

WHITMAN COUNTY



PARKS & RECREATION COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

2004-2009

Whitman County Parks and Recreation Comprehensive Plan

2004 - 2009

Adopted by Whitman County Parks and Recreation Board, March 25, 2004

Adopted by Whitman County Planning Department, _____, 2004

Adopted by the Board of Whitman County Commissioners, _____, 2004

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CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION



CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

The Whitman County Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Plan will, over the next five-years, assist and guide Whitman County --- through the Board of Whitman County Commissioners as elected individuals, the Whitman County Parks and Recreation Board, and the Parks, Fair and Facilities Management Department---towards achieving the stated goals and objectives. The plan is the result of several years of research, public input and professional integration. Its purpose is to determine the benefits that Whitman County and its residents have gained and can achieve from an active parks and recreation department and to assess the future of parks and recreation in Whitman County. The plan evaluates and inventories the current status of recreation facilities and activities, projects future needs, and finally proposes actions which will best meet the future needs of county residents and visitors.

The plan is intended to satisfy planning eligibility for matching grants sponsored by the Washington State Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation. This agency has funded over eighteen projects in Whitman County. The projects have assisted in acquisition, development, and renovation of park areas and facilities. [RCW 47.30, Trails and Paths, requires "a comprehensive plan for trails adopted by a state or local government authority." Such a plan is incorporated into this Whitman County Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Plan.]

The legal authority for Whitman County to participate in planning and the provision of park areas and recreation programs is contained in the Revised Codes of Washington (R.C.W.):

PLANNING

R.C.W.	36.70.050	Authority of Planning
R.C.W.	36.60.320	Comprehensive Plan
R.C.W.	36.70.330	Comprehensive Plan - Regional Elements

PARKS AND RECREATION

R.C.W.	36.68.010	Authority for establishment of park and playground systems
R.C.W.	36.68.020	Programs of Public Recreation
R.C.W.	36.68.030-060	Park and Recreation Board
R.C.W.	36.68.070	Park and Recreation Fund
R.C.W.	36.68.080	Penalty for violation of regulations
R.C.W.	36.68.090	Counties authority to build, improve, operate, and maintain, etc., parks, playgrounds, gymnasiums, swimming pools,

		beaches, stadiums, golf courses, etc., and other recreational facilities - Regulation - Charges for use.
R.C.W.	36.68.400	Park and Recreation Service Areas
R.C.W.	36.69.010	Recreation Districts Act
R.C.W.	47.30.000	Trails and paths

The plan seeks to maintain a positive atmosphere of planning, coordination, and cooperation among individuals, groups, and agencies interested in and responsible for the provision of park and recreation opportunities in Whitman County. It is both recognized and accepted that several of the major projects proposed for accomplishment (See Capital Improvement Section) within this plan will require the necessary blend of opportunity (willing-seller); need; timing; and financing to be successful.

A new recreation survey was conducted in 2000 to evaluate the status of this plan and study the demand and need for park and recreation opportunities. This data is incorporated into the planning process that resulted in this final draft of a revised comprehensive parks and recreation plan for Whitman County.



Distant View of Kamiak Butte County Park

CHAPTER II SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS



CHAPTER II

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

A number of important findings are becoming apparent during the planning process and constitute the following section on the summary and conclusions of the plan. Specific recommendations pertaining to each of these conclusions are proposed throughout the plan.

I. THERE CURRENTLY EXISTS A DIVERSE SYSTEM OF PARKS WITHIN WHITMAN COUNTY.

The Whitman County Commissioners and Whitman County Parks and Recreation Board have provided a system of regional county parks in a variety of environmental settings and locations throughout the county. These compliment recreation areas managed by other agencies and towns throughout Whitman County. County parks are located at one of the highest elevations in the county (Kamiak Butte County Park elevation 3,641 feet), as well as along the Snake River at Wawawai County Park at an elevation of approximately 700 feet. Klemgard County Park, the Bill Chipman Palouse Trail and Elberton County Park/Ropes Challenge Course are all located along watercourses that meander through the rolling Palouse fields and are representative of unique environments. Each park allows visitors opportunities to enjoy different environments and recreational experiences. (See Inventory Section for specific information on the county park areas and facilities).

Most small towns within the county have parks which provide quiet park settings and swimming pools as well as recreation facilities for young children, families and groups within short distances from home. Whitman County is also fortunate to have three state parks within or adjacent to its boundaries (Steptoe Butte, Palouse Falls and Steptoe Battlefield). Prior to 2002, there were 5 state parks easily accessible. However, in 2002, The State of Washington made the decision not to renew a contract with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on the two parks (Central Ferry and Lyons Ferry). Beginning in January of 2003 these parks were barricaded and closed for use. Shortly after their closure, the U.S. Corps of Engineers contracted with a private agency to reopen and manage the parks. The Port of Whitman County manages a large water oriented park and marina at Boyer Park and Marina. Washington State University and the City of Pullman offer an array of parks and recreation programs and facilities.

Within the county's boundaries, opportunities are available at these parks for solitude, relaxation, exercise, and socializing through activities which range from active to passive recreation experiences. Efforts should be made to establish public access

to Rock Lake, the largest lake within Whitman County and Bonnie Lake which is located in both Whitman and Spokane Counties. Rock Lake and Bonnie Lake are located in the northwest section of the county where there is a general lack of public recreation facilities.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has provided for public access to reservoirs on the Snake River and the development of recreational facilities. Priority should be given to keeping existing facilities open. These facilities and potential sites should be periodically evaluated. The Whitman County Parks, Fair and Facilities Management Department should work toward cooperating with the Corps to insure high quality maintenance and operation of these recreational sites. The long term challenge will be to upgrade these parks as time and use deteriorate the facilities.

II. THERE IS LIMITED SPACE AVAILABLE WITHIN WHITMAN COUNTY FOR DISPERSED RECREATION.

With approximately 95% of the land within Whitman County in private ownership, there is a lack of public open space and land available for residents to pursue dispersed outdoor recreational opportunities. Within the vast acreage encompassed by private boundaries lie streams, riparian vegetation, ponds, forested areas and meadows which provide important habitat for wildlife. At the same time, some of these areas are not suitable for intensive agriculture or development. Strong cooperation between governmental organizations, private groups and individuals, and private landowners is necessary to protect, preserve, and enhance these areas while protecting the landowners and their agricultural endeavors. Opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, horseback riding, and just relaxing within these areas can be improved with greater cooperation. The concerns of private landowners must be considered, and assistance provided when appropriate and feasible, to minimize any impacts associated with recreational use of private lands. Generally, private land owners continue to be tolerant of public use on their property on a permission basis.

The Snake River, which borders Whitman County to the south, offers many water-related recreational opportunities. Whitman County should continue to play a strong role in planning and coordinating the use of these areas. Leadership should be provided in collecting and distributing information to residents about recreational opportunities available within the county. In the interest of providing quality recreational experiences for the residents of Whitman County, the Whitman County Parks, Fair and Facilities Management Department should continue to work with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers toward improvement of the

landings located along the Snake River.

Another opportunity for dispersed recreation in Whitman County may be found in the open space areas which are managed by Washington State Department of Natural Resources, US Army Corps of Engineers and Bureau of Land Management. Washington State Department of Natural Resources manages state school lands and other property within Whitman County that are open to dispersed recreation, fishing and hunting (some restrictions may apply to certain areas). The Corps of Engineers manages its Lower Snake River Fish and Wildlife Compensation Plan that encompasses many Habitat Management Units (HMUs) and mitigation sites in Whitman County that are open to dispersed recreation. The Bureau of Land Management owns two land parcels in the northwest area of the county, which provide ample opportunity for dispersed recreation. These federal sites may have restrictions related to certain recreational activities.

III. CURRENT COUNTY PARKS SHOULD BE PLANNED FOR FUTURE EXPANSION/RENOVATION TO MEET FUTURE NEEDS.

KAMIAK BUTTE COUNTY PARK

A majority of the facilities at Kamiak Butte were renovated in the 1990's and are in good condition. The park will continue to benefit from upgrades to facilities and the development of underutilized areas of the park. Several County Parks contain large acreage which, to date, are undeveloped, and possess potential for expansion. With proper planning, future development within existing boundaries of Kamiak Butte County Park can provide visitors with a wider array of recreational opportunities while keeping a balance between human needs and environmental quality. Certain areas within all park sites should remain undeveloped and protected as natural areas to serve as wildlife sanctuaries, environmental study areas, and buffers of natural vegetation. Kamiak Butte County Park contains 298 acres of one of the county's most beautiful forested areas and provides a protected environment for a variety of plants and animals as well as for several endangered plant species. Kamiak Butte has been recognized on the national level as a National Natural Landmark for its natural and geologic significance. As a means of protecting the unique ecosystems of Kamiak Butte, the county should make efforts to acquire development rights, scenic easements, or outright land purchase of the remaining land on the northeast and south portions of the butte to protect this resource for future generations. Acquisition should take place on a willing seller basis.

ELBERTON COUNTY PARK

Elberton County Park, the site of the Whitman County Ropes Challenge Course, should be considered for future development.

The park's picnic area is a potential site for future development for equestrian use.

KLEMGARD COUNTY PARK

Klemgard County Park has been well maintained and as a result is in good condition. However, due to aging facilities at Klemgard there exists a need to renovate the park facilities. Renovations should include replacing the current bridge crossing the Union Flat Creek, roofing the large picnic shelter, removal of restroom facilities and installation of accessible restrooms, renovation of existing restrooms, and removal of the play equipment and surface material. A major component of the renovation is the focus on making the park an accessible place for all people to recreate in. Due to the current state and age of the existing bridge in the park there is a high demand to replace this structure. The bridge provides access to half of the park ground and directly accesses the hiking trail, picnic shelters, and multipurpose field. Through these renovations Klemgard County Park would once again be able to meet the demands and needs of the visitors who recreate at this park and utilize its resources.

WAWAWAI COUNTY PARK

Wawawai County Park is currently a well maintained park, which could benefit from renovation and enhancement projects that would improve the accessibility and historical significance of the park. Some of the park facilities are aging and in need of renovation or replacement. Recent efforts have been made to extend the life of some of the facilities and others have been removed in order to provide a safe environment for recreation. Some key areas should be focused on in the future renovation of Wawawai County Park. These focus areas should include the following: replacement of the existing playground structure and surface material, replacement of the existing large picnic shelter with an interpretive multipurpose shelter which recognizes the historical significance of the area as it relates to the native culture and the Lewis and Clark Corps of Discovery Expedition of 1804-1806, replacement of the small picnic shelters, roofing the parking lot restroom facility, and building a park maintenance shop facility to house equipment and provide a safe and adequate area to perform park maintenance work. In this park enhancement and renovation park accessibility should be a major priority. Attention should also be directed to the anticipation of the large number of visitors expected to partake in the commemoration of the Lewis and Clark Corps of Discovery Expedition Bicentennial. Through the renovation and enhancement projects Wawawai County Park would be able to meet the demands of the expected visitors and the visitors for many years to come.

THE BILL CHIPMAN PALOUSE TRAIL

The Bill Chipman Palouse Trail adjacent to State Route (SR) 270

and linking the cities of Pullman, Washington and Moscow, Idaho was constructed within the past ten years and is in good condition. The trail, however, will benefit from the potential linkages with other trails and facilities. Special attention should be paid to infrastructure development within the SR270 corridor specifically expansion of SR 270 and business development, which may affect the trail.



Trailhead to Bill Chipman Palouse Trail

COLFAX TRAIL

The Colfax trail is a 3 mile long undeveloped abandoned railroad bed. The trail follows the Palouse River west out of Colfax. The trail is currently gated and locked at both ends but allows for non-motorized and equestrian uses through unlocked pass gates. In addition to cattle grazing across the trail one can expect to see spectacular basalt cliffs, waterfowl, deer, songbirds and a myriad of other wildlife.

Expansion within or adjacent to the current park sites should be the focus of the Whitman County Parks, Fair and Facilities Management Department. The overall system of parks, local, state, and federal, with the exception of the northwest sector of the county, seems to provide for both current and future needs. As people become more and more restricted from travel due to shortages in energy, and terrorism threats, county residents will be seeking out and utilizing these regional parks to a greater extent. A variety of year-round opportunities should be planned within the overall park system to provide for this increasing local use. The County Parks, Fair and Facilities Management Department will continue to seek alternative non-motorized

transportation corridors for biking and walking between urban centers.

IV. A COMPLETE SYSTEM OF RECREATION TRAILS SHOULD BE DEVELOPED FOR YEAR-ROUND USE.

Currently, there exists in the county a system of trails designed mainly for hiking during the main recreational use season (March-October). These trails are located in four county parks in the southeast sector of the county. The existing trails are maintained on a regular basis. Each existing county park site has been evaluated to determine potential for expansion of existing trails or addition of new trails. Two areas of special need in Whitman County are equestrian trails and mountain biking trails.

Several areas of the county have the potential for trail development and inclusion in a trail system. Possibilities include a trail within Elberton County Park for hiking and cross country skiing. Also, the abandoned railroad right-of-way, owned by Whitman County, and located along the Palouse River out of Colfax could be developed as a trail with such potential uses as bicycling, jogging, hiking, nature study, and/or equestrian use. The Bureau of Land Management Escure Ranch Rock Creek Unit provides another area for future trail development for hiking, mountain biking and equestrian use. Currently the state is developing a trail across eastern Washington along the abandoned Milwaukee Road right-of-way. Controversy continues with this development, there are a number of concerns. These include trespassing, weed control, liability, fencing, and fire.

The county should continue to work with federal, state, and local agencies as well as citizen groups to provide a comprehensive system of trails throughout the county. This system should include facilities for activities such as equestrian use, hiking, jogging, cross country skiing, and bicycling with emphasis placed on user safety and enjoyment as well as protection of land owners and the resources. Coordination and cooperation with land owners adjacent to county parks should be stressed. Easements for trail use may provide equestrian trails in the future.

The City of Pullman in cooperation with Washington State University has developed a system of bike lanes and trails within the city. Plans are needed to provide bicyclists access to riding opportunities outside of the city limits as mentioned in Chapter VII, Section Two, subsection Running and Bicycling/Multi Use Paved Trails.

The recent trend of railroad abandonments in Whitman County creates both concern and opportunity. Concern exists over

transportation of crops and products. This plan fully supports rail continuation. If abandonments occur, each should be evaluated for "rail banking" which involves future transportation as well as recreational trail opportunities. The Bill Chipman Palouse Trail should serve as a model for the development of recreational trails on abandoned railroad corridors.

V. PRESENT PROGRAMMING CAPABILITIES AND FUTURE EXPANSION WITHIN THE WHITMAN COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT.

In order to continue serving Whitman County residents through existing and expanded programs, the Whitman County Parks and Recreation Board and Whitman County Parks, Fair and Facilities Management Department must continue to provide current recreation opportunities and address the growing concerns of youth at risk by providing alternative opportunities such as the Ropes Challenge Course at Elberton. Coordination with law enforcement, court systems and chemical dependency/mental health agencies must be pursued. Alternatives to incarceration should be explored. Facility availability can be a limiting factor for all recreation activities. Increased use of volunteer resources provide valuable civic services. The ability of Whitman County Parks, Fair and Facilities Management Department to contract local residents to lead recreation services should showcase the expertise of county residents in various skills can provide the department staff with recreational program leadership in areas not otherwise covered.

Increasing emphasis on program fees may be necessary to generate revenues to provide and expand recreation programs.

Continued cooperation and coordination between Whitman County Parks, Fair and Facilities Management Department, school districts, Port District, Washington State University, City of Pullman, parks and recreation districts and towns within the county can open more facilities which make accessibility to programs more realistic for county residents.

Expansion of recreation programs would deter juvenile delinquency and lessen travel costs for participants of cooperatively sponsored programs. The Whitman County Parks, Fair and Facilities Management Department will continue to cooperate with and assist local groups in planning and implementing activities at a local level.

Populations in Whitman County that should receive additional emphasis for recreation programming include: youth, youth at risk, disabled, and senior citizens.

Whitman County was required to cut the 2002 Parks, Recreation and

Fair Budget by 16% for the 2003 budget year. This affected staffing levels, maintenance levels and increased user fees within the system. The budget for the 2004 programming year was again held to the 2003 levels.

VI. HISTORIC SITES SHOULD BE IDENTIFIED, PROTECTED AND PRESERVED.

Active public participation and interest in historic preservation planning and preservation in the public and private sectors should continue to be encouraged. Strong cooperation between the Whitman County Historical Society, civic organizations, private interests, and public agencies should continue and be expanded to insure that valuable historic sites are protected and preserved. Private individuals and groups should be encouraged to preserve historic sites and buildings, but should not be penalized if they have valid plans that meet other important needs. Places of historical and cultural value should be identified and nominated when appropriate for placement on state and federal registers.

VII. ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS ARE AN IMPORTANT PART OF THE WHITMAN COUNTY PARK SYSTEM AND PROGRAMS.

Environmental issues and education have become national focal points in recent years. An example of which would be the Washington State mandate for schools in Washington to include environmental education in their curriculum. The Whitman County Parks, Fair and Facilities Management Department has and should continue to assist schools in meeting this requirement. Utilization of county staff and its facilities as environmental learning centers enhances the environmental programs available to both the schools and general population of the county.

Environmental awareness, education, and interpretive programs allow County Park sites to be used as classrooms where people of all ages can learn about human and natural history. These programs compliment the more active recreation programs offered through school and parks departments within Whitman County. Programs stressing environmental sensitivity including cultural, as well as human and natural aspects, offer an increased level of appreciation for park areas and a sense of place for the residents of Whitman County. Environmental programs can reduce the maintenance and management problems within the parks system due to user's increased appreciation of the resource. The Whitman County Parks, Fair and Facilities Management Department should continue and expand environmental programs to include evaluation and revision, when necessary, to meet the changing needs of park users.

In addition to the school programs, the County Parks, Fair and

Facilities Management Department has offered interpretive programs to the general public in the form of nature walks and evening campfire programs. In the past the county parks received grant funding for the Bill Chipman Palouse Trail, Wawawai, Klemgard and Kamiak Butte County Parks for interpretive signage, facilities and brochures. This will allow the county to expand the self-guided and staff-related interpretive programs available to visitors.

VIII. SPECIAL POPULATIONS MUST BE INCLUDED IN ALL LEVELS OF PARKS AND RECREATION PROGRAM PLANNING, DESIGN, DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION.

Recreation programs should continue to be developed in cooperation with school districts, Whitman County Developmental Services, Pullman Parks and Recreation, Palouse Industries, Whitman County Council on Aging, C.A.R.E.S., C.A.R.E.S. Community Access, and other groups. Cooperation will continue to assure consideration of age, physical and/or mental limitations of special populations within the county. Continuing efforts should be made in all parks for existing facilities to be renovated for increased accessibility for all populations. Efforts will be made to make new and existing facilities barrier free in order that all users will have access.

IX. SMALLER TOWNS IN WHITMAN COUNTY OFTEN LACK PROFESSIONAL STAFFS BUT HAVE THE NEED FOR PARK AND RECREATION SERVICES.

Towns throughout the county should benefit from assistance by the Whitman County Parks, Fair and Facilities Management Department with planning efforts directed towards providing recreation services and park improvements. Whitman County Parks and Recreation staff should be available to help research and develop grants to acquire, develop, and renovate recreation sites and facilities, and to establish recreation programs.

Many towns have worked with the Whitman County Parks, Fair and Facilities Management Department in developing comprehensive plans and grant applications which has resulted in funding for general park improvements. There is a continuing need to evaluate the necessity for park improvements and renovation within local towns as existing facilities deteriorate due to age. Renovated or new facilities are needed to offer recreational opportunities and enhance the quality of life for residents. Cooperative projects between the towns, local park and recreation districts, and the local school districts should be encouraged when feasible. A main goal of this plan is to insure that smaller incorporated towns in Whitman County continue to have the capability to apply for and receive grant funds for their park and recreation projects.

Small towns should coordinate their needs for recreation services and park facilities with the efforts at the local and state level.

X. COORDINATION OF PLANNING SHOULD BE A FOCAL POINT FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF PARKS AND PROGRAMS IN WHITMAN COUNTY.

The County Parks, Fair and Facilities Management Department should strive to coordinate its activities with other agencies within the county to assure the most efficient use of staff and resources in providing park and recreation opportunities within Whitman County.

These agencies/entities should include but are not limited to:

1. Local Government
 - A. Cities and Towns
 - B. Park and Recreation Districts
 - C. Adjacent Counties
 - D. Fair Board
 - E. Port of Whitman
 - F. Whitman County Sheriffs Department
 - G. Palouse River Counseling Services (Whitman County's contracted mental health and chemical dependency agency)
 - H. Whitman County Planning Department
2. Non-Profit Agencies
 - A. Whitman County Council on Aging
 - B. Palouse Industries
 - C. Whitman County Historical Society
 - D. Whitman County Sportsmen's Association
 - E. Civic Groups
 - F. Youth Organizations
3. State Government
 - A. Washington State Department of Ecology
 - B. Washington State Heritage Resource Center
 - C. Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife
 - D. Washington State Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation
 - E. Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission
 - F. Washington State Department of Natural Resources
 - G. Cooperative Extension Service
 - H. Washington State Department of Transportation
 - I. State Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
 - J. State of Idaho

4. Federal Government
 - A. United States Army Corps of Engineers
 - B. National Park Service
 - C. United States Forest Service
 - D. Bureau of Land Management

5. Private Sector
 - A. Nursing Homes
 - B. Community Residential Experience and Support (CARES),
and CARES Community Access
 - C. Concessionaires
 - D. Riding Stables
 - E. Other Private Recreational Facilities

6. Educational Institutions
 - A. Local School Districts
 - B. Washington State University
 - C. University of Idaho
 - D. Superintendent of Public Instruction for Washington
State

XI. ECONOMIC CONDITIONS DICTATE THE EVALUATION OF ALL POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES AND THE REVIEW OF OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES TO MINIMIZE EXPENDITURES.

Changes in Federal programs have eliminated the CETA and off-campus college work studies programs. These two programs have, in the past, provided up to 100 percent of the seasonal and part-time staff for the County Parks. Due to awareness and consideration of these cutbacks, the County Parks and Recreation Board and Whitman County Parks, Fair and Facilities Management Department have minimized development of park areas needing intensive maintenance. The Board of Whitman County Commissioners has recognized these cutbacks and concerns and has previously authorized additional seasonal staff. In an effort to reduce administrative costs and maintain existing program levels, the Board of Whitman County Commissioners worked with the Whitman County Parks and Recreation Board, the Palouse Empire Fair Board and the Whitman County Facilities Management Department to consolidate the functions of these departments. This cost-saving plan has continued existing program levels with a minimum of overhead and emphasis on direct services.

The Washington State Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation (IAC) is the agency responsible for the application and funding process for local acquisition and development of park projects in the State of Washington. In the past, over twenty projects have been funded in Whitman County by the IAC. The projects were located at Boyer Park and Marina, the Bill Chipman Palouse Trail, Klemgard County Park, Kamiak Butte County Park, the Elberton

County Park and in the communities of Tekoa, Albion, Rosalia, Oakesdale, LaCrosse, Colfax, Colton, and Pullman. The availability of the grant-in-aid funding has allowed these agencies and municipalities in Whitman County to purchase park land, develop new facilities, and renovate existing facilities.

The need for a state-wide grant-in-aid process will be critical for renovation and rehabilitation of existing local park facilities. Present facilities will deteriorate over the years and will have need for replacement. There are several towns currently needing renovation projects for swimming pools and/or park facilities. Without a matching grant process, local government, to include Park and Recreation Districts, towns, Pullman and Whitman County, will have a difficult time acquiring, developing or renovating park areas in the future.

The IAC continues to be a vital link in local government's ability to develop and renovate outdoor recreation facilities. Their efforts need continued support in the legislative process as does the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund which has been seriously reduced.

XIII. PARK VISITATION WILL CONTINUE TO GROW DUE TO CONCERN REGARDING FUEL CONSERVATION AND THE GREATER AWARENESS OF LOCAL PARKS AND FACILITIES.

With the projected increasing travel costs and the threat of terrorism, local park sites and programs continue to experience substantial increases in attendance because people need and desire recreation opportunities. In order to satisfy and provide for these leisure pursuits close to home, it is becoming ever more important for local agencies to insure that park and recreation opportunities are maintained and expanded to assure that quality of life within Whitman County remains high. Many small towns continue to experience a gradual decrease in population and should provide for their residents' leisure needs as a means of keeping the towns attractive and appealing. Support should be given to a rural transportation system if it proves to be an efficient means of transportation and enhances participation of parks and recreation activities including railroad abandonment. Alternative, non-motorized transportation corridors should be studied as opportunities become available. Non-motorized trails between urban centers should be given strong consideration. Non-motorized links between urban centers and recreation sites would promote energy conservation and enhance recreation in these areas.

Areas which provide outdoor recreational opportunities and programs, whether they be active sports, passive recreation, or environmental education, enhance the lives of residents and

should be expanded both regionally and locally to reach the total population wherever feasible. The Whitman County Parks, Fair and Facilities Management Department should assume the leadership in this expansion, not only by expanding their programming efforts, but also by assisting towns and park and recreation districts to develop their own programs and facilities through planning and in cooperating with local school districts. The Whitman County Parks, Fair and Facilities Management Department should also ensure quality recreational experiences within their parks through continued maintenance and should expand existing facilities and parks as needed to provide for their future use. Greater use of school facilities during non-school times by local residents would greatly increase the ability of residents to pursue leisure activities close to home.

XIII. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM ARE IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS FOR THE FUTURE OF WHITMAN COUNTY.

County parks and other regional park facilities, such as Boyer Park and Marina, are extremely important in promoting and enhancing economic development in Whitman County. The ability of Whitman County to maintain as well as attract economic activity is closely related to quality of life. The quality and diversity of park areas and recreation experiences will play a strong role in Whitman County's economic viability.

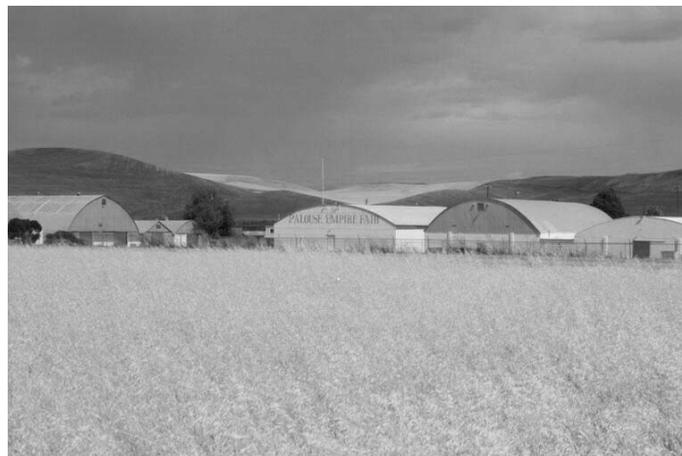
Tourism, as a part of economic development, should be a strong consideration in the development and renovation of local and regional park facilities and trails systems. The promotion of local events and activities coupled with the attraction of cultural, educational and sporting events at Washington State University and the University of Idaho add to the capability to attract tourists to Whitman County.

The 2003 designation of the Palouse Scenic Byway as part of the Washington State Scenic Byways system is an opportunity for additional tourism and economic development in Whitman County. The Palouse Scenic Byway represents 170 miles of state and local highways in Whitman County. The Corridor Management Plan for the Palouse Scenic Byway was completed in January 2004 and the Byway will seek Federal Designation in 2005. Funding opportunities exist for the Byway on both the state and federal levels. Phase I of the Scenic Byway Master Plan is included in the Whitman County Capital Improvement Plan.

During the Lewis and Clark Corps of Discovery bicentennial in 2003-2006, regional tourism is anticipated to reach an extreme high. It has been estimated that as many as over a million tourists will seek the Lewis and Clark Expeditions experience retracing the Corps of Discovery's route west and their journey

home. Tourism is anticipated to increase as the bicentennial of the 1803-1806 exploration approaches and peak during the bicentennial years followed by continued interest in the years following the commemoration.

Continued maintenance of existing and expansion of visitor accommodations is critical to the role of the county in economic development. Projects such as county-wide bicycle trails, the Museum of the Palouse at the Palouse Empire Fairgrounds, and emphasis on year-round utilization at the Fairgrounds should be continued and supported. Coordination with the Chambers of Commerce, the two universities, the Port of Whitman County and special interest groups needs to be encouraged and expanded.



Palouse Empire Fairground's Display Buildings

CHAPTER III DESCRIPTION OF PLANNING AREA



CHAPTER III

DESCRIPTION OF PLANNING AREA

HISTORY AND DESCRIPTION OF THE PLANNING AREA

To see Whitman County for the first time is to marvel at its vast expanses. However, in order to truly understand the county, one must immerse themselves in the natural and human history of the region; for in the forces of nature and the values and efforts of its inhabitants, both past and present, lies the key to Whitman County and its future.

FIRE AND ICE: THE COUNTY'S GEOLOGIC PAST

Located on the great Columbia Plateau, the land area within Whitman County has existed in its present geologic form for only a short period of time. Yet, by human standards, that segment of time is difficult to fully comprehend. Approximately 130 million years ago, during the age of the reptiles, the mild and moist climate of this area encouraged leafy, deciduous trees to cover the landscape. The area experienced a change to an arid climate about 30 million years ago as a result of the emergence of the Cascade Mountains, which trapped heavy rain clouds coming in from the ocean and prevented their drifting past the western half of the mountains. A series of enormous lava flows occurred intermittently between 30 million years and 10 million years ago, covering the land with an estimated 100 distinct flows. The valleys filled with up to 5,000 feet of molten lava until only the tallest of ancient hills remained. They are still visible today and are known as Kamiak, Steptoe, Ladow, and Bald Buttes. Kamiak Butte County Park is located on one of these ancient mountains, rising about 1,000 feet above the surrounding hills. It supports an abundance of plant and animal life in its nearly 300 acres of forested habitat.

As the climate cooled, a gigantic glacier known as the Cordilleran Ice Sheet pushed slowly down from Canada into Idaho, damming up the Clark Fork River to form Glacial Lake Missoula and setting the stage for a series of devastating floods. At each of the several retreats by the glacier, the stored up water in Lake Missoula burst across the land with tremendous force, carrying with it millions of tons of gravel and silt to scour out the channeled "Scablands" in the western part of Whitman County. Between these dry "Scablands" and the moist, green forests of the northern Rockies lies the Palouse area; its irregularly shaped rolling hills were formed by water erosion. The wind deposited yellowish-brown loam called loess which covered the deserted lava plains. The plateau grew into a natural grassland that, prior to cultivation, was chiefly composed of bunch grass that grew throughout the year.



View from summit of Kamiak Butte

Whitman County is a land composed of rolling hills, together with rugged canyons and scablands constituted of endless layers of basalt along the northwestern and southwestern boundaries. These areas were home to the Indians. At least eight tribes of semi-nomadic Plateau Indians inhabited the Palouse and lived off the bountiful resources of the land. The Cayuse, Nez Perce, Coeur d'Alene, Palouse, Umatilla, Walla Walla, Yakama, and Spokane lived in ancient harmony with the land long before any explorers could penetrate the expansive wilderness of the northwest. The name "Palouse" was once thought to have originated from the French-Canadian term "pelouse" meaning a grassy expanse or ground covered with short, thick grass. However, the commonly accepted origin of the word "Palouse" comes from the historic name of the major village of the Palouse Indians, Palus. This village was located at the confluence of the Snake and Palouse Rivers.

THE PRESENT: MAN'S INFLUENCE IS FELT

When the pioneers did come to the Palouse, they changed the pattern of the Indian's lives, as well as the land, forever. The early settlers were staggered by the richness of the Palouse hills. Throughout the 1800's, the area witnessed fur trappers, trading companies, missionaries, the railroad, and what would later most change the countryside, agriculture.

On November 29, 1871, Whitman County (named after Dr. Marcus Whitman, an early missionary) was established by the efforts of Anderson Cox, a pioneer who was able to picture the importance of the Palouse area in future years. However, Cox did not realize how soon the area was to be settled. In 1871 two hundred men,

women, and children traveled across the country to make their homes and futures in Whitman County. Originally it included that area known today as Adams and Franklin Counties, but in 1883, the present boundaries were established. In addition to the change in the geographical limits, Whitman County has seen its population grow from an initial 200 inhabitants to over 40,000 today.

Entwined and laced throughout the county are several major river and stream drainages, the Snake River on the southern boundary with Little Goose and Lower Granite Dams located within the county, as well as both forks of the Palouse River which seek their confluence within the town of Colfax, the county seat. Other major tributaries include Rock Creek in the northwestern sector and Hangman Creek in the northeastern part of Whitman County. Union Flat Creek is located in southern Whitman County, carving its way through meadows and forests. The creek flows through Klemgard County Park, a day-use facility offering space for picnicking and other recreational activities.

The grassy slopes of the Palouse were first used to graze herds of cattle and sheep until it was found that wheat and other grain crops would grow with rich, thick heads nourished by the dark, fertile soil. Then the Palouse region's potential for growing delicious fruits was discovered; soon large orchards were prospering. Penawawa, located on the Snake River, had 200 acres of fruit land producing peaches so large they had to be cut in order to fit into jars. Wawawai, also on the Snake River, was at one time the largest fruit shipping point along the river. Today, Wawawai County Park enables visitors to view the ever-changing beauty of the Snake River Canyon and to learn about its rich history. Eventually, the town of Elberton was crowned "Prune Capital of the World;" its 25,000 trees bore enough fruit to ship out more than a million pounds of dried fruit each year. Though a quiet ghost town now, Elberton County Park is the site of the county's Ropes Challenge Course, providing opportunities for building self-esteem and teamwork to students and at risk youth. Elberton County Park's future will include interpretive signing to describe the area's history. The railroad forged through Whitman County about 1880 and began to provide settlers access to the newer, larger markets for their crops and livestock as well as bringing in needed supplies to isolated families and farms. River transportation was also a key link in the transportation of crops to Portland for sale on the world markets.

The great days of the railroad are gone and so are the days of the trappers, missionaries, and trading companies. Frost, blights, and hydro-electric navigation projects on the Snake River have eliminated most of the orchards and farming has taken

over most of the native grassland. Whitman County has changed with its age. Many early settlements have disappeared or decreased in size. Miles upon miles of highway have replaced the slow, rutted dirt roads. Horse and mule teams that pulled the harvesters have been replaced by modern equipment that works the fields in a fraction of the time. Slack water navigation on the Snake River provides efficient transportation for both products and materials.

Pullman is the largest city in the county with a population of nearly 25,000. Originally called "Three Forks," Pullman was renamed after the designer of the Pullman car, in hopes of attracting railroads and promoting business.

Washington Agricultural College, founded in Pullman as a land grant institution in 1890, first opened its doors on January 13, 1892. It was then a one story brick building with twenty-nine students and five faculty. In 1905, it became the State College of Washington, and in 1959, received university status. Today, Washington State University has more than 17,000 students and over 6,248 faculty and staff members. The research conducted there, together with education and training have and will continue to aid and benefit people all over the world.

The rich grasslands have given way to field crops, making Whitman County the nation's leading producer of soft wheat, dry peas, and lentils. In Washington State, the county also leads in the production of barley and swine; hay, oats, and livestock also contribute to the economic base of the county.

Thus, the economic backbone of the county a strong, healthy agricultural orientation. The attractive and well-kept farms and ranches scattered throughout the county are operated mostly by individual owners and family corporations. Located throughout Whitman County are fifteen small, rural communities. These towns provide pleasant rural residential areas. Each town offers opportunities for local business as well as some recreational opportunities at their parks and school facilities.

WHAT LIES AHEAD: THE FUTURE OF WHITMAN COUNTY AND ITS RECREATION RESOURCES

The agricultural advances made by county farmers, along with Washington State University's agricultural research and experimentation with soils, crops and farm equipment, have greatly increased the productivity of Whitman County and enhanced its economic future. Conservation remains a concern for the Palouse area farmer. Cultivation, together with precipitation increase soil erosion to an alarming rate. Understanding protection and conservation of the area's land and resources is

reflected in the philosophy and actions of the Whitman County Parks and Recreation Board and the Whitman County Parks, Fair and Facilities Management Department.

Roughly 95 percent of Whitman County's 1.4 million acres is devoted to agricultural purposes. Of the remaining 5 percent (70,000 acres), park and recreation lands account for about 1,380 acres. The county ownership totals approximately 770 acres within the county park system. The county-owned land available for public recreation purposes represents approximately .05 percent of one percent of Whitman County's total land area. Whitman County, through the Whitman County Parks, Fair and Facilities Management Department, manages over 50 percent of the 1,380 acres set aside for recreational purposes within the county.

In addition to the developed recreation areas within Whitman County there are many open space areas which are managed by the Washington State Department of Natural Resources, US Army Corps of Engineers and Bureau of Land Management. Washington State Department of Natural Resources manages state school lands and other property within Whitman County that are open to dispersed recreation, fishing and hunting (some restrictions may apply to certain areas). The Corps of Engineers manages its Lower Snake River Fish and Wildlife Compensation Plan that encompasses many Habitat Management Units (HMUs) and mitigation sites in Whitman County. These sites include 3,078 acres at Nisqually John HMU, 344 acres at Swift Bar HMU, 288 acres at Central Ferry HMU, 64 acres at Ridpath HMU, 718 acres at John Henley HMU, 2,291 acres at the Revere Ranch Unit, * acres at Alkali Flat Creek HMU, * acres at Browns Gulch HMU, and * acres at Purrington HMU. Currently these sites are undeveloped areas and are open to dispersed recreation, fishing and hunting (some restrictions may apply to certain areas). The Bureau of Land Management owns two land parcels in the northwest portion of the county. The Escure Ranch Rock Creek Unit is 4,497 acres and is currently undeveloped other than restroom facilities and a parking area. Current use includes dispersed recreation, hunting, fishing and events governed by special use permits (i.e. dog field trials and horseback programs). Use is restricted to day-use only. Future development includes primitive camping facilities, trails, and interpretive signage. The 1,593 acre Packer Creek Unit is also undeveloped. Current uses include dispersed recreation, fishing and hunting.

Based upon the 2000 U.S. Bureau of Census figures, the population of Whitman County was estimated at (2000) 40,740. Overall population growth in the county has a direct relationship to the

(*Acreage unavailable at printing time.)

growth of Washington State University and the City of Pullman and should continue to do so. With the projected increases of Washington State University's growth, it is expected that the overall county population may increase slightly during this five year planning period (2004-2009). Visitorship data for the Bill Chipman Palouse Trail, Kamiak Butte, Wawawai, and Klemgard County Parks indicate growth. Wawawai County Park was completed and open for public use in the spring of 1980. It has shown good attendance rates and has aided in reducing the heavy use periods at other park sites. Klemgard County Park, since its renovation in 1987, has experienced increased use. Kamiak Butte is showing increasing year-round use. The Bill Chipman Palouse Trail has proven to be the most popular park in the county since completion and opening in early 1998.

The growth of Washington State University peaked in the 1990's at about 17,000 students. The overall growth of W.S.U. and Pullman in the last two decades has resulted in a change in the concentration of people in rural and urban areas of Whitman County. The town of Pullman, and its nearby neighbors of Albion, Palouse, Colton, and Uniontown, have seen population increases, while the more rural towns, away from the Pullman area have experienced slight declines in population. In addition, the passing of the baby boom, declining birth rates, and the ever increasing migration of young people from the rural communities seeking employment in more urbanized areas (classified as places of 2,500 inhabitants or more) has led to a 2003 population of approximately 34,680 people living in incorporated and 6,320 distributed throughout unincorporated areas of the county. The southeastern portion of the county, including Pullman, is the most heavily populated area of Whitman County.

Due to the population distribution throughout the county, most of the recreation areas are located within acceptable driving distances of the "population triangle" (the area contained within and adjacent to the towns of Pullman, Colfax, and Palouse). It is the intent of the County Parks, Fair and Facilities Management Department to offer all segments of the county, park opportunities and recreation programs. However, in order to offer the majority of county residents recreational services, the county park areas are for the most part located in the eastern and central parts of Whitman County. The department's programs, park areas and services are extended to all county residents. In addition, with the merger of the Parks Department and the Palouse Empire Fair and Fairgrounds in 1989, the department manages a more centrally located facility and event which attracts people from throughout Whitman County. There are several other parks in outlying sectors of the county providing a distribution of recreation facilities. In addition, local community parks and the Port of Whitman County provide important recreational

facilities. School facilities are equally important in providing recreational opportunities.

It is fortunate that in an agricultural county, several areas not suited for farming are ideally suited for recreational purposes. Forested areas are present in three of the county parks, Kamiak Butte County Park, Klemgard County Park and Elberton County Park, providing an aesthetic change and diversity from the openness of the county's farm land. At the same time, they allow for beautiful, expansive views of the rolling hills known as the Palouse. The damming of the Snake River has created an array of recreational sites and opportunities on the county's southern border. This provided the impetus for the county parks to operate and to maintain the park at Wawawai. However, due to the September 11th 2001 terrorist attacks, the Lower Granite Dam has been closed to traffic indefinitely, increasing the amount of use in the parks located in Whitman County along the Snake River. Along with the above mentioned areas, the Bill Chipman Palouse Trail and the Colfax Trail the department hopes to expand its range of recreational opportunities for the residents of Whitman County primarily at existing park sites.

All of these resources: people, agriculture, education, and parks/recreation have helped provide a healthy, comfortable quality of life for the people who live in Whitman County. Whitman County offers a peaceful, beautiful setting for residents of and visitors to the Palouse, reinforcing the ideas that early pioneers had envisioned for this fertile region.



Overview of Wawawai County Park
and the Snake River

CHAPTER IV PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT



Chapter IV

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Public involvement is recognized as a critical and essential aspect in the development of the Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Plan. During the planning process, the Whitman County Parks and Recreation Board and Department emphasized public involvement realizing that plans and policies are only as strong as the public input upon which they are based and the public support they receive.

Throughout the development of this plan, the Parks, Fair and Facilities Management Department has made presentations to interested citizen groups, individuals, the Whitman County Commissioners and the Whitman County Planning Commission. Local newspaper articles and radio announcements were utilized to inform county residents on the plans progress and meeting dates. These meetings were held to discuss the Comprehensive Plan and gain input for it.

Advertisements for receiving public comments on the Park and Recreation Comprehensive Plan was accomplished through local newspapers, radio stations and letters to interested individuals.

The 2000 Palouse Empire Fair was also used to gather information through a staff conducted survey (see Appendix I)

Survey information was collected, evaluated, and/or extracted from the following sources:

1. Parks and Recreation 2000 County Survey: This county-wide survey involved the random distribution of 985 questionnaires to county residents (see attached questionnaire in Appendix II). The survey was conducted by the University of Idaho and had a 62% response rate. In addition, 140 phone surveys of Washington State University students were conducted.
2. letters were sent to special interest groups, W.S.U., businesses, public agencies, and individuals to advertise the public forum and seek their involvement and input. Public Comments at the March 25th meeting supported continued Parks and Recreation opportunities and developments listed in the Capital Improvements Program. There were no public comments opposed to the Comprehensive Plan or Capital Improvement Plan.
3. Parks and Recreation Survey done by Washington State University for comparative purposes. For details concerning these surveys, refer to the Demand and Need section of this

plan. The review and adoption process for this Plan allows for additional public input and public meetings for review and critique of the Plan.

4. March 25th, 2004 Meeting for Public Comment on Parks and Recreation Comprehensive Plan Summary.



Kid's Fishing Program

CHAPTER V DEMAND AND NEED



CHAPTER V

DEMAND AND NEED

The purpose of this section is to provide an understanding of the procedures used to interpret and analyze the data and the background information of this plan. This data and information forms the basis for the formulation of the Goals and Objectives in Chapter Seven.

RECREATION DEMAND

Demand is defined, for this plan, as the total participation in outdoor recreation activities in all areas (recreation areas to include dispersed areas and high density use areas) by county residents and out-of-county visitors. Stated in another way, demand is what recreationists do and in what setting this occurs. Area type is described as an environment suitable and desirable for certain varied and related outdoor recreation purposes. Recreation demand can be considered to be the amount and kinds of recreation opportunities an individual or population subgroup desires (latent demand) or uses (expressed demand) in a given time period, place, or planning unit. (Gold: Recreation Planning and Design).

RECREATION NEED

Need is defined, for this plan, as the space, facility, and program requirements necessary to meet the projected open space and recreational demands of recreationists--both residents and visitors. Stated another way, recreation need represents the difference between current recreation demand and the existing supply of opportunities expressed in terms of land, facilities, or programs. (Gold: Recreation Planning and Design).

The determination of the demand for outdoor recreation and the need for recreation areas, facilities and programs for the purposes of this plan involved several methods: (1) a continuing series of public meetings to gain input and sensitivity from the county residents; (2) an evaluation of inventory data of existing facilities, areas, and programs; (3) recreation surveys involving questionnaires seeking input on demand and need from county residents; (4) observations of the Whitman County Parks and Recreation Board and Whitman County Parks, Fair and Facilities Management Department in consultation with the Whitman County Planning Department and state and local park-related agencies; and (5) presentation of the information, data, and survey results as applicable to Whitman County. These methods and results are discussed in order as presented above.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

A series of public meetings have been conducted throughout the county to gain public input for the revision of this element of the Comprehensive Plan for Whitman County. These meetings are widely advertised as regional public forums and meetings seeking citizen input into the planning process. Public meetings are held to seek comments and input on proposed park and recreation goals and objectives. The following represents a general summary of the preliminary comments and concerns regarding park sites and facilities, recreation programs, and open space in the county:

- A. Development of Klemgard Park and the playground should be a priority. This project should be well researched and built for age and developmental appropriateness.
- B. The construction of a Youth Agricultural Pavilion project will be a great asset to the County.
- C. The development of horse trails in Whitman County is of interest and supported by the 4H horse leaders, members and parents. Trails would be utilized if available.
- D. Fire Plan at Kamiak Butte needs to be completed for safety reasons.
- E. The top five items listed in the 2004-2009 Capital Improvement Program are important projects to be completed for the public good.
- F. Development of a safe path from the City of Colfax to the Colfax Trail.
- G. Continued support for recreation opportunities for special populations. Keeping the parks, programs and resources at a level where they are accessible to all ages and abilities.
- H. Environmental programs develop great appreciation and sensitivity for our area resources and parks. Both children and families benefit from the addition of these programs.
- I. Collaboration with community partners needs to continue and expand, especially with the smaller rural towns.

As another integral part of gaining insight into and sensitivity towards the recreational demand and need within Whitman County, audio-visual programs have been developed by the Whitman County Parks, Fair and Facilities Management Department. These programs highlight the human and natural history as well as the recreation areas and opportunities available within Whitman County. These

programs are shown to different civic and community groups throughout Whitman County and are followed by discussions of the future of recreation in the county.

EVALUATION OF INVENTORY DATA*

An evaluation of the inventory data indicates that there is a lack of regional recreation areas and facilities in the western, northwestern and northeastern sectors of the county. Recreation areas being available in adjacent counties or the State of Idaho make some compensation for this. Palouse Falls State Park is located on the western perimeter of the county and several U.S. Army Corps of Engineer recreation areas occur along the Snake River. To date, public access to Rock Lake and Bonnie Lake is limited, but available due to willingness of land owners to allow use of their lands by permission and, previously, by lease agreement at the southern end. The northern and northeastern sector is complemented by the availability of nearby lake areas in Spokane County and public lands in the adjacent state of Idaho.

Public school facilities in Whitman County represent a key element of community recreation, especially in smaller towns throughout the county. Playgrounds and athletic fields, as well as indoor facilities including gyms, are central to the communities' leisure time pursuits. When available to residents, these facilities can satisfy many demands and needs. It is important to plan with these facilities as a part of the recreation system when designing park improvements, renovations, and new parks within or adjacent to any town. Coordination and cooperation between school districts, communities and recreation agencies is also paramount to assure availability and proper utilization of these facilities. School facilities mentioned above comprise 88 acres and seven percent of the land area available for recreation in the county.

Inventory data also point to a lack of public land for dispersed recreation. Opportunities are available for dispersed recreation on several sites owned by the US Army Corps of Engineers, The Bureau of Land Management, and Washington State Department of Natural Resources. With over 95 percent of the land area of the county in private ownership, use of these private lands is a privilege and not a right. This percentage of private ownership is the highest of any county in the State of Washington. With recreation activities requiring dispersed areas for fulfillment, such as hunting, snowmobiling and hiking, equestrian activities and mountain biking, it is important that land owners be coordinated with to insure their continued involvement and to minimize conflicts. Programs should be implemented to maintain positive land owner relationships.

Review of the inventory data also points out that Whitman County is restricted in the amount of available water areas. There are three major bodies, the Snake River and Rock Lake and Bonnie Lake which offer potential opportunities for water-oriented recreation. The Snake River delineates the southern boundary of the county and Rock Lake is located in the northwestern sector. Both areas are frequently utilized for water-related recreation activities.

There are three other main drainages or tributaries to the Snake River, Union Flat Creek and the Palouse River, to include the North and South Forks. While these corridors are aesthetically very pleasing and enjoyable, they have limited capability to afford water-oriented recreational opportunities due to low flows and varied water quality. As a result, there is a lack of opportunities for swimming in these natural bodies of water. These areas have supported substantial fish populations and adequate water levels. Depending on precipitation and runoff some canoeing does take place on the Palouse River.

Boating, to include canoeing, sailing, and water skiing has increased primarily due to the slack water impoundments on the Snake River behind Lower Monumental, Little Goose and Lower Granite Dams. These dams have affected fishing on the Snake River. Recently large populations of salmon and steelhead have returned to the Snake River. Bass, catfish, and crappie fishing is still popular on the Snake in the spring, summer and early fall. Trout and spiny ray fishing also occurs at Rock Lake and Bonnie Lake and is a popular shore activity at the access area on the south end.



Kamiak Butte Pine Ridge Trail



A visiting moose!

RECREATION SURVEYS - RESULTS AND ANALYSIS

Introduction

The Whitman County Parks, Fair, and Facilities Management Department contracted with the University of Idaho Department of Resource Recreation and Tourism, in the Spring of 2000, to conduct a recreation survey of Whitman County residents. The University was to design the survey instrument, create a sampling plan, administer the survey instrument, manage and analyze the data, and report the statistical findings to the County. The County was responsible for interpreting the results and making policy and developmental decisions.

This study repeated and/or modified several questions from earlier studies (Scott and Shew, 1976; Udd, 1991). Methodology was also essentially consistent with the past studies. Thus, while several direct comparisons can be made between this effort and earlier research, caution needs to be exercised due to alterations in working, modification of response formats, and changes to lists of activities and facilities. Where minor differences in response are observed, care should be taken to not generalize too broadly.

Methods

As in past efforts, the population of interest was residents of Whitman County. A sample frame (December 2000 GTE Phone Book for Palouse Region) was used to generate a list of 985 randomly selected names stratified by town. The sample was selected proportional to the town's contributions to the county 1990 population. Because phonebooks were used to generate the sample, a slight under representation of people living in unincorporated areas may have occurred in the sample frame.

We also anticipated that Washington State University Students, particularly those living on campus, would be under represented in the sample frame. To correct for this we conducted a phone interview of 140 WSU students using an instrument that replicated some, but not all of the mail survey instrument questions. Names and phone numbers were randomly selected (with replacement) from the WSU Fall 2000 Student directory. Because of differences in working and administration, these results are reported.

Survey design and administration followed that of Dillman (1978) and Salant and Dillman (1984). Mailings were made in March 2000, and included a printed instrument (Appendix A), two cover letters - one from the principal investigator for the University of Idaho, on UI letterhead (Appendix B), and the other from the Whitman County Commissioners, on their letterhead. A reminder postcard (appendix C) was sent out 10 days after the initial

mailing, and replacement surveys were mailed out three weeks later. Response formats for all interval scales were constructed using magnitude estimators developed by Bass et al. (1974). This ensured that all interval measures were true equal interval scales and that the results could be compared across sub-populations and with the findings of other studies using similar scale development procedures.

Results

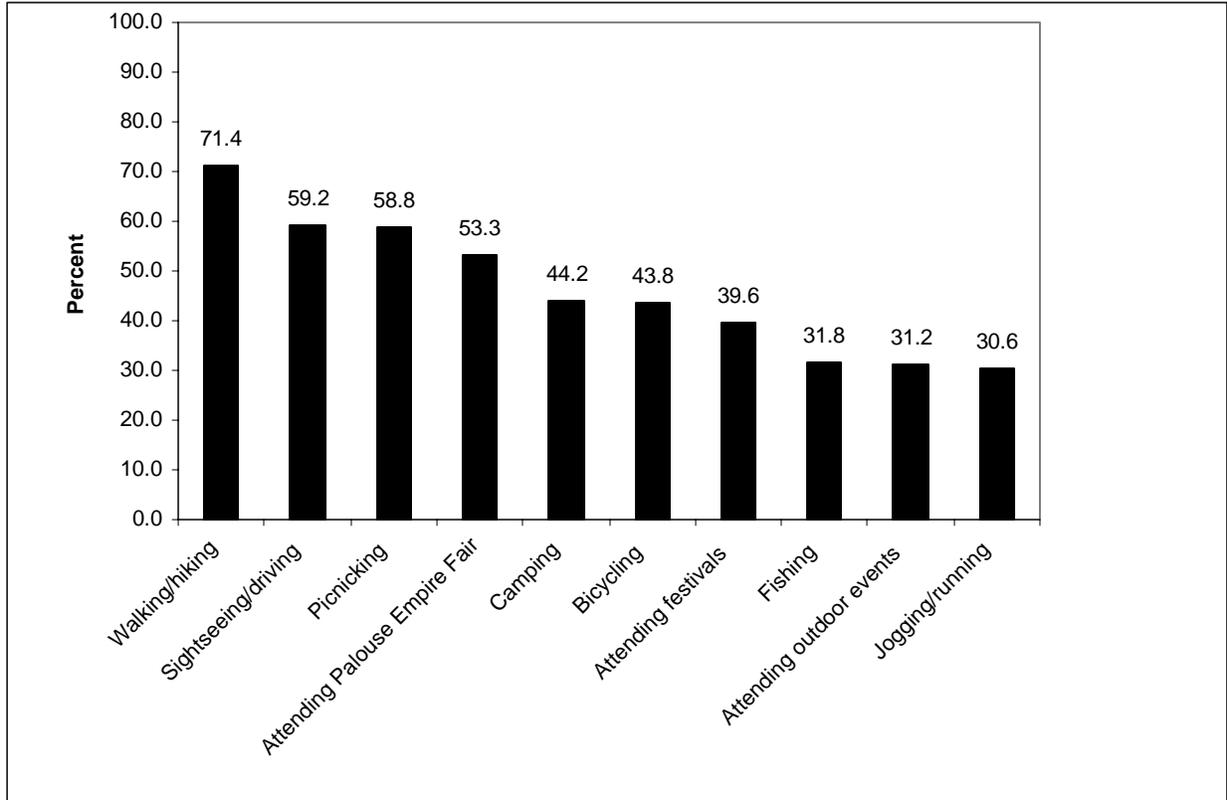
Of the 985 surveys mailed out, the US Post Office returned 303 as undeliverable. Fifty-five were eventually successfully re-mailed to active addresses, giving us a useable database of 737 mail instruments. 457 were completed and returned, for a 62% response rate. Table 1 summarizes the intended and achieved sample rates. The major discrepancy is the under sampling of Pullman residents, which was corrected for by the telephone survey of WSU students.

	Percent of county population (1990)	Percent of sample	Percent of returned questionnaires ¹
None Given	---	---	6.6
Albion	2.0	2.0	2.0
Colfax	8.5	8.5	15.6
Colton	1.0	1.0	1.2
Dusty	N/A	0.0	0.5
Endicott	1.0	1.0	0
Farmington	0.4	0.4	0.5
Garfield	1.7	1.7	3.7
Lacrosse	1.1	1.0	0
Oakesdale	1.1	1.0	0.5
Palouse	2.9	2.9	4.5
Pullman	73.8	73.7	58.6
Rosalia	1.7	1.7	1.2
Seltice	N/A	0.0	0.5
St. John	1.6	1.6	2.5
Tekoa	2.4	2.4	1.2
Uniontown	0.9	0.9	1.2

¹ these data were collected from the following questionnaire in the mail back survey

Popular county-wide outdoor recreation activities as noted in Graph I include (in order of preference) walking/hiking, sightseeing/driving, picnicking, attending the Palouse Empire Fair, camping, bicycling for pleasure, attending festivals, fishing, attending outdoor events, and jogging/running.

GRAPH I
Top 10 Outdoor Activities



Of these ten preferred activities, the three most frequently participated in were:

- #1 Walking/Hiking 47.3%
- #2 Sightseeing/Driving 20.8%
- #3 Bicycling for Pleasure 20.4%

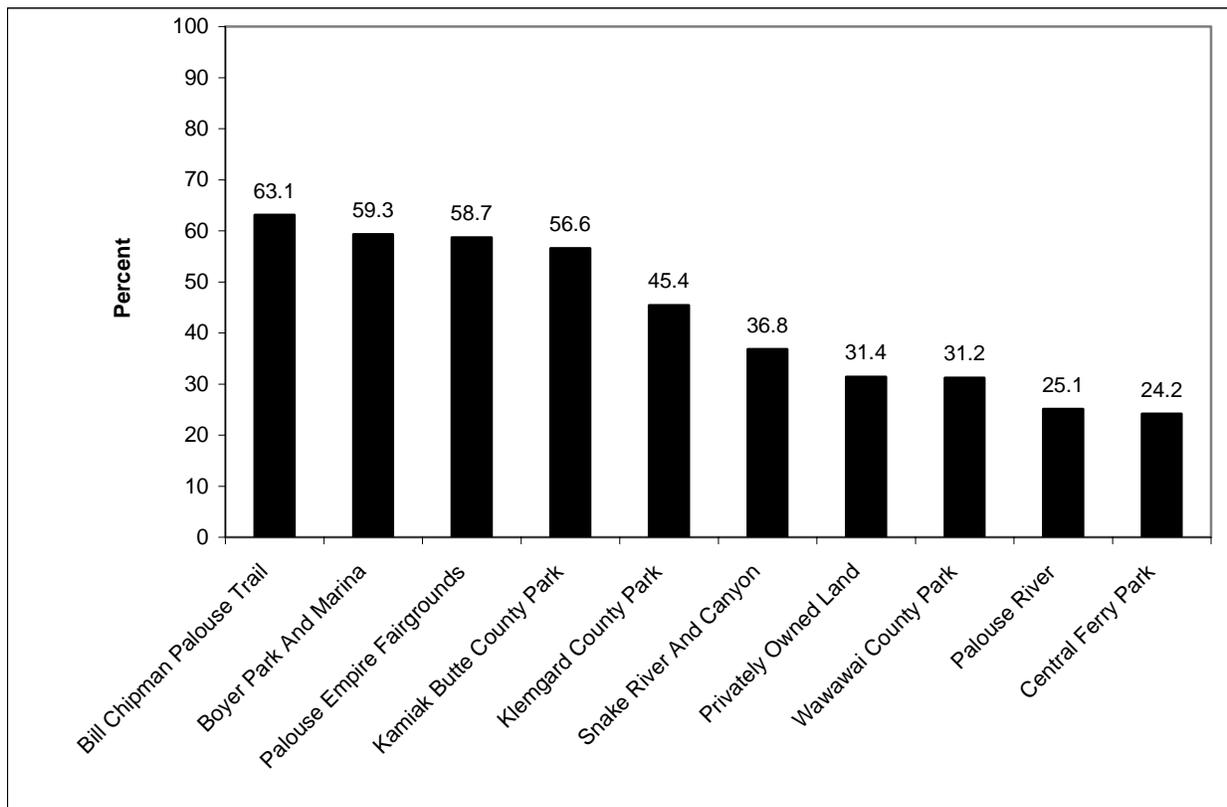
In the County Recreation Survey, five issues of future interest and concern were presented to the residents. The residents were asked to rank the following 5 areas, as to priority of county emphasis. The topics and results were:

- #1 Multi-Use **Unpaved** Trails (For Biking, Equestrian, Walking, Hiking, And Other Non-Motorized Sports)
- #2 Multi-Use **Paved** Trails (For Biking, In-Line Skating, Walking, Running, And Other Non-Motorized Sports)
- #3 An Environmental Education Curriculum In Conjunction With Local School Districts, To Be Developed For Elementary School-Aged Children And To Be Delivered At Local Parks
- #4 Renovation And Repair Of The Facilities At The Palouse Empire Fairgrounds
- #5 Outdoor Shooting Range-For Rifle, Pistol, Skeet, Trap, And Archery

A statistical test of these data (Friedman Test) show that the first three items--Environmental education curriculum, multi-use paved trails, and multi-use unpaved trails--are all ranked as significantly more important than the remaining two. Further, the first three items are essentially ranked at the same average level of importance.

The most popular recreation areas (represented in Graph II) were Bill Chipman Palouse Trail, Boyer Park and Marina, the Palouse Empire Fairgrounds and Kamiak Butte County Park.

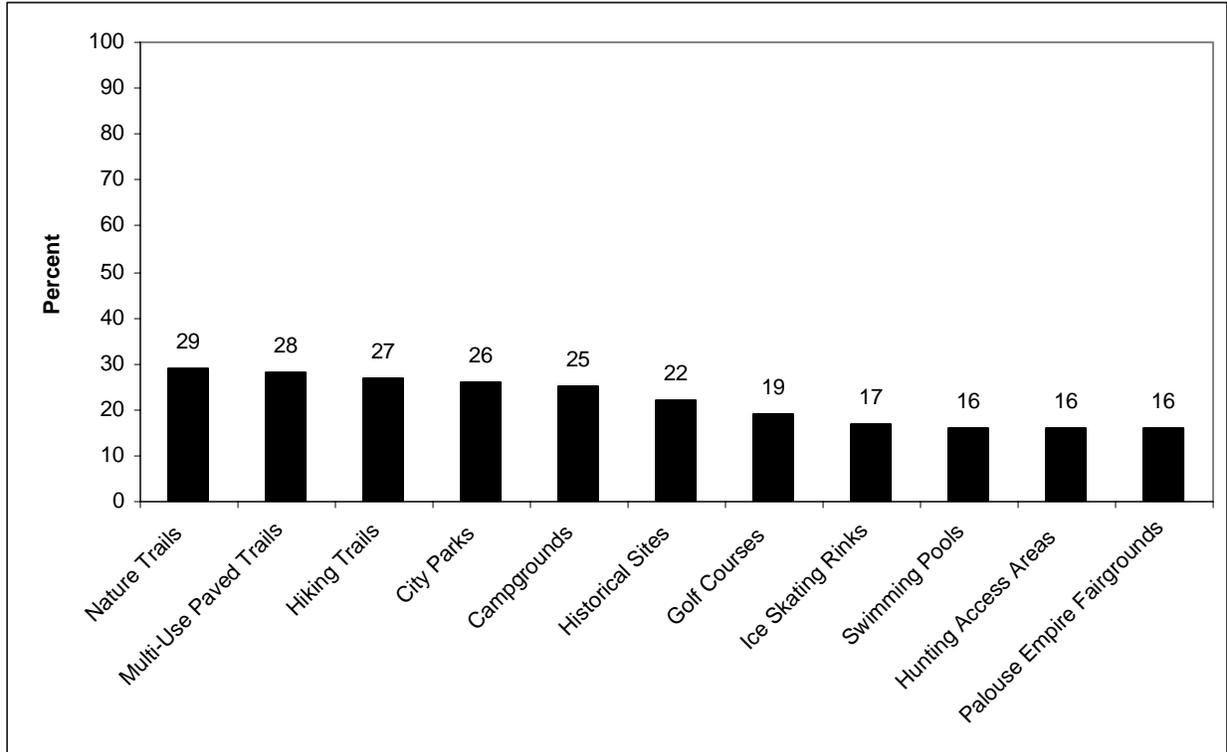
GRAPH II
Top 10 Outdoor Recreation Areas



The ten most desired outdoor recreation facilities preferred by residents for future acquisition, development or improvement are identified in Graph III.

GRAPH III

Top 11 Outdoor Recreation Areas Needing Improvement



*Swimming Pools, Hunting Access Areas and the Palouse Empire Fairgrounds are rated at the same level of demand creating the need for additional listing of items in this category.

What is most salient about this list is the presence of three trail-related facilities. Given the popularity of the Chipman Trail this suggests the demand for trail-based recreation on the Palouse is strong and is yet unmet. Add to this demand by residents, that from guests and visitors to the Palouse, and the need for more, better dispersed and more varied trails (as is suggested here) becomes even more apparent.

Therefore, it is very important that the county continue to evaluate and support any possible areas suitable for development as hiking/nature trails and multi-use trails (i.e. abandoned rail corridors and land easements/purchases).

Sightseeing and driving for pleasure rated second in participation and tenth in areas needing development. This is important to consider in terms of economic development and the aging of the general population. As the overall population ages, as well as interest develops on local human and natural history, it will be important to provide brochures and interpretive information on scenic drives in the county. By providing for

this need, the Parks Department can enhance the visitors' travel to parks as well as promote the history, culture and environment of the county and stimulate tourism in the area.

With the designation of "The Palouse Scenic Byway" 170 miles of state and local highway in Whitman County is now part of the State Scenic Byway System. Federal Designation is being sought for the Palouse Scenic Byway. In addition a grant has been applied for that would include gateway signs, trailblazer signs, crop signage, visitor center, site assessments, and interpretive plan and a marketing plan.



Klemgard County Park's Playground

AN ASSESSMENT OF OUTDOOR RECREATION IN WASHINGTON STATE 2002-2005

An Assessment of Outdoor Recreation in Washington State 2002-2005 is a state comprehensive outdoor recreation planning document (hereafter referred to as SCORP), which was updated in 2002. It is designed to show the relationship between physical resources and developed facilities and opportunities for participation now and in the future throughout the State of Washington. The data collected for review in this planning effort came in the form of a Demand Study conducted statewide; a public and private lands inventory; related studies; and public involvement and review process.

General information on activity/facility needs statewide have been accumulated in the SCORP element relating estimated activity participation to existing supply. The following conclusions were made as a result of input from public involvement and professional reviews:

"*There is high need to provide better managed land and facilities supporting virtually all outdoor recreation categories;

- Linear activities are the most popular activities. A significant portion of all linear activity, especially walking and bicycling, takes place close to home on sidewalks, streets, and roads. It is not well understood whether walkers and cyclists actually prefer the facilities and settings they use most frequently;
- Sports, individual and team types combined, is second in popularity, with many, sometimes incompatible, sports competing for use of available facilities;
- Nature and natural settings play an important role in many activities by category and type. There is high participation in observing and photographing the outdoors, especially wildlife, as well as continued participation in the established nature-dependent activities of hunting and fishing, all of which indicates the importance of preserving habitat for fish and wildlife;
- There is growing evidence of declining public health related to inactivity, and a need to address the role of outdoor recreation in helping to reverse this decline;
- There is a need to find acceptable means to pay for maintenance and operation, including improved on-the-ground management presence, of public lands and facilities; and
- There is a need for improved data on public recreation behavior and preferences, as well as the inventory of available facilities, in order to ensure that public resources are more effectively utilized in meeting public needs."

As indicated in Chapter 8 of the SCORP on Page 82, one of the most significant conclusions from the 2002-2005 document is also that of the IAC's 1995 Assessment and Policy Plan

"Washington's citizens do not regard outdoor recreation and nature as frills - they are essential elements of social and personal identity, health, and economic well being."

Washington State's residents continue to support increases in recreational opportunities and resources.

OBSERVATIONS OF THE WHITMAN COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD AND DEPARTMENT IN CONSULTATION WITH WHITMAN COUNTY PLANNING AND STATE AND LOCAL PARK-RELATED AGENCIES

The Whitman County Parks and Recreation Board is aware of the wide variety of recreational demands and needs which exist within the county. The Board, employing park and recreation

professionals as staff of the County Parks, Fair and Facilities Management Department, continually evaluates these demands and needs and makes recommendations accordingly. These recommendations are based on: (a) interpretation of recreation data and trends; (b) meetings and requests by individuals and groups within the county regarding parks, facilities, and recreation programs; (c) consultations with other professionals, i.e. Pullman Parks and Recreation Commission and Department, W.S.U. Campus Recreation, Staff of County Planning Department, Port of Whitman, Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission, local Park District Boards, Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Washington State Game Department, Chamber of Commerce, State Tourism Agency and local school districts; and (d) observations of park use, park and program attendance, and current trends.

For the purposes of this plan, the major values of this process include:

- A. Responsiveness to citizens and groups concerning parks and recreation matters;
- B. Implementation of recreation programs as needed and feasible;
- C. Evaluation of use at each county park site to determine impact on the resource, facility, and visitor experience;
- D. Ability to make recommendations to the Board of Whitman County Commissioners in response to demands and needs for recreation areas, facilities, and programs.

This system allows the Whitman County Parks and Recreation Board and Whitman County Parks, Fair and Facilities Management Department to be in a position to evaluate and respond to citizens on matters relating to parks and recreation. It also allows opportunities for evaluation and recommendations to be presented and reviewed at the local level by the Board of County Commissioners for Whitman County. The analysis and recommendations by staff is an important part of the process. These individuals are involved in the day-to-day administration, management, and maintenance activities at the park sites; the coordination and implementation of the county-wide recreation programs; and the planning and coordination related to each of these functions.

PRESENTATION OF INFORMATION, DATA, AND SURVEY RESULTS

Table I indicates what types of outdoor recreation activities the residents of Whitman County enjoy. The number of areas in which these activities may be enjoyed is also listed.

Table II represents the top ten facilities which residents would

like to see developed, and those types of similar facilities which currently exist.

This data is based on the 2000 survey conducted by The University of Idaho.

TABLE I

Listed below are the ten most preferred activities (2000 Survey) and the number of existing facilities within the county to accommodate these activities.

1. HIKING/WALKING FOR PLEASURE - 6 designated areas: Kamiak Butte, Klemgard, Bill Chipman Palouse Trail, Pullman Greenways, Snake River Trail at Boyer Park, Wawawai County Park, Colfax Trail and the Escure Ranch.
2. DRIVING FOR PLEASURE - roads within the county, including the Palouse Scenic Byway designated in 2003.
3. PICNICKING - 43 picnicking areas; 32 areas are in town and 11 are in regional parks.
4. ATTENDING THE PALOUSE EMPIRE FAIR
5. CAMPING - 9 camping areas: Boyer Park, Central Ferry, Kamiak Butte County Park, Horn School Rest Area, Palouse Lions Club Area, Palouse Empire Fairgrounds, City of Pullman Campground, Hartley's Campground (Steptoe), Kinsinger's Campground (Colfax), and Wawawai County Park.
6. BICYCLING - Snake River Trail at Boyer Park, Pullman Greenways, The Bill Chipman Palouse Trail and Colfax Trail.
7. ATTENDING FESTIVALS - Lentil Festival (Pullman), Local Town Summer/Fall Festivals.
8. FISHING - 10 designated (developed) areas: Boyer Park, Pampa Pond, Garfield Fish Pond (juvenile only), Wawawai County Park, Wawawai Landing, Blyton Landing, Nisqually John Landing, the Snake River, Rock Lake, Rock Creek, Palouse River, and Gilchrist Pond.
9. ATTENDING OUTDOOR EVENTS
10. JOGGING/RUNNING - The Bill Chipman Palouse Trail, Snake River Trail at Boyer Park, Colfax Trail and Pullman Greenways.

TABLE II

Listed below are the eleven types of recreation facilities which county residents would like to see developed (2000 Survey) and a description of existing facilities to meet those needs.

1. NATURE TRAILS - 5 areas designated: Kamiak Butte, Klemgard and Wawawai County Parks, Rose Creek Preserve, and Colfax Trail. (11 miles of trails).
2. MULTI-USE PAVED TRAILS (biking, in-line skating, walking, running, and other non-motorized sports) The Bill Chipman Palouse Trail, Snake River Trail at Boyer Park and Pullman Greenways.
3. HIKING TRAILS - 4 areas designated: Kamiak Butte, Klemgard and Wawawai County Parks, Rose Creek Preserve and Colfax Trail. (11 miles of trails).
4. CITY PARKS - Located in most incorporated areas in Whitman County.
5. CAMPGROUNDS - 7 designated areas: Boyer Park, Central Ferry, Kamiak Butte County Park, Horn School Rest Area, Palouse Lions Club area, Palouse Empire Fairgrounds, and Wawawai County Park.
6. HISTORICAL SITES - located throughout Whitman County (see Appendix III for details).
7. GOLF COURSES - 4 golf courses: St. John, Colfax, Tekoa, and W.S.U.
8. ICE SKATING RINK - No developed rinks exist in Whitman County. Depending upon winter conditions, areas are provided in Pullman, Garfield, Palouse, and at various locations in the county by private citizens.
- 9A. SWIMMING POOLS - 10 swimming pools: Pullman, Lacrosse, Endicott, Palouse, Colfax, Garfield, Rosalia, Tekoa, Oakesdale, and St. John.
- 9B. HUNTING ACCESS AREAS - Habitat Management Areas, State Land, and private property with open access (total acreage changes annually).
- 9C. PALOUSE EMPIRE FAIR - Palouse Empire Fairgrounds.

*Listed items 9A, 9B and 9C are rated at the same level of demand creation the need for an additional listing of items in this

category.

There are a number of general conclusions to note from these surveys:

- A. Convenient outdoor recreation opportunities are important to the lifestyle of Whitman County residents.
- B. In general, Whitman County residents are active, averaging just over 14 hours per week participating in some form of outdoor recreation.
- C. More than 60% of Whitman County residents visit Whitman County Parks.
- D. Of the outdoor recreation activities pursued by Whitman County residents nearly 50% most frequently participate in walking/hiking followed by sightseeing/driving and bicycling for pleasure.
- E. Whitman County residents are collectively drawn to recreational events more than any other type of recreation.
- F. General recreation, wildlife-based activities, and trail-based activities are viewed as popular in Whitman County.
- G. Group visits to recreation sites are pursued by almost half of county residents.
- H. Almost 9 in 10 residents in Whitman County pursue recreational activities outside of the county.
- I. Whitman County residents prefer to recreate within the county.
- J. In deciding where to recreate, and what improvements to support, Whitman County residents provide clear direction. Leading the list are opportunities in natural settings, low cost, and sites with things for children to do.



One of the Bridges on the Bill Chipman Palouse Trail
Seven paved miles of trail for non-motorized users.

EVALUATION AND OBSERVATIONS

It is important to recognize that there are several unique features which greatly affect and influence the demand and need of recreation in Whitman County. These include:

- A. The predominance of private land ownership (over 95% in the county);
- B. The existence of one major university, Washington State University, within the county and another university, the University of Idaho, immediately adjacent in Latah County, Idaho;
- C. The attraction of the Snake River significantly influences recreation and recreation use patterns in Whitman County, and planning/development needs to reflect this;
- D. A general lack of public land for outdoor recreation;
- E. The need for recreation program planning in the rural areas and small communities.

With a combined population of over 27,000 college students, 17,000 from Washington State University and 10,000 from the University of Idaho, and a general lack of public land in Whitman County, there are large demands placed on park facilities during certain periods of the year, namely the spring and fall seasons. At certain times--Mom's Weekend, Dad's Weekend, other special weekends, cultural programs, sporting events, seminars, professional meetings--all attract out-of-county visitors, some of whom seek overnight camping facilities. As a result, overnight camping on occasion is very much in demand. These two groups, the college students and out-of-county visitors,

represent two different user groups--day use and overnight use--each having their own set of facility needs. Both groups create certain periods of extremely heavy use to the point of exceeding design capacity of the parks within the county.

With a general lack of developed parks in Latah County, residents of that county, especially in the Moscow area to include the students as previously discussed, are utilizing the park facilities in Whitman County--namely Kamiak Butte, Boyer, Wawawai and Klemgard--on an increasing basis. This has been determined by increased scheduling by groups/individuals from that area and license plate surveys. While such surveys are not totally accurate, they do provide indicators of out-of-county use.

Whitman County residents definitely benefit from being able to utilize the St. Joe National Forest and the lakes of the northern Idaho and Spokane County regions. Winter recreation, such as snowmobiling and skiing, also occurs in these areas. This interchange is mutually beneficial and represents a balance of recreational opportunities for residents of Whitman and Latah Counties. Whitman County residents also enjoy several adjacent parks in Washington, namely Lyons Ferry and the Palouse Falls State Park in Franklin County.

At the present time and in the foreseeable future it does not appear that there will be any large scale private development of commercial recreation areas in Whitman County. The current status of the private sector in the county is that a concessionaire leases Boyer Park and Marina, including the restaurant from the Port of Whitman, and there are some leased hunting lands in the county. Some leasing of private land for hunting purposes occurs in the western and northern sectors of the county. The leased hunting situation is not dominant and fortunately most land owners are agreeable to allow permission when asked to authorize the use of their lands by recreationists. Potential areas for private development include a commercial campground in the Pullman-Moscow area, mountain biking, equestrian trails and a shooting range.

Over the past 10 years State Initiatives passed by the majority of Washington State citizen's have significantly reduced the operating budgets of county agencies statewide. These reductions have directly effected Whitman County Parks and Recreation budgets and have become more significant over the last few years.

It should be noted that the three major initiatives negatively effecting Whitman County's operating budget's failed to get a majority vote in Whitman County. Initiative 601 passed in Washington State in 1993, failed in Whitman County. Initiative 695 passed in Washington State in 1999, failed in Whitman County.

Initiative 747 passed in Washington State in 2001, also failed in Whitman County.

The result of these initiatives was to reduce revenue's which has continued to reduce with each initiative. In 2003 the Whitman County Parks and Recreation budget was reduced over 17% from the 2002 budget amount. In addition to the 17% reduction in dollars, scheduled staff salary increases, cost of maintenance and operation, supplies and materials, medical benefits, and Labor and Industry costs went up. These also eroded the parks and recreation budget, so that about a 20% cut was actually felt.

The parks staff and park's Board prioritized how to make these cuts but maintain a reasonable level of service. The following priorities were determined to be critical to providing basic service to the public, based on use patterns.

1. Keep all park facilities open to the public even if some services need to be reduced.
2. Maintain full-time employee staffing levels.
3. Continue mandated activities such as comprehensive planning, noxious weed control, risk management and safety programs.

The following general strategies were implemented to meet these goals:

1. Eliminate all recreation programs that did not break even or increase revenue.
2. Eliminate seasonal employees by 69%. This includes all recreation programming seasonal employees and the majority of park aide seasonal employees.
3. Cut back operation and maintenance expenditures in appropriate areas, while still providing acceptable levels of vehicle maintenance, facilities maintenance, risk management, mandated activities and protection of park resources.
4. Increase user fees for camping, reservations, and day camps as appropriate.
5. Utilize volunteer groups for programs, projects, and day to day maintenance as appropriate.
6. Utilize community service volunteers for projects, programs and day to day maintenance as appropriate.

7. Develop public/private partnerships when possible.
8. Utilize other county resources when available.

These strategies were implemented in fiscal year 2003 and continue into 2004 as budgets have remained flat for 2004.

On the horizon Initiative 864, if put on the ballot and approved by voters in Washington State in 2004, would reduce local taxing jurisdiction revenue by 25%. This would impact all county budgets out of current expense as well as Road Department funds. How these cuts would be distributed to departments would ultimately be a Board of County Commissioner's decision. The Commissioners have stated that non-mandated services are not as high of a priority as state mandated services. Local voters have strongly supported non-mandated services including parks and recreation. They have shown good support and satisfaction with the Whitman County Parks' and Recreation Department.

The residents of the county receive many benefits from the public school districts within Whitman County. Efforts should be made to encourage and continue community use of school facilities. Close coordination and cooperation with school districts should be a priority. Coordination and cooperation with the Park and Recreation Districts within Whitman County should also be conducted. The St. John, Garfield, LaCrosse, Rosalia, Tekoa, Endicott, Pullman and Oakesdale Districts have been formed to insure continued operation and financial support of recreation facilities within their districts, primarily swimming pools. The Park and Recreation Districts and local Park Boards allow the opportunity for evaluation of other recreational needs such as programs, park development, and rejuvenation of recreation areas which may have deteriorated over time.

It is very important to set guidelines whereby the maximum use of park areas and facilities can be monitored to insure that design capacity is not exceeded. Design capacity can include: (1) physical (size of site and facilities, types of facilities); (2) biological (compaction, erosion, trampling); (3) social (spatial arrangement, screening of sites) and managerial factors (controlling hours of use, size of groups, types of use and equipment). Stated in a collective sense, design capacity could refer to the amount of recreation use of a resource which is most appropriate for the protection of the resource and satisfaction of the participant. (Gold: Recreation Planning and Design--referred to as carrying capacity in the Glossary). Exceeding design capacity could result in conflicts between user groups, a loss or reduction of the level of the recreation experience, and a degradation of the park resource.

These findings, evaluations, and observations represent the current park and recreation situation in Whitman County. It should assist present and future planning efforts to develop and implement a system of parks, recreation facilities and programs.

These will fulfill the public needs and provide greater enjoyment during leisure time, develop a sense of appreciation and understanding of Whitman County as well as protect the resources. This information should also provide the Whitman County Parks, Fair and Facilities Management Department with the ability to keep pace with and expand recreation areas, facilities and program needs in the future. In addition, the information insures that public input and participation in local recreation planning is also a very real and tangible part of that process.



Large Group Shelters at Klemgard,
Kamiak Butte and Wawawai County Parks

CHAPTER VI GOALS AND OBJECTIVES



CHAPTER VI

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The Whitman County Parks and Recreation Board and Whitman County Parks, Fair and Facilities Management Department have been established through the county governing body's belief that recreation is an essential service. This service enriches and enhances the lives of county residents by means of a diversity of parks and recreation opportunities that provide for better physical and mental health, general well-being and citizenship. The basis of the Whitman County Parks and Recreation Board and Department's philosophy is its definition of recreation which is a leisure activity or occasion that brings personal enjoyment, a sense of being and pride, satisfaction and relaxation to an individual. It is voluntarily engaged in, and is motivated by anticipation of the satisfaction, refreshment of spirit and diversion which one hopes to gain from the activity or occasion.

Satisfaction may come in the form of adventure, fellowship, enjoyment of natural beauty, the joy of creating, a learning experience, relaxation, the unobligated sense of accomplishment and/or the opportunity to overcome frustrations that are inherent in day-to-day life. It is the responsibility of the Whitman County Parks, Fair and Facilities Management Department to provide a variety of parks, leisure activities, services and programs which either cannot be or are not provided for by other entities.

To guide the department towards the fulfillment of its philosophy, a set of goals and objectives has been developed which can be utilized for the implementation of this plan. The actions and implementations listed in this section must be viewed as more than short range planning tools that are of no further use once completed. They represent a step in a planning procedure that reflects an on-going process in order that the department's actions will continuously reflect the decisions and needs of the area and the people it serves. The goals and action-oriented objectives presented in this plan must be reviewed and revised to meet changing conditions and recreation needs in the county. The overall goal of this plan is:

TO PROVIDE THE RESIDENTS OF WHITMAN COUNTY AND VISITORS
THE GREATEST DIVERSITY OF QUALITY PARKS, RECREATION AND
OPEN-SPACE OPPORTUNITIES AND EXPERIENCES FROM WITHIN
THE AVAILABLE PHYSICAL, DEPARTMENTAL, AND FISCAL
RESOURCES OF WHITMAN COUNTY.

Section One of this chapter discusses the overall goals and objectives of the Whitman County Parks and Recreation Board and the Whitman County Parks, Fair and Facilities Management Department and addresses means for future implementation of

these. Section Two deals with activities and facilities which county residents have expressed interest in through a county-wide recreation survey. Goals and objectives have been established for the top activities and facilities identified during the study and planning process. To satisfy the Goals and Objectives, specific actions are proposed by the Whitman County Parks, Fair and Facilities Management Department.

SECTION ONE
AREAS AND PARK FACILITIES

Goal

To provide sufficient quality areas and facilities to meet the recreation needs of Whitman County.

Objectives

1. To coordinate the responsibilities and involvement of federal, state, county, city, town, school districts, park and recreation districts, and private interests in matters relating to the County Parks, Fair and Facilities Management Department.
2. To design, develop, renovate and maintain present and future recreation areas and facilities to encourage year-round use for county residents and visitors.
3. To design and develop current and future parks that will allow maximum use by all groups and individuals regardless of gender, age, race, ability, or income.
4. To cooperate closely with local school districts to allow for the maximum utilization of existing school areas and facilities by the general public.
5. To identify and secure funds from all possible realistic and legal funding sources to insure a stable and dependable budget for the maintenance and operation of all publicly owned recreation areas, facilities and for recreation programs.
6. To explore reasonable possibilities for the purchase and/or easement rights (on willing seller basis only) of lands adjacent to established recreation sites when necessary, to insure the preservation and maximum enjoyment of these areas, to reduce encroachment and to provide for future needs for parks and natural areas.
7. To assume responsibility for providing adequate access to water resources within the county which can provide water-

oriented recreation opportunities.

8. To work in cooperation with private land owners, local grange associations, Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife, Whitman County Sportsmen's Association, and citizens to allow lawful and respectful use of private land for recreation opportunities.
9. To work with the Palouse Empire Fair and Palouse Empire Fair Board utilizing buildings, pathways, and outdoor space.

Current Status

Refer to Inventory of Whitman County, Chapter VII.

Action/Implementation

1. Maintain current levels of maintenance in existing facilities to provide safe, high quality and diverse recreation opportunities in existing park sites.
2. Work towards the continuity of maintenance and future expansion of facilities of the landings on the Snake River currently operated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.
3. Strive to insure public access to Rock Lake and Bonnie Lake.
4. Develop under-utilized areas of Kamiak Butte County Park and continue efforts to acquire critical areas adjacent to Kamiak Butte Park.
5. Coordinate and cooperate with all agencies and entities involved in parks and recreation related planning, development and operation.
6. Refer to "Activities and Facilities," Section Two of Chapter 5 for further specific actions.
7. Plan, implement and evaluate recreational programs/activities with the Palouse Empire Fair Manager and Board utilizing fairground facilities.
8. Plan and prepare for changes and growth in tourism such as the 2003-2006 commemoration of the Lewis and Clark Corps of Discovery's bicentennial.
9. Continue to coordinate and assist in the development and continuity of intra/inter-city trail systems especially where related to existing county facilities such as the Bill Chipman Palouse Trail.

RECREATION TRAIL SYSTEM

Goal

To provide opportunities for year-round trail use including hiking, jogging, walking, bicycling, equestrian and mountain biking.

Objectives

1. To maintain and improve current walking/hiking, nature/interpretive trails at Kamiak Butte, Klemgard, Wawawai, Elberton and the Bill Chipman Palouse Trail.
2. To develop the current Colfax Trail for walking, biking, hiking, equestrian use, nature study, mountain biking, and photography.
3. To study railroad abandonments as they become available for appropriateness for railbanking.
4. To study areas as they become available on a willing seller/donation basis for appropriateness for equestrian and mountain biking uses.
5. To work with the Palouse Empire Fair and Palouse Empire Fair Board utilizing buildings, pathways, and outdoor space.

Need

Two areas of need have come to the attention of Park Staff and Board Members through public comments, i.e., Equestrian trails and mountain biking trails.

Current Status

Walking/Hiking, Nature/Interpretive trails are available at Kamiak Butte, Klemgard, Wawawai, Elberton, Palouse Empire Fairgrounds, The Bill Chipman Palouse Trail, Pullman Greenway and the Snake River Trail at Boyer Park. Three miles of trail along the Palouse River west of Colfax is undeveloped. This site has potential for a multi-use trail.

The opportunity for mountain biking and horseback riding in Whitman County is very limited. There exists no designated sites on public land. Potential sites should be studied as they become available.

Action/Implementation

1. Continue providing quality walking/hiking, nature interpretive trails at park sites.
2. As funds become available, develop the Colfax Trail as a multi-use recreation trail.
3. To study railroad abandonments as they become available for appropriateness for walking/hiking, biking/mountain biking, equestrian activities.
4. Work cooperatively with Senior Citizen groups to utilize pathway at fairgrounds for exercise purposes.
5. Work cooperatively with land management agencies in the potential development and development of multiuse trails.

MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION OF COUNTY PARKS

Goal

To operate and maintain all recreation areas and facilities to allow for maximum safety and enjoyment by recreationists and to protect the environmental qualities of these park areas.

Objectives

1. To place managers at county park sites who are qualified to handle maintenance and repair jobs as well as interact with the public while maintaining the integrity of the Department.
2. To provide a continuing training program for all parks personnel to include additional education, conferences and related workshops.
3. To strive to increase the efficiency of parks operations by:
 - a. regular evaluation of all aspects of park operations
 - b. providing in-service training programs to personnel
 - c. providing periodic maintenance on all equipment
 - d. replacing old and/or unreliable maintenance equipment
4. To seek out and to work in cooperation with community students and service groups to provide volunteer projects.
5. To provide operation and maintenance guidelines and policies.

Need

Park facilities, which are well maintained and safe, enhance visitors' park experiences as well as decrease problems associated with vandalism, insects and rodents. Continued high level maintenance is essential to user satisfaction and protection of park facilities, resources, and equipment at all county park sites.

Current Status

Maintenance of existing park areas is currently a high priority at all county park sites. Weed control is stressed and cooperation with the Whitman County Weed Department is encouraged to keep noxious weeds to a minimum at each site. The current management philosophy is that maintenance must be available in terms of labor and budget prior to further site development. If the areas cannot be maintained adequately, then additional areas should not be developed.

Action/Implementation

1. Update maintenance and operation plans for each park site within the Whitman County Parks and Recreation System.
2. Routinely inspect all park facilities and equipment to insure their safety and repair, and replace when needed.
3. Provide adequate introduction and training to all maintenance personnel in order to perform quality maintenance work.
4. Prioritize the Department budget to allow for adequate funds for park maintenance purposes.
5. Plan and prepare for changes and growth in tourism such as the 2003-2006 commemoration of the Lewis and Clark Corps of Discovery's bicentennial.

INTERPRETIVE PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

Goal

To develop and provide a variety of information and education programs at all the County parks on energy-related, environmental, cultural, and historical subjects.

Objectives

1. To provide an awareness, through interpretive programs,

which leads the participant to a greater appreciation and understanding of the subject.

2. To enhance the participants' experience at the County park sites.
3. To use interpretation as a management tool; i.e., appreciation leads to care of the resource and reduces vandalism.
4. To provide enjoyable activities for participants in their leisure time.

Need

In a parks system such as Whitman County's where local residents visit the parks on a continuing basis, activities and programs concerning the resource base stimulate and enhance the visitor's repeated use. Interpretive activities are becoming increasingly popular, demanding the continual development of new programs of this type. It is felt that, not only have such programs enhanced the visitor's recreational experience, but have led to a greater understanding and appreciation of the County's park system on the part of the local residents.

Current Status

In previous years, the interpretive programs and activities provided by the Whitman County Parks, Fair and Facilities Management Department include energy-related, environmental, cultural, recreational, and historical subjects. The following interpretive programs are offered/available: a series of audiovisual (slide-tape) programs on a variety of interesting subject areas, children's programs to include the Cooperative Kids Day Camp, Nature Walks, and tours of the Wawawai Earth-Sheltered House, as well as special presentations and hikes which are available upon request.

Budget restrictions implemented in January 2003, cut out all funding for the above listed programs as well as seasonal staff. Printed brochures are available from the office to still offer information to the public.

The Bill Chipman Palouse Trail is equipped with a series of interpretive sites. Fifteen signs are located within ten interpretive sites and will be accompanied by an instructional environmental education program for use in the classroom and in conjunction with the signage. Other interpretive opportunities include brochures for trails and sites including the self-guided trails and interpretive signage at Klemgard, Wawawai and Kamiak

Butte County Parks. The objectives of the interpretive signage and programs are to provide the participants a greater understanding, appreciation, sensitivity, and awareness of the subject areas and as a result, enhance the participants' level of recreation experience. Interpretive signage and programs are designed to provide enjoyment during leisure time and they should increase and enhance the visitor's view and relationship with the county parks and therefore the Parks and Recreation Department.

Action/Implementation

1. Continue existing interpretive programs currently offered by the County Parks Department once budget allows.
2. Review and revise all such programs and projects on an as needed basis.
3. Offer new interpretive programs and projects when requests indicate the need and budget resources are sufficient.
4. Hire qualified staff, both full-time and seasonal, to fill the staff positions requiring interpretive expertise.
5. Provide a continued diversity of interpretive programs and activities.
6. Cooperate with Washington State in the development of historical road-side pullouts recognizing landmarks of the historical significance including the Lewis and Clark expedition with the Corps of Discovery.

ENERGY/RECYCLING PROGRAMS

Goal

To provide, through interpretation and actual demonstration, examples of energy/recycling conservation in all aspects of the County Parks System.

Objectives

1. To instill and reinforce the concept, need and feasibility of energy/recycling conservation within the park system.
2. To provide positive, energy-conserving ideas and techniques to park visitors through interpretation and demonstration.
3. To stimulate county residents to become more involved in their energy future.

Need

Energy is a word evoking emotions, especially during times when the fact of finite resources is affecting Whitman County citizens more than ever. It is apparent that patterns of energy consumption must change; in addition, alternative energy sources must be explored and conservation become a daily occupation for everyone. The Whitman County Parks and Recreation Department is in a leadership position to demonstrate alternative energy sources and conservation practices to the public and to generate a positive attitude about changing energy patterns.

Current Status

The department is energy-conscious at the present time; however, further strides in this area can and should be made. Park maintenance includes a variety of conservation practices; i.e., equipment is regularly maintained, no equipment is left running when not in use, lights remain off when not in use, and watering is done in a scheduled and conserving manner and alternative energy sources (i.e. wood heat) are used where possible. Presently, the department staff is conscious of planning and scheduling in order to consolidate driving and gas consumption. The results have been highly successful. The department's demonstration earth-covered structure at Wawawai County Park is proving to be energy efficient. Public tours and exposure to the earth-covered structure illustrate one method of an available energy-conserving alternative for housing. Collaborative efforts with the Whitman County Public Works Recycling Department/Coordinator has further allowed the Department to educate area youth. The continuing interpretive programs offered by the department educate the public on energy conservation practices.

Action/Implementation

1. Continue energy-conserving maintenance, travel and office practices in all the county park areas and facilities.
2. Continue to train new and seasonal personnel in the conservation practices of the Parks and Recreation Department.
3. Expand recycling efforts in all the parks and fairground for glass and metals.
4. Continue the public education process through interpretive and demonstration programs for park visitors of all ages.
5. Encourage local use of parks through public relations campaigns.

6. Promote a "sense of conservation" in departmental projects.
7. Provide tours of the Earth House at Wawawai County Park.
8. Continue working with the Public Works Recycling Coordinator in creating and maintaining programs to utilize in the parks and during programs.
9. In the planning of recreation programs/activities, include curriculum focusing on energy conservation and recycling.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS

Goal

To provide areas, facilities, knowledgeable individuals and opportunities for individuals and groups to enjoy environmental experiences.

Objectives

1. To provide quality environmental experiences for all county residents.
2. To make recreationists aware of the availability and diversity of environmental experiences in Whitman County.
3. To protect designated park areas for wildlife habitat and natural integrity through interpretive activities and management techniques.
4. To encourage local landowners to protect the natural character of their properties.
5. To instill in children of Whitman County a sense of awareness and increased knowledge of the environment.

Need

Experiences with the natural environment provide a healthy contrast to every-day lifestyles. Knowledge of and concern for natural environments will help adults make wise decisions concerning natural resource issues. Providing environmental programs for young people will allow for the development of increased awareness and appreciation of natural environments.

Current Status

Prior to 2003, Nature Walks, a Fishing Program, Rock

Climbing/Rappelling Program, Environmental Education Program, and cooperative work with Colfax Grade School's 6th Grade Environmental Camp were offered environmental programs designed for youth (K-8th). The activities concerned the natural and human history of the area. Due to budget restrictions, the Department has suspended these programs until funding sources become available.

The Bill Chipman Palouse Trail is equipped with a series of interpretive sites. Fifteen signs are located within ten interpretive sites and will be accompanied by an instructional environmental education program for use in the classroom and in conjunction with the signage. Interpretive signage is also available at Wawawai and Kamiak Butte County Parks. An Interpretive brochure discusses the attributes of Kamiak Butte County Park. Interpretive signage at Wawawai and Kamiak Butte County Parks and the Bill Chipman Palouse Trail incorporate natural, historical, and cultural aspects of the area. An Evening Campfire Program series each summer offers information and awareness in natural and human history. The program utilizes a variety of means and techniques, ranging from slide show to stage productions, to educate attending adult and youth. Audiovisual interpretive presentations are shown throughout the county to local civic and school groups. Many field trips by classes from local school districts, Washington State University, the University of Idaho, the Audubon Society, 4-H, Extension Services and social and civic groups are conducted at the park sites.

Action/Implementation

1. Continue current management practices to maintain parks, at least in part, as natural areas and wildlife sanctuaries.
2. Continue to assist local school districts in the development of an environmental education curriculum.
3. Develop brochures, signs and other materials on natural features (flora and fauna).
4. Continue existing programs mentioned under "Current Status" above, and expand these programs.
5. Develop new programs as deemed feasible, necessary and desirable.
6. Continue to evaluate all current programs to insure quality and efficiency.

HISTORICAL PROGRAMS

Goal

To protect, collect, organize, and record information and artifacts which are related to Whitman County's history as well as preserve, restore, enhance and interpret historic sites and buildings.

Objectives

1. To cooperate and coordinate with the appropriate departments at Washington State University, namely History, Anthropology, Archeology and Architecture; the Whitman County Historical Society; and state and federal agencies to identify, protect and record the significant historical and cultural sites and landmarks in Whitman County.
2. To work with the above mentioned agencies and others in securing historical information through research, material loans, oral histories and donations.
3. To promote public awareness of historical significance through interpretive signage, audiovisual programs, brochures and tours of facilities.

Need

Historical/cultural information, together with artifacts and buildings, are often lost, discarded or removed without total awareness or concern for what they represent.

Current Status

A number of sites, properties, and structures have been nominated and placed on both the National as well as the State Register of Historical Places. The Whitman County Historical Society has been instrumental in the historic registration process, oral history, acquisition and restoration of the Perkins House, development of the Palouse Printing Museum and written historical accounts. The Whitman County Parks, Fair and Facilities Management Department has developed audiovisual programs for presentation.

Action/Implementation

1. Research and identify historic sites and, if significant, work toward their placement on State and National Registers.
2. Obtain funds from the Washington State Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation for restoration/interpretation.

3. Coordinate with the Whitman County Historical Society and other interested groups and citizens.
4. Seek funding sources for historic projects.
5. Continue to research pertinent historical topics for use in interpretive programs.
6. Cooperate with Washington State in the development of historical road-side pullouts recognizing landmarks of the historical significance including the Lewis and Clark expedition with the Corps of Discovery.

CONTINUING RESOURCE INVENTORY PROGRAM

Goal

Establish and maintain an open-ended inventory to include:

1. Wildlife habitat
2. Historically and culturally significant areas
3. Regional parks
4. Scenic areas
5. Fragile and unique environments
6. Riparian vegetation
7. Wetlands

Objectives

1. To satisfy the Whitman County Comprehensive Plan to develop the inventory.
2. To recognize environmentally sensitive areas in the zoning ordinance procedures.
3. To work with local landowners to conserve and protect these sites.

Need

This element was recommended as part of the overall Whitman County Comprehensive Plan.

Current Status

Kamiak Butte, Steptoe Butte (Washington State Parks), and Rose Creek Nature Preserve (Nature Conservancy) have been recognized as significant features and identified as National Natural Landmarks. The Pine Ridge Trail at Kamiak Butte has been

designated a National Recreation Trail as part of the National Trails System. The Bill Chipman Palouse Trail, The Little Springs Trail at Klemgard Park and the Wawawai Park Interpretive Trail have also been recognized as significant and designated Millennium Trails. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has designated several areas along the Snake River for wildlife habitat.

Action/Implementation

1. Provide this information to the Whitman County Planning Commission to use as an informational guide and basis for land use decisions which may impact these areas and resources.
2. Identify criteria for the selection and placement of areas on the inventory.
3. Ensure that the inventory will remain as an open register for future additions.
4. Coordinate with local, state, and federal agencies involved in these types of programs.

RECREATION PROGRAMS

Goal

To evaluate and develop a variety of year-round recreation programs that will provide opportunities for participation by all Whitman County residents regardless of age, gender, income, race or ability.

Objectives

1. To coordinate with school districts, public agencies and other private and public organizations to avoid duplication, insure maximum benefits, and to encourage growth of successful programs.
2. To provide recreation programs that encourages personal growth and well-being, civic pride and community spirit.
3. To encourage the use of volunteer individuals, organizations and institutions, whenever possible, in the establishment and operation of programs.
4. To conduct a county-wide survey together with other information gathering techniques to determine the type of recreation programs desired by county residents.

5. To sponsor programs which will be a reasonable cost and/or provide revenues from user fees in order to minimize program costs.
6. To promote programs and activities which appeal to and enhance participation by youth, people with disabilities, seniors and residents in rural areas.
7. To provide opportunities for individuals and groups to participate in and enjoy environmental experiences through interpretation of our natural resources.
8. To provide professional expertise and direction in matters relating to recreation programs for local groups and citizens.
9. To encourage towns and park and recreation districts to study the need for local recreation programs and assist with implementation where feasible.
10. To evaluate existing programs to increase interest and improve services.
11. To cooperate with Whitman County school districts to provide school facilities for local and county-wide recreation programs during non-school times.
12. To expand facilities at existing park sites that are compatible with park areas and recreation programs.

Need

Organized recreation programs allow county residents opportunities to make constructive use of their leisure time. The availability of these opportunities enhances the quality of life within Whitman County. The non-school related recreation needs of the county's youth are often not provided for. The growth in demand for all currently offered recreation programs indicates an interest in and a need for expanding existing programs as well as offering new programs for all ages.

Current Status

Other than school related activities, there are a minimum of programs except, in the City of Pullman, where recreation programs are available and sponsored by the Pullman Parks and Recreation Department and Washington State University. Several communities have created associations for sports activities: Colfax Youth League, and the Garfield/Palouse Athletic Club.

Uniontown has created a Parks and Recreation Department, servicing the community of Colton also. The budget is very small and relies primarily on volunteers to facilitate programs. Prior to budget cuts, The Whitman County Parks and Recreation Department sponsored the Cooperative Kids Day Camp (this week long program was located in 5 communities throughout the county), Nature Walks, Youth Soccer League, art enrichment programs, and a variety of one day educational activities including a Fishing Program, and Rock Climbing/Rappelling class. Youth organizations such as Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Campfire Girls, 4-H, and F.F.A. are also active throughout the county. These groups play a major role in the provision of recreation activities for the youth of Whitman County.

Adult recreation programs, sponsored by the Pullman Parks and Recreation Department, offer a variety of activities within the Pullman area. The Whitman County Parks and Recreation Department has sponsored Adult/Youth Rock Climbing/Rappelling Class and an adult basketball league, attracting teams from throughout the county. The county also offered slide programs, Evening Campfire Programs during the summer months at Kamiak Butte County Park, and Adult Nature Hikes during the spring months. Adult Education courses are offered in a number of towns throughout the county through local school districts.

Action/Implementation

1. Continue to offer existing programs and expand all programs to other areas in the county as needed once funding is available.
2. Coordinate with school and park districts and towns on recreational programs and activities for youth and adults.
3. Coordinate with schools to make school facilities available to all age groups for recreational activities.
4. Publicize the availability of programs through all possible sources, including the Outdoor Activities Program at Washington State University, campus recreation, 4-H groups, and other media sources, to include radio, newspapers and the internet.
5. Sponsor skill oriented and physical fitness classes, i.e., fly-tying, exercise, photography, orienteering, fishing, sailing, wind surfing, skiing, various crafts, etc.
6. Plan for the development of group facilities for youth at the Elberton County Park/Ropes Challenge Course.

7. Work with interested citizens and groups in developing new programs.
8. Continue to cooperate with all related agencies and groups to avoid duplication of efforts.

SPECIAL INTEREST RECREATION NEEDS

Goal

To continue to evaluate the need to satisfy special interest recreation activities i.e., shooting range, off-road vehicle area, equestrian areas and trails, ice skating, etc.

Objectives

1. To evaluate needs and determine responsibilities and priorities.
2. To coordinate with special interest groups and individuals.
3. To identify location and availability of potential sites and/or facilities.
4. To determine what types of fiscal assistance are required.
5. To seek appropriate funding sources.
6. To encourage involvement by the private sector.
7. To promote tourism.

Need

The special interest recreation needs must be evaluated on an individual and continuing basis.

Current Status

These types of activities are currently being conducted without formal facilities; i.e., target practices and off-road vehicle use on private lands and at gravel quarries and stockpiles throughout the county.

Action/Implementation

1. Maintain an on-going inventory on the status of special interest groups and their specific needs.
2. Work with special interest groups to satisfy their

objectives through safe and realistic methods and procedures.



26' Climbing Wall and Tire Swings at The Elberton Ropes Course.

SECTION TWO
RECREATION ACTIVITIES AND FACILITIES EVALUATION

This section deals specifically with data from the recreation surveys conducted in Whitman County. The data from the studies are ranked in two separate categories:

1. Recreation activities - the ten most actively pursued types of activities as determined by respondents of the study (2000);
2. Recreation facilities - the ten most needed types of facilities as determined by respondents of the study (2000).

TABLE III

Top 10
Outdoor Recreation Activities

- 1) Walking/Hiking
- 2) Sightseeing/Driving
- 3) Picnicking
- 4) Attending Palouse Empire Fair
- 5) Camping
- 6) Bicycling for Pleasure
- 7) Attending Festivals
- 8) Fishing
- 9) Attending Outdoors Events
- 10) Running

**Top 11 Facilities/Resources for
Further Development**

- 1) Nature Trails (unpaved)
- 2) Multi-Use Paved Trails (for activities such as: Biking, In- line Skating, Walking, Running, & other Non-Motorized Sports)
- 3) Hiking Trails (unpaved)
- 4) City Parks
- 5) Campgrounds
- 6) Historical Sites
- 7) Golf Courses
- 8) Ice Skating Rinks
- 9A) Swimming Pools *
- 9B) Hunting Access Areas *
- 9C) Palouse Empire Fairgrounds *

*Listed items in 9A, 9B and 9C are rated at the same level of demand creating the need for additional listing of items in this category.

These categories were evaluated separately after all facilities needs with corresponding activity demands in a higher priority were evaluated. The rationale is that priority be given in areas where an indication of demand and need was expressed as both a facility and a need.

The following process determined the order in Table IV. The ranking number of the Top 10 Outdoor Recreation Activities and the Top 10 Facilities/Resources for Further Development (see Table III) became that line's point value. The two categories were melded together, like activities with like facilities. When the two category listings were combined, so there assigned points. If two or more lines from the same list were combined, the points were added together and then divided by the number of lines. In the event of a tie, the ranking of the line from the Top 10 Facilities/Resources list, determined the order. The combined lines with the lowest points were ranked number one on the Table IV. Facilities/Resources listed in Table III that did not have a similar activity, were ranked last, until the Top 10 list was completed.

TABLE IV

- 1) Walking and Hiking/Nature and Hiking Trails (unpaved)
- 2) Picnicking/City Parks
- 3) Running and Bicycling/ Multi-use Paved Trails
- 4) Camping/Campgrounds
- 5) Sightseeing and driving/ Scenic drives, and Historical Sites
- 6) Attending Palouse Empire Fair and Outdoor events/Fairgrounds
- 7) Fishing/Hunting Access Areas
- 8) Golf Courses
- 9) Ice skating Rinks
- 10) Swimming Pools

It is important to recognize that each of these activities and facilities will be considered due to their overall ranking in the top ten.

Several activities were not mentioned in Table IV and are worthy of comment. **Boating** and **canoeing** are both popular on the Snake River, Palouse River, Bonnie Lake, Rock Lake and other navigable waterways within the county. Boating will continue to be popular for pleasure, water skiing and as a mode of transportation for fishermen and hunters. **Wildlife Preserves** at the parks, to include birds, flora, fauna, ethnobotany and general interest in the environment, appear to be increasing. These types of activities tend to be both a recreation activity within themselves or serve to enhance another recreational activity such as hiking. and **Nature study** is another activity that is important and should be evaluated as it often takes an important part associated with and/or independent of other events. Consideration should be given to all of these activities which did not appear in Table III, but appear to be becoming increasingly popular with many recreationists. **Horseback Riding/Equestrian Use, and Motorcycling/Off-Road Vehicle** use are also recognized as elements of this plan to be evaluated.

The remainder of this section is devoted to an evaluation of the recreation activities/facilities in Table IV. This will include the formulation of plans and efforts necessary to study and evaluate the feasibility of each.



WALKING AND HIKING/HIKING AND NATURE TRAILS (Unpaved)

Goal

Provide and maintain a system of trails and pathways to accommodate the walking and hiking needs of Whitman County residents. Provide access to natural areas by developing trail systems that employ interpretive techniques to inform users about the natural environment.

Objectives

1. To design all new regional park areas with scenic and functional hiking trails where environmentally suitable.
2. To monitor present and future use of trails.
3. To identify areas with potential for future development as trail systems:
 - a. Abandoned railroad right-of-ways
 - b. Existing public land
 - c. Easements on private lands
 - d. Federal lands adjacent to the Snake River
4. To utilize scenic and natural resources when possible to enhance trail systems.
5. To design all new trails with consideration for user satisfaction and design capacity.
6. To incorporate interpretive techniques on existing and future trails.

Need

There are many pleasures and benefits to be gained both physically and mentally from hiking and walking for pleasure. County residents reflect this attitude in increasing numbers with the development of each new trail. Walking and Hiking is identified as the highest, most preferred recreational activity enjoyed. This activity was also ranked number one in the 1994 Survey of County residents. Hiking Trails are the third most desired recreational facility needing development within the county, and Nature Trails were the first most desired facility. Nature Trails provide schools, universities, special interest

groups and individuals opportunities for the observation of natural flora, fauna and the geology of the Palouse. The level of recreation experience gained can often be greatly enhanced through interpretive techniques employed along hiking trails. (See Interpretive Section).

Current Status

Presently there are five designated hiking/walking trails within the county; Kamiak Butte County Park, Klemgard County Park, Wawawai County Park, the Bill Chipman Palouse Trail and Colfax Trail. All of these trails are considered and managed as both hiking/walking and nature trails. The Bill Chipman Palouse Trail, and Kamiak Butte Trails have been developed as interpretive nature trails with an interpretive self guided brochure directed at the attributes of the park. The Pine Ridge Trail at Kamiak Butte County Park has also been designated as a component of the National Recreation Trail System. Wawawai County Park's Interpretive Trail has interpretive signage which addresses the natural, historical and cultural aspects of the local area. The state purchased an extensive right-of-way on the abandoned Milwaukee Road which is currently being developed. (See Inventory Section). Located near Farmington, across the boarder in Idaho, is Mary Minerva McCroskey Memorial State Park and Skyline Drive.

Action/Implementation

1. Coordinate with adjacent landowners of existing park sites to determine the potential for trail easements on private land on a willing-grantor basis.
2. Maintain and renovate current trail systems to sustain maximum use with minimum impact to the resource.
3. Continue planning a hiking and interpretive trail on the abandoned railroad right-of-way near Colfax, owned by Whitman County.
4. Include a trail system to accommodate hiking within the Elberton County Park Master Plan.
5. Monitor the status of the State of Washington's proposal for trail use of the Milwaukee Road Section.
6. Consider easements for trails to allow a variety of seasonal uses; i.e., equestrian, cross-county skiing, hiking.
7. Plan all new trails and adapt existing trails for year-round use in mind.

8. Identify and evaluate areas within the county with potential for future development as interpretive trails.
9. Develop a brochure and interpretive signing on the human and natural history of Klemgard County Park.
10. Work in cooperation with the Washington State Public School System and local school districts for the designation of Kamiak Butte, The Bill Chipman Palouse Trail and other county parks as Extended Learning Centers.
11. Continue cooperative projects with Washington State University and the University of Idaho in related interpretive/planning projects.
12. Expand and renovate trail systems at Kamiak Butte, Klemgard, Wawawai and the Colfax Trail.
13. Develop system of accessible trails.



PICNICKING/CITY PARKS

Goal

Provide a diversity of areas and facilities, which are accessible and adequately meet the picnicking needs of the Whitman County residents.

Objectives

1. To design all new park areas with the development of picnic sites and facilities as a high priority.
2. To monitor present and future use of picnic areas to establish need and trends.
3. To identify potential areas conducive to picnic area development for future consideration.
4. To provide picnic areas which will provide a diversity of environmental features as well as accessible facilities to accommodate a variety of user groups i.e., family, social, students, civic and youth.
5. To encourage and promote clean and aesthetically pleasing picnic sites for maximum enjoyment.
6. To design all new picnic areas for accessibility by school populations.
7. To coordinate with local government and civic groups to provide town picnic areas within local parks.

Need

Picnicking is a recreational activity which has been enjoyed historically by all age groups, families, social and civic groups in Whitman County. Picnicking is rated as the third most popular recreation activity. The county residents ranked City Parks number four for further development.

Current Status

There currently exist forty-three areas within the county which have facilities for picnicking. Thirty-two of the areas are located within town parks, and eleven are found in regional parks, dispersed sites and along the north bank of the Snake River's Lower Granite Lake. (Refer to Inventory Section).

Action/Implementation

1. Continue to develop new picnic facilities including restrooms drinking fountains and shelters that accommodate special populations.
2. Renovate/expand picnic areas at county parks in currently under-utilized areas.
3. Include picnicking as a high priority in all county park master plans.
4. Continue to seek alternative funding sources e.g. grant writing. Continue planning and assisting small towns within the county to develop local picnic areas as well as other recreation facilities.
5. Provide picnic sites with adequate facilities and aesthetic qualities.
6. Continue high levels of maintenance to insure clean appearance at all picnic sites to provide for greater user satisfaction and enjoyment.
7. Continue to coordinate with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to enhance picnicking opportunities at Corps facilities on the Snake River.
8. Develop complimentary facilities such as playgrounds adjacent to picnic areas in parks.
9. Plan and prepare for changes and growth in tourism such as the 2003-2006 commemoration of the Lewis and Clark Corps of Discovery's bicentennial.
10. Promote additional safety rest stops and waysides with picnic tables along the newly designated State Scenic Byways within Whitman County.



RUNNING AND BICYCLING/MULTI_USE PAVED TRAILS

Goal

To work towards making existing county and state roadways, which currently sustain periods of heavy use, safe and enjoyable for runners, bicyclists and motorists and to provide separate multi-use paved trails when appropriate and feasible.

Objectives

1. To identify scenic roadways having potential for safe running and bicycle use.
2. To participate in efforts to improve safe running and bicycle use of county and state roads having scenic and recreational use.
3. To promote the following possible trails:
 - a. Colfax-Pullman
 - b. Pullman-Kamiak Butte County Park
 - c. Pullman-Klemgard County Park
 - d. Snake River/Wawawai County Park-Lewiston/Clarkston
 - e. Networks/tours with small towns in the county
4. To coordinate the planning process with appropriate towns and agencies; i.e., Washington State Department of Transportation, Whitman County Public Works Department, Whitman County Planning Commission, the City of Pullman, Colfax, towns, Washington State University, Moscow, Latah County and the University of Idaho.
5. To help establish educational programs to inform motorists on runner and bicyclist use of local roads through signing, highway markings and advertisement.
6. To encourage running and the use of bicycles as a pleasant means of travel and recreation embodying physical, environmental and social benefits.
7. To study all railroad abandonments which have the potential for hiking trails, bikeways and equestrian paths.

Need

It is recognized that running and bicycle use has continued to increase within Whitman County. Bicycling is identified as the

sixth most desired recreation activity with running at number 10. Multi-use Paved Trails represent the second most desired recreation facility in need of further development.

Current Status

There currently exists bicycle trail systems within the Pullman and Moscow City limits. The Bill Chipman Palouse Trail is located between the cities of Pullman and Moscow and is currently the most heavily used park in Whitman County. The Pullman to Palouse Highway is being utilized by bicyclists in growing numbers during the spring, summer and fall months. County roads throughout Whitman County provide potential bikeways. Bicycling along the Snake River on the roadways between Wawawai County Park and the city of Clarkston, Washington is popular due to the extended season and mild winter climate in the river canyon. Boyer Park and Marina also has a paved multi-use trail extending 3.5 miles from their park area.

Action/Implementation

1. Work with the Washington State Department of Transportation, the Whitman County Public Works Department, City of Pullman and Washington State University for exits from the Pullman area for bicycling and appropriate linkages to local and regional trail systems.
2. Minimize hazards where existing bicycling traffic utilizes State Highways:
 - a. State Highway 27 between Pullman, Kamiak Butte County Park and Palouse
 - b. County roads between Pullman and Klemgard County Park and Colfax and Klemgard County Park
 - c. State Highway 195 between Pullman and Colfax
 - d. County roads between Pullman and Wawawai County Park and Clarkston and Wawawai County Park
 - e. Provide signage to make motorists aware of bicycling activity.
3. Work in conjunction with the Whitman County Public Works Department, Washington State Department of Transportation, Whitman County Planning Commission, City of Pullman, Washington State University and interested groups and citizens throughout planning processes related to the development of multi-use paved trail systems and linkages.
4. Plan and develop, when feasible, the Colfax Hiking and Bicycle Trail on the abandoned railroad right-of-way northwest of Colfax.

5. Cooperate with the Washington State Patrol, Whitman County Sheriff's Office and local law enforcement agencies in educational programs aimed at:
 - a. increasing motorists' awareness of running and bicycling and the need for caution and safety;
 - b. educating all age groups in the safe use of bicycles on trails, roadways and other surfaces.
6. Utilize the funds available under the variable gas tax entitled: "Paths and Trails" for the planning of multi-use trails.
7. Evaluate all proposed railroad abandonments for potential bicycling and hiking trails.



CAMPING/CAMPGROUNDS

Goal

Provide and maintain a diversity of camping areas throughout the county, which are accessible to residents and visitors.

Objectives

1. To determine environmental suitability for all future camping areas.
2. To incorporate design capacity in planning all new camping area developments to maximize enjoyment and minimize conflict.
3. To monitor present and future use of camping areas to determine needs and trends.
4. To identify sites within the county which have potential for camping area development because of their historical, natural and/or aesthetic values.
5. To provide group camping facilities in addition to individual campsites.
6. To develop and accommodate for group camping activities.

Need

Camping facilities have been identified as the fifth needed facility for further development within the county and camping is the fifth most desired recreation activity.

Current Status

There are currently eleven public areas which accommodate camping within the county: Boyer Park and Marina, Central Ferry Park, dispersed sites and along the north bank of the Snake River's Lower Granite Lake, three U.S. Army Corps of Engineers park landing areas (Nisqually John, Blyton, and Wawawai), Palouse Empire Fairgrounds and R.V. Park, Horn School Rest Area (camping allowed but there are no designated sites), Kamiak Butte County Park, Wawawai County Park, Palouse Lions Club Area and at City Field in Pullman. With the exception of Boyer Park and Marina,

Central Ferry Park, and Palouse Empire Fairgrounds, the other park areas have ten campsites or less.

Action/Implementation

1. Design all new support facilities in campgrounds for accessibility to special populations.
2. Renovate existing R.V. Park at Palouse Empire Fairgrounds to include showers.
3. Coordinate with the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission on any campground expansion in the state facilities within Whitman County.
4. Plan and prepare for changes and growth in tourism such as the 2003-2006 commemoration of the Lewis and Clark Corps of Discovery's bicentennial.



SIGHTSEEING AND DRIVING/
SCENIC DRIVES AND HISTORICAL SITES

Goal

Identify roadways, both state and county, which have the potential to provide scenic viewing and natural/historical interpretation. Insure that Whitman County's past is preserved for the education and enjoyment of future generations.

Objectives

1. To develop and promote the newly designated (2003) "The Palouse Scenic Byway" as well as the following significant roadways in Whitman County:
 - a. Pullman and Colfax-Lewiston i.e., Snake River route via Wawawai
 - b. Pullman-Moscow i.e., Old Moscow Highway
 - c. Colfax-Rock Lake i.e., Steptoe-St. John-Ewan-Rock Lake-Hole in the Ground
 - d. Routes between small towns i.e. Malden-Pine City, Elberton-Garfield.
2. To use historic sites and areas as a means toward interpreting the history and culture of Whitman County.
3. To interpret the rich agricultural history of the Palouse Region.

Need

Sightseeing and driving is identified as the second most desired recreational activity enjoyed by Whitman County residents. Often times this recreation activity is a part or means to arrive at a site to enjoy a park or recreation experience. It may be incidental to the other activities, but nevertheless, is an important aspect of the recreation experience. Historical Sites is number six in the list of Facilities/Resources for Further Development, with Scenic drives listed as number ten.

Historical sites are important resources that need protection and interpretation within Whitman County. As years pass information is lost, the loss of historical papers and documents and the difficulty of accurate recall. This personal part of Whitman County history cannot be regained. The heritage of our county is

important to its residents, even more vital to our children and future generations. An understanding of the local history is essential to developing a sense of place, pride and patriotism.

Current Status

The Palouse Scenic Byway was designated a State Byway in 2003 it consists of 170 miles of state and local highways in Whitman County. Paved roads within the county, which are not classified as Scenic Byways could lend themselves to pleasure driving with a destination in mind. It should be noted that future energy restrictions could affect this activity. The many historical sites in the County lack signage and care. Most sites are located on private property. Through years of neglect, many need repair and some are so damaged they have been removed.

Three developed historical sites can be found within the county: the Perkins House in Colfax, Steptoe Battlefield in Rosalia and the Steptoe Memorial in Rosalia. The Whitman County Historical Society currently operates the Boomerang Printing Museum in Palouse. There are also several private and town museums available for public use within the county. (See Appendix III).

Action/Implementation

1. Work with the Whitman County Scenic Byways Committee in developing and distributing brochures and information regarding The Palouse Scenic Byway facilities and services.
2. Identify and designate scenic roadways which can be utilized as alternatives to regular traffic routes i.e., Rosalia, Oakesdale, Garfield, Palouse and Pullman.
3. Coordinate with the Washington State Department of Transportation, Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission, Whitman County Historical Society and the Whitman County Public Works Department on proposed signing, brochures, and historical site road side pullouts.
4. Coordinate with local Chambers of Commerce and the Washington State Department of Commerce on tourism matters.
5. Plan and prepare for changes and growth in tourism such as the 2003-2006 commemoration of the Lewis and Clark Corps of Discovery's bicentennial.
6. Develop the Museum of the Palouse at the Palouse Empire Fairgrounds.
7. Seek the help of agencies and service groups, i.e.,

Washington State University, public schools, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, living groups, civic and youth groups to become involved in historic restoration and development.

8. Support the continued restoration and operational efforts by the Whitman County Historical Society with The Perkins House and log cabin located in Colfax and the Boomerang Newspaper and Printing Museum located in Palouse.
9. Encourage private donations of historic materials and artifacts for restoration projects.
10. Encourage and support efforts by individuals with the development of museums and displays.
11. Support efforts to preserve the Baron Flour Mill in Oakesdale.
12. Cooperate with the Whitman County Historical Society, Washington State Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation, local citizens, etc., on all possible historical projects.
13. Cooperate with Washington State in the development of historical road-side pullouts recognizing landmarks of the historical significance including the Lewis and Clark expedition with the Corps of Discovery.
14. Plan and prepare for changes and growth in tourism such as the 2003-2006 commemoration of the Lewis and Clark Corps of Discovery's bicentennial.
15. Promote additional safety rest stops and waysides with picnic tables along the newly designated State Scenic Byways within Whitman County.



ATTENDING PALOUSE EMPIRE FAIR
AND OUTDOOR EVENTS/ FAIRGROUNDS

Goal

To operate and maintain the fairgrounds facility to allow for maximum safety and enjoyment by fair goers and participants at other events throughout the year.

Objectives

1. To place an Operation Coordinator at Palouse Empire Fairgrounds who is qualified to handle day-to-day maintenance and repair as well as interact with the public while maintaining the integrity with the overall Parks System.
2. To continue training programs including conferences, workshops and continuing education for Fair and Parks staff in an effort to improve knowledge, skills and management techniques.
3. To strive to increase the efficiency of Fairgrounds operations by:
 - a. regular evaluation of all aspects of Fairgrounds operations
 - b. providing in-service training programs to personnel
 - c. providing periodic and preventative maintenance on all equipment
 - d. replacing old and/or unreliable maintenance equipment
4. To work in cooperation with superintendents, Fair Board members, volunteers, service groups and students.
5. To utilize available volunteers, community service and work release individuals when appropriate.
6. To provide operation and maintenance guidelines and policies.
7. To promote the use of the fairgrounds for weddings, meetings and reunions.
8. Promote the Palouse Empire Fairgrounds as a regional recreation center.

Need

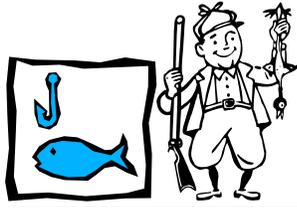
Continue to improve quality of facilities and equipment at the Palouse Empire Fairgrounds. Pursue improvements of Recreational Vehicle Park including shower facilities, pursue replacement of aging buildings to meet increased year round use of the fairgrounds.

Current Status

Fair attendance improves each year but is still weather dependent. Other events throughout the year such as arts and crafts shows, Threshing and Plowing Bee, rodeo events, animal shows, weddings and public meetings have been steadily growing.

Action/Implementation

1. Renovate existing RV Park at Palouse Empire Fairgrounds to include shower facilities.
2. Seek out most cost effective means to replace/renovate aging buildings to meet current year-round use needs.
3. Continue to incorporate levels of maintenance of the Palouse Empire Fairgrounds to those of other developed County Park sites.
4. Routinely inspect all facilities and equipment to insure their safety and repair, and replace when needed.
5. Provide adequate training to all maintenance personnel in order to perform quality maintenance work.



FISHING/ HUNTING ACCESS AREAS

Goal

Provide adequate access to fishing and hunting resources within the county for recreational use. To provide fishing opportunities for all age groups. To work with landowners to establish approved hunting access areas. To promote lawful and respectful use of private lands and safe hunting practices in Whitman County.

Objectives

1. To maintain all current access areas along the Snake River to insure continued use.
2. To monitor current and future use of existing facilities.
3. To promote wise and safe use of water resources through educational programs, design standards and maintenance programs.
4. To identify and plan for recreation activities which could compliment fishing; i.e., boating, canoeing.
5. To encourage private landowners to develop fish ponds which will be open to the public with the aid of local, state and federal assistance.
6. To provide areas where children can learn and develop fishing and hunting skills.
7. To work with private landowners to develop access areas.
8. To support legislation which protects landowners from liabilities on private land opened for hunting or any other type of public recreational use.
9. To preserve existing wildlife habitat and natural areas suitable for sustaining substantial populations and a diversity of wildlife within Whitman County.
10. To work with the Washington State Department of Wildlife, Washington State Department of Natural Resources, the Bureau of Land Management, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to

utilize the mitigation plan, when consistent with local concerns, to assist with stocking and habitat establishment and acquisition.

11. To evaluate and provide safe designated areas for target practice and teaching hunter safety with firearms.
12. To encourage citizens to respect the use of private lands.

Need

Fishing is a recreational activity which can be enjoyed by many residents if provided the opportunity. Fishing is identified as the eighth most preferred recreational activity enjoyed by Whitman County residents. Hunting access areas have been ranked as the ninth most desired recreation facility needing development.

Hunting is actively participated in on a seasonal basis within the county. Past studies indicate that thirteen percent of recreationists visiting the Snake River are doing so for the purpose of hunting. Wildlife habitat is beneficial in a number of ways:

1. Protection of fragile soil areas (for erosion control)
2. Provision of habitat for both game and non-game species.
3. Provision of landscape diversity for aesthetic purposes.

Current Status

There currently exist eleven designated/developed access areas to water resources which have fishing potential within the county. Seven of these areas are along the reservoirs in addition to the shorelines on the Snake River, at Central Ferry Park, Riparia, Boyer Park and Marina, Wawawai County Park, Wawawai Landing, Gilchrist Pond, Blyton Landing and Nisqually John Landing. Pampa Pond (a pond near Klemgard County Park), and the Lasz Fishing Pond (near Garfield) are the other designated sites. Each of these areas are privately owned and occasionally stocked with trout by the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife. The main fishing use at Lasz Pond is by juveniles. There are no significant fishing streams available in the county. Historically, the Palouse River has supported fish populations suitable for fishing and could have the potential in the future if the water quality improves. Union Flat Creek is beginning to support trout fishing as water quality improves and stocking occurs by the Washington State Department of Wildlife.

With approximately 95% of the land within Whitman County in private ownership, there is a definite lack of public access for hunting. Opportunities are available for hunting on several sites owned by the US Army Corps of Engineers, The Bureau of Land Management, and Washington State Department of Natural Resources. Generally, private land owners are tolerant of public use on their lands on a permission basis.

The use of private property, by permission only, currently provides the only areas available for hunting within the county with the exception of Washington State Department of Natural Resources, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Bureau of Land Management lands. These public lands are a significantly small portion of the overall county. There is concern regarding the leasing of land for hunting purposes; however, land owners have that option to consider.

Action/Implementation

1. Identify new areas with fish stocking capability, including juvenile ponds, in cooperation with the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.
2. Study the potential of these areas and encourage stocking and management as fisheries where feasible.
3. Improve juvenile fishing pond accessibility when possible.
4. Encourage and cooperate with the Washington State Department of Wildlife in continued stocking of county waters.
5. Promote and encourage the future development of adequate boat launching facilities, parking areas and a fishing dock at the Rock Lake access area in agreement and cooperation with the private landowners.
6. Support the efforts of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Mitigation Plan for fish and wildlife with consideration for local concerns and land use.
7. Provide for high level maintenance of fishing areas to promote quality experiences.
8. Work with federal and state agencies and the Whitman County Sportsmen's Association to continue stocking programs, habitat improvement and added public access areas.
9. Study the warm water fisheries potential and development of fish habitat.

10. Seek cooperation of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in minimizing pool fluctuations during spawning seasons.
11. Work cooperatively with landowners to gain permission for public access for hunting.
12. Work in cooperation with private landowners, local grange associations, Whitman County Planning Commission, Washington State Department of Wildlife, Washington State Department of Natural Resources, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Bureau of Land Management, Whitman County Sportsmen's Association, Washington State Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation, and interested citizens towards the promotion and preservation of existing wildlife habitat and establishment of new habitat.
13. Assist landowners in the education of the hunting public the proper use of private lands.
14. Monitor land status/availability on a willing seller/donation basis for potential boat launch facility on Bonnie Lake.



GOLF COURSES

Goal

Identify golf courses within Whitman County.

Objectives

1. To promote tourism by providing information on Golf Courses within Whitman County.
2. Support development of golf courses by other agencies when appropriate.

Need

Use of local golf courses has been increasing over the last few years. Over crowding in Spokane County Golf Courses has caused an "Overflow of Users" to Whitman County Golf Courses.

Current Status

Golf Courses in Whitman County include Colfax, St. John, Tekoa, and Pullman.

Action/Implementation

1. Develop information to be available for the public on available golf courses within Whitman County.



ICE SKATING RINK

Goal

Work with local governments and private interests in researching the possibility of developing an area or facility, which could be utilized for ice skating within Whitman County.

Objectives

1. To research funding possibilities with towns, private organizations, Washington State University, and the Pullman Parks and Recreation Department for the development of ice skating areas.
2. To evaluate the potential for ice skating areas in conjunction with fish ponds.

Need

Whitman County residents have identified ice skating rinks as the eighth most desired facility needing development within the county. Presently, there exists a lack of winter outdoor recreation activities for county residents. This could be enhanced with ice skating facilities.

Current Status

There currently exist two areas within the county where efforts for providing ice skating occurs given proper weather conditions. They are located at Garfield and in Pullman and are not formally developed. Skating also occurs in other sections of the county given the proper natural conditions. The City of Moscow has a seasonal indoor developed ice skating rink utilized by many Whitman County residents.



SWIMMING POOLS

Goal

Identify and work towards providing safe and suitable areas for swimming within Whitman County.

Objectives

1. To work with local governments and related agencies in researching funding possibilities and completing grant applications for the construction of local pools or the renovation of existing pools.
2. To support efforts to clean up water resources within the county, primarily the Snake and Palouse Rivers and Union Flat Creek and Paradise Creek.
3. To recognize that many communities have pools and related facilities that are in need of rehabilitation or replacement projects.
4. To coordinate with the Washington State Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation for planning and funding of swimming pools.

Need

Swimming Pools are listed as the ninth most desired facility in need of further development by Whitman County residents.

Current Status

There are currently eleven outdoor swimming pools located within the county, three indoor pools at Washington State University and one indoor facility in Pullman. There are two accessible designated area on the Snake River available for swimming--Boyer Park and Marina and Central Ferry Park. Outdoor swimming resources are limited to the Snake River and Rock Lake. Communities lacking public pools could benefit from the development of such facilities.

Action/Implementation

1. Coordinate with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to improve the small beach areas at the Wawawai, Blyton and Nisqually John Landings.

2. Identify all towns which have no pools or whose pools are in need of repair, and assist with preparation of grant applications to secure needed funds.

WILDLIFE PRESERVES

Goal

Protect natural areas which currently sustain a diversity of wildlife from encroachment by agriculture and hunting.

Objectives

1. To identify areas which have the potential to become wildlife preserves.
2. To work with the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife towards enhancing wildlife populations and maintaining native wildlife in protected areas.
3. To support and encourage land owner efforts to develop soil conservation practices which would be conducive to the enhancement and development of wildlife habitat.

Need

Recreational experience can be greatly enhanced by sightings of wildlife. There has been substantial public interest in "birding" and other forms of wildlife observation.

Current Status

Kamiak Butte County Park, Klemgard County Park, Wawawai County Park, the Bill Chipman Palouse Trail, and Elberton County Park are designated game sanctuaries. There are two biological study areas established within the county by Washington State University at Smoot Hill and Union Center. The Nature Conservancy operates Rose Creek Preserve, northeast of Albion, as a sanctuary.

Action/Implementation

1. Cooperate with the Audubon Society, Nature Conservancy and other conservation groups to preserve and enhance existing areas.
2. Work with the same groups to identify new areas of critical habitat and to protect them when feasible.
3. Designate a portion of all county parks to remain in a natural condition.

NATURE STUDY

Goal

Recognize Nature Study as a viable recreation activity that can be an experience in itself or enhance other recreation experiences, including photography.

Objectives

1. To provide an area for youth and adults to view wildlife, flora and fauna in their natural habitat.
1. To encourage photographers by offering field courses in wildlife, scenic and nature photography.
2. To promote photography by maintaining natural park areas, historic sites, scenic highways and roads and wildlife sanctuaries.

Need

Similar to the need of Wildlife Preserves, the recreational experience can be greatly enhanced by the sightings of wildlife.

There has been substantial public interest in "birding" and other forms of wildlife observation. Photography is enjoyed as a recreation activity by Whitman County residents. Photography is often associated with other recreation activities.

Current Status

Scenic and natural beauty can be found throughout Whitman County. The county parks provide photographers and nature lovers with many natural settings and scenic vistas. Many farms, ranches, and agricultural scenes also inspire nature studies and photographers. The Snake River and Channeled Scablands also offer fine subject matter for photographers.

Action/Implementation

1. Develop a brochure to identify scenic areas, viewpoints, natural features and historic sites within the county.
2. Promote courses in outdoor and wildlife photography.

HORSEBACK RIDING/EQUESTRIAN USE

Goal

Promote wise and safe use of areas and lands in the county for equestrian use.

Objectives

1. To monitor current and future equestrian use.
2. To identify areas with potential for both dispersed and intensive equestrian use.
3. To identify scenic back roads conducive to safe use by horse riders.
4. To encourage the continuation of private development of equestrian facilities and areas.
5. To promote coordination between interested equestrian groups.
6. To evaluate the need for areas within existing park sites to accommodate equestrian use.

Need

There have been indications of the need for trails and facilities for this type of use in the past.

Current Status

There are several equestrian areas available to the public within the county. The Escure Ranch owned by the B.L.M. is located in the northwest part of Whitman County and provides equestrian trails of over four square miles in Whitman County. There is an arena at St. John and Tekoa. There is one private arena east of Pullman which the public can use free. The Palouse Empire Fairgrounds can be scheduled for horseback riding and equestrian use/shows. Horseback riding is taking place throughout the county on back roads, on private land by permission and on private land by owners.

Action/Implementation

1. Develop safe equestrian trail on the Colfax Trail as part of that park development plan.
2. Develop and maintain the area and barn facilities at the

Palouse Empire Fairgrounds.

3. Cooperate with equestrian clubs and 4-H groups on programs to promote equestrian trails and use.
4. Enhance the private sector's continued involvement in equestrian activities.
5. Consider Elberton County Park picnic area as a potential site for future development for equestrian use.

MOTORCYCLING/OFF-ROAD VEHICLES

Goal

Recognize motorcycling and off-road vehicle use as a recreational activity requiring evaluation of need for specialized area and facilities.

Objectives

1. To study and survey current and future use.
2. To identify areas with potential for future intensive motorcycle use.
- 3.

Need

Motorcycling/off-road vehicle use should be evaluated to determine the amount of this activity occurring in Whitman County. Motorcycle use tends to be incompatible with many other recreation activities. The need may exist to provide special areas where this activity can be enjoyed separate from other recreation activities.

Current Status

There is one motorcycle use area within the county, located adjacent to the Garfield Gun Club. Presently, use is on an informal basis, but has in the past been used for organized events. Motorcycling occurs at various undesignated sites throughout the county, i.e., sand pits, gravel pits, vacant lots, private farmland and roadways. Unmanaged use of these sites has at times led to problems. These include soil erosion and compaction, noise pollution, injury to vegetation and trespassing.

Action/Implementation

1. Continue to evaluate the need for areas.
2. Recognize that there are state funds available for acquisition, development and management for these types of areas/facilities.
3. Study all future abandonments of road-right-of-ways for their potential as riding areas.
4. Coordinate with interested groups to provide for future areas.

CHAPTER VII INVENTORY AND CURRENT STATUS



CHAPTER VII INVENTORY AND CURRENT STATUS

The purpose of this Inventory and the Appendix is to provide a listing of all recreation areas and facilities available within Whitman County as well as an overview of current recreation programs. Particular attention has been directed towards those areas, facilities, and programs for which the county has a primary responsibility. Other recreation areas, facilities, and programs are also listed in order to give a complete picture of recreation opportunities in Whitman County.

The following recreation types have been identified as existing within Whitman County and are consistent with the IAC classification system.

Small Urban Recreation Areas

These areas are generally intensively developed, in close proximity to users and community-wide population groups both actively and passively; i.e., neighborhood parks and playgrounds. These facilities are included in the Inventory Section for Pullman and the smaller towns in Whitman County.

Regional Recreation Areas

These areas are generally large in size and serve the entire county and surrounding area populations, offering a wide range of recreation activities associated with the natural environment. Portions may be developed. These areas are normally available to both day and overnight use; i.e., County, State, Port of Whitman, BLM, and U.S. Army Corps of Engineer's parks.

Wildlife Habitat Areas

Areas managed to sustain populations of small and large wild animals and birds. Habitat areas include range and agricultural lands whose major recreation use generally is for hunting. With nearly all of the land in Whitman County being under private ownership, it is important to remember that these lands may only be utilized with the property owners' consent. Wildlife preserves meeting this area type's physical characteristics and on which hunting is forbidden or restricted are also included; i.e., biological study areas and several County and State park areas.

Trails - Non-urban

These areas provide opportunities for walking, hiking, horseback riding, trail bike riding, snowmobiling, ski touring, four-wheel driving, and similar activities where compatible with the natural environment, adjacent land owners, and user groups. Trails are identified as having exceptionally scenic qualities. In Whitman County they are located within existing county parks.

Freshwater Shorelands

Areas adjacent to freshwater bodies having recreation, wildlife, or aesthetic values. These areas support such activities as boating, fishing and swimming; i.e., boat launching ramps, stream bank easements. The major resource in this category which is available for public use is the Snake River.

Historical and Cultural Areas

Areas intended to preserve and interpret historical and cultural sites. These sites are usually man-made and are of some national, state, or local significance. These sites are listed in the Appendix entitled State and National Historic Register Listing in Whitman County.

Milwaukee Railroad Right-of-Way

Due to the magnitude regarding the acquisition of the right-of-way by the Department of Natural Resources, the status of the project is presented as a part of this plan.

Background

In 1981 the Washington State Legislature authorized state purchase of the 213 mile Milwaukee Railroad right-of-way, stretching from Easton to the Idaho border. In 1984, the legislature directed the Department of Natural Resources to manage 188 miles of the corridor from the second tunnel west of Thorp to Idaho. The western most 25 miles, from Easton to the second tunnel west of Thorp, was put under the jurisdiction of the State Parks and Recreation Commission to be managed as a state park. The 1984 legislation provided for year-round recreational use of the state park portion. On the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) portion, more limited recreational use was authorized by permit only and with a fee required, and with notification of adjoining landowners required. The legislature

also provided that this portion of the corridor be made available for lease to adjoining landowners, with lessees authorized to restrict public use except that use permitted by DNR. The legislation directs the Department to adopt rules to provide for the "orderly and safe use of the corridor and the protection of adjoining landowners." (Excerpted from Department of Natural Resources Status Report on the right-of-way, August, 1984).

In Whitman County, this right-of-way is 58.6 miles long, approximately 100 feet wide, and encompasses 1,107 acres. The abandoned railroad enters the county near Revere, travels around the southeast side of Rock Lake, through Rosalia and exits at Tekoa on the Washington/Idaho border. This right-of-way crosses 41 bridges and passes through two tunnels in Whitman County.

The potential recreation uses of this trail are: hiking, bicycling, horses, and horse drawn wagons. The trail has been cleared of railroad ties and rails. The Department of Natural Resources has adopted rules governing the use of the trail.

Recreation Programs

There are several groups and organizations within Whitman County that offer a variety of recreation programs and opportunities for the residents of Whitman County. The major providers are the Pullman Parks and Recreation Department, The Washington State University Campus Recreation Department, the Washington State University Outdoor Activities Program, and the Whitman County Parks, Fair and Facilities Management Department. Programs provided by the first three organizations are targeted for groups and individuals in the Pullman area although individuals outside the Pullman vicinity can and do benefit from these programming efforts.

The Whitman County Parks, Fair and Facilities Management Department is the prime sponsor of recreation programs for the county as a whole. The Department has offered the following recreational programs: A summer day camp; Nature Walks Program; Evening Campfire Programs; soccer program; Specialized Recreation Program; sports skills camps, adventure programs; special tours, walks, and presentations due to recent cuts in funding cause by legislative tax initiatives all programs requiring funding by Whitman County have been cut.

School facilities are excellent recreational resources throughout the county. However, they remain relatively unused for activities that are non-school related. There exists an excellent potential for offering future recreation opportunities on a county-wide basis through the development of relationships

and agreements between local school boards and the Whitman County Parks, Fair and Facilities Management Department. Cooperation between a number of school districts has been very positive for sports leagues and summer programs.

Information obtained from a series of public hearings conducted by the Whitman County Parks, Fair and Facilities Management Department pointed to:

- A. Development of Klemgard Park and the playground should be a priority. This project should be well researched and built for age and developmental appropriateness.
- B. The construction of a Youth Agricultural Pavilion project will be a great asset to the County.
- C. The development of horse trails in Whitman County is of interest and supported by the 4H horse leaders, members and parents. Trails would be utilized if available.
- D. Fire Plan at Kamiak Butte needs to be completed for safety reasons.
- E. The top five items listed in the 2004-2009 Capital Improvement Program are important projects to be completed for the public good.
- F. Development of a safe path from the City of Colfax to the Colfax Trail.
- G. Continued support for recreation opportunities for special populations. Keeping the parks, programs and resources at a level where they are accessible to all ages and abilities.
- H. Environmental programs develop great appreciation and sensitivity for our area resources and parks. Both children and families benefit from the addition of these programs.
- I. Collaboration with community partners needs to continue and expand, especially with the smaller rural towns.

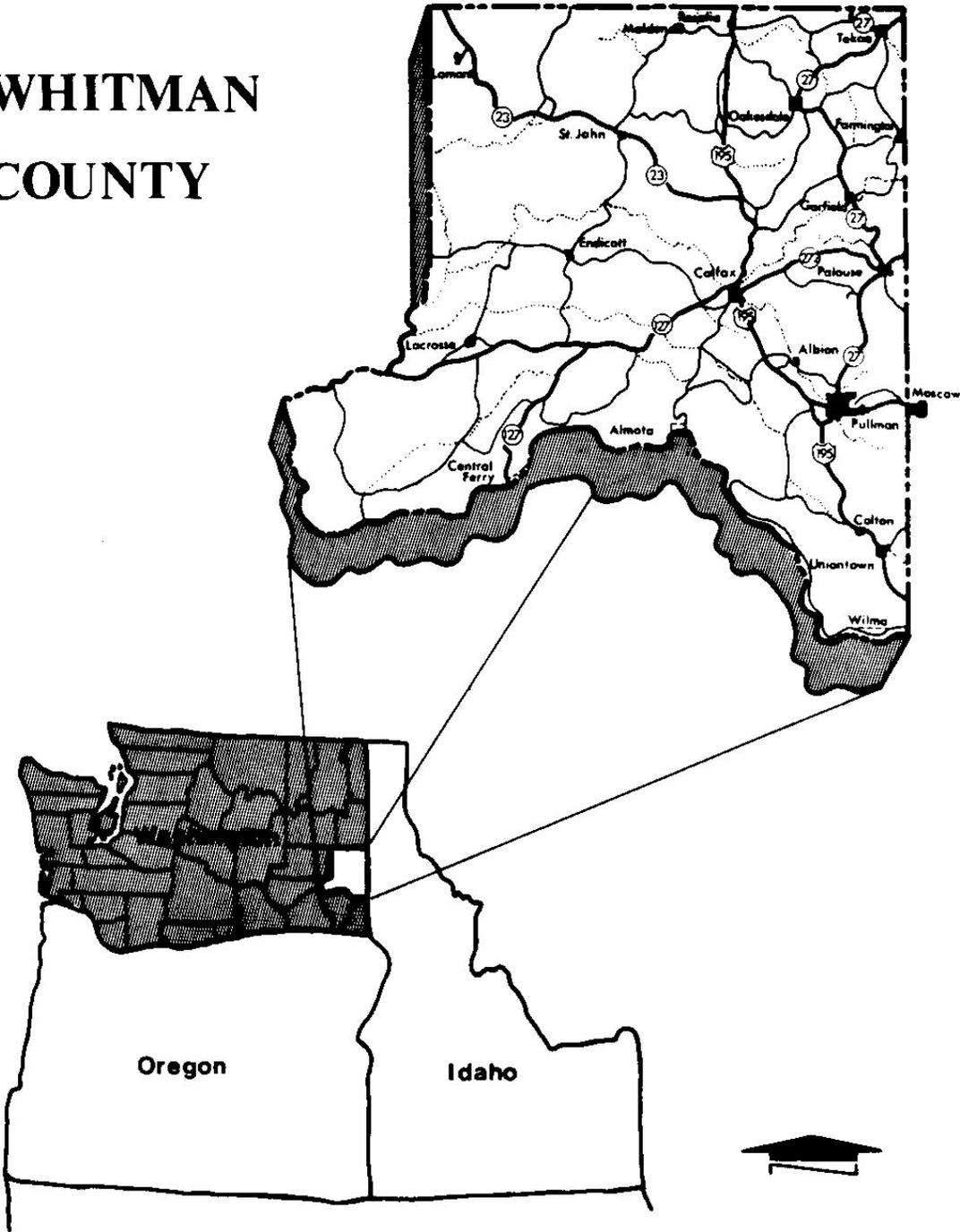
EXISTING OUTDOOR RECREATION AREAS

LEGEND OF MANAGING ORGANIZATIONS

C: Whitman County Parks and Recreation Board
 CE: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
 DNR: Washington State Department of Natural Resources
 BLM: Bureau of Land Management
 G: Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife
 H: Washington State Department of Transportation
 HS: Whitman County Historical Society
 NC: Nature Conservancy
 P: Pullman
 PD: Private Development
 PhC: Port of Whitman County
 PRD: Park Recreation District
 S: Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission
 SD: School Districts
 T: Towns
 WSU: Washington State University

PARK/FACILITY	LOCATION	MANAGING ORGANIZATION	ACRES	OUTDOOR FIELD AREA	SPECTATOR SPORTS	SWIMMING - OUTDOORS	SWIMMING - INDOORS	WATER SKIING	TENNIS	TRAILS - MULTI-USE (MILES PAVED)	TRAILS - HIKING (MILES - UNPAVED)	FISHING	PICNICKING	NATURE STUDY	BOATING	EQUESTRIAN AREAS	GOLF	CAMPING	HERITAGE SITES	SKATE PARK	SHOOTING SPORTS/ HUNTING	HANG GLIDING
TERREVIEW	PULLMAN	P	3.25																			
SPRING STREET SKATE PARK	PULLMAN	P	2.75																	x		
LAWSON GARDENS	PULLMAN	P	13.00																			
GREENWAY TRAILS	PULLMAN	P								7.20												
RECREATIONAL VEHICLE PARK	PULLMAN	P	2.00	x	x													x				
CITY FIELD	PULLMAN	P	8.61	x	x					x			x									
FRANKLIN SCHOOL FIELD	PULLMAN	SD		x	x																	
JEFFERSON SCHOOL FIELD	PULLMAN	SD		x	x																	
LINCOLN MIDDLE SCHOOL FIELD	PULLMAN	SD		x	x																	
LINCOLN MIDDLE SCHOOL	PULLMAN	SD		x	x																	
PULLMAN HIGH SCHOOL	PULLMAN	SD		x	x																	
SUNNYSIDE SCHOOL	PULLMAN	SD		x	x																	
PIONEER CENTER	PULLMAN	SD		x	x																	
WAWAWAI COUNTY PARK	18 Mi West Pullman	C	49.00	x		x				1	x	x	x	x				x				
ELBERTON COUNTY PARK	ELBERTON	C	100.00	x						0.5			x									
KAMIAK BUTTE COUNTY PARK	12 Mi North Pullman	C	298.00							0.5			x	x				x				
KLEMGARD COUNTY PARK	12 Mi South Colfax	C	59.00	x						1	x	x	x									
COLFAX TRAIL	1 Mi West Colfax	C	50.00							3				x		x						

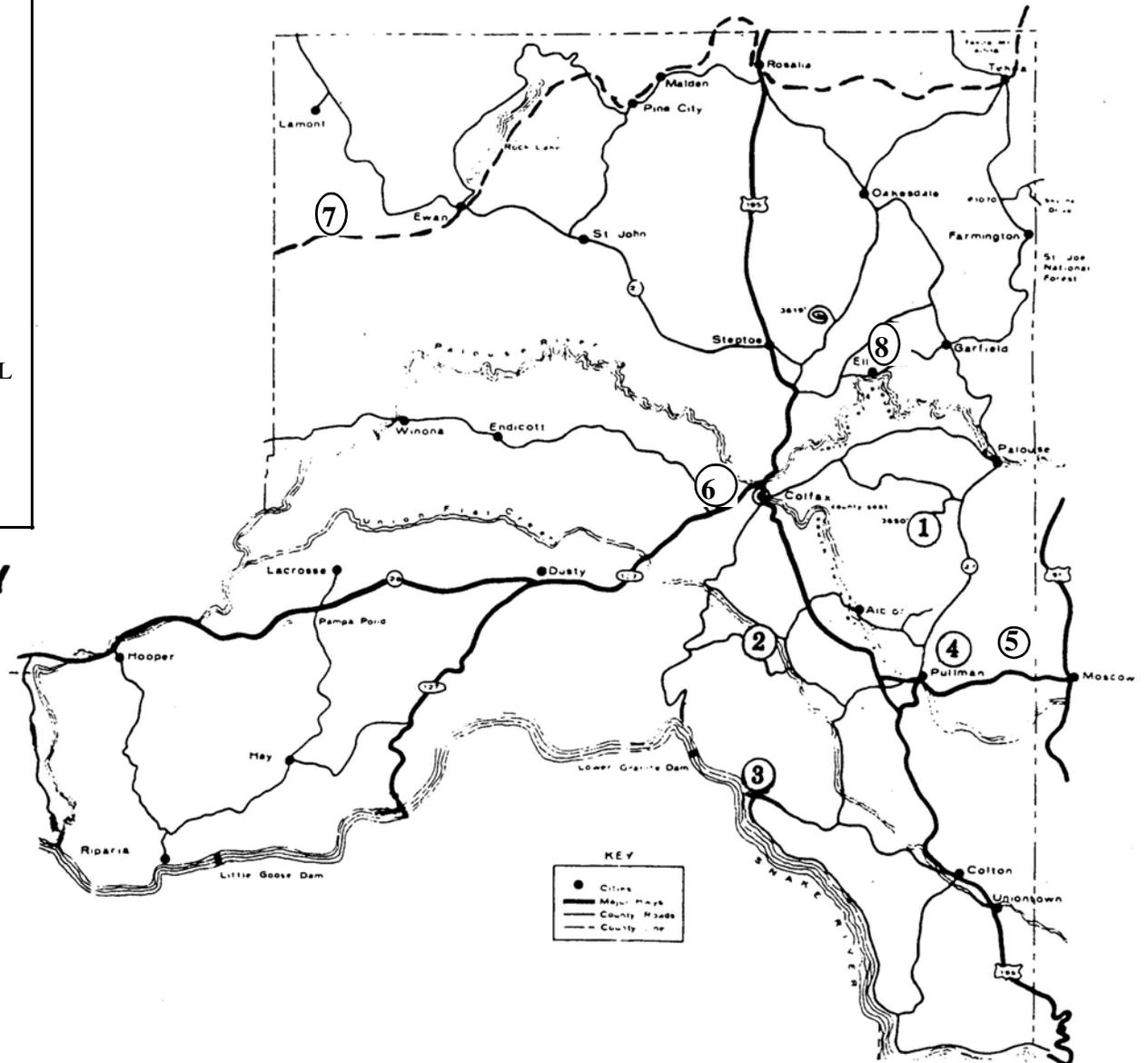
WHITMAN COUNTY

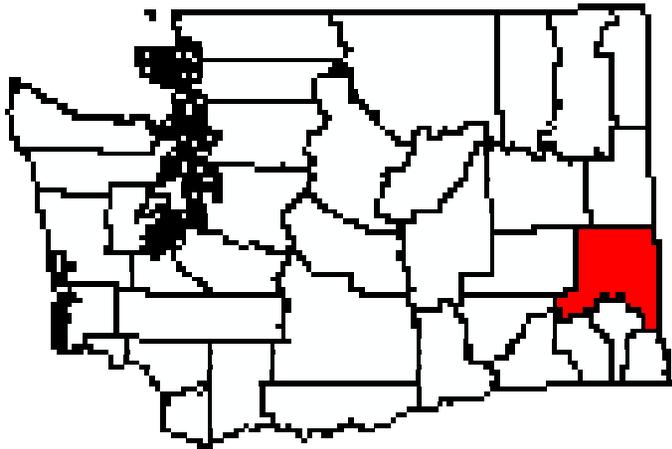


REGIONAL LOCATION

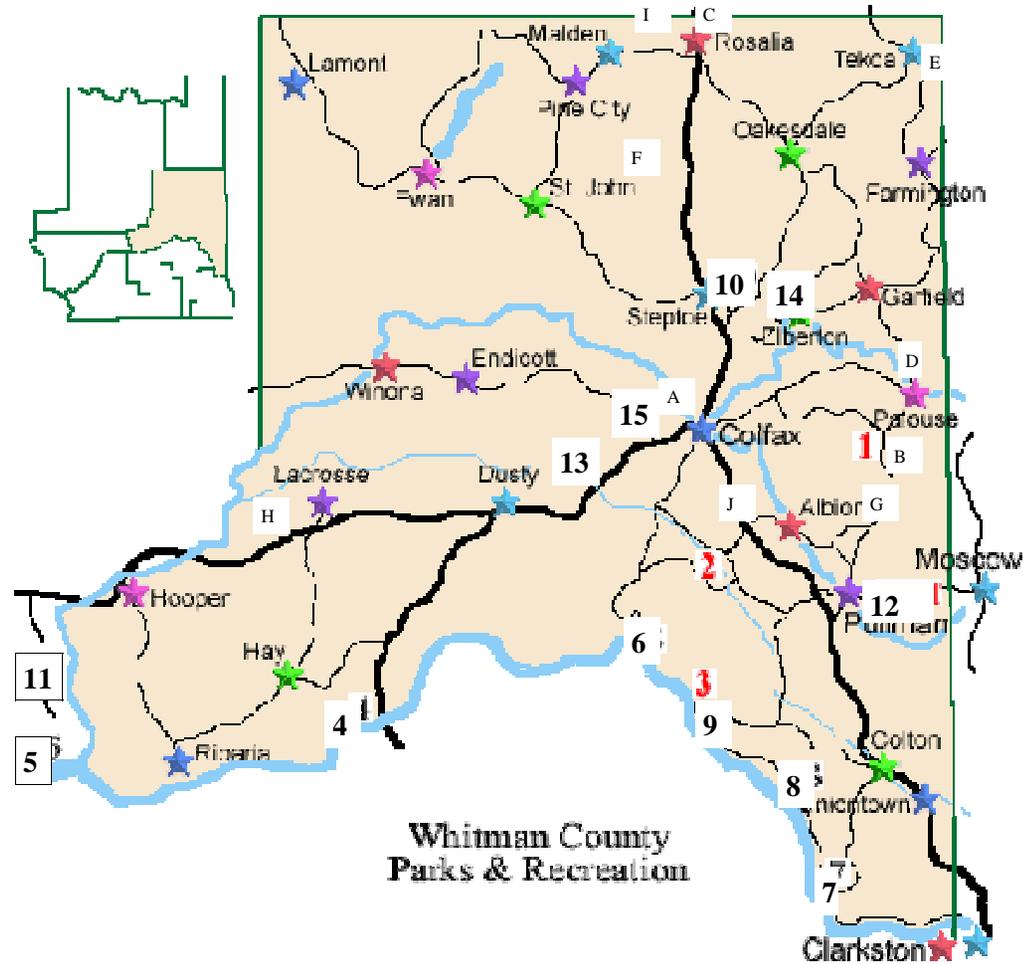
1. KAMIAK BUTTE COUNTY PARK
PINE RIDGE TRAIL
2. KLEMGARD COUNTY PARK
NATURE TRAIL
3. WAWAWAI COUNTY PARK
INTERPRETIVE TRAIL
4. PULLMAN BIKE ROUTE
(enlarged map on page 128)
5. BILL CHIPMAN PALOUSE TRAIL
INTERPRETIVE TRAIL
(enlarged map on page 129)
6. COLFAX TRAIL
EQUESTRIAN/MULTI-USE TRAIL
7. MILWAUKEE ROAD TRAIL
8. PROPOSED ELBERTON TRAIL

WHITMAN COUNTY TRAIL PLAN





State of Washington—
Whitman County (shaded area)



All Aboard!

Bill Chipman Palouse Trail interpretive line
Pullman, WA to Moscow, ID • Established 1998

Trail head



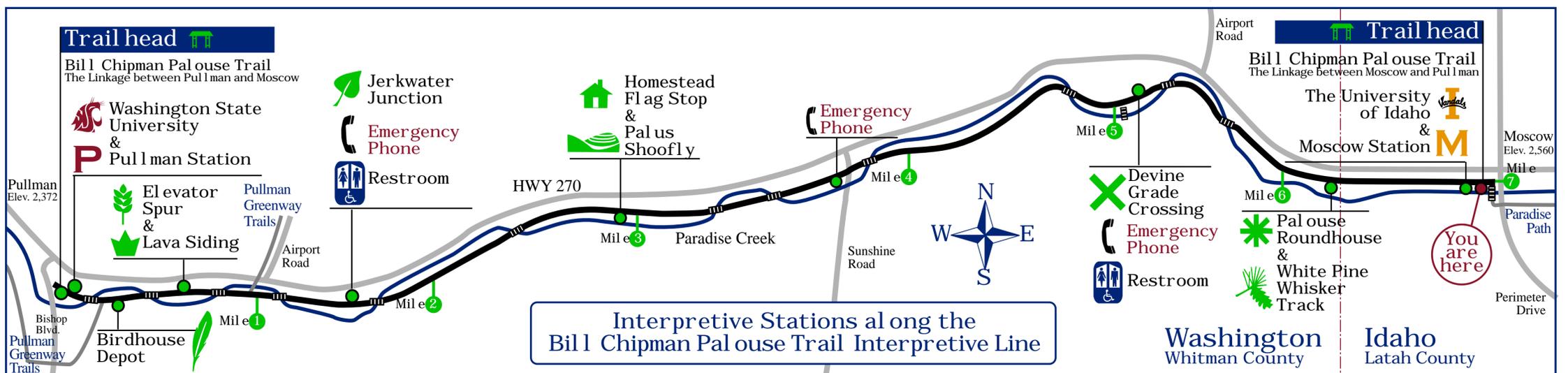
The Bill Chipman Palouse Trail The Linkage between Moscow and Pullman



William M. Chipman

December 17, 1944 - January 10, 1996

An active UI alumnus and a tireless WSU volunteer, William M. Chipman's legacy to the Pullman and Moscow communities came in the form of leadership, economic vision, and commitment to people. A well-respected business person and family man, he represented a passionate and credible voice for the quality of life the citizens of this area enjoy. His legacy lives on in this seven-mile trail connecting the places he loved most.



• NEXT STOP •

West: Moscow Station &
The University of Idaho

Bill Chipman Palouse Trail interpretive line

CHAPTER VIII CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM



CHAPTER VIII
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

We have incorporated into the Capital Improvement Program for 2004-2009 the previous Capital Improvement Plan of May 1994. A copy of that document follows Section One 1994-1999. Many of the projects listed in the 1994 Capital Improvement Program have been accomplished over the last ten years. Those projects that have not been accomplished will be proposed for the 2004-2009 Capital Improvement Plan.

SECTION ONE
1994-1999

Here is a status report of the 1994 Capital Improvement Plan accomplishments:

1. Moscow Pullman Bicycle and Walking Path.

This project was completed in late 1997 and opened to the public in April 1998. The completed project is referred to as the Bill Chipman Palouse Trail. The Bill Chipman Palouse Trail was accomplished through a Federal Intermodal Surface Transportation Enhancement Act (ISTEA) Grant, an Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation (IAC) Grant, and over \$500,000 of public donations. The Bill Chipman Palouse Trail is a model of intergovernmental cooperation and public support. The Palouse Trail Committee was formed through an Interlocal Agreement to manage and maintain the Bill Chipman Palouse Trail. The following agencies contribute \$7,500.00 per year to the Bill Chipman Palouse Trail account annually and each has a voting member and an alternate on the committee:

City of Moscow, Idaho	City of Pullman, Washington
University of Idaho	Washington State University
Whitman County, Washington	

Whitman County is the lead agency for this facility.

Additional Capital Improvements to the Bill Chipman Palouse Trail have included:

- A. Completion of Phase II of the interpretive program. This includes: signs, benches, and pullouts. Private donations funded this project.
- B. Seal coating of the trail, completed in 2002.

A capital project that still needs to be accomplished on the Bill Chipman Palouse Trail is the paving of all the wood decked bridges. This will make a continuous surface trail allowing for smoother transitions for in-line skating, snowplowing and protect deteriorating wooden decking.

2. Palouse Empire Fairgrounds RV Park Renovation.

The RV dump station was completed in July 2001. Funds were provided in part by hotel/motel tax revenue. Expansion of the campground was completed in August of 2003, adding 20 sites with water and electricity to the existing campground. This project was partially funded by the Palouse Empire Fair Foundation.

3. Regional Shooting Range.

This project has not been accomplished, though some private and public groups have pursued locations over the last 10 years.

4. Rail Abandonment's.

The County Park Board continues to evaluate abandoned railroad corridors for potential public trail use. The #1 project the Bill Chipman Palouse Trail was an abandoned railroad.

5. Building Renovation Replacement -Palouse Empire Fairgrounds.

The most used facility, the Community Building, at the Palouse Empire Fairgrounds was renovated in 2002. This included restroom and kitchen upgrades, small meeting room upgrades, outside lighting upgrades and new doors and infrastructure. .08 dollars and Palouse Empire Fair Foundation monies provided funding. A new facility, the Wilbur Ellis Performance Stage/Gazebo, was completed in August of 2003. This project was funded with a \$25,000 Wilbur Ellis Grant.

A long time need at the Palouse Empire Fairgrounds is a new multi-use facility. This facility would be used as a sales arena to provide more room for livestock during the Palouse Empire Fair, and for a multitude of other year round uses. Some monies have been earmarked for this project. The project is currently being referred to as the Youth Agriculture Pavilion. Donations are still being sought with completion of the project anticipated from 2004-2006. This project will be carried into the 2004 Capital Improvement Program.

6. Renovate Boat Launch, Beach Areas and Restrooms at Corps Facilities: Wawawai, Blyton and Nisqually John Landings.

The Corps of Engineers from 2000-2003 accomplished this project in most part. Beach renovation is still an area that needs improvement.

7. Kamiak Butte Renovation

This main project was completed in 1998 through a 50% matching grant with the IAC. Renovation included: new main water line, automatic irrigation system, new playground, new shelters, handicap accessible trails, year round restrooms and campground improvement. Another project was the Pine Ridge Trail Renovation Project through a Memorandum of Understanding with the National Parks Service. This was completed in 1998.

In addition, a 50/50 matching Challenge Cost Share Grant through the National Park Service was accomplished in 1997. This project added interpretive signs and an interpretive brochure for the Pine Ridge Trail at Kamiak Butte County Park. Kamiak Butte Fire Prevention Plan, Phase I was accomplished in 1999. This project consisted of putting in a fire access road to the summit of Kamiak Butte and adding two landings on the ridge to the summit for fire trucks to fight from and turn around.

Additional projects

Additional projects completed over the last 10 years not listed in the 1994-1999 Capital Improvement Project list include:

- A. A pathway at the Palouse Empire Fairgrounds was constructed that allows circular movement during fair time. Palouse Empire Fair Foundation dollars and Paths and Trails monies funded this ¼ mile path. It was completed in 2000.

- B. Renovation of the gravel-hiking trail at Wawawai County Park. This project was accomplished through a private donation and volunteer labor from the Thrivent Financial For Lutherans Group in 2003.

1994 – 1999 Capital Improvement Program
(Parks and Recreation Facilities)

<u>Agency/Department:</u> Whitman County Parks and Recreation				<u>Date of Adoption:</u> May 1994						
<u>Address:</u> 310 North Main Street				<u>Resolution #:</u>						
<u>City, Zip Code:</u> 99111				<u>Completed by:</u> Michael P. Werner						
<u>Phone:</u> (509) 397-6238				<u>Title:</u> Director						
<u>County:</u> Whitman										
(1) Priority (proposal)	(2) Project Name	(3) Fund Name	(4) (A)cquisition (D)evelopment (R)enovation	(5) Facility Type	(6)					
					Estimated Cost per Year of Project Implementation					
					1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
1.	Moscow to Pullman Bicycle & Walking Path	#1 U,L,M,D	D	TB,TP,OS	COMPLETED 1997 Cost: \$1,300,000.00					
2.	Palouse Empire Fairgrounds RV Park Renovation	#3 L,M,D	D,R	Regional Park C,EQ,P,PF	COMPLETED 2000 AND 2003 Cost: \$11,450.00					
3.	Regional Shooting Range	#1 U,L,M,D	A,D	Multi-use Range	Not accomplished					
4.	Railroad Abandonment's	U	A,D	EQ,I,OS, TB,TP	Ongoing Evaluation as Abandonment's occur					
5.	Building Renovation or Replacement -- Palouse Empire Fairgrounds	#3 U	D	CC,BB	COMPLETED 2002 AND 2003 Cost: \$78,000.00					
6.	Renovate Boat Launch, Beach areas and Restrooms at Corps Facilities: Wawawai, Blyton and Nisqually John Landings	U	R	B,F,P,WF	COMPLETED 2000 (Excluding Renovation of Beaches)					

1994 – 1999 Capital Improvement Program
(Parks and Recreation Facilities Continued)

7.	Kamiak Butte County Park Renovation	#1 L,M,D	D,R	D,R	COMPLETED 1998 Cost: \$230,000.00
8.	Wawawai County Park Interpretive Development	#2 L,M,D	D,R	Regional Park P,TP, C,I,F,WF	COMPLETED 1994 Cost: \$54,000.00
9.	Palouse Empire Fairgrounds Horse Barn Project	#3 L,M,D	D,R	Regional Park C,EQ,P,PF	COMPLETED 1992 Cost: \$25,000.00

Note: This CIP supercedes all previous CIP's

(3) Application Type:

- #1 IAC Application
- #2 DNR/ALEA
- #3 WA State Fair Comm

(#) List of Fund

- Sources:**
- L- Local Funds
 - D- Donation
 - M- Matching Funds, Grants, etc.
 - U- Unknown

(4) ADR

- A- Acquisition
- D- Development
- R- Renovation

(5) Facility Type

- B- Boating
- BB- Basketball/Other Courts
- C- Camping
- CC- Community/ Senior Center
- EQ- Equestrian Facility/Trail
- F- Fishing
- I- Interpretive Nature Study
- OS- Open Space/Greenway
- P- Picnic/Day use
- PF- Open Playfield
- TB- Trail, Bicycle
- TP- Trail Pedestrian
- WF- Waterfront/ Beach access

SECTION TWO
2004-2009

The projects listed in the 2004-2009 Capital Improvement Program have been identified through various means.

- A. Projects not completed in previous Capital Improvement Program that are still relevant.
- B. Projects developed with public input from the Whitman County Survey and public meetings.
- C. Projects brought forth by staff, Park Board and through user recommendations.
- D. Projects listed in the Whitman County Capital Improvement Program for 2004
- E. Projects being developed by the Palouse Empire Fair Planning Committee.

In an era of tight operations and maintenance budgets and declining capital improvement opportunities, maintaining existing facilities becomes a higher priority than acquiring new properties or building new facilities. Replacing and renovating deteriorating facilities to continue providing current levels of service to the public rises to the top of the priority listing these times.

Ranking of the 2004-2009 Capital Improvement Project List was accomplished using the following criteria:

- 1. Maintain current facilities through renovation replacement projects to continue to provide existing services.
- 2. Prioritize projects using the results of the 2000 Whitman County Mail Survey (see Appendix II).
- 3. Utilize the current 2004 Whitman County Capital Improvement Program ranking order of projects listed in that document (See Appendix IV).
- 4. Utilize the Palouse Empire Fair Planning Committee unranked order of projects listed in that document (See Appendix V)
- 5. Take public comment from Comprehensive Plan public meetings and apply to the ranked list as appropriate.

This process up to Item #4 is a dynamic process and results in a list that is a starting point for public discussion and input at the Comprehensive Plan public meeting. The Whitman County Park Board will finalize a ranking after public hearings have been completed.

The following is an example of how the #1 project was determined. The #1 project, Klemgard Renovation, is critical in that a wooden bridge built in the mid 1970s is failing. After 30 years of good

quality maintenance the structure has finally worn out. Without this bridge half of Klemgard County Park becomes inaccessible. This includes a one mile hiking/interpretive trail as well as a short paved trail to two shelters which are listed as the #1, #2 and #3 need in Whitman County (Multi use Trails, Nature Trails, and Hiking Trails). Also, the Klemgard Bridge Project is ranked #1 on the Whitman County 2004 Capital Improvement Program.

2004 - 2009 Proposed Capital Improvement Program
(Parks and Recreation Facilities)

<u>Agency/Department:</u> Whitman County Parks and Recreation					<u>Date of Adoption:</u>
<u>Address:</u> 310 North Main Street					<u>Resolution #:</u>
<u>City, Zip Code:</u> 99111					<u>Completed by:</u> Tim Myers
<u>Phone:</u> (509) 397-6238					<u>Title:</u> Director
<u>County:</u> Whitman					
(1) Priority (proposal)	(2) Project Name	(3) Fund Name	(4) (A)cquisition (D)evelopment (R)enovation	(5) Facility Type	(6)
					Estimated Cost per Year of Project Implementation
					2004 -- 2009
1.	Klemgard Renovation	1 L,D,M	D,R	I,OS,P,PF	2004 IAC Application \$170,000. – 2005 Start Project If Successful --2006 Complete Project
2.	Kamiak Butte Fire Plan Phase II	1,2 L,D,M	Other	C,I,OS,P, TP	2004 Current CCSP NPS Application \$24,000. – 2004 If Successful Complete Project
3.	Colfax Multi-use Trail	1,2 L,D,M	D,R	EQ,TP	2005 IAC Application \$50,000. – 2005 Start Project – 2006 Complete Project. If successful
4.	Fairgrounds Youth Agricultural Pavilion	3,4 L,D,M		C,CC,EQ, P,PF	2004 Start Project if funded and constructed by Palouse Empire Fair Foundation
5.	The Palouse Scenic Byway –Phase I	4 D, M	D	State Designated Scenic Byway	2004 \$30,000, 2005 \$109,729
6.	Wawawai Renovation	1,2,4 L,D,M	D,R	C,F,I,OS,P, TP,WF	2006 ALEA Application \$100,000. 2007 Start Project -- 2008 Complete Project. If successful
7.	Bill Chipman Palouse Trail Bridge Resurfacing	1 L,D,M	R	I,TB,TP	2004 Complete Project \$30,000.
8.	Fairgrounds Roof(S)	3,4 L,D,M	R	C,CC,EQ, P,PF	2008 \$30,000.
9.	Fairgrounds Renovation	3 L,D,M	R	C,CC,EQ, P,PF	2009 \$1,265,000.

2004 - 2009 Proposed Capital Improvement Program Cont.
(Parks and Recreation Facilities)

(1) Priority (proposal)	(2) Project Name	(3) Fund Name	(4) (A)cquisition (D)evelopment (R)enovation	(5) Facility Type	(6)
					Estimated Cost per Year of Project Implementation
					2004 -- 2009
10.	Fairgrounds Horse Barn Area	3,4 L,D,M	R	C,CC,EQ, P,PF	2006 \$8,000.
11.	Fairgrounds Parking Area	3,4 L,D,M	D,R	C,CC,EQ, P,PF	2006 \$16,500.
12.	Fairgrounds Grandstands	3,4 L,D,M	D,R	C,CC,EQ, P,PF	2007 \$205,000.
13.	Elberton County Park Structure Demolition	1,4	R	I,OS,P,PF EQ	2006 \$30,000.
14.	Fairgrounds Operations Coordinator Residence	3,4 L,D,M	D,R	C,CC,EQ, P,PF	2007 \$50,000.
15.	Fairgrounds Reserved Parking Area	3,4 L,D,M	D,R	C,CC,EQ, P,PF	2005 \$10,000.
16.	Shooting Range	1 L,D,M	A,D,R	RANGE	2009 \$200,000.
17.	Kamiak Butte County Park Maintenance Shop	1,4 L,D,M	D	C,I,OS,P, TP	2008 \$12,000

(3) Application Type:

- #1 IAC Application
- #2 DNR/ALEA
- #3 WA State Fair Comm
- #4 Other Note:

This CIP supercedes all previous CIP's.

(#) List of Fund Sources:

- L- Local Funds
- D- Donation
- M- Matching Funds, Grants, etc.
- U- Unknown

(4) ADR

- A- Acquisition
- D- Development
- R- Renovation

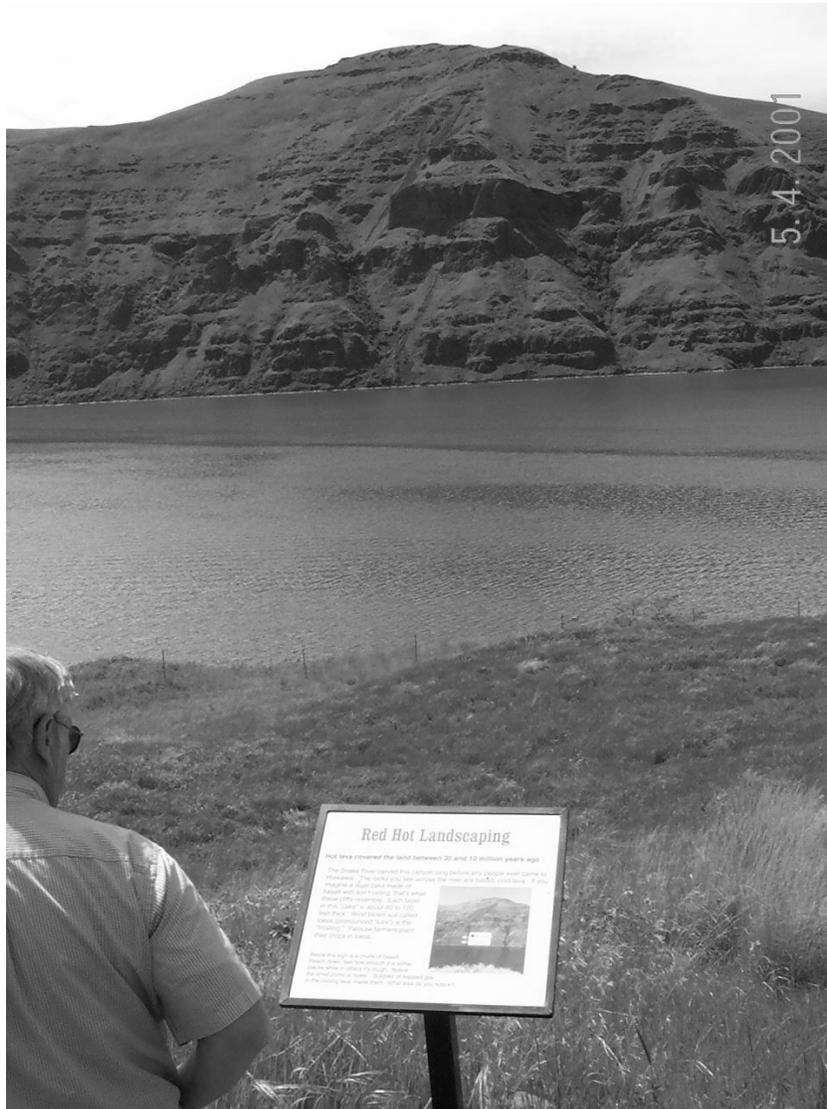
(5) Facility Type

- B- Boating
- BB- Basketball/Other Courts
- C- Camping
- CC- Community/ Senior Center
- EQ- Equestrian Facility/Trail
- F- Fishing

- I- Interpretive Nature Study
- OS- Open Space/Greenway
- P- Picnic/Day use
- PF- Open Playfield
- TB- Trail, Bicycle
- TP- Trail Pedestrian
- WF- Waterfront/ Beach access

CHAPTER IX

APPENDIX



Grand Totals

1. Do you have an exhibit at the Fair?	Yes	No
	77	80
2. Do you plan to exhibit at the Fair in the near future?	Yes	No
	98	57
3. Is this the first time you've attended an event at the Palouse Empire Fairgrounds?	Yes	No
	14	145
4. Have you had an exhibit at the Fair within last two years?	Yes	No
	81	62
5. How many times during the past year have you visited the Palouse Empire Fairgrounds?		
A. Have not visited the Fairgrounds in the past year	6	
B. Once	23	
C. Twice	31	
D. 3 or more times	87	
6. What specific facilities did you use when you came to the Fairgrounds during the past year?		
A. Community Building	109	
B. Indoor Arena	36	
C. RV Park	32	
D. Horse Barns	7	
E. Outdoor Arena	30	
F. Other	26	

9. What three (3) fairground facilities do you feel are most in need of improvement or further development?		
A. Campground	18	
B. Recreational Fields	0	
C. Paved Roadways	14	
D. Lighting	17	
E. Payphones	16	
F. RV Storage	2	
G. Meeting/Conference Facilities	12	
H. Covered Grandstands	87	
I. Outdoor Arena	3	
J. Animal Exhibit Areas	36	
K. Beer Garden	14	
L. Showers	23	
M. Group Picnic Areas	9	
N. Paved Trails	8	
O. All Weather Parking	16	
P. Sales Arena	48	
Q. Horse Facilities	4	
R. Kitchen Facilities	10	
S. Grandstands	23	
T. Indoor Arena	8	
U. Restrooms	40	
V. Indoor Exhibit Areas	16	
W. Museum	7	
X. Other	13	

10. Are you aware of the Palouse Empire Fair Foundations	Yes	No
501 C3 status which allows for your tax deductible	74	72
contributions?		
11. What activities do you feel enhance the use of the		
Palouse Empire Fairgrounds?		
A. Demo Derby	45	
B. Horse Show	35	
C. Dog Show	23	
D. Group Camping	21	
E. Craft Fair	65	
F. Outdoor Concerts	66	
G. Agriculture's Show	44	
H. Sportman Show	39	
I. Jr. Livestock Show	60	
J. Other	5	
12. How long have you lived in Whitman County?		
A. Less then a year	2	
B. 1 -3 years	3	
C. 4 -5 years	4	
D. 6 - 9 years	10	
E. 10 or more years	121	
F. Not a resident	10	
13. Are you	Male	Female
	74	74

14. How many members in your household?		
A. 1 -2	59	
B. 3 - 4	55	
C. 5 or more	28	
15. What is your age?		
A. 25 & under	5	
B. 35 & under	21	
C. 45 & under	45	
D. 55 & under	41	
E. 65 & under	21	
F. Over 65	14	
16. Would you be willing to volunteer for activities at the	Yes	No
Fairgrounds?	46	38

What people suggested on Question #9

1. ATM during the fair
2. Move picnic tables on crowded days
3. Permanent electricity to rodeo/south gate
4. Pathway from flag pole to main gate
5. New livestock barns
6. Roof on ice cream parlor leaks
7. Bathrooms near beef barns
8. Allow volunteers free admission
9. Signing up for spot at the fairgrounds
10. Baby changing area
11. Hog showering
12. More barns
13. Community building roof leaks



Looking into the future

*A survey of recreation needs and
experiences in Whitman County*

DRAFT REPORT

Nick Sanyal, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor
Department of Resource Recreation & Tourism
College of Natural Resources
University of Idaho

INTRODUCTION

The Whitman County Parks, Fair, and Developmental Services Department contracted with the University of Idaho Department of Resource Recreation and Tourism to conduct a mail survey of Whitman County residents during Spring 2000. The University was to design the survey instrument, create a sampling plan, administer the survey instrument, manage and analyze the data, and report the statistical findings to the County. The county was responsible for interpreting the results and making policy and developmental decisions.

This study repeated and/or modified several questions from earlier studies (Scott and Shew, 1976; Udd, 1991). Methodology was also essentially consistent with the past studies. Thus, while several direct comparisons can be made between this effort and earlier research, caution needs to be exercised due to alterations in wording, modification of response formats, and changes to lists of activities and facilities. Where minor differences in response are observed, care should take to not generalize too broadly.

METHODS

As in past efforts, the population of interest was residents of Whitman County. A sample frame (December 2000 GTE Phone Book for Palouse Region) was used to generate a list of 985 randomly selected names stratified by town. The sample was selected proportional to the towns' contribution to the county 1990 population. Because phonebooks were used to generate the sample, a slight under representation of people living in unincorporated areas may have occurred in the sample frame.

We also anticipated that Washington State University Students, particularly those living on campus, would be under represented in the sample frame. To correct for this we conducted a phone interview of 140 WSU students using an instrument that replicated some, but not all of the mail survey instrument questions. Names and phone numbers were randomly selected (with replacement) from the WSU Fall 2000 student directory. Because of differences in wording and administration, these results are not reported here.

Survey design and administration followed that of Dillman (1978) and Salant and Dillman (1984). Mailings were made in March 2000, and included a printed instrument (Appendix A), two cover letters—one from the principal investigator for the University of Idaho, on UI letterhead (Appendix B), and the other from the Whitman County Commissioners, on their letterhead. A reminder postcard (Appendix C) was sent out 10 days after the initial mailing, and replacement surveys were mailed out three weeks later. Response formats for all interval scales were constructed using magnitude estimators developed by Bass et al. (1974). This ensured that all interval measures were true equal interval scales and that the results could be compared across sub-populations

and with the findings of other studies using similar scale development procedures.

Acknowledgements

This project was made possible with the help of students in RRT 310-311: Leisure Services Evaluation and Research, spring 2000: They are:

Jeremy Ahola	Brett Gabby
Annell Allen	John Gale
Scott Anderson	Wade Gruhl
Theresa Baschmann	Zach Hatton
Susan Baumgart	Brock Heasley
Alice Blair	Abby Henry
Dean Chapman	Jennifer Kuhlmann
Kevin Darcy	Nicholas Langley
Jason Dobis	Marie McLaughlin
Andrew Domras	Casey Mitchell
Mariah Dunham	Lucio Morales
Andrew Erickson	Nicholas Newlan
Mackenzie Ferguson	Lisa Peterson
Jeffrey Finken	Andrew Redford
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Gretchen Friesen	David Rouse

Three outstanding teaching and lab assistants also supervised these students: Kathy Berry, Susan Bliss-Jenkins, and Lisa McCollum. I thank them all.

RESULTS

RESPONSE RATE

Of the 985 surveys mailed out, the US Post Office returned 303 as undeliverable. Fifty-five were eventually successfully re-mailed to active addresses, giving us a useable database of 737 mail instruments. 457 were completed and returned, for a 62% response rate. Table 1 summarizes the intended and achieved sample rates. The major discrepancy is the under sampling of Pullman residents, which was corrected for by the telephone survey of WSU students.

Table 1: Intended and achieved sample rates

	Percent of county population (1990)	Percent of sample	Percent of returned questionnaires ¹
None Given	---	---	6.6
Albion	2.0	2.0	2.0
Colfax	8.5	8.5	15.6
Colton	1.0	1.0	1.2
Dusty	N/A	0.0	0.5
Endicott	1.0	1.0	0
Farmington	0.4	0.4	0.5
Garfield	1.7	1.7	3.7
Lacrosse	1.1	1.0	0
Oaksdale	1.1	1.0	0.5
Palouse	2.9	2.9	4.5
Pullman	73.8	73.7	58.6
Rosalia	1.7	1.7	1.2
Seltice	N/A	0.0	0.5
St. John	1.6	1.6	2.5
Tekoa	2.4	2.4	1.2
Uniontown	0.9	0.9	1.2

¹ These data were collected from the following questionnaire in the mail back survey:

Do you presently live inside or outside of a town or city limits in Whitman County?
(Please check one response)

76% INSIDE
 24% OUTSIDE



What is the name of the town you live in or closest to?
See Table 1 for details

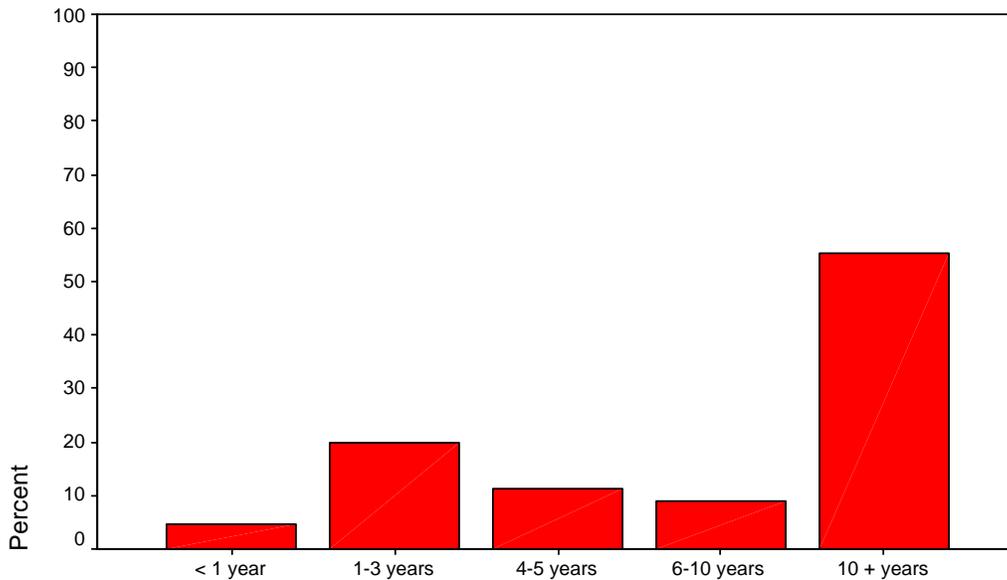
This return rate provided a sample at the county scale large enough to be accurate at the ±5% level.

In this first section, simple frequencies of each of the questions are reported. Where appropriate, graphic displays are also provided.

RESIDENCY:

How long have you lived in Whitman County? *(Please check one response)*

4.8%	LESS THAN ONE YEAR
20.0%	1-3 YEARS
11.2%	4-5 YEARS
8.9%	6-10 YEARS
55.1%	10 OR MORE YEARS



Length of Residency in Whitman County

Figure 1: Length of residency in Whitman County

VALUE OF RECREATION

How important is having convenient outdoor recreation opportunities to your lifestyle? *(Please check one response)*

33.6%	EXTREMELY IMPORTANT
52.0%	IMPORTANT
11.8%	NEITHER IMPORTANT OR UNIMPORTANT
2.5%	UNIMPORTANT
0%	EXTREMELY UNIMPORTANT

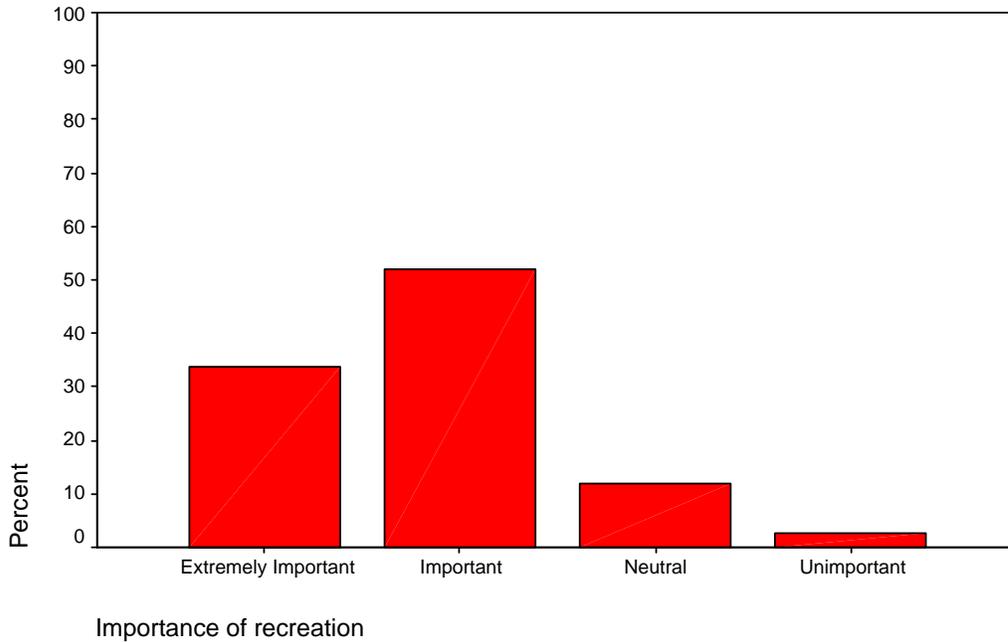


Figure 2: Importance of convenient outdoor recreation opportunities to the lifestyle of Whitman County Residents.

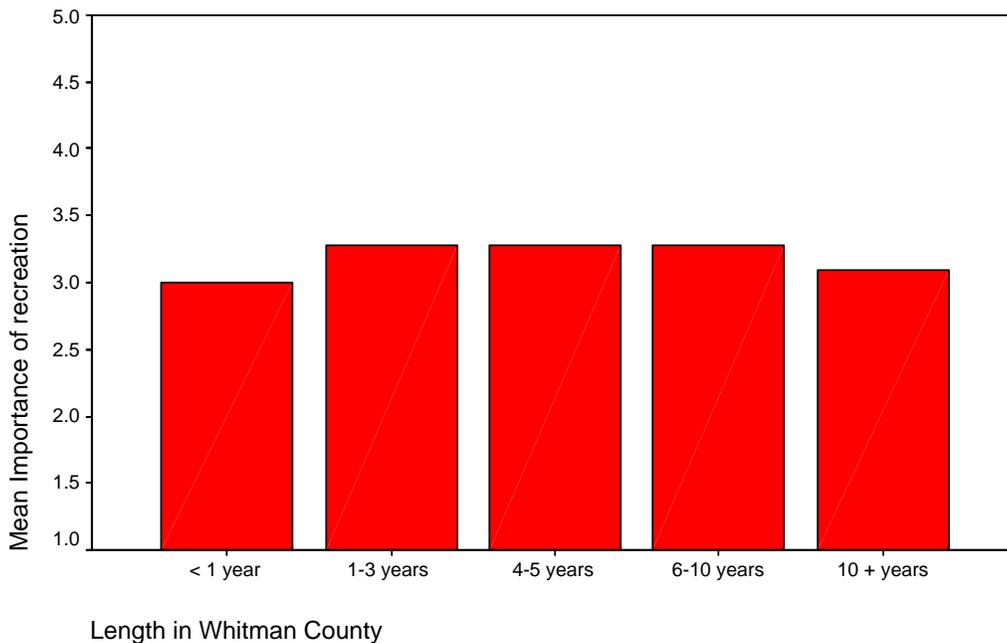


Figure 3: Importance of convenient outdoor recreation opportunities to the lifestyle of Whitman County Residents as a function of length of residency (5=Extremely Important; 4=Important; 3=Neither Important or Unimportant; 2=Unimportant; and 1=Extremely Unimportant)

Despite the skewed length of residency, (Figure 1), all residents regardless of how long they have lived in Whitman County, place high importance on

convenient outdoor recreation opportunities. Against this backdrop, the other differences of opinion that will emerge from the data in the following pages can now be assumed to have greater meaning. Figure 3 suggests that any bias inherent in being a long-time resident, or a relative new comer, is not reflected in the importance one places on outdoor recreation.

PATTERNS OF RECREATION PARTICIPATION

Frequency of Participation

The importance place on outdoor recreation is reflected in the frequency of participation data:

How many hours per week do you spend participating in outdoor activities and/or exercising outdoors?
(Please write in your answer)

Average = 13.9 HOURS PER WEEK

How many hours per week do you spend participating in outdoor activities and/or exercising outdoors **in Whitman County** Parks and recreation areas? *(Please write in your answer)*

Average = 8.3 HOURS PER WEEK, IN WHITMAN COUNTY

How many times during the past year (1999) have you visited a park/s in Whitman County?
(Please write in your answer)

Average = 17.2 TIMES IN 1999

In general, Whitman county residents are active, averaging just under 14 hours per week participating in some form of outdoor recreation, of which just over 8 hours take place at facilities in Whitman County. Each county resident visited a outdoor recreation facility in Whitman county just over 17 times in 1999.

Several facilities get the majority of use: Bill Chipman Palouse Trail (used by 63.1% of residents), Boyer Park and Marina (59.3%), Palouse Empire Fairgrounds (58.7%), Kamiak Butte County Park (56.6%), and Klemgard County Park (45.4%) are all used by almost half of county residents. Privately owned land is used by almost a third of residents.

Whitman County – Mail Survey

Which **Whitman County** outdoor recreation areas did you use during 1999?

(Please check all that apply)

63.1%	BILL CHIPMAN PALOUSE TRAIL	25.1%	PALOUSE RIVER
5.7%	BONNIE LAKE	31.4%	PRIVATELY OWNED LAND
59.3%	BOYER PARK AND MARINA	12.8%	ROCK LAKE
24.2%	CENTRAL FERRY STATE PARK	36.8%	SNAKE RIVER AND CANYON
5.5%	COLFAX TRAIL	13.9%	SNAKE RIVER TRAIL AT BOYER
7.4%	ELBERTON ROPES COURSE	3.0%	STEPTOE BUTTE STATE PARK
56.6%	KAMIAK BUTTE COUNTY PARK	31.2%	WAWAWAI COUNTY PARK
45.4%	KLEMGARD COUNTY PARK		OTHER AREA (IN WHITMAN COUNTY):
58.7%	PALOUSE EMPIRE FAIRGROUNDS		(NAME) GRANITE POINT 1.1%

NOW go back to and circle the ONE area you used MOST during 1999.

BILL CHIPMAN PALOUSE TRAIL 40.1%; KAMIAK BUTTE COUNTY PARK 11.7%; PRIVATELY OWNED LAND 10.3%

The aggregate pattern is also reflected in the individual listing of the one area used most: Bill Chipman Trail was the pick of about 40 percent of county residents, Kamiak Butte was listed by about 1 in 10, as was privately owned land.

Activity Participation

Which outdoor recreation activities do you generally engage in **within Whitman County?**
 Please check all those activities you participate in. Add any of your activities not mentioned here. *(Please check **all** that apply)*

<u>WILDLIFE</u>	1.0%	SAILING
24.7% BIRD WATCHING	12.8%	OTHER BOATING
31.8% FISHING	11.9%	WATER SKIING
23.3% HUNTING		
<u>RECREATION</u>	<u>ATTENDING EVENTS</u>	
19.9% ASTRONOMY/STAR GAZING	53.3%	ATTENDING PALOUSE EMPIRE FAIR
44.3% CAMPING	39.6%	ATTENDING FESTIVALS
18.1% LAWN GAMES	31.2%	ATTENDING OUTDOOR EVENTS
26.8% PHOTOGRAPHY	<u>SPORTS</u>	
58.8% PICNICKING	2.8%	ARCHERY
4.6% ROCK CLIMBING	12.7%	BASEBALL
59.2% SIGHTSEEING/DRIVING	15.0%	FOOTBALL
<u>TRAIL BASED</u>	25.8%	GOLFING
43.8% BICYCLING FOR PLEASURE	3.7%	HORSESHOES
10.1% HORSEBACK RIDING	5.5%	SKATEBOARDING
12.8% INLINE	10.9%	SOCCER
SKATING/ROLLERBLADING	22.7%	SOFTBALL
30.6% JOGGING/RUNNING	1.8%	STREET HOCKEY
5.6% MOTORCYCLING	8.3%	TARGET SHOOTING
15.3% MOUNTAIN BIKING	14.5%	TENNIS
71.4% WALKING/HIKING	8.3%	TRAP SHOOTING
4.6% FOUR WHEELING	16.5%	VOLLEYBALL
<u>WATER BASED</u>	<u>WINTER SPORTS</u>	
12.7% CANOEING	16.9%	CROSS COUNTRY SKIING
4.6% KAYAKING	13.0%	ICE SKATING
0.9% OUTDOOR SWIMMING POOL	24.7%	SLEDDING
29.2% PLAYING IN POND, LAKE, CREEK, ETC.	4.6%	SNOWMOBILING
24.5% POWER BOATING	N/A	OTHER ACTIVITIES:
8.2% RAFTING		

If you checked any activities in #7 above, which **THREE** of them do you participate in **MOST FREQUENTLY within Whitman County?** *(Write in the names of the 3 activities in the appropriate lines below)*

PARTICIPATE IN **MOST** FREQUENTLY

Walking/Hiking 47.3%

PARTICIPATE IN **SECOND** MOST FREQUENTLY

Sightseeing/Driving 20.8%

PARTICIPATE IN **THIRD** MOST FREQUENTLY

Bicycling for Pleasure 20.4%

Table 2. Summary activity participation¹ by category.

Activity Category	Average Participation ¹
Attending Events	41.4%
Recreation	33.1%
Wildlife	26.6%
Trail Based	24.3%
Winter Sports	14.8%
Water Based	11.8%
Sports	11.4%

¹ Percent of county residents who participated during 1999.

Whitman county residents are collectively drawn to recreational events more so than to any other type of recreation. General recreation and wildlife-based activities are also popular. Bear in mind that this table, and the data shown previously, do not reflect how often people participate, only what types of activities are popular.

During 1999, how many visits did you make to the Palouse Empire Fairgrounds?
(Please write in the number of visits each month in the boxes below)

If you **did not** visit Palouse Empire Fairgrounds during 1999, Check here and move on.

Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
1.0 avg # of visits	0.5	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.5	0.8	0.9	2.1	0.6	0.9	0.8
6.2 % Yes	4.7%	5.5%	5.5%	5.5%	4.7%	5.5%	9.4%	53.3%	6.3%	6.3%	5.5%

Did you attend the Palouse Empire Fair in September 1999? (Please check one response)

72.0% YES 48.0% NO

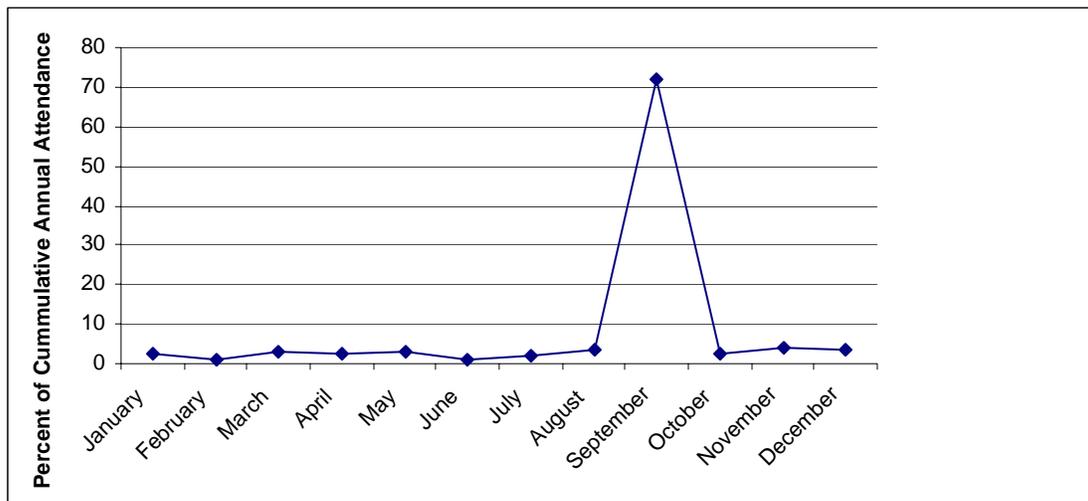


Figure 4: Percent of cumulative annual attendance at the Palouse Empire Fairgrounds.

When it comes to the Palouse Empire Fairgrounds, residents visit it during every month of the year, with the majority of use (over 70%) coming in September, during the county fair. The average percent of the population visiting the fairgrounds each month varies from a low of 4.7% in January, to a high of 53.3% in September. People make between 0.5 visits/month to a high of 2 visits a month (during the fair). Overall, 72 percent of county residents visited the 1999 County Fair.

Other Participation Patterns

Group visits to recreation sites are pursued by almost half of county residents, and almost 9 in 10 people are active recreationists outside Whitman County.

During the past year (1999) did you visit a Whitman County park or recreation facility with an organized group (School, Church, Organization, Club, etc.) *(Please check one response)*

46.3% YES

53.7% NO

Did you participate in recreation outside of Whitman County during 1999? *(Please check one response)*

87.6% YES

12.4% NO

In general, where do you prefer to recreate in the Palouse region? *(Please check **ONLY ONE** response)*

13.9% I PREFER TO RECREATE IN WHITMAN COUNTY

70.3% FOR THE MOST PART I PREFER TO RECREATE IN WHITMAN COUNTY, BUT OCCASIONALLY DO RECREATE OUTSIDE THE COUNTY

25.6% FOR THE MOST PART I PREFER TO RECREATE OUTSIDE WHITMAN COUNTY, BUT OCCASIONALLY DO RECREATE IN WHITMAN COUNTY

7.5% I PREFER TO SEEK MY RECREATION OUTSIDE WHITMAN COUNTY

In general, Whitman county residents while preferring to recreate in Whitman County, do occasionally do recreate outside the County (70.3%). One quarter of residents prefer to recreate outside the county, and only 7.5% seek to satisfy all their outdoor leisure needs outside the county.

Participation in Electronic Leisure

Do you currently have access to the Internet? *(Please check all that apply)*

- 14% DO NOT HAVE INTERNET ACCESS
- 67% HAVE ACCESS AT HOME
- 61% HAVE ACCESS AT WORK
- 17% HAVE ACCESS AT ANOTHER LOCATION (DESCRIBE) LIBRARY (2.3%)

How much time each week do you spend doing each of the following, on average?
(Please write in your answers below)

- 6.5 HOURS PER WEEK ON THE INTERNET
- 1.1 HOURS PER WEEK PLAYING COMPUTER GAMES
- 11.1 HOURS PER WEEK WATCHING TV

Although county residents have good access to the computers, recreational use of it is only one tenth as popular as TV watching. Even web surfing is only about half as popular as TV.

Table 3. Average time on the Internet, playing computer games, and watching TV, broken down by access to the Web

	Hours /week on Internet	Hours/Week Playing Computer Games	Hours/Week watching TV
Access at Home	7.23	1.68	11.45
No Access at Home	4.24	.00	11.68
Total	6.47	1.27	11.51
Access at work	6.67	1.13	10.74
No Access at work	5.59	.92	12.37
Total	6.23	1.03	11.44

Access to the web at home or at work does not appear to affect the amount of time spent watching TV, but as expected, affects time spent on the Internet.

Future Needs

What **FIVE** types of **Whitman County** outdoor recreation facilities/resources do you feel are **MOST** in need of improvement or further development? (Please check **ONLY FIVE**)

<p><u>GENERAL RECREATION</u></p> <p>26% CITY PARKS</p> <p>25% CAMPGROUNDS</p> <p>9% BOATING FACILITIES</p> <p>10% GROUP PICNIC AREAS</p> <p>13% OUTDOOR AMPHITHEATERS</p> <p>16% PALOUSE EMPIRE FAIRGROUNDS</p> <p>14% PICNIC AREAS</p> <p><u>SPORTS AND GAMES</u></p> <p>9% PLAYGROUNDS</p> <p>13% RECREATION FIELDS (FOOTBALL, SOFTBALL, ETC.)</p> <p>3% CLIMBING WALLS</p> <p>19% GOLF COURSES</p> <p>17% ICE SKATING RINKS</p> <p>4% OUTDOOR BASKETBALL COURTS</p> <p>2% OUTDOOR ROCK CLIMBING/REPELLING AREAS</p> <p>3% SKATEBOARD PARKS</p> <p>2% STREET HOCKEY COURTS</p> <p>16% SWIMMING POOLS</p> <p>6% TENNIS COURTS</p> <p>4% VOLLEYBALL COURTS</p> <p>7% SHOOTING RANGES (RIFLE, SKEET, ETC.)</p>	<p><u>CULTURAL AND INTERPRETIVE FACILITIES</u></p> <p>22% HISTORICAL SITES</p> <p>13% MUSEUMS</p> <p>29% NATURE TRAILS</p> <p>6% INTERPRETIVE BROCHURES</p> <p>2% OUTDOOR EDUCATION CENTERS (4H, SCHOOLS)</p> <p><u>FISH AND WILDLIFE</u></p> <p>8% JUVENILE FISH PONDS</p> <p>8% GAME PRESERVES</p> <p>16% HUNTING ACCESS AREAS</p> <p><u>TRAILS AND ACCESS</u></p> <p>15% SCENIC DRIVES</p> <p>2% AREAS FOR FOUR-WHEEL DRIVE (ATV)</p> <p>3% HANDICAP TRAILS</p> <p>27% HIKING TRAILS</p> <p>3% HORSE TRAILS</p> <p>9% LAKE AND STREAM ACCESS</p> <p>4% MOTORCYCLE TRAILS</p> <p>4% MOTORCYCLE/ATV AREAS</p> <p>10% MOUNTAIN BIKE AREAS</p> <p>28% MULTI-USE PAVED TRAILS (BIKING, IN-LINE SKATING, WALKING, RUNNING, AND OTHER NON-MOTORIZED SPORTS)</p> <p>2% SNOWMOBILE TRAILS</p> <p>N/A OTHER: _____</p>
---	--

Five types of Whitman County outdoor recreation facilities/resources stand out as most in need of improvement or further development: Nature Trails (29%); Multi-Use Paved Trails (Biking, In-Line Skating, Walking, Running, And Other Non-Motorized Sports) (28%); Hiking Trails (27%); City Parks (26%); and Campgrounds (25%). What is most salient about this list is the presence of three trail-related facilities. Given the popularity of the Chipman Trail this suggests the demand for trail-based recreation on the Palouse is strong and is yet unmet. Add to this demand by residents, that from guests and visitors to the Palouse, and the need for more, better dispersed and more varied trails (as is suggested here) becomes even more apparent.

Support for change was also measured by a second question that retains structural compatibility to prior studies, although the content is changed:

The Whitman County Parks Board is currently discussing the future needs for park and recreation development. What are your preferences for each of the following improvements or additions to the Parks system? Please rank each of the following to reflect your preferences:

(In the appropriate boxes below write a "1" for the improvement or addition that is **MOST IMPORTANT** to you, a "2" for the one that is **SECOND MOST** important, and so on to "5".)

If you have **NO** preferences for any improvement or addition, Check here [15%] and move on to #16.

- 2.6 (Avg. Rank) AN ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CURRICULUM IN CONJUNCTION WITH LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS, TO BE DEVELOPED FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL-AGED CHILDREN AND TO BE DELIVERED AT LOCAL PARKS
 - 2.3 MULTI-USE **PAVED** TRAILS (FOR BIKING, IN-LINE SKATING, WALKING, RUNNING, AND OTHER NON-MOTORIZED SPORTS)
 - 2.2 MULTI-USE **UNPAVED** TRAILS (FOR BIKING, EQUESTRIAN, WALKING, HIKING, AND OTHER NON-MOTORIZED SPORTS)
 - 3.5 OUTDOOR SHOOTING RANGE-FOR RIFLE, PISTOL, SKEET, TRAP, AND ARCHERY
 - 3.1 RENOVATION AND REPAIR OF THE FACILITIES AT THE PALOUSE EMPIRE FAIRGROUNDS
- YOUR IDEAS AND NEEDS FOR THE FUTURE (DESCRIBE)**
ICE RINK (3 PEOPLE); GOLF COURSE (3 PEOPLE)

A statistical test of these data¹ show that the first three items--Environmental education curriculum, multi-use paved trails, and multi-use unpaved trails—are all ranked as significantly more important than the remaining two. Further, the first three items are essentially ranked at the same average level of importance.

¹ Friedman Test

Evaluation of selected setting attributes

What things are important to your selection of places to recreate outdoors in Whitman County?

<u>ATTRIBUTE</u>	How important are each of the following attributes for your selection of places to recreate outdoors in Whitman County? (Please circle one response for each attribute)			
	EXTREMELY IMPORTANT	QUITE IMPORTANT	MODERATELY IMPORTANT	NOT IMPORTANT
Close to home	18%	34	37	11
Easy access	18	43	34	5
High quality facilities provided	14	46	34	5
Lack of other people	8	34	39	19
Large variety of things to do	10	32	46	11
Low cost	27	33	36	4
Opportunities to be in a natural setting	31	35	25	9
Opportunities to be in a rural setting	15	30	31	24
Opportunities to be in a urban setting	8	6	30	63
Things for children to do	27	28	18	28

In deciding where to recreate, and what improvements to support, Whitman county residents provide clear direction. Leading the list are opportunities in natural settings, low cost, and sites with things for children to do. At the other unimportant end, opportunities in urban settings are the stand out, with things for children to do a distant second. This last apparent anomaly is an artifact of the age distribution of the sample, with older people not seeking those facilities that younger families seek.

Demographic profiles

Are you: *(Please check one response)*

48% MALE 52% FEMALE

What is your age? *(Please write in your answer)*

AVERAGE = 50.9 YEARS OLD

Currently, are you: *(Please check all that apply)*

57% EMPLOYED FULL—TIME 3% RETIRED
 16% EMPLOYED PART—TIME 9% HOMEMAKER
 3% UNEMPLOYED 23% STUDENT

If you are a student, are you: *(Please check ONLY ONE response)*

19% IN HIGH SCHOOL 19% A JUNIOR IN COLLEGE
 6% A FRESHMAN IN COLLEGE 6% A SENIOR IN COLLEGE
 6% A SOPHOMORE IN COLLEGE 42% A GRADUATE STUDENT IN COLLEGE

How many years of formal education have you completed? *(Circle one number)*

16.1 years average

	4%	0.9%	7%	6%	11%	6%	22%	7%	15%	2%	19%				
1 2 3 4 5 6	7 8 9 10 11 12	13 14 15 16	17 18 19 20+												
Elementary School				JR. High--High School				College				Graduate School			

Including yourself, how many people, currently living with you, are in each age group?
(Please write in the appropriate numbers below)

1.5% UNDER 5
 1.6% 5-13
 1.3% 14-18
 1.4% 19-24
 1.5% 25-49
 1.4% 50-65
 1.6% 65 & OLDER

LITERATURE CITED

- Bass, B. M., W. F. Cascio, and E. J. O'Connor (1974). Magnitude estimations of expressions of frequency and amount. *Journal of Applied Psychology* 59(3):310-320.
- Dillman, D. A. (1978). *Mail and telephone surveys—The total design method*. New York: John Wiley & Sons.
- Salant P., and D. A. Dillman. (1994). *How to conduct your own survey*. New York, NY: John Wiley & Sons.

FIRST, WE SEEK INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR RECREATION IN WHITMAN COUNTY

1. How long have you lived in Whitman County? *(Please check one response)*

- LESS THAN ONE YEAR
- 1-3 YEARS
- 4-5 YEARS
- 6-10 YEARS
- 10 OR MORE YEARS

2. How important is having convenient outdoor recreation opportunities to your lifestyle?
(Please check one response)

- EXTREMELY IMPORTANT
- IMPORTANT
- NEITHER IMPORTANT OR UNIMPORTANT
- UNIMPORTANT
- EXTREMELY UNIMPORTANT

3. How many hours per week do you spend participating in outdoor activities and/or exercising outdoors?
(Please write in your answer)

_____ HOURS PER WEEK

4. How many hours per week do you spend participating in outdoor activities and/or exercising outdoors **in Whitman County** Parks and recreation areas? *(Please write in your answer)*

_____ HOURS PER WEEK, IN WHITMAN COUNTY

5. How many times during the past year (1999) have you visited a park/s in Whitman County?
(Please write in your answer)

_____ TIMES IN 1999

6. Which **Whitman County** outdoor recreation areas did you use during 1999?
(Please check all that apply)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> BILL CHIPMAN PALOUSE TRAIL | <input type="checkbox"/> PALOUSE RIVER |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BONNIE LAKE | <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATELY OWNED LAND |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BOYER PARK AND MARINA | <input type="checkbox"/> ROCK LAKE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CENTRAL FERRY STATE PARK | <input type="checkbox"/> SNAKE RIVER AND CANYON |
| <input type="checkbox"/> COLFAX TRAIL | <input type="checkbox"/> SNAKE RIVER TRAIL AT BOYER |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ELBERTON ROPES COURSE | <input type="checkbox"/> STEPTOE BUTTE STATE PARK |
| <input type="checkbox"/> KAMIAK BUTTE COUNTY PARK | <input type="checkbox"/> WAWAWAI COUNTY PARK |
| <input type="checkbox"/> KLEMGARD COUNTY PARK | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER AREA (IN WHITMAN COUNTY): |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PALOUSE EMPIRE FAIRGROUNDS | (NAME) _____ |

NOW go back to #6 and circle the ONE area you used MOST during 1999.

A P P E N D I X A – M a i l S u r v e y I n s t r u m e n t

7. Which outdoor recreation activities do you generally engage in **within Whitman County?** Please check all those activities you participate in. Add any of your activities not mentioned here. *(Please check **all** that apply)*

WILDLIFE

- BIRD WATCHING
- FISHING
- HUNTING

RECREATION

- ASTRONOMY/STAR GAZING
- CAMPING
- LAWN GAMES
- PHOTOGRAPHY
- PICNICKING
- ROCK CLIMBING
- SIGHTSEEING/DRIVING

TRAIL BASED

- BICYCLING FOR PLEASURE
- HORSEBACK RIDING
- INLINE SKATING/ROLLERBLADING
- JOGGING/RUNNING
- MOTORCYCLING
- MOUNTAIN BIKING
- WALKING/HIKING

WATER BASED

- CANOEING
- KAYAKING
- OUTDOOR SWIMMING POOL
- PLAYING IN POND, LAKE, CREEK, ETC.
- POWER BOATING
- RAFTING
- SAILING

- OTHER BOATING

- WATER SKIING

ATTENDING EVENTS

- ATTENDING PALOUSE EMPIRE FAIR
- ATTENDING FESTIVALS
- ATTENDING OUTDOOR EVENTS
- FOUR WHEELING

SPORTS

- ARCHERY
- BASEBALL
- FOOTBALL
- GOLFING
- HORSESHOES
- SKATEBOARDING
- SOCCER
- SOFTBALL
- STREET HOCKEY
- TARGET SHOOTING
- TENNIS
- TRAP SHOOTING
- VOLLEYBALL

WINTER SPORTS

- CROSS COUNTRY SKIING
- ICE SKATING
- SLEDDING
- SNOWMOBILING
- OTHER ACTIVITIES NOT LISTED:

8. If you checked any activities in #7 above, which **THREE** of them do you participate in **MOST FREQUENTLY within Whitman County?** *(Write in the names of the 3 activities in the appropriate lines below)*

PARTICIPATE IN **Most** FREQUENTLY _____

PARTICIPATE IN **SECOND** MOST FREQUENTLY _____

PARTICIPATE IN **THIRD** MOST FREQUENTLY _____

9. During the past year (1999) did you visit a Whitman County park or recreation facility with an organized group (School, Church, Organization, Club, etc.) *(Please check one response)*

- YES
- NO

10. Did you participate in recreation outside of Whitman County during 1999? *(Please check one response)*

- YES
- No

A P P E N D I X A – M a i l S u r v e y I n s t r u m e n t

11. During 1999, how many visits did you make to the Palouse Empire Fairgrounds?
 (Please write in the number of visits each month in the boxes below)

If you **did not** visit Palouse Empire Fairgrounds during 1999, Check here and move on to #13.

Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec

12. Did you attend the Palouse Empire Fair in September 1999? (Please check one response)

YES NO

13. In general, where do you prefer to recreate in the Palouse region? (Please check **ONLY ONE** response)

- I PREFER TO RECREATE IN WHITMAN COUNTY
- FOR THE MOST PART I PREFER TO RECREATE IN WHITMAN COUNTY, BUT OCCASIONALLY DO RECREATE OUTSIDE THE COUNTY
- FOR THE MOST PART I PREFER TO RECREATE OUTSIDE WHITMAN COUNTY, BUT OCCASIONALLY DO RECREATE IN WHITMAN COUNTY
- I PREFER TO SEEK MY RECREATION OUTSIDE WHITMAN COUNTY

NOW WE SEEK YOUR OPINIONS ABOUT FUTURE RECREATION NEEDS IN WHITMAN COUNTY

14. What **FIVE** types of **Whitman County** outdoor recreation facilitates/resources do you feel are **MOST** in need of improvement or further development? (Please check **ONLY FIVE**)

GENERAL RECREATION

- CITY PARKS
- CAMPGROUNDS
- BOATING FACILITIES
- GROUP PICNIC AREAS
- OUTDOOR AMPHITHEATERS
- PALOUSE EMPIRE FAIRGROUNDS
- PICNIC AREAS

SPORTS AND GAMES

- PLAYGROUNDS
- RECREATION FIELDS (FOOTBALL, SOFTBALL, ETC.)
- CLIMBING WALLS
- GOLF COURSES
- ICE SKATING RINKS
- OUTDOOR BASKETBALL COURTS
- OUTDOOR ROCK CLIMBING/REPELLING AREAS
- SKATEBOARD PARKS
- STREET HOCKEY COURTS
- SWIMMING POOLS
- TENNIS COURTS
- VOLLEYBALL COURTS
- SHOOTING RANGES (RIFLE, SKEET, ETC.)

CULTURAL AND INTERPRETIVE FACILITIES

- HISTORICAL SITES

MUSEUMS

- NATURE TRAILS
- INTERPRETIVE BROCHURES
- OUTDOOR EDUCATION CENTERS (4H, SCHOOLS)

FISH AND WILDLIFE

- JUVENILE FISH PONDS
- GAME PRESERVES
- HUNTING ACCESS AREAS

TRAILS AND ACCESS

- SCENIC DRIVES
- AREAS FOR FOUR WHEEL DRIVE (ATV)
- HANDICAP TRAILS
- HIKING TRAILS
- HORSE TRAILS
- LAKE AND STREAM ACCESS
- MOTORCYCLE TRAILS
- MOTORCYCLE/ATV AREAS
- MOUNTAIN BIKE AREAS
- MULTI-USE PAVED TRAILS (BIKING, IN-LINE SKATING, WALKING, RUNNING, AND OTHER NON-MOTORIZED SPORTS)
- SNOWMOBILE TRAILS

OTHER ACTIVITY NOT LISTED:

15. The Whitman County Parks Board is currently discussing the future needs for park and recreation development. What are your preferences for each of the following improvements or additions to the Parks system? Please rank each of the following to reflect your preferences:

*(In the appropriate boxes below write a "1" for the improvement or addition that is **MOST IMPORTANT** to you, a "2" for the one that is **SECOND MOST** important, and so on.)*

If you have **NO** preferences for any improvement or addition, Check here and move on to #16.

- AN ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CURRICULUM IN CONJUNCTION WITH LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS, TO BE DEVELOPED FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL-AGED CHILDREN AND TO BE DELIVERED AT LOCAL PARKS
- MULTI-USE **PAVED** TRAILS (FOR BIKING, IN-LINE SKATING, WALKING, RUNNING, AND OTHER NON-MOTORIZED SPORTS)
- MULTI-USE **UNPAVED** TRAILS (FOR BIKING, EQUESTRIAN, WALKING, HIKING, AND OTHER NON-MOTORIZED SPORTS)
- OUTDOOR SHOOTING RANGE-FOR RIFLE, PISTOL, SKEET, TRAP, AND ARCHERY
- RENOVATION AND REPAIR OF THE FACILITIES AT THE PALOUSE EMPIRE FAIRGROUNDS
- YOUR** IDEAS AND NEEDS FOR THE FUTURE (DESCRIBE) _____

16. Do you currently have access to the Internet?

(Please check all that apply)

- DO NOT HAVE INTERNET ACCESS (**SKIP TO #18**)
- HAVE ACCESS AT HOME
- HAVE ACCESS AT WORK
- HAVE ACCESS AT ANOTHER LOCATION (DESCRIBE) _____

17. How much time each week do you spend doing each of the following, on average?

(Please write in your answers below)

- _____ HOURS PER WEEK ON THE INTERNET
- _____ HOURS PER WEEK PLAYING COMPUTER GAMES
- _____ HOURS PER WEEK WATCHING TV

18. Do you presently live inside or outside of a town or city limits in Whitman County?

(Please check one response)

- INSIDE
 - OUTSIDE
-]** → What is the name of the town you live in or closest to?

19. What things are important to your selection of places to recreate outdoors **in Whitman County**?

<u>ATTRIBUTE</u>	How important are each of the following attributes for your selection of places to recreate outdoors in Whitman County ? <i>(Please circle one response for each attribute)</i>			
Close to home	EXTREMELY IMPORTANT	QUITE IMPORTANT	MODERATELY IMPORTANT	NOT IMPORTANT
Easy access	EXTREMELY IMPORTANT	QUITE IMPORTANT	MODERATELY IMPORTANT	NOT IMPORTANT
High quality facilities provided	EXTREMELY IMPORTANT	QUITE IMPORTANT	MODERATELY IMPORTANT	NOT IMPORTANT
Lack of other people	EXTREMELY IMPORTANT	QUITE IMPORTANT	MODERATELY IMPORTANT	NOT IMPORTANT
Large variety of things to Do	EXTREMELY IMPORTANT	QUITE IMPORTANT	MODERATELY IMPORTANT	NOT IMPORTANT
Low cost	EXTREMELY IMPORTANT	QUITE IMPORTANT	MODERATELY IMPORTANT	NOT IMPORTANT
Opportunities to be in a natural setting	EXTREMELY IMPORTANT	QUITE IMPORTANT	MODERATELY IMPORTANT	NOT IMPORTANT
Opportunities to be in a rural setting	EXTREMELY IMPORTANT	QUITE IMPORTANT	MODERATELY IMPORTANT	NOT IMPORTANT
Opportunities to be in a urban setting	EXTREMELY IMPORTANT	QUITE IMPORTANT	MODERATELY IMPORTANT	NOT IMPORTANT
Things for children to do	EXTREMELY IMPORTANT	QUITE IMPORTANT	MODERATELY IMPORTANT	NOT IMPORTANT

FINALLY, SOME INFORMATION ABOUT YOU AND YOUR HOUSEHOLD

20. Are you:
(Please check one response)

- MALE FEMALE

21. What is your age?
(Please write in your answer)

_____ YEARS OLD

22. Currently, are you:
(Please check all that apply)

- EMPLOYED FULL—TIME RETIRED
 EMPLOYED PART—TIME HOMEMAKER
 UNEMPLOYED STUDENT

A P P E N D I X A – M a i l S u r v e y I n s t r u m e n t

23. If you are a student, are you:

(Please check **ONLY ONE** response)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> IN HIGH SCHOOL | <input type="checkbox"/> A JUNIOR IN COLLEGE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> A FRESHMAN IN COLLEGE | <input type="checkbox"/> A SENIOR IN COLLEGE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> A SOPHOMORE IN COLLEGE | <input type="checkbox"/> A GRADUATE STUDENT IN COLLEGE |

24. How many years of formal education have you completed?

(Circle one number)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20+
Elementary School						JR. High--High School						College				Graduate School			

25. **Including** yourself, how many people, currently living with you, are in each age group?

(Please write in the appropriate numbers below)

- ___ UNDER 5
- ___ 5-13
- ___ 14-18
- ___ 19-24
- ___ 25-49
- ___ 50-65
- ___ 65 & OLDER

Thank you for taking the time to help us. If there is anything else you would like to tell us about recreation within Whitman County, please use the space below to do so.

Thank you for your interest in planning for the future of Whitman County.

To return your survey, simply fold it in half, tape it shut, and drop it in a mailbox.

GTY125

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**DEPARTMENT OF RESOURCE RECREATION AND TOURISM
COLLEGE OF NATURAL RESOURCES
UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO
MOSCOW, ID 83844-1139**

ATTN: WHITMAN COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

W h i t m a n C o u n t y – T e l e p h o n e S u r v e y

1. How long have you lived in Moscow-Pullman area?

LESS THAN ONE YEAR, 1-3 YEARS, 4-5 YEARS, 6-10 YEARS, 10 OR MORE YEARS

	Percent
< 1 year	10.0
1-3 years	58.6
4-5 years	24.3
6-10 years	2.9
10+ years	4.3

2. How important is having convenient outdoor recreation opportunities to your lifestyle is it: EXTREMELY IMPORTANT, IMPORTANT, NEITHER IMPORTANT NOR UNIMPORTANT, UNIMPORTANT, OR IS IT EXTREMELY UNIMPORTANT?

	Percent
Extremely important	25.9
Important	54.0
Neither important nor unimportant	15.8
Unimportant	2.9
Extremely unimportant	1.4

3. How many hours per week do you spend participating in outdoor activities and/or exercising outdoors?

6.6 HOURS PER WEEK

4. How many hours per week do you spend participating in outdoor activities and/or exercising outdoors in Whitman County, Washington Parks and recreation areas?

4.1 HOURS PER WEEK, IN WHITMAN COUNTY

5. How many times during the past year (1999) have you visited a park/s in **Whitman County**?

11.3 TIMES IN 1999

6. Which **Whitman County** outdoor recreation areas did you use most during 1999?

- CHIPMAN TRAIL 29%
- KAMIAK BUTTE 11.4%
- SUNNYSIDE PARK 5.4%
- KLEMGARD 5.4%
- WAWAWAI 2.1%

7. Which three outdoor recreation activities did you participate in **MOST FREQUENTLY** within Whitman County?

- JOGGING 27.4%
- BIKING 14.2%
- WALKING 10.9%
- HIKING 8.7%
- ROLLER BLADDING 8.4%
- FRISBEE 5.5%

W h i t m a n C o u n t y – T e l e p h o n e S u r v e y

8. During the past year (1999) did you visit a Whitman County park or recreation facility with an organized group (School, Church, Organization, Club, etc.)

30% YES

70% NO

9. Did you attend the Palouse Empire Fair in September 1999?

YES **11.4%** NO **88.6%**

10. Did you visit the Palouse Empire Fairgrounds outside of Colfax at anytime during 1999? Can recall which month you were there? MONTH

	Percent
February	50.0
August	12.5
September	37.5

11. Are there any **Whitman County** outdoor recreation facilities that you feel are in need of improvement or further development? (*you may have to prompt for specific types of facilities*)

NEW ICE RINK	11%
NEW DOG PARK	11%
NATURE TRAILS	8%

12. The Whitman County Parks Board is currently discussing the future needs for park and recreation development. I will read you five types of improvements the parks board is considering. For each could you indicate if it is Extremely Important, Quite Important, Moderately Important, or Not Important

a. An Environmental Education Curriculum In Conjunction With Local School Districts, To Be Developed For Elementary School Children And To Be Delivered At Local Parks

	Percent
Extremely important	28.1
Quite important	36.7
Mod important	28.1
Not important	7.2

b. Multi-Use Paved Trails (For Biking, In-Line Skating, Walking, Running, And Other Non-Motorized Sports)

	Percent
Extremely important	35.7
Quite important	33.6
Mod important	22.9
Not important	7.9

c. Multi-Use Unpaved Trails (For Biking, Equestrian, Walking, Hiking, And Other Non-Motorized Sports)

	Percent
Extremely important	21.4
Quite important	40.0
Mod important	26.4
Not important	12.1

d. Outdoor Shooting Range-For Rifle, Pistol, Skeet, Trap, And Archery

	Percent
Extremely important	12.9
Quite important	8.6
Mod important	29.3
Not important	49.3

e. Renovation And Repair Of The Facilities At The Palouse Empire Fairgrounds

	Percent
Extremely important	19.7
Quite important	17.2
Mod important	24.6
Not important	38.5

13. Do you currently have access to the Internet AT HOME?

	Percent
Yes	82.9
No	17.1

14. Do you currently have access to the Internet AT SCHOOL?

	Percent
Yes	100.0

15. Do you currently have access to the Internet AT ANY OTHER LOCATION?

	Percent
Yes	51.2
No	48.8

16. How much time each week do you spend ON THE INTERNET

8.5 Hours/Week

17. How much time each week do you spend PLAYING COMPUTER GAMES

2.5 Hours/Week

18. How much time each week do you spend WATCHING TV

8.2 Hours/Week

19. What things are important to your selection of places to recreate outdoors in Whitman County?
 I will read you three things that describe the location of parks. For each could you indicate if it is Extremely Important, Quite Important, Moderately Important, or Not Important?

a. Opportunities to be in a **natural** setting

	Percent
Extremely important	35.4
Quite important	41.7
Mod important	16.5
Not important	6.3

b. Opportunities to be in a **rural** setting

	Percent
Extremely important	14.8
Quite important	49.2
Mod important	28.1
Not important	7.8

c. Opportunities to be in a **urban** setting

	Percent
Extremely important	17.1
Quite important	32.6
Mod important	30.2
Not important	20.2

20. Are you a Freshman , Sophomore, A Junior, a Senior, or a Graduate Student?

	Percent
Freshman	17.8
Sophomore	14.7
Junior	29.5
Senior	28.7
Grad student	9.3

21. What is your age?

22.08 Years

22. Gender

	Percent
Male	53.5
Female	46.5

A P P E N D I X D – T e l e p h o n e S c r i p t

Telephone introduction:

Good Morning/afternoon/evening. My name is _____, and I'm calling from the University of Idaho. May I speak with _____.

Hi:

The Department of Resource Recreation and Tourism at the University of Idaho is cooperating with the Whitman County Department of Parks, Fair and Development Services, to survey Whitman County residents. The information we seek will allow Whitman County park and recreation managers to better understand the needs and experiences of Whitman County residents, helping them chart a direction for the next five years.

We are contacting a small number of (*use appropriate choice*) WSU/UI students to find out more about their recreational experiences and needs in Whitman County. I have a short (about 5 minutes) phone interview. Is this a good time to talk with you?

If NO: find out a time, and call back then.

If YES:

Your answers will be kept completely confidential; your name and other personal information will never be associated with your response. Only summary statistical data will be released for public and professional use. The findings may be used in county and university presentations. Reports based on this survey will be available at all county libraries in early June.

(Dr. Nick Sanyal project director can be reached at 208/885-7528 if they need further information on this project. Tim Meyers is the Whitman County Parks Director 509/397-6238)

A P P E N D I X D – T e l e p h o n e S c r i p t

1. How long have you lived in Moscow-Pullman area?

LESS THAN ONE YEAR, 1-3 YEARS, 4-5 YEARS, 6-10 YEARS, 10 OR MORE YEARS

2. How important is having convenient outdoor recreation opportunities to your lifestyle

is it: EXTREMELY IMPORTANT, IMPORTANT, NEITHER IMPORTANT NOR UNIMPORTANT, UNIMPORTANT, OR IS IT EXTREMELY UNIMPORTANT?

3. How many hours per week do you spend participating in outdoor activities and/or exercising outdoors?

_____ HOURS PER WEEK

4. How many hours per week do you spend participating in outdoor activities and/or exercising outdoors in Whitman County, Washington Parks and recreation areas?

_____ HOURS PER WEEK, IN WHITMAN COUNTY

5. How many times during the past year (1999) have you visited a park/s in **Whitman County**?

_____ TIMES IN 1999

6. Which **Whitman County** outdoor recreation areas did you use most during 1999?

7. Which three outdoor recreation activities did you participate in **MOST FREQUENTLY** within Whitman County?

MOST

SECOND MOST

THIRD MOST

8. During the past year (1999) did you visit a Whitman County park or recreation facility with an organized group (School, Church, Organization, Club, etc.)

YES

NO

9. Did you attend the Palouse Empire Fair in September 1999?

π Yes

π No

10. Did you visit the Palouse Empire Fairgrounds outside of Colfax at anytime during 1999? Can recall which month you were there? MONTH

A P P E N D I X D – T e l e p h o n e S c r i p t

11. Are there any **Whitman County** outdoor recreation facilities that you feel are in need of improvement or further development? (*you may have to prompt for specific types of **facilities***)

MOST

SECOND MOST

THIRD MOST

12. \The Whitman County Parks Board is currently discussing the future needs for park and recreation development.

I will read you five types of improvements the parks board is considering. For each could you indicate if it is Extremely Important, Quite Important, Moderately Important, or Not Important

- a. An Environmental Education Curriculum In Conjunction With Local School Districts, To Be Developed For Elementary School Children And To Be Delivered At Local Parks
- b. Multi-Use Paved Trails (For Biking, In-Line Skating, Walking, Running, And Other Non-Motorized Sports)
- c. Multi-Use Unpaved Trails (For Biking, Equestrian, Walking, Hiking, And Other Non-Motorized Sports)
- d. Outdoor Shooting Range-For Rifle, Pistol, Skeet, Trap, And Archery
- e. Renovation And Repair Of The Facilities At The Palouse Empire Fairgrounds

13. Do you currently have access to the Internet AT HOME?

14. Do you currently have access to the Internet AT SCHOOL?

15. Do you currently have access to the Internet AT ANY OTHER LOCATION?

16. How much time each week do you spend ON THE INTERNET

17. How much time each week do you spend PLAYING COMPUTER GAMES

18. How much time each week do you spend WATCHING TV

19. What things are important to your selection of places to recreate outdoors in Whitman County? I will read you three things that describe the location of parks. For each could you indicate if it is Extremely Important, Quite Important, Moderately Important, or Not Important?

- a. Opportunities to be in a **natural** setting
- b. Opportunities to be in a **rural** setting
- c. Opportunities to be in a **urban** setting

A P P E N D I X D – T e l e p h o n e S c r i p t

20. Are you a Freshman , Sophomore, A Junior, a Senior, or a Graduate Student?

21. What is your age?

22. Do you live on campus, or Off campus?

DON'T ask this:

Based on voice and name are they MALE OR FEMALE?

NATIONAL REGISTER PROPERTIES IN WHITMAN COUNTY THROUGH 2003

Colfax	James A. Perkins House
Colfax Area	Heilsberg Farm
Colfax Area	Manning-Rye Covered Bridge
Farmington	Masonic Hall
Garfield	R.C. McCroskey House
Hay Area	Canyon Grain Bin and Chutes
Hay Area	Henley Site
Hooper Area	McGregor Ranch
Lyons Ferry Area	Palouse Canyon Archeolog. District
Oakesdale	Barron Flour Mill
Oakesdale	Oakesdale City Hall
Oakesdale	Hanford House
Palouse	Main Street Historic District
Pullman	Stevens Hall
Pullman	Swain House
Pullman	Albert W. Thompson Hall
Pullman	Greystone Church
Pullman	Gladish School
Pullman	U.S. Post Office
Pullman Area	Interior Grain Tramway
Pullman Area	Leonard Round Barn
Rosalia Area	Rosalia Railroad Bridge
Rosalia Area	Steptoe Battlefield Site
St. John Area	Steinke Round Barn
Tekoa Area	Grain Co. Elevator and Flathouse
Uniontown	St. Boniface Church and Buildings
Uniontown Area	Collins House and Grainary

STATE REGISTER LISTING THROUGH 2003

Almota	Grave of Henry Hart Spalding
Colfax	Colfax Main Street Historic District
Farmington	Dorris-Hazlitt House
Hay	First Baptist Church of Hay
Palouse	William L. Powers House
Pullman	Gladish School
Pullman	The Old Post Office
Pullman	The Cordova Theater

2004 CIP Project Rankings

PROJECT	ESTIMATED COST	RANKING	AVERAGE POINTS RECEIVED
Construction of Klemgard Service Bridge Crossing	25,000.00	1	21.67
Replace Roof and Gutters at Hughes House, Pullman	6,500.00	2	16.83
Update Elevator to Meet ADA Standards	30,000.00	3	13.86
Renovate Roof(s) at Fairgrounds. Display Building, Swine and Goat Barns	30,000.00	4	13.84
Re-roof Corrections Facility	20,000	5	12.15
Fairgrounds Renovation Including: Grandstands, Central Sewage Lagoon, New Waterlines, and Expanded Facilities	1,265,000	6	11.83
Horse Barn Area: Camping Enhancement Demolition of old horse barn, installation of water stations and installation of electrical services	8,000	6	11.83
Replace courtroom recording equipment with Digital Recording System	8,000	7	11.33
Replace Wawawai Park Utility Vehicle (4 wheeler)	4,500	9	10.86
All Weather Parking Area at Fairgrounds. (25-35 car parking lot with access to rear entrance of multi-purpose building with lighting and paved surfaces	16,500	10	10.82

2004 CIP Project Rankings

Refurbish grandstands. (Includes replacing seats, adding 500-600 seats, code compliance issues, building a permanent foundation and covering the structure	205,000	11	10.03
--	---------	----	-------

Replace Carpeting in Public Service Building Auditorium, Kitchen, Environmental Health, and Hallways	15,000	12	9.99
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Replace Wawawai Park Playground Structures	20,000	13	9.86
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Replace 10 Shelter roofs at Wawawai Park	5,500	13	9.86
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Demolish six (6) uninhabited residences at Elberton County Park	30,000	14	9.83
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New mower for Fairgrounds	20,000	15	8.66
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Repaint Interior of Courthouse	25,000	16	8.43
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Replace Front Doors on the Correction Facility	10,000	17	7.99
--	--------	----	------

Wireless Microphone System for the Pullman and Colfax District Courtrooms	4,000	18	7.83
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Replace Carpeting in Human Resources and Commissioners	12,500	19	7.43
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Construct Wawawai Park Maintenance Shop	12,000	20	6.86
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Resurface Courthouse & Public Service Building Parking Lots	15,000	21	6.43
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Replace Current Operations Coordinator's Residence	65,000	22	6.16
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2004 CIP Project Rankings

Reserved Parking Area at Fairgrounds: Level ground, rock compaction, lighting, and paved pedestrian pathway to main gate	10,000	23	5.01
Construct Kamiak Butte Maintenance Shop	12,000	24	4
Purchase Kelmgard Park Utility Vehicle (4 wheeler)	5,000	25	4
Purchase Carpet for Assessor's Office	?	26	0

PALOUSE EMPIRE FAIR
Planning Committee Project List
(This list is not in a ranked order)

1. Developed Reserved Parking Area for Fair
2. New Grandstands (seating for 3,000, ADA accessible, and Restrooms)
3. Fairgrounds Renovation (total renovation) CIP 2001
4. Refurbish Kitchen and Restrooms in Community Building CIP 2001
5. RV Park Renovation CIP 2001
6. New Building (MULTIPURPOSE/Sales Arena incorporated to free up Old sales arena to accommodate swine overflow.
7. All weather Parking Lot (25 to 35 cars)
8. Major Renovation Roofs (Display, Swine, Goat, etc.) CIP 2001
9. Permanent Outdoor Stage/Shaded Areas and Landscaping
10. Cover Existing Bleachers

CENTENNIAL FARMS IN WHITMAN COUNTY

More information on these farms may be obtained through the Whitman County Board of County Commissioners Office 397-2368. A map listing all farm locations is on display in the lobby of the Whitman County Courthouse, Colfax.

WHITMAN COUNTY FARMS

No. YEAR HOMESTEADER

1 1872 Henry Ensley
2 1873 George W. Draper
3 1873 A.I. Hammer
4 1874 Davod B. Fleemer
5 1874 Fred Scharnhorst
6 1875 Willis Cronk
7 1875 Martin Harter
8 1875 Guilford Miller
9 1875 Michael Schultheis Sr.
10 1875 Frederick Weber
11 1876 Galvin Brown
12 1876 John J. Schlee
13 1876 Jacob Weber
14 1877 Josial Beard
15 1877 John Brink
16 1877 Marshall C. Chase
17 1877 Charles Crampton
18 1877 Samuel W. Crumbaker
19 1877 Peter Feenan
20 1877 George Harlan
21 1877 Riley B. Hatley
22 1877 Abe Haynes
23 1877 Frank Hickman
24 1877 George N. Hill
25 1877 Valentine Hofer
26 1877 John W. Johnson
27 1877 James F. Logan
28 1877 John Moys
29 1877 Wilson Mraz
30 1877 Alexander Siegel
31 1877 James Madison Small
32 1877 Daniel Staley
33 1877 John C. Stratton
34 1877 Theophilus Thonney
35 1877 William W. Westacott
36 1877 Edward Young
37 1878 George Barkhuff
38 1878 John A. Bishop
39 1878 George Comegys
40 1878 George W. Gates
41 1878 Hiram Gragg
42 1878 John Hehl
43 1878 George T. Huffman
44 1878 William Hughes
45 1878 Nathan Myers

WHITMAN COUNTY FARMS

No. YEAR HOMESTEADER

46 1879 Daniel W. Boone Sr.
47 1879 Philip Fuchs
48 1879 Robert G. Lyle
49 1879 Israel B. Harris
50 1879 Stephen B. Shoemaker
51 1880 Arthur H Crow
52 1880 John Goldsworthy
53 1880 William A. Lemon
54 1880 Nathaniel Prince
55 1880 William M Richardson
56 1880 George I. Turnbow
57 1880 Henry I. Young
58 1881 John Drew
59 1881 Glosson H. Holbrook
60 1881 John E. Folsom
61 1881 Adam Kile
62 1881 John T. Kile
63 1881 Lewis C. Love
64 1882 Granklin T. Nicherson
65 1882 John Chandler
66 1882 Robert P. Reed
67 1882 John G. Horlacher
68 1882 George P. Howard
69 1882 John & Archie McGregor
70 1882 Francis W. Sever
71 1882 Enoch W. White
72 1883 Harriet Adams
73 1883 William Calvert
74 1883 Philip Cox
75 1883 Conrad Schierman
76 1883 George H. McGuire
77 1883 Henry L. Miller
78 1883 James Parvin
79 1883 John Weller Shields
80 1883 John Weller Shields
81 1883 James H. Squires
82 1883 Jacob VanTine
83 1884 O. M. Collins
84 1884 John O'Neil
85 1885 Jakob Blank
86 1885 R.W. Gordon
87 1885 Herman F. Schreiber
88 1886 Allison W. Freels
89 1886 J.C. Kamerrer
90 1886 Jacob Schweiter

WHITMAN COUNTY FARMS

No. YEAR HOMESTEADER

91 1887 Thomas F. Donahoe
92 1887 Elmer E. Huntley
93 1887 John H. Laird
94 1887 Valentine Mayer
95 1888 Archibald Henning
96 1888 Girard Clark
97 1888 Jeremiah Kelly
98 1888 Jeremiah Kelly
99 1888 Anders Peterson
100 1888 William Swannack
101 1888 John P. Wittman
102 1889 Andrew Jackson Chase
103 1889 Ludwig Utke
104 1890 Nels Kjack
105 1891 George W. Butts
106 1892 George Bloomfield
107 1893 John Fuchs
108 1893 George Streib
109 1896 Fred Aeschliman
110 1896 C.E. Jennings
111 1897 Lewis Cochran
112 1897 Minerva J. Nichols
113 1989 Franz Druffel
114 1898 Andrew M. Horton
115 1898 Louis Allenbach
116 1899 E.J. Flansburg
117 1900 Ulysses S.G. Story
118 1901 George J. Wigen, Sr.
119 1901 Peter J. Wigen
120 1901 Felix Magee
121 1902 Bard Cook
122 1902 Joseph Meyers
123 1902 Fred B. Rogers
124 1903 William Arndt
125 1903 Richard Lewis Kenedy

TERRITORIAL FARMS

No. YEAR HOMESTEADER

1 1862 George Pangborn
2 1869 Joseph Henry DeLong
3 1869 Levivnus M. Swift
4 1869 Nicholas Whealen
5 1870 William McNeilly

RECOGNITION AND CREDITS

The members of the Whitman County Parks and Recreation Board owe many individuals sincere thanks for their knowledge and time given to producing this document. Though all may not be listed here, special appreciation is extended to the following individuals:

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- Tim Myers, Director, Whitman County Parks, Fair and Facilities Management Department
- Roger Marcus, Operations and Trails Coordinator, Whitman County Parks
- Bart Dearborn, Operations Coordinator, Whitman County Parks
- Janel Goebel, Program Coordinator, Whitman County Parks
- Bob Reynolds, Palouse Empire Fair Manager
- Alan Davis, City of Pullman, Parks and Recreation Department
- Marlene Greenway, City of Pullman, Parks and Recreation Department
- Jeff Marshall, Whitman County Public Works
- Dr. Nick Sanyal, University of Idaho, Department of Resource, Recreation and Tourism
- Edwin P. Garretson, Jr., Whitman County Historical Society
- Mark Bordsen, Whitman County Planner

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