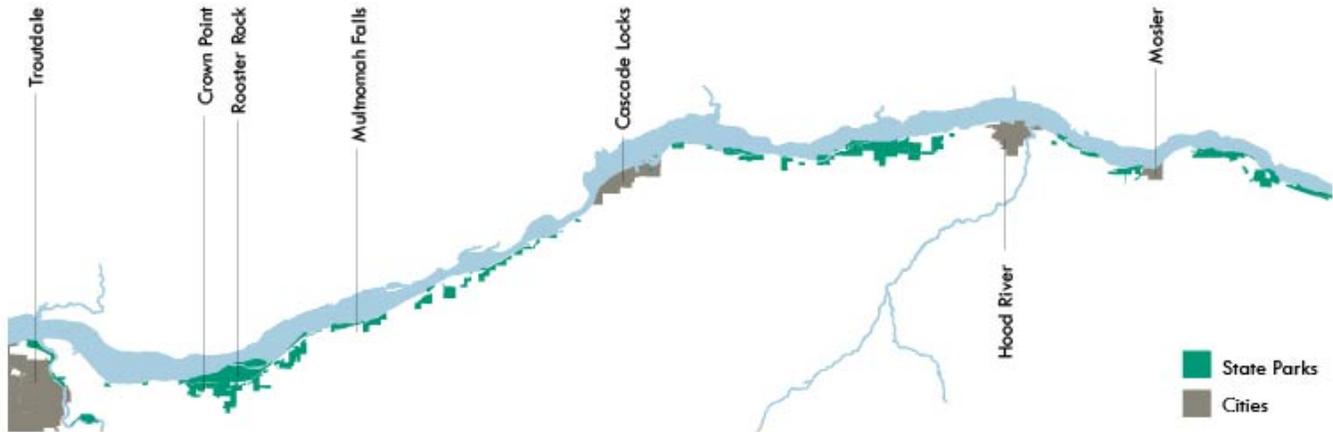




Your Parks. Your Vision.

Come Join the Comprehensive Planning Process for Oregon State Parks in the Columbia River Gorge

In the **Columbia River Gorge** alone the **Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD)** manages 15 parks, six natural areas, three scenic viewpoints, six scenic corridors, and 47 trailheads connecting visitors with over 150 miles of spectacular trails.



Have you visited the Columbia River Gorge lately?

A long-term plan is needed to guide future resource management and recreational uses on all of these lands. In the planning for these parks OPRD is taking a comprehensive look at natural, scenic area and cultural resource conditions; park management needs; outdoor recreation trends in the region; community partnerships; and any related ideas and concerns identified through public input.

Why do you visit the Gorge? How do you get there? When will you visit again?

OPRD land and management responsibilities include trailheads, like at Angels Rest; camping and day use activity areas at Dabney State Recreational Area, Rooster Rock and Ainsworth State Parks; natural resources and scenic landscape views on all its park lands including Vista House and Women's Forum; and, in partnership with ODOT, the Historic Columbia River Highway State Trail.

The OPRD planning team needs your help. We want to know: why you visit, what you do while you are here and what brings you back. Please share with us why you love the Gorge and what opportunities and challenges you see in the future for the beautiful scenic area we are so lucky to have right here in Oregon.

The first set of public information meetings is this August. Come learn more about your opportunity to contribute to the future of state parks in the region and share your insights about your Columbia River Gorge experience.

Meeting I. Kick off - Welcome and Public Comment

West End – Gresham Public Library

Date: August 14, 2013
Time: 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. – General Public
Location: Gresham Public Library
385 NW Miller Avenue

East End – Twin Tunnels Visitors Center

Date: August 15, 2013
Time: 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. – General Public
2:00 – 4:00 p.m. – Advisory Committee*
Location: Mark O. Hatfield West Trailhead
Old Columbia River Drive, Hood River, OR

*The public may attend the Advisory Committee meeting however, only comments from the committee will be taken at this meeting.



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Can't make the first public meeting?

Here are six great ways to stay involved and contribute to the plan:

1. Visit www.gorgeparksplan.com.
2. Subscribe to our listserv for email updates.
3. Email your questions or comments to gorge.parksplan@state.or.us.
4. Talk to a Park Planner on the phone at 503-986-0723.
5. Send written comments to: Jaime English, OPRD, 725 Summer St. NE, Suite C, Salem, OR 97301.
6. Meet with us in person at any of our public meetings held throughout the planning process (see below). A newsletter with details regarding dates and times will be sent prior to each meeting.

Public Meetings:

Meeting I. Kick off -Welcome and Public Comment

August 2013

At our first set of meetings we will introduce the state parks that are in the Columbia River Gorge management area and explain how the comprehensive planning process will set the vision and management of those parks for the next 10–15 years. We will listen to the communities who call the Gorge their home and those who love to visit. Please join us and tell us what you value about state parks in the Gorge and the benefits they provide. (See *meeting location and time on reverse*.)

Meeting II. Assessments

January 2014

OPRD is currently conducting Resource Assessments and Visitor Experience Assessments for the Gorge state parks to better understand opportunities and constraints in the management of our park system. At our second set of public meetings we will present these findings to the public. The community members and park staff will then work together to identify the most important values, strategies, and actions needed to guide the comprehensive planning and design efforts in all of the state parks in the Gorge.

Meeting III. Concept Alternatives

March 2014

At our third set of public meetings park staff will present planning concepts with alternatives for state parks in the Gorge and listen to public comment. Concept alternatives are helpful planning tools that allow us to consider different visions for the park and better clarify the specific opportunities and challenges at each park site and throughout the Gorge. Public engagement and discussion at this meeting is especially important to the success of the planning effort.

Meeting IV. Draft Comprehensive Plan Review

June 2014

At our final set of public meetings in the comprehensive planning process, park staff will present the draft comprehensive plan. The draft plan includes summaries of the assessments, public input, the resulting values and desired benefits of the parks, and final recommendations for the future vision and management of the state parks in the Columbia River Gorge.

Services, programs and activities of OPRD are covered by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). If accommodations are needed, please call 503-986-0723 at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting.

NO MORE PAPER?

To opt out of any further paper newsletters or to receive email notifications of upcoming meetings, please call: 503-986-0723 or email: gorge.parksplan@state.or.us.