

Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission

January 25, 2012

Agenda Item: 7a

Information

Topic: Interpretive Services Program Update

Presented by: Kathy Schutt

Background:

The Interpretive Services Program has been moved into the new Integrated Park Services Division, with Planning, Signs, Trails and Volunteer Services. The intent of this new Division is better integration of these programs with each other and with field management and other OPRD divisions, in support of the park system. As part of the move, responsible staff was asked to do a program review including input from a wide cross-section of OPRD programs and divisions. The review discussions covered a full perspective of the interpretive program, the interpretive strategic plan, and related policy.

Division staff is also looking at how to include interpretive planning in a new management unit-based approach to completing Park Comprehensive Plans with the aim of having an Interpretive Assessment for each park in the system within a few years. Jamie Little, the Interpretive Specialist, has already completed a number of these assessments. The new approach will finish assessments for the rest.

Division staff will present details from the review, proposals for amending the program strategic plan and policy, and other program development recommendations, along with an overview of the management unit-based planning approach at a Commission workshop on the Interpretive Program at the April meeting.

Previous Action by the Commission: Annual Program Update

Action requested: None at present.

Prepared by: Kathy Schutt

Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission
January 25, 2012

Agenda Item: 7b

Information

Topic: Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Program Update

Presented by: Terry Bergerson

To remain qualified for federal Land and Water Conservation Fund grants, each state must prepare a Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan every five years. In Oregon, the plan not only guides this grant program, but also serves as the foundation for criteria in other grants administered by the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department, including Local Government, County Opportunity, Recreational Trails, and All-Terrain Vehicle programs. It also informs Oregon State Park System operations, administration, planning, development, and recreation programs. Finally, the plan helps governments, as well as the private sector, deliver quality outdoor recreational opportunities to Oregonians and out-of-state visitors.

The 2013-2017 Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan is underway, and has completed or is engaged in these steps:

1. **A survey** to determine both county-level recreation resource and facility needs, and identify statewide outdoor recreation issues.
2. **Advisory Committee meeting.** The primary intent of the meeting was to identify a list of final statewide planning issues to address in the plan.
3. **Statewide recreation resource/facility inventory.** Data collection is nearing completion on the statewide inventory project.

Immediate next steps:

1. **A combined phone, mail and online survey of visitors.** The statewide outdoor recreation survey will examine outdoor recreation patterns of Oregon residents and tourists from nearby states. Introductory survey letters will be sent out to approximately 50,000 Oregonians.
2. **Develop a “sustainability” chapter for the plan.** The work includes developing a vision for sustainable park systems in Oregon; case studies related to sustainable practices; evaluate current internal strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats towards the development of sustainable park systems in Oregon.
3. **Develop a parkland classification system** and suggested “level of service” standards for inclusion in the plan. Parkland types include pocket parks, urban plaza parks, neighborhood parks, community parks, regional parks, nature parks, special use parks, regional sports parks, linear parks, and destination parks.

Overall Project Timeline:

1. OSU completes statewide outdoor recreation survey report: June 30, 2012.
2. Gallagher Consulting completes sustainability chapter: June 30, 2012.
3. Finalize draft document: July 1- October 15, 2012.
4. Develop grant program evaluation criteria: September 1 – October 15, 2012.
5. Prepare layout for final document: October 15 – November 15, 2012.
6. Public review of draft plan: November 15 – December 15, 2012.
7. Submit final plan to National Park Service: December 31, 2012.

Prior Action by Commission: None

Action Requested: None

Prepared by: Terry Bergerson and Chris Havel

Oregon SCORP Progress Report

Prepared for the Oregon State Parks and Recreation Commission, 1/25/2012

Background:

To remain qualified for federal Land and Water Conservation Fund grants, each state must prepare a Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan every five years. In Oregon, the plan not only guides this grant program, but also serves as the foundation for criteria in other grants administered by the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department, including Local Government, County Opportunity, Recreational Trails, and All-Terrain Vehicle programs. It also informs Oregon State Park System operations, administration, planning, development, and recreation programs. Finally, the plan helps governments, as well as the private sector, deliver quality outdoor recreational opportunities to Oregonians and out-of-state visitors.

Completed work:

1. SCORP county-level recreation resource and facility needs assessment and statewide outdoor recreation issue survey. The survey sample included municipal, special park and recreation district, port district, county, state, federal, and Tribal recreation providers in Oregon. OPRD conducted an online survey of 432 recreation providers. Of those contacted, 219 participated in the survey (51% response rate). Results were collected separately for those with most parklands within Urban Growth Boundaries (UGBs) and those with most parklands outside of UGBs. For providers within UGBs, greatest parkland need was for neighborhood parks, trails, and community parks. Greatest need for specific resources and facilities included community trail systems, children's playgrounds, and acquisition of trail corridors. For providers outside UGBs, greatest parkland need was for trails, regional parks, and open space and natural areas. Greatest need for specific resources and facilities included group campgrounds and facilities, RV/trailer campgrounds and facilities, and restroom facilities. Top statewide issue information from the survey was presented at the first SCORP Advisory Committee meeting for determination of final statewide planning issues.
2. Initial SCORP Advisory Committee Meeting. The primary intent of the meeting was to identify a list of final statewide planning issues to address in the plan. Issues identified included: 1) providing adequate funds for routine and preventative maintenance and repair of facilities; 2) need for recreational trails (lack of trails and trail connectivity); 3) need for major rehabilitation of existing outdoor recreation facilities at the end of their useful life; 4) position parks and recreation to address increasing rates of physical inactivity; and 5) need to provide outdoor recreation providers with sustainable park practices recommendations for use within their park jurisdictions.
3. SCORP statewide recreation resource/facility inventory. Data collection is nearing completion on the statewide inventory project. The effort includes collection of recreation resource/facility information from approximately 1,625 public and private outdoor recreation providers in Oregon.

Upcoming work:

1. 2012 Oregon Statewide Outdoor Recreation Survey. The survey will examine outdoor recreation patterns of Oregon residents and tourists from nearby states. Work is being conducted under an interagency agreement between OPRD and Oregon State University. To date, survey methods and questionnaires have been finalized. The out-of-state survey work is being conducted by telephone, by the Reservations Northwest call center. The in-state resident survey primarily will be conducted via the internet, but mail (paper) surveys will be provided to respondents requesting them. The in-state survey will begin in early January 2012. Introductory survey letters will be sent out to a random sample of approximately 50,000 Oregonians selected from DMV lists of driver's license holders, 18 years and older.
2. To address statewide issue #5, OPRD has entered into an agreement with Gallagher Consulting to develop a "sustainability" chapter for the SCORP plan. The work includes developing a vision for development of sustainable park systems in Oregon, detail case studies related to sustainable practices; evaluate current internal strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats towards the development of sustainable park systems in Oregon; recommending specific sustainability practices for new construction, rehabilitation, and ongoing operations and maintenance; and developing a specific point system for evaluating sustainable practices for OPRD-administered grant program proposals. The initial project steering committee meeting with Gallagher Consulting will be held in mid-January.
3. OPRD is in the process of developing a parkland classification system and suggested level of service standards for inclusion in the Oregon SCORP plan. Parkland types include pocket parks, urban plaza parks, neighborhood parks, community parks, regional parks, nature parks, special use parks, regional sports parks, linear parks, and destination parks. Towards this end, OPRD will be conducting a web-based survey of public-sector recreation providers to collect benchmarking information for numbers, acres, and current level of service standards by parkland type. The survey will also gather information about recreation providers current budgeting situation to address statewide issue #1 (providing adequate funds for routine and preventative maintenance and repair of facilities).

Overall Project Timeline:

OSU completes statewide outdoor recreation survey report: June 30, 2012.

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Outdoor recreation activities include a variety of things you do outdoors in your free time. They include walking and cycling along trails and roads, fishing and hunting, boating, camping, bird watching, sightseeing, playing sports like golf and soccer, attending outdoor concerts, and many more examples.

This includes activities you do locally (accessible on a daily basis), in your region, and elsewhere in Oregon.

Q1. How often do you, or anyone in your household, participate in any outdoor recreation activity in Oregon? (Check the box for the category that fits best.)

- More than once per week
- Once a week
- Once a month
- Once every quarter (three months)
- Once a year
- Never

Q2. Please look at the activities listed in the table below. Did you or any member of your household participate in any of the following non-motorized trail or related activities in Oregon during the past 6 months?

- If NO, please move on to **question 3 (Q3)**.
- If YES, please fill out the following table only for the activities that you or a household member participated in during the **past 6 months**.

Non-motorized trail or related activities	Column A Number of times participated	Column B Average number of household members that participated each time	Column C Name of county or nearest city where most times occurred
Walking on local streets or sidewalks			
Walking on local trails or paths			
Walking / day hiking on non-local trails or paths			
Long-distance hiking (back packing)			
Jogging or running on streets or sidewalks			
Jogging or running on trails or paths			
Horseback riding			
Bicycling on unpaved trails			
Bicycling on paved trails			
Bicycling on roads, streets or sidewalks			

Q2b. In the past year, have you or any member of your household participated in bike touring on paved roads or paths – long day rides or multi-day rides?

- Yes
- No

Q3. Did you or any member of your household participate in any of the following motorized activities in Oregon during the past 6 months?

- If NO, please move on to **question 4**.
- If YES, please fill out the following table only for the activities that you or a household member participated in during the **past 6 months**.

Motorized activities	Column A Number of times participated	Column B Average number of household members that participated each time	Column C Name of county or nearest city where most times occurred
Class I – All-terrain vehicle riding (3 & 4 wheel ATVs, straddle seat and handle bars)			
Class II – Off-road 4-wheel driving (jeeps, pick-ups, dune buggies, SUVs)			
Class III – Off-road motorcycling			
Class IV (Proposed) – Riding UTVs or side-by-side ATVs (non-straddle seat, driver and passenger sit side-by-side in the vehicle, steering wheel for steering control)			
Snowmobiling			
Using personal water craft, such as jet ski			
Power boating (cruising or water skiing)			

Q4. Did you or any member of your household participate in any of the following non-motorized snow activities in Oregon during the past 6 months?

- If NO, please move on to **question 5**.
- If YES, please fill out the following table only for the activities that you or a household member participated in during the **past 6 months**.

Include telemark skiing at resorts in downhill skiing; include backcountry telemark skiing in cross-country / nordic skiing

Non-motorized snow activities	Column A Number of times participated	Column B Average number of household members that participated each time	Column C Name of county or nearest city where most times occurred
Downhill (alpine) skiing or snowboarding			
Cross-country / nordic skiing / skijoring on groomed trails			
Cross-country / nordic skiing / skijoring on ungroomed trails or off designated trails			
Snowshoeing			
Sledding, tubing, or general snow play			

Q5. Did you or any member of your household participate in any of the following outdoor leisure and sporting activities in Oregon during the past 6 months?

- If NO, please move on to **question 6**.
- If YES, please fill out the following table only for the activities that you or a household member participated in during the **past 6 months**.

Outdoor leisure and sporting activities	Column A Number of times participated	Column B Average number of household members that participated each time	Column C Name of county or nearest city where most times occurred
Sightseeing / driving or motorcycling for pleasure			
Picnicking			
General play at a neighborhood park / playground			
Dog walking or going to dog parks / off-leash areas			
Relaxing, hanging out, escaping heat/noise, etc.			
Attending outdoor concerts, fairs, or festivals			
Tennis (played outdoors)			
Outdoor court games other than tennis (basketball, beach volleyball, badminton, etc.)			
Baseball or softball			
Football, soccer, lacrosse, rugby or ultimate frisbee			
Golf			
Disc golf			
Skateboarding, inline skating, roller skating, or roller skiing			
Rock climbing, bouldering, or mountaineering			
Orienteering or geocaching			
Hang gliding, sky diving, or paragliding			
Visiting historic sites or history-themed parks (history-oriented museums, outdoor displays, visitor centers, etc.)			

Q6. Did you or any member of your household participate in any of the following nature study activities in Oregon during the past 6 months?

- If NO, please move on to **question 7**.
- If YES, please fill out the following table only for the activities that you or a household member participated in during the **past 6 months**.

Consider the primary purpose of your outing. Was it to look at wildlife or to take photos? Was it to watch birds or other kinds of wildlife?

Nature study activities	Column A Number of times participated	Column B Average number of household members that participated each time	Column C Name of county or nearest city where most times occurred
Bird watching			
Whale watching			
Exploring tidepools			
Other nature / wildlife / forest / wildflower observation			
Visiting botanical gardens			
Visiting nature centers			
Outdoor photography, painting, or drawing			
Collecting (rocks, plants, mushrooms, or berries)			

Q7. Did you or any member of your household participate in any of the following vehicle-based camping activities in Oregon during the past 6 months?

Do not include backpacking (covered in the trail activities section).

- If NO, please move on to **question 8**.
- If YES, please fill out the following table only for the activities that you or a household member participated in during the **past 6 months**.

Vehicle-based camping activities	Column A Number of times participated	Column B Average number of household members that participated each time	Column C Name of county or nearest city where most times occurred
RV / motorhome / trailer camping			
Car camping with a tent			
Motorcycle camping with a tent			
Yurts or camper cabins			

Q8. Did you or any member of your household participate in any of the following fishing, hunting, trapping, and shooting activities in Oregon during the past 6 months?

- If NO, please move on to **question 9**.
- If YES, please fill out the following table only for the activities that you or a household member participated in during the **past 6 months**.

Fishing, hunting, trapping, and shooting activities	Column A Number of times participated	Column B Average number of household members that participated each time	Column C Name of county or nearest city where most times occurred
Fly fishing			
Fishing from a boat (other than fly fishing)			
Fishing from a bank or shore (other than fly fishing)			
Crabbing			
Shellfishing / clamming			
Big game hunting with a gun			
Big game hunting with a bow			
Waterfowl hunting			
Upland bird or small game hunting			
Target or skeet shooting or archery			

Q9. Did you or any member of your household participate in any of the following non-motorized water-based and beach activities in Oregon during the past 6 months?

Beach activities include tanning, swimming, playing, and walking or running on the beach for exercise; do not include fishing, crabbing, or clamming, which are covered elsewhere.

- If NO, please move on to **question 10**.
- If YES, please fill out the following table only for the activities that you or a household member participated in during the **past 6 months**.

Non-motorized water-based and beach activities	Column A Number of times participated	Column B Average number of household members that participated each time	Column C Name of county or nearest city where most times occurred
White-water canoeing, kayaking, or rafting			
Flat-water canoeing, sea kayaking, rowing, stand-up paddling, tubing / floating			
Surfing or ocean stand-up paddling			
Windsurfing or kiteboarding			
Sailing			
Beach activities – ocean			
Beach activities – lakes, reservoirs, rivers, etc.			
Swimming or playing in outdoor pools / spray parks			
Snorkeling or SCUBA diving			

Q16. Now please tell us about your priorities for the future – what should park and forest agencies in and near your community invest in? For each of the following amenities, please indicate the level of priority for future investment.

	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> Lowest priority need Highest priority need </div> 				
Children’s playgrounds and play areas made of natural materials (logs, water, sand, boulders, hills, trees)	1	2	3	4	5
Children’s playgrounds and play areas built with manufactured structures like swingsets, slides, and climbing apparatuses	1	2	3	4	5
Picnic areas and shelters for <u>small</u> visitor groups	1	2	3	4	5
Picnic areas and shelters for <u>large</u> visitor groups	1	2	3	4	5
Paved / hard surface walking trails and paths	1	2	3	4	5
Dirt / other soft surface walking trails and paths	1	2	3	4	5
Off-street bicycle trails and pathways	1	2	3	4	5
Community gardens	1	2	3	4	5
Nature and wildlife viewing areas	1	2	3	4	5
Multi-use fields for soccer, football, lacrosse, etc.	1	2	3	4	5
Baseball / softball fields	1	2	3	4	5
Outdoor tennis courts	1	2	3	4	5
Basketball courts	1	2	3	4	5
Off-leash dog areas	1	2	3	4	5
Designated paddling routes for canoes, kayaks, rafts, driftboats	1	2	3	4	5
Public access sites to waterways	1	2	3	4	5
Off-highway vehicle trails/areas	1	2	3	4	5

Q17. Have you or any member of your household participated in any educational or recreational programs sponsored by a local, state, or federal recreation provider? Which of the following have you or any member of your household participated in within the past six months? (Please check all that apply.)

- An organized outdoor recreation program (hiking, cross-country skiing/snowshoeing, cycling, climbing, paddling, etc.)
- Historical programs, including walks, reenactments, and tours
- Other guided or ranger-led programs
- Other types of recreation programs (special event, excursion, concert, etc) – this does not include use of facilities outside of programs, such as visiting a local park or swimming pool
- No programs of this type

Q21. We are interested in the connection between work and fitness. We use the ratio of height to weight as a measure of fitness. What is your height?

_____ feet and _____ inches tall

Q22. What is your weight?

_____ pounds

Q29. How old are you? _____ years old

Q30. How many adults and children currently live in your household?

_____ adults (18 years or older)

_____ children

Q31. What is your gender?

- Male
- Female

Q32. What is the highest educational degree you have completed? (Please check one box.)

- Did not complete high school
- High school diploma (or equivalency)
- Some college, but no degree
- Associate degree
- Bachelor degree
- Graduate or professional degree

Q33. Are you of Spanish / Hispanic / Latino descent?

- Yes
- No

Q34. Please select one or more of the following categories that best describes your race.

- Black / African American
- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Asian
- Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander
- White / European American
- Other

Q35. What is your household's total annual income before taxes? Include income for all persons that regularly live in your household and all sources of income – salary, pensions, interest or dividends, and all other sources.

- Less than \$10,000
- \$10,000 to \$14,999
- \$15,000 to \$24,999
- \$25,000 to \$34,999
- \$35,000 to \$49,999
- \$50,000 to \$74,999
- \$75,000 to \$99,999
- \$100,000 to \$149,999
- \$150,000 or more

Thank you for completing this survey. Please write any other comments you have about outdoor recreation in Oregon below.