

**ACCESSIBILITY SELF-EVALUATION AND
TRANSITION PLAN**

**EBEY'S LANDING
NATIONAL HISTORICAL RESERVE
WASHINGTON**

MARCH 2022

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Ebey's Landing National Historical Reserve Accessibility Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan (SETP) includes findings from the self-evaluation process, as well as a plan for improving accessibility Reserve-wide on non-NPS lands with interpretive media. The Accessibility Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan resulted from the work of an NPS interdisciplinary team, including planning, design, and construction professionals; and interpretive, resource, visitor safety, maintenance, and accessibility specialists. Site plans, photographs, and specific actions for identified Reserve areas were developed. Associated time frames and implementation strategies were established to assist NPS staff in scheduling and performing required actions and to document completed work. Reserve policies, practices, communication, and training needs were also addressed. The goals of the plan are to 1) document existing barriers to accessibility for people with disabilities, 2) provide an effective approach for upgrading facilities, services, activities, and programs, and 3) instill a culture around creating universal access.

The following are the key Reserve experiences and associated Reserve areas addressed in the transition plan:

- 1) **Experience diverse landscape conditions and visual connections, to see how land use has changed over time, from agricultural fields, to historic buildings, and military forts to a small town edged by modern development** – Cottage Trust Board Office, Coupeville Ferry Terminal, Ferry House, Jacob & Sarah Ebey House and Blockhouse, Monroe Landing, Prairie Overlook, Prairie Wayside, Pratt Loop Trailhead, Pratt Sheep Barn, and Reuble Farmstead
- 2) **Learn about the history of Coupeville, one of the oldest towns in Washington, and its key role in supporting commerce in the larger Puget Sound region** – Monroe Landing, and Wharf at Downtown Coupeville Waterfront
- 3) **Understand the fundamental role of farming in the livelihood and growth of the central Whidbey Island community and the establishment of the Reserve** – Cottage Trust Board Office, Ferry House, Jacob & Sarah Ebey House and Blockhouse, Monroe Landing, Prairie Overlook, Prairie Wayside, Pratt Loop Trailhead, Pratt Sheep Barn, and Reuble Farmstead
- 4) **Experience the biologically rich and sheltered deep water harbor, which has served as a much-desired center of sustenance and commerce for thousands of years, and sustains a diverse shell and finfish population** – Coupeville Ferry Terminal, Ebey's Landing State Park, Ferry House, Monroe Landing, Prairie Overlook, Prairie Wayside, Reuble Farmstead, and Wharf at Downtown Coupeville Waterfront
- 5) **Understand how the climate, resources, and geologic features of the Reserve result in an unusual diversity of plant and animal species, communities, and habitats** – Coupeville Ferry Terminal, Ebey's Landing State

Park, Ferry House, Monroe Landing, Prairie Overlook, Prairie Wayside, Pratt Loop Trailhead, Pratt Sheep Barn, and Reuble Farmstead

- 6) **Experience the soundscape and dark night skies of the Reserve** – Ebey’s Landing State Park, Ferry House, Monroe Landing, Prairie Overlook, Pratt Loop Trailhead, Reuble Farmstead, and Wharf at Downtown Coupeville Waterfront
- 7) **Participate in recreational opportunities including fishing, bird watching, hiking or walking on trails, viewing historic structures, bicycling, picnicking, and visiting beaches, or enjoying scenic drives on rural roads** – Cottage Trust Board Office, Coupeville Ferry Terminal, Ebey’s Landing State Park, Ferry House, Jacob & Sarah Ebey House and Blockhouse, Monroe Landing, Prairie Overlook, Prairie Wayside, Pratt Loop Trailhead, Pratt Sheep Barn, Reuble Farmstead, and Wharf at Downtown Coupeville Waterfront

Overall, similar services, activities, and programs were found throughout Reserve areas, as were assessment findings for physical and program accessibility.

PHYSICAL ACCESSIBILITY

Recurring findings were generally identified for parking areas, accessible paths of travel, outdoor recreation access routes, hiking trails, and visitor information areas such as kiosks, interpretive panels, and waysides. These findings included surfaces that were not firm and stable and slopes that exceeded allowable standards. Restrooms had a variety of features that did not meet required standards. Benches did not always meet appropriate standards for clear ground space. Some informational and wayfinding signage was missing or lacked braille where required.

Other physical access issues where improvements are recommended include providing accessible parking, and minor upgrades to trailhead areas. In addition, the Reuble Farmstead, and Cottage Trust Board Office will require improvements in order to provide accessible community meeting spaces. Assessments for trails not specifically identified in this plan will need to be conducted in the future. Refer to Appendix H: “Trail Assessment Protocol” for additional information on how hiking trails are assessed and what standards apply.

PROGRAM ACCESSIBILITY

Recurring findings related to program accessibility included font and contrast issues at interpretive waysides that require modifications to meet size and readability standards. In general, interpretive panels, waysides, publications, videos, and self-guided tours did not have alternate formats in braille, large print, open captioning, or audio or electronic formats. Assistive listening devices were not available for people with hearing loss for guided tours or special events. Audio description for ranger-led interpretive tours and self-guided tours that describe visual elements to persons with low or no vision were also not available. Tactile exhibits were limited.

There are many opportunities to improve programmatic access in ways that are simple and impactful. Areas that could better serve visitors with disabilities through the addition of alternate formats include exhibits at the Jacob & Sarah Ebey House and Blockhouse, programs at the Pratt Sheep Barn, waysides and exhibits at self-guided interpretive sites, and virtual tours of the Ferry House. Additional accessibility information could be added to the Reserve's website to help visitors understand the types of programs available to visitors with disabilities.

RESERVE-WIDE ACCESSIBILITY

Some of the more noteworthy Reserve-wide accessibility challenges that were discussed by the planning team during the self-evaluation and assessment process include: providing accessible experiences within historic structures, constructing accessible trails and features within a cultural landscape, and the challenges of improving accessibility within a joint management structure with limited staff and resources.

It is recommended that the Reserve employ trained consultants to assist in determining how best to address accessibility improvements Reserve-wide and to ensure that design and implementation of alternate format programs meet the needs of the intended audiences. Notify visitors through signage placed in appropriate locations and in Reserve publications that alternative formats are available.

Creating Reserve-wide accessibility requires staff awareness, understanding, and appropriate action. The assessment process served as a field training tool that increases staff knowledge and commitment toward embracing accessibility as a core value of the Reserve. Continued training in physical and programmatic access requirements for all Reserve staff, particularly those in maintenance and interpretation, is strongly advised.

Because of fiscal constraints and limited resources, staff will need to determine which improvements will benefit the greatest numbers of visitors with disabilities. Suggested implementation time frames and relative costs need to be factored into all accessibility investment decisions.

Ebey's Landing National Historical Reserve strives to be inclusive and welcoming. There is a general awareness among Reserve staff about accessibility needs, which is reflected in new planning and ongoing maintenance. Some accessible trail experiences are currently provided or are being improved at various locations in the Reserve. Staff are aware of accessibility issues in their services, activities, and programs and are committed to making improvements to accommodate a wider diversity of visitors.

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INTRODUCTION

Since 1916, the National Park Service (NPS) has preserved, unimpaired, the natural and cultural resources and values of the national park system, while also providing for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of current and future generations.

Many of our national parks were founded because of their stunning views, extreme and unique geography, challenging and sensitive natural environments, and historic and fragile structures. This park unit, Ebey's Landing National Historical Reserve, and other park units exist because of their history and resources. The NPS mission balances protection of resources (both natural and cultural) with visitation. Facilities, services, activities, and programs were designed and built within park units to accommodate our visitors and help them better understand their purpose and significance.

Many facilities were constructed prior to the passage of laws and policies that reflect the commitment of the National Park Service to provide access to the widest cross section of the public and to ensure compliance with the Architectural Barriers Act of 1968, the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Equal Employment Opportunity Act of 1972, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 USC 12207). The accessibility of commercial services within national parks is also governed by all applicable federal laws. After 100 years of operation, the National Park Service continues to work toward a more inclusive environment. The more than 400 park units that comprise the national park system today include not only the large western parks, for which the agency is well known, but also nationally significant urban parks, historic sites, monuments, reserves, parkways, battlefields, and a diversity of other park types across the country.

For a century, the National Park Service has been a leader in connecting people to both our natural and cultural heritage. Visitors today have different needs and expectations, and the agency must adapt to meet these changing demands. Modern scientific research and visitor trend analysis provide new insight into accessibility opportunities and challenges in the national park system. There are approximately 60 million people with disabilities in the United States (US) today, and the number is expected to rise to 71 million in upcoming years as more Baby Boomers reach retirement age (people 65 and older). This information helps the National Park Service understand changing visitation patterns, the nexus between resource stewardship and accessibility, and the impacts of managing visitors, resources, and infrastructure against the threat of decreased funding. Adequate planning can identify solutions to challenges and provide services with the knowledge and understanding that serves as a trajectory full of opportunity for current and future visitors. The National Park Service is committed to making NPS facilities, programs, services, and employment opportunities accessible to all people, including those with disabilities.

RESERVE DESCRIPTION

Ebey's Landing National Historical Reserve is in western Washington State on Whidbey Island. Situated at the entrance of Puget Sound, 50 miles south of the Canadian border and 27 miles north of Seattle, it includes Penn Cove and is surrounded by the waters of the Strait of Juan de Fuca, Saratoga Passage, and Admiralty Inlet.

The National Parks and Recreation Act of 1978 (Public Law 95-625, Section 508(a), 92 Stat. 3507) established Ebey's Landing as the first national historical reserve in order to protect, preserve, and interpret nationally significant historical resources that comprise a continuous record of exploration and American settlement in Puget Sound from the 19th century to the present day.

The boundaries of the 17,572-acre Reserve include 13,617 acres of land and 3,955 surface acres of water (Penn Cove), coinciding with the boundaries of the 1973 (amended 1997) Central Whidbey Island Historic District. This area retains many characteristics of mid-to-late 19th century development and maritime commerce, including Territorial-era architecture and the land claims filed by westward-migrating settlers under the Oregon Territory's Donation Land Claim Act (1850–1855). The Reserve bears the name of Isaac Ebey, the first of these settlers to permanently settle on Whidbey Island.

Most of the land (approximately 85%) within the Reserve is privately owned, with the rest in a combination of private, town, state, and federal ownership. Approximately 2,023 acres are currently protected with NPS-held scenic easements, and 413 acres are owned in fee and managed by the National Park Service.

In addition to lands and structures protected by NPS easements, local design review, and zoning, the National Park Service has acquired, in fee, certain resources that are critical to preservation and interpretation in the Reserve. These include:

- Scenic areas suited to interpretation and public access: the Prairie Overlook and Prairie Wayside, and other scenic areas in the vicinity of Ebey's Landing;
- Territorial-era historic structures that illustrate mid-19th-century European American settlement in the Reserve: the 1860 Ferry House and the 1856 Jacob and Sarah Ebey House and Blockhouse;
- Historic agricultural buildings that tell the story of the Pratt family's era of stewardship in the Reserve: a rehabilitated 1930s shingled caretaker's cottage that serves as the Trust Board office and a 1930s sheep barn and outbuildings currently being rehabilitated for use as a rustic classroom; and
- Active farm lands acquired to protect the landscape from development, including two historic farms: the Crockett-Engle Farm, also called Farm I, and the Reuble Farm, also called Farm II. These farms are presently operated under historic leases with the longer-term intent to be sold or transferred into private ownership. Farm I (115 acres) includes a large and extensive complex of agricultural facilities including the historic Elisha Rockwell House. Farm II (113 acres) includes a 7.2-acre cluster of mostly historic agricultural buildings that serve as a base of NPS operations in the Reserve.

Other NPS-owned historic structures have undergone more basic treatment efforts, generally preservation and stabilization.

Natural forces and human activities have shaped the distinctive landscape of the Reserve today. Its open, rural character reflects historical land use patterns and ecological change that have forged a strong relationship between the built and natural environments, blurring the lines between where one ends and the other begins. The landforms, soils, and shorelines of this island are the result of glaciation over thousands of years. Receding ice left lakes and wetlands, which influenced soil formation and helped establish the rich and fertile prairies found in the Reserve.

Native American settlement and land use closely followed the retreat of glaciers, as shown by an unusually rich and early archeological record. Many scenic views recorded by Captain George Vancouver in his 1792 journal are still evident. Coast Salish people inhabited the island at the time of Vancouver's expedition, and the landscape encountered by the explorers and later by settlers had already been shaped by thousands of years of human occupation. Patterns of settlement, historic homes, pastoral farmsteads, and commercial buildings are still within their original farm, forest, and marine settings.

The impetus to protect central Whidbey Island arose from a local citizens' initiative to safeguard Ebey's Prairie from development incompatible with its rural character. The concept of the Reserve was first envisioned by the community, with voluntary participation in land protection on the part of private landowners. The community's effort to preserve the Reserve's rural character is both supported by and sustains a vibrant place-based economy. Active agriculture in addition to outdoor recreation and heritage tourism are valued and help foster protection of the Reserve's sense of place.

The Reserve's enabling legislation commemorates a community that has evolved from early exploration to the present and consists of descendants of original settlers as well as new residents. Therefore, the Reserve cannot be interpreted from one specific point in time: the community it comprises is a healthy, vital one that allows for growth while respecting and preserving its heritage, including the heritage of native peoples who lived in the area for thousands of years before European American settlement.

Management of the Reserve is guided by the 1980 Comprehensive Plan for Ebey's Landing National Historical Reserve, the NPS 2006 general management plan, and the 1988 Interlocal Agreement for the Administration of Ebey's Landing National Historical Reserve.

Day-to-day management and administration of NPS programs and NPS-owned properties and assets, and transfer of federal funding to the Trust Board, is guided by a cooperative agreement between the National Park Service and the Trust Board. The cooperative agreement outlines specific management functions delegated to the Trust Board, functions that will be jointly performed by the National Park Service and the Trust Board, and programs and functions retained by the National Park Service.

RESERVE PURPOSE AND SIGNIFICANCE STATEMENTS

In 2018, Ebey's Landing National Historical Reserve completed a foundation document. Foundation documents provide basic guidance for planning and management decisions by identifying the Reserve's purpose, significance, and fundamental resources and values. The Ebey's Landing National Historical Reserve foundation plan identifies special mandates and administrative commitments and provides an assessment and prioritization of planning and data needs. Understanding these elements helps set the stage for appropriately integrating accessibility into the overall priorities and plans of the Reserve. The following foundation elements were identified for Ebey's Landing National Historical Reserve.

Reserve Purpose

The purpose of Ebey's Landing National Historical Reserve is to preserve and protect a rural community, which provides an unbroken historical record from 19th century exploration and settlement in Puget Sound to the present time, and to commemorate the first thorough exploration of the Puget Sound area by Captain George Vancouver in 1792; settlement by Colonel Isaac Neff Ebey, who led the first permanent settlers to Whidbey Island; early active settlement during the years of the Donation Land Law (1850–1855) and thereafter; and the growth since 1883 of the historic town of Coupeville.

Reserve Significance

The following significance statements have been identified for Ebey's Landing National Historical Reserve. (Please note that the statements are in no particular order.)

- Spurred by a grassroots movement to preserve a multigenerational rural community, Ebey's Landing National Historical Reserve was the nation's first national historical reserve, a preservation partnership cooperatively managed by a trust board representing local, state, and federal interests.
- Strategically located near the entrance to Puget Sound, the Reserve's geographic setting and its rich soils and marine resources have attracted and shaped human habitation across millennia. Thousands of years of Coast Salish land cultivation sustained the distinctive pattern of prairies and forest that facilitated early agricultural development of the Reserve. This vivid, unbroken record of Pacific Northwest history is reflected in cultural landscape features, from prairies to Coupeville and Penn Cove, and from farms to military forts.
- European American settlement of Central Whidbey Island represents a distinctive chapter in the story of westward migration as pioneer settlers, drawn to the Northwest by the 1850 Donation Land Claim Act, formed a rural community that endures today. Their land claims, which are still visible, helped secure U.S. claims in the Pacific Northwest and define an international border.

- The living, changing landscape of the Reserve and its organization around historic structures and traditional land use practices inspired the development of a new and nationally influential approach to cultural landscape analysis and preservation.

ACCESSIBILITY SELF-EXAMINATION AND TRANSITION PLAN

The creation of a transition plan is mandated by regulations under the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as they apply to the US Department of the Interior, which states that “No otherwise qualified handicapped individual in the United States . . . shall, solely by reason of his handicap, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal assistance.” It specifically requires park units to document architectural barriers, solutions for overcoming these barriers, and time frames for making improvements to increase accessibility.

This Accessibility Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan has been prepared to provide Ebey’s Landing National Historical Reserve a tool for addressing overall needs associated with making the Reserve accessible when viewed in its entirety. The plan is based on an understanding of key experiences and establishes a methodical process that identifies, prioritizes, and outlines improvements to accessibility. The plan proposes strategies for implementation over time and in a manner consistent with requirements and protocols.

All key experiences and all areas of the Reserve were identified to ensure that all Reserve programs were considered in the plan. Reserve areas were then evaluated against measurable criteria to determine which would be assessed for the purposes of the plan. Each Reserve area assessed was evaluated to identify barriers that prevented participation in Reserve programs, and the best manner in which access could be improved. In some situations, it is not reasonably practicable to create physical or universal design solutions. A transition plan was drafted documenting the barriers and setting forth a strategy for removing them.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLAN

One of the goals of the plan is to increase accessibility awareness and understanding among staff, partners, and volunteers of Ebey’s Landing National Historical Reserve. The NPS superintendent is responsible for implementing and integrating the plan in coordination with Reserve partners as needed for actions on non-NPS lands within the Reserve boundary.

ACCESSIBILITY SELF-EVALUATION AND TRANSITION PLAN PROCESS

SELF-EVALUATION

The following graphic illustrates the primary steps in the self-evaluation process. Each step is further described in the following text.



Step 1: Identify Key Reserve Experiences and Reserve Areas

Key Reserve experiences are those experiences that are iconic and important for visitors to understand the purpose and significance of the Reserve. They are “musts” for visitors. Reserve legislation serves as the foundation for key experiences, which are identified through the Reserve’s purpose, significance, interpretive themes, and those programs or activities highlighted in communications. Key experiences were identified at Ebey’s Landing National Historical Reserve to ensure that planned improvements were prioritized to best increase overall access to the experiences available.

- 1) Experience diverse landscape conditions and visual connections, to see how land use has changed over time, from agricultural fields, to historic buildings, and military forts to a small town edged by modern development.
- 2) Learn about the history of Coupeville, one of the oldest towns in Washington, and its key role in supporting commerce in the larger Puget Sound region.
- 3) Understand the fundamental role of farming in the livelihood and growth of the central Whidbey Island community and the establishment of the Reserve.
- 4) Experience the biologically rich and sheltered deep water harbor, which has served as a much-desired center of sustenance and commerce for thousands of years, and sustains a diverse shell and finfish population.

- 5) Understand how the climate, resources, and geologic features of the Reserve result in an unusual diversity of plant and animal species, communities, and habitats.
- 6) Experience the soundscape and dark night skies of the Reserve.
- 7) Participate in recreational opportunities including fishing, bird watching, hiking or walking on trails, viewing historic structures, bicycling, picnicking, and visiting beaches, or enjoying scenic drives on rural roads.

After key Reserve experiences were identified, all Reserve areas were listed. Next, a matrix was developed to determine which key experiences occurred in each area. A Reserve area is a place defined by the Reserve for visitor or administrative use. All park areas within Ebey's Landing National Historical Reserve were evaluated per criteria in step 2, to determine which, if not all, areas would be assessed.

Step 2: Identify Reserve Areas to be Assessed

The criteria below were used to determine which Reserve areas would receive assessments:

- 1) Level of visitation
- 2) Diversity of services, activities, and programs offered in the area
- 3) Geographic favorability (as a whole, the Reserve areas selected reflect a broad distribution throughout the Reserve)
- 4) Other unique characteristics of the site

The areas selected for assessment provide the best and greatest opportunities for the public to access all key Reserve experiences. These areas received comprehensive assessments as outlined in steps 3 and 4. Areas not assessed at this time are to be assessed and improved as part of future facility alterations or as a component of a future planned construction project.

Step 3: Identify Services, Activities, and Programs in Each Reserve Area

During step 3, all services, activities, and programs within each Reserve area were identified. This process ensured that during step 4 all visitor amenities within a Reserve area, including both physical and programmatic elements, were reviewed for accessibility. The comprehensive lists of services, activities, and programs were the basis for conducting the 12 assessments and documenting all elements as they pertained to improving access to Reserve experiences.

Step 4: Conduct Accessibility Assessment

During step 4, an interdisciplinary assessment team identified physical and programmatic barriers and reviewed possible solutions within each Reserve area.

Existing conditions and barriers to services, activities, and programs were discussed on-site by the assessment team. The assessment team then developed a reasonable range of recommended actions for consideration, including solutions that would provide universal access. Barrier-specific solutions, as well as alternative ways to improve access overall, were addressed and included both physical changes and/or the addition of alternate format methods. In some cases, programmatic alternatives needed to be examined because it was not always possible to eliminate physical barriers due to historic designations, environmental concerns, topography, or sensitive cultural and natural resources. Therefore, a full range of programmatic alternatives was considered that would provide access to the key experience for as many visitors as possible. All field results, including collected data, findings, preliminary options, and conceptual site plans, are organized by Reserve area and formalized with recommendations in the transition plan.

TRANSITION PLAN

The following graphic illustrates the primary steps taken in developing the Ebey's Landing National Historical Reserve transition plan. Each step is further described in the following text.



Step 5: Draft Transition Plan

The next step of the process was drafting the transition plan and implementation strategy. Developing an implementation strategy can be complex because of a large range of coordination efforts associated with scheduling accessibility improvements. All improvement efforts need to consider Reserve activities and operational requirements. The plan recommends accessibility improvements, identifies improvement time frames, and identifies responsible parties for such actions.

Implementation time frames are based on the Reserve's ability to complete the improvements within normal scheduling of Reserve operations and planned projects. Time frames are categorized as follows:

- 1) **Immediate (0–1 year):** Improvements that are easy, quick, and inexpensive to fix internally. It does not require supplemental NPS project funding.

immediate

- 2) **Short-term (1–3 years):** If the improvement does not require supplemental NPS project funding, Reserve staff will initiate the elimination of the barrier internally; or, if a project is currently scheduled for funding, the improvement will be incorporated into the project and the barrier eliminated.

short-term

- 3) **Mid-term (3–7 years):** The Reserve will develop a proposal and submit it for those projects requiring supplemental NPS project funding in the next annual servicewide budget call. For those projects requiring supplemental NPS project funding, the Reserve will submit a request in the next budget call. Improvements will be scheduled dependent upon the year funding is received. If the improvement does not require supplemental NPS project funding, Reserve staff will continue the elimination of the barrier internally.

mid-term

- 4) **Long-term (>7 years):** The Reserve will eliminate the barrier when other work is taking place as part of facility alterations or as a component of a future planned construction project.

long-term

Step 6: Conduct Public Involvement

Public involvement occurs at the draft stage of the transition plan; however, it is recommended that the Reserve initiate public outreach efforts with organizations representing people with disabilities at the beginning of the SETP process. The draft plan will be released for a 30-day period to solicit input from the public including Reserve partners, and, notably, including people with disabilities and organizations that represent people with disabilities, to provide comments and thoughts on whether the document represents a reasonable review of the Reserve's barriers and a feasible and appropriate strategy for overcoming the barriers.

Step 7: Finalize Transition Plan

After the comment period has closed, the NPS, in coordination with the Trust Board, will analyze all comments to determine if any revisions to the plan are necessary. Those revisions will be made before the implementation strategy is finalized. Once finalized, a notification will be sent to the public to announce the plan's availability.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY FOR EBHEY'S LANDING NATIONAL HISTORICAL RESERVE

RESERVE AREAS ASSESSED

All key experiences at Ebey's Landing National Historical Reserve are represented within the areas assessed. Reserve areas not included in the list will be upgraded to current code requirements when facility alteration and/or new construction is planned. Each Reserve area identified for assessment is addressed during the implementation strategy exercise. Refer to Appendix D: "Reserve Areas Not Assessed" for a rationale on why Reserve areas were determined to not be assessed in this planning effort. All Reserve areas assessed are listed in alphabetical order below and identified on the associated map on the following page.

- 1) Cottage Trust Board
Administration Office
- 2) Coupeville Ferry
Terminal
- 3) Ebey's Landing State Park
- 4) Ferry House
- 5) Jacob & Sarah Ebey House
and Blockhouse
- 6) Monroe Landing
- 7) Prairie Overlook
- 8) Prairie Wayside
- 9) Pratt Loop Trailhead
- 10) Pratt Sheep Barn
- 11) Reuble Farmstead
- 12) Wharf at Downtown
Coupeville Waterfront

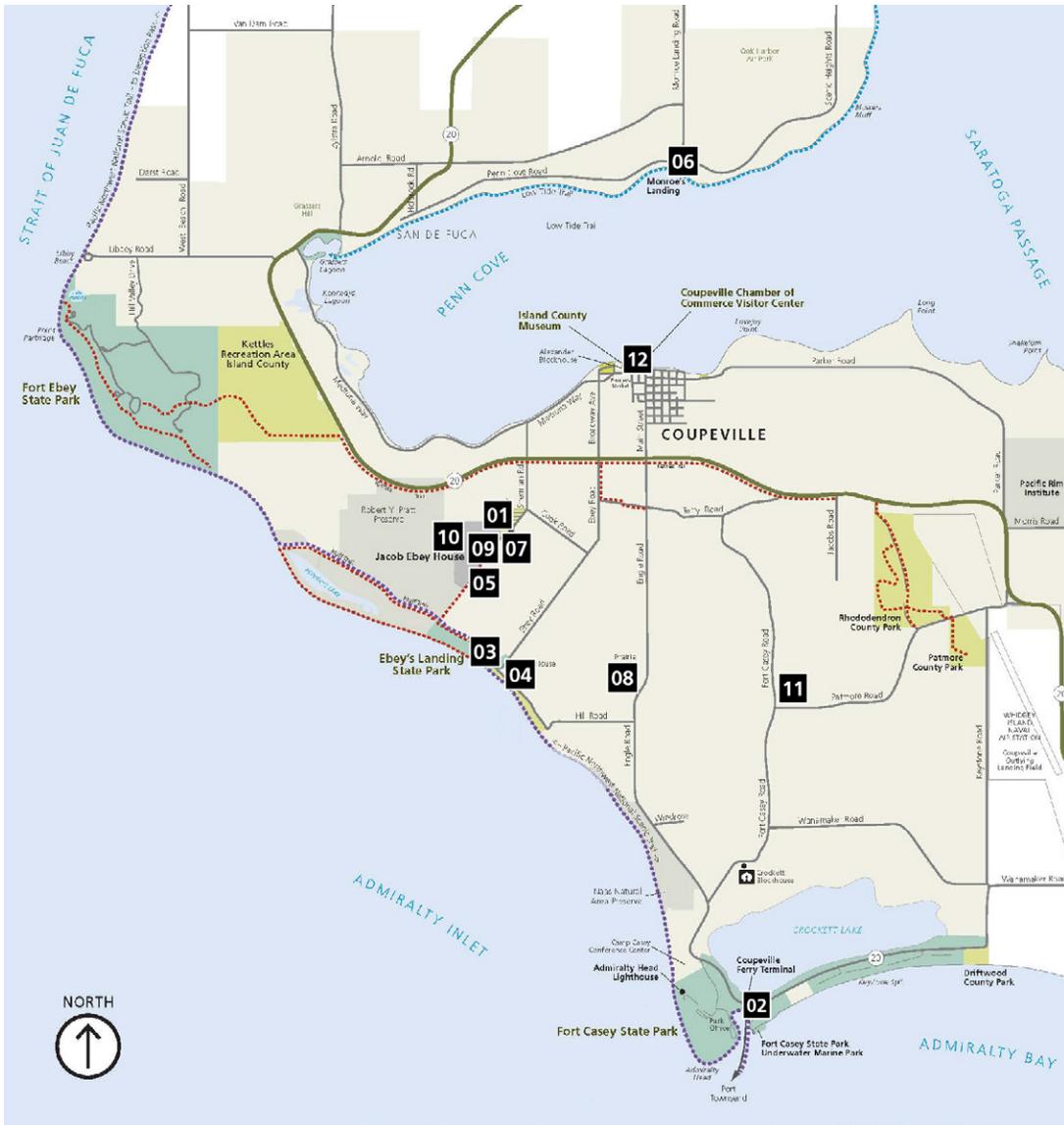


Figure 1: Reserve Areas Assessed

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY FOR RESERVE AREAS ASSESSED

The Architectural Barriers Act (ABA) of 1968 requires that any building or facility designed, constructed, altered, or leased with federal funds be accessible and usable by any individuals with disabilities. The Uniform Federal Accessibility Standards (UFAS) and the Architectural Barriers Act Accessibility Standards (ABAAS) were adopted for federal facilities in 1984 and 2006, respectively. Subsequently in 2011, standards for recreational facilities were incorporated into ABAAS as chapter 10.

Dependent upon the date of a building's construction or alteration, different design standards apply. In conducting the transition plan facility assessments, the 2011 ABAAS standards were used as the on-site assessments. Although a barrier may be identified by the current assessment for improvement, facilities constructed pre-1984, or between 1984 and 2011, are only required to be in compliance with the standard in place at the time of construction and/or alteration. Therefore, they may not be in violation of ABAAS. However, any renovation or upgrade of that building will be required to meet the most current standard at the time of work.

In some instances, historic buildings and facilities may qualify for exceptions to alterations. Section F202.5 of ABAAS explains that these exceptions apply to accessible routes, entrances, and toilet facilities when the state historic preservation officer or the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation agrees that compliance with requirements for the specific element would threaten or destroy the historic significance of the building or facility. Additional exceptions and advisories are provided throughout ABAAS, and additional guidance may be found in the International Existing Building Code.

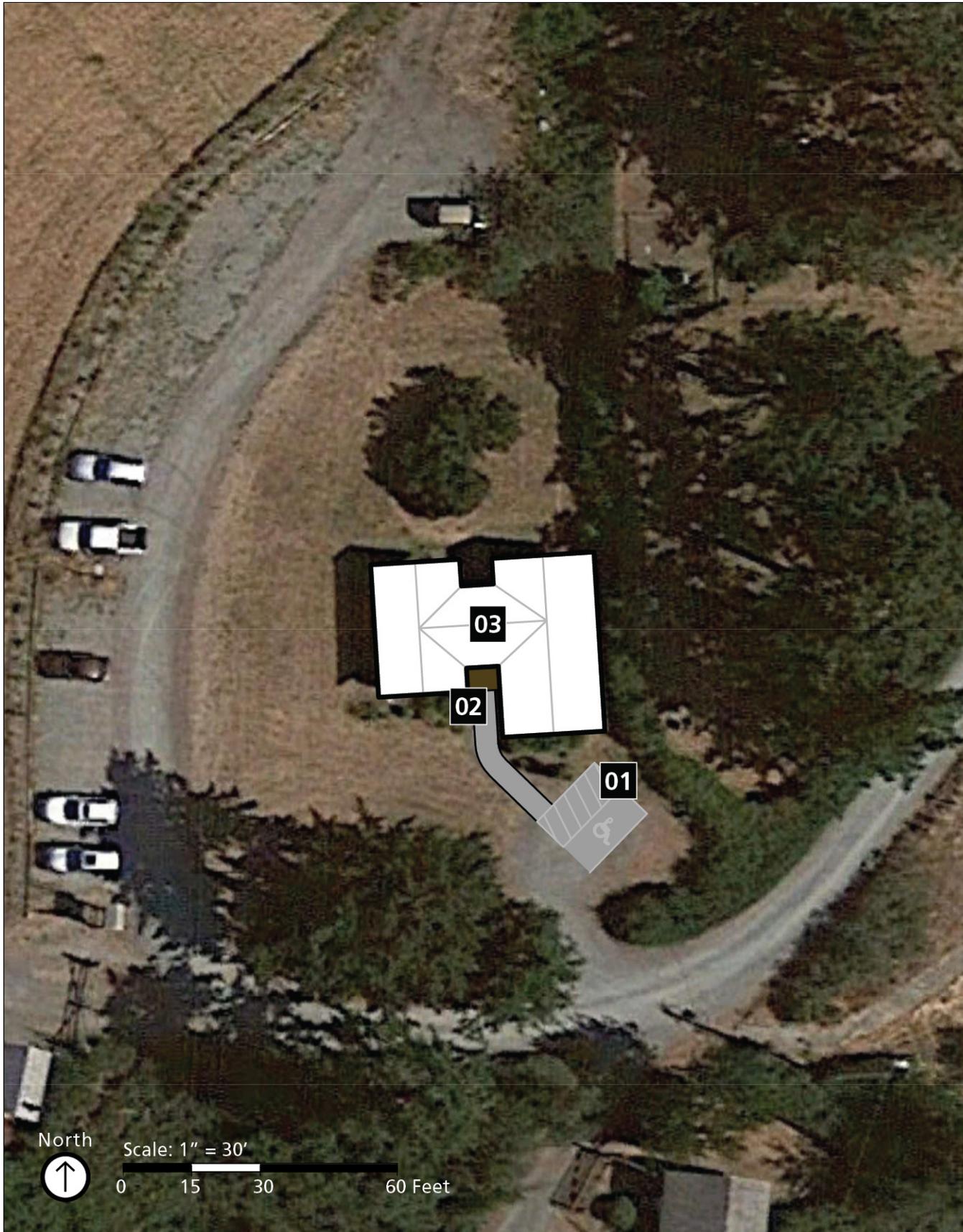
Recommended improvements for Reserve policies, practices, communication, and training are included. Reserve policies are adopted by the Reserve and are those defined courses of action for reaching a desired outcome. Reserve practices are those habitual and/or customary performances or operations Reserve staff employ for reaching a desired outcome. Communication and training strategies help Reserve staff keep informed on how to best deliver services, activities, and programs to visitors with disabilities in the most appropriate and accessible formats.

This document does not include strategies for transitioning employee workspaces to be accessible. In the event an employee with a disability is hired by Ebey's Landing National Historical Reserve, the supervisor and employee will discuss the employee's needs. The supervisor will then determine what accommodations are reasonable within the given work environment and determine a plan of action to meet those needs.

For each Reserve area, site plans illustrate existing conditions and recommended improvements. During the implementation phase, reassessment of the project site conditions and consultation with the Architectural Barriers Act Accessibility Standards is necessary to ensure that specific design and programmatic solutions are addressed correctly. Assistance is available at the National Park Service's Denver Service Center and through the NPS Pacific West Region Accessibility Coordinator.

COTTAGE AND TRUST BOARD ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

Site Plan



Implementation Strategy

The Cottage serves as the primary office for the Ebey's Landing National Historical Reserve Trust Board. The building also serves as a visitor contact station, and the conference room is used periodically for public meetings. Visitors come to gather information and materials about the Reserve and attend meetings. A small gravel parking space is located outside the front of the building, with a short compacted aggregate route provided to the entrance. A wide entrance provides a clear circulation route from the office entrance to the conference room and allows for wheelchair clearance. A restroom with grab bars and ample circulation space is located adjacent to the conference room. A brochure rack located on the cottage exterior is operable with a closed fist. The cottage is managed in cooperation with the Ebey's Landing National Historical Reserve Trust Board.

National Park Service staff will work on the following improvements:

01 Car Parking

- 1) Provide a minimum of one van-accessible parking space and an accessible parking sign to designate the accessible space.

immediate

02 Accessible Route

- 1) Improve surface of the route to be firm and stable.
- 2) Provide an accessible route to the interior of the building that does not require the use of stairs.

immediate

03 Restrooms

- 1) Insulate or otherwise configure water supply and drain pipes under sink to protect against contact.
- 2) Reposition the grab bars so the sidewall grab bar is 42" long minimum and the rear wall grab bar is 36" long minimum.

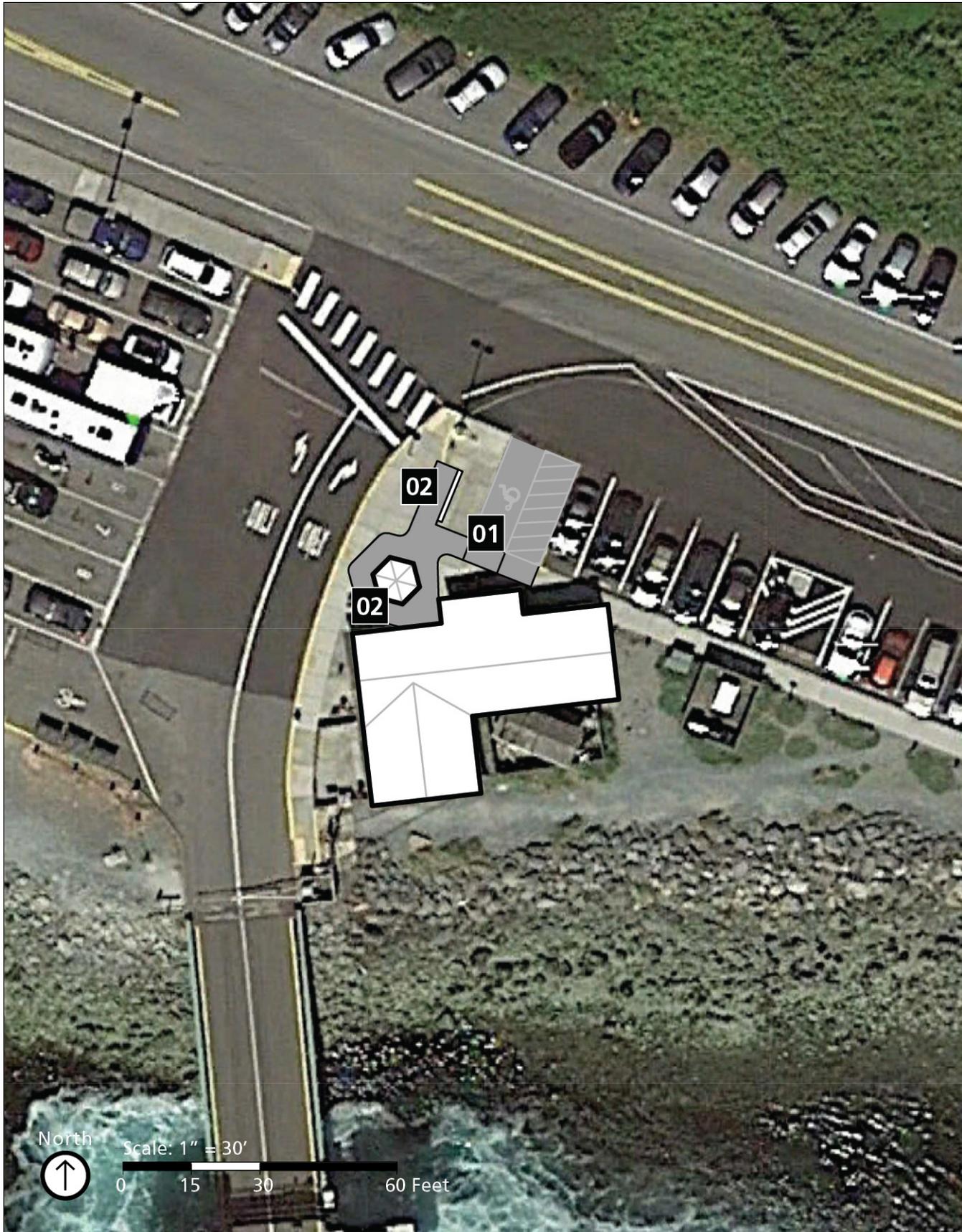
immediate

- 3) Reposition toilet or reconfigure sidewall so the toilet is 16" to 18" from the sidewall of the toilet compartment.

short-term

COUPEVILLE FERRY TERMINAL

Site Plan



Implementation Strategy

The Coupeville Ferry Terminal, located south of Coupeville on Admiralty Bay, serves as a ticketing office and ferry loading platform for pedestrians and vehicles. The terminal serves transit passengers traveling between Port Townsend and Coupeville and operates seven days a week. Many visitors of the Reserve arrive to and depart from the island at this terminal. Visitors can buy ferry tickets, use the restrooms, and gather information about Whidbey Island. Interpretive and wayfinding information about Ebey's Landing National Historical Reserve are provided on large kiosks near the ticketing office. Paved routes with gentle slopes generally connect amenities in the area. The Washington State Department of Transportation manages the ferry terminal.

The Coupeville Ferry Terminal provides a key link to visitor transportation in and out of the Reserve, and the kiosks provide information about the Reserve. The National Park Service assessed this Washington State Department of Transportation site because these key functions support the National Park Service visitor experience.

The National Park Service staff will share the following recommended improvements with the Washington State Department of Transportation:

01 Car Parking

- 1) Improve the parking space and access aisle to have a 2% maximum slope in all directions.
- 2) Provide an accessible parking sign to designate the accessible parking space.

time frame to be determined in coordination with WSDOT

02 Information Kiosks

- 1) Provide a clear ground space at the panels, 30" by 48" minimum for a forward approach at a 2% maximum slope in all directions.
- 2) As a best practice, use sans serif fonts, 24-point minimum text, high-contrast images and text, and minimize the use of all caps and italics.

time frame to be determined in coordination with WSDOT

EBEY'S LANDING STATE PARK

Site Plan



Implementation Strategy

Ebey's Landing State Park is located on the west coast of Whidbey Island between Perego's Lagoon and the bend at Hill Road. Visitors stop here to take in coastline views, picnic, use the restrooms, walk the beach, and access the Bluff Trail. A parking lot with space for approximately 14 cars is provided on a compacted aggregate surface. There is a restroom located near the parking lot, and a paved route leads uphill on moderate slopes and connects to picnic tables, an information kiosk, interpretive waysides, and the Bluff Trail trailhead. This area is owned and managed by Washington State Parks, and a Washington State Parks Discover Pass is required for parking at this area.

This area serves as a trailhead for the Bluff Trail, a unique visitor experience within the Reserve. The Bluff Trail is managed jointly between the Nature Conservancy, Washington State Parks, and the National Park Service. The National Park Service assessed this location, owned and managed by Washington State Parks, because it provides access to a NPS trail.

National Park Service staff will share the following recommended improvements with Washington State Parks:

01 Car Parking

- 1) Provide a minimum of one van-accessible parking space and an accessible parking sign to designate the accessible space.

time frame to be determined by WSP

02 Information Kiosk

- 1) As a best practice, use sans serif fonts, 24-point minimum text, high-contrast images and text, and minimize the use of all caps and italics.

time frame to be determined by WSP

03 Accessible Route

- 1) Improve the route to waysides to have a minimum clear width of 36".

time frame to be determined by WSP

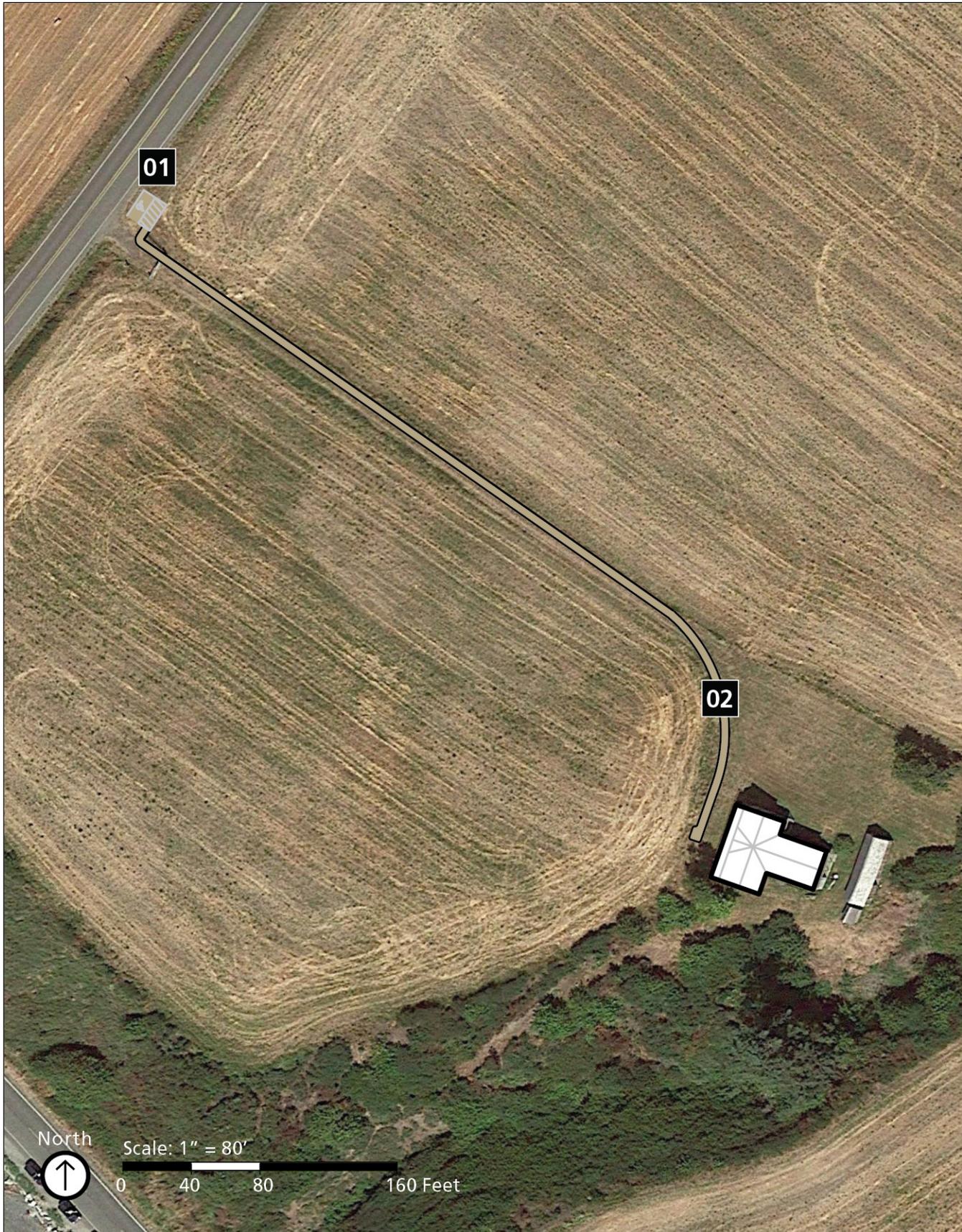
04 Interpretive Waysides

- 1) Provide a clear ground space at the waysides, 30" by 48" minimum for a forward approach at a 2% maximum slope in all directions.
- 2) As a best practice, use sans serif fonts, 24-point minimum text, high-contrast images and text, and minimize the use of all caps and italics.

time frame to be determined by WSP

FERRY HOUSE

Site Plan



Implementation Strategy

The Ferry House is one of the oldest historic structures in the State of Washington. Built ca. 1860, it served as a post office, tavern, and overnight accommodations to sailors and travelers. The house provides a unique view of Washington's early territorial history. The house is preserved as a historic structure within a cultural landscape, and the interior is closed to the public. No formalized parking or programming is provided, but the grounds are open to visitors for self-guided viewing.

The National Park Service in partnership with the US Navy is developing plans to preserve the Ferry House and surrounding grounds as part of a cultural landscape. As the site is improved and more services and activities are provided here, the addition of designated accessible parking and routes within the grounds should be considered, in alignment with the Reserve's 2006 General Management Plan.

National Park Service staff will work on the following improvements:

01 Car Parking

- 1) Provide a minimum of one van-accessible parking space and an accessible parking sign to designate the accessible space.

mid-term

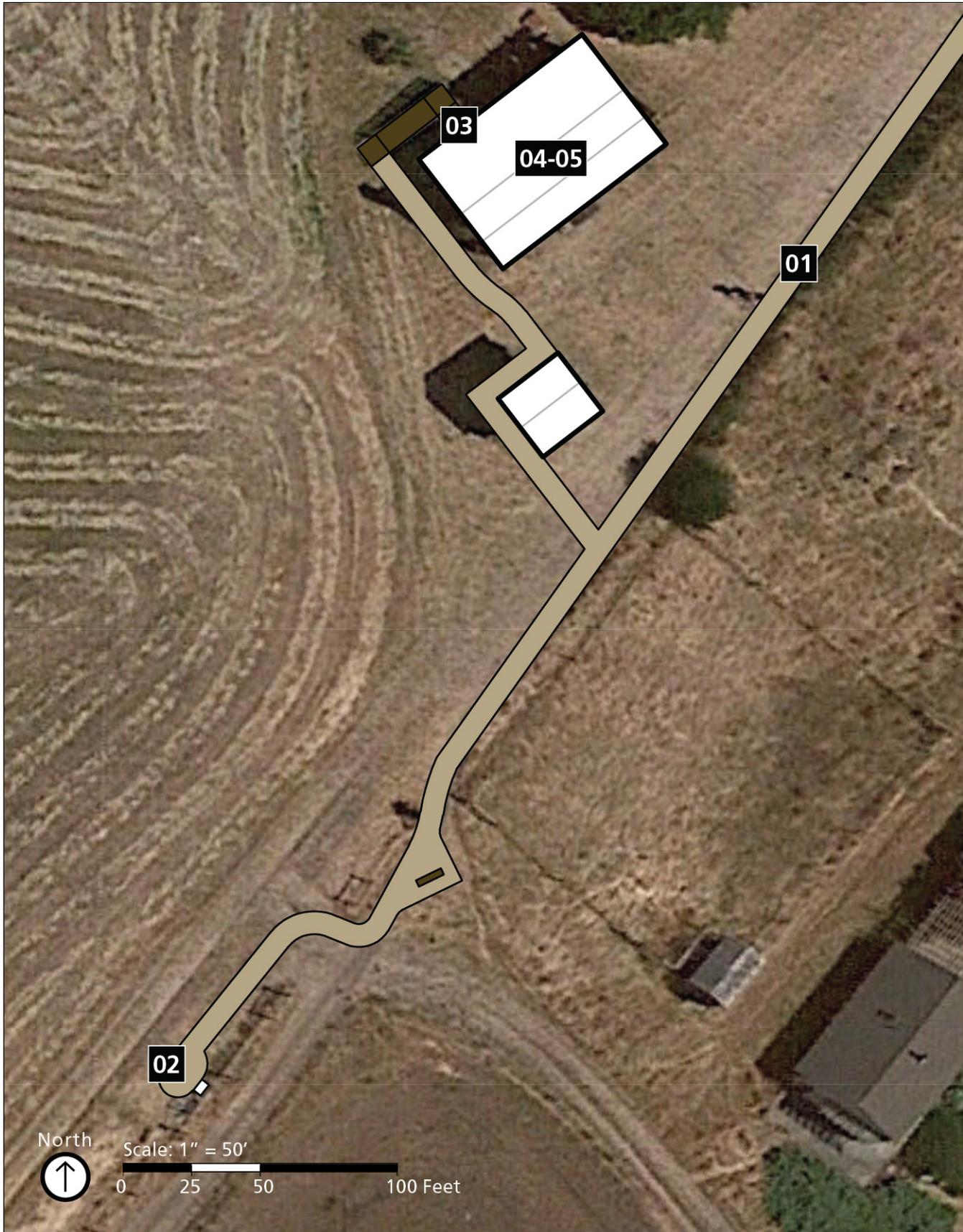
02 Accessible Route

- 1) Provide an accessible route between the accessible parking space and the house.

mid-term

JACOB & SARAH EBEL HOUSE AND BLOCKHOUSE

Site Plan



Implementation Strategy

The Jacob & Sarah Ebey House was built in 1856 and overlooks Ebey's Prairie. The nearby Blockhouse was built as a means of defense for the Ebey family following the death of Isaac Ebey and rising tensions with American Indians triggered by Euro-American settlement. The Jacob & Sarah Ebey House now serves as a seasonal visitor contact station, and visitors are allowed to view into the blockhouse for special events and tours. A gently sloped ramp with handrails at the back of the Ebey House leads to the building's main entrance and information desk. The entrance is wide enough for wheelchair access, and level landings are provided at the top and bottom of the ramp. The area surrounding the house provides views of the prairie and has firm and stable surfaces. There is an accessible route from the entrance to the information desk and accessible restroom, which includes circulation space for wheelchairs, grab bars, and amenities within an accessible reach range.

National Park Service staff will work on the following improvements:

01 Accessible Route

- 1) Improve surface of route from parking at Pratt Loop Trailhead to the Jacob & Sarah Ebey House and Blockhouse to have cross slopes no greater than 2%, and vertical changes in level no greater than ½".

mid-term

02 Interpretive Wayside

- 1) Provide a clear ground space at the waysides, 30" by 48" minimum from a forward approach at a 2% maximum slope in all directions.

mid-term

03 Door

- 1) Replace doorknob with a unit that is operable without tight grasping, pinching, or twisting of the wrist, and less than 5 pounds of force.

short-term

04 Information Counter

- 1) Provide a section of counter that is 36" high maximum. Counter should be 36" wide minimum for a parallel approach, or 30" wide minimum for a forward approach with 27" minimum knee clearance and 9" minimum toe clearance.

mid-term

05**Restrooms**

- 1) Provide a tactile sign on the latch side of the restroom doors.
- 2) Reconfigure the grab bars so the side wall grab bar is 42" long minimum, and the rear wall grab bar is 36" long minimum.
- 3) Insulate or otherwise configure water supply and drain pipes under sink to protect against contact.
- 4) Reinstall paper towel dispenser to provide 12" of space between dispenser opening and rear grab bar.

mid-term

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MONROE LANDING

Site Plan



Implementation Strategy

Monroe Landing is a day use area owned by Island County located along the north shore of Penn Cove near San de Fuca. Visitors come to access Penn Cove, launch small watercraft, walk the beach, and enjoy views of the water. A small parking lot has capacity for approximately eight vehicles, and provides a wayside, bench, and a portable restroom. Access to the beach is provided via a paved boat ramp or informal routes. A wayside panel is located on a firm and stable surface and provides a forward approach for visitors in wheelchairs. Opportunities for improving this site include providing accessible parking and possibly adding a portable restroom that is accessible to visitors using wheelchairs. Island County Parks & Recreation manages the Monroe Landing area. Monroe Landing provides a unique visitor experience within the Reserve: beach access along the north shore of Penn Cove. The National Park Service assessed this area to support our Reserve partner, Island County.

The National Park Service staff will share the following recommended improvements with Island County Parks & Trails:

01 Car Parking

- 1) Provide a minimum of one van-accessible parking space and an accessible parking sign to designate the accessible space.

time frame to be determined by Island County

02 Portable Restroom

- 1) Provide an accessible portable restroom.

time frame to be determined by Island County

03 Accessible Route

- 1) Provide an accessible route from the accessible parking space to the restroom, interpretive waysides, and bench.

time frame to be determined by Island County

04 Interpretive Wayside

- 1) Provide a clear ground space at the wayside, 30" by 48" minimum for a forward approach at a 2% maximum slope in all directions.

time frame to be determined by Island County

05**Bench**

- 1) Provide a clear ground space near the bench, 30" by 48" minimum, with a 2% maximum slope in all directions.

time frame to be determined by Island County

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PRAIRIE OVERLOOK

Site Plan



Implementation Strategy

The Prairie Overlook is a 2.5-acre interpretive site near the Pratt Loop Trailhead on Cemetery Road. Visitors stop here to rest, take in views of the prairie, read interpretive panels, and access the adjacent trails. The area provides parking for approximately 12 cars. A short, compacted gravel walkway with moderate slopes leads visitors to an overlook. Three waysides at the overlook are sited to capture prairie views and include level clear space that allow for front and side wheelchair approach, and high contrasted text and images that provide good visibility. Two benches are located a short distance from the trail. Accessibility could be improved by providing designated accessible parking and extending routes to connect to the benches.

National Park Service staff will work to make the following improvements:

01 Car Parking

- 1) Provide a minimum of one van-accessible parking space and an accessible parking sign to designate the accessible space.
- 2) Provide an accessible parking sign on each accessible parking space, 60" minimum above the ground to the bottom of the sign.

short-term

02 Outdoor Recreation Access Route

- 1) Provide a route to the waysides that is 36" wide minimum, with a 2% maximum cross slope and a 5% maximum running slope.

short-term

03 Interpretive Waysides

- 1) Provide a clear ground space at the waysides, 30" by 48" minimum for a forward approach at a 2% maximum slope in all directions.

short-term

04 Benches

- 1) Provide clear ground space that is firm, stable, and level at a minimum of 20% of the benches.

short-term

05

Hiking Trail

- 1) Improve the trail to be 36" minimum in width with a 2% maximum cross slope and a 5% maximum running slope.

short term

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PRAIRIE WAYSIDE

Site Plan



Implementation Strategy

The Prairie Wayside is a 1.5-acre roadside interpretive area administered by the National Park Service on Engle Road located within a wooded area adjacent to the prairie. Visitors can stop here to rest, picnic, orient themselves within the Reserve, read interpretive panels, and take in wide views of the prairie. This area provides a small, paved parking lot, with firm and stable routes connecting to nearby picnic tables and benches. A short, compact trail leads visitors on natural surfaces to another bench and wayside. Waysides have level landings and allow for forward approach, kiosk panels have large font, high contrast images and text for easy readability. The Prairie Wayside has opportunities to provide more accessible trail experiences with ongoing improvements completed by youth corps and various volunteers.

National Park Service staff will work on the following improvements:

01 Car Parking

- 1) Provide a minimum of one van-accessible parking space and an accessible parking sign to designate the accessible space.

short-term

02 Interpretive Wayside

- 1) Provide a clear ground space at the wayside, 30" by 48" minimum for a forward approach at a 2% maximum slope in all directions.

short-term

03 Hiking Trail

- 1) Improve the trail to be 36" minimum in width with a 2% maximum cross slope and a 5% maximum running slope.

short-term

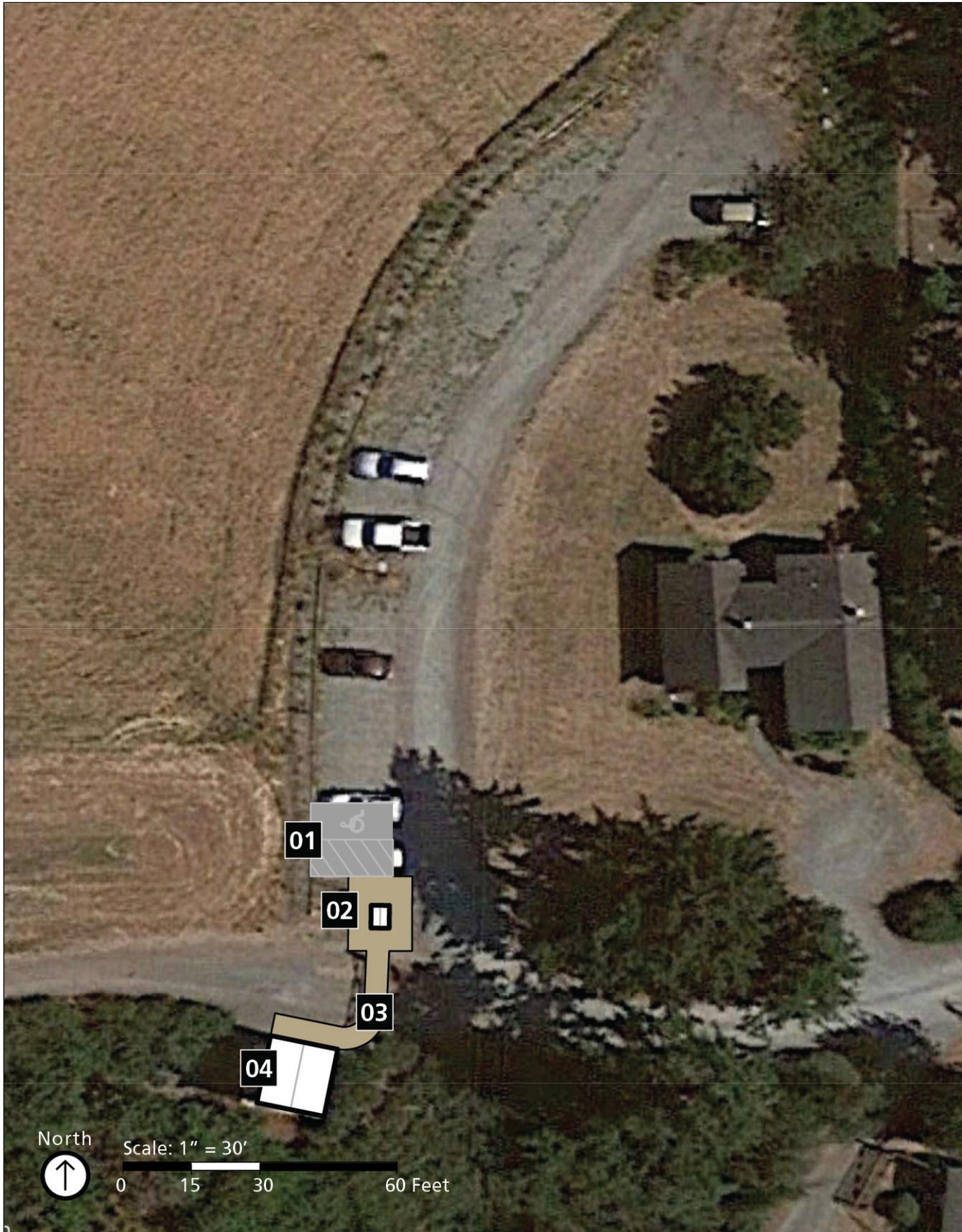
04 Benches

- 1) Provide clear ground space that is firm, stable, and level at a minimum of 20% of the benches.

short-term

PRATT LOOP TRAILHEAD

Site Plan



Implementation Strategy

The Pratt Loop Trailhead is a popular trailhead located near the Cottage building. A compacted gravel parking lot is provided with room for approximately 20 cars. A trailhead kiosk gives trail information about The Pratt Loop Trail and Ebey's Prairie Ridge Trail, including trail lengths and conditions. Newly added vault toilets are located a short walk from the parking lot and provide tactile signage, ample turning space, and grab bars. The surface surrounding the toilets, wayside, and trail consists of compact gravel. Efforts to designate accessible parking and routes between features are underway, but more funding is needed to complete these projects. The Pratt Loop Trail leads visitors on a short hike around farmland, passing by the newly renovated Pratt Barn, before connecting to the Ebey's Prairie Ridge Trail, and looping back to the trailhead.

National Park Service staff will work on the following improvements:

01 Car Parking

- 1) Raise the accessible parking sign to be 60" minimum above the ground, measured to the bottom of the sign. Provide "van-accessible" designation on the sign.

short-term

02 Trailhead Kiosk

- 1) Provide a clear ground space at the kiosk, 30" by 48" minimum for a forward approach at a 2% maximum slope in all directions.

short-term

03 Outdoor Recreation Access Route

- 1) Improve route to vault toilets to be firm, stable, and slip resistant.

short-term

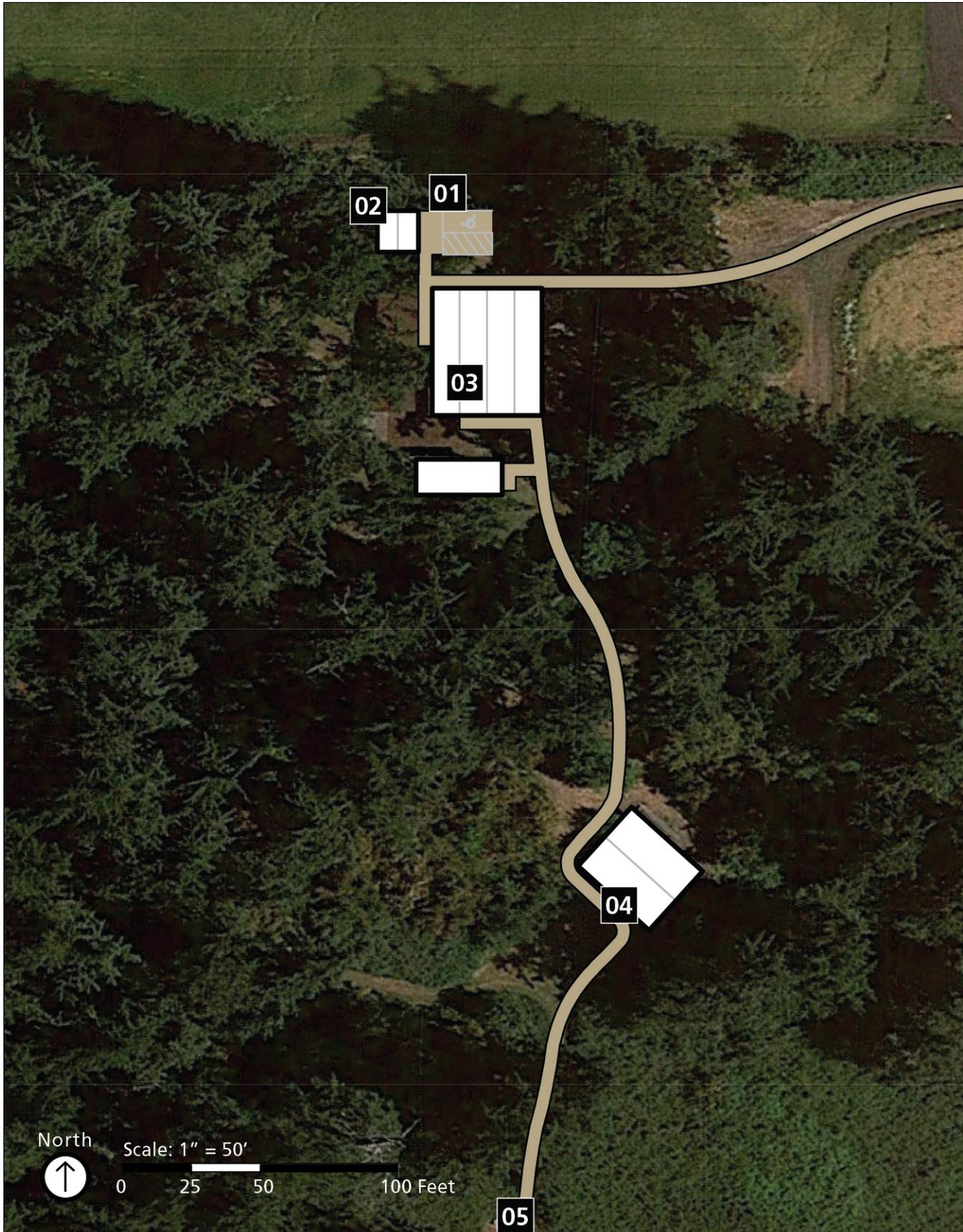
04 Restrooms

- 1) Reinstall the hand sanitizer dispenser so the operable parts are within an accessible reach range of 15" to 48" above the finished floor.
- 2) Modify or replace the toilet seat so the seat height is between 17" and 19" above the finished floor measured to the top of the seat.
- 3) Reinstall toilet paper dispenser to be between 7" and 9" in front of the toilets to the centerline of the dispenser.
- 4) Adjust the rear grab bar to extend 24" minimum from the centerline of the toilet on the open side of the toilet room and 12" on the closed side.

short-term

PRATT SHEEP BARN

Site Plan



Implementation Strategy

The Pratt Sheep Barn is an adaptively reused barn located a quarter-mile northwest of the Pratt Loop Trailhead. The barn was recently rehabilitated, opening in 2016. The barn is popular destination for those hiking the Pratt Trail and educational groups. The Pratt Barn now provides a ramp entry into the rear of the barn, and a large open floor space with benches for educational programs. The barn is accessed by parking at the Pratt Loop Trailhead and hiking 1/3-mile on the Pratt Loop Trail. Plans for the addition of accessible parking on the north side of the Pratt Barn are underway, which will make it easier for visitors with disabilities and/or staff to access the barn and the programs held here.

National Park Service staff will work on the following improvements:

01 Car Parking

- 1) Provide a minimum of one van-accessible parking space and an accessible parking sign to designate the accessible space.

short-term

02 Restroom

- 1) The restroom near the Pratt Sheep Barn was constructed after the assessment was conducted. Assess the restroom to ensure it meets requirements from Chapter 6 of ABAAS.

short-term

03 Accessible Route

- 1) Provide handrails on both sides of the ramp and stairs, and 1' handrail extensions at the top and bottom of ramp runs.
- 2) Provide a clear width of 36" on the route to the ramp.
- 3) Install cane-detectable guardrails or other objects to prevent entrance to areas where overhead clearance is less than 80".

mid-term

04 Accessible Route

- 1) Install cane-detectable guardrails or other objects to prevent entrance to areas where overhead clearance is less than 80".

mid-term

05**Trail**

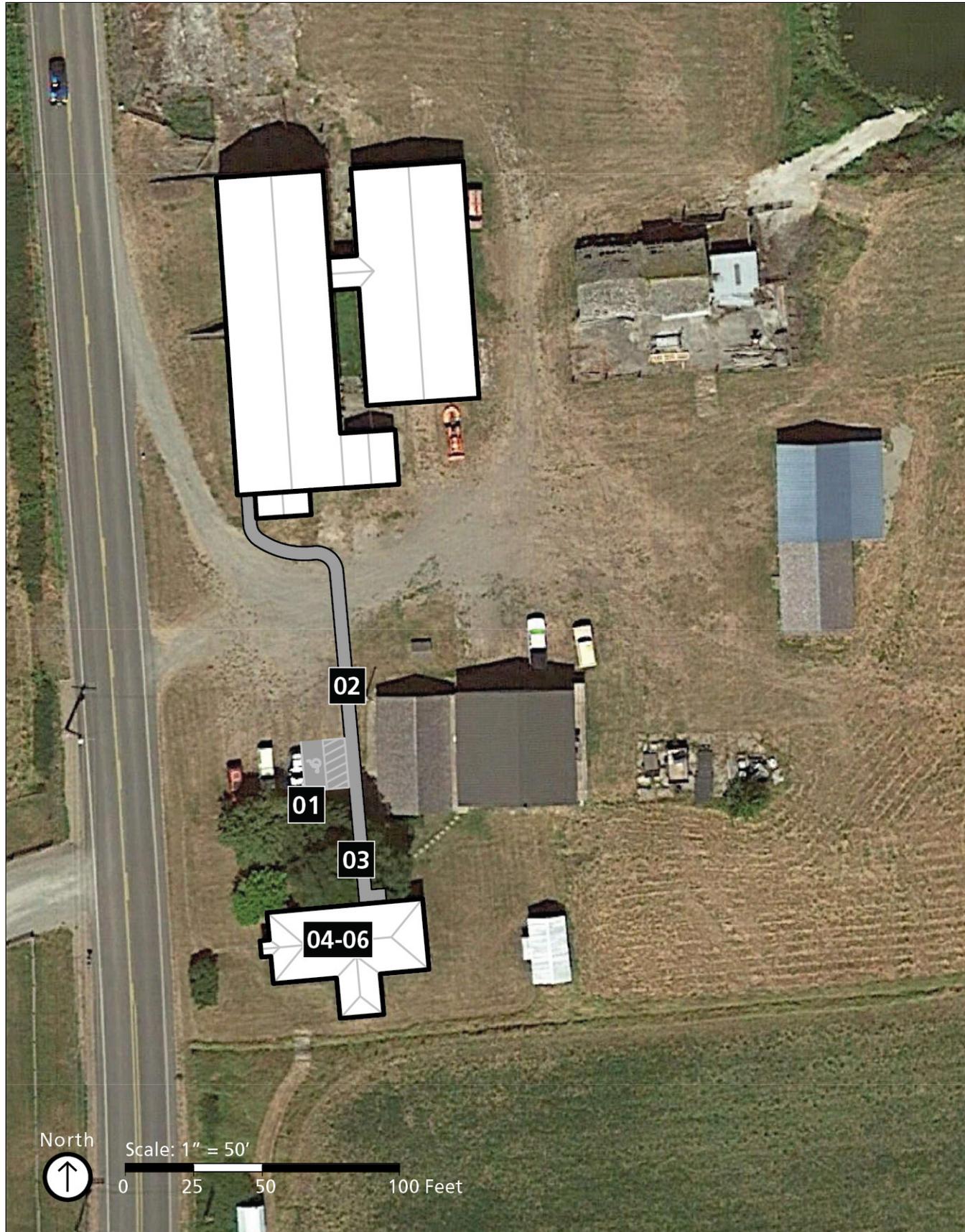
- 1) Improve the trail to the viewpoint overlooking farmland to have slopes no greater than 12%, and cross slopes no greater than 2%. Ensure that the surface is firm, stable, and free of tread obstacles.
- 2) Provide a bench with a firm, stable and level clear ground space at the viewpoint. As a best practice, provide a backrest, and at least one armrest on the bench.

mid-term

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REUBLE FARMSTEAD

Site Plan



Implementation Strategy

The Reuble Farmstead is located on Fort Casey Road and consists of several farm buildings, eight of which have been adaptively reused by the National Park Service to support Reserve operations. Current uses within the buildings include office space, meeting rooms, storage, and a carpentry shop for preservation projects. Informal parking is provided on a gravel lot between the buildings, with concrete walkways leading between some buildings. Access into the house is via stairs, but entrance into the barn office is along a short concrete ramp. This area's current use is administrative, but plans are evolving for this site to serve as an access point for an expanding trail network in the Reserve. Accessibility accommodations will be necessary when the trail network is formalized.

National Park Service staff will work on the following improvements:

01 Car Parking

- 1) Provide a minimum of one van-accessible parking space and an accessible parking sign to designate the accessible space.

short-term

02 Accessible Route

- 1) Provide an accessible route to the Gillespie House and barn office with running slopes no greater than 5% and cross slopes no greater than 2%.

mid-term

03 Accessible Route

- 1) Provide an accessible route to the interior of the Gillespie House that does not require the use of stairs.

mid-term

04 Door

- 1) As feasible to not adversely affect the historic structure, improve the clear width of one exterior door of the Gillespie House to be 32" wide minimum.
- 2) Improve the threshold at the door to have a vertical change in level no greater than ¼" or ½" with a beveled edge.
- 3) Replace doorknob with an accessible unit that is operable with one hand and does not require tight grasping, pinching, or twisting of the wrist.

mid-term

05**Accessible Route**

- 1) Improve the interior thresholds at the meeting space, office, and restroom to have a vertical change in level no greater than ¼" or ½" with a beveled edge.
- 2) Ensure that interior doorways to the meeting space, office, and restroom to have a clear width of 32" minimum.

long-term

06**Restroom**

- 1) Improve the threshold at the restroom door to have a vertical change in level no greater than ¼" or ½" with a beveled edge.
- 2) Lower the mirror above the sink so the bottom edge of the reflecting surface is no more than 40" above the floor.
- 3) Insulate or otherwise configure water supply and drain pipes under sink to protect against contact.
- 4) Reinstall toilet paper dispenser to be between 7" and 9" in front of the toilets to the centerline of the dispenser.
- 5) Provide grab bars on the sidewall and rear wall.

mid-term

- 6) Improve or replace the toilet so that the flusher is on the open side of the toilet.

immediate

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WHARF AT DOWNTOWN COUPEVILLE WATERFRONT

Site Plan



Implementation Strategy

The Wharf is a popular visitor attraction located on the downtown Coupeville waterfront, at the intersection of Front and Alexander Streets. The wharf features two informational kiosks that have panels providing information on Ebey's Landing National Historical Reserve. The west kiosk is located on a 0.02-acre parcel of land leased by the National Park Service from the Port of Coupeville. A loose gravel route leads visitors to the kiosks. The kiosk panels use clear, simple language and large size font with high-contrast images and text. There is currently no accessible parking or route to the wharf kiosks.

This area provides a unique visitor experience within the Reserve. The National Park Service assessed the visitor facilities located on its leased parcel of land and identified actions needed to make the interpretive panels more accessible to visitors.

The National Park Service staff will share the following recommended improvements with the Port of Coupeville and the Town of Coupeville Public Works:

01 Car Parking

- 1) Provide a minimum of one van-accessible parking space and an accessible parking sign to designate an accessible space adjacent to the wharf.

time frame to be determined by partners

02 Accessible Route

- 1) Provide an accessible route between accessible parking and the kiosks at the wharf that has running slopes no greater than 5% and cross slopes no greater than 2%.

time frame to be determined by partners

03 Accessible Route

- 1) Improve route to information kiosks to be firm, stable, and slip resistant, with openings and vertical changes in level no greater than ½"

time frame to be determined by partners

EBEY'S LANDING NATIONAL HISTORICAL RESERVE POLICIES, PRACTICES, COMMUNICATION, AND TRAINING

Reserve Features



Ebey's Landing NHR
@EbeyLandingNHR

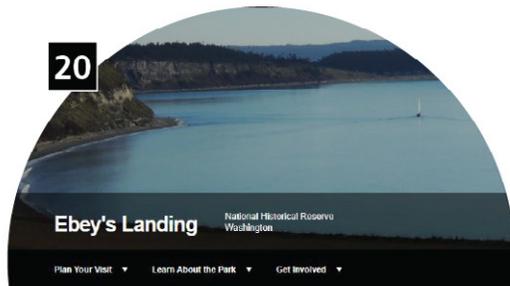
Ebey's Landing National Historical Reserve is a partnership between the National Park Service, Washington State Parks, Town of Coupeville, and Island County.

Whidbey Island, WA nps.gov/ebly Joined March 2010

Following 571 Followers

Tweets & replies Media

Ebey's Landing NHR @EbeyLandingNHR · Apr 14, 2021
the hearty trail crew doing main
the Nature



"... Almost a Paradise of Nature."

This stunning landscape at the gateway to Puget Sound, with its rich farmland and promises of pioneers north of the Columbia River to Ebey's Landing. Today Ebey's Landing National Historical Reserve offers a glimpse into the agricultural and cultural traditions of both Native and Euro-American — while offering a



Implementation Strategy

There are no policies and practices specific to the Reserve because the lands within the area are under various state and local jurisdictions. Implementation will require coordination among the various partners, guided by the policies of each respective partner.

National Park Service staff will work with partners on the following recommended improvements:

Posting and Publications

01 Accessibility Flyers Posted in Common Areas

- 1) Place posters in common areas of staff and visitor buildings that provide accessibility-related information, including requirements, contacts, questions, and complaints.

time frame to be determined by partners

02 Publications

- 1) Provide Braille publications and tactile wayfinding maps.
- 2) Provide audio described publications.
- 3) Provide large-print format publications. Use a minimum readable typeface at 18-point font. Align flush left and rag right. Avoid hyphens. Use black or white type color and avoid red text. Avoid italicized and underlined text. Provide graphics with at least 70% contrast.
- 4) Add accessibility information in all publications, as they relate to services, activities, and programs.

time frame to be determined by partners

03 Publicly Shared Documents

- 1) Revise publicly shared documents to delete discriminatory language.

time frame to be determined by partners

Staff Training and Reserve Procedures

04 Accessibility Awareness Training

- 1) Provide ongoing accessibility awareness training.

time frame to be determined by partners

05 Accessible Facilities and Maintenance Training

- 1) Provide ongoing training for planning, maintaining, and constructing accessible facilities, including, but not limited to, restrooms, walks and trails, door pressure requirements, assistive devices, accessible routes, and universal design principles.

time frame to be determined by partners

06 Accessibility for Project Managers Training

- 1) Provide ongoing training for NPS staff and partners willing to participate to address project accessibility requirements. (e.g. understanding universal design principles and overseeing quality control of projects and designs).

time frame to be determined by partners

07 Accessible Interpretive Training

- 1) Provide ongoing training for NPS staff and partners engaged in interpretation and education.
- 2) Training may include but is not limited to: how to evaluate programs for accessibility compliance; which websites offer more information; information about service animals; information about Other Power-Driven Mobility Devices (OPDMDs); how and when to offer live audio description programming; accessibility specifications for interpretive tactile models and maps; what assistive technologies are available; universal design principles; visitor services and communication about accessibility. It is also important to provide regular and ongoing visitor information and interpretive staff training in use of, distribution, and procedures for wheelchairs and assistive technology—assistive listening devices, T-coil hearing loops, neck loops, and text telephone machines.

time frame to be determined by partners

08 Communication with Law Enforcement

- 1) Provide recommendations for law enforcement to improve communications with a person with a disability.

time frame to be determined by partners

09 Emergency Preparedness

- 1) Develop, distribute, and practice standard operating procedures for assisting people with disabilities in the case of an emergency.

time frame to be determined by partners

10 Movable Seating

- 1) Develop standard operating procedures for conference rooms and public spaces, so there is adequate clear space and accessible routes to all elements in a room or building. Post a map in an area with accessible layout and instructions for use of the space.
- 2) Develop and distribute standard operating procedures for movable seating arrangements and moving things to create an accessible route and maintain integrated accessible seating. Post a map in an area with accessible layout and instructions for use of the space.

time frame to be determined by partners

11 Other Power-Driven Mobility Devices (OPDMDs)

- 1) Provide guidance outlining use of OPDMDs within the Reserve.

time frame to be determined by partners

12 Service Animals

- 1) Provide recommendations regarding service animals within the Reserve.

time frame to be determined by partners

Audio and Visual Programs

13 Assistive Listening Devices (ALDs) and Neckloops

- 1) Purchase assistive listening transmitters and devices. Provide these devices at visitor centers, educational programs, and guided tours with audio components.
- 2) Develop and distribute standard operating procedures or guidance for checking out and returning assistive listening devices.

- 3) Develop and distribute standard operating procedures or guidance describing protocol for pre -and post-inspection of the devices and for cleaning and maintaining all devices.
- 4) Provide signage and information where programs are offered stating device availability. Verbally inform visitors and program participants that auxiliary aids are available. Add information to all publications and communications stating that assistive listening devices are available and provide information on how they can be attained.

time frame to be determined by partners

14 Live Audio Description

- 1) Provide live audio descriptions on guided interpretive tours when needed.

time frame to be determined by partners

15 Open Captioning and Audio Description

- 1) Provide open captioning on videos and indicate its availability on the Reserve's website.
- 2) Provide audio description of all images shown on the videos.

time frame to be determined by partners

16 Text Telephone (TTY) Machines

- 1) Provide a TTY machine at all locations where there is a public telephone.
- 2) Include TTY number on publications and on the Reserve's website with the Reserve contact information and phone number
- 3) Provide a standard operating procedure or guidance describing use and protocol for pre- and post-inspection of TTY machines. Address cleaning and maintenance of all devices.

time frame to be determined by partners

Visitor Information

17 Communication

- 1) Provide an e-mail address and telephone number on the Reserve's website and in publications for questions.
- 2) Develop an accessibility guide for Ebey's Landing National Historical Reserve that outlines accessible services, activities, and programs.

time frame to be determined by partners

18 Outreach

- 1) Conduct outreach via social media (Pinterest, Facebook, Snapchat, Twitter, etc.) to describe accessible programs, services, and activities available at the Reserve.
- 2) Conduct outreach via traditional media and other advertising methods to describe accessible programs, services, and activities available at the Reserve.
- 3) Contact groups with disabilities to inform them about the accessible programs, services, and activities that have become available at the Reserve as solutions are implemented.
- 4) Outreach to and engage groups with disabilities to determine appropriate ways to involve them in Reserve accessibility improvement projects as they occur (case-by-case basis).

time frame to be determined by partners

19 Signage

- 1) Provide signage at visitor contact stations that states availability of accessible alternative formats.

time frame to be determined by partners

20 Website

- 1) Provide information on the Reserve's website (www.nps.gov/EBLA) that accessible programs, services, and activities are available, including, but not limited to, audio description, assistive listening devices, Braille/tactile features, accessible tours, open captioning, trails, etc.
- 2) Provide a manual switch on all websites to enable changing font size. Provide flush left and rag right alignment. Avoid hyphens. Use black or white type color. Avoid the use of red or green text. Avoid italicized and underlined text. Avoid use of all caps or italics. Provide graphics with at least 70% contrast. Provide Word documents as an alternative to PDFs.

time frame to be determined by NPS

Tours, Programs, and Special Events

21 Tours (Guided and Self-Guided), Educational Programs, and Special Events

- 1) Upon request, provide alternative formats such as trail information in large print; audio descriptions for tours; educational programs; or special events. Provide alternative formats on the Reserve's website and in publications at visitor center.

- 2) Provide information on the physical conditions of the tour, education program, or special event (e.g., number of steps, slopes, other barriers that exist, etc.) on-site, in a publication and/or on a website.
- 3) Provide designated stopping points or resting areas for the tour, education program, or special event, with 2% maximum cross and running slopes, firm and stable surfaces, and a minimum 30" by 48" clear space.

time frame to be determined by partners

22 Sign Language Interpreters

- 1) Develop the process for requesting sign language interpreters. Provide sign language interpreters within five days of request.
- 2) Develop and distribute standard operating procedures for contacting and scheduling sign language interpreters.

time frame to be determined by partners

23 Special Events

- 1) Provide a system for people to call in and request a sign language interpreter within five days of service. Provide assistive listening devices and a T-coil or neck loop system. Post signage indicating devices and systems are available for special events. Provide large print of any handouts or waivers being provided.
- 2) Provide information on how people can contact the Reserve for accommodations for special events, and release event announcements in a variety of accessible methods (e.g., large-print flyers, electronic accessible PDFs, etc.)
- 3) Develop and distribute a standard operating procedure on how to post accessibility information and how to request accommodations on event announcements.

time frame to be determined by partners

Concessions and Partnerships

24 Reserve Partner Services, Activities, and Programs

- 1) Prepare a standard operating procedure for Reserve partners about providing accessible programs, services, and activities within the Reserve.
- 2) Develop and distribute a standard operating procedure for presentations provided by outside groups regarding accessibility and assistive listening devices.
- 3) Communicate with state partners to ensure that an accessibility assessment and a plan for implementing accessibility solutions is completed. The Architectural Barriers for Accessibility Standards does not apply to state partner

lands; however, the Americans with Disabilities Act does. State requirements take precedence in these cases.

- 4) Architectural Barriers Act for Accessibility Standards applies to all lands funded by the federal government. Communicate with Reserve partner and/or concessioners to ensure accessible services, activities, and programs are provided. The National Park Service will conduct an assessment, develop a transition plan, and address Reserve partner concessioner services.

time frame to be determined by partners

CONCLUSION

The National Park Service operation within Ebey's Landing National Historical Reserve is committed to providing all visitors the opportunity to connect with and learn about the Reserve's unique natural, cultural, and recreational resources. Accessibility improvements identified in the Ebey's Landing National Historical Reserve Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan will make it easier for individuals with cognitive, hearing, vision, and mobility disabilities to discover, understand, and enjoy the range of experiences available at the Reserve. Implementation of the plan will ensure that Ebey's Landing National Historical Reserve will continue to work toward accommodating all Reserve visitors while sustaining its legacy to preserve and protect natural ecosystems, and cultural landscapes and resources within the diminishing undeveloped landscape of Whidbey Island.

The Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan for Ebey's Landing National Historical Reserve is a living document intended to be used as a guiding reference for the National Park Service as it implements accessibility upgrades and documents accessibility accomplishments. As barriers to accessibility are removed and/or improved, the changes will be updated in this plan. The Reserve will conduct periodic reviews to evaluate and update conditions to reflect accomplishments and to document new programs or other changes that occur over time. Revisions to the plan may include conducting additional assessments for areas not originally conducted as a part of this plan.

The primary goal of the transition plan is to define key Reserve experiences and document modifications needed to provide independent program participation for the widest range of disabilities possible. As the National Park Service works towards its accessibility goals and makes the implementation strategy a reality, both physical and programmatic accessibility will improve across the breadth of key Reserve experiences at Ebey's Landing National Historical Reserve.

For visitors with mobility disabilities, access will be improved from the moment they enter the Reserve. Facilities, as well as numerous programs, services, and activities the park offers will be more universally accessible. Experiences such as visiting historic structures, hiking along scenic trails, enjoying rural vistas, picnicking with friends and family, and learning about the human history and environment of the Reserve, will be enhanced.

Reserve programs will be created and delivered for all visitors, including visitors with mild to severe disabilities impacting their mobility, vision, hearing, and/or cognitive abilities. Interpretive programs, visitor contact stations, trail waysides, and all materials that interpret Reserve resources to the public will be provided in formats that allow visitors with disabilities to participate fully. Some of those formats include but are not limited to: large-print transcripts for printer materials, audio description for exhibits and films, assistive listening devices and sign language interpreters for ranger-led tours and programs, T-coil hearing loops for Reserve films.

The National Park Service acknowledges with appreciation our fellow public land partners within the Reserve. The task of cultivating an inclusive visitor experience within the Reserve takes collaboration and communication. With this in mind, the National Park Service made recommendations for accessibility improvements on lands managed by our partners: Island County Parks & Trails, the Port of Coupeville, Washington Department of Transportation, and Washington State Parks.

Over time, the results of this collective effort will make Ebey's Landing National Historical Reserve a truly welcoming and accommodating place for all visitors and will provide equal opportunity to access the many sites, resources, stories, and experiences the Reserve has to offer.

APPENDIX A: ACCESSIBILITY LAWS, STANDARDS, GUIDELINES, AND NPS POLICIES APPLICABLE TO EBHEY'S LANDING NATIONAL HISTORICAL RESERVE

As a national park unit, Ebey's Landing National Historical Reserve is required to comply with specific federal laws that mandate that discriminatory barriers be removed to provide equal opportunities to persons with disabilities. The following laws, design guidelines, and Director's Orders specifically pertain to Ebey's Landing National Historical Reserve.

LAWS AND STANDARDS

A law is a principle and regulation established in a community by some authority and applicable to its people, whether in the form of legislation or of custom and policies recognized and enforced by judicial decision. A standard is something considered by an authority or by general consent as a basis of comparison; an approved model. It is a specific low-level mandatory control that helps enforce and support a law.

Architectural Barriers Act of 1968

<http://www.access-board.gov/guidelines-and-standards/buildings-and-sites/about-the-aba-standards/guide-to-the-aba-standards>

The Architectural Barriers Act of 1968 requires physical access to facilities designed, built, altered, or leased with federal funds. The Uniform Federal Accessibility Standards (UFAS) are the design guidelines used as the basis for enforcement of the law. The UFAS regulations were adopted in 1984. Architectural Barriers Act Accessibility Standards (ABAAS) were revised and adopted in November 2005. Four federal agencies are responsible for the standards: the Department of Defense, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the General Services Administration, and the US Postal Service. The United States Access Board was created to enforce the Architectural Barriers Act, which it does through the investigation of complaints. Anyone concerned about the accessibility of a facility that may have received federal funds can easily file a complaint with the United States Access Board.

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

<http://www.law.cornell.edu/cfr/text/43/17.550>

To the extent that section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 applies to departments and agencies of the federal government, the park units operated by the National Park Service are subject to the provisions of that statute. As will be discussed in the following text, both section 504 and the Architectural Barriers Act require the application of stringent access standards to new construction and the alteration of existing facilities. The Rehabilitation, Comprehensive Services, and Developmental Disabilities Amendments of 1978 (PL 95-602) extends the scope of section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (PL

93-112) to include Executive Branch agencies of the federal government. As amended, section 504 states:

Section 504: No otherwise qualified handicapped individual in the United States, as defined in Section 7 (6), shall, solely by reason of his handicap, be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance or under any program or activity conducted by any Executive agency or by the United States Postal Service. The head of each such agency shall promulgate such regulations as may be necessary to carry out the amendments to this section made by the Rehabilitation, Comprehensive Services, and Developmental Disabilities Act of 1978. Copies of any proposed regulation shall be submitted to appropriate authorizing committees of Congress, and such regulation may take effect no earlier than the thirtieth day after the date on which such regulation is so submitted to such committees.

As noted above, section 504 and the Architectural Barriers Act govern new construction and alterations. However, as a civil rights law, section 504 goes further. Unlike the construction-driven ABA mandates, section 504 also requires covered entities to consider the accessibility of programs, services, and activities.

Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

<http://www.section508.gov/>

In 1998, Congress amended the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 to require federal agencies to make their electronic and information technology (EIT) accessible to people with disabilities. Inaccessible technology interferes with an ability to obtain and use information quickly and easily. Section 508 was enacted to eliminate barriers in information technology, open new opportunities for people with disabilities, and encourage development of technologies that will help achieve these goals. The law applies to all federal agencies when they develop, procure, maintain, or use electronic and information technology. Under section 508 (29 USC §794 d), agencies must give disabled employees and members of the public access to information that is comparable to access available to others. It is recommended that you review the laws and regulations discussed in the following sections to further your understanding about section 508 and how you can support implementation.

Accessibility Standards for Outdoor Developed Areas

Achieving accessibility in outdoor environments has long been a source of inquiry because of challenges and constraints posed by terrain, the degree of development, construction practices and materials, and other factors. The new provisions address access to trails, picnic and camping areas, viewing areas, beach access routes, and other components of outdoor developed areas on federal sites when newly built or altered. They also provide exceptions for situations where terrain and other factors make compliance impracticable.

In 2013, this final rule amended the Architectural Barriers Act Accessibility Guidelines by adding scoping and technical requirements for camping facilities, picnic facilities, viewing areas, trails, and beach access routes constructed or altered by or on behalf of federal agencies. The final rule ensures that these facilities are readily accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities. The final rule applies to the following federal agencies and their components that administer outdoor areas developed for recreational purposes: Department of Agriculture (Forest Service); Department of Defense (Army Corps of Engineers); and Department of the Interior (Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Reclamation, Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service). The final rule also applies to nonfederal entities that construct or alter recreation facilities on federal land on behalf of the federal agencies pursuant to a concession contract, partnership agreement, or similar arrangement.

Accessibility Standards for Shared Use Paths

<http://www.access-board.gov/guidelines-and-standards/streets-sidewalks/shared-use-paths>

Shared use paths provide a means of off-road transportation and recreation for various users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, skaters, and others, including people with disabilities. In its rulemaking on public rights-of-way and on trails and other outdoor developed areas, comments from the public urged the board to address access to shared use paths because they are distinct from sidewalks and trails. Shared-use paths, unlike most sidewalks, are physically separated from streets by an open space or barrier. They also differ from trails because they are designed not just for recreation purposes but for transportation as well.

In response, the board is supplementing its rulemaking on public rights-of-way to also cover shared-use paths. The proposed rights-of-way guidelines, which address access to sidewalks, streets, and other pedestrian facilities, provide requirements for pedestrian access routes, including specifications for route width, grade, cross slope, surfaces, and other features. The board proposes to apply these and other relevant requirements to shared-use paths as well. This supplementary rulemaking also would add provisions tailored to shared-use paths into the rights-of-way guidelines.

Draft Accessibility Standards for Public Rights-of-Way

<http://www.access-board.gov/guidelines-and-standards/streets-sidewalks/public-rights-of-way>

Sidewalks, street crossings, and other elements in the public right-of-way can pose challenges to accessibility. The United States Access Board's ADA and ABA Accessibility Guidelines focus mainly on facilities on sites. While they address certain features common to public sidewalks, such as curb ramps, further guidance is necessary to address conditions and constraints unique to public rights-of-way.

The board is developing new guidelines for public rights-of-way that will address various issues, including access for blind pedestrians at street crossings, wheelchair access to on-

street parking, and various constraints posed by space limitations, roadway design practices, slope, and terrain. The new guidelines will cover pedestrian access to sidewalks and streets, including crosswalks, curb ramps, street furnishings, pedestrian signals, parking, and other components of public rights-of-way. The board's aim in developing these guidelines is to ensure that access for persons with disabilities is provided wherever a pedestrian way is newly built or altered, and that the same degree of convenience, connection, and safety afforded the public generally is available to pedestrians with disabilities. Once these guidelines are adopted by the Department of Justice, they will become enforceable standards under ADA Title II.

Effective Communication

<http://www.ada.gov/effective-comm.htm>

People who have vision, hearing, or speech disabilities ("communication disabilities") use different ways to communicate. For example, people who are blind may give and receive information audibly rather than in writing and people who are deaf may give and receive information through writing or sign language rather than through speech. The ADA requires that Title II entities (state and local governments) and Title III entities (businesses and nonprofit organizations that serve the public) communicate effectively with people who have communication disabilities. The goal is to ensure that communication with people with disabilities is equally effective as communication with people without disabilities.

- The purpose of the effective communication rules is to ensure that the person with a vision, hearing, or speech disability can communicate with, receive information from, and convey information to, the covered entity.
- Covered entities must provide auxiliary aids and services when needed to communicate effectively with people who have communication disabilities.
- The key to communicating effectively is to consider the nature, length, complexity, and context of the communication and the person's normal method(s) of communication.

The rules apply to communicating with the person who is receiving the covered entity's goods or services, as well as with that person's parent, spouse, or companion in appropriate circumstances.

Reasonable Accommodations

<http://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/disability-employment/reasonable-accommodations/>

Federal agencies are required by law to provide reasonable accommodation to qualified employees with disabilities. The federal government may provide reasonable accommodation based on appropriate requests (unless so doing will result in undue hardship to the agencies). For more information, see the Equal Employment Opportunity

Commission's [Enforcement Guidance: Reasonable Accommodation and Undue Hardship under the Americans with Disabilities Act \(external link\)](#).

Reasonable accommodations can apply to the duties of the job and/or where and how job tasks are performed. The accommodation should make it easier for the employee to successfully perform the duties of the position. Examples of reasonable accommodations include providing interpreters, readers, or other personal assistance; modifying job duties; restructuring work sites; providing flexible work schedules or work sites (i.e., telework); and providing accessible technology or other workplace adaptive equipment. [Telework \(external link\)](#) provides employees additional flexibility by allowing them to work at a geographically convenient alternative worksite, such as home or a telecenter, on an average of at least one day per week.

Requests are considered on a case-by-case basis. To request reasonable accommodations:

- Look at the vacancy announcement.
- Work directly with person arranging the interviews.
- Contact the agency [Selective Placement Program Coordinator](#).
- Contact the hiring manager and engage in an interactive process to clarify what the person needs and identify reasonable accommodations.
- Make an oral or written request; no special language is needed.

Other Power-Driven Mobility Devices

<http://www.ada.gov/regs2010/ADAREgs2010.htm>

The definition and regulation to permit the use of mobility devices has been amended. The rule adopts a two-tiered approach to mobility devices, drawing distinctions between wheelchairs and other power-driven mobility devices such as the Segway Human Transporter. Wheelchairs (and other devices designed for use by people with mobility impairments) must be permitted in all areas open to pedestrian use. Other power-driven mobility devices must be permitted for use unless the covered entity can demonstrate that such use would fundamentally alter its programs, services, or activities, create a direct threat, or create a safety hazard. The rule also lists factors to consider in making this determination.

Service Animals

<http://www.nps.gov/goga/planyourvisit/service-animals.htm>

[The following is excerpted from the Department of Justice and Americans with Disabilities Act Revised Regulations \(effective 3/15/2011\).](#)

34.104 Definitions: Service animal means any dog [or miniature horse as outlined in the following text] that is individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability, including a physical, sensory, psychiatric, intellectual, or other mental disability. Other species of animals, whether wild or domestic, trained or untrained, are not service animals for the purposes of this definition. The work or tasks performed by a service animal must be directly related to the handler's disability. Examples of work or tasks include, but are not limited to, assisting individuals who are blind or have low vision with navigation and other tasks, alerting individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing to the presence of people or sounds, providing nonviolent protection or rescue work, pulling a wheelchair, assisting an individual during a seizure, alerting individuals to the presence of allergens, retrieving items such as medicine or the telephone, providing physical support and assistance with balance and stability to individuals with mobility disabilities, and helping persons with psychiatric and neurological disabilities by preventing or interrupting impulsive or destructive behaviors. The crime deterrent effects of an animal's presence and the provision of emotional support, well-being, comfort, or companionship do not constitute work or tasks for the purposes of this definition.

- a. General. Generally, a public entity shall modify its policies, practices, or procedures to permit the use of a service animal by an individual with a disability.
- b. Exceptions. A public entity may ask an individual with a disability to remove a service animal from the premises if-
 - (1) The animal is out of control and the animal's handler does not take effective action to control it; or
 - (2) The animal is not housebroken.
- c. If an animal is properly excluded. If a public entity properly excludes a service animal under § 35.136(b), it shall give the individual with a disability the opportunity to participate in the service, program, or activity without having the service animal on the premises.
- d. Animal under handler's control. A service animal shall be under the control of its handler. A service animal shall have a harness, leash, or other tether, unless either the handler is unable because of a disability to use a harness, leash, or other tether, or the use of a harness, leash, or other tether would interfere with the service animal's safe, effective performance of work or tasks, in which case the service animal must be otherwise under the handler's control (e.g., voice control, signals, or other effective means).

- e. Care or supervision. A public entity is not responsible for the care or supervision of a service animal.
- f. Inquiries. A public entity shall not ask about the nature or extent of a person's disability, but may make two inquiries to determine whether an animal qualifies as a service animal. A public entity may ask if the animal is required because of a disability and what work or task the animal has been trained to perform. A public entity shall not require documentation, such as proof that the animal has been certified, trained, or licensed as a service animal. Generally, a public entity may not make these inquiries about a service animal when it is readily apparent that an animal is trained to do work or perform tasks for an individual with a disability (e.g., the dog is observed guiding an individual who is blind or has low vision, pulling a person's wheelchair, or providing assistance with stability or balance to an individual with an observable mobility disability).
- g. Access to areas of a public entity. Individuals with disabilities shall be permitted to be accompanied by their service animals in all areas of a public entity's facilities where members of the public, participants in services, programs or activities, or invitees, as relevant, are allowed to go.
- h. Surcharges. A public entity shall not ask or require an individual with a disability to pay a surcharge, even if people accompanied by pets are required to pay fees, or to comply with other requirements generally not applicable to people without pets. If a public entity normally charges individuals for the damage they cause, an individual with a disability may be charged for damage caused by his or her service animal.
- i. Miniature horses.
 - (1) Reasonable modifications. A public entity shall make reasonable modifications in policies, practices, or procedures to permit the use of a miniature horse by an individual with a disability if the miniature horse has been individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of the individual with a disability.
 - (2) Assessment factors. In determining whether reasonable modifications in policies, practices, or procedures can be made to allow a miniature horse into a specific facility, a public entity shall consider-
 - i. The type, size, and weight of the miniature horse and whether the facility can accommodate these features;
 - ii. Whether the handler has sufficient control of the miniature horse;
 - iii. Whether the miniature horse is housebroken; and
 - iv. Whether the miniature horse's presence in a specific facility compromises legitimate safety requirements that are necessary for safe operation.

(C) Other requirements. Paragraphs 35.136 (c) through (h) of this section, which apply to service animals, shall also apply to miniature horses.

Section 17.549 Program Accessibility: Discrimination Prohibited

<http://www.law.cornell.edu/cfr/text/43/17.549>

Except as otherwise provided in §17.550, no qualified handicapped person shall, because the agency's facilities are inaccessible to or unusable by handicapped persons, be denied the benefits of, be excluded from participation in, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity conducted by the agency.

The reference to §17.550 in the below quotes is intended to address exclusions available to covered entities in connection with existing facilities.

Section 17.550 Program Accessibility: Existing Facilities

<http://www.law.cornell.edu/cfr/text/43/17.550>

(a) General. The agency shall operate each program or activity so that the program or activity, when viewed in its entirety, is readily accessible to and usable by people with disabilities. This paragraph does not:

- (1) Necessarily require the agency to make each of its existing facilities or every part of a facility accessible to and usable by people with disabilities;
- (2) In the case of historic preservation programs, require the agency to take any action that would result in a substantial impairment of significant historic features of an historic property; or
- (3) Require the agency to take any action that it can demonstrate would result in a fundamental alteration in the nature of a program or activity or in undue financial and administrative burdens. In those circumstances where agency personnel believe that the proposed action would fundamentally alter the program or activity or would result in undue financial and administrative burdens, the agency has the burden of proving that compliance with §17.550(a) would result in such an alteration or burdens. The decision that compliance would result in such alteration or burdens must be made by the agency head or his or her designee after considering all agency resources available for use in the funding and operation of the conducted program or activity, and must be accompanied by a written statement of the reasons for reaching that conclusion. If an action would result in such an alteration or such burdens, the agency shall take any other action that would not result in such an alteration or such burdens but would nevertheless ensure that handicapped persons receive the benefits and services of the program or activity.

(b) Methods.

- (1) **General.** The agency may comply with the requirements of this section through such means as redesign of equipment, reassignment of services to accessible locations, assignment of aides to beneficiaries, home visits, delivery of services at alternate accessible sites, alteration of existing facilities and construction of new facilities, use of accessible rolling stock, or any other methods that result in making its programs or activities readily accessible to and usable by people with disabilities. The agency is not required to make structural changes in existing facilities where other methods are effective in achieving compliance with this section. The agency, in making alterations to existing buildings, shall meet accessibility requirements to the extent compelled by the Architectural Barriers Act of 1968, as amended (42 USC 4151–4157) and any regulations implementing it. In choosing among available methods for meeting the requirements of this section, the agency shall give priority to those methods that offer programs and activities to qualified handicapped persons in the most integrated setting appropriate.
- (2) **Historic preservation programs.** In meeting the requirements of paragraph (a) of this section in historic preservation programs, the agency shall give priority to methods that provide physical access to handicapped persons. In cases where a physical alteration to an historic property is not required because of paragraph (a)(2) or (a)(3) of this section, alternative, methods of achieving program accessibility include:
 - (i) Using audio-visual materials and devices to depict those portions of an historic property that cannot otherwise be made accessible;
 - (ii) Assigning persons to guide people with disabilities into or through portions of historic properties that cannot otherwise be made accessible; or
 - (iii) Adopting other innovative methods.
- (3) **Recreation programs.** In meeting the requirements of paragraph (a) in recreation programs, the agency shall provide that the program or activity, when viewed in its entirety, is readily accessible to and usable by people with disabilities. When it is not reasonable to alter natural and physical features, accessibility may be achieved by alternative methods as noted in paragraph (b)(1) of this section.

Section 17.551 Program Accessibility: New Construction and Alterations

<http://www.law.cornell.edu/cfr/text/43/17.551>

Each building or part of a building that is constructed or altered by, on behalf of, or for the use of the agency shall be designed, constructed, or altered so as to be readily accessible to and usable by handicapped persons. The definitions, requirements, and standards of the Architectural Barriers Act (42 USC 4151–4157) as established in 41 CFR 101 – 19.600 to 101 – 19.607 apply to buildings covered by this section.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE DIRECTOR’S ORDERS AND MANAGEMENT POLICIES

A policy is a definite course of action adopted and pursued by a government, ruler, or political party. It is an action or procedure conforming to or considered with reference to prudence or expediency.

Director’s Order 16A

<http://www.nps.gov/policy/DOrders/DOrder16a.html>

Director’s Order 16A establishes the framework for meeting reasonable accommodation requirements in all areas of employment, including: application, hiring, retention, promotion, recognition, and special hiring authority. Within this framework, NPS Human Resources and Equal Opportunity Program officials will take the lead in providing specific guidance and services to applicants, employees, and supervisors and other managers with respect to the provision of reasonable accommodation.

Director’s Order 42

<http://www.nps.gov/policy/DOrders/DOrder42.html>

Director’s Order 42 addresses accessibility for visitors with disabilities in National Park Service programs and services. It is the goal of the National Park Service to ensure that all people, including persons with disabilities, have the highest level of access that is reasonable to NPS programs, facilities, and services. The order gives detailed guidance based on the minimum requirements set forth in laws, rules, and regulations with the goal to provide the highest level of access that is reasonable, exceeding the minimum level of access required by law. The order sets forth six implementation strategies:

1. to increase employee awareness and technical understanding of accessibility requirements
2. to ensure all new and renovated buildings and facilities, and all new services and programs (including those offered by concessioners and interpreters) will be “universally designed” and implemented in conformance with applicable regulations and standards

3. to ensure existing programs, facilities and services will be evaluated to determine the degree to which they are currently accessible to and useable by individuals with disabilities
4. to ensure that barriers that limit access be identified and incorporated into the NPS Assets Management Program
5. to develop action plans identifying how identified barriers will be removed (where feasible)
6. to ensure action will be taken on a day-to-day basis to eliminate identified barriers, using existing operational funds or other funding sources or partnerships

GUIDELINES

A guideline is an indication of a future course of action. It consists of recommended, nonmandatory controls that help support standards or serve as a reference when no applicable standard is in place.

Programmatic Accessibility Guidelines for National Park Service Interpretive Media

<http://www.nps.gov/hfc/accessibility/>

The “Programmatic Accessibility Guidelines for National Park Service Interpretive Media” is for media specialists, superintendents, and other NPS employees and contractors who develop and approve interpretive media. Publications, exhibits, audiovisual programs and tours, wayside exhibits, signage, and web-based media provide visitors with information and context so that their experience of visiting national park units can be both safe and meaningful. Visitors who have physical, sensory, or cognitive disabilities have legally established civil rights to receive the same information and context that NPS interpretive media products have always provided to their fellow citizens.

APPENDIX B: GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Accessibility assessment: A process in which physical and programmatic barriers to accessibility are identified at a park unit.

Accessibility assessment team: This group is a subgroup of the Interdisciplinary Design Team (see definition below) and includes an accessibility specialist and/or technician, coordinators, a regional representative, the primary facilitator for the process, architect, engineer and/or landscape architect, and typically the chiefs of interpretation, resources management, and facilities management.

Accessibility Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan: A tool that establishes a methodical process for identifying and improving Reserve-wide access and proposes strategies for implementing the plan over time, in a manner consistent with Reserve requirements and protocols.

Architectural Barriers Act Accessibility Standard (ABAAS): Standards issued under the Architectural Barriers Act apply to facilities designed, built, altered, or leased with certain federal funds. Passed in 1968, the Architectural Barriers Act is one of the first laws to address access to the built environment. The law applies to federal buildings, including post offices, social security offices, federal courthouses and prisons, and national park units.

Barrier: Architectural and programmatic obstacles to accessibility that make it difficult, and sometimes impossible, for people with disabilities to maneuver, understand, or experience.

Best practice: A method or technique that has consistently shown results superior to those achieved with other means, and that is used as a benchmark for meeting accessibility requirements.

Consultation: A formal or informal process for discussing an action or process for implementing a solution, such as section 106 (cultural resource compliance), or design for an Accessibility Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan.

Facility Management Software System (FMSS) work order: The process for documenting work needs and collecting information to aid the work scheduling and assignment process within the Facility Management Software System. Information collected should include labor, equipment and material costs, hours, types, and quantities.

Guideline: A guideline is an indication of a future course of action. It consists of recommended, nonmandatory controls that help support standards or serve as a reference when no applicable standard is in place.

Interdisciplinary design team: This team is composed of all the people involved in the workshop at the Reserve, potentially including planning, design, and construction professionals; and interpretive, resource (natural and cultural), visitor safety, maintenance and accessibility specialists.

Key Reserve experience: For the purpose of the Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan, key Reserve experiences are those experiences that are iconic and essential for visitors to understand the purpose and significance of the Reserve. They are those experiences that are “musts” for all visitors. Key Reserve experiences can be identified through a consideration of the Reserve’s purpose, significance, and interpretive themes, and programs or activities highlighted in Reserve communications.

Law: A law is a principle and regulation established in a community by some authority and applicable to its people, whether in the form of legislation or of custom and policies recognized and enforced by judicial decision.

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Requirements: NEPA defines a process that federal agencies must follow when proposing to take actions that have environmental impacts. NEPA requires federal agencies to fully consider the impacts of proposals that would affect the human environment prior to deciding to take an action. NEPA also requires federal agencies to involve the interested and affected public in the decision-making process.

Park Asset Management Plan-Optimizer Banding (PAMP-OB): Provides a 5-year asset management strategy for park units, allowing for annual updates that coincide with the budget and planning processes already occurring in park units. As this approach includes life cycle total cost of ownership, analysis, processing, and calculations, it also helps park units and the service as a whole to manage the gap between what should be spent on facilities and what is actually being spent.

People-first language: A type of disability etiquette that aims to avoid perceived and subconscious dehumanization when discussing people with disabilities. It emphasizes the person rather than the disability, noting that the disability is not the primary defining characteristic of the individual but one of several aspects of the whole person.

Project Management Information System (PMIS) Facility: A separate and individual building, structure, or other constructed real property improvement.

Project Management Information System (PMIS) Nonfacility: A project that includes anything not covered by the definition for PMIS facility

Project Management Information System (PMIS) # (number): A unique Project ID Number that is automatically generated when adding a new project into the Project Management Information System

Project planning team: This group is a subgroup of the interdisciplinary design team and includes DSC planners and PWR staff. This team collects baseline data, facilitates calls, develops the participant guide, plans for and facilitates the workshop, and produces the draft and final documents.

Readily achievable: Easily accomplished and able to be carried out without much difficulty or expense.

Recommended solution: The action to eliminate the identified barrier.

Reserve area: A Reserve area is the geographic location that is home to a single or multiple key Reserve experience(s).

Reserve policy: A policy is a definite course of action adopted and pursued by a government, ruler, or political party. It is an action or procedure conforming to or considered with reference to prudence or expediency.

Reserve practice: Those habitual and/or customary performances or operations for reaching a desired outcome that the Reserve employs.

Responsible person: The person/position responsible for seeing that the elimination of a barrier is completed.

Service, activity, and program: A service, activity, or program that is undertaken by a department and affords benefits, information, opportunities, and activities to one or more members of the public.

Standard: A standard is something considered by an authority or by general consent as a basis of comparison; an approved model. It is a specific low-level mandatory control that helps enforce and support a law.

Time frame: Time frames for implementation of a recommended solution are primarily based on reserve's ability to complete the improvements within normal scheduling of Reserve operations and planned projects. They describe when staff will eliminate the barrier. Recommended solutions are divided into four time frames including: immediate, short-term, mid-term, and long-term.

APPENDIX C: CONTRIBUTORS

EBEY'S LANDING NATIONAL HISTORICAL RESERVE

Annie Matsov, Acting Superintendent

Scott Swenson, Preservationist

Roy Zipp, Superintendent (Former)

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DENVER SERVICE CENTER

Mindy Burke, Contract Editor

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Kim Shafer, Project Manager

APPENDIX D: RESERVE AREAS NOT ASSESSED

The following Reserve areas are those not assessed for this Accessibility Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan. The selection process determined that key Reserve experiences provided in these Reserve areas were available in an equivalent way within the areas that were assessed. If any of the Reserve areas not assessed are improved by new construction or alterations in the future, the area will be assessed and improved to comply with the current Architectural Barriers Act Accessibility Standards.

Rationales are provided below for Reserve areas not assessed for this plan:

Reserve Area	Rationale
Admiralty Head Lighthouse	State Park Property
State Park Office	State Park Property
Gun Battery	State Park Property
Self-Guided Walking Tour	Administered by Chamber of Commerce
Contact Station	State Park Property
Ebey's Landing State Park Beach	State Park Property
Captain Coupe Park	Town of Coupeville Property
Driftwood County Park	County Property
Grasser's and Kennedy Lagoons	State Park Property
Kettles Trail and Trailhead	County Property
Rhododendron County Park	County Property
Sunny Side Cemetery	County Property
Patmore County Park	County Property

APPENDIX E: ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE RESERVE

Identification no. _____

Record this identification number in the implementation table where this action is identified. Use this template to track and document accessibility actions and accomplishments throughout the park.

Action Taken by Ebey's Landing National Historical Reserve

Location: [Reserve Area]

Barrier:

Action taken:

Date work was completed:

PMIS Number(s) and Title(s):

Cost:

Photograph(s), sketches, or notes documenting completed work:

Submitted by:

Date:

APPENDIX F: GUIDANCE FOR PREPARING PMIS PACKAGES FOR ACCESSIBILITY IMPROVEMENTS

Project description: Clearly identify what improvements will be addressed as part of the package. Also identify the Reserve location and facility for planned work. Reference work orders for all applicable types of planned work, e.g., deteriorated conditions to be improved (deferred maintenance), health and safety improvements, and code compliance issues such as accessibility improvements. Provide measurements of areas to be improved, e.g., square footage, lineal footage, etc.

Project justification: Reference the recently completed “Accessibility Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan” for your park unit and the implementation strategy dates. Identify the number of visitors affected and other beneficial aspects of the project. You can cite legal and management policies as noted below:

- The Architectural Barriers Act (ABA) of 1968 requires that any building or facility designed, constructed, altered, or leased with federal funds be accessible and usable by any individuals with disabilities. In addition, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 requires covered entities to consider the accessibility of programs, services, and activities. In 2006, the Architectural Barriers Act Accessibility Standards (ABAAS) were adopted for federal facilities. Subsequently in 2011, standards for Recreational Facilities were added to ABAAS as Chapter 10.
- The National Park Service recommitted to making our park units and programs truly accessible to all in the “*A Call to Action*”. The recently released “*ALL IN! Accessibility in the National Park Service 2015-2020*” included three goals for improved visitor access. This project addresses: Goal 1: Create a welcoming environment by increasing the ability of the National Park Service to serve visitors and staff with disabilities; Goal 2: Ensure that new facilities and programs are inclusive and accessible to people with disabilities; and Goal 3: Upgrade existing facilities, programs, and services to be accessible to people with disabilities.

Potential eligible fund sources: Accessibility projects are potentially eligible for a number of NPS fund sources and can be competitive in regard to the capital investment strategy. The following is a list of possible fund sources:

1. Repair/rehabilitation program—identify all work orders that pertain for deferred maintenance, code compliance, health and safety, etc.
2. Recreation fee 20% park—excellent fund source for accessibility as the project provides for visitor improvements.
3. Concession/permitted facilities—consider these fund sources when the facility is included in a Concession contract or permit.
4. Regular cyclic maintenance—excellent fund source for replacement of picnic tables, grills, trash containers, etc.

5. Exhibit cyclic maintenance—excellent fund source for replacing non-compliant waysides, exhibits, etc.
6. Federal Lands Highways Program (FLHP)—include accessibility improvements with parking lot, parking spaces, accessible routes, curb cuts, sidewalks, signage, etc. as part of road improvement projects where appropriate.
7. Line item construction (LIC) —if you have a project in the LIC program, ensure inclusion of all appropriate accessibility improvements.

PMIS packages: Conduct a search in PMIS for projects previously funded for accessibility.

EBEY'S LANDING NATIONAL HISTORICAL RESERVE ACCESSIBILITY SELF-EVALUATION AND TRANSITION PLAN MARCH 2022

This Accessibility Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan has been prepared as a collaborative effort between Ebey's Landing National Historical Reserve, Pacific West Regional staff, and the Denver Service Center and is recommended for approval by the superintendent.

Approved

Date

Superintendent, Ebey's Landing National Historical Reserve



As the nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has responsibility for most of our nationally owned public lands and natural resources. This includes fostering sound use of our land and water resources; protecting our fish, wildlife, and biological diversity; preserving the environmental and cultural values of our national parks and historic places; and providing for the enjoyment of life through outdoor recreation. The department assesses our energy and mineral resources and works to ensure that their development is in the best interests of all our people by encouraging stewardship and citizen participation in their care. The department also has a major responsibility for American Indian reservation communities and for people who live in island territories under U.S. administration.

EBLA [TIC number ####/#####]
March 2022