



Ginkgo Petrified Forest State Park Wanapum Recreation Area

CAMP and EIS

Project Plan

June 2023

Project Title:

Ginkgo State Park CAMP and EIS

Status: CAMP/EIS

Project Planning – CAMP Stage 02

EIS – Public Scoping

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Date Last Modified:

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Begin Date:

October 2019

End Date:

July 2025 - Projected

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1.0 Park Description and General Background Information

Ginkgo Petrified Forest State Park is a 7,124-acre park with camping at Wanapum Recreation Area. Wanapum Recreation Area features 27,000 feet of freshwater shoreline on the Wanapum Reservoir along the west banks of the Columbia River. Located north of Interstate 90, the state park also includes the Ginkgo interpretive center/museum and the Trees of Stone Interpretive Trailhead along Vantage Highway.

Ginkgo State Park was designated as a National Natural Landmark by the National Park Service in 1965. The interpretive center/ museum host's displays of petrified trees and petroglyphs rescued before the level of the Columbia River was raised due to the development of the Wanapum Dam. This 7,124-acre park includes several campgrounds and day-use areas, three miles of hiking trails and a boat ramp provides a range of recreation opportunities. In addition to Wanapum Recreation Area on the south side of I-90, the Ginkgo/Wanapum area includes an undeveloped portion of property on the west side of Huntzinger Road which extends north to south along the west bank of the Columbia River.

2.0 Project Scope

Complete the EIS and CAMP planning process for Ginkgo Petrified Forest State Park that balances resource protection with appropriate public access, which the Tribes, public, stakeholders, and State Parks staff can support.

2.1 Strategic Plan Alignment

This project is consistent with the following strategic planning goal outlined in the draft strategic plan:

- Provide exceptional recreation, cultural and interpretive opportunities that visitors enjoy and support.
- Expand access and opportunity for everyone to experience the outdoors.
- Contribute to Washington's quality of life and support healthy communities.
- Protect and preserve park system resources for the future.

2.2 Need

A public planning process for Ginkgo Petrified Forest State Park addresses the following needs:

- **Support Park Vision:** Identifying areas to include in the long-term boundary and planning for the management needs and opportunities associated with it will support the long-term vision for Ginkgo Petrified Forest State Park.
- **Recreation Opportunities:** Identify new recreation opportunities within the Wanapum Campground area, trail connections and additions, additional interpretation opportunities throughout the park, and appropriate management of recreation to decrease the strain on natural and cultural resources.

- **Enhanced Partnership:** The project allows for several important partnership opportunities with the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation, Wenatchee Band, Yakama Nation including the Wanapum Band, Kittitas County, and the Department of Fish and Wildlife. These partnerships further advance the mission of Parks by restoring salmon habitat and providing recreational opportunities.
- **Land Management:** Planning is needed for the site to address public access, user interests in a variety of recreational activities, and restoration and conservation needs. Staff input will support strategies for effective management of the site.
- **Site Evaluation:** This planning process allows for the review and assessment of existing infrastructure that may require replacement or s.
- **Mapping:** To identify where environmental assessments may be necessary and where more intensive uses may be more appropriate.
- **Public Input:** Public engagement will inform management issues and strategies.

2.3 Vision and Objectives

- Provide opportunities for Tribes, park patrons, the public and other stakeholders to participate in the planning process.
- Engage existing and new audiences, including those that have been traditionally underrepresented and/or have little experience enjoying state parks, as well as local community members, who may be interested in contributions each park can make in community development.
- Examine the key issues and consider possible solutions identified for the park including park management and program improvements.
- Develop long-term boundary and land classification concepts that provide a roadmap for ongoing and future management and program improvements.
- Look for ways to build new and strengthen existing partnerships – with Tribes, other land managers, volunteers, park advocates and other partners to expand use and support for this park.

2.4 Project Deliverables

1. A Tribal, public, and stakeholder engagement program tailored to interest groups visitors, and communities located near Gingko Petrified Forest State Park. The program will include Tribal outreach meetings, stakeholder meetings, public workshops, email outreach and other communication methods to connect with diverse recreation users and interest groups including traditionally underrepresented audiences.
2. **Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)**, recreation and resource analysis of and along the existing access trail extending north to south from the interpretive center/museum.
3. **Land classifications and long-term boundary recommendations** for the park that meets public, and agency needs, and which can be supported by regional/HQ staff and the Commission.

4. **Management strategies** for the park, including specific actions and timelines, where appropriate.
5. **Commission agenda item**, conveying final staff recommendations for land classifications and long-term boundaries for Gingko State Park.

2.5 Scope Considerations

This planning effort will complete an EIS and Classification and Management Plan (CAMP) for Gingko Petrified Forest State Park, consistent with the Centennial 2013 Plan to complete land use plans for all developed state parks, and the agency's draft 2021-31 Strategic Plan, which includes the following vision statement:

Washington's state parks will be cherished destinations with natural, cultural, recreational, artistic, and interpretive experiences that all Washingtonians enjoy, appreciate, and proudly support.

2.6 Project Framing Considerations: Land Management

- What are key issues at Gingko/Wanapum?
- What is the status of and future plan for the undeveloped area on the west side of Huntzinger?
- What restrictions and/or other acquisition obligations exist for any of the properties?
- Who are the key recreation users for each area? How do they differ? Which activities are preferred at the different locations within the park? How do recreation uses change by location/season/stakeholder? Who will be the most vocal user and what will be their key interests?
- Is Frenchmen's Coulee area to be considered in this CAMP process?
- Which experts will help define and communicate resource values? What metrics can be used as part of this messaging? What are some of the metrics and messaging associated with the value of cultural, historic, and geologic resources?
- How do population growth estimates and other planning studies inform the planning work at Gingko?
- What partnerships are essential for management success?
- Outreach approach - what refinements should be made to the standard approach? What are the preferred communication methods of interested parties? How much and when do Tribal Partners want to engage?
- What is the current authority and disposition of Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) and Department of Natural Resources (DNR) regarding the gated entry through State Parks property? Is there a relationship between the Naneum Recreation Plan implementation and the access trail?

3.0 The CAMP Advisory Team

The planning effort will be guided by an internal planning team, composed of regional and headquarters staff in a range of disciplines. Planning team meetings will be held throughout the process. s with Agency Leadership, Real Estate Committee, and Commission will be provided as needed.

3.1 Project Team Roles

Member	Title	Role
CORE TEAM MEMBERS*		
Lauren Bromley	Project Lead	Leads EIS and CAMP process including outreach efforts and development of draft products for project team review; collaborating with project team and reaching out to Tribes, stakeholders, community leaders, and others, to develop a realistic and practical plan that has the input of locals as well as park visitors and other interested parties.
Jason Both Colleen Foster	Region Manager (EA-South) Assist. RM	Strategic oversight and direction, high-level involvement at each planning stage; planning team and public meetings; stakeholder meetings as applicable
Scott Griffith	Region Superintendent	Strategic oversight and direction, high-level involvement at each planning stage; planning team and public meetings; stakeholder meetings as applicable
John Ernster	Area Manager	Direct involvement in all planning stages; works closely with Project Lead; Tribes, planning team, and stakeholder meetings as necessary; park resource info and interface with local stakeholders as needed
Eric Jazdyk	Region Planner	Engaged in all planning team meetings, bring forward regional information relative to operations and capital improvements
Andrew Fielding	Region Stewardship Manager	Engaged in all planning team meetings; bring forward regional perspective relative to stewardship as well as statewide stewardship goals
Chris Chelsea Harris	Environmental Program Lead Environmental Planner	EIS and SEPA checklist and other environmental review steps, in addition to being resource for other natural resources issues throughout the process; attends planning team and community meetings; Manage EIS consultant, assists with development of EIS and alternatives
DISCIPLINE EXPERTISE & SUPPORT PARTNERS		
Andrea Thorpe	Stewardship Lead	Provide statewide direction per stewardship objectives and priorities
Nata Hurst	Program Support	Manage project mailings and database; update project website; support public outreach events
Darleen Muhly	Business Development	Provide relevant marketing and customer data, strategic business development data and info; provide customer and other research data to inform opportunities; to support agency revenue and marketing goals

Tonna Sigler/ Sara Fronk	Communications	Review and distribute news releases; respond to and direct media inquiries; coordinate translation of materials; collaborate about outreach strategies to reach affected audiences
Sarah Dubois	Archaeological and Cultural Resources	Provide archaeological and cultural resource advice and counsel based on agency archaeological and cultural goals and with the experience from past projects and work with other cultural groups including Tribes
Sam Wotipka/ Emily Jacobs	Interpretation	Provide input and direction consistent with agency interpretative program goals; participate in staff-to-staff dialogue with tribal governments as appropriate
Brian Hall/Neil Lasley	GIS	Provide maps for public meetings and other planning teamwork; other mapping support as needed
Jenna Bowman	Tribal Relations	Provide guidance on Tribal communications and outreach plan

4.0 Outreach

A thorough engagement process is fundamental to a successful CAMP and EIS. The following tables include lists of tribal partners, key stakeholders, methods for outreach and local and state government entities, the public, and media outreach sources. A multi-pronged approach will be implemented to reach a diverse set of audiences and best represent a variety of park users.

4.1 Considerations

Before an outreach plan was fully developed, the CAMP advisory team explored the following considerations:

- Which user groups and stakeholders need to be included?
- Who can provide background and knowledge on the geologic, cultural and history of the park?
- What are the best vehicles/avenues/approaches for a successful outreach campaign?
- When is the best time to engage the public?
- Who will be involved in the outreach and who can partner to support the effort?
- What is the key messaging for outreach?
- What do we need to learn and better understand?

4.2 Methods

- Public meeting announcements delivered electronically through Parks distribution lists.
- A targeted media pitch and talking points will be developed by Parks communication staff and issued to specific media outlets.

- A Flyer will summarize the CAMP process, list opportunities for public engagement and provide a link to the survey. Flyers will be posted at key locations within the park and distributed electronically via distributions lists and to partners for broader reach.
- A survey will be posted on the project webpage and in direct email announcements, a QR code will be included on the flyer and paper copies will be made available at in-person public meetings.
- Public Meetings: During each stage of the CAMP, public meetings will be held to offer the public an opportunity to hear about the project and voice concerns and ideas.

4.3 Sovereign Nation Partners

- Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation, Wenatchee Band
- Yakama Nation including the Wanapum Band

<i>Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation</i>		
Jarred-Michael	Erickson	Chairperson
Rebecca	Hunt	Director, Natural Resources
Guy	Moura	THPO
Rodney	Cawston	Program Director, Environmental Trust
<i>Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation</i>		
Gerald	Lewis	Chairperson
Casey	Barney	Manager, Cultural Resources
Kate	Valdez	THPO
Phillip	Rigdon	Natural Resources
Elizabeth	Sanchey	Natural Resources
<i>Wanapum Band</i>		
Clayton	Buck	Wanapum Liaison
Alyssa	Buck	Wanapum Interface Office Project Specialist
Angela	Neller	Curator

4.4 Stakeholders and Partnerships

The CAMP process provides great opportunities to work with existing stakeholders and partners, as well as generate new partnerships to enhance these parks. The following is a list of key community leaders and other interested parties that we expect to inform and engage about this process, in addition to the full list of interested parties. We may tailor outreach strategies and communications for these groups depending on disposition and interest.

- Scientific community re: geology – CWU and others
- Tribal community – cultural – Wanapum and Yakama Nation, Wenatchee Band of Colville
- Historical society/groups
- Kittitas County
 - Board of County Commissioners
 - Lands Committee
 - Weed board
 - Community Development Services
 - Public Works
 - Council of Governments
 - Conservation District
- City of Ellensburg
- City of Kittitas
- Local chamber of commerce, economic development entities
- Grant County Public Utilities District
- Washington Dept. of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)
- Dept. of Natural Resources (DNR)
- Washington State Dept. of Transportation (WSDOT)
- Mountain to Sound Greenway
- Nature Conservancy
- Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
- United States Fish and Wildlife Service (WSFWS)
- Yakima Training Center
- Area residents and landowners
- Recreationalists – fishing, hiking, camping, hunting – Field & Stream, ATV/ORV, Evergreen Mtn Bike alliance, WTA, others
- Historical Society
- School Districts
- Local economic development organizations and recreational businesses – recreation retailers, license vendors, food, lodging
- Audubon
- Land Trust
- Native Plant Society
- East Cascade Recreation Program (ECRP)

4.5 Publications, Authorities and Regulations to be consulted or considered:

- Grant County PUD, Priest Rapids Hydroelectric Project, Recreation Resources Management Plan, April 2017
 - The Project boundary extends for 58 river miles and encloses both reservoirs and the tailrace below Priest Rapids Dam. It includes lands along the shoreline that generally average from 100 feet to 150 feet from the full pool elevation at both reservoirs. In a few locations, it expands to as much as 2,000 feet.

- Exclusion of off-road vehicle (ORV) use in designated recreation areas, located on licensee-owned lands within the Project boundary: a) Grant PUD has provided ORV exclusion measures, such as boulder barriers, fences and gates, and signage, in designated recreation areas located on Grant PUD-owned lands within the Project boundary. Figure 2 provides an example from the Burkett Lake Recreation Area. Grant PUD will continue to maintain ORV exclusion measures at appropriate recreation sites as part of this Recreation Resource Management Plan (RRMP).

- Kittitas County Park, Recreation and Open Space (PROS) Plan
- Naneum Ridge to Columbia River Recreation and Access Plan
- Whiskey Dick Wildlife Area Management Plan
- Colockum Wildlife Area Management Plan
- Columbia Basin Wildlife Area Management Plan
- Countywide Planning Policies
- Green Dot Road Management System
- Mountain to Sound Greenway Plan
- Other recreation planning documents

4.6 Local Media

- Norther Kittitas County Tribune – Kittitas County
- The Daily Record – City of Ellensburg
- Columbia Basin Herald – Grant County

4.7 State and Local Government

<i>13th State Legislative District Delegation</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senator Judy Warnick • Representative Tom Dent • Representative Alex Ybarra 	
<i>Kittitas County Board of County Commissioners</i>	<i>1st and 3rd Tuesdays at 10 a.m.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Honorable Cory Wright Commissioner, District 1 • The Honorable Laura Osiadacz Commissioner, District 2 • The Honorable Brett Wachsmith Commissioner, District 3 	
<i>City of Kittitas - city council meetings are held the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m.; 207 North Main Street</i>	<i>City of Ellensburg</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sean Crabb, Councilmember • Hannah Woodiwiss, Councilmember • Tina Welker, Councilmember 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sarah Beauchamp, Councilmember • Rich Elliott, Councilmember • Nancy Goodloe, Councilmember

- Tyrul McGuffin, Councilmember
- Nancy Shuda, Councilmember

- David Miller, Councilmember
- Monica Miller, Councilmember
- Adam Winn, Councilmember

Working DRAFT

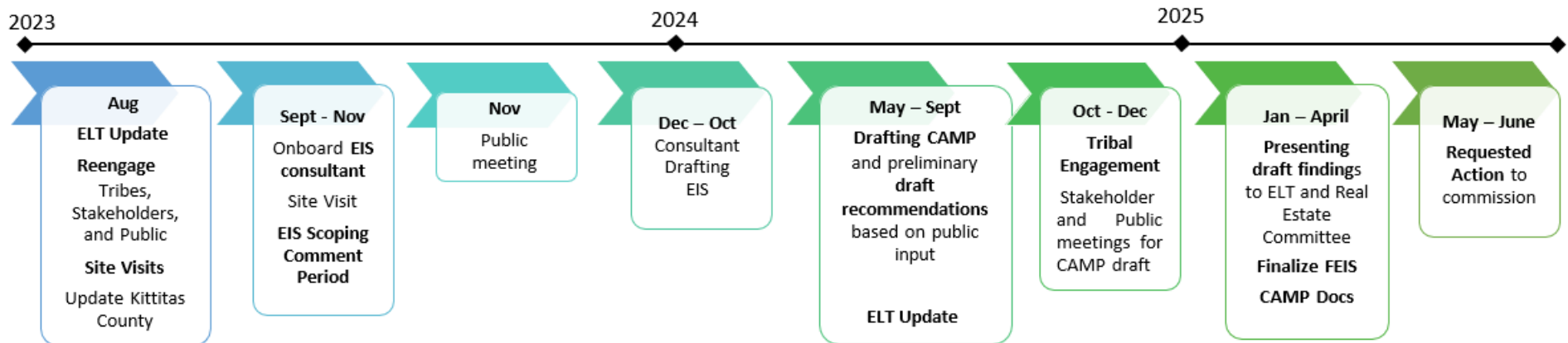
5.0 Proposed-Planning Timeline - Subject to Change



2023-25 Planning Timeline for Ginkgo Petrified Forest State Park EIS and CAMP



(Environmental Impact Statement & Classification and Management Planning)



WORK

5.1 Project Schedule - Proposed

This table depicts the overall project schedule, including major milestones and associated tasks necessary for their success. This is intended to provide an at-a-glance snapshot of the overall project schedule and all the various components for use by the project lead and the CAMP Advisory Team.

2023 Ginkgo Petrified Forest State Park Planning Project Timeline									2024 Ginkgo Petrified Forest State Park Planning Project Timeline											
	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	Sept	OCT		
STAKEHOLDER & PARTNERSHIP MEETINGS						Stakeholder and Public meeting - Review of Stage 2 docs and prep for Stage 3 preliminary recommendation					Debrief Stage 3 mtg outcomes & Review Stage 4 materials								Debrief Commission decision & plan for implementation	
CAMP/EIS ADVISORY TEAM MEETINGS	Site visit to re start CAMP	Redevelop CAMP/EIS work plan	Develop Scope of Work for EIS	Prepare & Review materials for reengagement of the CAMP and EIS process for Tribes		Prepare & Review materials for EIS Scoping comment period and 1st public meeting on the draft preliminary recommendations			Stage 3 - Draft CAMP Review				Draft Final CAMP documents						Debrief Commission decision & plan for implementation	
TRIBAL COORDINATION				Tribal Relations Meeting and Send Consultation letters to Tribes			Mtg with Tribes to provide project update	Site Visit with Tribes		Mtg w/Tribe to review public input on EIS					Mtg w/Tribe to review draft CAMP/EIS				Meet w/Tribe to debrief Commission decision & plan for implementation	
COMMISSION MEETING PREP				Prep for Sept. Real Estate Committee mtg	Prepare & Review materials for Kittitas Commission Meeting				Prep for Parks Commission Update		Prep for Kittitas County Commission Update	Prep for Real Estate Committee mtg and Director's Briefing			Prep for Work session			Prep for Commission Meeting		
COMMISSION MEETINGS						Kittitas County Commission Update Oct 16				Parks Commission Update		Kittitas and Grant County Commission Update				Aug 21 Virtual Work Session			Oct 10 Clarkston meeting Requested Action on CAMP	
REAL ESTATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS					Sept. 28 Real Estate committee mtg								Real Estate Committee mtg						Debrief Commission decision & plan for implementation	
DIRECTOR BRIEFING & ELT UPDATE				x										x					x	
PUBLIC WORKSHOPS							Stage 3 Draft Alternatives												Stage 4. Final Recs for Commission Meeting	
EIS CONSULTANT					x	Scoping and 30-day comment period			Consultant Drafting EIS										Publish FEIS	

5.2 Detailed Workplan Schedule

The following table includes a series of detailed action items, deliverable dates and CAMP Advisory team members associated with their implementation. This schedule is intended for use as a reference guide for the project lead and CAMP Advisory Team and will be added to as tasks are needed and completed.

Project Prep			Stage 1			Stage 2			Stage 3		
Stage 0			Stage 1 - Identify issues and concerns			Stage 2 - Explore Alternative Approaches			Stage 3 is where feedback from interested parties is used to define a preliminary recommendation.		
Date/Item	Work	Focus	Date/Item	Work	Focus	Date/Item	Work	Focus	Date/Item	Work	Focus
10/2/2019 Gov-to-Gov letter Sent to All 3 Tribes	Confederate Tribes of the Colville Reservation Wanapum Tribe Confederate Tribes and Bands of the Yakima Nation	Outreach and engagement letter	1/2020 Kittitas County Commission	Informal updates		12/1/2020	Final Alternative Concepts	Draft documents for public review	5/8/2023 Planning Team meeting	Kick start project	Reintroduce the project Overview of three alternatives Discuss the draft preferred alternative - are changes needed Next steps: Take to the Real Estate Committee
11/5/2019	Site Visit		2/13/2020 Public Meeting Central Washington University, Ellensburg, WA	Introduction to the Project - collect ideas for alternatives	Stage 1 Public Mtg. Comments.pdf	12/8/2020 Virtual Public Meeting	Alternative Approaches	This is Stage 2, where we explore ideas to address the issues identified in Stage 1.	5/17/2023 Planning Team Site visit		Tour of Service Trail and park planning discussion
12/3/2019 Colville Tribe Staff Meeting		Intro to CAMP planning process and Tribal Engagement	3/16/2020 Colville Wenatchi Band Meeting	Park overview CAMP process Timeline		1/13/2021 Parks Real Estate Committee Meeting	Update	Discussion on how Stage 2 finished - The purpose of this update is to give an overview of the key issues.	7/24/23 EIS planning	Meeting with Jessica Logan	Discuss EIS for Ginkgo and SO/W
12/05/2019 Kick-off meeting	S:\Planning\Planning Projects\Ginkgo\Ginkgo CAMP\Stage 00\Dec 5 Ginkgo Planning Team Meeting Notes.docx	Stage 1 starts with considering the existing conditions, developing an environmental checklist and reaching out to interested parties to understand issues An issue is any topic that is of interest or concern. State Parks staff provided an overview of the CAMP process	10/12/20 Reach out to partners	Grant County PUD, WDFW, Vantage Bay, Kittitas County	review draft concepts which came from Public meeting #1 2/13/2020	2/1/2021 Team meeting	Develop priorities for preliminary recommendation	Alternatives comments and discussion	8/3/2023 Tribal relations meeting	Meet with Jenna Bowman	Discussion on new tribal relations and engagement
12/19/2019 Wanapum Tribe and Grant PUD meeting			11/1/2020	Outreach Meetings	Prep for the public meeting 12/8/2020	3/3/2021 Performed by Archaeological and Historical Services (AHS)	Archi Study	Cultural Resource Survey of Two Proposed Pedestrian Trails at Wanapum State Park	8/14/2023 Stewardship and Tribal team meeting		Discuss EIS for Ginkgo and SO/W as well as where things were left off.
			11/5, 10, 12/2020 Kittitas County Commission Meetings		Alternative Approaches - review prior to 12/8/20 public meeting	3/15/2021 Planning Team	Recommendations	Review Preliminary Recommendations	8/1-8/29/2023	Workplan	Re-vamp old work plan and prep for Aug 30th meeting
			11/12/2020 Wanapum Tribe meeting		Introduction to project	4/5/2021 Teams meeting with the Colville Tribe	1. Ginkgo Classification and Management Plan (CAMP) - Overview		8/17/23 Planning and Real Estate meeting	Update	Inform P & RE of EIS and CAMP re-start
			11/17-18/2020 Webpage update and Press Release		Initiating CAMP planning process	4/6/2021 Teams meeting with the Wanapum Tribe	2. Preliminary Recommendation 3. Archaeological/Cultural Study	Stage 3 alternative refinement	8/30/23 Meeting with Director and planning team	Stage 3 Re-start	Discussion on CAMP strategy and update
			11/20/2020 Wanapum Tribe	Wanapum Tribe Comments	Wanapum Tribe Comments for Ginkgo Alternatives	4/15/2021 Commission Meeting	Recommendations	Review Preliminary Recommendations	9/23/23 Tribal Engagement Letters	Re-engaging with Tribes	Gov-to-gov letters - EIS is now part of Scope
			12/1/2020	Final Alternative Concepts	Draft documents for public review	10/7/2021 Director's Briefing	Recommendations	Review Preliminary Recommendations	9/28/2023 P & RE		Presentation of Draft Alternatives
						10/12/2021	SEPA Checklist Draft	Draft nearly completed but missing some sections - Work with Chelsea Harris	10/2, 3, 24/23 (3) Planning Team	EIS alternatives	Work with team to develop/review EIS alternatives
						11/12/2021	Site Visit photo folders are empty - reached out to Melinda	S:\Planning\Planning Projects\Ginkgo\Ginkgo CAMP\Stage 3\May 4 Tour Videos	10/16/2023 Kittitas County Commission	Update	Response to letters. Progress Update and project re-start
									1/2024 Consultant	EIS	email sent to PBS Engineering and Environmental
									3/25/2024	EIS	Site visit with consultant and planning team
									6/24/2024	Site visit	Presentation to the Outdoor Recreation Caucus
									12/5/2024	Meeting (WDFW)	This meeting is to update Mike Livingston (WDFW Regional Director) on the CAMP/EIS at Ginkgo State Park and to discuss the state's acquisition of the Springwood Ranch and request to gain controlled access to PTCT.
									2/27/2025	EIS	1st Public Scoping Meeting
									3/13/2025	EIS	2nd Public Scoping Meeting

6.0 Stage 1 – Visioning: Hopes and Concerns

During this stage of the CAMP, partners, stakeholders, and partners are actively informing, shaping and supporting the development of the overall vision for the park. It is the idea stage, where hopes and concerns can be aired, and the overall framing of the project takes place.

6.1 Staff Identified Issues

- Private property access; 1954 letter from director and history; haven't addressed.
- Illegal hunting.
- Illegal collection of petrified wood.
- Vandalism of petrified wood.
- Damage to other natural resources including rare plants.
- Motorized access – the road is deteriorating, forcing vehicles off the road, expanding the potential footprint for natural resource impacts.
- Fire access
- Property is relatively untouched, intact shrub steppe with significant cultural, geologic, historical and natural resources – not many of these in the state.
- Designated as a Natural National Monument; however, this doesn't provide any protection or rules regarding use or access.
- North end of property is not gated; might be a need for
- Property on other side of I-90 – west of Wanapum – area not currently accessible and/or well known; not developed for any recreation; will need to assess the natural resources – Ryan's thesis work and other experience suggests there are significant petrified wood resources there as well.
- Trail connection to Bev bridge and properties along Huntzinger; The Cove recreation site used to be managed by state parks; day use is open but camping closed; low visitation.
- Several rare plant associations at Ginkgo; their quality and if they meet the standard for an "Element Occurrence" will be confirmed by the Natural Heritage Program when they conduct Ecological Integrity Assessments in spring 2020. There are 4 rare plant species (tracked by the Natural Heritage Program) – Snowball cactus, Columbian milk-vetch; gray stickseed, and diffuse stickseed documented in the most recent vegetation survey. Due to the NHP's backlog in entering data, these locations are not yet reflected in the NHP GIS dataset.
- Access road through the north area was never intended to be permanent; is not consistent with agency cultural and natural resource policy; was an outcome of Naneum Recreation Plan; the final plan refers to the upcoming CAMP process and that this will be considered; other proposals have come forward and not been supported: e.g., gas pipeline, windfarms.
- There are no other petrified forests like this in the world.
- NAP designation – would allow for low impact trails that are for education – interpretive signs; interpretive plan includes some viewshed.
- Restoration of Hell's Kitchen area – old ranch area heavily impacted by operations of the ranch.
- Trailside museum – petrified log interpretive trail – several ongoing issues:
 - Need for ADA access to trailside museum building – in 10-year plan.
 - Issue with log protection – all the rock cages have security problems – in the 10-yr plan.
- Vegetation management around the structures; lots of non-native species; currently in the process of evaluating next steps.
- EV vehicle station installed and functional; getting used; looking into possible move to interpretive center for security reasons (Jason)

- Auto pay station installed in same location.
- Gateway to Interpretive Center could be improved; consider alternate or second entry; coming in from Rec Drive?
- Declining trees in the campground; Lombardy poplars – arborist say it was from the lack of water from the drawdown from crack in the dam; replanting planned for next March and April
- Visitation is high – popular site; could probably fill up another loop and also look at cabins.
- Opportunity to connect Wanapum with Palouse to Cascades Trail; natural anchor spot for camping/day use and trail use; approx. 4.25 miles from Wanapum.

6.2 Public Comments

- Access allowance thru the Recreation Drive primitive access trail.
- More significance should be placed on the dwindling ecosystem rather than access to other agency border lands.
- Support motorcycle use through the park
- Preserve and protect the fragile ecosystem.
- The Park land north of I-90 is an awesome chunk of ground that is currently VERY lightly used. Please be aware that with ALT 1, user impact will likely increase due to the NAP designation, not decrease.
- Once the shrub steppe is gone, it is gone forever. We need to preserve this fragile ecosystem.
- Continued and expanded vehicle access will only degrade this amazing cube of earth.
- Need to acquire Stockdale property on the north side of Rocky Coulee adjacent to new camping area. This property is a primary hiking access to this portion of park. (Trade a piece of property south of Vantage to make it happen, next to Vantage Bay subdivision).
- The N.S “tour” road must stay open. Most users are very responsible and will continue to protect the road and is nearby resources. No need to keep the gate closed!
- Leave the access road open from Recreation Dr. to WDFW lands. This is a great way to access the lower areas of WDFW land for hunting when the upper areas drift shut with snow. This road is the only way into the lower cayuse, Whiskey Dick, and Skookumchuck drainages. I have used this area year-round, 40 plus years. We use this road by Jeep, horse and bicycle at different times of the year.
- Improve the recreation access road or create a trail that is mountain bikeable so bikers can access the area to the north.
- Recreation Drive gate is the only access road to many thousands of acres during the winter. It’s the best access often during the rest of the year. Hunting and hiking access is very important and would be adversely impacted by any change to the current access program.
- Keep the main north/south road open while maintaining the key-code gate but close the numerous east-west peripherals.
- Access road/gate off recreation drive needs to remain open, specifically to private landowners who would no longer have access to their properties.
- I want to see the primitive road from Recreation Drive to DFW and DNR lands remain open so law abiding citizens can enjoy nature and our public lands.
- Want access road to stay open. Always been open for motorized access.
- No off-road use of Rocky Coulee.
- Leave the access road from Recreation Drive through the easterly end of the park up to the north boundary of the park open as it is. We travel the road occasionally and it is often the only way to access the WDFW green dot road system in the Cayuse Canyon vicinity. We have seen no evidence of off-road travel along the access road.
- Any picnic and covered facilities added to the rec area will be most used and appreciated.
- Need bike racks to encourage both road bike/mountain bike access.

- Need to rebuild fences that were burned in Rocky Coulee to prevent motorized access from west. Need a gate (with combination lock) on green dot road accessing park from Cayuse Canyon. Nothing stops the dirt bikers.
- Consider working with Grant Co. PUD and private landowner to improve old trail that goes from Recreation Drive at the river, upriver about 2 miles to underwater pictographs. The trail is best seen from river.
- Makes sense to add small Stockdale parcel that is just N of the end of the road – prevents development issues.
- Keep the road to Malaga closed, at least during the wet season.
- Try to connect the Palouse to Cascades to state park on west side of river (helps build positive support for trail).
- How to upgrade the surface of the Palouse to Cascades Trail west of Beverly Bridge so it is mountain bikeable.
- How to create a more fireproof landscape? → Reduce cheatgrass to increase native sage and grasses.
- Keep access low – roads are spreading out – erosion, damaging wildflowers.
- Close non-admin motorized access to DFW lands December thru July each year: winter range, bird nesting, deer fawning.
- Explore having green-strip fire breaks along fire-prone boundaries near Vantage and I-90.
- Consider coordinating wildlife habitat restoration with volunteers and non-profits.
- Preserve/enhance shoreline riparian habitat.
- Consider interpretation of area north of Rocky Coulee in Tributary canyon.
- Need more primitive campsites – how to add these?
- Leave boat launch open year-round. It's used winter months by many waterfowl hunters and fisherman. Having to use the Vantage launch and running down river can be very dangerous during bad winter windstorms.
- I enjoy the hike into Hell's Kitchen area. Great winter and early spring walk.
- Hikers, bikers, horse/mule riders need to buy Discover Pass.
- User built trail from Rocky Coulee north. Would be great to extend, even to WDFW property.

7.0 Stage 2 – Alternatives

This phase categorizes identified issues into one of three alternatives. This is an educational stage that creates a setting for participants to gain perspective: People who care about a single issue are exposed to all competing interests. The goal of this phase is to examine the options and consider them deeply, allowing the most important issues to surface through analysis. Individuals are enlightened through a process that gives them a voice and chance to evaluate the merit of their ideas against others.

After the initial public meeting, staff begin to examine alternatives and evaluate them for their potential impact on the environment. Staff must compare each alternative to culminate in an environmental matrix needed in advance of development of SEPA associated with the preliminary recommendations. The final impacts will include elements of all alternatives, which will be associated with the preliminary recommendations.

7.1 Staff Identified Issues

- Themes – keep visitor pressure limited to certain areas; keep remainder wild and undeveloped.
- Need to balance the need and benefit of Natural Area Preserve designation ability to make necessary park improvements or add any recreational opportunities. Recognizing every piece, we take out will reduce the protections offered to the environment. Need a balance between preserving resources and allowing trails/recreation within the park and allowing park improvements to be made. Possibly an interpretive trail could be added and stay within the confines of an NAP classification.
- Cultural resources are not typically a consideration for NAP designation and not needed for the NAP recommendation to go forward.
- Current jeep trail exists that allows public access to Hells Canyon- unofficially used but could possibly be made into trailhead and access point and maximizing use of existing parking lot at trailside museum. There is a good viewpoint. Could limit the number of people accessing the interior of the park who are looking for this access. Consider this for natural land class – would allow trail development.
- Can consider Scenic Bikeway Legislation and if there is a way to integrate that into this park.
- Currently the park has a trail system, but we need to consider environmental impacts being made to trails as is- for example, Iceberg Pass has highest deposit of flood plain rocks- however, even small groups of folks who have come up to view the resources in training causes vegetation impacts. Need to consider how we lay out trails to avoid fragile areas and to keep people on trails.
- Difficult to balance more recreation and preservation, as there is not much area on the map that is not a site where there is some plant, wildlife, or geological rarity. For this significant a site, it is best to err on the side of conservation.
- More protection is needed at petrified wood sites to prevent theft.
- Need to look more closely at the existing heritage and natural areas (trailside museum and interpretive center); may want to provide more flexibility; same or other uses be considered for these areas.
- Keep interpretive trail as a baseline for all alternatives.
- Makes sense to have some areas carved out of the NAP that don't have as high a need for protection; NAP areas would have higher level of protection.
- The road goes over part of the landslide-created area. As the road is at an angle, there is a higher rate of erosion on this road.
- We don't actively maintain, nor should we expect to, Since 2016- erosion is very evident.
- Access Options include allow access when other roads are closed; allow access when snow limits other access (vs. X months of the season).
- Public comments show there is a strong desire to keep this area open for recreational purposes and access to other public lands in the area, but the environmental impacts and lack of oversight makes this difficult.
- Currently patrolled infrequently, seems impossible to do more with current resources. Increased patrolling is still only once a week. Location also makes maintenance difficult.

- Added risk to the agency of providing motorized access - what if there is an accident, someone runs out of gas, medical emergency, fire, etc.?
- The road is not up to any standards. Unclear on history of road, but we would be unable to permit this road if we were building it today. Very difficult to regulate, but also serves a need to the area that isn't met elsewhere.
- Possible solutions: Imposing rules. Make highly permitted/restricted access on occasion. Would need guidelines for what use is permitted. Require check in at Wanapum station to get access pass.
- Permanent closure is an option though will be of great concern to some; would be consistent with NAP designation.
- We are not set up to maintain the road; as mentioned before difficult if even possible to permit; Parks is not DNR and we do not manage the same types of land or do it in the same way. Also, may open up resource extraction opportunities to have the road fully open.

7.2 Public Comments

Alternative 1: National Heritage Theme

- The Park land north of I-90 is an awesome chunk of ground that is currently VERY lightly used. Please be aware that with ALT 1, user impact will likely increase due to the NAP designation, not decrease.
- Alternative 1: the best option for our future generations to see INTACT shrub steppe.
- Add more stand-alone interpretive signage in conjunction with ped trails.
- Close down Ginkgo North to protect wintering elk, bighorn sheep, sage grouse after hunting season.
- Road Closed to Motorized travel is a poor alternative. This will impact the town of Vantage unfavorably during a time when they need the financial boost in the off season as motorized.
- I like the degree of protection afforded by the NAP designation. This will highlight Ginkgo as one of the best protected areas of shrub-steppe in the Columbia Basin and create opportunities for restoration and adaptive management.
- Vehicle access has already been degrading the shrub steppe in this park, any expansion of vehicle access will turn this beautiful gem into a zoo.
- Improve/repair the petrified log enclosures, some of which are badly degraded.

Alternative 2: Enhanced Recreation Theme

- Like the idea of limiting vehicle throughput. How about 3-4 days for motorized, day or two for mountain bike/ped and day or two for ped/equestrian.
- 100 years of community history doesn't make it the appropriate management approach. There is no private property located within the park boundary. 7,000 acres of pristine shrub steppe should not be sacrificed for a few landowners that could access their property from other bordering lands managed by other agencies.
- Palouse to Cascade connection GREAT - make a viable loop.
- Portions of the Trees of Stone (Log) trail desperately need rehab.

- Off road motorized travel restrictions are a bad idea. The area tends to limit itself by season with less travel in summer. How much motorized travel is there and when?
- I like keeping the area off rec drive protected but with some access. Don't like the idea of more intensive recreation/camping north of I-90.
- I like Alt 2. Get the PUD out of management of the area, they do not do a great job of management (I worked there for 17 years)
- A hiking and biking trail that connects the Vantage area to the Palouse to Cascades Trail would be a great thing for the future especially when the bridge over the river is made accessible.
- I like the idea of further limiting motorized use of primitive roads in the park, although my preference would be Alt 1 closing these roads to motorized use. I like the expansion of recreation opportunities in the Wanapum area in this alternative.
- More recreation is great for the economy as well. Gingko is very unknown yet a great place for adventurers.

Alternative 3: Enhanced Recreation Theme

- Can there be a north-south linking trail or even a loop trail that crosses the freeway included in this alternative? People LOVE loops!
- Like 3's trail emphasis on non-motor trails.
- I like this the best and like the bicycle base camp idea connecting Wanapum to Vantage and Wanapum to the P2C trails system.
- Want to see the natural resources protected at a higher level (as in other alternatives). Like the idea of connecting trails.
- There's a lot of territory around Gingko between other state agencies and YTC to make Gingko a nice preserve for human-based recreation.
- I really like the connection to Palouse to Cascades Trail and bicycle camp. I can see this becoming a major attraction once Beverly Bridge is opened. However, I prefer the greater protection offered by NAP designation.
- OK, now you have some of my support for keeping motorized travel. I carry a Discover Pass with me as a Motorized user during travel inside the park. Will the DP continue to be required? How many other users are required to carry passes?
- Do not want to see increased recreation/camping north of I-90.
- Alternate # 3 Is a great blend of public use and preservation.
- Also, as part of the long-term park boundary, was there any thought of connections with Frenchman's Coulee? If in no other way, at least a concept of a connecting trail in the Alt 3 Trails Emphasis.
- I disagree with the need for a new parking lot across from the Logs parking lot. There is a drainage over there. By using the Logs trail parking lot, you would have less disturbance anywhere close to the drainage. Warning signs, etc. on the road would suffice. The Log's parking lot is never full anyway/

- Concerned about the bicycle base camp and the expansion of new bike trails.... this will lead to degradation of new, undeveloped areas lands similar to what we have seen to the east of the Manastash Ridge Trail.
- We support option #3, the current permit system works well.
- That connection with Frenchmen's Coulee could also be a "water trail" connect, with from the boat launch.
- #3 is the best option so far.
- Of the three alternatives, ALT 3 is the most reasonable.
- Allow the permitted access of motorized roads, so that law abiding citizens can drive through. Have not seen evidence of off-roading or theft of natural resources in the last 20+ years.

8.0 Stage 3 – Preliminary Recommendations

CAMP Paused until EIS is Complete

Recommendations are derived by assimilating or discarding ideas into a single plan that incorporates the very best analyzed during the alternatives phase. The primary purpose is to strike a pragmatic balance between cultural, natural, and recreational resource management. The plan explains recommendations for use and development of land, changes to property boundaries, and ways to address issues that arose during the alternative phase. Another important document completed at this stage is SEPA documentation that describes environmental impacts of the recommendations.

8.1 Staff Identified Issues

- NAP (Natural Area Preserve) status for area north of I-90; Consider need for other land class for trails or road.
- Petrified log trail: Consider Natural land class for the trail – what it was designated originally. Consider regs that are like other parks and national monuments – to protect standing logs and other natural features.
- Camping; No expansion on north side except for what exists/what's planned (total of 3 RV sites), Concentrate and expand camping at Wanapum, Separate the two experiences (north vs. south park), Retain unique feel of north vs. camping/dogs/etc., Consider where hiker/biker sites can be added – Wanapum, Rocky Coulee?, Ensure good separation b/w hiker/biker sites and RV sites, Retain and consider expansion of primitive camping at Rocky Coulee, Wanapum and the Cove?
- Expand Wanapum camping, group camp, playground, new features, bicycle base camp, and other capital projects.
- Include trail from the Cove to Doris and connection to Palouse to Cascades Trail.
- Add a trail from Wanapum to Vantage Bay.
- Add drone use projection rules.

8.2 Public Comments

9.0 Stage 4 - Final Recommendations

At this stage, final adjustments are made to recommendations and submitted to the seven-member Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission for approval of the long-term boundary and land classification. Management, interpretive, and facilities concept plans are not approved by the Commission, but rather the Director, although the document will be formatted as a single plan.

Working DRAFT