



*Nature*

**HISTORY**

*Discovery*

# **A Master Plan for State Park Lands at the Luckiamute River Confluence May 2006 Newsletter**

## **Where Are We In The Planning Process?**

As most of you know, the first draft master plan for Luckiamute was distributed for public review in April. Meetings with the advisory committee and the general public were held on April 18 to discuss the draft plan. Comments that were received at the meetings and in subsequent written correspondence indicate that there is a wide range of opinions on what is appropriate for the park's future. While there is broad-based support for restoring the floodplain functions and native habitats in the park, there is also concern among local farmers about taking the park's open fields out of agricultural production when restoration projects are implemented. Some neighbors are concerned that the character of the neighborhood might be affected by park activities, and that the park may attract illegal activity that would be difficult to prevent with the current level of enforcement. There are also differing opinions regarding the types of recreational uses that are appropriate for the park. OPRD staff are evaluating the comments and considering ways to address them through revisions to the plan and strategies for operating and managing the park.

## **The Master Planning Schedule Has Been Extended**

The OPRD director has decided that more time is needed to evaluate the issues and work with neighbors in developing solutions. The presentation of the draft plan to the State Parks Commission, formerly scheduled for June 8, has been postponed to August 17. This will allow time to revise the draft plan, make it available for public review, and hold another public meeting followed by another written comment opportunity, before presenting the plan to the Commission.

## **The Revised Draft Plan Will Soon Be Available For Review**

OPRD staff are currently working on revisions to the draft plan. On or about June 14, the revised draft will be available for review at OPRD's web site and the other locations listed in this newsletter.

## **Meeting Scheduled To Discuss The Revised Draft Plan And Related Issues**

OPRD has scheduled another public meeting, at the time and place below, to discuss the revised draft plan and related issues. This meeting will be followed by another period within which written comments will be accepted.

**Time:** June 21, 2006  
6:00 to 8:00 PM

**Place:** Monmouth Volunteer Hall (behind City Hall)  
144 South Warren Street  
Monmouth, Oregon

## **What Will Happen At This Meeting?**

The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the revised draft master plan, and to discuss related park operational issues and management practices that are appropriate to address neighborhood concerns. No decisions will be made at the meeting.

## **What Will Happen After This Meeting?**

Written comments on the revised draft plan will be accepted through July 14, 2006. OPRD staff will make any additional changes that may be needed based on the input gathered at the public meeting and through written correspondence. On August 17, OPRD staff will present the draft master plan to the State Parks and Recreation Commission, along with a summary of the public comments received at the meeting and during the comment period.

With the concurrence of the Commission, staff will then begin the formal process that will lead to the eventual adoption of the plan. This will include requests for land use approvals from Polk and Benton Counties. The County land use approval processes will run concurrently with OPRD's required process for adopting the master plan as a state rule. The rule-making process will include a formal public hearing, held locally, followed by another opportunity to submit written comments. Everyone who is on our newsletter mailing list will receive advance notice of the rule-making hearing. All of these steps will occur before the master plan is finally adopted.

### What Is a State Park Master Plan?

A state park master plan is an adopted plan that guides the development and use of park facilities and the protection and management of important natural, cultural and scenic resources within the park boundaries. The plan is a written and illustrated reference that describes the planning purpose and process, existing park facilities, expected future recreation demand, the suitability of the land for resource protection or recreational development, issues related to public use and management, the goals, objectives and development concepts for future uses and development in the park, and guidelines for managing the park resources. The useful life of a park master plan is generally no longer than 20 years before it needs to be updated.

### Where Can I Review The Draft Master Plan?

**OPRD web site.** Materials published during this planning process, including the draft plan, any addendums to the draft, the final plan, newsletters, etc., will be available for review on OPRD's website, at [http://egov.oregon.gov/OPRD/PLANS/planning\\_luckiamute.shtml](http://egov.oregon.gov/OPRD/PLANS/planning_luckiamute.shtml)

**Local libraries.** Copies of the draft plan, any addendums to the draft, and the final plan will be provided to the following libraries:

- Dallas Public Library, 950 Main St., Dallas
- Independence Public Library, 175 Monmouth St, Independence
- OSU Valley Library, 121 The Valley Library, Corvallis

**OPRD offices.** Copies of the draft plan, any addendums to the draft, and the final plan can also be viewed at the OPRD headquarters office in Salem (see address below) and the Willamette Mission State Park office at 10991 Wheatland Road N.E. in Gervais.

**If you need your own copies** of the plan materials, you may request copies by contacting OPRD. See the contact information below.

### Questions or Comments?

Please direct questions or comments to:

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