

PRINCIPLE 5:

BUILD THE STATE PARK SYSTEM WITH PURPOSE AND VISION

Oregon's state parks are gateways to a destination or are themselves individual destinations. The system as a whole can be enlarged by linking these properties to other public or private land.

Vision:

Oregon is transformed into a seamless, borderless recreation area.

Strategies:

- Understand the scope of recreation resources in each major region of Oregon.
- Collaborate with Oregon recreation land managers to improve recreation offerings in Oregon.
- Communicate all of Oregon's recreation offerings in a comprehensive manner.
- Market Oregon State Park properties as recreation hubs that connect people to each region's vast resources through information, interpretation, and education.
- Prioritize properties for State Park acquisition or development that serve as portals to Oregon's significant recreation, cultural or scenic resources.
- Provide grant funding support to communities and other governments to improve the array of park, recreation and heritage offerings throughout the state.
- Pursue grant funding support at Oregon State Park properties that link State Parks to other important environmental, social and cultural initiatives in Oregon.

Actions:

1. Complete a Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan every five years. Through this plan, assess the supply of and demand for outdoor recreation resources in each region of the state and among special segments of the population.
2. Convene the Oregon Outdoor Recreation Council on a quarterly basis to bring federal, state, academic and local recreation leaders together to collaborate on common issues.
3. Offer a web site, accessible by all members of the public, which identifies all recreation trails in Oregon, regardless of land manager.
4. Work with tourism leaders and local governments to develop Scenic Bikeways in Oregon.
5. Develop a Water Trail each biennium linking scenic and recreational waters with riverside communities.
6. Develop research questions and schedules for systematic archaeological excavations at Fort Yamhill, Fort Lane, and Champoege State Heritage Areas. Coordinate with other related archaeological work at sites managed by counties and other governments (for example, at Fort Hoskins.)
7. Collaborate with communities, other state agencies, federal agencies and volunteer groups to plan and develop aesthetic improvements and trail connections at the west entrance to the Columbia Gorge National Scenic Area and Historic Columbia River Highway.