



# Ginkgo update

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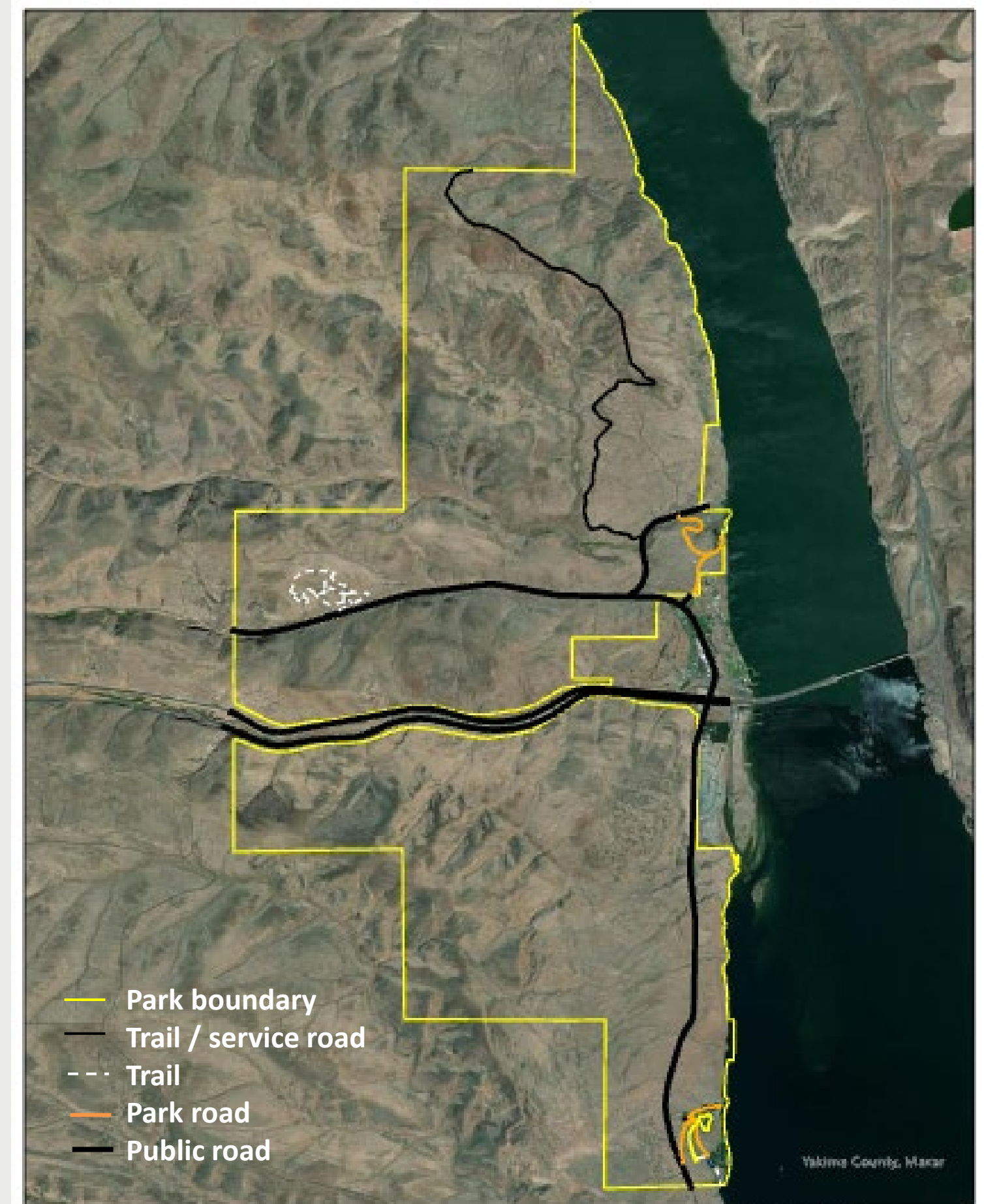
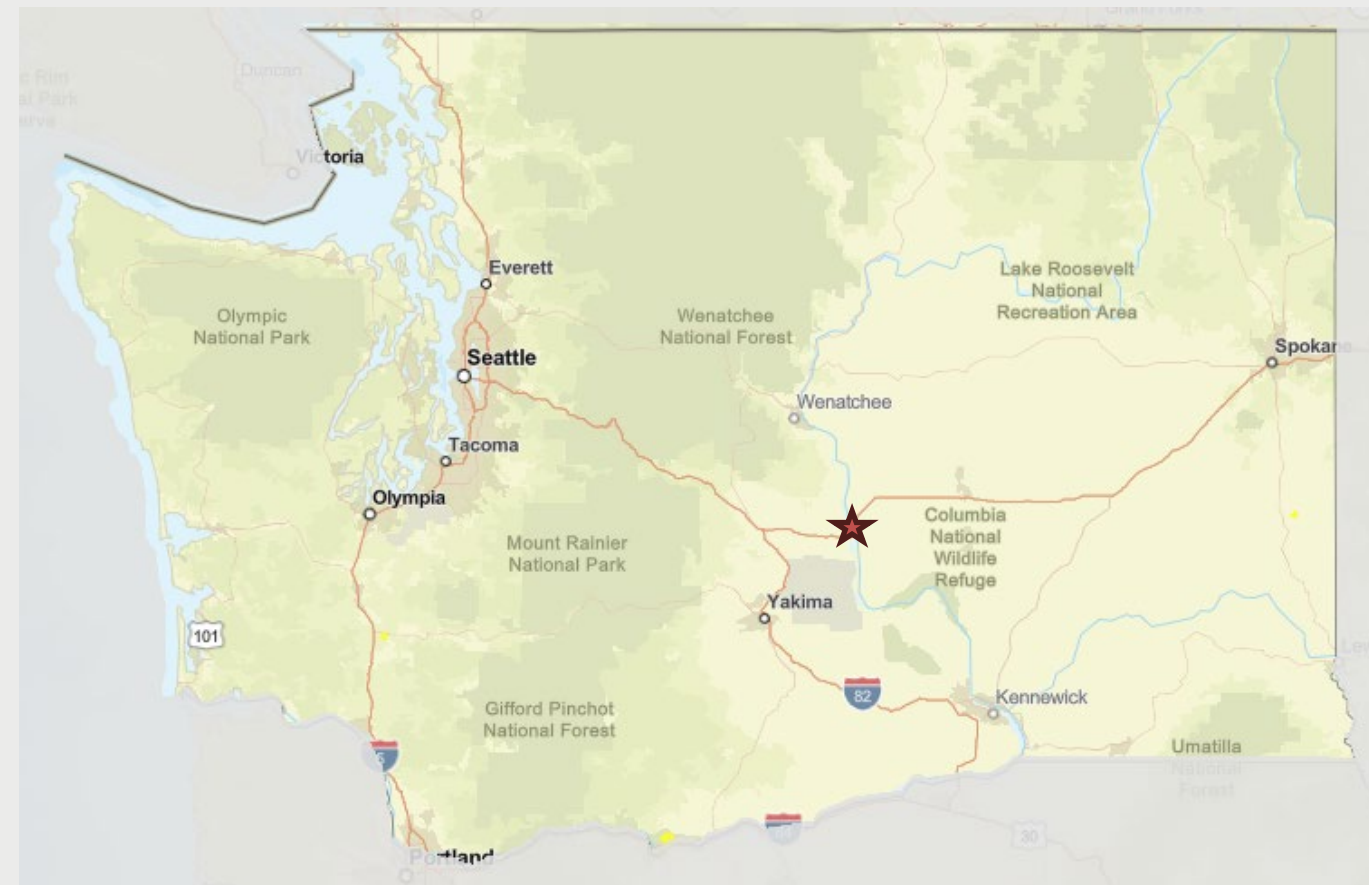
Central Cascades Area Manager







# Ginkgo Petrified Forest State Park







- An overview of the park's natural and cultural resources
- Current management issues
- Status of the planning process







- **An overview of the park's natural and cultural resources**
- Current management issues
- Status of the planning process







- 🐐 Cultural values
- 🐐 Geologic history and resources
- 🐐 Landscape context
- 🐐 Animals of conservation concern
- 🐐 High quality plant communities
- 🐐 Rare plant species





🐐 Cultural values

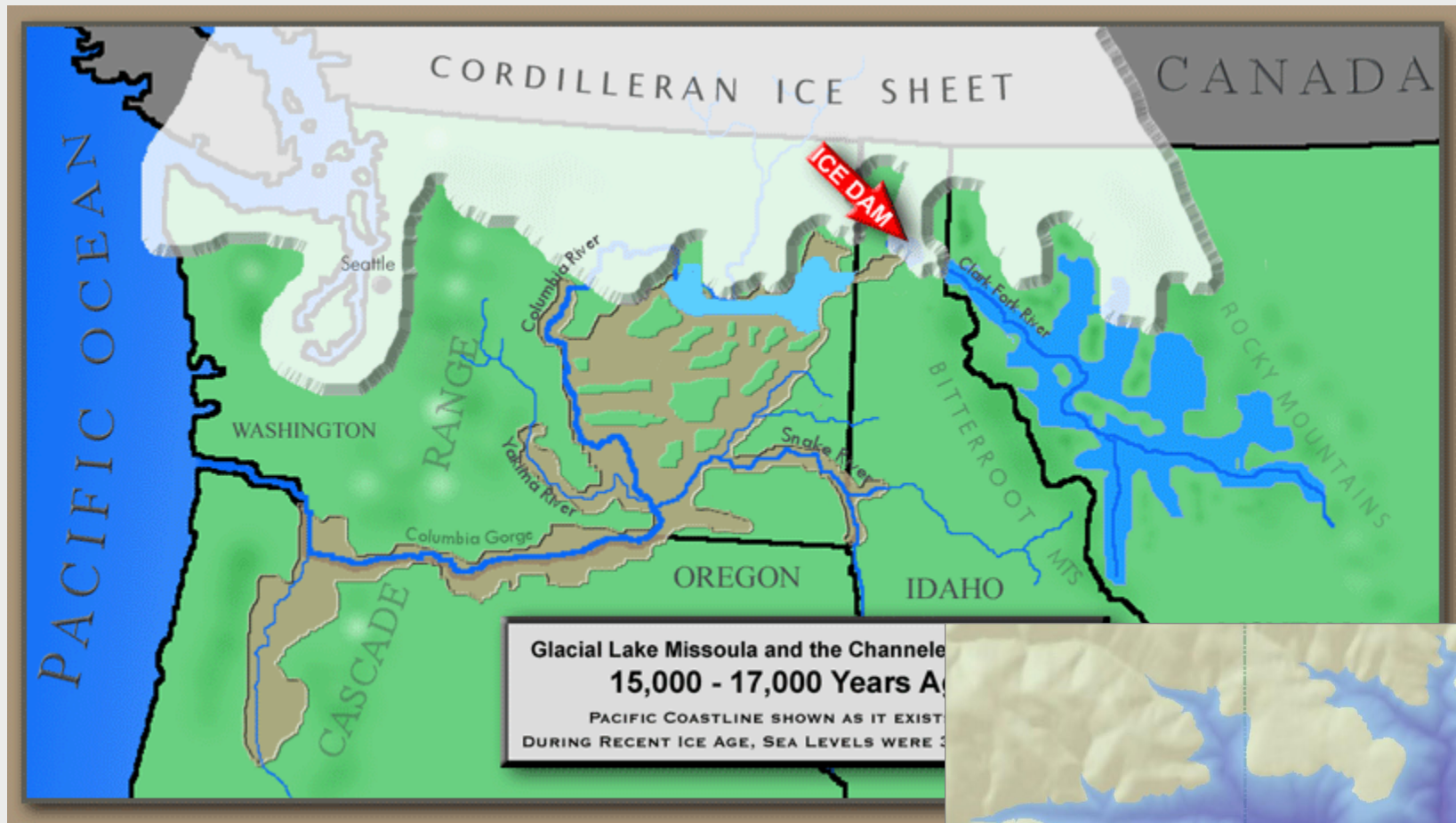


# Geologic Resources

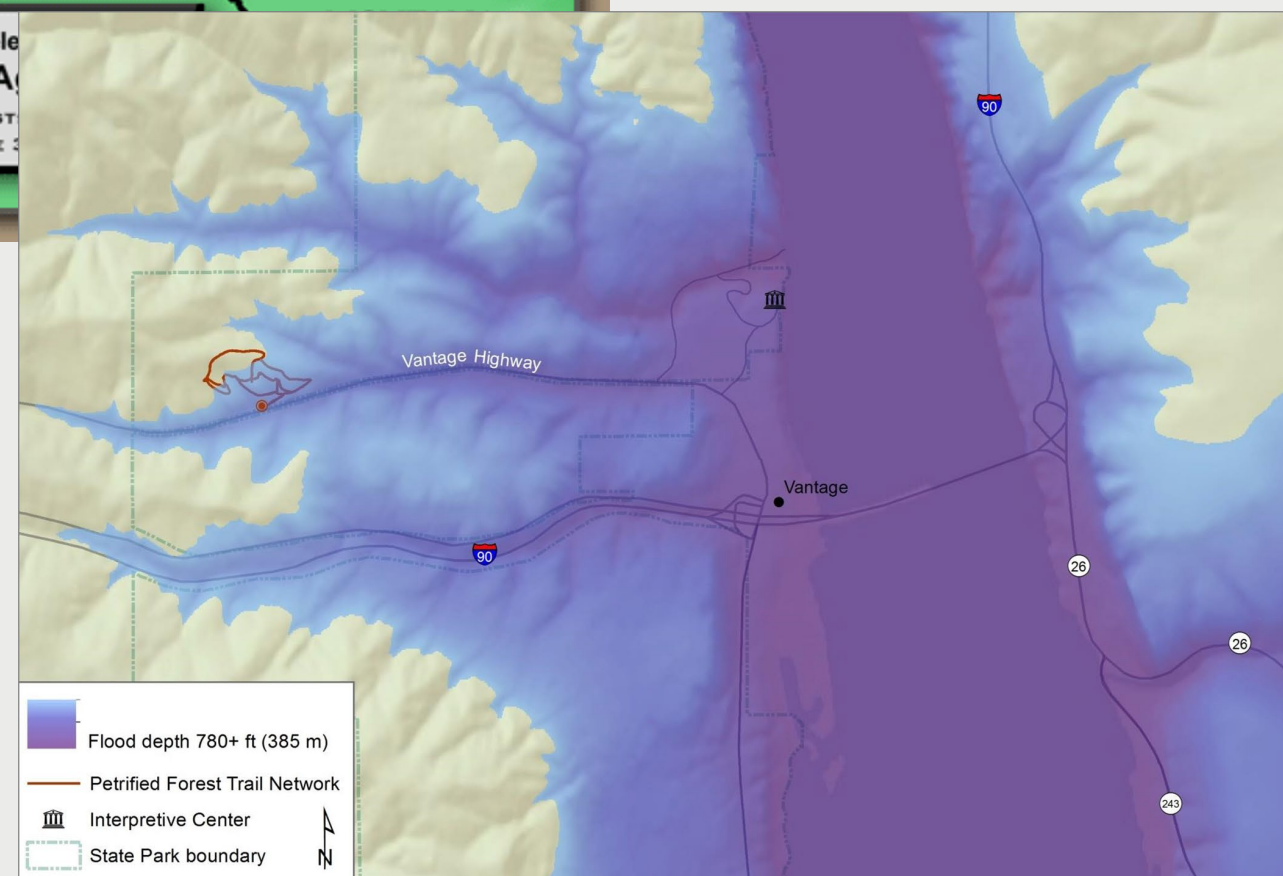




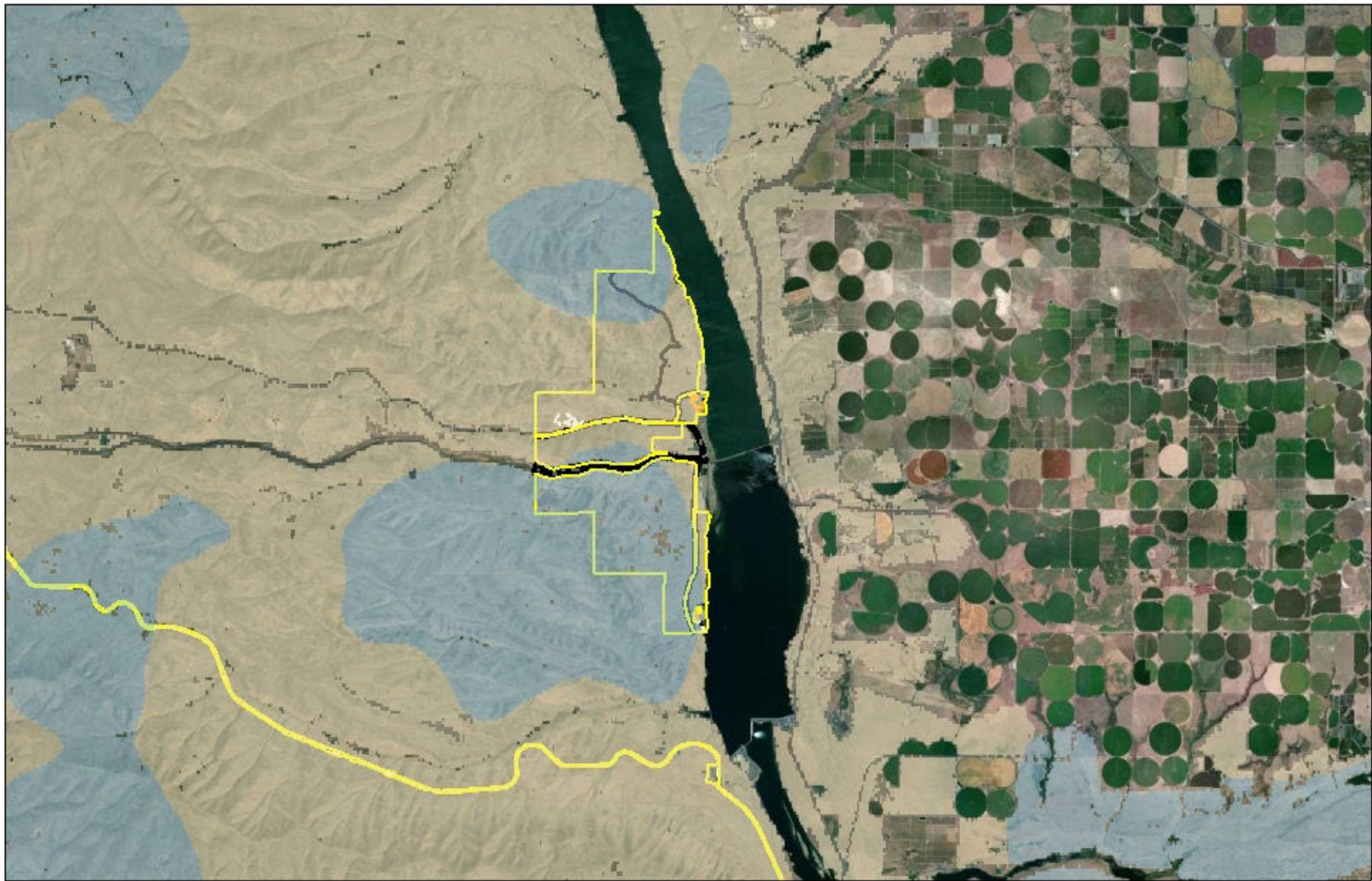
# Geologic Resources



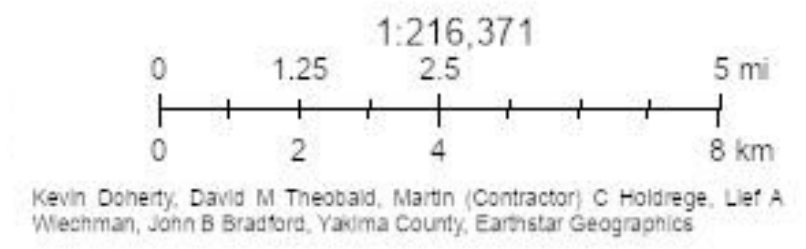
Glacial Lake Missoula and the Channelled  
15,000 - 17,000 Years Ago  
PACIFIC COASTLINE SHOWN AS IT EXISTED  
DURING RECENT ICE AGE, SEA LEVELS WERE 300 FT HIGHER





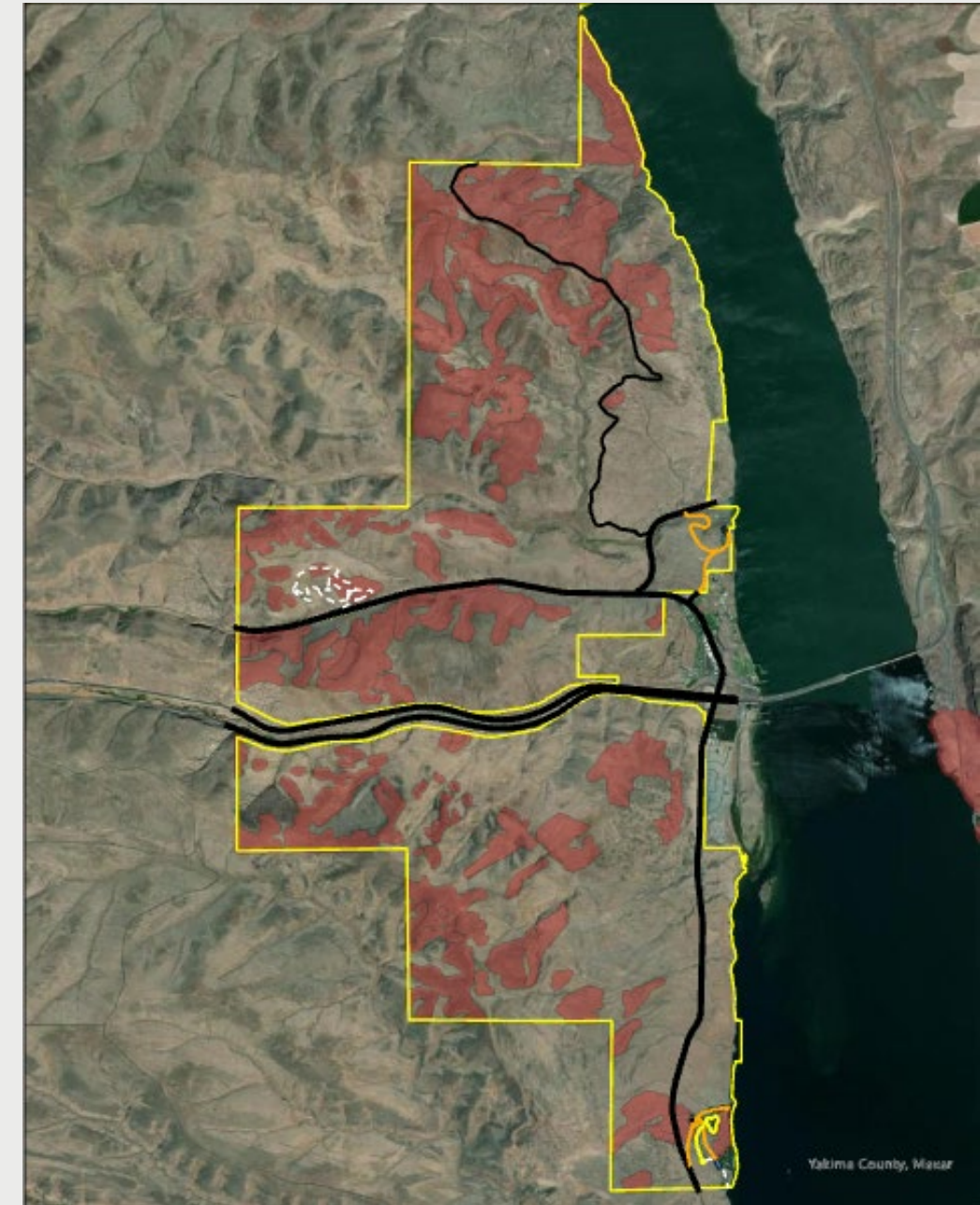


3/15/2024





# High quality plant communities





# Animals of conservation concern

- Ferruginous hawk (WA endangered, SGCN, PS)
- Loggerhead shrike (WA candidate, SGCN, PS)
- Sage thrasher (WA candidate, SGCN, PS)
- Sagebrush sparrow (WA candidate, SGCN, PS)
- Black-tailed jackrabbit (WA candidate, SGCN, PS)
- Striped whipsnake (WA candidate, SGCN, PS)
- Townsend's big-eared bat (WA candidate, SGCN, PS)
- Washington ground squirrel (WA candidate, SGCN, PS)
- Northern Sagebrush lizard (SGCN, PS)
- Golden eagles (SGCN, PS)
- Bighorn sheep (SGCN, PS)
- Bald eagles (SGCN)
- Short-eared owl (SGCN)
- Side-blotched lizard (SGCN)
- American badger (SGCN)
- Prairie falcon (PS)





# Plant species of conservation concern







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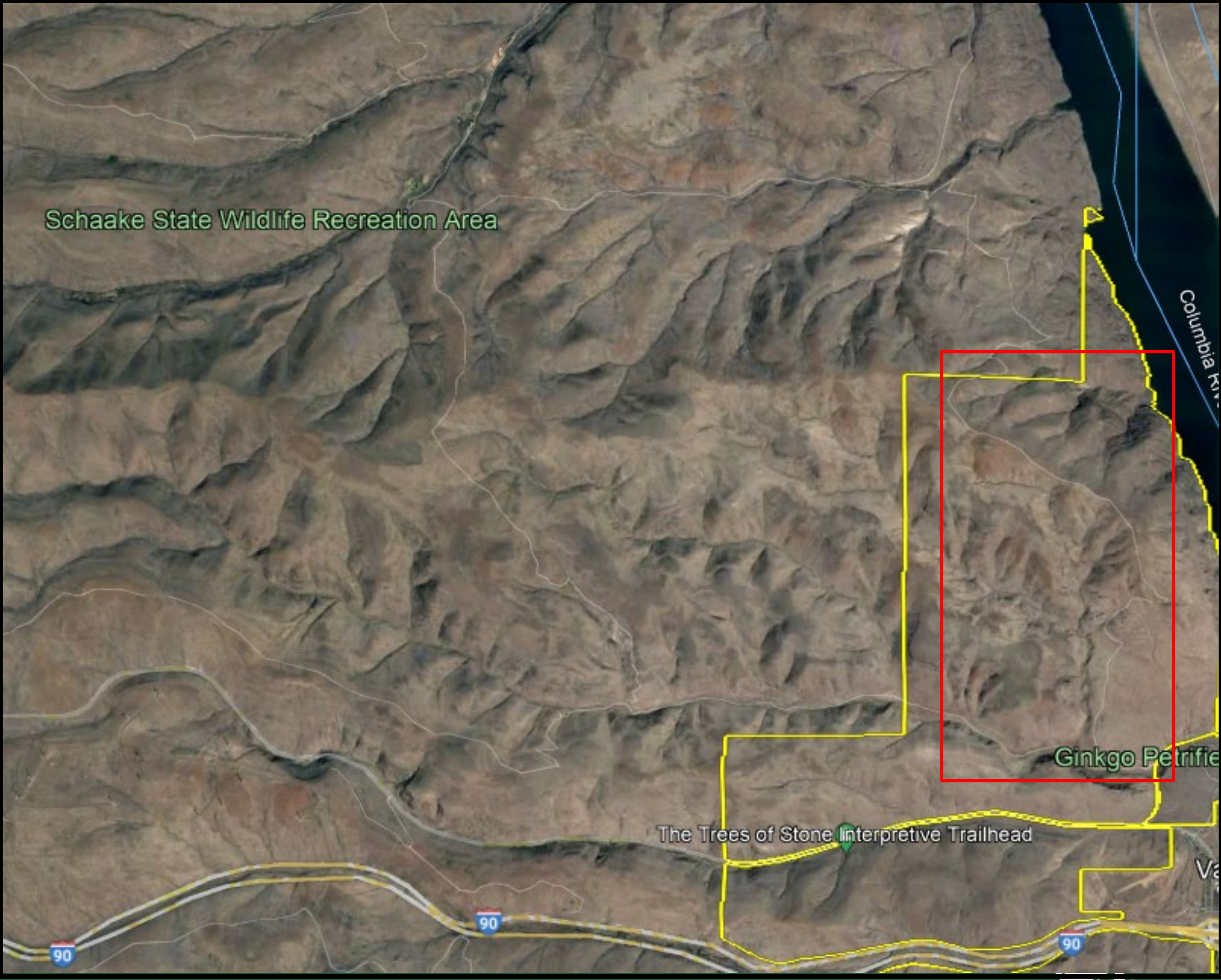
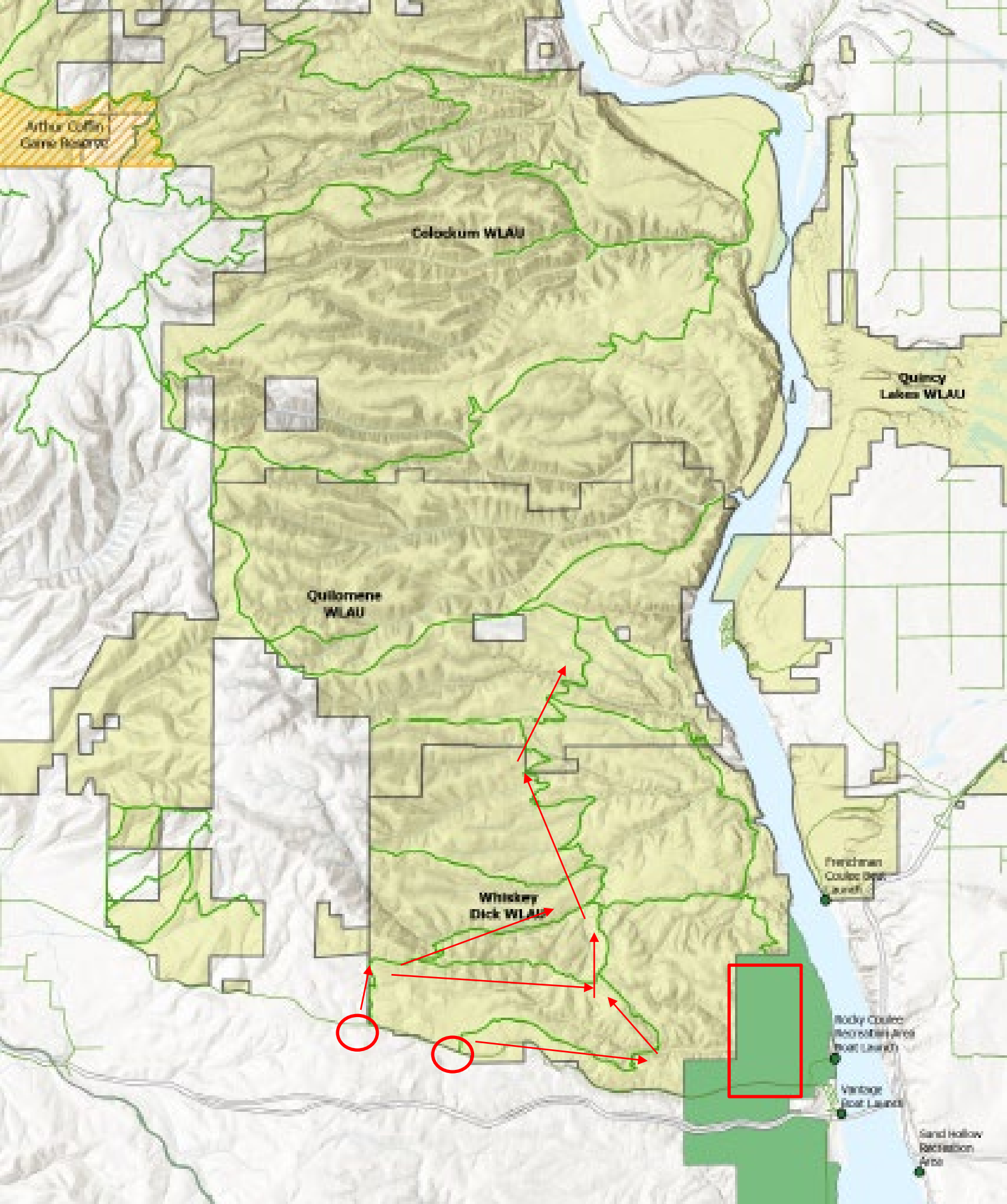


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# WDFW Roads





# Ginkgo State Park Rec Drive Managed Access



- Managed Access 1953-Present
- Driving impacts to the trail / administrative road
- Illegal access to the property during closures
- Illegal off-roading 4X4 and UTV
- Natural resource and cultural resource theft and vandalism





State Parks and Recreation Commission

100 DEXTER AVENUE  
SEATTLE 9, WASHINGTON  
ELLIOTT 2248

May 21, 1953

Mr. Clarence H. Scammon  
Vantage,  
Washington

Dear Mr. Scammon:

Thank you for your letter of May 14. I appreciate the cooperation which you have given us in the past and see no reason why you cannot give your relatives and very close friends a key to the gate, providing it is used only by these people. I know you will agree that we must be careful to keep out those who would do a considerable amount of damage both to your property and ours. I know, because of your past support of our park, that you will be very careful to see that the keys do not get into the hands of those who should not have them.

At our Historic Sites Committee meeting in Ellensburg last weekend I met Dr. Gunther and Earl Swanson of the University of Washington Department of Anthropology. They were discussing a very interesting work which they would like to do on our property and I believe a portion on the property which you own. Would it be possible for you to reconsider your decision as to their research on your property as I believe this is a very important project to the University and I know they have gone to considerable trouble to allocate the necessary funds to carry on this work. I would appreciate anything you might do to assist in this research.

Very truly yours,

*John R. Vanderzant*  
John R. Vanderzant, Director

jrv/eb

GINKGO PETRIFIED FOREST STATE PARK  
VANTAGE, WA 98950

NOV 21 1956

# Managed Access 1953-Present

ENTRY PERMIT - CLOSED AREA

Ginkgo Petrified Forest State Park  
State Parks & Recreation Commission  
Vantage, Washington

Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Vehicle \_\_\_\_\_ License \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of persons \_\_\_\_\_  
Time of entry \_\_\_\_\_  
Reason for entry \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
(person entering)

AUTHORIZED BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Ranger)

Time of departure \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
(Scammon or Schaake)

Notice, loaded firearms are prohibited on State Parks Property, subject to the regulations of Parks Commission.

THIS SLIP MUST BE RETURNED WITH THE KEY, TO THE RANGER.

FORM P&R 0-100  
May 75

- Key Agreements
- Entry Permits system
- Wildfire closures
- Freeze thaw cycle closures





# 2017- 2021 Managed Access

The Petrified Forest area is a unique and sensitive area for State Parks to protect, and this access can be revoked at any time with demonstrated damage or misuse of this access opportunity. Thank you for protecting this resource during your passage and reporting any observed misconduct to the Park Ranger at 509-856-2700.

- You are traveling in a sensitive area and are to abide by all rules and report misconduct.
- Unregistered person will be subject to citation, per W.A.C. Access Permit portion of this registration is to be displayed in the vehicle.
- Road is **not** maintained to travel standards, travel at own risk and without expectations of travel assistance.
- All travel is to be on established roadways, no deviation from this is allowed.
- You must obey all State Park rules including; no gathering or collecting, no hunting, no fireworks, no fires, registered/street licensed vehicles only, vehicles to stay on road, pets must be leashed, Discover Pass to be displayed, and travel during daylight hours.
- Gates will be closed behind you after entry and exit

By signature of this form you acknowledge the following: **I accept the conditions of my access to this State Park property**



**ACCESS PERMIT**  
Ginkgo State Park Petrified  
Forest Natural Area  
Pass number: 2018-0001

#2017-0001

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Vehicle License Plate number: \_\_\_\_\_

Date(s) of travel thru the State Park  
\_ / \_ / 20\_\_  
thru  
\_ / \_ / 20\_\_

Anticipated time in and out:  
\_\_\_\_\_

Nature of the travel:  
\_\_\_\_\_

*(Please separate at perforation, please display bottom portion & deposit completed top portion in)*





# Present Day Managed Access



- Pedestrians open- no permit needed
- Bicyclists open- no permit needed
- Cultural practices- call for access
- Disability access- call for access
- Scientific research- call for access
- Property access- call for access





# Springtime Driving Impacts





# Summertime Driving Impacts





# Winter and Fall Driving Impacts





# Illegal Access To The Property During Closures



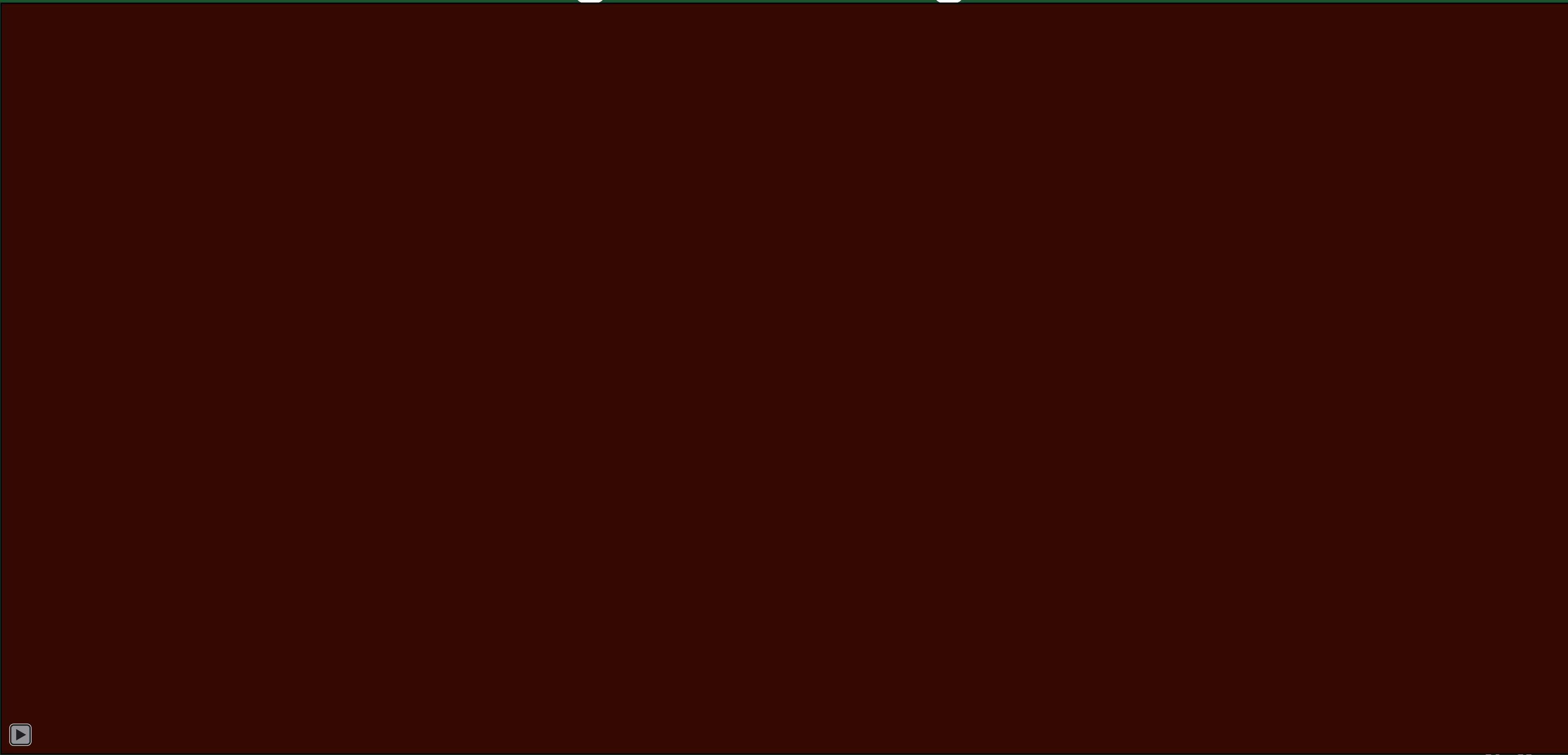


# Illegal Off-Roading 4x4, UTV





# Illegal off-roading UTV





# Natural Resource and Cultural Resource Theft





# Natural Resource and Cultural Resource Theft and Vandalism





# Vandalism of Cultural Resources







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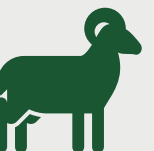


# What is CAMP and why do we need it?

Classification and Management Plan (CAMP)

CAMP Products include:

- **Land Classification** - which involves zoning or classification of park lands
- **Long-Term Boundary** – this looks at the big picture of lands surrounding the park
- **Management Plan** - describes the principal features of the park, sets park-wide management objectives and outlines specific approaches and prescriptions in response to issues identified through the planning process.





# CAMP and EIS progress

## Where we left off:

Stage 1 & 2: Completed. First draft of alternatives developed.

Stage 3 Preferred Alternative: Project put on hold

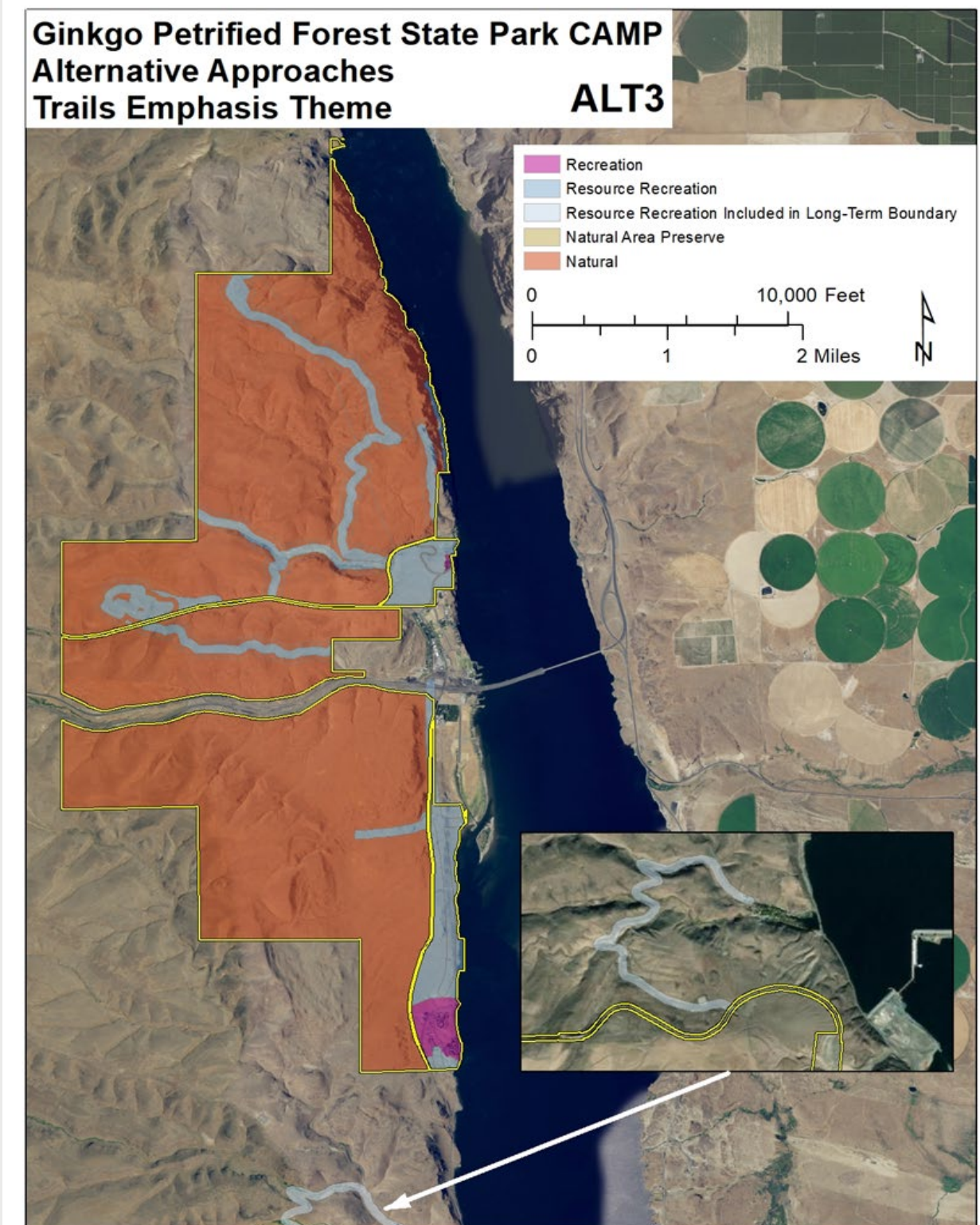
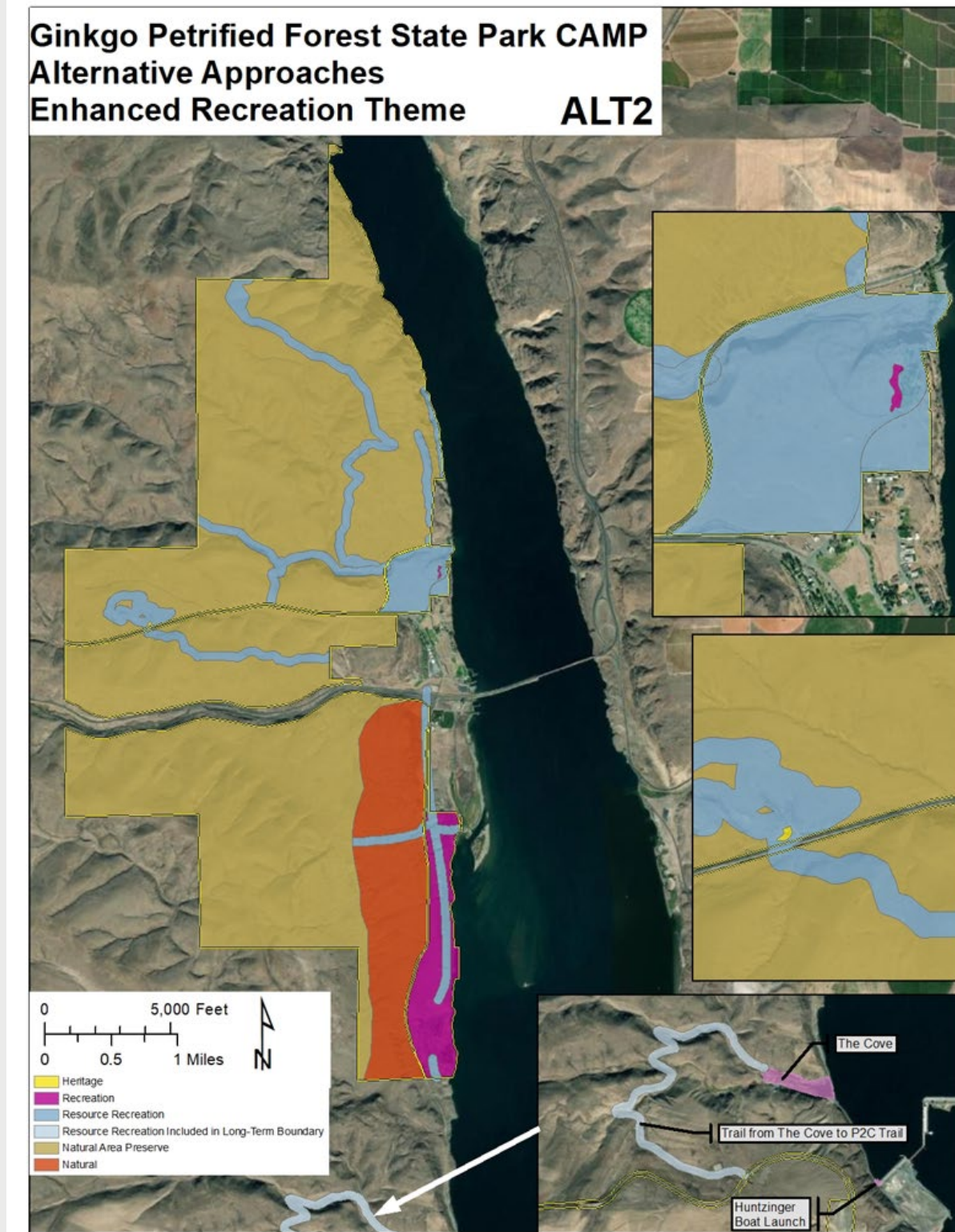
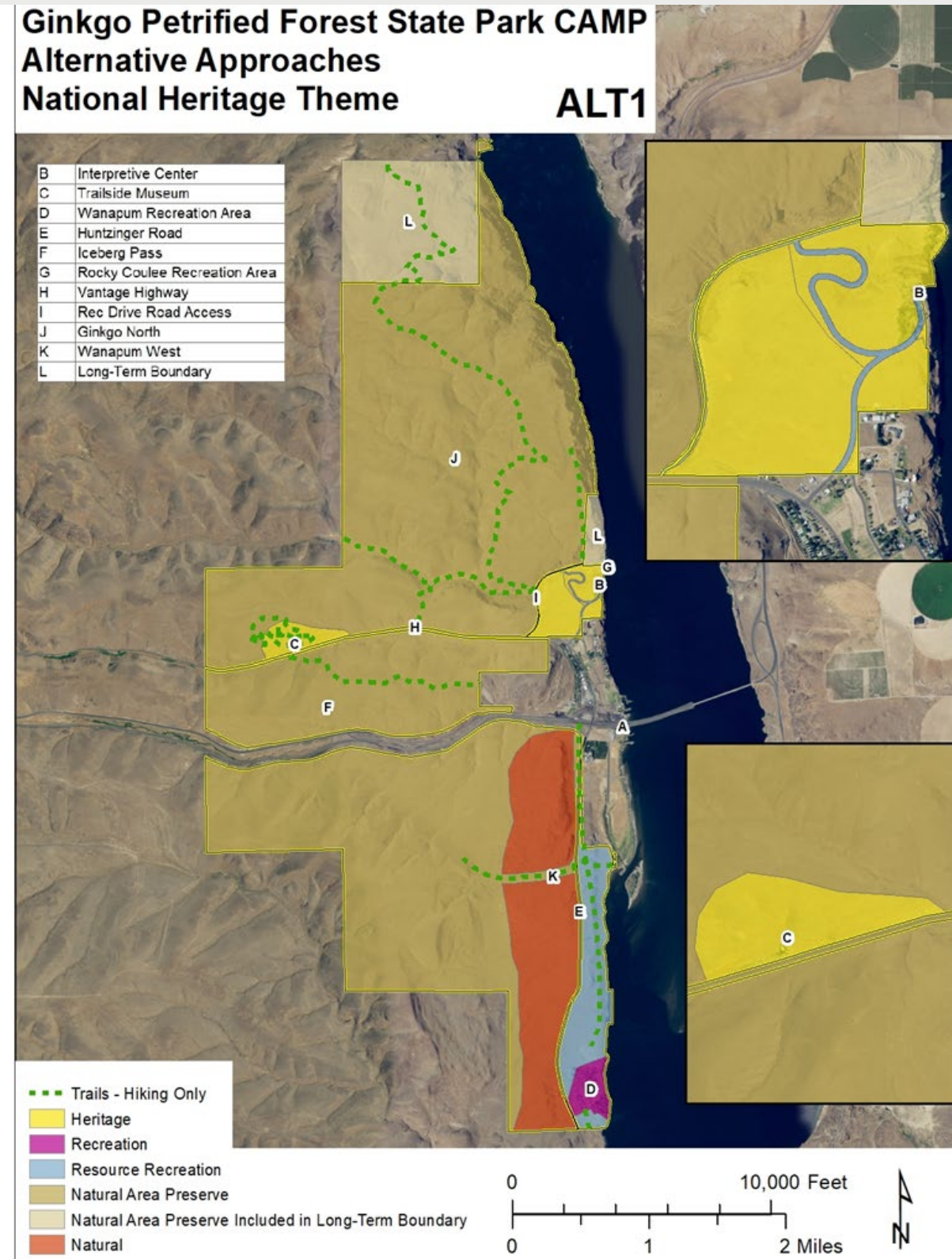
## Current Status:

- Tribal Outreach October 2023
- Planning update to Kittitas County on October 16<sup>th</sup> 2024
- Onboarding EIS Consultant in January 2024
- EIS site visit in March 2024
- EIS public scoping/meeting slated for May 2024
- Drafting EIS Analysis Dec 2023- Oct 2024
- Preferred Alternative and drafting CAMP document





# Developed CAMP Alternatives





# What is an EIS and Why Do We Need It?

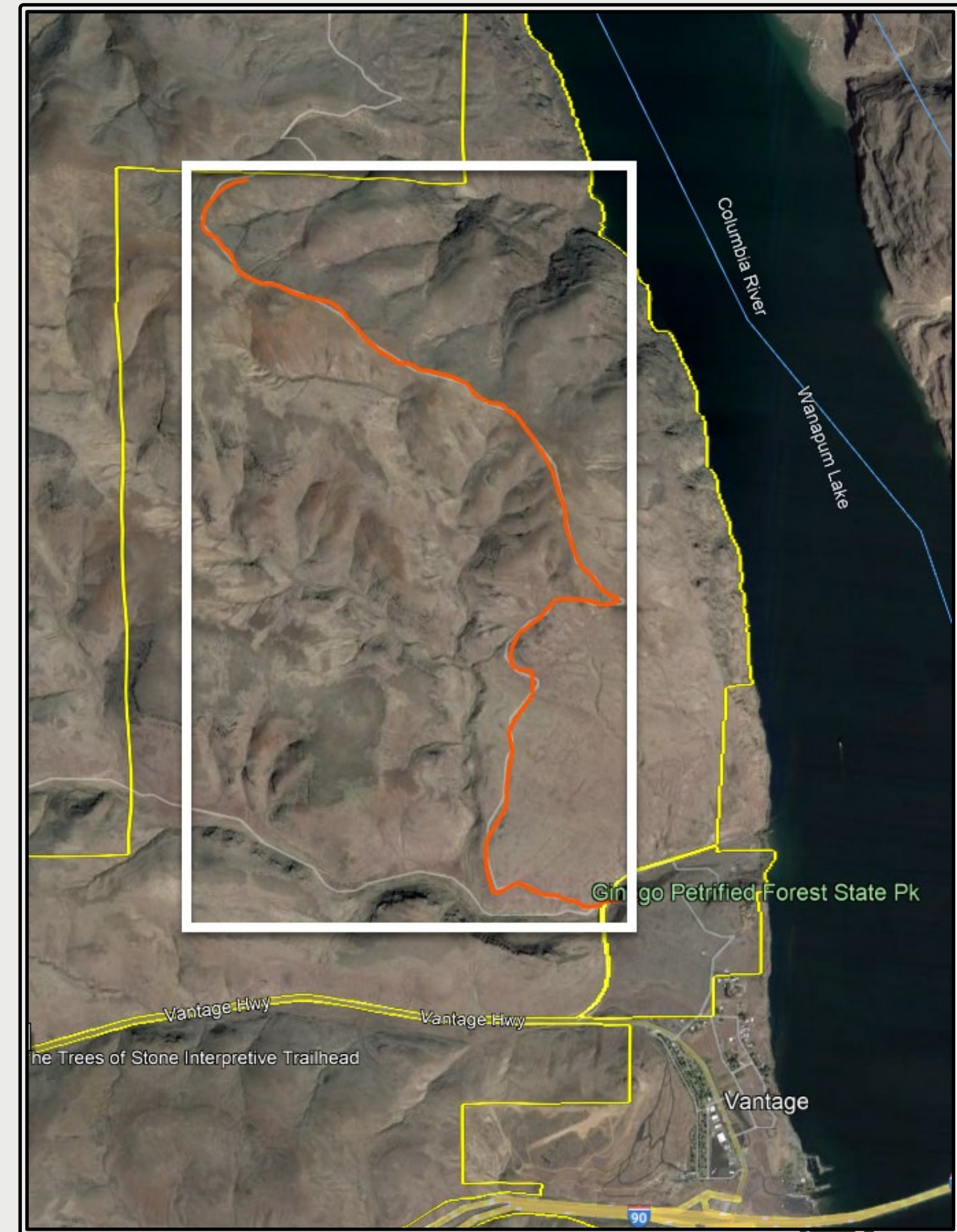
- Informs the public about the development and engineering of the built environment.
- Reveals details about the environmental health and development of a specific area in a comprehensive report.
- As a State Department we are bound by the state legislature to fulfill the responsibilities of each generation as trustee of the environment for succeeding generations. RCW 43.21C.020





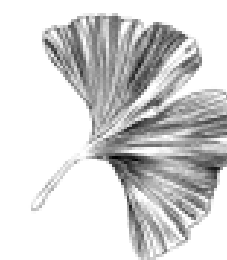
# What will the Ginkgo EIS Analyze?

- ❖ The EIS will analyze four different alternatives for Recreation Drive Trail.
- ❖ We must understand the impacts of partially or fully limiting vehicular use to natural, cultural, and recreational resources.
- ❖ Once defined, an EIS consultant will facilitate our public process.
- ❖ The EIS will take approximately 10-12 months to complete

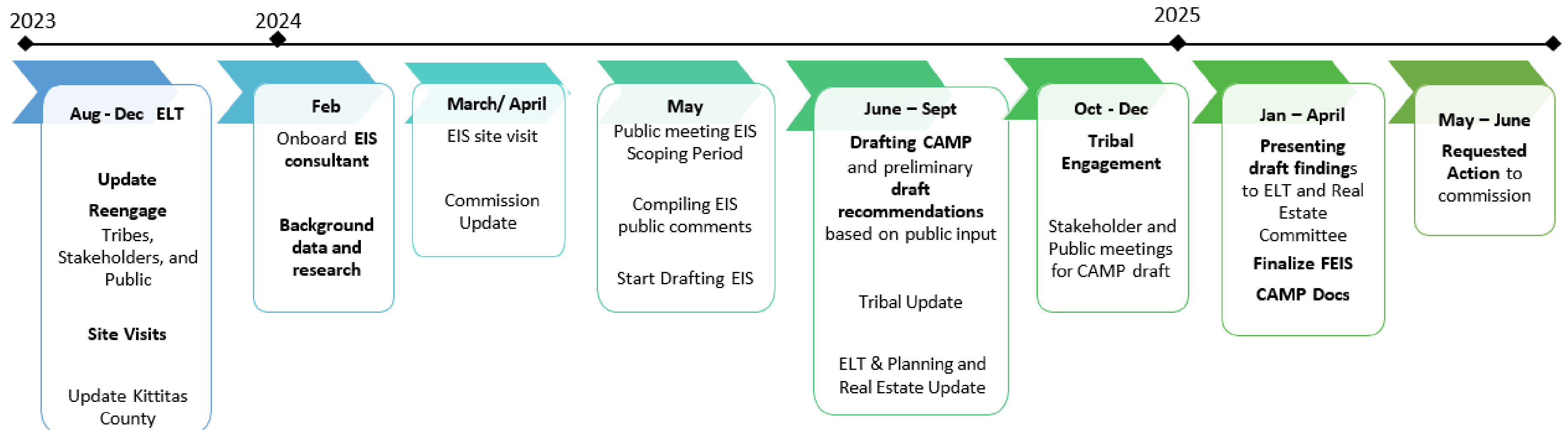




# 2023-25 Planning Timeline for Ginkgo Petrified Forest State Park CAMP and EIS



(Classification and Management Planning & Environmental Impact Statement )







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**Thank-you**

