

FORWARD

A message from the Director, Oregon Parks and Recreation Department



The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) was established by Congress in 1965 to create parks and open spaces, protect wilderness, wetlands, and refuges, preserve wildlife habitat and enhance recreational opportunities. In the state of Oregon, the LWCF has been a key mechanism to aggressively acquire and develop land for outdoor recreation purposes. Since 1965, our state has received approximately \$235 million in LWCF funds (\$185 to federal agencies and \$50 million to state and local units of government). Throughout Oregon, this investment has supported outdoor recreation projects ranging from land acquisition to nature trails, picnic areas, children's playgrounds, swimming pools, restrooms, campgrounds and sports fields. Clearly, the LWCF funding program is making an important contribution to the everyday lives of people in the state and is a critical contributor to the unique "quality of life" that all Oregonians enjoy.

With the completion of the *2003-2007 Oregon Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP)*, the state of Oregon will maintain its eligibility to participate in the LWCF fund through the year 2007. On behalf of the citizens of the state of Oregon, OPRD would like to thank the National Park Service for financial and technical support for development of this plan.

OPRD also acknowledges the adoption of Measure 66 by Oregon voters in 1999, which provided the Department the financial stability necessary to conduct long-term planning. With the passage of Measure 66, OPRD and the Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission developed a strategic planning document entitled "Target 2014" providing long-term direction for the Department. The *2003-2007 Oregon SCORP* addresses Target 2014's Goal One, affirming OPRD's role as a principal advocate, leader and source of expertise and support for outdoor recreation providers at all levels of government.

The *2003-2007 Oregon SCORP* plan constitutes Oregon's basic five-year plan for outdoor recreation. It provides the state with an up-to-date, state-of-the-art SCORP as a statewide and regional information and planning tool serving as the basis by which all Oregon recreation providers (state, federal, local, and private) catalogue and rank their recreation needs, obtain funding through partnerships and grants, and affirm their respective roles.

My hope is that all Oregonians involved with the administration of recreation and park facilities take time to read this important document and carefully and efficiently apply taxpayer money to implement the Plan's objectives in every community.

Sincerely,

Michael Carrier
Director – Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

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2003-2007 OREGON STATEWIDE COMPREHENSIVE OUTDOOR RECREATION PLAN

JANUARY 2003

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



Nature
HISTORY
Discovery

Prepared by the
Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

Authority to conduct the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) process is granted to the Director of the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) under Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS) 390.104. The statute authorizes Oregon's participation in the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund Program established by and pursuant to the Land and Water Conservation Act of 1965 (P.L.95-625). The 2003-2007 Oregon Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan and related appendices were prepared to be in compliance with Chapter 630 of the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund Grants Manual. With the completion of this plan, the state of Oregon maintains its eligibility to participate in the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) was established by Congress to create parks and open spaces, protect wilderness, wetlands, and refuges, preserve wildlife habitat and enhance recreational opportunities. In Oregon, the LWCF fund has been a key mechanism to aggressively acquire and develop land for outdoor recreation purposes. Since 1965, the state of Oregon has received approximately \$235 million in LWCF funds (\$185 million to federal agencies and \$50 million to state and local units of government). Throughout Oregon, this investment has supported outdoor recreation projects ranging from land acquisition to nature trails, picnic areas, children's playgrounds, swimming pools, restrooms, campgrounds, sports fields and irrigation systems.

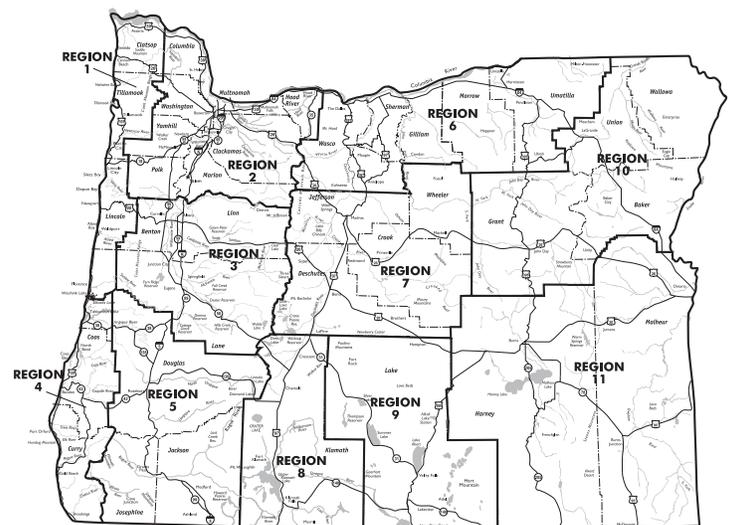
During the 1999 legislative session, OPRD obtained state funding to revive SCORP planning and prepare for a resurgence of Land and Water Funding in the state. The state has made a strong financial commitment towards developing a quality SCORP plan including the hiring of the first full-time SCORP planner outside of the grant program. OPRD began the SCORP planning process in June of 2000.

The 2003-2007 Oregon Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan

constitutes Oregon's basic five-year plan for outdoor recreation. It establishes the framework for statewide comprehensive outdoor recreation planning and the implementation process. In Oregon, the plan functions not only to guide the LWCF program, but also provides guidance for other OPRD administered grant programs including the Local Grant, County Opportunity Grant, Recreational Trails, and All-Terrain Vehicle Programs. Finally, the plan provides guidance to federal, state, and local units of government, as well as the private sector, in delivering quality outdoor recreational opportunities to Oregonians and out-of-state visitors.

As in past Oregon SCORP plans, this plan uses a regional planning approach. Early in the planning process, OPRD identified 11 distinct planning regions—all of which are unique destination areas for recreational travel in the state (see Figure ES.1). These regional boundaries provided the most cost-effective method of delivering usable recreation information to federal, state, and local units of government for identifying key recreational issues, facility and resources deficiencies, and supply and demand information for their planning efforts.

Figure ES.1. Oregon SCORP Planning Regions



SUMMARY OF PLANNING RESULTS

This section includes a brief summary of results for the following major components of the Oregon SCORP planning effort:

1. The Oregon Outdoor Recreation Survey
2. Outdoor Recreation Needs Analysis
3. Recreational Trends
4. Recreation Roles
5. Key Statewide Outdoor Recreation Issues
6. Statewide Outdoor Recreation Goals, Objectives and Strategies

The Oregon Outdoor Recreation Survey

The Oregon Outdoor Recreation Survey was conducted over a one-year period from February 2001 to January 2002 by Oregon State University's College of Forestry. A primary objective of the survey involves estimating demand for 76 outdoor recreation activities in Oregon so that future outdoor recreation needs can be assessed. Estimates for annual recreation use, by activity, are made for each of the 11 SCORP planning regions and statewide. Results from this study also provide recreation planners across the state with up-to-date recreational participation information for use in local and regional planning.

A combination phone and mail survey methodology was used to provide the most efficient means of collecting information from a broad sample of the population. The survey examined the outdoor recreation patterns of some 4,400 Oregonians and 800 non-residents (from Washington, Idaho and California). The survey provides statistically reliable information for each of the 11 planning regions and statewide. The margin of error for telephone survey results is $\pm 5\%$. Response rates and number of surveys per region allow a margin of error for the mail survey of no worse than $\pm 8\%$ for estimates of single variables, such as whether a household participated in a particular recreation activity.

The findings of the Oregon Outdoor Recreation Survey show that Oregonians are actively engaged in all types of outdoor recreation activities in the state. About 73% of Oregon households had participated in outdoor recreation activities within the past 12 months. Clearly, outdoor recreation is

an important part of the everyday lives of people in the state of Oregon and a critical contributor to the unique "quality of life" that Oregonians enjoy.

The most popular everyday activities are running and walking for exercise and walking for pleasure (see Table ES.1). According to the OSU report, these activities are generally engaged in near home, and on a regular basis. The next most popular activities, bird watching and nature/wildlife observation, are often done right from people's homes. Traditional non-metro outdoor recreation activities that have high demands include sightseeing/driving for pleasure, nature/wildlife observation, RV/trailer camping, and ocean beach use. The implications for outdoor recreation planners and managers are that people demand most outdoor recreation opportunities in the communities in which they live, and nearby.



Table ES.1. Top 10 Oregon Outdoor Recreation Activities – State Residents

Activity	Estimated Annual User Days* (Millions)
1. Running/Walking for Exercise	49.2
2. Walking for Pleasure	47.7
3. Birdwatching	18.7
4. Nature/Wildlife Observation	17.6
5. Sightseeing/Driving for Pleasure	12.3
6. RV/Trailer Camping	11.0
7. Golf	9.6
8. Using Park Playground Equipment	8.8
9. Bicycling	7.4
10. Ocean Beach Activities	6.0

* A user day is one instance of participation in a single outdoor recreation activity by one person.

Note: The plan also includes participation estimates for each of the 11 SCORP planning regions.

Non-residents, from households in Washington, Idaho, and California who lived in counties adjacent to Oregon, along with Ada County, Idaho (which contains Boise), were also surveyed to identify their recreational participation patterns while recreating in the state of Oregon. For these non-residents, the highest number of estimated user days is for running and walking for exercise, RV/trailer camping, walking for pleasure, sightseeing/driving for pleasure, nature/wildlife observation, and birdwatching (see Table ES.2).

Table ES.2. Top 10 Oregon Outdoor Recreation Activities – Out-of-State

Activity	Estimated Annual User Days (Millions)
1. Running/Walking for Exercise	10.5
2. RV/Trailer Camping	6.2
3. Walking for Pleasure	5.1
4. Sightseeing/Driving for Pleasure	2.6
5. Nature/Wildlife Observation	2.1
6. Birdwatching	1.9
7. Power Boating for Pleasure	1.9
8. Ocean Beach Activities	1.8
9. Outdoor Photography	1.5
10. Picnicking	1.0

Focusing on just peak-season demand (in this case during the summer season) shows that RV/trailer camping is by far the most popular, followed by walking for pleasure, sightseeing, and ocean beach activities.

Since trails are such an important component of local recreation planning, the use of different types of trails and different types of surfaces is summarized in the survey report. Running and walking for exercise are mostly done on city streets and sidewalks, as only 18% takes place on local community or backcountry trails (Table ES.3). Seventy percent of the trails being used for this purpose are surfaced* (Table ES.4). Walking for pleasure shows similar characteristics, with only 28% taking place on local community or backcountry trails,

and 57% of that use, taking place on surfaced trails. It was assumed that all backpacking use takes place on unsurfaced backcountry trails. For bicycling, only 36% of user days take place on backcountry or community or local community trails, and 76% of that use is on surfaced trails. Seventy percent of hiking takes place on local community or backcountry trails, but unlike biking, 90% of the use is on unsurfaced trails. Three-quarters of horseback riding takes place on designated bridle trails, and nearly all of that use is on unsurfaced trails.

Table ES.3. Location of Linear Activities (Statewide)

Linear Activity	City Streets or Sidewalks	Community or Backcountry Trails
Walking for Pleasure	72%	28%
Running/Walking for Exercise	82%	18%
Bicycling	64%	36%

Table ES.4. Trail Surface Type Used for Linear Activities (Statewide)

Linear Activity	Surfaced (blacktop, concrete, gravel, woodchips)	Unsurfaced (dirt/natural surface)
Walking for Pleasure	70%	30%
Running/Walking for Exercise	57%	43%
Bicycling	76%	24%
Hiking	10%	90%

* Surfaced trails include trails with blacktop, concrete, gravel and woodchip surfacing.

Outdoor Recreation Needs Analysis

A central component of this plan is the quantitative comparison of outdoor recreation demand and supply of existing recreation resources and facilities at a given point in time. Following a general methodology described in the 1994 Florida SCORP document entitled, "Outdoor Recreation in Florida," OSU conducted a needs analysis using data from the Oregon Outdoor Recreation Survey and the 2001 Oregon Statewide Outdoor Recreational Resource/Facility Inventory to identify recreation resource and facility need in the state. Recreational resource/facility need was identified when recreation participation exceeds the current supply. In addition, census data projections were used to conduct a 5-year needs analysis based on estimated population growth.

The needs analysis identified 43 activities in a specific region where current peak use exceeds supply. An additional 5 activities were identified where forecasted 2007 demand will exceed current supply. OPRD will allocate additional scoring points for Land & Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) grant requests addressing activities where need was identified.

Activities where use exceeds current supply in three or more regions are:

- swimming in an outdoor pool (6 regions);
- golf (4 regions);
- running/walking for exercise on surfaced and unsurfaced local community or backcountry trails (4 regions);
- four-wheel driving on designated 4x4 motorized trails (4 regions);
- fishing from a dock or pier (3 regions); and
- biking on surfaced local community or backcountry trails (3 regions).

A relative need priority index was determined for each activity where current peak use exceeded supply. This allows comparison of relative needs across regions and activities. The activities ranking highest on the relative needs priority index (see Table ES.5) are golf in regions 1 (including Clatsop, Tillamook, Lincoln and Coastal-Lane Counties) and 2 (including Columbia, Washington, Multnomah, Hood River, Yamhill, Clackamas, Polk and Marion Counties), followed by swimming in an outdoor pool in region 1.

Table ES.5. Relative Needs Priority Index (Top 15 Activities)

Activity	Region	Relative Needs Priority Index*
1. Golf	2	1,582.83
2. Golf	1	995.92
3. Swimming in an outdoor pool	1	982.22
4. Hiking on local community or backcountry trails (all surfaces)	1	923.85
5. Hiking on unsurfaced local community or backcountry trails	1	776.67
6. Swimming in an outdoor pool	3	689.99
7. Swimming in an outdoor pool	2	651.47
8. Non motorized boat ramp use (canoeing, white water kayaking, white water rafting, sea kayaking and windsurfing)	7	556.91
9. Backpacking	2	440.43
10. Fishing/crabbing from a dock or pier	1	331.87
11. Swimming in an outdoor pool	5	247.39
12. Swimming in an outdoor pool	7	224.85
13. Running/walking for exercise on local community or backcountry trails (all surfaces)	11	220.27
14. Swimming in an outdoor pool	4	175.70
15. Running/walking for exercise on surfaced local community or backcountry trails	11	140.88

* Relative needs priority index shows each activity's need relative to the total statewide needs for all activities.

Recreation Trends

As with any successful comprehensive planning effort, it is important to know the direction in which we are headed, so that we may plot our course accordingly. During this planning process, the following recreation trends affecting the provision of outdoor recreation opportunities in the state were identified. These are discussed below.

Major Demographic Trends

Using results from the 2000 Census, three major demographic trends are identified which currently have, and will continue to have, a significant impact on the provision of recreation opportunities in Oregon. These trends include a rapidly increasing population, rapidly increasing diversity within the population, and a growing gap between the rich and poor. Recreation providers should proactively address these demographic trends to provide equal access to recreational opportunities for all Oregonians in the future.

Public Provider Trends

Representatives from public-sector recreation providers in the state also report that the state's population is growing older, more highly educated, with higher income levels, increasingly urban, and increasingly ethnic. In addition, providers reported the following important recreation trends:

- The public is asking land managers to place an increasing emphasis on the protection of streams, fish, wildlife habitat, and threatened and endangered species. They are also asking land managers to manage for amenities including quiet, natural places, natural appearing settings, and information and education.
- The recreating public has less disposable leisure time available than in the past. As a result, they are taking shorter trips involving closer to home travel. In fact, according to the Travel Industry Association of America, in the U.S. 40% of weekend travelers report they are taking more day trips and/or weekend trips today than 5 years ago. Meeting this demand will be especially challenging for

- federal agencies with land management responsibilities near urban areas.
- As more of the "baby boomer" generation retires, the demand for recreation facilities with high amenities and accessibility is likely to increase with the growing technologies available in the travel industry.
- Rural communities are becoming increasingly interested in collaborating with managers and recreation providers on developing opportunities that have the potential of diversifying their economies, while still maintaining their quality-of-life values.
- Nature study activities are rising in popularity.
- In some areas in the near future, water may be more valuable for recreation than for agriculture.
- Managing for conflicts between recreational users seems to be an increasing need as demand for limited space increases and supply decreases (e.g. areas available for motorized recreation use).
- Expanded public-private sector and public-public sector partnerships to more efficiently and effectively provide outdoor recreation opportunities within the state.

Participation Trends

Finally, participation estimates from this plan's needs assessment were compared with participation estimates from the 1986 -1987 Pacific Northwest Outdoor Recreation Study. The most significant participation growth activities in the state of Oregon include Nature/Wildlife Observation, Golf, RV/Trailer Camping, Using Playground Equipment and Sightseeing/Driving for Pleasure. The most significant statewide participation loss activities include Swimming in an Outdoor Pool, Picnicking, Horseback Riding, Outdoor Tennis and Car Camping with a Tent.

Recreation providers throughout the state should consider these important trends in their recreational planning within their jurisdictions. The ultimate goal is to provide needed recreational resources and opportunities for all Oregonians in years to come.

Recreational Roles

OPRD has a state mandate to identify provision roles for public and private-sector outdoor recreation in Oregon. The following section includes a description of the role of federal and state agencies, municipal and county parks and recreation departments, special recreation districts, public schools and the private sector in providing outdoor recreation opportunities in Oregon.

For describing provider roles, the following terms are defined:

Resource-based activities: Outdoor recreation of types dependent on some element or combination of elements in the natural or cultural environments that cannot be easily duplicated by man. Activities may be either active or passive in nature such as hunting, fishing, camping, backpacking, boating, surfing or nature study.

User-oriented activities: Outdoor recreation of types that can be placed at the convenience of the user to take advantage of proximity to population centers, such as swimming in artificial pools, golf, tennis, baseball, soccer, etc. Land areas for space is usually the only consideration dealing with the natural resource base.

Some types of outdoor recreation may be either "user-oriented" or "resource-based" depending on where the opportunity is made available, such as swimming (in ocean or pool), bicycling, picnicking, camping, etc.

Federal Agencies

Federal recreation providers in Oregon include the US Forest Service, National Park Service, Bureau of Reclamation, US Army Corps of Engineers, Bureau of Land Management and the US Fish and Wildlife Service. The federal government has statutory responsibility for development of facilities and programs that provide public opportunities that are not, or cannot, be made available by state or local governments. Federal roles in outdoor recreation include the management of federally owned properties such as

parks, forests, wildlife refuges and reservoir areas, and the administration of financial and technical assistance programs to aid state and local agencies and private citizens. Traditionally in the state of Oregon, federal agencies have provided resource-based activities such as camping, picnicking, fishing, hunting, boating, swimming, and trail use.

State Agencies

State recreation providers in Oregon include the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department, Oregon State Marine Board, Oregon Department of Transportation, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Oregon Department of Forestry and the Oregon Division of State Lands. Traditionally, the roles of state government include managing, protecting and conserving the state's natural and cultural resources, and to provide outdoor recreation, environmental education, and cultural/historical interpretation.

Towards this effort, state agencies:

- operate and maintain a system of public lands, including state parks and wildlife management areas;
- monitor, conserve, and enhance the quality of rivers, streams, lakes, public and private lands, coastal marshes, wetlands, bays, beaches, and Pacific coastal waters;
- manage and regulate fishing, hunting, and boating opportunities and activities;
- assist public and private entities in providing quality outdoor recreation activities; and
- cooperate with other governmental entities in these areas.

Regarding programming efforts, the primary responsibility of the State is to provide resource-based outdoor recreation. This is accomplished through the acquisition of land and the development of facilities necessary to make available to the public natural and cultural outdoor recreation resources of regional or statewide significance. State agencies assume a role as a bridge between the large, nationally significant parks and recreation areas managed by the federal government and the community playgrounds and recreational facilities traditionally provided by local governments.

Municipal/Special Districts

Because of population densities and the lack of large open space areas and resource-based recreation opportunities, municipal recreation systems tend to concentrate on providing more intensive, user-oriented facilities that require relatively little space. However, some municipalities and Special Districts also administer land acquisition programs or levy special taxes or fees for parks and have assumed some responsibility for providing resource-based recreation (e.g. West Linn and the City of Portland). Municipalities typically provide recreation facilities in or near urban areas for local residents. Urban parks also serve to satisfy visual open space needs and help to define the character of the city. Local recreation providers tend to be more heavily involved in recreation and leisure programming to address a wider variety of public leisure needs.

All municipal recreation providers, large or small, are faced with the task of providing their citizens the full range of recreational opportunities. The type of areas and facilities acquired, developed, and operated may be diverse, including not only multi-purpose parks, playgrounds, community centers, sports fields and courts, and swimming pools, but also facilities for performing arts, golf, ice skating, camping, and the enjoyment of nature. Marinas, zoos, aquariums, gardens, museums, and galleries, libraries, and cemeteries may also be provided.

Programs may include team sports (softball, baseball, basketball, volleyball, soccer and football); individual sports (tennis, golf, aerobics, swimming, and gymnastics); outdoor recreation (picnicking, boating, fishing, hunting, skiing, swimming, biking, walking/hiking, and nature study); summer recreation programs and camps; before-school and after-school programs; instructional classes (arts and crafts, music, dancing, drama, and martial arts); concerts, cultural exhibits; special events; and special programs for people with disabilities.

Special Park Districts are independent of other units of local government but can be likened to political subdivisions of states, such as cities and counties. Opportunities provided by districts include neighborhood, community and specialty

parks; recreation programming for all ages (children through seniors); sports programming; regional, community and neighborhood trails; historic properties and preservation; and natural resource conservation/stewardship/education.

County Park and Recreation Departments

Counties acquire and develop parks serving citizens of an area larger than a single municipality but less than statewide. Counties provide a substantial amount of the public-sector boating access, and RV and camping related facilities around the state. Many of the county facilities are overnight and day-use water-based recreation facilities providing access to lakes, streams and rivers. Most county programs would fall in the mid-range of the recreation opportunity spectrum providing developed and semi-developed outdoor recreation opportunities for people in the urban/rural interface. Counties provide a significant amount of the facilities for access to natural resource orientated activities such as camping, hiking, fishing, picnicking, motorized and non-motorized boating, water-skiing, swimming, ATV riding, bicycling, nature study and interpretation.

Significant resources and facilities provided by counties include:

- Parks and open space areas including linear parks, waysides, and water access points.
- Overnight camping: RV and tent sites, group areas, dispersed areas, cabins and yurts.
- Day use: Picnic shelters (group and individual), hiking and nature trails, ATV and equestrian facilities, playgrounds, and sports fields.
- Water-based: Boat ramps, piers, docks and moorage.
- Swimming: Beaches, pools and water-slides.
- Museums and nature centers: Cultural, historical and natural history.
- Many counties also administer and manage forest resources/timber programs.

Public School System

The primary function of the Oregon public school system has always been to provide educational

opportunities for state residents. In fulfilling this role, the facilities provided by the public school system have also become a major source of user-oriented recreation in many communities in Oregon. In many municipalities, particularly rural municipalities, school recreation facilities are often the only public recreation facilities available.

Statewide, public schools provide a substantial portion of a number of user-oriented recreation facilities including:

- 76% of all Outdoor Basketball Goals
- 68% of all Football/Rugby/Soccer Fields
- 65% of all Baseball/Softball Fields
- 53% of Equipped Children's Playground Areas
- 51% of all Outdoor Tennis Courts
- 26% of all Indoor Swimming Pools
- 17% of all Outdoor Swimming Pools

Public schools often work in cooperation with municipal recreation providers to provide recreational programming such as arts and crafts and dance classes in addition to sports leagues. The intent is to make the most efficient use of existing facilities and recreational staffing available within the community. In many cases, a school will provide the recreational facility, and the parks and recreation organization provides the staffing and administration of the program (or vice versa). An example is in McMinnville where the McMinnville Parks and Recreation Department is responsible for scheduling activities in the school gymnasium after regular school hours.

The Private Sector

Recreation businesses provide many of the necessary recreational opportunities that customers need for satisfying recreational experiences. Businesses manage natural resources, provide facilities and equipment, and offer leadership, guide services, and other services to individuals or groups that recreate outdoors in Oregon. In addition, semiprivate, not-for-profit groups, including land trusts, conservancies and the like, manage resources, some of which are made available to the public for recreation.

Private programs range from for-profit recreational enterprises such as campgrounds, golf courses, marinas, and attractions of all kinds, to the quasi-

public (not-for-profit) programs of conservation organizations, churches, clubs and youth organizations, and private industry. Industries with extensive land holdings, notably the forest products industry in Oregon, provide recreation resources and excellent facilities on their lands for the free use of the public or at some nominal fee.

Statewide, the private sector provides a substantial portion of a number of recreation facilities including:

- 100% of all Downhill Ski Lift Capacity
- 89% of all Golf Course Holes
- 63% of all RV/Trailer Campsites
- 41% of all Museum/Interpretive Building Sites
- 16% of all Tent Campsites
- 10% of all Designated Cross-Country Ski Trail Miles



Key Statewide Outdoor Recreation Issues

The plan also identified key recreational issues that affect the future of outdoor recreation in Oregon. During October through December 2001, OPRD staff completed a series of 11 regional "recreational issues" workshops across the state. Representatives from 70 public-sector provider organizations and many citizens and interest groups participated in the process. Information gathered from these workshops was used in the process of developing top regional and statewide issues.

Key statewide outdoor recreation issues include:

Statewide Issue A: Need For Major Rehabilitation of Existing Outdoor Recreation Facilities

Recreation providers consistently report that the current recreational infrastructure in Oregon (e.g. utilities, roads, trails and buildings) is aging and in need of rehabilitation.

Statewide Issue B: Need For Recreational Trails/Connectivity

Recreation providers expressed a strong desire for the state to update the existing Statewide Trails Plan.

Statewide Issue C: Need For Land Acquisition

Recreation providers from across the state expressed a need for funding priority for land acquisition to keep pace with population growth and rising land costs; acquisition of land or conservation easements for the protection of natural areas, open space and water access in and around urbanized areas and developing areas; planning to identify and purchase key parcels (e.g. high value coastal properties) before being acquired by others or land value rises to the point of being unaffordable; and development of land acquisition strategies to ensure adequate land and water-based recreation opportunities in the future.

Statewide Issue D: Need For Ball Fields

Recreation providers and the general public report that existing team sport facilities are in short supply and high demand in the state.

Statewide Issue E: Need For Water-Based Recreation Resources and Facilities

Workshop attendees report that there is a need for increased access for motorized and non-motorized water-based recreational activities in both urban and remote settings.

Statewide Issue F: Need For Recreational Planning and Assistance

Public recreation providers voiced a strong need for funding comprehensive recreational planning at the local, regional and state levels and that grant dollars should be available for site-specific master planning and systems master planning for parks and open space.

Statewide Issue G: Recreational Funding/User Fees

Workshop attendees reported that municipal recreation providers continue to face a shortage of operation funding for outdoor recreation facilities within the state.

Statewide Issue H: Resource Protection/Environmental Education

Recreation providers feel a greater emphasis should be made, especially in metropolitan areas, to strike a balance between protecting natural resources and providing outdoor recreational opportunities.


**STATEWIDE OUTDOOR
RECREATION GOALS,
OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIES.**

In the final step of the planning process, a set of goals, objectives and strategies were developed for each of the 8 top Statewide Issues based on findings from the SCORP planning effort. A brainstorming session, during the April 2, 2002 SCORP Advisory Committee Meeting, was used to develop an initial draft set of materials. Committee members were also asked to review and comment on a series of drafts of the materials. The Oregon Outdoor Recreation Council also reviewed a final draft of the goals, objectives and strategies at their May 3, 2002 meeting. These goals, objectives and strategies were developed for use by recreation decision makers across the state to develop policies and actions for resolving the 8 top statewide outdoor recreation issues.

Note: Specific strategies are identified in this plan for addressing each objective, but are not included in the following summary. For a full listing of statewide goals, objectives and strategies see Chapter 8 of this plan.

Top statewide issues and accompanying goals and objectives include:

Statewide Issue A: Need For Major Rehabilitation of Existing Outdoor Recreation Facilities

Goal: Substantially reduce the backlog of outdoor recreation areas and facilities in the state in need of major rehabilitation.

- ◆ Objective 1: Provide funding incentives, to the maximum extent possible, for major rehabilitation of existing recreational facilities in the state.
- ◆ Objective 2: Focus rehabilitation priorities on recreational areas and facilities that satisfy current recreational need and ensure long-term facility performance.
- ◆ Objective 3: Measure the effectiveness of the state's effort to substantially reduce the backlog of outdoor recreation areas and facilities in need of major rehabilitation.

Statewide Issue B: Need For Recreational Trails/Connectivity

Goal: Seek to provide quality trail facilities and opportunities, including inter-connective opportunities where appropriate, to satisfy a growing number of diverse trail users throughout the state.

- ◆ Objective 1: Provide funding incentives, to the maximum extent possible, for recreational (non-motorized) trail development and projects providing inter-connected trail opportunities.
- ◆ Objective 2: OPRD will develop a Statewide Trails Plan with input from federal, state, special district, county and municipal providers and advocacy groups.

Statewide Issue C: Need For Land Acquisition

Goal: Obtain lands and easements to better support the public's long-term access to a broad range of recreational experiences throughout the state.

- ◆ Objective 1: Increase the number of acres accessible for public recreation purposes through means other than public land acquisition.
- ◆ Objective 2: Focus recreation land acquisition on those parcels identified in an adopted regional or local open space or park plan that included a public involvement process.
- ◆ Objective 3: Identify and provide funding for time-sensitive and opportunistic land acquisition projects which may or may not be identified in current recreation plans (e.g. responding to the threat of development).

Statewide Issue D: Need For Ball Fields

Goal: Provide additional benefits to Oregonians through the construction of additional low-amenity (non-tournament) ball fields throughout the state.

- ◆ Objective 1: Increase the number of baseball, softball, football, and soccer fields in specific areas where need is identified.

Statewide Issue E: Need For Water-Based Recreation Resources and Facilities

Goal: Provide additional benefits through increased motorized and non-motorized water-based recreation activities in appropriate settings.

- ◆ Objective 1: Increase the number of recreational facilities for, and access to, water-based settings to support a growing demand for boating, fishing and water-based camping.
- ◆ Objective 2: Promote the allocation of in-stream water rights to provide adequate stream flow for recreation, fish passage and habitat protection, pollution abatement and meeting public water quality standards.
- ◆ Objective 3: Reduce the number of conflicts between landowners and recreationists on State Scenic Waterways.

Statewide Issue F: Need For Recreational Planning and Assistance

Goal: Provide an opportunity for outdoor recreation providers from all levels (private to federal) to participate in regional recreation planning forums in an effort to increase communication and cooperation between recreation providers within each of the 11 SCORP planning regions.

- ◆ Objective 1: Develop a "Regional Planning Forum" template for use by SCORP Planning Regions to make more efficient use of existing outdoor recreation resources, funds and programs within the region.
- ◆ Objective 2: OPRD will facilitate the establishment of 11 regional planning structures (one for each SCORP Planning Region) to use the forum template.

Statewide Issue G: Recreational Funding/User Fees

Goal: Secure adequate recreational funding and operate outdoor recreation facilities in the most efficient manner possible.

- ◆ Objective 1: Make better use of existing public recreation funding.
- ◆ Objective 2: Increase the amount of cooperation between recreation

- providers for securing recreation funding.
- ◆ Objective 3: Develop a recreational user fee collection model(s) for combining or sharing user fees across agencies.

Statewide Issue H: Resource Protection/Environmental Education

Goal: Provide quality outdoor recreation experiences in a sustainable manner to ensure the enjoyment and education of present and future generations.

- ◆ Objective 1: Develop resource management tools and strategies to protect natural resources while continuing to provide quality recreation opportunities and address increasing demand.

- ◆ Objective 2: All public recreation providers will develop environmental education programs fostering an appreciation for recreational resources and facilities and encouraging proper visitor behavior.
- ◆ Objective 3: All public recreation providers should adopt and promote "sustainability" practices.

