



*Nature*

**HISTORY**

*Discovery*

## Draft Master Plan for Bates State Park Newsletter 2 - July 2009

### **The draft master plan is almost ready for review.**

In 2008 OPRD purchased Bates Mill, a former logging mill site in northeast Oregon. The mill operated from 1917 to 1975 and the workers lived in a company town adjacent to the site, once a community of 300 people. Today, this community returns to the mill site every two years to remember and celebrate their lives together. The site is slated for the 2011 Park of Year.

The department began the master planning process this winter, with Issue Scoping meetings in February that included an advisory committee, the Friends of Bates, and the general public. From these meetings goals were developed that call for restoration of the landscape, while at the same time providing access for recreation and a variety of camping experiences. Trails are proposed to provide for hiking around the park and interpretive themes and approaches will provide an appreciation for the history of Bates town and mill as well as inform visitors how OPRD is intending to restore and manage habitat in the park.

The draft master plan is nearly completed, and will be ready for public review on or about July 15th. A second round of advisory committee and public meetings will be held at the times and location below to introduce the draft plan. Anyone can review the draft plan at the OPRD website or at the locations listed in this newsletter.

### **Meetings scheduled to discuss the draft plan**

Regional Public Meeting      July 22, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.      Oregon Parks & Recreation Department  
725 Summer Street NE,  
Conference Room 124A, Salem

Advisory Committee Meeting July 24, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.      **Prairie City Grange Hall**  
**204 N. McHaley**  
**Prairie City, Oregon**

Community Public Meeting      July 24, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.      Prairie City Grange Hall  
204 N. McHaley  
Prairie City, Oregon

### **What Will Happen At These Meetings?**

No actions to adopt or approve the master plan will occur at these meetings. The purpose of the meetings is to provide an overview of the draft master plan to help interested parties conduct an informed review of the plan during the written comment period that will extend until late August, and to hear any comments that meeting participants want to make at the meetings. Members of the public may attend the afternoon advisory committee meeting, however, only comments from the advisory committee will be taken at this meeting. The evening meetings are the general public's opportunity to comment.

## What Will Happen After These Meetings?

Interested parties may submit written comments on the draft plan up until August 23. In early September, OPRD staff will ask to meet with the Grant County Planning Department to discuss the draft plan and hear their comments. The input received during the comment period will help staff determine whether any changes are needed before presenting the draft plan to the State Parks Commission. In Late September, staff will present the draft plan to the State Parks Commission, together with any recommended changes, and hear their comments. All of these steps will occur before OPRD begins a more formal process that will lead to the eventual adoption of the master plan by OPRD and local approval.

## Where Can I Review The Draft Plan?

On or about July 15, 2009, the draft plan will be available for review at the following locations:

**OPRD web site**                    [http://www.oregon.gov/OPRD/PLANS/masterplans\\_draft.shtml](http://www.oregon.gov/OPRD/PLANS/masterplans_draft.shtml)  
**Local libraries**                Grant County Library, 507 S Canyon Blvd, John Day, OR 97845-1050  
**OPRD offices – Salem**      OPRD headquarters office in Salem (see address below), or  
   **Bend**      1645 N.E. Forbes Road, Suite 112, Bend, OR 97701.

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

## 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 parks, 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.

## Questions or Comments?

Please direct questions or comments to Mark Davison, Master Planning Coordinator:

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Meeting notices and project updates will be available at: <http://www.oregon.gov/OPRD/PLANS/index.shtml>





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