

PEPC 191160

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Signatures

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DSC-P

September 30, 2006

National Park Service  
Denver Service Center – Cliff Hawkes, DSC-P  
12795 West Alameda Parkway  
PO BOX 25287  
Denver, CO 80225-9901

Dear Sir:

We, the citizens of the Clearwater community, are writing in response to the Olympic National Park General Management Plan (ID:10233), specifically the plans covering the Kalaloch and Queets areas. We have discussed alternatives A through D as a community and recommend the following actions be taken:

Kalaloch

1. Retain Highway 101 in its current location.

Reasoning:

- a. Allows more access to the resources in the Kalaloch area of the Olympic National Park including beach access and harvesting of traditional food sources.
  - b. Retains access to a unique area of the coastal scenic highway in Washington State. The rocky cliffs and scenic overlooks cannot be accessed anywhere else on the Washington coast.
  - c. Provides the least amount of environmental impact to the coastal park strip.
  - d. Is the only fiscally responsible alternative.
2. Return beach access to the original suite of trails, including Beach 1 through 7 and Ruby Beach.
    - a. Allows more access to the beaches in the Kalaloch area of the Olympic National Park.
  3. Expand camping facilities.
    - a. Creates more camping opportunities in the area including both beach and forest access.
  4. Reopen all park beaches to the traditional resource harvest areas including the gathering of fish and shellfish.
    - a. Spreads the impact of resource harvesting over a larger area and allows for more available food resources.
  5. Enlarge visitor's center with room for local culture and visitor center exhibits.
    - a. Retains the local history and culture for future generations.

Queets

1. No further expansion of the park boundary.
  - a. Retains the tax base needed to support local public resources, such as schools, healthcare and fire protection.
  - b. Reserves the existing areas for the traditional harvesting of food resources by the local community, including hunting, fishing, mushroom gathering, berry picking and etc.
  - c. Inclusion of this land within the park boundary would not significantly create more protection for salmon habitat or wild life resources.
2. Install a pedestrian bridge across the Queets River trail and improve the existing boat ramps.
  - a. Allows further access to the Queets River hiking trail and fishing resources. This will specifically improve the capabilities for the elderly and very young not able to withstand the raging river crossing.
3. Reestablish the geographical and cultural signage including; locations of the homesteads and graves, names of streams, and identification of the Olympic Mountain View.
4. Retains the local history and culture for future generations.
5. Reestablish road maintenance to the standards of Jefferson County prior to the land becoming park owned. This includes the campground/trailhead area.
  - a. Maintains full access to the Queets Corridor at all times.
6. Reopen and maintain traditional trails, for example the Telechy creek trail.
  - a. Retains access to the original areas including; homesteads and graves.

These points represent the recommendation of the local community and are complete. If any point in the Olympic National Park General Management Plan has not been mentioned it can be assumed that we feel there should be no changes from what exists today. Please consider these recommendations carefully as the impact of these decisions will weigh most heavily on our local community.

Sincerely,

The undersigned members of the local community.