

PEPC 190796

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Olympic National Park GMP
NPS Denver Service Center-Planning
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, CO 80225

September 3, 2006

Greetings,

The following are my comments regarding four specific landscapes found in the Draft General Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement for Olympic National Park.

Lake Crescent D-Preferred Alternative Page M-16 item 5

I disagree that the Beardslee and Crescenti Trout, Lyre River spawning areas are being threatened. Spawning has historically occurred in the Lyre River from its origin at Lake Crescent to a natural barrier a short distance down stream. The barrier is a natural falls that presents a barrier to anadromous fish species. Water quality and riparian protection are currently ensured by the Washington State Forest Practice Act RCW 76.09 (see WAC 222-24, WAC 222-30, WAC 222-50-010) and the Clallam County Critical Areas Ordinance. Additional land acquisition in this area would place a unnecessary burden on the American taxpayer to acquire land that is already being protected under existing state and county laws. This proposal would encompass Capitol Building trust lands currently managed by the Washington State Department of Natural Resources, resulting in the loss of future revenue opportunities to the trust.

I support Alternative A with emphasis placed on maintaining existing roads, facilities and structures.

Roads: Hwy 101 Roadside hazard trees require removal. A June 1994 hazard tree survey by Dan Mason- ONP Subdistrict Ranger, Rick White- Washington State Labor and Industries, and myself identified fourteen hazard trees immediately adjacent to Hwy 101 that present an immediate threat of death or injury to the traveling public. Twelve years after that survey many of the hazard trees still exist. (See letters from Charles Odegaard- Regional Director, June 8, 1994 and Roger Rudolph- Assistant Superintendent, ONP, August 8, 1995.)

East Beach Road This road exhibits a very narrow road surface without centerline line delineation. In addition, poor alignment and a deteriorated road surface present a continuing risk to the traveling public. Identifiable hazard trees also exist along this roadway.

Facilities La Poel picnic area is in need of maintenance and upgrading to provide better visitor opportunities on the south lake shore.

Structures Many of the structures at the Log Cabin Resort concession are in need of maintenance and repair.

Ozette Alternative D- Preferred Alternative Page M-24 items 2&6

The proposed restriction of motorized boating is not well researched. The current use by motorized boats is extremely low and does not present conflict with other uses.

The acquisition of additional land along the east shore of Lake Ozette for the protection of the watershed is unnecessary. Once again, water quality and riparian protection are currently ensured by the Washington State Forest Practice Act RCW 76.09 (see WAC 222-24, WAC 222-30, WAC 222-50-010) and the Washington State Department of Natural Resources Habitat Conservation Plan. Additional land acquisition in this area would place an unnecessary burden on the American taxpayer, to acquire land that is already being protected under existing state law and conservation plans. This proposal would encompass State Forest Board and Common School trust lands currently managed by the Washington State Department of Natural Resources, resulting in the loss of future revenue opportunities to the trusts.

I support alternative A with emphasis placed on maintaining existing roads, facilities and structures.

Queets Alternative D- Preferred Alternative Page M-40 item 4

The proposed acquisition of additional land north of the Queets to protect the watershed is unnecessary. Once again, water quality and riparian protection are currently ensured by the Washington State Forest Practice Act RCW 76.09 (see WAC 222-24, WAC 222-30, WAC 222-50-010) and the Washington State Department of Natural Resources Habitat Conservation Plan. Additional land acquisition in this area would place a unnecessary burden on the American taxpayer to acquire land that is already being protected under state laws and conservation plans. This proposal would encompass Common School and Normal School trust lands currently managed by the Washington State Department of Natural Resources, resulting in the loss of future revenue opportunities to the trusts.

I support alternative A with emphasis placed on maintaining existing roads, facilities and structures.

Kalaloch Alternative D- Preferred Alternative Page M-36 items 1&4

The coastal erosion threat and channel migration of Kalaloch Creek are overstated. Coastal erosion is a natural ongoing process. It will be decades or even centuries before coastal erosion becomes a real threat to facilities and structures. The lodge and cabins

are well above the active flood plain of Kalaloch Creek and should remain in their current location as protected cultural resources. Stream bank armoring along the south bank of Kalaloch Creek with logs or root wads would provide erosion protection if it becomes necessary.

The segment of Hwy 101 from Ruby Beach to South Beach Campground is the only place that travelers can view the Pacific Ocean from the highway. Relocating the highway onto state and private forest lands to the east would be costly and irresponsible. Any proposed relocation to the east would result in highway construction through forested wetlands and Marbled Murrelet habitat near Cedar Creek. The highway relocation concept should be removed from the plan.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]
Port Angeles
Washington 98363

[REDACTED]