

CHAPTER 1



**INTRODUCTION**



## INTRODUCTION

### PARK OVERVIEW

Diversity is the hallmark of Olympic National Park. The park protects 922,651 acres of three distinctly different ecosystems — rugged glacier-capped mountains, more than 70 miles of wild Pacific coast, and magnificent stands of old-growth and temperate rain forest.



Olympic National Park's 3,500 miles of rivers and streams are home to 29 species of native freshwater fish and support 70 unique stocks of Pacific salmon and steelhead, including the federally threatened bull trout (*Salvelinus confluentus*), which uses both fresh and saltwater during its life cycles.

Olympic National Park also provides habitat for more than 1,100 species of native plants, 300 species of birds, and 70 species of mammals. Included in these numbers are several federally threatened species such as the northern spotted owl (*Strix occidentalis caurina*) and the marbled murrelet (*Brachyramphus marmoratus*). Plants and animals unique to the Olympic Peninsula also are protected by the park. The peninsula's isolation has led to the development of at least 24 endemic species — 16 kinds of animals and 8 kinds of plants that are found at the park and nowhere else on earth.

The 43,000 acres of the park's Pacific coastal strip and off-shore islands protect beaches, intertidal areas, and rocky tide pools. The park boundary extends seaward to the lowest low-tide line.

Olympic National Park encompasses and protects one of the largest wilderness areas in the contiguous United States — 95% of the park (876,669 acres) is designated wilderness, offering visitors a chance to experience the park's amazing diversity in its natural and pristine state.

Interwoven throughout this outstanding and diverse landscape is an array of cultural and historic sites that tell the human story of Olympic National Park. More than 650 archeological sites document 10,000 years of human occupation of lands within the park, while historic sites reveal clues about the 200-year history of exploration, homesteading, and community development in the Pacific

Northwest, as well as the continuing evolution of the federal preservation ethic. Local communities are closely and directly linked to the park in culture, heritage, and tradition, and also provide important historical information and meaning to the park's landscape.

Olympic National Park's outstanding attributes have led to international recognition. In 1976, the park was designated an International Biosphere Reserve in the Man and the Biosphere Program by the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization. This designation identifies the park as an internationally significant ecosystem within one of the world's major biogeographical provinces. The park is valued for its study of biological evolution and natural processes that are largely free of human disturbance. Olympic National Park serves as a global benchmark of ecological health, against which effects of human activities in similar environments can be compared. The park was recognized for its scientific values because it contains superb examples of temperate rain forests and is a large protected ecosystem that remains untrammeled.



International recognition came again in 1981 when Olympic National Park was declared a World Heritage Site by the World Heritage Convention, joining a system of natural and cultural properties that are considered irreplaceable treasures of outstanding universal value. There is no jurisdiction implied by either of the United Nations organization designations, and the United States of America and the National Park Service have the full authority and jurisdiction over park lands.

The exceptional quality of Olympic National Park is well summarized in the following concluding words of the United Nations organization evaluation of the park as a World Heritage Site:

Olympic National Park is the best natural area in the entire Pacific Northwest, with a spectacular coastline, scenic lakes, majestic mountains and glaciers, and magnificent temperate rain forest; these are outstanding examples of on-going evolution and superlative natural phenomena. It is unmatched in the world.

## REGIONAL CONTEXT

Occupying the central core of the Olympic Peninsula, along with a narrow strip along the peninsula's Pacific Coast, Olympic National Park is the peninsula's primary travel destination. The eastern edge of the park is only 40 miles due west of the Seattle-Tacoma corridor. More than five million people live within a three- to five-hour drive of the park in a region (map 1) stretching from Vancouver, British Columbia south to Portland, Oregon. The park received more than three million visits in 2005, and it has one of the highest overnight use rates of all parks in the country.

Olympic National Park is surrounded by a network of lands and marine areas managed by state and federal agencies, Native American tribes, and private interests. Each of these entities may have differing, and sometimes conflicting, land use policies. In some areas, such as in the intertidal areas along the coastal

MAP 1. REGION



portion of the park and the intertidal areas on some offshore islands, boundaries and jurisdictions overlap the Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Washington Islands National Wildlife Refuge Complex. Cooperation and coordination with these other entities is essential to ensure the continued protection of national park resources and recreational opportunities. Among these entities are eight federally recognized tribes that have traditional association with the Olympic Peninsula: Lower Elwha Klallam, Jamestown S’Klallam, Port Gamble S’Klallam, Skokomish, Quinault, Hoh, Quileute, and Makah.



## PURPOSE OF THE PLAN

This general management plan (plan) represents a commitment by the National Park Service to the public on how Olympic National Park will be managed for the next 15 to 20 years. This plan presents the type of actions that are required for the preservation of the park’s resources, defines the types and general intensities of development associated with public enjoyment and use of the area, and discusses visitor carrying capacities and potential modifications to the external boundaries of the park. The purposes of this plan are to:

- Confirm the purpose and significance of the national park.
- Clearly define resource conditions and visitor use and experience to be achieved in Olympic National Park.

- Provide a framework for national park managers to use when making decisions about such issues about how to best protect national park resources and wilderness values, how to provide quality visitor use and experience, how to manage visitor use, and what kinds of facilities, if any, to develop in/near the national park.
- Ensure that this foundation for decision making has been developed in consultation with interested stakeholders and adopted by NPS leadership after an adequate analysis of the benefits, impacts, and economic costs of alternative courses of action.
- Serve as the basis for later more-detailed management documents, such as five-year strategic plans and implementation plans.

## **IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLAN**

Although this plan provides overall direction for park management, specific actions needed to implement the plan will depend on future funding and resource protection needs. This plan does not guarantee that funding for implementation will be forthcoming.

Additional feasibility studies, more detailed planning and environmental documentation, and agency consultations will be completed, where necessary and appropriate, before certain proposed actions can be carried out. For example:

- Appropriate permits will be obtained before implementing actions that will impact wetlands and floodplains.
- The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) will be consulted concerning actions that may affect threatened and endangered species.
- National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 review will occur prior to implementing specific plan actions, and consultation will occur with the Washington State Historic Preservation Officer and Tribes to address the potential effects of any actions that may adversely affect historic properties.
- Tribes with traditional association with Olympic National Park will be consulted on a government-to-government basis to identify ethnographic resources and develop appropriate strategies to mitigate impacts on these resources.
- The National Park Service will continue to work with the tribes on a government-to-government basis to address issues concerning Indian tribal self-governance, trust resources, and Indian tribal treaty and other rights to ensure that existing treaty rights are not affected by actions within this plan. The National Park Service will develop informal and formal agreements to work collaboratively with the tribes to protect resources.
- A wilderness management plan will be prepared to guide the preservation, maintenance, use, and restoration of wilderness within the park.

## GUIDANCE FOR THE PLAN

### PARK PURPOSE AND SIGNIFICANCE

#### Park Purpose

The enabling legislation of Olympic National Park (Act of June 29, 1938, 35 Stat. 2247) states that Olympic National Park is “set apart as a public park for the benefit and enjoyment of the people” (appendix A). House Report 2247 lists the potential benefits and enjoyments of the park. According to the House report, the **purpose** of Olympic National Park is to

... preserve for the benefit, use, and enjoyment of the people, the finest sample of primeval forests of Sitka spruce, western hemlock, Douglas fir, and western red cedar in the entire United States; to provide suitable winter range and permanent protection for the herds of native Roosevelt elk and other wildlife indigenous to the area; to conserve and render available to the people, for recreational use, this outstanding mountainous country, containing numerous glaciers and perpetual snow fields, and a portion of the surrounding verdant forests together with a narrow strip along the beautiful Washington coast.

House Report 2247, April 28, 1938

The House Report included language identifying the narrow strip along the Washington Coast, even though that portion of the park was not included in the 1938 enabling legislation and was added later.



## Significance

Significance statements capture the essence of the national park's importance to our country's natural and cultural heritage and help managers make decisions that preserve the resources and values necessary to accomplish Olympic National Park's purpose.

The significance of Olympic National Park is as follows.

- Olympic National Park protects several distinctly different and relatively pristine ecosystems, ranging from approximately 70 miles of wild Pacific coast and islands, through densely forested lowlands, to the glacier-crowned Olympic Mountains.
- The ecosystems protected within Olympic National Park contain a unique array of habitats and life forms, resulting from thousands of years of geographic isolation, along with extreme gradients of elevation, temperature, and precipitation. At least 16 kinds of animals and 8 kinds of plants on the Olympic Peninsula exist nowhere else in the world.
- Olympic National Park contains some of the last remaining undisturbed, contiguous aquatic habitat throughout the range of several west coast fish species. The park protects 12 major river basins, more than 3,500 miles of rivers and streams within 13 watersheds, more than 300 high mountain lakes, and two large lowland lakes. The park also supports more than 70 unique stocks of Pacific salmonids, 29 native freshwater fish species, and one endemic fish species.
- Olympic National Park protects the primeval character of one of the largest wilderness areas in the contiguous United States.
- Olympic National Park protects some of the finest remaining stands of old-growth temperate rain forest in the United States. These forests of ancient and immense trees provide habitat for dozens of smaller plants and animals, including important habitat for a number of threatened species.
- The Olympic rocky intertidal community is considered one of the most complex and diverse shoreline communities in the United States. Olympic National Park protects about 1,400 square miles of the intertidal, island, and shoreline habitat, and when combined with the neighboring Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Washington Islands National Wildlife Refuge Complex, a total of 3,600 square miles of intertidal, island, and ocean habitats is protected.
- Olympic National Park protects the largest population of Roosevelt elk in its natural environment in the world. Decades of protection from human harvest and habitat manipulation have sustained not only high densities of elk, but also preserved the natural composition, social structure, and dynamics of this unique coastal form of elk found nowhere else in the world.
- Olympic National Park protects important cultural resources with regional and national significance, including more than 650 archeological sites, hundreds of ethnographic sites, 31 cultural landscapes, and 16 historic districts. Within the park boundaries, 128 historic structures are on the List of Classified Structures.

## LAWS, REGULATIONS, AND SERVICEWIDE MANDATES AND POLICIES

Specific NPS laws and mandates include the 1916 Organic Act that created the National Park Service; the General Authorities Act of 1970; the Act of March 27, 1978, relating to the management of the national park system; and the National Parks Omnibus Management Act (1998).

The NPS Organic Act (16 United States Code (USC) § 1) provides the fundamental management direction for all units of the national park system:

[P]romote and regulate the use of the Federal areas known as national parks, monuments, and reservations...by such means and measures conform to the fundamental purpose of said parks, monuments and reservations, which purpose is to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wild life therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations.



The National Park System General Authorities Act (16 USC § 1a-1 et seq.) affirms that while all national park system units remain “distinct in character,” they are “united through their interrelated purposes and resources into one national park system as cumulative expressions of a single national heritage.” The act makes it clear that the NPS Organic Act and other protective mandates apply equally to all units of the system. Further, amendments state that NPS management of park units should not “derogate[e]...the purposes and values for which these various areas have been established.”

In addition, certain laws, regulations, and policies are not specific to the National Park Service. For example, there are laws and policies about managing environmental quality (Clean Air Act, the Endangered Species Act, and Executive Order (EO) 11990, “Protection of Wetlands”); laws governing the management of wilderness (Wilderness Act of 1964); laws governing the preservation of cultural resources (National Historic Preservation Act and the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act); and laws and policies about providing public services and visitor access (Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Architectural Barriers Act) — to name only a few.

A general management plan is not needed to decide that it is appropriate to protect endangered species, control exotic species, protect archeological sites and historic resources, conserve artifacts, or provide for universal access. Laws and policies already dictate NPS management direction for those and many other issues. Regardless of the implementation of this plan, the park will continue to work to implement those requirements.

In addition to the aforementioned laws and mandates, there are specific mandates related to Olympic National Park, including the previously referenced enabling legislation. Approximately 15,186 acres of the coastal strip was added to the park on November 7, 1986 (PL 99-635), through a combination of purchase and exchange with the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) and the state of Washington. The purchase and exchange included the addition of the coastal beaches to low, low-water line, the offshore islands that constitute the Flattery Rocks and Quillayute Needles National Wildlife refuges (now managed by the Fish and Wildlife Service as the Washington Islands National Wildlife Refuge Complex), and the addition of the surface of Ozette Lake and the Ozette River. Olympic National Park has exclusive federal jurisdiction over the park intertidal zone, including management of nontribal natural resources. When the intertidal area was transferred from state jurisdiction to the National Park Service in 1986, three covenants were attached to the transfer. These covenants state that (1) the intertidal zone shall be open to the taking of fish and shellfish in conformity with the rules and regulations of the state of Washington, (2) the National Park Service shall consult with the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission prior to implementation of any regulation of recreational use of the property, and (3) the National Park Service shall consult with the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission regarding the adoption of any rules or changes in management policies with respect to the property, and shall endeavor to accommodate the state’s interest.

Wilderness was officially designated in Olympic National Park by Congress on November 16, 1988 (PL 100-668). President Reagan signed the legislation into law, establishing the “Olympic Wilderness,” thereby ensuring the preservation and protection of this incomparable ecosystem in its natural condition. A total of 876,669 acres, about 95% of the park, was designated as the Olympic Wilderness, and another 378 acres were designated as potential wilderness additions.

In addition to these mandates, the National Park Service has established policies for all units under its stewardship. These policies are identified and explained in a guidance manual titled *NPS Management Policies 2006*.

## FEDERALLY RECOGNIZED TRIBES

Several treaties with tribes were established before the park was established. These treaties include:

- Point No Point Treaty, January 26, 1855, with the Klallam, Chimacum, and Skokomish
- Treaty of Neah Bay, January 31, 1855, with the Makah and Ozette
- Treaty of Olympia, January 6, 1856, with the Quileute, Hoh, Queets, and Quinault (the Treaty of Olympia is the official name of the treaty; this treaty was actually a reauthorization of the “Quinaielt River Treaty” because key signatory parties were omitted from the original treaty, which was signed on July 1, 1855)

These treaties secured certain rights to the tribes in exchange for Indian cession of lands and waters that are now within park boundaries. The treaties were not a grant of rights to the Indians, but a grant of rights from them and a reservation of those rights not granted (*United States v. State of Washington*, 384 F. Supp. 312 [1974]:323). (The court retains continuing jurisdiction over the subject matter of this lawsuit.) These reserved treaty rights were recognized and included in Section 4 of the 1938 bill that established Olympic National Park (H.R. 4724). The clause in Section 4 stipulates that “the rights reserved by treaty to the Indians of any tribe . . . shall not be affected by the establishment of the National Park.”

Olympic National Park recognizes that the tribes’ relationships to lands in the park have endured for thousands of years, and park staff will continue to work with the tribes to ensure that sites of traditional importance are preserved and protected. The park staff strives to create and maintain positive, productive, government-to-government relationships with the tribes.

Eight Olympic Peninsula tribes continue to recognize ties to the park based on traditional land use, origin beliefs, mythology, spiritual beliefs, and practices. These tribes are the Lower Elwha Klallam, Jamestown S’Klallam, Port Gamble S’Klallam, Skokomish, Quinault, Hoh, Quileute, and Makah. The Port Gamble S’Klallam Reservation is outside the park (on the east side of Hood Canal), but this tribe shares traditional territory with the other two Klallam tribes. The ancestors of the tribes formerly lived throughout the Olympic Peninsula, but ceded their lands to the federal government through treaties in 1855–1856, and now live on reservations along the shores of the peninsula.

The waters in Olympic National Park have been adjudicated to be usual and accustomed fishing “grounds and stations” of the eight Indian tribes having treaty-secured fishing rights to specific areas, and are open to fishing by tribal

members, in conformance with applicable tribal or Washington State regulations conforming to the orders of the U.S. District Court (*United States v. State of Washington*, 384 F. Supp. 312 [1974]:323 and 36 CFR 7.28(a)(8)(i)). The treaty with the Makah also secured the right of “whaling and sealing at usual and accustomed grounds and stations.”

The National Park Service also must honor its legal responsibilities to American Indian tribes as required by the Constitution of the United States, treaties, statutes, executive orders, and court decisions (NPS *Management Policies 2006*, section 1.11).

In addition, a number of executive orders provide management direction for the National Park Service. The Presidential Memorandum of April 29, 1994, addresses the unique legal relationship with Native American tribal governments, as set forth in the Constitution of the United States, treaties, statutes, and court decisions. In accordance with the April 29, 1994, memorandum, as executive departments and agencies undertake activities affecting Native American tribal rights or trust resources, such activities should be implemented in a knowledgeable, sensitive manner respectful of tribal sovereignty. Each executive department and agency shall assess the impact of federal government plans, projects, programs, and activities on tribal trust resources, and ensure that tribal government rights and concerns are considered during the development of such plans, projects, programs, and activities.

EO 13175 of November 6, 2000, established the fundamental principles in formulating or implementing policies that have tribal implications, including:

The United States has a unique legal relationship with Indian tribal governments as set forth in the Constitution of the United States, treaties, statutes, Executive Orders, and court decisions.

Finally, the NPS *Management Policies 2006* sets out specific policy guidance on government-to-government relationships with tribes:

1.11 The National Park Service has a unique relationship with American Indian tribes, which is founded in law and strengthened by a shared commitment to stewardship of land and resources. The Service will honor its legal responsibilities to American Indian tribes as required by the Constitution of the United States, treaties, statutes, and court decisions.

The formal legal rationale for the relationship between the National Park Service and tribes is augmented by the historical, cultural, and spiritual relationships that American Indian tribes have with park lands and resources. The Service will pursue an open, collaborative relationship with American Indian tribes to help tribes maintain their cultural and spiritual practices and enhance the National Park Service’s understanding of the history and significance of sites and resources within the park.

Within the constraints of legal authority and its duty to protect park resources, the Service will work with tribal governments to provide access to park resources and places that are essential for the continuation of traditional American Indian cultural or religious practices.

1.11.3 Activities carried out on park lands may sometimes affect tribal trust resources. Trust resources are those natural resources reserved by or for Indian tribes through treaties, statutes, judicial decisions, and executive orders which are protected by a fiduciary obligation on the part of the United States. In accordance with the government-to-government relationship and mutually established protocols, the Service will interact directly with tribal governments regarding the potential impacts of proposed NPS activities on Indian tribes and trust resources.



4.1.4 Partnerships are encouraged to improve natural resource management within parks and across administrative boundaries by pursuing cooperative conservation with public agencies, representatives of American Indian tribes, and private landowners in accordance with Executive Order 13352 (Facilitation of Cooperative Conservation). In accordance with management policies, the Service will develop agreements with tribal governments, when appropriate, to coordinate plant, animal, water, and other natural resource management activities in ways that maintain and protect park resources and values. Coordination also may involve coordinating management activities in two or more separate areas, integrating management practices to reduce conflicts, coordinating research, sharing data and expertise, exchanging native biological resources for species management or ecosystem restoration purposes, establishing native wildlife corridors, and providing essential habitats adjacent to or across park boundaries.

Olympic National Park will continue to work with Indian tribes on a government-to-government basis to address issues concerning Indian tribal self-government, trust resources, and Indian tribal treaty and other rights. The National Park Service will develop informal and formal agreements to work collaboratively with the tribes to protect resources. As stated in the previous section, numerous laws, treaties, executive orders, and policies are related to the relationship between federally recognized tribes and the federal government. Nothing in this plan is intended to modify these laws, treaties, executive orders, and policies, and nothing in this plan is intended to enlarge or diminish treaty rights, or to have any influence over the resolution of unadjudicated treaty rights.

## PARKWIDE POLICIES FOR NATURAL RESOURCES

NPS policies involve managing biological resources through the use of management zones. The management zones adopted for Olympic National Park are described in chapter 2 of this plan. Within the park, development and day use zones will be managed and maintained for intensive visitor use. Within those zones, the natural aspects may be altered. The primary objective in “natural” zones, most of the park, is the protection of natural resources and values for appropriate types of visitor enjoyment. In these zones, the goal of the National Park Service is to maintain the natural components and processes of naturally evolving ecosystems, including the natural abundance, diversity, and ecological integrity of the plants and animals.



AIR QUALITY	
Olympic National Park is a Class I air quality area under the Clean Air Act. Class I areas are afforded the highest degree of protection under the Clean Air Act. This designation allows very little additional deterioration of air quality.	
Desired Conditions Based on Servicewide Mandates and Policies	Source
<p>Air quality in the park meets national ambient air quality standards for specified pollutants. The park’s air quality is maintained or improved with little or no deterioration.</p> <p>Visibility is excellent, such that scenic views, including integral vistas and views of landscapes and seascapes within and outside the park, are clear and meet visibility standards.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clean Air Act</li> <li>• NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i></li> <li>• NPS-77: <i>Natural Resources Management Guidelines</i></li> </ul>
Desired Conditions Specific to Olympic National Park	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Park management and visitor service activities promote preservation of excellent air quality, including healthful indoor air quality in NPS and concession facilities.</li> <li>• Views from park overlooks, integral vistas, and scenic stops are not obstructed or marred by air pollution for most of each year.</li> <li>• Air quality monitoring within or near the park verifies whether trends are improving or deteriorating, and whether Class I air quality standards are met within the park.</li> </ul>	
Strategies	
<p>Park staff may use the following strategies to reach the desired conditions outlined above.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cooperate with local air pollution control authorities, the Washington Department of Ecology, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to monitor air quality and visibility, and ensure that these authorities maintain high quality characteristics consistent with EPA, state, and local standards.</li> <li>• Inventory and monitor air quality-related values associated with the park. Establish baseline conditions for and monitor native plants or other species that may be sensitive indicators of air pollution.</li> <li>• Evaluate air pollution impacts, and identify causes.</li> <li>• Participate in federal, regional, and local air pollution control plans and drafting of regulations, and review permit applications for major new air pollution sources that may affect the park.</li> <li>• Through timing and appropriate equipment, minimize air quality pollution emissions associated with park operations and visitor use activities. Use and demonstrate sustainable practices and pollution prevention measures in park operations. Use best available practices and technologies to provide healthful indoor air quality at NPS and concession facilities.</li> <li>• Form regional partnerships to develop alternative transportation systems and promote clean fuels.</li> <li>• Provide information regarding air quality and related values to park visitors.</li> <li>• Conduct and assist with research on air quality to learn about effects of local and long-range atmospheric deposition on park plants, soils, and wetlands. Determine changes in ecosystem function caused by atmospheric deposition, and assess the resistance and resilience of native ecosystems to the effects of air pollution.</li> </ul>	

<b>NATURAL SOUNDSCAPES</b>	
<p>An important part of the NPS mission is to preserve or restore the natural soundscapes associated with national park system units. The sounds of nature are among the intrinsic elements that combine to form the environment of our national park system units.</p>	
<b>Desired Conditions Based on Servicewide Mandates and Policies</b>	<b>Source</b>
<p>The National Park Service preserves the natural ambient soundscapes, restores degraded soundscapes to the natural ambient condition wherever possible, and protects natural soundscapes from unacceptable impacts.</p> <p>Noise from management or recreational uses is minimized to provide a high quality visitor experience and protect biological resources and processes that involve natural sounds (e.g., species that use sound to attract mates, protect territories, locate prey, navigate, or avoid predators).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i></li> <li>• Director's Order (DO)-47: <i>Sound Preservation and Noise Management</i></li> </ul>
<b>Desired Conditions Specific to Olympic National Park</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Park and concession facilities use best available technology and methods to minimize or mitigate artificial noises produced by equipment and management activities.</li> <li>• Visitors have opportunities to experience and understand natural soundscapes.</li> <li>• The park maintains an inventory of natural sounds and, as feasible, monitors key locations for maintaining natural quiet.</li> <li>• Ecological interactions that depend upon or are affected by sound are protected.</li> </ul>	
<b>Strategies</b>	
<p>Park staff may use the following strategies to reach the desired conditions outlined above.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitor and prevent or minimize unnatural sounds that adversely affect park resources or values, or visitors' enjoyment of those resources.</li> <li>• Require park staff, concessioners, contractors, and tour bus companies to comply with measures designed to reduce noise levels.</li> <li>• Minimize noise generated by NPS management activities by moderating administrative functions, such as the use of motorized equipment.</li> <li>• Use best technologies and methods to minimize noise when procuring or using equipment.</li> <li>• Encourage visitors to avoid unnecessary noise, such as minimizing the use of generators and maintaining quiet hours in the campgrounds.</li> <li>• Provide interpretive programs and materials to help visitors understand the role of natural sounds and the value of natural quiet.</li> </ul>	

<b>LIGHTSCAPE MANAGEMENT / NIGHT SKY</b>	
<p>Light has a significant role in the life histories of many species. While some animals are active during the day, others are nocturnal. The annual cycle of many plant species depends on the changing day length. Evidence also indicates that migratory birds, bats, and other species use stars as cues in their navigation.</p>	
<b>Desired Conditions Based on Servicewide Mandates and Policies</b>	<b>Source</b>
<p>Natural darkness and other components of the natural lightscape in parks are protected.</p> <p>The National Park Service will seek the cooperation of park visitors, neighbors, and local governmental agencies to prevent or minimize the intrusion of artificial light into the night scene of the ecosystems of parks.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i></li> </ul>
<b>Desired Conditions Specific to Olympic National Park</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The park's inventory of natural resources identifies ecological processes or components that uniquely depend upon or are affected by nighttime light.</li> <li>• Artificial light sources in park developed areas are designed to prevent light pollution.</li> <li>• Throughout a majority of the park, visitors have opportunities to experience dark night skies free of light pollution.</li> </ul>	

**LIGHTSCAPE MANAGEMENT / NIGHT SKY**

continued

**Strategies**

Park staff may use the following strategies to reach the desired conditions outlined above.

- The National Park Service will cooperate with park visitors, neighbors, and local governmental agencies to find ways to prevent or minimize the intrusion of artificial light into the night scene in the park.
- In developed areas, artificial outdoor lighting will be limited to basic safety requirements, and will be designed to minimize impacts on the night sky.
- Park staff will evaluate the impacts on the night sky caused by park operations. If light sources in the park are affecting night skies, the staff will consider alternatives such as shielding lights, changing lamp types, or eliminating unnecessary sources.
- Interpretive programs and materials will be provided to help visitors understand the role and value of natural lightscape.

**ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT**

Desired Conditions Based on Servicewide Mandates and Policies	Source
<p>The park is managed holistically, as part of a greater ecological, social, economic, and cultural system.</p> <p>The park develops and maintains a current land protection plan that identifies means of protection available to achieve the purposes for which the park was created.</p> <p>Park managers seek to maintain all components and processes of naturally evolving park ecosystems. Natural disturbance and change are recognized as an integral part of the functioning of natural systems.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i></li> </ul>

**Desired Conditions Specific to Olympic National Park**

- Through partnerships and cooperative agreements, the park staff works with other Olympic Peninsula land and marine managers to accomplish mutual objectives for providing wildlife corridors, and protecting biodiversity and key habitats.
- In collaboration with landowners inside and outside the park, viewsheds within and adjacent to the park are protected.
- The park provides benchmarks or “control” conditions for studies of ecosystem processes in predominately unmanipulated landscapes, helping to determine the park’s own resource preservation goals and those of adjacent lands.
- Natural processes of ecosystem disturbance and change function unimpeded, and are altered only as needed to provide for visitor and staff safety and access, to protect park facilities in developed areas, and to maintain cultural landscapes.
- “Purification” services provided by park ecosystems are protected and maintained, thus helping to provide clean air and water for park resources and the surrounding area. Soil and water resources are free of contaminants.
- Ecosystems and habitats damaged by human activities or nonnative species are restored. Future development avoids sensitive habitats and dynamic areas prone to natural disturbances, if possible.

**Strategies**

Park staff may use the following strategies to reach the desired conditions outlined above.

- Participate in collaborative planning efforts with adjacent land managers and tribal governments to identify common goals, pursue solutions, and build joint data sets through information sharing.
- Prepare a land protection strategy for the park.
- Maintain intact ecological functions in keystone habitats including those of terrestrial, freshwater, and marine environments.
- Restore habitats and disturbance regimes that have been altered in the park while balancing needs to conserve threatened and endangered species, maintain existing critical facilities and road access, and provide for public safety.
- Protect and, as necessary, restore the natural cycling of nutrients in damaged ecosystems and habitats.
- Provide interpretive and educational programs about ecosystem processes, “ecological services,” and methods to sustain these programs.

<b>FIRE MANAGEMENT</b>	
<b>Desired Conditions Based on Servicewide Mandates and Policies</b>	<b>Source</b>
<p>Park fire management programs are designed to meet resource management objectives prescribed for the various areas of the park and to ensure the safety of firefighters and the public are not compromised.</p> <p>All wildland fires are effectively managed, considering resource values to be protected and firefighter and public safety, using the full range of strategic and tactical operations, as described in an approved fire management plan. Managers use "minimum requirement" techniques to manage fires within park wilderness areas.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i></li> <li>• DO-41: <i>Wilderness Preservation and Management</i></li> </ul>
<b>Desired Conditions Specific to Olympic National Park</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The park's 2005 Fire Management Plan is affirmed.</li> <li>• Natural fire regimes are restored and maintained, but will be modified to comply with air quality regulations, and/or to protect listed species, cultural resources, and the safety of life and property.</li> <li>• The best available technology and scientific information are used to manage fire within the park, to conduct routine monitoring to determine if objectives are met, and to evaluate and improve the fire management program.</li> <li>• Hazardous fuel reduction efforts protect structures, wildland-urban interface areas, and cultural resources, where appropriate and necessary.</li> <li>• Recognizing fire as a natural process that does not acknowledge administrative boundaries, park managers develop a comprehensive cross-boundary fire management plan with adjacent land managers.</li> <li>• Minimum requirement methods and tools are used to manage fires in wilderness areas.</li> </ul>	
<b>Strategies</b>	
<p>Park staff may use the following strategies to reach the desired conditions outlined above.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain a current fire management plan to reflect the most recent wildland fire policy, fire use applications, and the body of knowledge on fire effects within the park's vegetation types.</li> <li>• Maintain cooperative agreements for fire suppression with appropriate federal, tribal, state, and local agencies and organizations.</li> <li>• Monitor individual prescribed fires to provide information on whether specific objectives (e.g., smoke behavior and fire effects) are met.</li> <li>• Conduct fire history research and other studies to describe the park's natural fire regime.</li> <li>• Conduct research and monitor the effects of fires in the park to ensure that long-term resource objectives are met.</li> <li>• Use fire as a management tool to maintain native plant communities and control exotic species.</li> <li>• Provide information to visitors about the role of fire in northwest ecosystems.</li> </ul>	

<b>WATER RESOURCES</b>	
<b>Desired Conditions Based on Servicewide Mandates and Policies</b>	<b>Source</b>
<p>Surface water and groundwater are protected, and water quality meets or exceeds all applicable water quality standards.</p> <p>NPS and NPS-permitted programs and facilities are maintained and operated to avoid pollution of surface water and groundwater.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clean Water Act</li> <li>• Rivers and Harbors Act</li> <li>• EO 11514, "Protection and Enhancement of Environmental Quality"</li> <li>• EO 12088, "Federal Compliance with Pollution Control Standards"</li> <li>• NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i></li> <li>• NPS-77: <i>Natural Resources Management Guidelines</i></li> </ul>

## WATER RESOURCES

continued

### Desired Conditions Specific to Olympic National Park

- Water resources in the park meet or exceed all federal and state water quality standards for temperature, bacteria, dissolved oxygen, turbidity, toxic substances, pH, and nutrients.
- Pollution prevention and protection of water quality to meet the needs of aquatic organisms are priorities.
- Almost all park water resources meet state criteria for outstanding resources waters.

### Strategies

Park staff may use the following strategies to reach the desired conditions outlined above.

- For waters in the park, or waters affecting park resources, work with appropriate agencies and partners to determine minimum flow needs and to attain the highest possible water quality standards available under the Clean Water Act.
- Develop and implement an environmental management plan, which includes pollution prevention and environmental best management practices.
- Promote water conservation by the National Park Service, concessioners, visitors, and park neighbors.
- Apply best management practices to all pollution-generating activities and facilities in the park. Take positive steps to reduce such activities.
- Minimize the use of pesticides, fertilizers, and other chemicals, and manage them in accordance with NPS policy and federal regulations.
- Monitor water flows and water quality in selected areas.
- In selected park waters, conduct water quality monitoring and research to detect change from atmospheric input.
- Manage stormwater runoff appropriately.
- Promote greater public understanding of water resource issues at Olympic National Park, and encourage public support for, and participation in, protecting park watersheds.

## RIVERS AND FLOODPLAINS

### Desired Conditions Based on Servicewide Mandates and Policies

Natural floodplain values are preserved or restored.

Long-term and short-term environmental effects associated with the occupancy and modification of floodplains is avoided when practicable.

When it is not practicable to locate or relocate development or inappropriate human activities to a site outside the floodplain, the National Park Service:

- prepares and approves a statement of findings in accordance with DO-77-2;
- uses nonstructural measures as much as practicable to reduce hazards to human life and property while minimizing impacts on the natural resources of floodplains; and
- ensures that structures and facilities are designed to be consistent with the intent of the standards and criteria of the National Flood Insurance Program (44 CFR 60).

### Source

- EO 11988, "Floodplain Management"
- Rivers and Harbors Act
- NPS *Management Policies 2006*
- Special Directive 93-4, "Floodplain Management, Revised Guidelines for National Park Service Floodplain Compliance" (1993)
- DO-77-2: *Floodplain Management*
- National Flood Insurance Program (44 CFR 60)

### Desired Conditions Specific to Olympic National Park

- The most current engineering methods and techniques that minimize adverse effects on natural river processes are used to protect park roads and facilities in floodplains.
- Park visitors understand the dynamic nature of the park's river systems, and the variability and cycles of river flow and flooding.
- The rivers eligible for designation as part of the Wild and Scenic Rivers system under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act will be managed so as to prevent any degradation of the resources and values that merit consideration for eligibility. Formal suitability studies related to wild and scenic river designations will be conducted in a separate formal planning process as funding is available.

## RIVERS AND FLOODPLAINS

continued

### Strategies

Park staff may use the following strategies to reach the desired conditions outlined above.

- Identify 100-year and 500-year floodplains, and any park or visitor facilities within those floodplains.
- Inventory flood-prone areas near facilities and roads, and develop a program to proactively protect these areas using the most current techniques that minimize adverse effects on aquatic and riparian habitats and fluvial processes.
- Work with area partners (including tribes, federal, state, and county agencies, and others) to develop restoration plans for at-risk river systems. Use current technologies, over time, to restore or improve floodplain and riparian functions altered in the past by bank-hardening techniques.
- In wilderness, natural river processes will be allowed, insofar as possible, to shape and control wilderness ecosystems; and management intervention should only be undertaken to the extent necessary to correct past mistakes, the impacts of human use, and influences originating outside of wilderness boundaries, using the minimum requirement concept.
- If park facilities are damaged or destroyed by a hazardous or catastrophic natural event, thoroughly evaluate options for relocation or replacement by new construction at a different location. If a decision is made to relocate or replace a severely damaged or destroyed facility, it will be placed, if practicable, in an area believed to be free from natural hazards.
- Prepare evacuation plans for facilities in flood hazard areas.
- Protect shoreline areas that provide spawning, feeding, and rearing habitats for fish and support rare aquatic plant species. During drought or other conditions warranting greater resource protection, this may involve occasional seasonal closures of specific areas.
- Provide information to visitors regarding river processes and natural flooding regimes.
- When emergency situations occur, work directly with appropriate tribes to fully evaluate the potential impact of the proposal and consider tribal views in the decision-making process. At the request of the tribes, and as time allows during the emergency actions, provide for coordination with the associated tribe. Protocols for consultation will be developed when needed.

## WETLANDS

### Desired Conditions Based on Servicewide Mandates and Policies

Natural and beneficial values of wetlands are preserved and enhanced.

The National Park Service implements a “no net loss of wetlands” policy and strives to achieve a longer-term goal of net gain of wetlands across the national park system through the restoration of previously degraded wetlands.

To the extent possible, the National Park Service avoids long- and short-term adverse impacts associated with the destruction or modification of wetlands, and avoids direct or indirect support of new construction in wetlands wherever there is a practicable alternative.

The National Park Service compensates for remaining unavoidable adverse impacts on wetlands by restoring wetlands that have been previously degraded.

### Source

- Clean Water Act
- Rivers and Harbors Act
- EO 11514, “Protection and Enhancement of Environmental Quality”
- EO 11990, “Protection of Wetlands”
- “Protecting America’s Wetlands: A Fair, Flexible, and Effective Approach,” White House Office on Environmental Policy, 1993
- NPS *Management Policies 2006*
- DO-77-1: *Wetland Protection*
- NPS-77: *Natural Resources Management Guidelines*

### Desired Conditions Specific to Olympic National Park

- “Keystone” species (such as beavers) that sustain and depend upon wetland habitats occur in natural distribution and numbers.
- Park visitors have the opportunity to learn about and understand the unique services and functions provided by wetlands.
- Wetlands near developed areas remain unaffected by maintenance of park or concession facilities or management or recreational activities.
- Wetlands adversely affected by prior human activity are restored where feasible.

## WETLANDS

continued

### Strategies

Park staff may use the following strategies to reach the desired conditions outlined above.

- Wetlands within the park are inventoried and their conditions monitored. Their distinct functions are identified.
- Locate any new facilities, or relocate existing facilities to avoid or restore wetlands, if feasible. If avoiding wetlands is not feasible, undertake other actions (e.g., compensation) to comply with EO 11990, "Protection of Wetlands"; the Clean Water Act; and DO-77-1: *Wetland Protection*.
- Prepare a statement of findings if proposed actions will result in adverse impacts on wetlands, including an analysis of alternatives, delineation of the wetland, a wetland restoration plan, mitigation, and a functional analysis of the impact site and restoration sites.
- Conduct systematic surveys of park watersheds to complete wetland inventories, and include this information in the planning, management, and protection of wetlands.
- Encourage the use of wetlands for educational and scientific purposes that do not disrupt natural wetland functions.
- Participate in collaborative planning efforts with adjacent land managers and tribal governments to protect and restore wetlands within and outside the park boundaries through cooperative conservation strategies.

## MARINE RESOURCES

### Desired Conditions Based on Servicewide Mandates and Policies

Natural resources will be managed to preserve fundamental physical and biological processes, as well as individual species, features, and plant and animal communities.

Natural shoreline processes (such as erosion, deposition, and shoreline migration) will be allowed to continue without interference.

### Source

- *NPS Management Policies 2006*
- *NPS-77: Natural Resources Management Guideline*
- Coastal Zone Management Act

### Desired Conditions Specific to Olympic National Park

- Natural shoreline physical and biological processes are unimpeded along most of the coastline of Olympic National Park; and where altered by human activities or structures, measures are taken to mitigate effects and restore natural conditions as much as possible.
- Areas of high biodiversity within the intertidal areas are protected as "seed banks" for adjacent habitats and communities.
- The park is an active participant and partner with coastal tribes, the Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary, the Washington Department of Ecology, National Ocean and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the U.S. Coast Guard, the Fish and Wildlife Service, and other marine resource managers in maintaining up-to-date oil spill response plans and preparedness skills.

### Strategies

Park staff may use the following strategies to reach the desired conditions outlined above.

- Inventory and monitor coastal and marine resources within park boundaries, determine baseline conditions, and detect abnormal changes in time to implement remedial actions.
- Maintain and restore components and processes of naturally evolving park marine ecosystems, recognizing that change caused by extreme natural events (e.g., storms, red tide, and El Niño) is an integral part of natural systems.
- Work with other agencies and tribal governments to maintain or improve water and air quality affecting marine ecosystems, and maintain natural marine viewsheds.
- Protect and restore threatened and endangered species and their critical habitat.
- Regulate and mitigate nontribal human activities to minimize adverse impacts along the park's coastal strip.
- Educate visitors about the importance and fragility of marine resources, threats to that resource, and protection and mitigation measures to reduce impacts.
- Coordinate with and assist the Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary in meeting their goals and requirements for overflight restrictions.

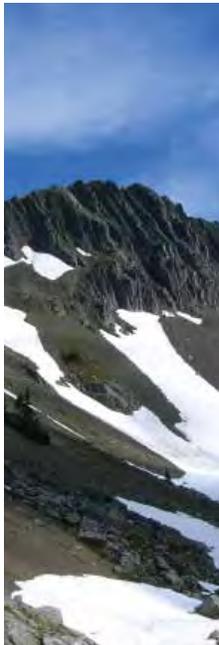
<b>GEOLOGIC AND SOIL RESOURCES</b>	
<b>Desired Conditions Based on Servicewide Mandates and Policies</b>	<b>Source</b>
<p>The park’s geologic resources are preserved and protected as integral components of the park’s natural systems.</p> <p>The National Park Service actively seeks to understand and preserve the soil resources of the park, and to prevent, to the extent possible, the unnatural erosion, physical removal, or contamination of the soil, or the soil’s contamination of other resources.</p> <p>Natural soil resources and processes function in as natural a condition as possible, except where special considerations are allowable under policy.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>NPS Management Policies 2006</i></li> <li>• <i>NPS-77: Natural Resources Management Guidelines</i></li> </ul>
<b>Desired Conditions Specific to Olympic National Park</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitoring and research programs assess conditions and trends in the park’s geologic processes and resources, particularly those that are both important to the park’s ecosystem and management, and subject to human influence (e.g., glaciers, sea level and shoreline position, groundwater chemistry, stream flow, stream channel morphology, sediment load, slope failures, and erosion).</li> <li>• Surcial geology is mapped for priority areas and critical habitats.</li> </ul>	
<b>Strategies</b>	
<p>Park staff may use the following strategies to reach the desired conditions outlined above.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assess the impacts of natural processes and human-related events on geologic and soil resources, and restore as warranted.</li> <li>• Partner with the U.S. Geological Survey and others to identify, address, and monitor geologic hazards.</li> <li>• Collect baseline information on soils, and develop surcial geology maps for sensitive or priority areas.</li> <li>• Develop a plan to address geologic and soil research, inventory, and monitoring.</li> <li>• Update geologic history of the park, using modern theory and techniques.</li> <li>• Update geologic interpretations at interpretive stops or displays.</li> <li>• Identify interpretive themes or other opportunities for interpreting the notable geologic events or processes that are preserved, exposed, or occur in the park.</li> <li>• Prevent or minimize adverse, potentially irreversible impacts on soils. Possibly implement soil conservation and soil amendment practices to reduce impacts, and import clean off-site soil, or use soil amendments as necessary to restore damaged sites.</li> <li>• Minimize soil excavation, erosion, and off-site soil migration during and after any ground-disturbing activity.</li> <li>• Survey areas of the park with soil resource problems and take actions appropriate to the management prescription to prevent or minimize further erosion, compaction, or deposition.</li> <li>• Apply effective best management practices to problem soil erosion and compaction areas in a manner that stops or minimizes erosion, restores soil productivity, and reestablishes or sustains a self-perpetuating vegetative cover.</li> </ul>	

NATIVE SPECIES	
Desired Conditions Based on Servicewide Mandates and Policies	Source
<p>The National Park Service will maintain, as parts of the natural ecosystem, all native plants and animals in the park, including all five of the commonly recognized kingdoms of living things (encompassing flowering plants, ferns, mosses, lichens, algae, fungi, bacteria, mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, and fishes).</p> <p>The National Park Service will strive to protect the full range of genetic types (genotypes) of native plant and animal populations by perpetuating natural evolutionary processes and minimizing human interference with evolving genetic diversity.</p> <p>The National Park Service will strive to restore extirpated native plant and animal species to parks when specific criteria are met regarding habitat availability, safety, genetic type, and reason for extirpation.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>NPS Management Policies 2006</i></li> <li>• <i>NPS-77: Natural Resources Management Guideline</i></li> </ul>
<b>Desired Conditions Specific to Olympic National Park</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The park provides naturally evolving examples of plant and animal communities.</li> <li>• The park animal and plant populations are managed to promote long-term viability, including maintaining age-structures, abundance, density and distributions within normal ranges, and a full range of natural genetic variability.</li> <li>• Extirpated native species are restored when feasible and appropriate.</li> <li>• Effects of native diseases and pests are within a normal range of variation, and are not worsened by human-caused factors.</li> </ul>	
<b>Strategies</b>	
<p>Park staff may use the following strategies to reach the desired conditions outlined above.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete inventory of the plants and animals in the park. Regularly monitor the distribution and condition of selected species that indicate ecosystem condition and diversity.</li> <li>• Develop and implement restoration plans for extirpated species such as the fisher and gray wolf, subject to meeting all five criteria required by <i>NPS Management Policies 2006</i> for restoring native species (section 4.4.2.2).</li> <li>• Restore native biological communities and habitats. Minimize human impacts on native species, ecosystems, and the processes that sustain them.</li> <li>• Review park fishing regulations annually, and revise as necessary to protect native fish populations.</li> <li>• Continue to prohibit stocking of exotic fish species or enhancement of nonnative fish populations.</li> <li>• Preserve genetic diversity by maintaining the abundance of unique populations at or above levels necessary for genetic variability.</li> <li>• Promote harvest and management practices that protect wild salmonids. Work with area fisheries managers to implement escapement levels necessary to achieve the full role of anadromous fish in the ecosystem. In cooperation with tribal governments, preserve and promote sustainable, harvestable levels of fish populations.</li> <li>• In cooperation with other agencies and tribal governments, preserve healthy populations and provide safe migratory corridors for wide-ranging wildlife populations such as elk and bear.</li> <li>• Protect the park's biotic communities from impacts due to human activities and facilities, while ensuring that visitors have ample opportunity to visit and enjoy these ecosystems.</li> </ul>	

<b>EXOTIC SPECIES</b>	
<b>Desired Conditions Based on Servicewide Mandates and Policies</b>	<b>Source</b>
<p>Manage populations of exotic plant and animal species, up to and including eradication, wherever such species threaten park resources or public health, and when control is prudent and feasible.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i></li> <li>• EO 13112, "Invasive Species"</li> <li>• <i>NPS-77: Natural Resources Management Guidelines</i></li> </ul>
<b>Desired Conditions Specific to Olympic National Park</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Park ecosystems are free of nonnative species where feasible, with the exception of noninvasive species that are documented as innocuous, and are a contributing element of a cultural landscape (as defined by the <i>Secretary of the Interior's Standards</i>).</li> <li>• Particularly sensitive park habitats, including those containing endemic or rare species, are maintained free of nonnative species.</li> </ul>	
<b>Strategies</b>	
<p>Park staff may use the following strategies to reach the desired conditions outlined above.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete an inventory of plants, animals, marine intertidal species and, as feasible, other organisms in the park; and regularly monitor the distribution and condition of selected species including invasive exotics.</li> <li>• Study the environmental and ecological effects of exotic species' invasion to assess threats, prioritize management actions, and prevent introduction and establishment of nonnative species.</li> <li>• Monitor the condition of native species, populations, and communities that may be vulnerable to nonnative and potentially catastrophic diseases or organisms such as chronic wasting disease, West Nile virus, whitebark pine blister rust, balsam and hemlock woolly adelgid, zebra mussel, and European green crab. Implement management programs to prevent and develop a long-term program to reverse the destructive effects of exotic species.</li> <li>• Manage exclusively for native plant species in wilderness management zones. In other management zones, limit planting of nonnative species to noninvasive, innocuous plants that are justified by the historic scene or operational needs.</li> <li>• Control or eliminate exotic plants and animals, exotic diseases, and pest species where there is a reasonable expectation of success and sustainability. Base control efforts on:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ the potential threat to legally protected or uncommon native species and habitats,</li> <li>○ the potential threat to visitor health or safety,</li> <li>○ the potential threat to scenic and aesthetic quality, and</li> <li>○ the potential threat to common native species and habitat.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Implement park management actions in a manner that minimizes the introduction or increase in exotic species, in both number and type.</li> <li>• Work in cooperation with agencies, tribes, and local communities on exotic species control.</li> <li>• Provide interpretive and educational programs on the preservation of native species.</li> </ul>	

## RARE, THREATENED, AND ENDANGERED SPECIES

Desired Conditions Based on Servicewide Mandates and Policies	Source
<p>Federally listed and state-listed threatened and endangered species and their habitats are protected and sustained.</p> <p>Native threatened and endangered species populations that have been severely reduced in, or extirpated from, the park are restored where feasible and sustainable.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Endangered Species Act</li> <li>• NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i></li> <li>• NPS-77: <i>Natural Resources Management Guidelines</i></li> </ul>
Desired Conditions Specific to Olympic National Park	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Threatened, endangered, or otherwise imperiled species in the park show increasing trends leading to improvement in the species' status, and ultimately recovery. Federal- and state-listed wildlife populations are stable or increasing, as measured by monitored parameters such as survival of northern spotted owls, territory occupancy of bald eagles, and at-sea surveys of marbled murrelets and sea otters.</li> <li>• Habitats that support or are suitable for sensitive, rare, endemic, or listed species are protected.</li> <li>• Park visitors learn about species in the park that are listed under the Endangered Species Act, as well as actions that may assist their recovery.</li> </ul>	
Strategies	
<p>Park staff may use the following strategies to reach the desired conditions outlined above.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support research that contributes to management knowledge of rare and protected species and their habitat. Incorporate findings in park interpretive and education programs.</li> <li>• Inventory rare or protected species in the park and regularly monitor their distribution, condition, and population trends. Modify management plans to be more effective, based on the results of monitoring.</li> <li>• Manage designated critical habitat, essential habitat, and recovery areas to maintain and enhance their value for listed species.</li> <li>• Consult with the Fish and Wildlife Service and NOAA Fisheries Service to ensure that NPS actions comply with the Endangered Species Act.</li> <li>• Implement park management actions in a manner that minimizes the potential adverse effects on listed species and their habitat.</li> <li>• Participate in the recovery planning process when appropriate. Cooperate with the Fish and Wildlife Service and NOAA Fisheries Service to implement recovery plans approved by those agencies for listed species found in the park.</li> <li>• To the greatest extent possible, inventory, monitor, and manage state and locally listed species in a manner similar to federally listed species.</li> <li>• Work with neighboring land and resource managers to obtain information on status and trends of little known, but potentially at-risk wildlife species, such as bats, marten, and pocket gophers.</li> <li>• Provide information to park visitors regarding listed species that occur in the park and measures to promote their recovery.</li> </ul>	



## PARKWIDE POLICIES FOR WILDERNESS RESOURCES

Park staff will develop a wilderness management plan to detail specific management actions for Olympic National Park’s wilderness based on the desired conditions and strategies prescribed in this plan. The overall goal of wilderness management in Olympic National Park is to ensure that the park’s wilderness resources and character are valued, enjoyed, protected, preserved, and restored for the benefit of current and future generations.

In addition, the park will review all potential wilderness additions and determine if nonconforming uses still exist. For park-administered lands (or lands acquired in the future) that contain nonconforming uses, rehabilitation plans and strategies will be prepared to work toward conditions that will allow full wilderness designation.

The principle of nondegradation also must be applied to wilderness management. The nondegradation principle seeks to maintain each wilderness in at least as wild a condition as it was at the time of classification.

WILDERNESS	
Desired Conditions Based on Servicewide Mandates and Policies	Source
<p>The National Park Service will manage wilderness areas, including those proposed for wilderness designation, for the use and enjoyment of the American people in such a manner as will leave those areas unimpaired for future use and enjoyment as wilderness.</p> <p>The park ensures that the land’s primeval character and influence is retained and protected, that visitors continue to find opportunities for solitude and primitive, unconfined recreation, and that the landscapes generally appear to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man’s work substantially unnoticeable.</p> <p>The Wilderness Act specifies that each agency administering any designated wilderness areas shall be responsible for preserving the wilderness character of the areas, and shall so administer such areas for such other purposes for which it may have been established, and also to preserve the wilderness character.</p> <p>The Wilderness Act specifies that the designation of any area of the park system as wilderness “shall in no manner lower the standards evolved for the use and preservation of” such unit of the park system under the various laws applicable to that unit (16 USC 1133(a)(3)).</p> <p>Cultural resources that have been included within wilderness will be protected and maintained according to the pertinent laws and policies governing cultural resources using management methods that are consistent with the preservation of wilderness character and values.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wilderness Act</li> <li>• National Historic Preservation Act</li> <li>• Archeological and Historic Preservation Act</li> <li>• NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i></li> <li>• DO-41: <i>Wilderness Preservation and Management</i></li> <li>• DO-28: <i>Cultural Resource Management Guideline</i></li> </ul>

**WILDERNESS**  
continued

**Desired Conditions Specific to Olympic National Park**

- Natural processes, native components, and the interrelationships among them are protected, maintained, and/or restored to the extent possible, while providing opportunities for their enjoyment as wilderness.
- Present and future visitors enjoy the unique qualities offered in wilderness. These include the experiences of solitude, remoteness, risk, challenge, self-sufficiency, discovery, and observation of an untrammeled ecosystem.
- Wilderness management is based on the minimum requirement concept, allowing only those actions necessary and appropriate for administration of the area as wilderness, and that do not cause a significant impact to wilderness resources and character. Implementation of such actions is done using techniques and types of equipment necessary to ensure that impacts on wilderness resources and character are minimized or avoided.
- The values of the Olympic Wilderness are understood by the public and park staff through education in wilderness ethics and use, and using management skills and techniques to promote and preserve these values (e.g., "Leave No Trace").
- Essential park operations and wilderness functions are coordinated in the park to manage and protect natural and cultural resources, and provide minimal visitor services so as to preserve wilderness character. Management is coordinated with the Forest Service to provide consistency in regulations, standards, and guidelines to the extent feasible. The park will continue to work with other local and regional groups, communities, agencies, and tribal governments to preserve wilderness values.

**Strategies**

Park staff may use the following strategies to reach the desired conditions outlined above. Strategies will be further defined through the wilderness management plan process.

- Develop and implement research programs related to the wilderness ecosystem and key natural resources and visitor experiences.
- Inventory wilderness resources, facilities, and operational activities.
- Define a range of desired conditions for wilderness resources, visitor wilderness experiences, wilderness character, and management and operational techniques.
- Develop and implement a program to restore conditions that are outside the range of desired conditions for wilderness resources, visitor wilderness experiences, and wilderness character.
- Manage activities to maintain and restore resource conditions, to protect visitor experiences, and to protect and restore wilderness character.
- Develop an educational program for visitors, park staff, local community members, and others that enhances the appreciation of wilderness resources.
- Monitor the wilderness resources and incorporate the results of monitoring to refine management programs.



## PARKWIDE POLICIES FOR CULTURAL RESOURCES

The cultural resource management policies of the National Park Service are derived from a suite of historic preservation, environmental, and other laws, proclamations, executive orders, and regulations. Taken collectively, the policies provide the National Park Service with the authority and responsibility for the management of cultural resources in every unit of the national park system so that those resources may be preserved unimpaired for future generations. The protection of Olympic National Park’s cultural resources is essential for understanding the past, present, and future relationship of people with the park environment and the expressions of our cultural heritage.

ARCHEOLOGICAL RESOURCES	
Desired Conditions Based on Servicewide Mandates and Policies	Source
<p>Archeological sites are identified and inventoried, and their significance is determined and documented.</p> <p>Archeological sites are protected in an undisturbed condition unless it is determined through formal processes that disturbance or natural deterioration is unavoidable.</p> <p>When disturbance or deterioration is unavoidable, the site is professionally documented and excavated, and the resulting artifacts, materials, and records are curated and conserved in consultation with the Washington state historic preservation officer, and Native American tribes when the site is associated with one of the eight Olympic Peninsula tribes.</p> <p>Some archeological sites that can be adequately protected may be interpreted to the visitor.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National Historic Preservation Act</li> <li>• Archeological Resources Protection Act</li> <li>• <i>Secretary of the Interior’s Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation</i></li> <li>• Programmatic Agreement among the National Park Service, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP), and the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers (1995)</li> <li>• NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i></li> <li>• DO-28: <i>Cultural Resource Management Guideline</i></li> </ul>
Desired Conditions Specific to Olympic National Park	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Archeological site baseline data are available. Site conditions are monitored to record changes in resource conditions as a result of environmental conditions or visitor use impacts.</li> <li>• To the extent feasible, archeological resources degrading from environmental conditions and visitor impacts are mitigated through data recovery or other preservation strategies, including site hardening.</li> <li>• To the extent feasible, archeological resources threatened by project development are mitigated first through avoidance, or second through other preservation strategies such as data recovery.</li> </ul>	

## ARCHEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

continued

### Strategies

Park staff may use the following strategies to reach the desired conditions outlined above.

- Gather field data regarding rock shelters, lithic scatters, hunting camps, and other resources to develop a more accurate predictive model of prehistoric site distribution, and to address related research questions.
- Inventory, evaluate, and manage archeological resources that reflect late 19th and early 20th century activities such as forest and park development and protection, mining sites, homestead sites, resort sites, cabin remains, and associated trash dumps. National Register of Historic Places-eligible resources will be documented and listed.
- Monitor shell middens and petroglyph sites in the at-risk coastal areas on monthly, annual, or biannual basis.
- Educate visitors on regulations governing archeological resources and their removal and transport.
- Document, track, and prosecute for violations of cultural resource laws.
- Survey and inventory archeological sites parkwide; determine and document their significance.
- Treat all archeological resources as eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (national register) pending a formal determination by the National Park Service, the state historic preservation officer, and associated Indian tribes as to their significance.
- Determine which archeological sites should be added to the Archeological Sites Management Information System and the national register.

## HISTORIC STRUCTURES

### Desired Conditions Based on Servicewide Mandates and Policies

Historic structures are inventoried and their significance and integrity are evaluated under national register criteria.

The qualities that contribute to the listing or eligibility for listing of historic structures on the national register are protected in accordance with the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation*, unless it is determined through a formal process that disturbance or natural deterioration is unavoidable.

Laws pertaining to historic preservation remain applicable within wilderness, but must be generally administered to preserve the area's wilderness character.

### Source

- National Historic Preservation Act
- Archeological and Historic Preservation Act
- *Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation*; the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties*
- 1995 Programmatic Agreement (National Park Service, the advisory council, National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers)
- *NPS Management Policies 2006*
- *DO-28: Cultural Resource Management Guideline*

### Desired Conditions Specific to Olympic National Park

- The character of historic buildings and structures, including shelters and buildings related to USFS and NPS management of the park, recreation resorts and cabins, and homestead settlements, are managed in accordance with section 5.3.5.4 of *NPS Management Policies 2006*, Historic and Prehistoric Structures. Historic structure inventories and reports are prepared, and existing reports are amended as needed. Actions identified in historic structure reports are implemented and a record of treatment added to the reports.
- Identified and evaluated historic structures are monitored, inspected, and managed to enable the long-term preservation of a resource's historic features, qualities, and materials.

<b>HISTORIC STRUCTURES</b> continued <b>Strategies</b>	
<p>Park staff may use the following strategies to reach the desired conditions outlined above.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Employ the comprehensive maintenance, protection, and preservation measures in accordance with the <i>Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties</i>. For properties lacking specific plans, preservation actions will be based on the <i>Secretary's Standards</i> and NPS policy and guidelines. Treat all historic structures as eligible for listing on the national register, pending formal determination by the National Park Service and state historic preservation officer.</li> <li>• Consider frontcountry historic buildings not actively being used in the park for adaptive reuse by other public and private entities to assist in preservation of the structures.</li> <li>• Create design guidelines and/or historic structure/cultural landscape reports for all developed areas in the park to preserve the architectural and landscape-defining features. Include design review oversight to ensure the compatibility of new planning, design, and construction.</li> <li>• Pursue basic preservation maintenance activities to avoid costly rebuilding or reconstruction of historic structures or cultural landscapes.</li> <li>• Comply with cultural resource protection and preservation policies and directives, and the wilderness minimum requirement concepts in wilderness areas, for the maintenance of historic structures and cultural landscapes</li> <li>• Before modifying any historic structure on the national register, consult with the state historic preservation officer and the advisory council, as appropriate. Before modifying any structures associated with "Mission 66," evaluate the structure for listing on the national register in consultation with the state historic preservation officer.</li> </ul>	

<b>CULTURAL LANDSCAPES</b>	
Desired Conditions Based on Servicewide Mandates and Policies	Source
<p>Cultural landscape inventories are conducted to identify landscapes potentially eligible for listing in the national register, and to assist in future management decisions for landscapes and associated resources, both cultural and natural.</p> <p>The management of cultural landscapes focuses on preserving the landscape's physical attributes, biotic systems, and use when that use contributes to its historical significance.</p> <p>The preservation, rehabilitation, restoration, or reconstruction of cultural landscapes is undertaken in accordance with the <i>Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes</i>.</p> <p>Laws pertaining to historic preservation remain applicable within wilderness but must be generally administered to preserve the area's wilderness character.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National Historic Preservation Act</li> <li>• ACHP's implementing regulations regarding the "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR 800)</li> <li>• <i>Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes</i></li> <li>• <i>NPS Management Policies 2006</i></li> <li>• <i>DO-28: Cultural Resource Management Guideline</i></li> </ul>
<b>Desired Conditions Specific to Olympic National Park</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The cultural landscapes of the park retain a high degree of integrity. These include cultural landscapes, along with historic roads, trails, and sites that are related to USFS and ongoing NPS management, recreation resorts, and cabins (Rosemary Inn, Lake Crescent Inn, and Wendell cabin); and homestead settlements (Roose, Kestner, and Humes).</li> <li>• Cultural landscape inventories and reports are prepared, and existing reports are amended as needed.</li> <li>• Identified and evaluated cultural landscapes are monitored, inspected, and managed to enable the long-term preservation of a resource's historic features, qualities, and materials.</li> <li>• Actions identified in cultural landscape reports are implemented, and a record of treatment is added to the reports.</li> </ul>	

## CULTURAL LANDSCAPES

continued

### Strategies

Park staff may use the following strategies to reach the desired conditions outlined above.

- Treat cultural landscapes that are potentially eligible for listing in the national register as eligible until a formal determination is made by the National Park Service and state historic preservation officer.
- Comply with cultural resource protection and preservation policies and directives, and the wilderness minimum requirement concepts in wilderness areas, for the maintenance of cultural landscapes.
- Create design guidelines and/or cultural landscape reports for all developed areas in the park to ensure that the landscape-defining features of these areas are preserved. These guidelines will include provisions for design review oversight to ensure the compatibility of new planning, design, and construction.

## ETHNOGRAPHIC RESOURCES

### Desired Conditions Based on Servicewide Mandates and Policies

Appropriate cultural anthropological research is conducted in cooperation with groups associated with the park.

To the extent practicable, permitted by law, and not clearly inconsistent with essential agency functions, the National Park Service accommodates access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites by Indian religious practitioners and avoids adversely affecting the physical integrity of these sacred sites.

All executive agencies are required to consult with, to the greatest extent practicable and to the extent permitted by law, tribal governments before taking actions that affect federally recognized tribal governments. Native Americans and other individuals and groups linked by ties of kinship or culture to ethnically identifiable human remains, sacred objects, objects of cultural patrimony, and associated funerary objects are consulted when such items may be disturbed or are encountered on park lands.

All ethnographic resources determined eligible for listing or listed in the national register are protected. If disturbance of such resources is unavoidable, formal consultation is conducted with the state historic preservation officer, advisory council, and Native American tribes, as appropriate.

The identities of community consultants and information about sacred and other culturally sensitive places and practices are kept confidential when research agreements or other circumstances warrant.

### Source

- National Historic Preservation Act
- ACHP's implementing regulations
- NPS *Management Policies 2006*
- DO-28: *Cultural Resource Management Guideline*
- EO 13007, "American Indian Sacred Sites; American Indian Religious Freedom Act"
- Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act
- Presidential Memorandum of April 29, 1994, on government-to-government relations with tribal governments

### Desired Conditions Specific to Olympic National Park

- Potentially sensitive natural and cultural resources, and traditional cultural properties (ethnographic resources eligible for the national register) are identified, recorded, and evaluated through consultation with area tribes. The integrity of traditional cultural properties is preserved and protected.
- Positive and productive government-to-government relationships exist with each of the eight tribes that have traditional association with the Olympic Peninsula.

**ETHNOGRAPHIC RESOURCES**  
continued

**Strategies**

Park staff may use the following strategies to reach the desired conditions outlined above.

- Survey and inventory ethnographic resources, and document their significance.
- Treat all ethnographic resources as eligible for listing in the national register pending a formal determination by the National Park Service and the state historic preservation officer. Any formal nomination will be made only with the full support and consensus of the associated tribe(s).
- Continue to encourage the employment of Native Americans on the park staff to improve communications and working relationships, and encourage cultural diversity in the workplace.
- Conduct consultation with affiliated Indian tribes throughout the course of the planning process for this and other documents.
- Continue to work collaboratively with the tribes when conducting research related to the resources they value.
- Olympic National Park recognizes that the tribes' relationships to lands in the park have endured for thousands of years, and park staff will continue to work with the tribes to ensure that sites of traditional importance are preserved and protected.
- Park staff will strive to create and maintain positive and productive government-to-government relationships with each of the eight tribes that have traditional association with the Olympic Peninsula.

**MUSEUM COLLECTIONS**

Desired Conditions Based on Servicewide Mandates and Policies	Source
<p>All museum collections (objects, specimens, and manuscript collections) are identified and inventoried, catalogued, documented, preserved, and protected.</p> <p>Provision is made for access to and use of the park's museum collections for exhibits, research, and interpretation.</p> <p>The qualities that contribute to the significance of collections are protected in accordance with established standards.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National Historic Preservation Act</li> <li>• American Religious Freedom Act</li> <li>• Archeological and Historic Preservation Act</li> <li>• Archeological Resources Protection Act</li> <li>• Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act</li> <li>• NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i></li> <li>• DO-28: <i>Cultural Resource Management Guideline</i></li> <li>• <i>NPS Museum Handbook</i></li> </ul>

**Desired Conditions Specific to Olympic National Park**

- Research and development projects include plans for the curation of collected objects and specimens.
- The park's museum collections are housed in appropriate facilities that provide protection for current collections and allow for future collection expansion.
- Park museum collections provide documentation of park natural and cultural resources.

**Strategies**

Park staff may use the following strategies to reach the desired conditions outlined above.

- Inventory and catalog all park museum collections in accordance with standards in the *NPS Museum Handbook*.
- Develop and implement a collection management program according to NPS standards to guide the protection, conservation, and use of museum objects.
- Continue outreach efforts to park visitors, provide access to and give tours of the collections to the community, and provide field assistance with park research projects as needed.
- Collections facilities will be upgraded, improved, and expanded according to the recommendations of the Olympic National Park "Museum Management Plan" (2002).
- Provide efficient access to reference materials and information.



## PARKWIDE POLICIES FOR VISITOR USE AND EXPERIENCE

Current laws, regulations, and policies leave considerable room for judgment about the best mix of types and levels of visitor use activities, programs, and facilities. For this reason, most decisions related to visitor experience and use are addressed in the alternatives. However, all visitor use of national park system units must be consistent with the following laws, regulations, and guidelines.

VISITOR USE AND EXPERIENCE, EDUCATION, AND OUTREACH	
Desired Conditions Based on Servicewide Mandates and Policies	Source
<p>Park resources are conserved unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations. Visitors have opportunities for forms of enjoyment that are uniquely suited and appropriate to the superlative natural and cultural resources found in the park. No activities occur that will cause derogation of the values and purposes for which the park has been established.</p> <p>Park visitors will have opportunities to understand and appreciate the significance of the park and its resources, and to develop a personal stewardship ethic.</p> <p>To the extent feasible, programs, services, and facilities in the park are accessible to, and usable by, all people, including those with disabilities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NPS Organic Act</li> <li>• National Park System General Authorities Act</li> <li>• Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act</li> <li>• The Architectural Barriers Act</li> <li>• Wilderness Act</li> <li>• NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i></li> <li>• DO-28: <i>Cultural Resource Management Guideline</i></li> <li>• DO-42: <i>Accessibility for Visitors with Disabilities in NPS Programs, Facilities, and Services</i></li> <li>• The Secretary of the Interior's Regulation 43 CFR 17</li> </ul>
Desired Conditions Specific to Olympic National Park	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For all zones or districts in the park, the types and levels of visitor use are consistent with the desired resource and visitor experience conditions prescribed for those areas.</li> <li>• Park visitors are able to obtain visitor orientation and trip-planning information through a variety of media. Educational programs are available.</li> <li>• Frontcountry day use visitation and overnight facilities are provided in some developed areas. Roads, trails, campgrounds, and related facilities are provided, but locations and numbers may be modified for resource protection, restoration, visitor experience, or increased visitation.</li> <li>• The level and type of commercially guided activities will be managed to protect park resources and the visitor experience.</li> </ul>	
Strategies	
<p>Park staff may use the following strategies to reach the desired conditions outlined above.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For all zones, districts, or other logical management divisions in a park, identify visitor carrying capacities for managing public use and ways to monitor for and address unacceptable impacts on park resources and visitor experiences.</li> <li>• Monitor visitor comments on issues such as crowding, encounters with other visitors in the backcountry, availability of campsites at busy times of the year, and availability of parking.</li> <li>• Conduct periodic visitor surveys to stay informed of changing visitor demographics and to better tailor programs to visitor needs and desires.</li> <li>• Develop outreach programs for and with schools, tribes, and community organizations.</li> <li>• Provide a variety of educational opportunities in the park with continued facility-based contacts and guided activities. Web-based education will be provided. Some activities may require a fee.</li> <li>• Coordinate education programs with partners, and focus on improving the general understanding of park natural and cultural resources, biodiversity, the protection of resources and natural processes, research, stewardship, wilderness, park values, and recreational and visitor opportunities.</li> </ul>	

