Lewis and Clark Trail State Park Staff Recommended Land Classifications and Long-Term Boundary

Vision:
The vision for Lewis & Clark Trail state park is to improve and expand the park to serve the ever-increasing demand for recreation with a diverse mix of overnight accommodations, expanded trails and additional water access opportunities.

Land Classification:
Staff recommends that the Commission classify Lewis and Clark Trail State Park as a combination of the land classifications proposed below and as graphically illustrated on the map following.

**Recreation (pink)** applies to the existing camping and high use areas on the north side of the park.

**Resource Recreation (blue)** applies to the area along the Touchet River, to capture the river trail and the water access it provides. The vision includes upgrading the trail to protect from flooding while keeping the natural vegetation where the river trail and water access currently exist.

**Recreation in the Long-Term Boundary (light pink)** applies to the proposed expansion areas to the west and east of the existing portion of the park on the north side of the highway. This will allow for expansion of high use recreation activities including camping, comfort stations and other facilities that support high concentrations of visitors. The area to the east could be ideal for a proposed maintenance facility versus locating it on the south side of the park as previously considered.

**Resource Recreation in the Long-Term Boundary (light blue)** applies to the proposed expansion areas along the Touchet River, supporting the extension of the river trail and to provide additional facilities for water access – including compost/vault toilets. A linear trail concept is supported in this classification, which will be consistent with a future developed trail being considered between Waitsburg and Dayton and provide safe access along frontage on the south side of the park as well.

**Recreation Identified as Potential Surplus (blue hash)** applies to the south side of the park. If the expansion of the northern portion of the property is realized. There is a potential to surplus the south side of the park to an entity that would be eligible to receive park property, such as Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT.) This would eliminate the safety concern of park visitors crossing State Hwy 12. A linear trail along the southern frontage would be compatible here, potentially connecting to safe pedestrian access from the north side of the park.

Conditional Activities
Activities conditionally permitted under the agency’s land classification system may be permitted at specific sites only with the concurrence of the Commission. Staff recommends the Commission not permit any conditional activities at Lewis and Clark Trail State Park.