Architectural Character

The buildings in Schafer State Park are Depression-Era and Post-Depression structures that were built as part of the Civil Works Administration (CWA) and Works Progress Administration (WPA). Subsequent work was performed by park staff in a style compatible with the original structures on the site.

The buildings reflect the craftsmanship, native materials and naturalistic principles of design that are the hallmarks of the National Parks Service Rustic Architecture style, but with the use of local and native material. This Rustic Architecture style is characterized by the use of native materials to help blend the built environment with the natural environment.

The Secretary of Interior has Standards for New Construction within the Boundaries of Historic Properties that should be used as a guideline for the design of the new buildings at Schafer State Park. These standards give guidance about massing, size, scale, and architectural features and character.

Through discussion with stakeholders, the public and State Parks staff it was determined that the new buildings should reflect the period in which they are built, but in a manner that is compatible and respectful of the site’s history. Wood and stone should be incorporated into the design, and building forms should complement the historic forms.
West Campground

The West Campground area is long established at Schafer State Park and well loved by many frequent campers. It has however required much renovation due to annual flooding of the East Fork Satsop River. Based on the flood analysis, campsites in low-flow areas will remain and campsites in high-flow areas will be removed and replaced elsewhere in the park.

- 26 of the existing 41 sites will be retained and improved
- Of the remaining 26 sites:
  - Nine sites, which are equipped with power and water service, will be reconfigured with new privacy planting to optimize the space available and enhance the camper experience
  - Nine sites will be upgraded with new electric and water service
  - Eight existing rustic sites will remain as rustic campsites and be available without reservations
- One new comfort station is proposed in the West Campground (its floor elevation is raised to minimize flood risk)
West Day Use Area & Campground  Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission
Schafer State Park Campground Relocation Concept Plan
East Campground

The East Campground is a renovated campground to be located in the former group camp area where extensive root rot in Douglas firs required removal of most of the mature trees in this part of the park. This portion of the park is one of the only areas situated above the 100-year floodplain, thereby making it suitable for development of a year-round campground, replacing the campsites lost in the flood-prone areas of the West Campground. The new sites will be premium campsites with vegetated buffers between sites and water and electric hookups. In addition, cabins are proposed in order to extend the camping season and accommodate fishers and hunters.

- 15 new campsites and 9 cabins are proposed on a one-way loop road.
- Campsites are designed to feel private
- Campsites range from 65 feet on center to 100 feet on center and privacy is created through elevation change, berms, and vegetation with protective fencing or logs and boulders
- Two pull-through campsites are located on the outside of the loop, while 13 sites are back-in sites.
- All campsites will include electric and water hookups
- RV sites will accommodate 35’ - 40’ RVs with select sites designed to handle larger vehicles or RVs with towed cars (60’ to 80’ pull through sites)
- As many sites as possible will be designed to be universally accessible
- The host site has electric, water and sewer hookups
- New cabins are proposed along the west end of the camp loop, outside of the 100-year floodplain
- Each cabin has a parking space, a front porch and an outdoor picnic area
- One new comfort station is proposed in the East Campground (outside of the 100-year floodplain)
Existing Group Camp

The existing group camp area is maintained as existing and serves up to 92 people. It has an existing large kitchen shelter and camping meadow with parking available along the new loop road. A new comfort station is located next to the group camps, which allows the existing restroom to serve Camp Loop B and the West Day Use Area.

New Group Camps

Two new group campsites are created along the loop road, one in the trees, accommodating 10 to 20 campers (or five individual campsites) and one in the existing meadow area, north of the existing group camp area, able to accommodate 10 to 20 campers. If desired, one large group can reserve all group campsites together. The two new group camps may be split into several individual sites, if they have not been reserved by Thursday evenings. This could add up to 10 additional individual campsites if used in this flexible manner.
Campsite Design Criteria

- The spacing between sites will balance the rustic sense of privacy with providing sufficient capacity within the campground.
- Sites will be an average of 65 feet apart measured from center to center.
- Shared watering/wash stations—Spigot on post with catch basin, at least one per campground.
- Buffer the campground loop from other park uses and buffer campsites from each other.
- Distance from comfort station to furthest unit: 500 ft. max, 300 ft. desirable.
- Campsites will be designed to allow flexible occupancy (for tents and/or RV’s) to the extent possible for site and cost considerations.

- Each site will include the following:
  - A vehicle parking pad that will accommodate an RV.
  - A picnic table, fire pit and tent pad.
  - Electricity and water hookups.
  - A 400 square foot minimum ‘living space’ with 600 square feet desirable.

- Campsite Parking Pad and Driveway:
  - Each vehicle parking area that is adjacent to a camp living area must be at least 16 feet wide.
  - Three of the (41) vehicle parking areas must be 20 feet wide to accommodate accessible RVs. The running slope of a parking spur driveway may be up to 8.33% for 50 feet, grade flat in longitudinal parking direction, crown slope 2% horizontally (up to 3% if necessary for drainage or 5% if necessary to transition to the campground road).

- Tent Pads:
  - Tent pad – ¼” to dust crushed rock or coarse sand surfacing, 1.5% slope.
  - 16 x 16 feet with each RV site.
    - Average six-person tent @ 12’ x 12’.
  - Accessible:
    - A minimum 48” clear floor or ground space must be provided on all sides of the tent on tent pads that are required to be accessible.

Section: Universally accessible camp site conceptual design
• The clear space must be adjacent to the parking area but may not overlap it
• The slope of an accessible tent pad or platform cannot exceed 2% in any direction
• Surface of an accessible tent pad or platform must be firm and stable, be able to accommodate the use of tent stakes or other devices to secure the tent, and should be of a material that is appropriate for the level of development and setting
• Edge protection is not required, however if it is needed for safety it must be at least three inches high and must not be placed where it would block access to the platform

• Fire rings and picnic tables
  • All usable portions of a fire ring or picnic table must have a clear floor or ground space that extends at least 48 inches out from the ring or table and is at least 48 inches wide
  • The fire building surface within a fire ring must be a minimum of nine inches above the floor or ground surface
  • In addition to the above, the distance a person would have to reach across the wall and down to the fire-building surface cannot exceed 24 inches
  • Picnic table pad to have 1.5% slope
• The slope of the clear floor or ground space may not exceed 2%

• RV site design considerations
  • 40, 50, & 60 feet long depending on space availability and location
  • 60 degree angled parking space, optimal
  • In steeper areas sites could be shortened to 30 feet
  • Pull-through sites where possible
• Domestic water (as water system allows) and 50 Amp power service to be provided at every RV site
• Sewer hook-up—only provided at host site
Cabins

The State Parks’ prototypical cabin will be used for the new campground area and the group camping area. The cabin prototype is approximately 240 square feet in size and accommodates a queen-sized bed, a fold-out futon sofa, and a 4-top table with chairs. There is a deck or concrete slab extending across the front of the cabin that is covered by a generous roof overhang. Solar panels will be mounted on the cabin roof and will be used as a demonstration project. No plumbing is provided at the cabins, but a spigot and electrical service is included at each site.
Comfort Stations

The final design of the new comfort stations will depend on capabilities of the water system, but the current plan is based on a gender-neutral format providing four unisex restrooms and two unisex shower rooms. All rooms are ADA accessible and approximately 46 net square feet in size. There are no strict code requirements for plumbing fixture counts for campground comfort stations, but the proposed design is representative of campgrounds in Washington and across the United States.