odors, industrial wood smoke) during construction and when the project is completed? If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known.

None for this non-project action. Minor exhaust and fugitive dust emissions (particulate matter) could be expected in the event of future developments on the trail. Parks will continue to be consistent with local fire departments' fire windows/restrictions and comply with air quality standards.

- b. Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe.

No.

- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any:

No measures to reduce or control emissions are included within this non-project action. In addition, future project actions will include measures to reduce emissions, such as using dust control during dry weather and encouraging carpooling.

3. Water

- a. Surface:

- 1) Is there any surface water body on or in the immediate vicinity of the site (including year-round and seasonal streams, saltwater, lakes, ponds, wetlands)? If yes, describe type and provide names. If appropriate, state what stream or river it flows into.

Banks Lake Reservoir which provides water for Columbia Basin irrigation. Northrup Creek which flows into Banks Lake.

Several wetlands have been identified.

- 2) Will the project require any work over, in, or adjacent to (within 200 feet) the described waters? If yes, please describe and attach available plans.

No work over, in, or adjacent to the described waters is required for this non-project action. Land classification designations for the parks incorporate the consideration of sensitive shoreline environments. The proposed classifications for areas adjacent to the water bodies described above provide a high level of protection to the parks' sensitive shoreline environments while considering existing recreation use and opportunities. Future project actions may occur within 200 feet of the above-noted water bodies. Any future project actions shall be consistent with the designated land class for such areas and permitted uses outlined in the Washington State Parks Land Classification Use Matrix

- 3) Estimate the amount of fill and dredge material that would be placed in or removed from surface water or wetlands and indicate the area of the site that would be affected. Indicate the source of fill material.

No fill or dredge material is required for this non-project action. Staff classified the park lands to emphasize appropriate management and future uses of sensitive areas such as surface water and wetlands. Future project actions shall be consistent with the designated land classifications and allowed uses.

- 4) Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

No surface water withdrawal or diversions are required for this non-project action.

- 5) Does the proposal lie within a 100-year floodplain? If so, note location on the site plan.

Portions of Northrup Creek lie within the 100 year flood plain.

- 6) Does the proposal involve any discharges of waste materials to surface waters? If so, describe the type of waste and anticipated volume of discharge.

No discharges of waste materials to surface waters will result from this non-project action. Staff classified the parks to emphasize appropriate management and future uses of sensitive areas such as surface waters or wetlands. Future project action within the designated areas will be consistent with the respective land classification and allowed uses policies. In addition, any proposed future project actions will also be consistent with the Grant County guidelines for development within the flood plain. Future project actions will ensure compliance and implementation of Grant County and Ecology's best management practices.

b. Ground:

- 1) Will ground water be withdrawn, or will water be discharged to ground water? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

No groundwater will be withdrawn or discharged as a result of this non-project action.

- 2) Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources, if any (for example: Domestic sewage; industrial, containing the following chemicals. . . ; agricultural; etc.). Describe the general size of the system, the number of such systems, the number of houses to be served (if applicable), or the number of animals or humans the system(s) are expected to serve.

None for this non-project action. Future project actions may result in discharges into the ground (e.g. new septic/sewer systems).

c. Water runoff (including stormwater):

- 1) Describe the source of runoff (including storm water) and method of collection and disposal, if any (include quantities, if known). Where will this water flow? Will this water flow into other waters? If so, describe.

No surface water runoff will be generated by this non-project action. The proposed classifications will allow for future actions that may increase the amount of impervious surfaces in the park by adding trailheads and resurfacing segments of the trail. In the event of future development of State Parks property, stormwater would be collected, treated and disposed, in a manner that emphasizes the agency's commitment to stewardship and sustainability and in accordance with state and local governmental stormwater regulations and best management practices. Trail edges will be vegetated to minimize runoff.

- 2) Could waste materials enter ground or surface waters? If so, generally describe.

No waste material will enter ground or surface waters as a result of this non-project action. Future project actions will incorporate appropriate stormwater management techniques to treat surface water runoff prior to entering ground or surface waters.

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground, and runoff water impacts, if any:

None for this non-project action. Future project actions will include measures that follow local, state, and federal governments' stormwater regulations and other best management practices.

4. Plants

a. Check or circle types of vegetation found on the site: Underlined

- deciduous tree: alder, maple, , other: birch, maple, poplar.
- green tree: fir, cedar, pine, other
- shrubs
- grass
- pasture
- crop or grain
- wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bullrush, skunk cabbage, other
- water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other
- other types of vegetation

b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered?

None for this non-project action. Future development activities or management actions may result in the removal or alteration of native and non-native vegetation and will require consistency with the Washington State Parks Land Classification and Use Matrix.

c. List threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site.

A rare plants survey of Northrup canyon was completed in 2001 by Beck and Arnette. Constricted Douglas Onion *Allium constrictum* was found which is listed by the State of Washington Department of Natural Resources as Sensitive (Vulnerable or declining and could become Endangered or Threatened in Washington State).

The Washington State Department of Natural Resources Natural Heritage program (NHP) database lists the following plant in its priority database; Wilcox's Penstemon, Valley Sedge, Constricted Douglas Onion, Dwarf Evening-Primrose, Common Snowberry, Stiff Sagebrush, Wyoming Big Sagebrush, Thyme Buckwheat, Sukdorfs Monkey Flower, Threepoint Sagebrush, and Creeping Spike brush.

d. Proposed landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site, if any:

Future project actions may include measures to preserve or enhance vegetation and could be included in development plans. Native plants would be preferred for future landscaping. The Land Classifications chosen would preserve most of the existing vegetation while permitting current recreational uses through a combination of land classification designations.

Land Classification designation for Steamboat Rock State Park takes into consideration the condition and extent of existing vegetation. More sensitive areas were classified in a more protective class such as Resource Recreation. This designation will provide a high level of protection for the vegetation communities and natural resources while restricting high intensity recreational use. Areas within the existing developed footprint of the parks will be classified in order to continue to provide existing recreational opportunities. An integrated pest management plan will be developed and implemented for the park.

Additional surveys could be conducted for rare plants, as needed, for any significant land disturbing activities associated with future development or restoration activities. Management planning will implement techniques to minimize resource impacts or enhance areas currently degraded. Parks staff will review management plans to assure recreational uses will not unduly impact sensitive species. Park staff will also seek help from resource agencies and others to enhance these existing native vegetation communities and limit activities which might degrade rare plant communities.

5. Animals

- a. Circle any birds and animals which have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site:
Underlined

birds: hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds.

mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver, cougar.

fish: bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish.

birds: hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, crows, ravens, pigeons, doves, ducks, geese, gulls, hummingbird, jay, owl, pheasant.
mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver, bobcat, coyotes, muskrat, rabbit.
fish: bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish.

- a. List any threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site.

There are no threatened or endangered fish in Banks lake.

There are no threatened or endangered wildlife species in the area.

The Priority and Habitat Species (PHS) database¹ administered by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife lists Sage Grouse, Golden Eagle, Prairie Falcon, Racer, Sagebrush Lizard, Western Grebe and Bald Eagle as species of concern or monitored species.

The Priority and Habitat Species (PHS) database² administered by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife lists the entire area as priority habitat for Mule Deer year round range range.

- c. Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain.

No.

- d. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any:

Proposed land classifications consider existing PHS data on known fish and wildlife resources. State Parks is attempting to balance the needs of the recreating public with wildlife habitat needs by shifting potential intensive recreational developments and uses out of sensitive areas of the parks. Steamboat Rock State Park classifications and proposed facility development that would allow higher recreation use have been applied in existing disturbed areas and/or in a manner to avoid compromising the wildlife management of the park. Other proposed measures include continuing consultation with Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) habitat biologists and implementing recommended management guidelines for priority species. In addition, State Parks will participate in the site specific restoration/ enhancement projects/proposals. Any future development actions will be reviewed in consultation with WDFW, as appropriate. Biological assessments will be conducted as required and potential mitigation measures will be identified for any listed species which could be affected by project actions. Additional baseline resource surveys, inventories, and monitoring will help guide park management activities through the further identification of sensitive species and priority habitats.

6. Energy and natural resources

- a. What kinds of energy (electric, natural gas, oil, wood stove, solar) will be used to meet the completed project's energy needs? Describe whether it will be used for heating, manufacturing, etc.

None for this non-project action. Future project actions may result in electricity or solar power to meet energy needs for recreation facilities.

¹ PHS Database search, December 15, 2007.

² PHS Database search, December 15, 2007.

- b. Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties?
If so, generally describe.

None for this non-project action. Should future development occur, it is unlikely that the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties would be impacted.

- c. What kinds of energy conservation features are included in the plans of this proposal?
List other proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts, if any:

None for this non-project action. Future projects will include energy conservation measures consistent with Washington State Parks Sustainability Policy, the agency's Sustainability Plan, and park specific Integrated Sustainability Plan

7. Environmental health

- a. Are there any environmental health hazards, including exposure to toxic chemicals, risk of fire and explosion, spill, or hazardous waste, that could occur as a result of this proposal?
If so, describe.

None for this non-project action. Future projects will follow Washington State Department of Ecology's Best Management Practices to limit the potential for environmental health hazards.

- 1) Describe special emergency services that might be required.

No additional or special emergency services are needed for this non-project action. Future project actions may require additional police, fire, and medical services. Park staff has limited training in emergency services and are qualified to provide a certain amount of those services. The Steamboat Rock State Park Management Plan recommends that park staff work with local law enforcement agencies to draft an emergency plan for the Steamboat Rock State Park.

- 2) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any:

None for this non-project action. Future developments would be subject to appropriate regulatory controls to abate health hazards.

b. Noise

- 1) What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (for example: traffic, equipment, operation, other)?

None for this non-project action.

- 2) What types and levels of noise would be created by or associated with the project on a short-term or a long-term basis (for example: traffic, construction, operation, other)? Indicate what hours noise would come from the site.

No changes in type or level of noise are anticipated as a result of this non-project action. Future developments could cause an increase in noise associated with traffic, recreational uses, and heavy equipment operation.

- 3) Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any:

None for this non-project action. Noise impacts caused by future project actions will be controlled using best management practices during construction.

8. Land and shoreline use

a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties?

The Park provides a mixture of recreational activities including hiking, biking, fishing, cultural area interpretation, non-motorized recreation and more. Adjacent properties are used for forestry, residences, recreation, open space, agriculture, grazing and, fish & wildlife habitat.

b. Has the site been used for agriculture? If so, describe.

No.

c. Describe any structures on the site.

Four comfort stations, 14 CXT vault toilets, workshop, amphitheater, Park office/contact station, three residences, 320 linear feet of dock, trailer septic dump, playground equipment, seven boat launch locations, 56 picnic sites with tables, 100 hook up campsites, 26 standard campsites, and 74 primitive campsites.

d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what?

No.

e. What is the current zoning classification of the site?

Federal Land and Public Open Space

f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site?

Open Space and rural remote.

g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site?

Rural.

h. Has any part of the site been classified as an "environmentally sensitive" area? If so, specify.

Yes – wetlands

i. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project?

N/A. Future project actions may result in a minor increase of park staff.

j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace?

None.

k. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any:

None for this proposed action.

l. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any:

Local governments will receive a copy of this checklist and have the opportunity to offer further comment on consistency with existing and projected land use plans. State Parks staff will work closely with local planning officials to ensure Commission Land Classifications are consistent with local long range plans. If appropriate, State Parks will request a re-zone or conditional use approval for trail project proposals or park acquisitions to Grant County's Public Land

designation, determined to be the best local fit with the legislative and Commission intent for Washington State Parks.

In addition, the Land Classification and Management Plan for the Park are consistent with State Park's Natural and Cultural Resource Policies and guidelines.

9. Housing

- a. Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.

N/A.

- b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.

N/A.

- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any:

N/A.

10. Aesthetics

- a. What is the tallest height of any proposed structure(s), not including antennas; what is the principal exterior building material(s) proposed?

N/A. Future project actions may require the construction of additional park structures.

- b. What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed?

N/A. Future project actions may affect views in the immediate vicinity. However, the land classification system has been applied to preserve/protect view-sheds, from within the park and from adjacent properties looking towards the park, and to limit aesthetic impacts.

- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any:

Future project actions will be guided by design standards that will minimize potential visual impacts through the use of appropriate building materials, colors, sizes, shapes, and other design elements, such as landscaping. Future project actions will be consistent with adopted land classifications. Preservation and enhancement of existing visual characteristics trail will be accomplished through a variety of means including: formal viewshed analysis, under grounding of utilities, restoration of degraded sites, sensitive placement of more intrusive facilities (such as service yards and buildings) to more shielded locations, relocation of improperly sited structures and facilities, and through the use of landscape and vegetation buffering.

11. Light and glare

- a. What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of day would it mainly occur?

N/A. Future project actions may result in an increase in the number of exterior lights within the developed areas of the parks should additional development activities occur. Also, there may be an increase in light produced from motor vehicles, buildings, recreational vehicles, etc., during the evening hours.

- b. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views?

N/A. Future project actions may increase light produced from recreational vehicles, and buildings when it is dark.

- c. What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal?

Currently some from buildings and vehicles illuminate portions of the park nightly, however this proposal will not be affected.

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any:

N/A. Future project actions may be guided by design standards that include measures to reduce and control light and glare impacts, such as down lighting (special light fixtures to limit light “wash” and planned landscaping to limit light and glare intrusion on the landscape). In addition, the land classifications proposed for the Park will preserve existing vegetation, buffering any light sources produced from trail structures.

12. Recreation

a. What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity?

The state parks are classified using the Washington State Parks Land Classification System. Recreational facilities and uses are permitted as described in the Land Classification Matrix. Recreational opportunities within the subject area include: Trail hiking, biking, bird watching, equestrian use, fishing, camping, picnicking,, swimming, horse riding, rock climbing, playground activities, and natural and cultural area interpretation.

b. Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe.

N/A. Classification of the Park will enhance and/or restrict uses of the properties according to State Parks Land Classification rules. The proposed land classifications support current uses and facilities.

Future project actions at the Park may displace recreational uses in the short-term. In general, recreational opportunities will increase.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any:

The purpose of the proposal is to allow for, and enhance, appropriate recreational values and uses, in balance with natural and cultural stewardship responsibilities. Specific considerations should include recreational potential such as developing trailheads, etc., or disposal of specific properties.

13. Historic and cultural preservation

a. Are there any places or objects listed on, or proposed for, national, state, or local preservation registers known to be on or next to the site? If so, generally describe.

No sites are registered on the national or state historic preservation registers.

b. Generally describe any landmarks or evidence of historic, archaeological, scientific, or cultural importance known to be on or next to the site.

Steamboat Rock, named for its unique shape, is a prominent geological feature. Recorded archaeological sites have been identified within Steamboat Rock State Park.

The area in and around Steamboat Rock holds special significance to the local tribes.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts, if any:

No developments are proposed for this undertaking; this is only a land-use planning document for identifying important recreation and resource management issues. As part of this planning process, State Parks has solicited and received comments from representatives of interested governments during the planning process. Information and concerns expressed by these representatives have been incorporated in planning.

Should State Parks propose future capital development, State Parks will undertake project specific cultural resource assessments consistent with agency policy, Governor’s Executive Orders, and Washington State Parks and Recreation

Commission (2006), and all applicable state and federal regulations. Additionally, future contract specifications for any new construction activities will contain provisions regarding the protection of cultural resources in compliance with Chapter 27.44 RCW and Chapter 27.53 RCW and the rules and regulations of the Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP).

14. Transportation

- a. Identify public streets and highways serving the site, and describe proposed access to the existing street system. Show on site plans, if any.

State Highway 155 provides access to Steamboat Rock State Park and Northrup Canyon. State Highway 174 to Crown Point Vista Road provides access to Crown Point Vista.

- b. Is site currently served by public transit? If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop?

No. The nearest public transit stop is in Coulee Dam.

- c. How many parking spaces would the completed project have? How many would the project eliminate?

Not applicable for this project action.

- d. Will the proposal require any new roads or streets, or improvements to existing roads or streets, not including driveways? If so, generally describe (indicate whether public or private).

Not applicable. In the event of future developments on State Parks property, road improvements may be necessary.

- e. Will the project use (or occur in the immediate vicinity of) water, rail, or air transportation? If so, generally describe.

N/A.

- f. How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur.

The proposed land classification is not anticipated to generate any new vehicle trips.

- g. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any:

None for this non-project action. In the event of future development on State Parks property, transportation impacts would be assessed and improvements, if any, would be coordinated with the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) and Grant County, as necessary.

15. Public services

- a. Would the project result in an increased need for public services (for example: fire protection, police protection, health care, schools, other)? If so, generally describe.

None for this non-project action. Future project actions may require additional services from the Department of Natural Resources and local fire departments. Increased support may be needed from county law enforcement departments, Emergency Management Services (EMS).

b. Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any.

None for this project action. Park staff will continue to coordinate emergency response, and wildfire management with local fire, police and EMS. Park Rangers will continue to provide active enforcement and patrol activities for the Park.

16. Utilities

a. Circle utilities currently available at the site: electricity, natural gas, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer, septic system, other.

Electricity, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer.

b. Describe the utilities that are proposed for the project, the utility providing the service, and the general construction activities on the site or in the immediate vicinity which might be needed.

None for this non-project action. Future projects may result in additional utilities such as sewer, water, and electric.

C. SIGNATURE

The above answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the lead agency is relying on them to make its decision.

Signature:



Date Submitted:

9-20-10

D. SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS

(do not use this sheet for project actions)

Because these questions are very general, it may be helpful to read them in conjunction with the list of the elements of the environment.

When answering these questions, be aware of the extent the proposal, or the types of activities likely to result from the proposal, would affect the item at a greater intensity or at a faster rate than if the proposal were not implemented. Respond briefly and in general terms.

1. How would the proposal be likely to increase discharge to water; emissions to air; production, storage, or release of toxic or hazardous substances; or production of noise?

Land classifications will serve to guide existing and continuing development and use of the state parks. It is possible that recreational uses could increase in areas classified as *Recreation, Resource Recreation, Natural, and Heritage*. State Parks considered impacts to water and air, and impacts caused by the production of noise when classifying the parks. Classifications were considered for environmentally sensitive or significant resource areas that would be impacted by intensive recreation, or for the purpose of providing a high level of stewardship and resource protection within the parks. State Parks staff realizes that if recreational uses are not properly managed it is possible that environmental impacts would increase in areas classified as *Recreation and Resource Recreation*. Increased use would probably require additional structures and infrastructure to control impacts. The proposed land classifications direct staff to consider sensitive natural resource areas when determining proposed project areas. Additional development could result in a net increase in impervious surfaces associated with buildings, hard trails and parking areas. Such development could cause a localized increase in stormwater discharges. Likewise, it is likely that increased motorized uses would cause a minor localized increase in emissions. Increased human use of the park could cause a net increase in human waste, emissions, and noise levels above that which currently exists. Washington Department of Ecology's Best Management Practice's will be implemented for all future projects to prevent and reduce impacts to the environment resulting from proposed project construction.

Proposed measures to avoid or reduce such increases are:

Future development and use will follow the guidelines of the underlying Land Classification. Management planning will be required to minimize impacts. Management planning will guide development within the park based on policies adopted by the Commission through land classification efforts. Future projects will include appropriate location, sustainable design, and energy conservation measures consistent with Washington State Parks Sustainability Policy, the agency's Sustainability Plan, and park specific Integrated Sustainability Plan. In general, any future developments on State Parks property will be designed and sited out of sensitive floodplains, and/or so that stormwater runoff is directed to grassy swales for biofiltration and infiltration. All future development will be in compliance with local, state, and federal government regulations. Additional sanitary facilities could be installed that will hook up to existing sewer system. Such facilities would be routinely maintained and waste either treated on-site or taken to an approved waste treatment plant for disposal. Future technological advances and increased regulation of emissions will help offset the impact of increased use of these parks.

2. How would the proposal be likely to affect plants, animals, fish, or marine life?

The immediate proposal will likely have no direct effect on plant, animals or fish. Finding the optimum balance between the protection of natural systems and public recreational access to those natural systems is the basis for developing land classification and management planning. The application of land classification and management planning confirms State Parks mission to protect the natural systems of state park areas while accommodating increased demand for parks and open space.

Proposed measures to protect or conserve plants, animals, fish, or marine life are:

One goal of the proposed land classification is to preserve quality natural, cultural, and historic resources. The preliminary

staff recommendation recognizes the importance of preserving the quality of the natural resources within the park while allowing for appropriate levels of human use. Efforts will be made to minimize habitat loss by locating future developments in areas previously disturbed or in areas with low habitat value. Continuing consultation with WFDW Area Habitat Biologists and DNR's Natural Heritage Program staff will reduce site-specific impacts to wildlife and plant species through implementation of management recommendations. Land classifications also support the concept of greenways to connect to regional parks and open spaces. This could help support regional protection efforts for important migratory corridors and linkages for wildlife.

3. How would the proposal be likely to deplete energy or natural resources?

The proposal is unlikely to have a direct effect on the depletion of energy or natural resources. Existing activities and future proposed actions will include energy conservation measures consistent with Washington State Parks Sustainability Policy, the agency's Sustainability Plan, and park specific Integrated Sustainability Plan(s).

Proposed measures to protect or conserve energy and natural resources are:

Land classifications and long-term boundaries generally support the establishment of local corridors and linkages to other regional open spaces and parks. Such corridors could serve as transportation routes for non-motorized travel. As stated above, any future proposed actions will be consistent with Washington State Parks Sustainability Policy, the agency's Sustainability Plan, and the park specific Intergrated Sustainability Plan(s).

4. How would the proposal be likely to use or affect environmentally sensitive areas or areas designated (or eligible or under study) for governmental protection; such as parks, wilderness, wild and scenic rivers, threatened or endangered species habitat, historic or cultural sites, wetlands, floodplains, or prime farmlands?

While land classifications do not authorize a particular development for a given area, they do specify the types of developments and uses which could be allowed. Land classification could set the stage for future developments and uses which may have the potential for causing negative impacts to a sensitive species and environmentally sensitive areas; such as, habitat loss, disturbances, increased competition, loss of forage or prey resources, etc. The proposal will designate certain areas of the parks as Resource Recreation to protect quality natural systems, as well as priority habitat and species by restricting high intensity recreational uses from those areas. It will restrict development activities from wetlands and other sensitive areas. Development and use of the park will provide access to certain lands and shoreline areas, but will only do so as approved and/or conditioned by local shoreline and land use ordinances. Only permitted development will be constructed.

Proposed measures to protect such resources or to avoid or reduce impacts are:

This proposal seeks to achieve a balance between providing adequate recreational opportunities and providing adequate protection of important natural and cultural resources. The staff recommendation also restricts more intensive development in riparian areas, and other sensitive areas by classifying them appropriately. Public ownership and the proposed land classifications accomplish many of the aims noted above. Any future developments will be subject to regulations administered by federal, state and local governments. All required permits and approvals will be obtained prior to any development. A management plan has been drafted to further identify management issues and identify appropriate mitigation measures to minimize impacts and protect sensitive resources.

5. How would the proposal be likely to affect land and shoreline use, including whether it would allow or encourage land or shoreline uses incompatible with existing plans?

Proposed measures to avoid or reduce shoreline and land use impacts are:

State Parks will work closely with federal, state and local government agencies to assure compatible management objectives on all State Parks owned and/or managed lands. Land classification designations for the parks incorporate the consideration of sensitive shoreline environments. The proposed classifications for areas adjacent to the water bodies described above provide a high level of protection to the parks' sensitive shoreline environments while considering existing recreation use and opportunities. Future project actions may occur within 200 feet of the above-noted water bodies. Any future project actions will be consistent with the designated land class for such areas and permitted uses outlined in the attached Washington State

Parks Land Classification and Use Matrix.

Proposed measures to avoid or reduce shoreline and land use impacts are:

The land classification process, on State Parks property, strives to promote compatible uses and resource protection.

6. How would the proposal be likely to increase demands on transportation or public services and utilities?

Land classifications and long-term boundaries reflect existing and previously planned development patterns. No increase in these services is directly contemplated by this proposal. Future project actions such as campground expansions or improvements may increase the number of parking of daily and overnight visitors to the park causing an increase in demands for parking, public transit access, public services, and utilities. All elements will be examined and thoroughly analyzed prior to approval.

Proposed measures to reduce or respond to such demand(s) are:

Any proposed use activity or development requiring additional transportation, utilities, and/or public services must be consistent with Parks Integrated Sustainability Plan. Park rangers will continue to patrol the park on a routine basis and provide emergency response and law enforcement when in the area.

7. Identify, if possible, whether the proposal may conflict with local, state, or federal laws or requirements for the protection of the environment.

The proposal does not appear to be in conflict with any known local, state or federal laws or requirements for protection of the environment. Future developments will be compliant with local, state, and federal requirements and regulations.