

Things to remember

- **Hours** – Parks are generally open 6:30 a.m. to dusk.
- **Winter schedule** – Although most parks are open year-round, some parks or portions of parks are closed during the winter.
For a winter schedule and information about seasonal closures, visit www.parks.wa.gov or call the information center at (360) 902-8844.
- Wildlife, plants and all park buildings, signs, tables and other structures are protected; removal or damage of any kind is prohibited. Hunting, feeding of wildlife and gathering firewood on state park property is prohibited.
- One camping party is allowed per site. Maximum of eight people per campsite.
- Campsites may not be held for other parties.
- Campsites are first come, first served.
- Camping check-in time is 2:30 p.m., and check-out time is 1 p.m.
- Extra vehicle overnight – \$10 per night in designated area for each vehicle in excess of the one allowed per site. Does not apply to vehicle towed by a recreational vehicle.
- Pets must be on leash and under physical control at all times. This includes trail areas and campsites. Pet owners must clean up after pets on all state park lands.
- Quiet hours are 10 p.m. to 6:30 a.m.



Columbia Plateau Trail and Palouse Falls state parks

100 S.W. Main Street
P.O. Box 541
Washtucna, WA 99371
(509) 646-9218
www.parks.wa.gov

State Parks information: (360) 902-8844

Park hours: 6:30 a.m. to dusk year round

Directions: Palouse Falls State Park is located 18 miles southeast of Washtucna. From State Route 261: Drive 13.5 miles northwest of Starbuck, or 14.4 miles southeast of the State Route 261 and State Route 260 junction, and take Palouse Falls Road East.

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission



P.O. Box 42650
Olympia, WA 98504-2650
(360) 902-8500 • TDD (360) 664-3133
www.parks.wa.gov

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Commission members:

Clyde Anderson	Joe Taller
Mickey Fearn	Joan Thomas
Bob Petersen	Cecilia Vogt
Eliot Scull	

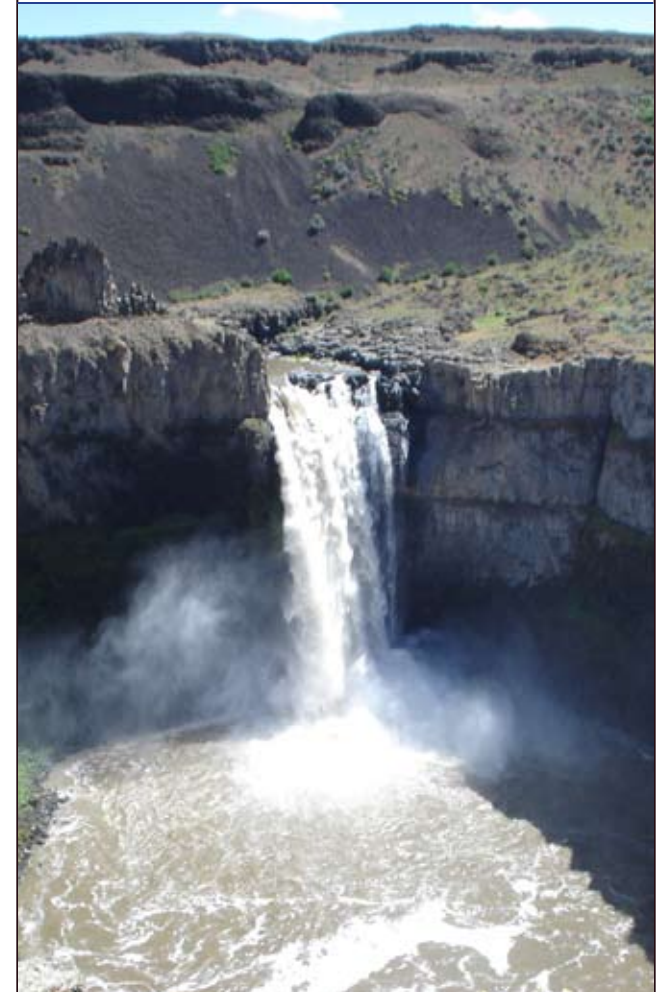
Agency Director: Rex Derr

All Washington state parks are developed and maintained for the enjoyment of all people, regardless of age, sex, creed, ethnic origin, or physical limitation.

This brochure will be provided in alternative formats by calling the public affairs office at (360) 902-8562 or the Telephone Device for the Deaf at (360) 664-3133. P&R 45-71501-01 (07/06)

Palouse Falls State Park

History • Camping • Hiking • Fishing • Bird Watching



Welcome to Palouse Falls State Park

Palouse Falls State Park is a 105-acre camping park with unique geology and history. The park offers a dramatic view of one of the state's most beautiful waterfalls.

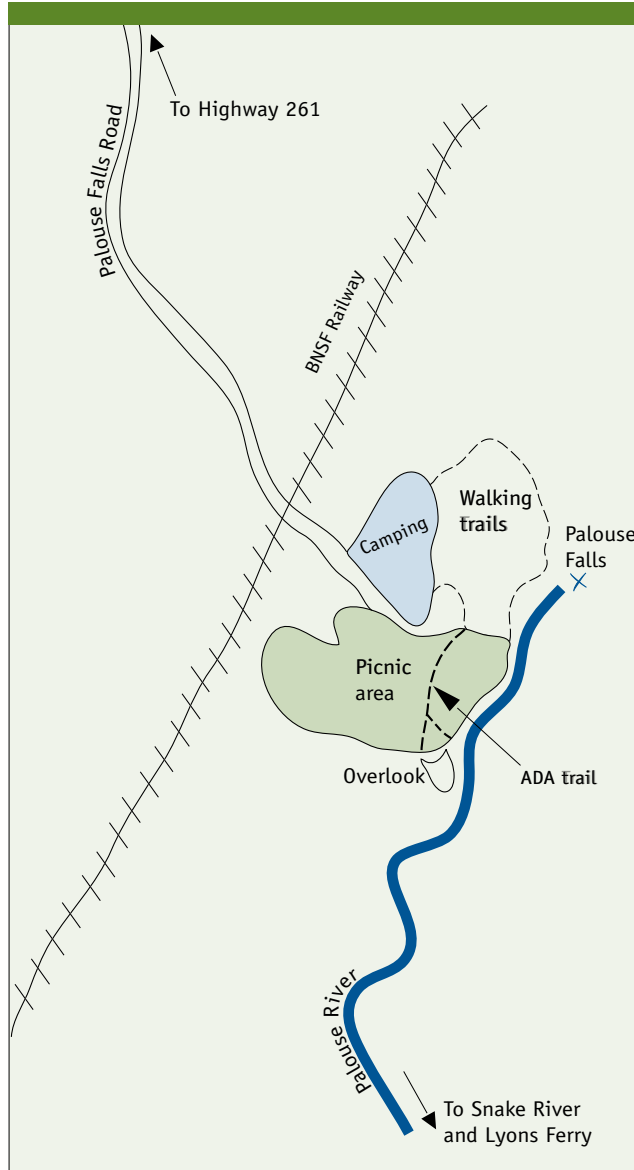
Palouse Falls drops from a height of 200 feet and is particularly spectacular in spring and early summer because of the high volume of water flow.

The park also offers many recreational opportunities include hiking, fishing, bird watching, picnicking, and a fully accessible hiking trail that overlooks this natural wonder from an observation shelter with historical displays.

Park amenities and facilities

Camping at Palouse Falls State Park is on a first-come, first-served basis. The following amenities and facilities are available:

- 10 primitive campsites – one campsite complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)
- One sheltered picnic table with two braziers
- Seven unsheltered picnic tables
- Restrooms nearby the picnic and camping areas.



History

Created by the Ice Age Floods from Lake Missoula, Palouse Falls is the only major waterfall left along this glacial flood path of 15,000 years ago. Mammoths, camels, primitive horses and other now-extinct life forms inhabited the area before the Ice Age Floods.

The falls were discovered by the Wilkes Expedition in 1841. The Palouse Tribe originally called the falls "Aput Aput" meaning falling water. The falls were eventually named Palouse Falls to commemorate the Palouse Indian culture.

According to a Palouse tribe legend, the Palouse River once flowed smoothly into the Snake River. But four giant brothers, in pursuit of a mythic creature called "Big Beaver," found and then speared the great creature five times. Each time Big Beaver was wounded, he gouged the canyon walls, causing the river to bend and change. The fifth time he was speared; he fought the brothers valiantly and tore out a huge canyon. The river tumbled over a cliff at this point to become Palouse Falls. The jagged canyon walls show the deep marks of Big Beaver's claws.

Palouse Falls State Park was created by the Legislature in 1945 and dedicated on June 3, 1951. The 299 acres that make up the park were donated by several parties. The Baker-Boyer National Bank of Walla Walla donated a tract of 99 acres, including the falls itself; J.M. McGregor of the McGregor Land and Livestock Company of Hooper signed over another 150 acres; and Mrs. Agnes Sells of Washtucna contributed 9.5 acres.

