Purpose

To update the 1991 Master Plan establishing a vision for the next 20 years at Smith Rock State Park.

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department's Mission

Provide and protect outstanding natural, scenic, cultural, historic and recreational sites for the enjoyment and education of present and future generations.
WELCOME

INTRODUCTIONS

- Name
- Represented Organization
- Main Focus Regarding the Smith Rock Master Plan Update
Advisory Committee Role and Responsibilities

Advisory Committee members represent interest groups that have direct interest in Smith Rock. Generally members were selected who:

• Represent groups with a significant stake in the outcome or have professional expertise relevant to the planning process.

• Represent their group’s interests ahead of their personal interest, and will convey information to/from your group.

• Work toward consensus to seek solutions that address multiple interests.

• Commit to attending the majority of AC meetings (or provide a designate replacement).
RULES OF ENGAGEMENT

• **Active Listening** – fully concentrate, understand, respond, and remember what’s being said.

• **Speaking** – let each participant finish speaking before offering counterpoints.

• **Respect** – everyone is entitled to mutual respect and is acting with the best interests of the park and park visitors in mind. Disagreements should not confer disrespect.

• **Breaks and Self Care** – everyone is permitted to slip away and rejoin as needed. Please limit disruptions. For the good of the order, if you intend to leave early, please let us know ahead of time if all possible.
RECAP

• 97% are “Very Satisfied” with Smith Rock
  • Cleanliness (95%)
  • Number of trails (93%)
  • Absence of litter (92%)
  • Trail condition (92%)
  • Cleanliness of restrooms (87%)
• 98% are “Satisfied”
  • Facilities and Services (92%)
  • Fees paid (91%)
• 95% are likely to return
• 99% would recommend the park to a friend

SMITH ROCK STATE PARK MASTER PLAN UPDATE
RECAP

- 83% felt some degree of crowding
  - 83% of day users
  - 88% overnight users
- People asked for more opportunities to “escape crowds”
RECAP

- 62% least satisfied with parking

- Parking means different things to different users
BACKGROUND

PRESERVING THE EXPERIENCE OF THE PLACE

Protect and preserve the natural and cultural features that have made Smith Rock among the most notable state parks in Oregon and an international tourist destination.

Make changes to parking patterns and policies to reduce and focus impact in managed areas.

Manage bivouac camping area in a way that limits overcrowding and provides a long term solution for overnight users.
PROJECT SCHEDULE

SMITH ROCK STATE PARK MASTER PLAN UPDATE

2018

Conceptual Plan Design

Comment on Draft Concept Plan
Advisory Committee Meeting
Public Open House and Comment Period

2019

Master Plan Development

Comment on Draft Concept Plan
Advisory Committee Meeting
Public Open House and Comment Period

2020

Master Plan Adoption
Local Approvals
CONCEPT DEVELOPMENT PLAN

DESIGN STRATEGIES

- Provide alternate routes and parking alternatives
- Prevent bottlenecks in sensitive areas
- Identify key locations for preservation and restoration and improve and preserve these sites with continued monitoring
- Design using green building strategies and minimize impact
CONCEPT DEVELOPMENT PLAN

OVERALL

NORTH POINT PARKING
- HABITAT RESTORATION
- NEW VAULT TOILET
- RECONFIGURED PARKING AREA TO ACCOMMODATE ON-STREET PARALLEL PARKING
- SHUTTLE STOP

DAY USE AREA
- NEW WELCOME CENTER
- PICNIC AREA
- RIM TRAIL/INTERPRETIVE WALK TRAILHEAD
- BUS/PV PARKING
- SHUTTLE STOP
- HABITAT RESTORATION

BIVOUAC AREA
- TIE CAMP SITES TO PARKING SPOTS
- RESERVABLE BIVOUAC CAMP SITES
- WALK UP AND SHORT STAY SITES
- RESERVABLE GROUP SITES

17TH STREET TRAILHEAD
- NEW TRAILHEAD
- SHUTTLE STOP
- HABITAT RESTORATION
- VAULT TOILET

ACCESSIBLE RIM TRAIL
- ACCESSIBLE RIM TRAIL BETWEEN NORTH POINT AND 17TH AVENUE TRAILHEAD

COMPOSTING TOILET
- COMPOSTING TOILET NEAR RIVER TRAIL/MEGA VERDE TRAIL INTERSECTION

PEDESTRIAN BRIDGES
- REPLACE EXISTING BRIDGE
- SOUTH BRIDGE TO CONNECT PARK TRAILS
- NORTH BRIDGE IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ADJACENT LAND MANAGERS

MISERY RIDGE/MEGA VERDE TRAILS
- HIGH PRIORITY TRAIL REHABILITATION
- IMPROVE SAFETY OF TRAIL USERS
- EXISTING TRAIL CONDITION ASSESSMENT REQUIRED
- REPLACE EXISTING PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE
## Concept Development Plan

### Parking

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parking Lot</th>
<th>Existing Parking</th>
<th>Proposed Parking</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>North Point</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temporary Overflow</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>101</td>
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<tr>
<td>NE Crooked River Dr. (Parallel)</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NE Crooked River Dr. (Head-in)</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Day Use/Overflow</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>148</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bivouac Area</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17th Avenue Trailhead</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>25</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Total Parking Spaces:** 484

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**Smith Rock State Park Master Plan Update**
PARKING – North Point

- 44 spaces existing
- 76 spaces proposed with shuttle stop
- 59 spaces shift to North Point Parking Area
- 57 spaces to remain, potential for removal long term

- Existing Parking Lot
- Existing Parallel Parking
- Existing Head-In Parking
- Existing Head-In Parking (To Remain)
- Overflow Parking
- Bivy Parking
- Proposed Parking Lot

Bridges
PARKING - Bivouac and 17th/Wilcox Trailhead

CONCEPT DEVELOPMENT PLAN

SMITH ROCK STATE PARK MASTER PLAN UPDATE
WELCOME CENTER

- New visitor center & restrooms
- Expand parking area
- Rim Rock interpretive walk
- Picnic area improvement
- Shuttle connection
- Habitat restoration
- Relocate “Welcome to Smith Rock” sign
BIVOUAC

- Relocate cooking area and install new cooking shelter
- Designated tent sites
- Habitat restoration
- Group camp sites (1-2)
NORTH POINT

• Trailhead enhancements
• New vault toilet
• Expand parking area
• Rim Rock extension
• New bridge
• Shuttle connection
• Habitat restoration
• Re-align Homestead trail
SOUTHERN TIP & 17TH STREET TRAILHEAD

- New trailhead with parking
- New vault toilet
- Shuttle connection
- Rim Trail extension
- Close Canyon Trail and restore river’s edge habitat
- New bridge
- Habitat restoration
TRAILS

NORTH POINT
- Reconfiguration of Homestead Trail to restore habitat and reduce visitor impacts
- Future pedestrian bridge connection to Wolf Tree Trail
- North Point Loop Trail and cliff-side habitat restoration
- New vault toilet

MISERY RIDGE + MESA VERDE TRAILS
- High priority trail rehabilitation
- Improve safety of trail users
- Existing trail condition assessment required
- Replace existing pedestrian bridge

RIM ROCK TRAIL
- Accessible Rim Trail between North Point and 17th Avenue Trailhead
- Enhances visitor experience with interpretative signage and lockouts throughout park
- Provides all visitors with the Smith Rock experience

17TH AVENUE TRAILHEAD
- New enhanced trailhead
- Construction of South Bridge with connection to River Trail
- Connection to Rim Rock Trail
- New vault toilet
- Habitat restoration
CONCEPT DEVELOPMENT PLAN

TRAILS - NORTH POINT

• North Point Loop Trail
• Homestead Trail – realign and restore river edge
• Future pedestrian bridge and trail connection
CONCEPT DEVELOPMENT PLAN

TRAILS - MISERY RIDGE/ MESA VERDE

- Replace existing bridge
- High need trail rehabilitation and realignment
- Improve safety for trail users
- Existing trail condition assessment required
TRAILS - RIM ROCK TRAIL

• Provide all visitors with the Smith Rock experience

• Enhance interpretive experience with education and overlooks

• Accessible 6’-8’ wide crushed rock trail
TRAILS - NEW TRAILHEAD

- Enhance visitor experience with new kiosk, restroom, and trail connections
- Future pedestrian bridge
- Realign existing trails
- Close Canyon Trail and replace with Rim Trail extension
OVERVIEW

• Evolving process

• Not an adopted plan, but some items may involve stakeholder and public input

• Continued coordination and cooperation with adjacent land owners and land managers
  • Shared recreational uses
  • Land acquisition proposals
  • Changes in park visitation and resource impacts
Based on data collection and review, park uses may be restricted or expanded

- Protection of park resources
- High quality visitor experience
- Commercial use, events, and concessions
PARKING

• County and neighbor concerns with parking on Wilcox
  • Enforcement challenges
  • Monitor future impacts
• Adapt to changing visitation over time
• Continue to explore options with timed parking and fees
SHUTTLE

- Goals of a shuttle pilot:
  - Reduce congestion
  - Maximize limited parking resources
  - Minimize neighbor impact
  - Improved visitor safety and experience
- Requires sponsorships and suitable park-and-ride site
- Needs to serve the needs of park users most likely to utilize the service
- Requires culture shift for success
CLIMBING

- 1991 Master Plan identified potential future need for a Climbing Management Plan
- Stand-alone initiative with stakeholder involvement
- Public input/comment
- Partnership with non-profit climbing advocacy groups (Access Fund and others)
- Consultation with other land managers
- Focus on resource protection
TRAILS

- Volunteer trail ambassador program
- Develop park (and potential region-wide) trail standards
- Prioritized trail projects and work plans (including elimination of unsustainable trails)
- Monitor and adjust allowed trail uses over time
- Builds on the Smith Rock Trail Assessment from 2017
MANAGEMENT PLANNING

OVERNIGHT USE

- Delineated camp sites paired with numbered parking space
- Pilot camping reservations and a per-site fee structure on 10-12 sites initially
- Group camping (1-2 sites, reservable)
- Walk-up and hiker-biker camping to remain
- Continue to work with the County to allow in-car camping
MANAGEMENT PLANNING

RESOURCE PROTECTION AND ENHANCEMENT

• Phased restoration of invasive-dominated areas
• Identify indicator species by habitat type and provide Management recommendations beyond current eagle and hawk management recommendations
• Base habitat protection on current best-practices
  • OPRD staff experts
  • Agency partners (US Fish and Wildlife, ODFW, Audubon Society, tribes, etc.)
SMITH ROCK STATE PARK MASTER PLAN UPDATE

MANAGEMENT PLANNING

SMITH ROCK FRIENDS GROUP

- Fundraising and volunteer assistance
- Improved park visitor “Welcome Center”
- Interpretive and education programs and partnerships
SMITH ROCK STATE PARK MASTER PLAN UPDATE

PROJECT SCHEDULE

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<tr>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2020</th>
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<tr>
<td>Apr</td>
<td>May</td>
<td>June</td>
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**Conceptual Plan Design**
- Comment on Draft Concept Plan
- Advisory Committee Meeting
- Public Open House and Comment Period

**Master Plan Development**
- Comment on Draft Concept Plan
- Advisory Committee Meeting
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**Master Plan Adoption**
- Local Approvals
OPEN HOUSES

October 22nd – Portland
TaborSpace – Copeland Commons Room
5:30-8:00pm

October 24th – Redmond
Deschutes Co Fair & Expo Center – South Sister Main Hall
5:30-8:00pm
Online comment period Oct 25 – Nov 30
smithrockplan.com
NEXT STEPS

DRAFT MASTER PLAN AND PLAN ADOPTION PROCESS

Resource Assessments
- GIS
  - Facilities & Surveys
- Stewardship
  - Botanical Resources
  - Forestry
  - Wildlife
- Heritage
  - Archeological Resources
  - Cultural Resources
  - Park History
- Park Management
  - Operating Costs
  - Safety & Risk Management
- IPS (Planning)
  - Park Facilities & Needs
  - Visitor Experience
  - Interpretation
  - Recreation
  - Trails

Master Planning
- Analysis
  - Develop Park Values, Goals & Strategies
  - Park Assessments
  - Identify Needs and Opportunities
  - Define Role with Partners
  - User Surveys

Preliminary Concept
- Proposal
  - Park Planning & Design
  - Recreation Planning

Public Comment & Advisory Committee

Draft Plan
- Project Phasing & Costs
  - Facilities
  - Natural Resources
  - Visitor Experience
- Resource Management

Public Comment & Advisory Committee

Local Jurisdictional Approval
- County Commission Briefing
- State Park Commission Review and Approval
- Land Use Compatibility Review
- State Rule Adoption

Final OPRD State Park Master Plan

SMITH ROCK STATE PARK MASTER PLAN UPDATE
Thank You!

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503.986.0743 or robin.wilcox@oregon.gov