07/01/2006

DSC-P

First a little about me, I'm a former Washington State resident, will becoming back in near future and retiring in Port Angeles/Sequim area, an Olympic National Park visitor and have a resource background and interests.

- · Request hard copy of final plan.
- Would like to be involved/notified on specific project implementation in the future.
- Would especially like to be involved/notified on upcoming Olympic wilderness plan.
- Overall support for the preferred alternative.
- Support for overall emphasis on protecting the natural and cultural resources while improving visitor experiences.
- Olympic NP is a very unique ecosystem the coastal zone, rain forests, high country, large rivers for salmon and steelhead, Roosevelt elk, a vast area of undeveloped wilderness that deserves protection and management.
- Support the management zone concept as long as flexibility is worked in where needed.
- As everyone knows, effective management requires an effective budget or the
  plan will fail. Careful working with the WO office of NPS, Department of Interior
  and Congress is needed to facilitate the procurement of needed funds. A plan
  without needed funds is of limited value.
- Don't support overall No Action Alternative as times have changed.
- Support mass transit proposals, but they must be reasonable in locations and times
  of transport provided. People deserve access. Creative ways that provide
  reasonable access for locals are important, since they are key neighbors and park
  supporters.
- Support overall land acquisitions and park additions as they benefit the overall Olympic park ecosystem.
- Continue to work closely with Olympic National Forest, State, communities and tribes for overall benefit for the Olympic peninsula ecosystem.
- Work with Olympic National Forest and private land owners to provide reasonable needed camping opportunities available outside park boundaries to supplement those within the park. There needs to be camping areas that provide "natural" experiences not just the "KOA" types.
- Expand visitor education and interpretation opportunities. Don't reduce these
  programs. Seek funds to continue and expand them. Without these valuable
  programs; impacts on resources will continue to worsen.
- Would like a trail that links Port Angeles, state land, Olympic National Forest and the park.
- Do not support paving of Obstruction Point road, support conversion of it to a trail
- Support continuation of downhill ski area, allow improvement where needed but not expansion.

- Support cross-country ski opportunities on Hurricane ridge, but limit amount of groomed trails.
- Prefer all week winter access to Hurricane ridge as weather/road conditions allow, not just weekends.
- Management of Elwha project lands should be retained by NPS because of emphasis on ecosystem values.
- · Support rehabilitation of Boulder Creek trail.
- Because of cultural values and historic public use, support the continuation of CCC campgrounds and spring site at Olympic Hot Springs. Exhibits should be added for interpretation and protection needs.
- With dam removal and area of Lake Mills already impacted, camping areas and hiking trail additions are permissible.
- Support reduction of development in the Lake Crescent area. Emphasize land acquisitions here. Support Lyre River expansion proposal, prefer larger expansion proposal in Alternative B. Emphasize shoreline protection. Emphasize fish spawning protection.
- Never should it be considered to complete a loop road around Lake Crescent.
- Continue Sol Duc Hot Springs Resort if it facilitates for average public use and not just for the rich.
- · Ozette Lake boat use should be non-motorized.
- · Support wilderness study for Ozette Lake area
- · Support larger land acquisition in Alternative B for Ozette Lake
- Support continuation of existing Ozette Lake Campground, with some sites
  moved to protect shoreline. Do not reduce the number of sites for visitors.
- Continue to work with local Indian Tribes to allow access to public lands where needed. Support tribal rights, but not denial of public access where needed.
   Support concept of boat/canoe access Mora to La Push with Quileute Tribe.
- Retain road to Rialto to allow access for all. Support concept of adding small visitor center in the area for interpretation and education activities.
- Retain Hoh River road for public access
- Support acquisition of South Fork Hoh River land shown in Alternative B
- Retain/improve Hoh River visitor center
- Don't support relocation of Highway 101 in coastal strip, except where active serious erosion. The area is already impacted, why impact another strip of undeveloped coastal forest. Add a hiking/biking trail route along highway.
- Support retention of Kalaloch facilities if erosion zone allows and there are
  "reasonable price controls" so anyone can use facilities if they desire. If erosion
  problems are extensive and it will only be facilities to allow the rich to use them,
  get rid of them. Would rather have larger visitor center.
- Work with State to eliminate the stupid destructive allowance of driftwood fires –
  they are mainly used by the young for their drinking parties or for idiots who
  think they must have a fire to experience the coastal beauty. Eliminate all beach
  fires. The driftwood is part of the coastal ecosystem. Am tired of seeing the
  burned ugly scars of blackened driftwood instead of the natural beauty of
  driftwood.

- Work with Quinault Tribe on opportunities for an additional campground opportunity south of South Beach, because of crowded campground conditions and this would also provide commercial opportunities for the tribe.
- Expand/improve Kalaloch Visitor Center for education and interpretation.
- Retain South Beach overflow/RV area, but better manage it so it doesn't look just like crowded urban parking lot. Reserve part of are for day-use parking.
- Support removal of unwanted user trails and controlling trail access to protect ecosystem. However, allow some lower maintenance level primitive trails to support that experience.
- Retain Queets River road access for public
- Support land acquisition proposal shown for Queets in alternative B
- · Support land acquisition proposal shown for Quinault in alternative B
- Retain North Fork and Graves Creek as roads for public access and do not convert to trails. Paving of Lake Quinault loop is permissible.
- Support bicycle loop/route/lane in Quinault area
- · Add visitor center for interpretation/education in Quinault area
- Replace bridge at Staircase rapids to allow for a loop trail opportunity.
- Work with Olympic National Forest to have additional camping opportunities near lake Cushman
- Retain Dosewallips road and campground
- Retain Deer park road and campground. Do not pave road.
- Limit stock use on park trails as much as possible. Restrict stock use during wet periods. Am tired of the mud, erosion, trail widening, invasive plants.
- Keep wilderness trails narrow for solitude and wilderness values. Allow some
  "way" trails for that type of experience. Minimize construction and relocation of
  wilderness trails except where needed to protect resources. Maintain existing trail
  bridges and boardwalk.
- Remove permanent ranger stations in wilderness, have the rangers use tents.
- Limit commercial activities in wilderness including outfitters and guides. Give
  permitted outfitters and guides no advantages that the general public wouldn't
  have.
- Support wild and scenic river analysis for rivers listed, most of these rivers should be eligible and designated. They have all the needed values for designation, are some of the most wild rivers around, and besides there are few conflicts since much of them is already in wilderness.
- Retain the majority of existing roads, trails, facilities in the River zone and Coastal strip, but limit additional expansion; we need both access and protection.
- Support the no harvest intertidal zones to protect ocean species and habitat.
- Limit tide pool access to designated routes and group sizes to protect ocean species and habitat. Eliminate any commercial use of intertidal zone. Allow no tide pool "touching" unless under supervision of park naturalist.
- Incorporate management that allows, both access in wilderness but protects resources. Permit systems should allow reasonable, but not impossible access. Incorporate designated campsites in most areas. Emphasize Leave No Trace education.

- Reduction of staff levels is unacceptable. To protect this unique park, we need an
  ample amount of trained staff. Expand volunteer programs where possible to fill
  staffing gaps.
- Support anything that minimizes unnatural sound and allows for natural night skies.
- Support special protection and management for unique Olympic species, TES and salmonid fish species, coastal ecosystem species etc.
- · Do not support allowing air tours above the park.
- Find ways to limit use of watercraft on lakes and rivers. Some use is acceptable, but excessive use is a visual disturbance.
- Expand programs that reduce problem of waste and garbage in coastal zone. Add patrols for trash pickup and structure teardown as necessary.
- · Support most programs for resource monitoring and support.
- · Support strong law enforcement, fines, education system for park violators
- · Support reintroduction of wolf, fisher, marten, and additional otter.
- · Limit mountain goats to current population levels.
- Retain current fishing opportunities, but don't allow expansion. Emphasize
  allowing those opportunities, but also protect shorelines and riparian habitats.
  Remove some non-native species if they impact native species and amphibians in
  some, but not necessarily all areas. Continue emphasis on catch-and-release
  fishing. Convert some areas to this type of fishing only. Convert some areas to
  lures and flies only.
- · Designate critical habitat in the park for special status species.
- Expand availability of interpretive nature trails
- · Continue policy of no personal watercraft use in park.
- Provide interpretive programs on Washington maritime National Wildlife complex, Destruction Island Lighthouse and other areas not accessible to most of the public.
- Reduce speeds of traffic on Highway by Kalaloch and Lake Crescent to reduce noise and visual disturbance and allow a more enjoyable drive.
- Add groups like Seattle Mountaineers and Olympian Hiking Club to organization contacts

Thanks for reviewing our comments

Sandy Utah 84092