



A New Master Plan for Nehalem Bay State Park

June 2009 Newsletter

Where Are We in the Planning Process?

In January of this year, the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) held a series of public open house meetings, followed by a 30-day written comment period, to accept comments on the second draft master plan for Nehalem Bay State Park. On May 21, OPRD presented the draft plan to the State Parks Commission to hear their comments. The Commission unanimously concurred with the content of the plan. OPRD is now ready to begin the formal rulemaking process that leads to the adoption of the plan.

The Latest Draft of the Master Plan is Available for Review

The latest draft of the master plan, dated June 2009, is now available for review at OPRD's web site and the other locations listed in this newsletter.

What Has Changed from the Previous Draft of the Master Plan?

Only minor substantive changes were made in the proposals for the park between the draft reviewed at the meetings in January and the current draft. More yurts may be retained in Camp Loop A than previously proposed, although the plan still contains a proposal for a new yurt village. The plan for the equine camp now includes electrical hookups. The new northern beach access proposal now includes a possible ADA beach access trail along Glenesslin Lane. The trail system plan now includes a trail to Necarney Boulevard to help facilitate a connection to downtown Manzanita. There have also been some other, non-substantive changes to the text and illustrations. For example: the location of the previously proposed hike-in camp is now illustrated; a map has been added showing existing and proposed road access leading to the park; a table showing potential increases in camping capacities among different camping facilities has been added; and the master plan summary is now written in a narrative format. Other minor changes amount to clarifications and corrections.

Public Hearing Scheduled

OPRD has scheduled a formal public hearing, at the time and place below, to accept testimony on the adoption of the master plan as a state rule. The hearing will be followed by another 30-day comment period within which written testimony will be accepted.

When: July 22
6:00 PM

Where: Nehalem Bay State Park
9500 Sandpiper Lane, Nehalem
In the meeting hall, south of the registration booth

What Will Happen at the Hearing?

There will be no action to adopt the master plan at the hearing. The purpose is to accept testimony for the hearing record that will be considered in making any final changes to the plan before it is adopted.

What Will Happen After the Hearing?

Written testimony on the draft plan will be accepted through August 21, 2009. A summary of the verbal and written testimony will be forwarded to the OPRD Director for consideration in the Director's decision on the final plan content and adoption. Prior to finalizing the master plan for adoption, OPRD will ask Tillamook County planning officials to review the master plan for compatibility with the County's comprehensive land use plan. Any changes needed to achieve local land use compatibility will be completed before the plan is adopted by OPRD. Notice of OPRD's adoption of the master plan will be published in the Oregon Bulletin by the Secretary of State office.

Once the master plan is adopted, before projects planned for the park can be implemented, OPRD must obtain any land use permits, building permits, etc., required by the County for individual projects.

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 Plan?

At OPRD's web site: http://egov.oregon.gov/OPRD/PLANS/planning_nehalem.shtml

At Local libraries:

- Tillamook County Library, 1716 Third Street, Tillamook OR
- Manzanita Branch Library, 571 Laneda Avenue, Manzanita OR

At OPRD offices:

- OPRD headquarters office in Salem (see address below)
- Nehalem Bay State Park office, 9500 Sandpiper Lane, Nehalem

If you need your own copy of the plan, either a printed or CD copy, you may request one by contacting OPRD. See the contact information below.

Questions or Comments?

Please direct questions or comments to:

Ron Campbell, Master Planning Coordinator
Oregon Parks and Recreation Department
725 Summer Street, Suite C
Salem, Oregon 97301-1271
ron.campbell@state.or.us
(503) 986-0743