



# Visitor Use Site Management Planning



## A Message from the Superintendent

Lake Roosevelt National Recreation Area (LARO) is the largest reservoir in the Pacific Northwest, stretching over 130 miles from Grand Coulee Dam to Onion Creek, 16 miles south of the US-Canada border. The National Park Service (NPS) manages more than 300 miles of publicly accessible shoreline that provides a wide range of recreational opportunities. The recreation area's waters, shorelines, and upland areas provide visitors opportunities ranging from solitude to group activities, encompassing a variety of recreational possibilities. Boating, fishing, camping, picnicking, and sightseeing are a few of the activities supported by this regionally popular and nationally significant recreation area.

The NPS is in the process of evaluating potential management strategies for improving visitor experience at nine priority sites:

- Evans
- Gifford
- Keller Ferry
- Marcus Island
- Hunters
- Spring Canyon
- Kettle Falls
- Fort Spokane
- Porcupine Bay

These sites provide a variety of recreation facilities to support activities such as camping, boating, fishing, and picnicking. While Porcupine has been closed due to a landslide, it is expected that the site will reopen. The NPS is evaluating existing conditions at these sites and the need for management strategies and improvements to better serve a diversity of visitor needs and enhance the quality of the visitor experience.

### Please Attend One of Our Public Meetings:

**SPOKANE | October 17, 2018**—St. Luke's Rehabilitation Institute LL 1&2, 711 S Cowley Street, 6:30 - 7:30 pm

**DAVENPORT | October 17, 2018**—Memorial Hall, 511 Park Street, 6:30 - 7:30 pm

**COLVILLE | October 18, 2018**—Spokane Community College - Colville Room 132, 985 S Elm Street, 6:30 - 7:30 pm

**GRAND COULEE | October 18, 2018**—Coulee Dam City Hall Ballroom, 300 Lincoln Avenue, 6:30 - 7:30 pm

### Your input is important to us!

You can also provide comments at the  
National Park Service planning website:

<https://parkplanning.nps.gov/parks>

Search by park, and click on Lake Roosevelt NRA to find  
"Visitor Use Site Management Planning"

Comments must be provided by midnight November 16, 2018

The NPS is planning a series of public meetings October 17-18, 2018 (see box above) to gather input and ideas for these nine priority sites. Your views are important and will help shape potential management strategies and improvements at these sites in the national recreation area. No decisions have been made yet on what approach to take, and in addition to providing input at these meetings, you also will have opportunities to provide feedback in the future as we proceed with this planning effort. I appreciate your interest in Lake Roosevelt National Recreation Area and look forward to hearing from you!

Sincerely,

Dan A. Foster, Superintendent



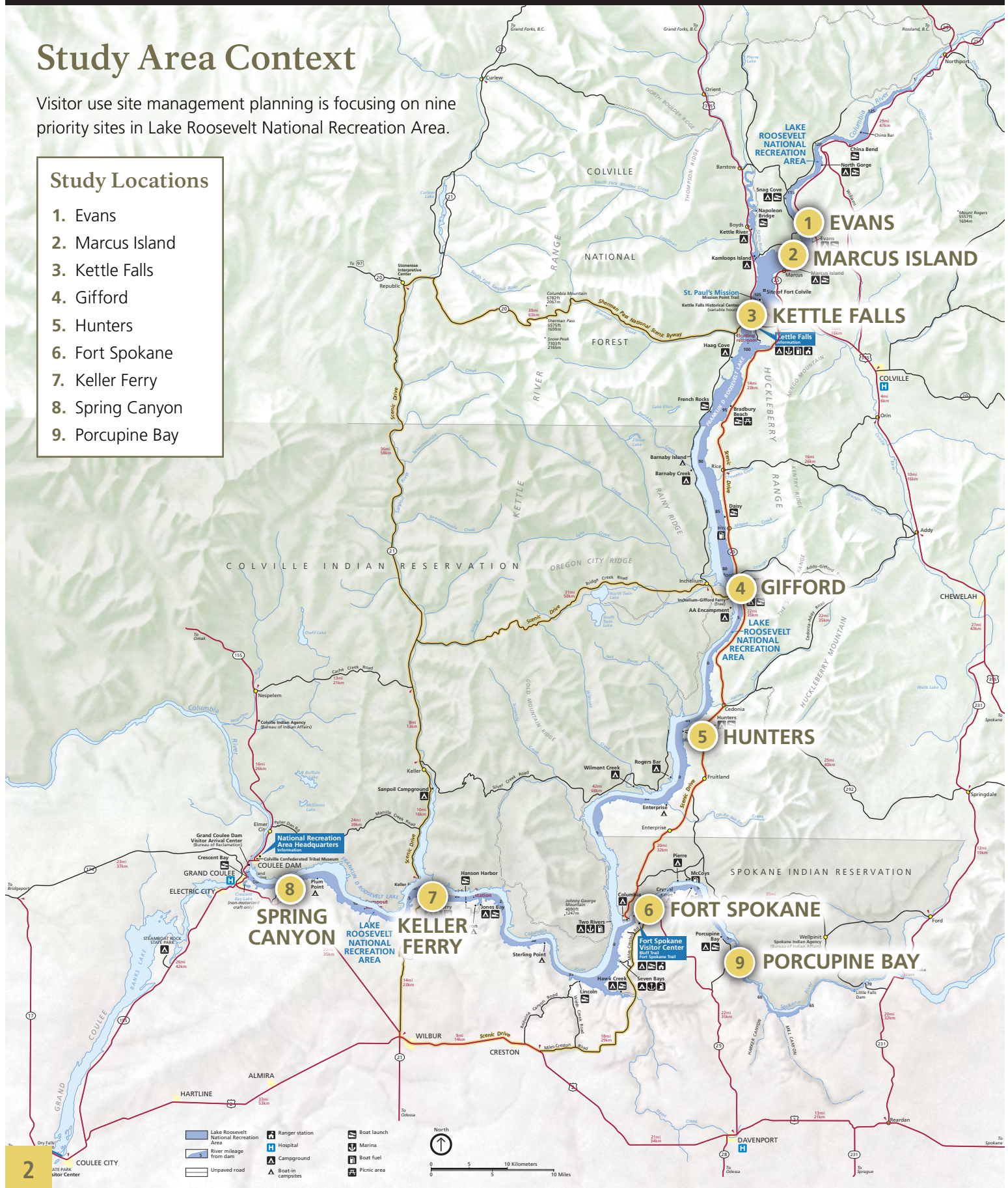


## Study Area Context

Visitor use site management planning is focusing on nine priority sites in Lake Roosevelt National Recreation Area.

### Study Locations

1. Evans
2. Marcus Island
3. Kettle Falls
4. Gifford
5. Hunters
6. Fort Spokane
7. Keller Ferry
8. Spring Canyon
9. Porcupine Bay







Evans Courtesy Dock Area



Spring Canyon Camping

## The Need for Management Strategies & Improvements

Management strategies and supporting improvements are needed at these nine heavily used sites to address a wider range of visitor interests and needs related to camping, boating, day use, and other activities. Because recreation uses are changing and visitors are using a variety of camping vehicles, many of them larger than in past decades, there is a need to improve and update campgrounds. The NPS is considering diversifying and enhancing overnight camping experiences and recreation opportunities as well as improving visitor safety through circulation and access improvements at the nine locations. By directing and concentrating visitor use in appropriate areas, it is expected that there would be less congestion and conflicts in use, resulting in an enhanced visitor experience. The NPS also would update facilities to meet federal accessibility standards, increase the sustainability of facilities and resources, and improve the efficiency of maintenance and care of the nine sites.

## Questions for Public Input—Tell Us What You Think:

- *What do you see as the primary visitor use issues that the NPS should address at the nine sites being studied, and why?*
- *Of the preliminary management strategies presented, which do you feel would best address the issues you described for the nine sites, and why?*
- *What other strategies and ideas would you recommend?*

Please submit your comments at the  
National Park Service planning website:

<https://parkplanning.nps.gov/parks>

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## Desired Conditions

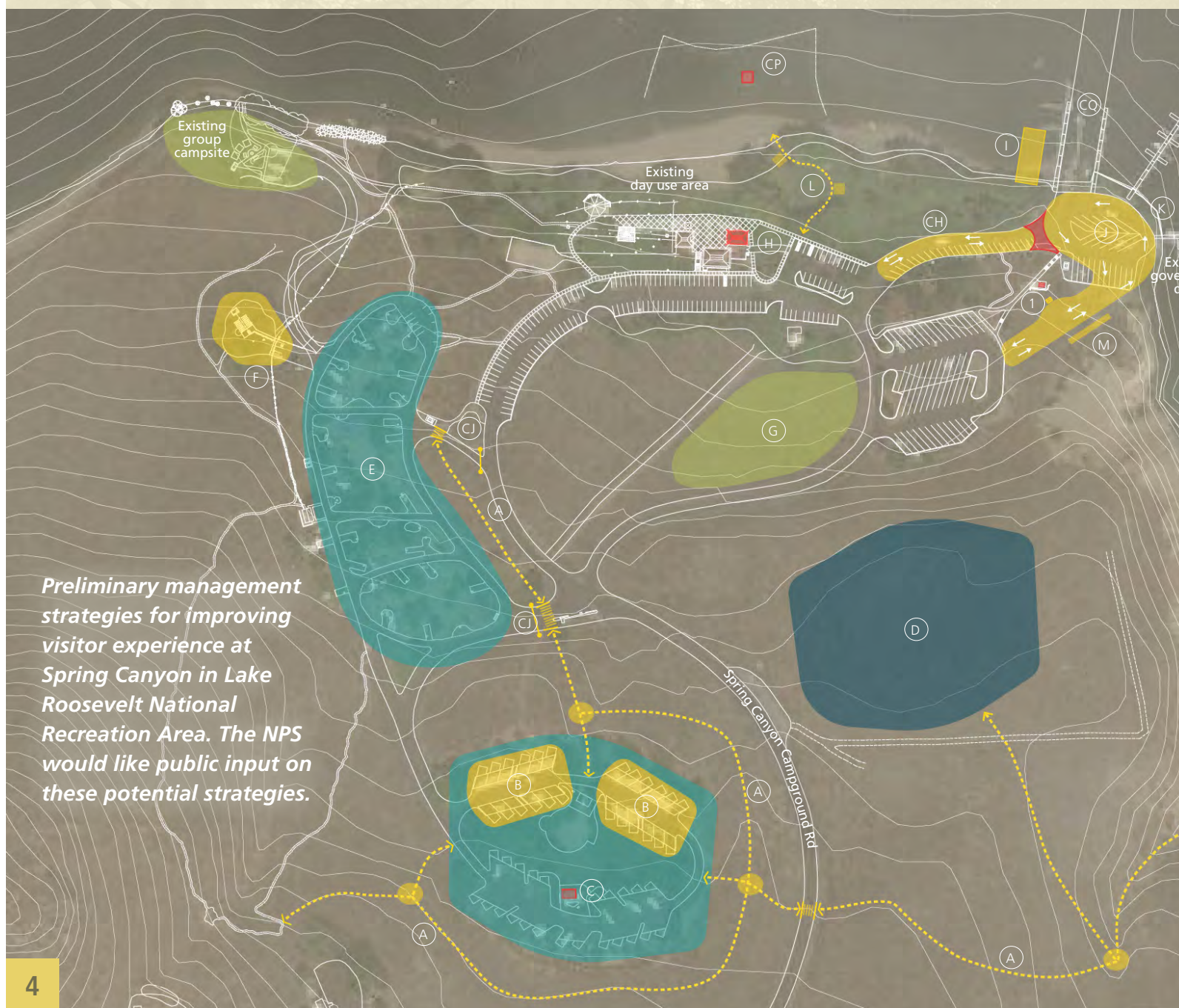
The following desired conditions are statements of aspiration that describe resource conditions and visitor experiences and opportunities that the NPS will strive to achieve and maintain at Lake Roosevelt National Recreation Area.

### VISITOR EXPERIENCE AND PUBLIC ACCESS—

*Visitors will have opportunities to:*

- Enjoy high quality recreation experiences that align with their diverse interests and abilities.
- Explore publicly accessible shorelines with key sites serving as launch points for exploration and recreation.
- Access facilities and services that meet universal design principles and federal accessibility standards.
- Access sites more safely, efficiently, and effectively through improved entry and egress, circulation, and parking.

*Preliminary management strategies for improving visitor experience at Spring Canyon in Lake Roosevelt National Recreation Area. The NPS would like public input on these potential strategies.*





**AT CAMPGROUNDS—Visitors will be able to:**

- Camp in a variety of sites depending on their interests, needs, and vehicle types, (car/trailer, tent, and recreational vehicle) that offer more direct experiences of the resource lands and a sense of separation from others.
- Experience a variety of camping settings and varying degrees of privacy between campsites depending on their interests—including some more social camping experiences and some more isolated campsites surrounded by nature.

- Access developed areas with more facilities and conveniences as well as less developed areas that provide a more rustic experience with limited facilities and more interactions with nature. No campsites would provide full RV hook-ups given limitations on development and utility access.

**AT DAY USE AREAS—Visitors will be able to:**

- Enjoy enhanced and upgraded day use facilities that meet their diverse needs and interests.
- Experience a variety of enhanced day use activities throughout the nine areas, such as accessible loop trails and nature trails with self-guided interpretive displays and accessible piers and water access facilities.

**AT BOAT LAUNCH AREAS—Visitors will be able to experience:**

- A greater variety of boat launch facilities, including ongoing motorized boat launches, as well as non-motorized launch areas.

**LEGEND**

- RV Area
- Traditional/Tent Area
- Group Campsites
- Improvement
- Trail
- Removal

Go to: <https://parkplanning.nps.gov/parks> to view strategies for all nine sites, as well as additional example campsite illustrations (search by park for Lake Roosevelt NRA and click on "Visitor Use Site Management Planning").

**SPRING CANYON  
SITE 8****Preliminary Management  
Strategies Common to All Sites**

- (CA) Make accessibility improvements
- (CB) Put in RV length spots
- (CC) Delineate campsites
- (CD) Create space for tents
- (CE) Delineate pedestrian circulation
- (CF) Improve vehicular circulation
- (CG) Add directional signage
- (CH) Improve parking
- (CI) Move or add car counters
- (CJ) Close areas for winter season
- (CL) Implement vegetation management
- (CM) Install water efficient irrigation
- (CN) Use permeable surface materials
- (CP) Remove swim dock
- (CQ) Automate skid docks

**Other Possible  
Management Strategies**

- (A) Create multi-use trail from upper campground to day use area
- (B) Remove canopy shades for these 24 spots
- (C) Remove one comfort station at upper loop
- (D) Add an RV campground loop
- (E) Reduce the number of campsites in the lower loop
- (F) Convert group campsite to host site
- (G) Add group campsite to the area above the day use area
- (H) Remove/retrofit concession building. Potential for food trucks
- (I) Add non-motorized boat launch adjacent to existing boat launch
- (J) Create two-way loop to improve circulation at boat launch
- (K) Add government dock parking
- (L) Create accessible pathway to shore with accessible picnic areas
- (M) Provide rigging and staging locations for boats at boat launch

**Also May Consider**

- (1) Relocate fish cleaning station

## Desired Conditions for Enhancing Sensitive Areas

**NATURAL RESOURCES**—would be enhanced through an emphasis of native vegetation to increase and enhance wildlife habitat in all landscaped areas and a reduction in lawn and non-native shrubs, groundcovers, and grasses. Natural resources also will be sustainably maintained and managed over the long term through revegetation with native plantings, surface water management, water and energy conservation, and other best practices that preserve and protect natural processes.

**CULTURAL RESOURCES**—would be preserved and protected because improvement projects would require site surveys and documentation to define and avoid impacts to these areas, including any areas with special status (national historic designations, etc.) that may require special management attention.





## Planning Goals

The NPS is considering ideas and concepts for possible improvements at Lake Roosevelt National Recreation Area, and as part of the planning process will be gathering public input to further shape potential solutions. This planning process will:

- Define appropriate functions for facilities (i.e., campgrounds, boat launches and day use areas) in the nine priority developed areas.
- Recommend infrastructure redesigns with consideration of visitor use management including visitor use patterns, connections between sites, use types, site resources, and facilities.
- Establish a consistent, unified character for development.
- Serve as a roadmap to guide decisions on capital improvements, preservation, and development.

### SPRING CANYON SITE 8

#### Preliminary Management Strategies Common to All Sites

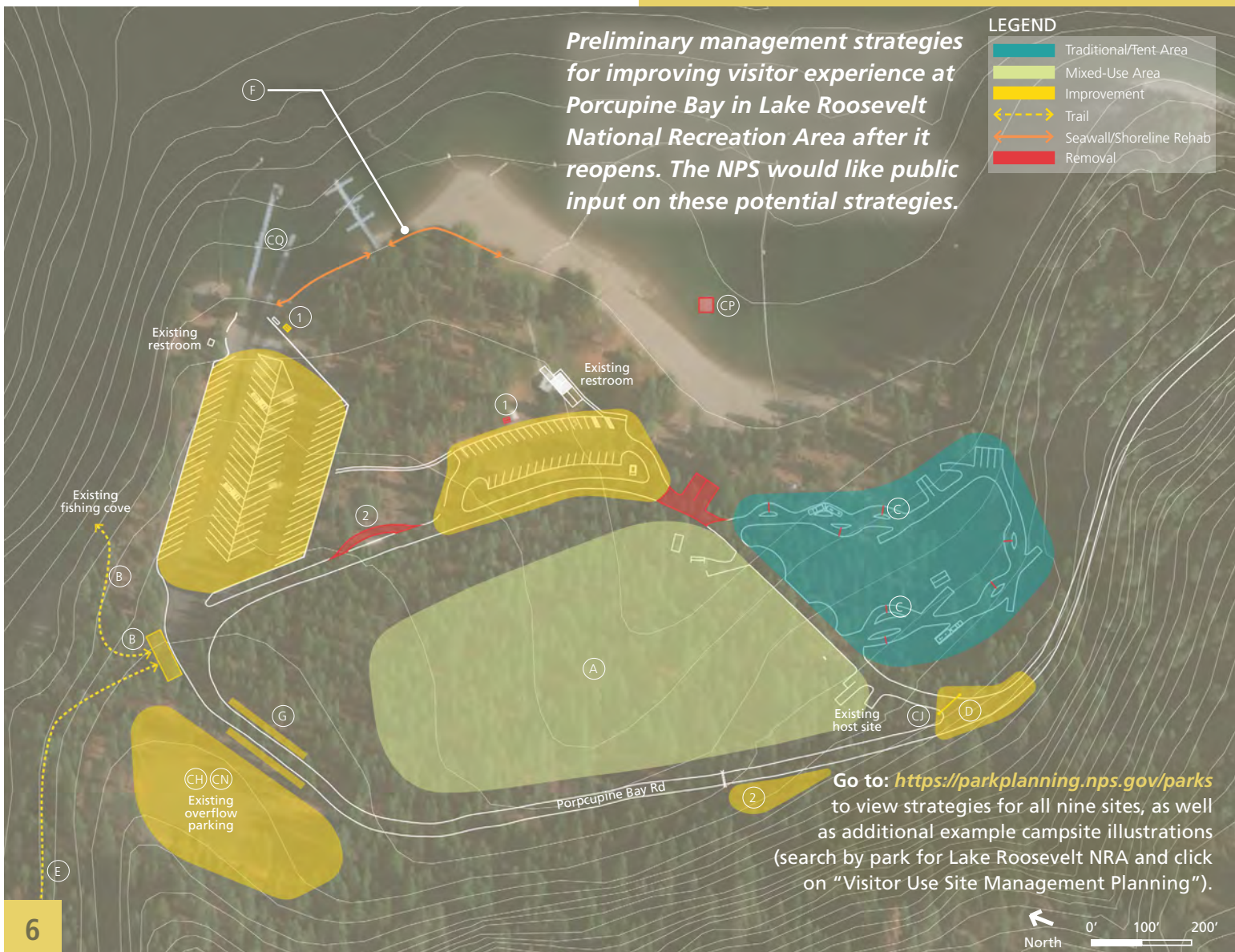
- (CA) Make accessibility improvements
- (CB) Put in RV length spots
- (CC) Delineate campsites
- (CD) Create space for tents
- (CE) Clarify pedestrian circulation
- (CF) Improve vehicular circulation
- (CG) Add directional signage
- (CH) Improve parking
- (CI) Move or add car counters
- (CJ) Close areas for winter season
- (CL) Implement vegetation management
- (CN) Use permeable surface materials
- (CP) Remove swim dock
- (CQ) Automate skid docks

#### Other Possible Management Strategies

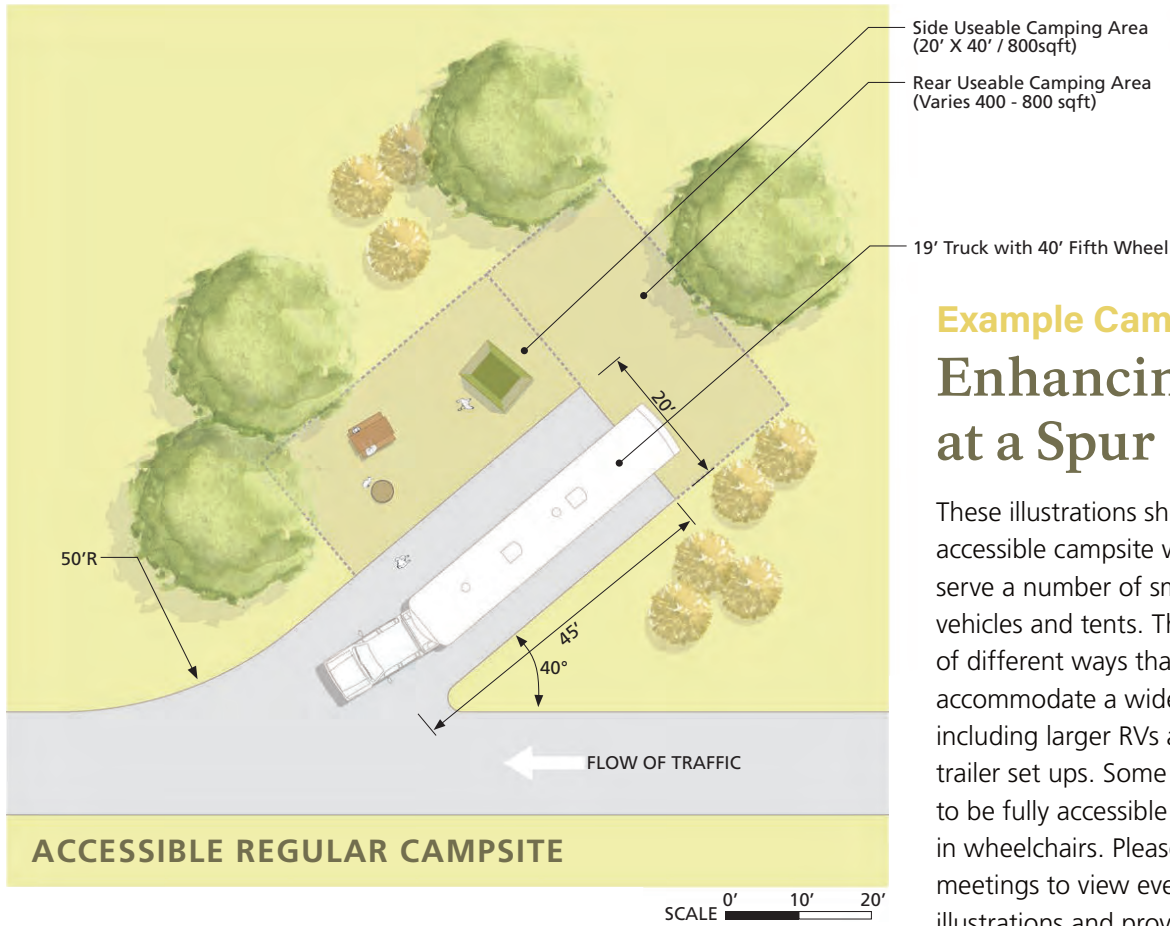
- (A) Connect new campground loop, with RV and tent campsites, to existing campground loop and revise to one-way traffic flow
- (B) Add new trailhead and trail to fishing cove
- (C) Remove curbs splitting campsites in existing loop
- (D) Move entrance gate to allow for turn around
- (E) Create trail to Fort Spokane to provide backpacking opportunity
- (F) Rehabilitate shoreline as seawall deteriorates
- (G) Provide rigging and staging locations for boats at boat launch

#### Also May Consider

- ① Relocate fish cleaning station
- ② Relocate dump station to Porcupine Bay Road







## Example Campsite Illustrations— Enhancing Accessibility at a Spur Campsite

These illustrations show typical dimensions for an accessible campsite with a spur layout that could serve a number of small to medium sized camping vehicles and tents. The NPS is considering a number of different ways that campsites can be adapted to accommodate a wide variety of camping vehicles, including larger RVs as well as traditional vehicle/trailer set ups. Some campsites would be improved to be fully accessible for use by visitors/campers in wheelchairs. Please attend one of the public meetings to view even more example campsite illustrations and provide comments on these ideas.





## Example Campsite Illustrations— Enhancing Accessibility at a Pull-Through Campsite

These illustrations show typical dimensions for an accessible campsite with a pull-through layout that could serve a number of small to medium sized camping vehicles and tents. The NPS is considering a number of different ways that campsites can be adapted to accommodate a wide variety of camping vehicles, including larger RVs as well as traditional vehicle/trailer set ups. Some campsites would be improved to be fully accessible for use by visitors/campers in wheelchairs. Please attend one of the public meetings to view even more example campsite illustrations and provide comments on these ideas.

