

OCTOBER COMMISSION MEETING RECAP

WASHINGTON STATE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION



The Commission visited Clarkston this month and toured several state parks in the area and across the border, including Hells Gate State Park and the Nez Perce National Historic Park Visitor Center in Idaho.

COMMISSION MEETING

Item E-1: Beebe Bridge Park Management Agreement

This item asked the Commission to delegate authority to the Director to enter into a management agreement for Beebe Bridge Park in Douglas County. The Chelan County Public Utility District approached State Parks staff to ask whether we might have interest in managing Beebe Bridge Park. The 56-acre Beebe Bridge Park is the only park currently managed by the PUD that offers camping. It has 46 tent/RV sites with electricity and water. This request was unanimously approved.

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Item E-2: Cama Beach State Park

This item asked the Commission to not reopen the cabins, where they currently sit, at Cama Beach State Park. Significant septic and infrastructure failures led to the closure of the cabins and other buildings in the beach area of park in February 2024. In addition to this issue, winter storms severely damaged the already compromised seawall along the beach and impacts of rising sea levels will only increase in the coming years. There are also known cultural and historical complexities that impact the sustainability of reopening the cabins. Day use in the area remains open. This request was unanimously approved.

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124
PARKS



120,000
ACRES



1,300 miles
OF TRAILS



40+ million
ANNUAL VISITS



7
COMMISSIONERS



Puffer Butte at Fields Spring State Park.

Item E-3: Palouse to Cascades State Park Trail - Ellensburg perpetual public road crossing easement

This item asked the Commission to delegate to the Director authority to enter into a Perpetual Easement Agreement with the City of Ellensburg for a public road crossing, a utility crossing, and maintenance on the Palouse to Cascades State Park Trail. In 2023, MLC Laird Holdings II LLC applied for an easement with State Parks for two road crossings over the trail for the Foster North Development. The Development property was annexed into the City and is included in the City's Comprehensive Plan. This request was unanimously approved.

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Item E-4: Riverside State Park - Glen Tana long-term boundary and land classification update

This item asked the Commission to approve an update to the long-term boundary and land classifications for Riverside State Park. This change would allow for the future acquisition of the Glen Tana property. Glen Tana is a 1,060-acre property near the eastern edge of Riverside. It contains riparian habitat, wetlands, open grasslands and upland forests of ponderosa pine. The property also has nearly two miles of the aquifer-fed Little Spokane River. It is positioned between the existing edges of Riverside and the Waikiki Springs Nature Preserve and Wildlife area, approximately 200 acres owned by Inland Northwest Land Conservancy and the State Department of Fish and Wildlife. Glen Tana is the critical link between these sites, offering expanded recreational and habitat connectivity of the Little Spokane River Natural Area. This request was unanimously approved.

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Item E-5: Financial update

This item reported on the 2023-25 biennium operating and capital budget expenditures and Parks Renewal and Stewardship Account (PRSA) revenue.

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Shannon Wheeler, Chairman of the Nez Perce Tribal Executive Committee, was wrapped in a blanket and gifted a necklace by State Parks staff as a show of gratitude for his time and words shared during the Commission's visit.

WORK SESSION PRESENTATIONS

Bullfrog Property transfer to the Washington Department of Transportation

The Washington Department of Transportation would like to acquire 0.68 acres of land just west of exit 80 on I-90. There is an abandoned weigh station on the adjacent parcel. The Commission will be asked to make a decision on this proposal during its regular meeting in November.

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Recreation and Conservation Office/Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program grant updates

Lauren Bromley, a Parks Planner for the agency, presented the Commission with an update on the preliminary results from the spring round of Recreation and Conservation Office grant requests.

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Spokane River Centennial Trail land classification update and amended easement with Spokane County and the City of Spokane

Real Estate Program Manager Ken Graham presented three requests to the Commission for consideration: Amendment of a 40 year easement agreement with Spokane County Parks, granting a 30-year easement agreement with the City of Spokane and a change to the current land classifications for both properties. The Commission will take action on these proposals at its regular meeting in January 2025.

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The Commission together at Fields Spring State Park.

SERVICE PINS

MEET OUR COMMISSIONERS & DIRECTOR



SOPHIA
DANENBERG
CHAIR



LAURIE
CONNELLY
VICE CHAIR



HOLLY
WILLIAMS
SECRETARY



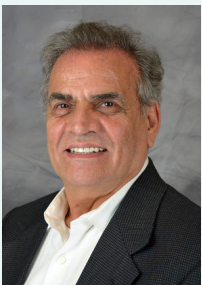
KEN
BOUNDS,
COMMISSIONER



MIKE
LATIMER
COMMISSIONER



SCOTT
MERRIMAN
COMMISSIONER



ALI
RAAD
COMMISSIONER



DIANA
DUPUIS
DIRECTOR

Eastern Region Superintendent Scott Griffith: 40 years

Scott started with the agency at Ft. Ebey State Park in 1981. Since then, he has served as a ranger at St. Edwards, Brooks Memorial, Chief Timothy Park, Grayland and Twin Harbors, Ike Kinswa, Field's Spring and Crow Butte Park. Next, Scott moved into management and rose in the ranks to manage regions and field operations. Finally, he became the Eastern Region Superintendent in 2023. Scott is a beloved member of the team and brings joy just by being who he is. His institutional knowledge and care for his work is invaluable - we're so lucky to have you at Parks. Here's to another 40 years together, Scott!



GOLD STAR AWARDS

We're proud to recognize our Gold Star recipients for their outstanding service to Washington State Parks. Thank you to:

- Bishop Thompson
- Karen Lipstein
- Andrew Gonzales
- Ray Dearth
- Jaymin Kapsandy
- Kari McNay
- Tyler Martinez
- Seamus Muchay

AUGUST VIRTUAL MEETING

Beebe Bridge Park

Scott Griffith, Eastern Region Superintendent and Nikki Fields, Planning and Real Estate Program Manager, shared with the Commission an opportunity to lease Beebe Bridge Park, owned by Chelan County Public Utility District, north of Daroga State Park, along the Columbia River. This is a beautiful spot with well-maintained day use areas, camping and unique amenities like pickleball courts!

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Revenue update

Laura Holmes, Administrative Services Director, provided the Commission a closer look at revenue collections to date for the 2023-25 biennium.

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Commission priorities update

Director Diana Dupuis provided the Commission with an update on agency progress on the Commission's 2024 Priorities.

[Meeting minutes](#)

[Meeting video](#)



Beebe Bridge Park in Chelan County