Meeting called to order at 6:02 by Chair Alvin Andrus.

Introductions of Board and Staff – PRAB members present – Frank Stricklin, Alvin Andrus, Jon Pearson, Brian Kilpatrick, Kathryn Thompson, Susan Cruver, Larry Walker and Ani Gatz.

Staff Present – Jim Dunwiddie, Dori Leckner, Billie Schmidt, Arno Bergstrom, Steven Starlund, and Leigh Snyder

7 members of the public attended.

Motion:

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<tr>
<th>Motion by: Frank Stricklin</th>
<th>Second by: Jon Pearson</th>
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<tr>
<td>Motion made to accept the minutes from May 20, 2015 as presented</td>
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<tr>
<td>Discussion: None</td>
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<td>Action: Minutes accepted by unanimous vote.</td>
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Correspondence & Communication

Port Gamble Heritage Forest Stewardship & Public Access Plan –

The plan previously distributed to PRAB is also posted on our website. Public comments are being accepted through July 13th. The Plan is scheduled for adoption by the BOCC on July 13th.

Opportunity for Public to Address the Board:

Barbara Lanchester invited the PRAB to the annual Kitsap Live Steamers Friends and Family picnic at South Kitsap Regional Park, scheduled July 18th. Dinner is at 4:00pm, with train rides all day.

Tom & Marilyn Anderson spoke about a reservation system for use in reserving tennis courts that can by accessed from your smart phone. There would be no cost involved to set up. Billie Schmidt has contact information

Nelson Lanchester reported that KLS will be hosting model train drivers at SKRP from all over on June 30th. They will have their trains available for rides on the KLS tracks.

Joanne Corey, a neighbor too and a member of the Newberry Hill Heritage Park reported finding gloves and a bike helmet left from a night ride through the park. She and Mr. Corey are concerned that this activity is taking place at night, without proper
approval of the County, and may be disruptive to wildlife. Brian Kilpatrick interjected that he is seeking a compromise with the county on those types of events particularly at Port Gamble as they transition from dealing with Pope Resources as the previous land to the County as the new landholder. As President of the Evergreen Mountain Bikers Association, he seeks to be a good neighbor and partner with the various stewardship groups and the county.

Mrs. Corey also reported that there has been someone falsely representing himself as part of the NHHP Stewardship group, and is approaching various county representatives regarding access to NHHP via private land. Jim Dunwiddie said that this person has spoken to both he and Dori, and that the matter is being researched by the county legal representative.

Directors Report Jim Dunwiddie

Very close to a Stewardship agreement with South Kitsap Skatepark Association. They will be holding their annual event on June 20th from 11-5 at the skate park.

Very good response to the Anderson Point Park reopening last month.

Respectively, the Banner Forest Heritage Park Management Plan and Integrated Forest Stewardship Policy amendment is scheduled to be approved by resolution on June 22, 2015

The Silverdale Community Center is all but closed with the last tenant C-Stock vacating by August 31, 2015.

There will be a meeting July 2nd with the Kitsap Live Steamers to clarify items of the South Kitsap Regional Park lease

Thanks to the Port Orchard Rotarians for the new sign at Bill Bloomquist Rotary Park.

Community Forestry Report Arno Bergstrom

Will be working with a consultant to assess needs and work with first responders to develop wild fire plans. The immediate plan is to work with the Fire Chief at North Kitsap as he is the coordinator for all parks at this time.

Superintendent of Operations – Billie Schmidt

Lobe Field Presentation – Public Facilities District has authorized $198K in funding for the first phase of improvements at Lobe Field – these include dugout improvements, installation of concrete slab in front of existing concession/press box, backstop poles and netting, angle third base fence. (Full request and funding available on website)
Resource Superintendent – Dori Leckner
The contract for the demolition of the old restaurant at Norwegian Point Park is being reviewed. The Port Orchard Rotary will be making backstop improvements at Bill Bloomquist Rotary Park.

In response to a question Citizens on Patrol can help with the vandalism occurring at parks, Dori answered that they are a volunteer group that deals with handicapped parking violations. Their scope is limited.

Planning – Steven Starlund

The newly graveled parking area, with access to the shoreline has been completed, new signs including rules signs will be installed at Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park. A Trail Construction & Maintenance class was held June 13th in partnership with the Washington Trail Association and REI. Training included leadership skills, tool safety & construction.

In answer to the question raised about the dangerous bike trails discovered at Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park, Steven noted that the County Risk Manager has inspected and is currently working with the legal department. The County is marking boundaries and will be temporarily closing trails while deconstructing unapproved obstacles. County will work with Evergreen Mountain Bike Association and International Mountain Bike association to reconstruct trails that meet the clear standards that are in place.

Subcommittee Reports

Banner Forest – Larry Walker reported that there are funds through the GPC to construct a wetland crossing.

Clear Creek - Jon Pearson reported that the trail will be closed for Department of Community Development mitigation completion of the Schold property.

Newberry Hill Heritage Park – Frank Stricklin reported the stewards are marking trees for the second thinning, mowed fire breaks, pulled tansy along the Fire Trail. The group hosted 6th graders from Green Mountain Elementary studying macro invertebrates, edible and wearable plants, and other environmental lessons.

Old Business
Brian Kilpatrick requested further discussion around the website and listing all the recreation opportunities in the parks. Jim Dunwiddie noted that the current county website is limited, but an update is being researched.

New Business
Brian Kilpatrick requested clarification as to why Banner Forest was not approved by the county as a site to hold mountain biking classes – Larry Walker suggested that the important thing is to get the management plan at Banner Forest approved; the stewardship formed and then address the activities in the park. Jim Dunwiddie and Dori Leckner both stated that alternative south end sites were offered. Frank Stricklin suggested that Brian attend the next Newberry Hill Heritage Park stewardship group meeting to present his thoughts for mountain biking instruction at the park to the group to open a dialogue.

Motion:

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<th>Motion by: Jon Pearson</th>
<th>Second by: Larry Walker</th>
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<tr>
<td>Motion: Adjourn Meeting</td>
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<td>Discussion: None</td>
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<td>In Favor: Unanimous</td>
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<td>Action: Meeting adjourned 8:00PM</td>
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Forest Stewardship Plans and Plan Implementation for Individual Parks

Restoration thinning operations have started at North Kitsap County Heritage Park and are expected to begin at Newberry Hill Heritage Park in late July or early August.

The Policy for the Protection and Restoration of Riparian and Wetland Management Zones in Kitsap County Parks is on the consent agenda for the June 22nd Kitsap County Board of Commissioners regular monthly meeting.

Additional revisions are being submitted for the North Kitsap Heritage Park forest stewardship plan, and the plan is still in review by the Forest Stewardship Committee.

Urban Forest Restoration Projects

The WA DNR Urban Forest Restoration program - WCC crew completed their worked at both the Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park and at Newberry Hill Heritage Park in May. The crew helped improve public access and safety at both parks by doing invasive weed removal, pruning trees and brush removal to improve access and line of site, placing log piles for wildlife habitat, fence and kiosk construction, garbage removal and clearing for a trail relocation project.

South Kitsap Regional Park

The harvesting of marked timber in areas to be cleared for the planned Phase II project at South Kitsap Regional Park continues was delayed, but is expected to be completed by the end of June. Danger trees have also been located and additional clearing maybe necessary to improve long term public safety.

Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park

Work continues on the development of a rough draft Forest Stewardship Plan for Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park. Wild fire protection, Emergency access, forest ecosystem restoration and wild life habitat enhancement are the primary focus of the plan. The timeline for plan review by the Forest Stewardship Committee and the Parks Advisory Board is December 2015.
Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park

Contained within the Staff Report Packet, Park Planner Steven Starlund has provided a draft of the Stewardship and Public Access Plan for the Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park. Over the past few months, PRAB have been updated involvement of the group of citizens and involved organizations as they addressed issues and report preparation and scheduling.

As discussed during last month’s PRAB meeting, time is being set aside in our June meeting to create an opportunity for public comment. The draft report has been posted on the website, offering an additional opportunity for the public to comment.

Staff would like to receive the PRAB’s endorsement of the plan during this month’s meeting, to be made part of the County Commissioner’s acceptance, anticipated in July.

South Kitsap Regional Park

The South Kitsap Skatepark Association will host the 2nd Annual Skatepark Anniversary event on Saturday, June 20, 11am to 5pm. Approximately 600 participants are expected. Food concessions, demos, and music are part of the celebration.

Anderson Point Park

Park opened, Thursday, May 21. Park will be open daily 6:00am – 8:30pm.

County Commissioners adopted resolution prohibiting parking on Millihanna Road. Permanent signs will be installed after road work is completed.

Chip seal coating of Millihanna Road estimated July/August as warm weather is needed for application. There may be sporadic, temporary road and park closures due to the work.

Staff conducted a meeting on May 26 to solicit and coordinate volunteers for upcoming work programs.

Management Plan for Banner Forest Heritage Park

The County Commissioner’s adoption of the Management Plan is scheduled to be approved by resolution on June 22. The Plan had been previously reviewed and supported by PRAB.

Integrated Forest Stewardship Policy Amendment

The County Commissioner’s amendment adoption is scheduled to be approved by resolution on June 22. The “Policy for the Protection and Restoration of Riparian and Wetland Management Zones in Kitsap County Parks,” received PRAB endorsement in May.
Director’s Report

June 2015

Kitsap Peninsula Water Trails Designation

On June 27th, Kitsap County will celebrate the designation of the Kitsap Peninsula Water Trails by the US Department of Interior to be included as part of the National Water Trails System….the first in Washington State and the only salt-water trail in the United States.

Bloomquist Rotary Park

New sign provided by Port Orchard Rotary.

Rude Road/West Poulsbo Trust Land Transfer

The recorded deed for the West Poulsbo Trust Land Transfer property occurred June 10. The parcels add 184.3 acres to the county park system. The total assemblage of park land at the locale is 202.99 acres. There are no immediate plans for this property.

What’s In a Name?

Too much! …… The department has not offered recreational programming since mid 2000. The County is preparing a resolution to “officially” change the agency to the Kitsap County Parks Department.

Kitsap Live Steamers

Staff will be meeting with KLS representatives next month to re-visit the proposed lease agreement.

Silverdale Community Center
All uses, excluding C Stock, will be discontinued the end of June. C Stock will be permitted to conduct their summer program at the facility, but notice has been given that no use will continue through August 31, 2015
A. Facilities

- Several doors need repair at the Pavilion and one at the Eagles Nest. Staff is working on collecting quotes.
- Vandals tagged the Fairgrounds in two locations. Staff and volunteers scrubbed it off.
- Thunderbird Stadium north wall was hit on May 30 during the Destruction Derby. Staff are working with the Destruction Derby folks to ensure proper repairs are made and a plan going forward to make sure it doesn't continue to happen.
- Turf Management – The Infield Mix project was completed, however, the company providing the dirt ran out, putting the project short 16 yards in the field and 15 yards in the stockpile as the stockpile had to be used to complete the job. The company estimated the 31 yards would take approximately 2-3 weeks to come in. All but 2 staff were trained in field maintenance and preparation by Matt Johns, turf consultant, from Turf International.
- Staff will put an RFP together for repair/replacement of the Pavilion lower restroom flooring as the initial estimate was over $35,000.
- Staff preparing for Fair
  - Waiting for 1 more estimate for hood for Crazy Erik’s booth in the Van Zee and temporary hoods in the Van Zee.
- Staff submitted Informal Bid for painting of trim at the Van Zee, Presidents’ Hall, Pavilion, and Eagles Nest/Parks Office. Deciding whether or not to go with the lowest bid or to hold off on this project as all bids were over $25,000.

2. Grants

- The Department of Agriculture Safety Grant – Grant ends June 30, 2015 (incorrectly stated as the 1st in former reports). Projects in process: Installation of Lights and Sirens in Pavilion Locker Rooms, Fire Lane Painting, Barn Roof Repairs (Blackler and L-Barn), electrical work at Blackler Barn, Hood at Van Zee Crazy Eric’s. The concrete projects were put on hold due to time needed to complete these projects and funds earmarked for this project were moved to fund the hood at Crazy Eric’s. Final grant report is in progress.

- Boand Family Foundation Grant - Lower Arena Roof
  - No new progress
    1. Waiting for permit to be completed
    2. Waiting for materials to be dropped
    3. Construction will commence in September
• PFD Funding – 5 minute Presentation to be made
  i. Phase One - Lobe Field Improvements. This phase is for Field #1 and includes:
    1. Concrete pad, netting and poles to hold netting for future expanded seating and press box - behind home plate and to the dugouts on either side
    2. Umpire dressing room
    3. Moving fence line along 3rd base – to add proper angle of new party deck
    4. Covering existing dugouts with mesh for team dressing rooms & adding all season carpet and railing area in front of existing dugouts for new dugout area
    5. RFQ for architect has been submitted to Purchasing

• LID Grant – Grant ends June 30, 2015
  i. Infiltration systems – This project is complete. We are waiting for the As-Built.
  ii. Manure Cover contract – Construction scheduled for 6/15-19. This will complete the grant.
  iii. Final report is in progress.

B. Rental/Events
   a. Events held included: **May** – Fuchsia Sale, NUWAIX, Master Gardener's Plant Sale, Washington Virtual Academy Testing, Corey’s Day on the Farm, Falcon Gun & Knife Show, Destruction Derby, Kitsap Puma’s Game, CKSD Bus Rodeo, Derby Brats Bout. **June** – Kids Day, Kitsap Bluejackets games (15), 2 baseball tournaments, 5 graduations (NMSD, 4 CKSD),
   b. Upcoming Events include - **June** – 2 Graduations (OC, WYA), Destruction Derby, United Way Day of Caring, Scale Model Show, Kitsap Pumas Games, Bremerton Gun Show, 4-H Pre-Fair Horse Show, Thunderbird Rodeo, sports camps. **July** – Kitsap Bluejackets games, Kitsap Pumas game, 2 Private Weddings, 2 baseball Tournaments, New Life Day Camp, Cub Scout Day Camp, Scout O'Rama, Little League Big League District Tournament, 2 Destruction Derbies, Bus Rodeo, Private Quincenera, 2 Skyhawks Sports Camps (multi sport, tennis), Grand Slam Baseball Camp.
   c. Athletic Facilities – Gordon Field’s grass field is open again.

C. Staffing/Training
   a. Maintenance Staff were trained by turf consultant on field maintenance of baseball and softball fields.

D. Marketing
   1. Targeted Internet Ads placed through Kitsap Sun, ads forward folks to our website.
2. Parks (www.kitsapgov.com/parks) and Village Greens (www.Villagegreensgolfcourse.com) websites were updated.
3. Facebook page was updated. Look for Kitsap County Parks and like it.
4. County Sharepoint Intranet was updated.
5. Ads placed on www.kitsapgov.com on the county calendar
6. Events posted to Govdelivery – county mass e-mail list.

E. Permit Process

F. Village Greens Golf Shop
   a. Skyhawks Sports – contract for SNAG (Starting New At Golf) program is completed, program will be a clinic one day a week for one hour July 8-August 5.
   b. Contract with second PGA Golf Instructor is complete and his flyer is advertising his availability, flyer posted to the Village Greens Website.
   c. Contract is being worked on for the First Tee Program to begin in the fall.

G. Sponsorships – staff seeking construction sponsors to assist with replacing flooring and counter/sinks in the Kitsap Sun Pavilion lower restrooms.

H. E-Tix Program
   b. Will purchase 2 scanner laptops to replace existing Windows XP laptops which are no longer supported.
   c. Will purchase 5 laptops for the E-Tix program and repair several more.

I. Work Parties
   a. 2 scouts working on Pavilion & Presidents’ Hall Kiosks & Gordon Field Flag Pole projects - in planning stages.
   b. Volunteer Mark Boardman working on Safety Grant repairs to barns.
   c. Volunteer David Grant continues to watch over the Kitsap Kids Playground.
   d. Volunteer Cliff Hanson continues grounds keeping assistance throughout Fairgrounds.
Buck Lake Park
Parks staff to install a french drain in the lower part of the park. Parks staff working with WDFW and KC Noxious Weed Coordinator, on lake weed removal to restore swimming area.

Guillemot Cove
Volunteers have submitted a grant for $10,000 for supplies for a boardwalk that will run through the estuary.

Island Lake Park
Island Lake Meeting Facility – Parks staff looking into various new floor replacement and/or improvements. Same for community center roof replacement, and/or treatment and cleaning.

Newberry Hill Heritage Park
Volunteers continue to clean up brush from last year’s logging operation. Volunteers are working with Arno to mark trees for the next round of thinning. Parks staff working with park stewards and Public Works staffing, to reroute park parking and access, during the Holly Road roundabout installation.

Norwegian Point Park
Steps are in motion on the demolition contract. Notice was awarded. Contract to be routed for review/approval.

Point No Point Lighthouse Park – During the phasing in of the park irrigation system, at the same time, there will be a stub out for a waterline to the newly added park restrooms, once constructed. Service Project slated for June 19th. Trail work, painting and grounds maintenance slated.

Port Gamble Park
In the process of installing a second gate, park boundary signs and park KIOSK.

Rotary Park
New park sign is on order. Install date is June 11th. The fields fencing is still a work in progress. Working on backstop improvements.

Salsbury Point Park
D.O.E. staffing removed creosote timbers and logs off the beach and in the park. Part of the larger bay cleanup with OPG.

SKRP
INTRODUCTION:

As County Parks must assume the responsibility of both guardians of our park resources (natural, cultural, historic) as well as address the demands for recreational use and facilities of our park properties. Striking an informed balance of conservation and use can be reasonably achieved after by assessment of those inherent resources; such as forests, wetlands, fish-bearing streams, shorelands and shellfish. Our Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park Steering Committee first addressed this challenge by setting some guiding principles that would serve both conservation and recreation interests, fairly and responsibly.

Our management approach included:

1. A Landscape Classifications System developed with much discussion, to recognized outstanding and sensitive resource areas, worthy of conservation and protection, and depict those landscape areas where various recreational activities and levels of intensity were considered compatible with those resource assets. This would provide the best resource stewardship while providing for diverse recreational use and exceptional outdoor experiences. This management approach is depicted on our Stewardship Map.

2. In addition, the Steering Committee, Park staff, technical advisors and Tribal representatives brought to light specific management issues which are currently impacting the Park property, as well as anticipated concerns and new opportunities.

Following are those prominent and prevalent issues, concerns and opportunities, and proposed management objectives and directions to address them:
Parks staff continues to work with KCSO, to deter illicit activities at the park. Siding removal from field #2 and #3 slated, as well as the installation of chain link for replacement. Parks staff getting quotes towards the soil amendments and hydro seeding of the large open play area.

Suquamish Sports Court
Parks staff working to have the court cleaned, seal coated and striped for Pickle Ball.

Updates –

Posting for (2) FTE positions in the parks.

Park vandalism and drug activity in the parks – Due to increased activity at the Old Mill Park restrooms, parks staff are moving forward to install door locking mechanisms and timers.

Break-in at the Wildcat Lake Maintenance Building – The installation of locking mechanisms on all trailers and large towing equipment. Shelving and locking mechanisms on small equipment, and the relocation.

Soliciting quotes towards roof cleaning and maintenance and/or replacement, at Island Lake Shelter, Island Lake Community Center and Wildcat Lake Park Restroom Building.

Events in the park shelters
Buck Lake Park – 6
Island Lake Park – 14
Salsbury Point Park – 13
SWF Park Gazebo – 16
SWF Park – 38
SKRP – 11

Events in Island and Long Lake Community Rooms
Long Lake – 34
Island Lake – 34

Special Events in the various parks
Buck Lake Park -2
SKRP – Horseshoe Pit Area – 11
Norwegian Point Park – 1
Port Gamble Park -1
SWF Park – 1
Ongoing Resource Stewardship

**Issue:** To continue stewardship of these parklands and application of the management objectives, and land-use determinations there will need to be a concerted effort by local citizens, interest groups (recreational and conservation), the Tribes to stay involved and develop more prescriptive management agendas, actions and funding possibilities.

Management Objectives:

- Create a Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park Stewardship Group which will be coordinated through Kitsap County Parks, Stewardship Program and would enlist local citizens and other recreation and conservation interests, to further the resource management and recreational needs in this area.
- Develop a detailed Park Management and Development Plan.
- To create a cadre of informed Stewards, the County shall develop and offer [dependent on available funds and staff capacity], a series of *Stewardship Certification Courses* to instruct volunteers in the various aspects of resource assessment, monitoring, management, and recreation planning and development. These “education-intensives” may include topics on wetland, streams and wildlife, forest restoration, recreation trails, native vegetation & invasives, cultural and historic preservation, shellfish and tideland management, public education and interpretation (including docent techniques) and other stewardship and recreation management topics.
- Park staff and volunteer stewards will continue to monitor and report resource issues; vandalism, unauthorized park use, and garbage dumping, and develop clean-up events.

**Native Vegetation vs. Invasives**

**Issue:** Selective forestry began in 1878. In the 1920’s timber production began in earnest. The majority of the acreage was clear-cut then replanted with a monoculture of Douglas fir trees planted closely together to maximum future timber-harvests. Old growth trees on steep slopes were retained as those areas were not cost-effective for harvest.
Management Objectives:

- Trees are stressed, as they do not have sufficient space for normal growth and development. Forestry tracts are to be mapped and selectively thinned to open up the existing dense tree canopy, allowing light to reach the forest floor. In opening up the forest floor, space for underplanting with native species such as Western red cedar and Western hemlock can occur; approximating the original forest conditions prior to the 1920’s clear-cutting.
- Concurrently, invasives such as Scotch Broom are being removed, allowing native shrubs such as salal, huckleberry and salmonberry to naturalize. Identify and control invasive vegetation with the purpose to enhance native plant populations and communities and create natural habitats.

Fish, Wildlife & Habitat

Issue: A dense, dark Douglas fir monoculture forest does not support a healthy eco-system as it does not support a diversity of wildlife. Some stream crossings utilize under-sized culverts that do not allow for salmon to migrate upstream. Existing creosote pilings in Gamble Bay are toxic to wildlife, including important feeder fish that serve as the foundation to the food-chain.

Management Objectives:

- Replace the Douglas fir monoculture by selective thinning and re-planting with compatible native species such as cedar and hemlock.
- Replace, or remove under-sized culverts.
- De-accession un-needed trails and former logging roads as appropriate.
- Designate areas where there is no public access to protect wildlife habitat and sanctuary. Provide interpretive displays regarding wildlife populations and viewing opportunities.
- Provide “bird blinds” and overlooks for controlled access for remote viewing of wildlife areas.
- Remove and dispose of creosote pilings in Gamble Bay.
- Remove and replant shellfish, such as oysters from creosote pilings above the tideline.
- Re-plant eelgrass where desirable to serve as an incubator for feeder fish.

Streams, Wetlands, and Waterbodies
**Issue:** Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park has wetlands and numerous streams which empty into Gamble Bay. Impacts to the bay start upstream, and are dependent on the water’s proximity to trails and area usage. Park visitors such as hikers, mountain bikers, wildlife viewers, dog walkers, and horseback riders contribute to water quality degradation. It is advisable to monitor water quality in wetlands and streams.

**Management Objectives:**

- Consider all wetlands, streams and springs as integral to the entire watershed ecosystem, aquifer recharge, and in support of fish-bearing streams, and water dependent critters.
- Coordinate with Clean Water Kitsap or Department of Ecology to develop a feasible water sampling program for the park’s wetlands and streams.
- Determine trail usage along with proximity to streams and wetlands, and categorize which streams are typed as fish bearing.
- Confer with the county or Department of Ecology regarding existing NPDES permits.
- Define contaminants most likely for a particular stream or wetland such as fecal coliforms, sediment, zinc, copper, oil, etc.
- Apply prescriptive measures such as culvert or trail removal.

**Shorelands, Tidelands & Shellfish**

**Issue:** The Port Gamble Heritage Forest Parks includes 1.5 miles of shorelands and tidelands. Nine types of shellfish are harvested along similar shorelines in this area -- Region 8. The shellfish population has been largely un-tapped for recreational harvest while in private land ownership. The pounds of harvestable clam stock and number of oysters is substantial. Currently there are no State harvest surveys, regulations or seasons to govern recreation or commercially approved harvest. Health of the Port Gamble Bay and stewardship of those resources is paramount. If the natural shellfish beds are let alone, without any harvest, there are concerns of snail invasion and over-crowded oyster beds. Health Dept. determines water quality for safe shellfish harvest. Our tidelands are currently certified as healthy.

**Management Objectives:** *(Shorelands, Tidelands & Shellfish)*
• Protect the shorelands and tidelands from upland impacts, garbage, and pollutants, and promote the long-term health of the Port Gamble Bay,

• Recommend that Kitsap County enter into a shellfish management agreement and develop shellfish resource management plans with the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) and affected Tribes, for a period of three years. Management would include population surveys and health assessment of the shellfish resource, determination of recreational harvest seasons and catch limits and patrol and enforcement of recreational harvest activities. Kitsap County Parks would have oversight of this plan and operations.

• Encourage the propagation and protection of native shellfish stock. After the three (3) year program evaluation, consider all management options including potential commercial harvest of all or a portion of the shoreline.

• Limit access to the shoreline in approved and developed trails and parking areas.

• Encourage the development of shoreland passive-use trails.

• Provide for on-site public education and interpretation of the shellfish resources, licenses, harvest seasons and regulations and responsible resource stewardship.

Forest Restoration and Management

Issue: Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park has approximately 800 acres of densely stocked conifer plantations ranging between 23 and 50 years old. This condition is the product of past management practices and doesn’t adequately provide for the long term forest health and habitat potential for this new park.

Management Objectives:

• Establish a Forest Stewardship Committee which will help direct forest enhancement plans and operations based on county approved guidelines. (Including buffers for streams, wetlands, seeps and springs.)

• Use non-conventional, or restoration, thinning in these overstocked stands to improve forest health and restore wildlife habitat. Operationally called variable density thinning (VDT), this type of ecological restoration thinning is specifically recommended for young dense Douglas fir plantations.

Commercial Vegetation Harvesting
Issue: The harvesting of timber, brush and other special forest products has long been a part of the traditional and cultural history on the lands that include the Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park.

Management Objectives:

- For the heritage park, conventional timber harvesting has ended. Forest thinning for future habitat enhancement and species diversification will be directed by a Forest Stewardship Committee.
- Harvesting of brush and other special forest products is sustainable and may be allowed in certain areas and can provide a source of revenue for the park.
- The harvesting of mushrooms for personal use is allowed, without a permit, and subject to the Kitsap County Parks Mushroom Harvesting Policy.
- Allowing commercial management and harvesting of shellfish in the tidelands will be in a limited area and determination made after extensive evaluation of the shellfish surveys, recreational harvest needs, and a look to bettering the shellfish beds and populations.
- Commercial harvesting will only be allowed under contact or by permit.

Wildfire Protection

Issue: Wildfire is a reality and to minimize that risk during periods of high fire danger, Pope Resources has annually closed the Port Gamble Uplands that surround the Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park. This closure includes public access to Pope Resource lands.

Management Objectives:

- Be a responsible neighbor: develop and implement a wildfire prevention plan for the Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park that protects both the park and surrounding private property owners.
- County Parks will work with local and regional wildfire management agencies to develop a plan for fire prevention and fire suppression response.

Historical / Cultural Resources
Issue: Port Gamble Park and surrounding OPG property have a rich and varied history. Native inhabitants gathered resources from the shoreline and uplands. In addition, logging operations occurred for approximately 90 years in the uplands. Historical information to the public focuses mainly on the shoreline and mill site. Interior upland modification and historical information is lacking. The visitor’s experience in the park can be enhanced by sharing the information gathered for this project.

Management Objectives:

- Determine area of historical interest.
- Highlight areas of past historical activities by working with the Tribes and Port Gamble Museum to present information to the public.
- Reference researched articles and books on the county website and QR codes access for more in-depth interpretation.
- Develop signage and interpretive trails where appropriate.
- Develop signage and/or interpretive trails where appropriate. Provide opportunities for Tribal traditional uses of the resources, including such activities as gathering plant materials and bark for subsistence and/or ceremonial purposes (described by Treaty). Provide interpretation of historic and current subsistence and ceremonial resource use and respect.

PUBLIC ACCESS & RECREATION

Public Access & Events

Issue: Previous land owners, Pope Resources Company have allowed public access of the interior lands for hikers, equestrians and bikes via existing logging roads. Public access to the 1.5-miles of shoreline has been prohibited. Over the years the mountain bike community has organized numerous events with permission from Pope Resources on the logging roads and trails, attracting hundreds of participants at a time. Recreational trail-use of the interior trails will continue, but hikers and equestrians will increase in addition to the ongoing bicycle events.

Management Objectives:
• Events will require a Parks Permit along with a required parks fee. Fees to be determined based on impacts to: the resources, other recreational access and uses, and degree of site monitoring, mitigation, oversight, and clean-up required for each event. Trails have a carrying capacity and costs associated with events must be paid for by the applicant for staff time, porta-potties, traffic & safety control, trash removal and as necessary for trail repairs. Park staff and volunteer stewards will monitor impacts of these potentially large group activities on the protection of inherent resources and recreational experiences for all Park users. Management will consider the nature of large social gatherings and their needs, as well as respect for recreationists desiring areas of nature-solitude. Event impacts on the resource will be remedied or mitigated.

• The Shoreline will be opened for non-motorized use at selected locations where trailhead parking can be provided and safe passage to the tidelands can occur. More planning is needed for designation of official watertrail launch areas, day-use and water access accommodations for non-powered vessels.

• Public access will be limited to designated trailheads and developed parking areas, compared with hazardous roadside pullouts, and signed appropriately. Parks will work with WA Department of Transportation to warn travelers along SR 104 as to parking/trailhead pullouts and any trail crossings, and opportunities for visual vegetation “pruning” to provide pocket view of Port Gamble Bay.

• Accommodations will be made for infrequent “fly-overs” by the radio controlled model aircraft which have a take-off and landing field adjacent to the north of the parklands. This use will be monitored for impacts and future resource modification needs, such as vegetation pruning, for safe model-aircraft field-approach and event operations.

• Other motorized aircraft, including “drones” are not permitted over the parklands at this time without authorization and permit.
Recreational Trail Development and Management

**Issue:** Upon acquiring this property as a Park, there were no designed trailheads, parking, County Park signage, trail signage, or approved recreational routes. Over 40 miles of forested trails and roadway trails currently exist in the park and many of which are connected to Pope Resource’s forestland properties to the north, south and east of the Park’s Shoreline Block. Most have former road numbers or user-applied names. Existing user-developed trail maps are mostly accurate to layout and access. New trails and trail technical structures, designed for trailbikes are currently being constructed without safe standards or permission by County Parks. For events and trail emergencies, there needs to be consistent names and locations for trail and roads. The general public will need orientation and rules.

**Management Objectives:**

- Work to provide recreational access and activity areas for all non-motorized recreationists which are compatible with the land management objectives.
- County Parks will give preference for a future trail connection and continued trail route through the Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park for the **Sound to Olympics Trail** [STO] for a shared-use, active-recreation use corridor.
- Accurately map all roads and designated trails with GPS technology.
- Display maps and current names/numbers on informational kiosks at County trailhead parking. Post maps on County website.
- Parks will research and work to apply web-based trail maps for ease of access by recreationalists and emergency response staff.
- Work with trail users to develop a consistent naming procedure and approval for existing and new approved trails. Identify trails by levels of challenge, construction and use, as part of the displays and maps, [ex. “parkway, destination loop, spur, challenge, interpretive”] and which correlate with the County Park’s trail categories.
- Enforce new trail application and approval process for any new trails. Remove any trail structures or routes which are unsafe, not built to standards, or impact wildlife habitat, or sensitive vegetation.
- The two approved trailhead parking areas along SR 104 will be named; **Shoreline Trailhead** (on the eastside of the roadway near MP 18) and **G-1000 Trailhead** (named after the forest road access name and which lies adjacent to SR 104 on the west side).
Recreational Safety/Behavior/Rules

**Issue:** On the privately owned forest land, there was virtually unlimited public access, except during forest restoration thinning operations and recreation activities were largely unregulated. As a County Park, there are standards for public use and non-motorized recreation activities. An expected increase and diversity of recreational use will increase impacts to these public lands and will require rules enforcement.

**Management Objectives:**

- Work to educate and inform visitors about the property’s resources and the need for protection, through signage, tours, interpretive media and publicity.
- Develop orientation and way-finding signage throughout the property.
- Develop park rules for this Heritage Parks that take into account the special needs of all park users; the casual hiker, the mountain biker, the equestrian, the nature-lover, the classroom, the visitor, the recreational clam-digger, the kayaker, the business community, the environmentalist and others.
- The park is a “Land of Many Uses”, as such serves the entire community and will require monitoring, enforcement, and management by Parks staff and Park Stewards volunteers. Work with local law enforcement agencies and emergency response organizations to best protect the natural resources and the recreation public.

Economic Interests

**Issue:** Much of the existing and future recreational events have a significant positive contribution to the local Port Gamble economy and surrounding area businesses.

**Management Objectives:**

- Continue to support and look for opportunities to encourage recreation events, trainings and educational events which help to promote business health in related services, e.g. rentals, eateries, lodging, tours, etc.
Future Property Acquisition

**Issue:** Much of the area under study with this Stewardship Plan, and of importance to resource stewardship and recreation opportunities, has yet to be acquired for County Park management.

**Management Objectives:**

- The County will continue to pursue funding and other opportunities to acquire significant portions of the Port Gamble forested landscape, currently owned by Pope Resources Company, which will contribute to the goals and objectives of this plan.
Resource Management & Recreation Development – Landscape Classification System:

This landscape classification system strives to recognize, map, and thereby direct management of inherent resource values (natural, cultural, historic), on Kitsap County Parks managed properties, while providing an appropriate level of use and compatible public access, recreational use and facilities.

Resource Management | Land-use Classification Definitions – Includes resource management and protection requirements, allowable and preferred public access and recreational activities, and reasonable public access facilities.

Classification Categories:

1. NA = Natural Area [Natural / Historic / Cultural Significance]
2. C = Conservation Area
3. PR = Passive Recreation
4. AR = Active Recreation
5. DR = Developed Recreation
6. SP = Specialized Recreation

NA = Natural Area [Natural / Historic / Cultural, Significance]

Protect, restore, and enhance inherent natural, cultural and historic attributes. The key purposes for ecosystem reserves are to: represent the biodiversity of an area, provide habitat for species, and provide sites for scientific research, long-term monitoring, and education. Cultural and historic sites are protected with best management practices.

Acceptable Land use: Let natural processes prevail. Observe and monitor health. Ecosystem restoration activities only.

Allowable Activities: Authorized access by permit. Management activities to promote health and longevity; ex. invasive species control. No developed recreational access or use.
C = Conservation Area

Protect key resource elements including historic and cultural features. Minimal, limited, and resource-compatible public access. Conditional Access intended for education, restoration and resource management purposes. Restricted access due to potential environmental or heritage impacts. Research, monitoring, and study activities allowable.


Allowable Activities: Prohibited organized large group activities. NO pets, livestock, bicycles. Educational and interpretive activities which have minimal resource intrusion and impact. Limited recreational harvest activities and those which sustain and complement resource health and diversity; ex. shellfish, berries, brush picking.

PR = Passive Recreation

Moderate resource disturbance acceptable with dispersed and moderate use [ex. Trails, viewpoints]

Acceptable Land use: Manage landscape for recreational safety and limited impact use. Determine a carrying-capacity for trail access and use.

Allowable Activities: Some recreational harvest of traditional vegetation, low impact trails, manage “hazard trees” in concentrated areas, some conditional commercial harvest for stand maintenance. NO large recreational events. View points. Public amenities; ex. restrooms, interpretive and educational activities. Conditional use: Leashed dog walking may be permitted, depending on resource protection requirements.

AR = Active Recreation

Resource-based recreation activities that have moderate to high intensity use and some developed “comfort” facilities [e.g. restrooms, trailhead parking, developed trail facilities]

Acceptable Land use: An area of high level of recreational activities and facilities. Modification of landscape is allowable with the protection of sensitive and critical resource areas. Design and operation of active recreation facilities are responsible for protection of sensitive natural areas and waterways.

Allowable Activities: Nature-based recreation activities and facilities. Events are allowable with permit and scheduling. Large event impacts need to be mitigated. Provide for visitor comfort amenities. High capacity designed trails, parking. Dog walking, on-leash — Ok. Dog walking with equestrian use is allowable with voice control.
DR = Developed Recreation.

Acceptable impacts for moderate to high levels of recreation intensity and development. Recreation and public access areas with moderate to large-scale developed facilities. Site impacts and modification are acceptable with appropriate environmental reviews and mitigations.

Acceptable Land use: High capacity urban-style recreation with developed facilities for access and visitor comfort. Natural areas and landscape amenities in keeping with “park-like” environment and experience.

Allowable Activities: All forms of developed playfields; ball fields, trailheads, skate park, picnic shelters, nature trails, camping, ADA facilities,

SP = Specialized Recreation

An area developed for one or several unique uses which requires special care, and made available for public use in a controlled manner.

Acceptable Land Use: Dependent on recreational experience and activity demands.

Allowable Activities: Dependent on recreational needs. Ex.; bike recreation areas, amphitheaters, model airplane fly fields, non-motorized organized events such as runs, walks, bike rallies, watertrail activities.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:

Conditional Uses: Allowances are made for resource use for recreation and public access which are not identified in the land classifications and which may be determined an acceptable “conditional use”, on a case-by-case basis, through a Kitsap County Parks planning process. These will be noted in a Park Management Plan.

Forest Restoration Activities: As a result of historic silvicultural practices on this property, directed to commercial timber harvest, the current forest structure and composition has limited diversity, age class and understory complexity throughout much of this landscape. Restoration activities, directed for forest health and habitat purposes, may include, but limited to; types of restorative thinning, inter-planting of native tree species, and introduction of other native plants.
PORT GAMBLE HERITAGE FOREST – STEWARDSHIP PLAN & ACTIVITIES

The Stewardship Steering Committee and Park Staff have drafted a Resource Stewardship and Public Access Plan. Included is a Landscape Classification Map to direct protection and public use interests, and narrative on our recommended Management Objectives to address for current issues, concerns and opportunities.

KOLA KOLE SCHOOLHOUSE – Maintenance and Historic Restoration

Historic restoration of the exterior of the schoolhouse is out to bid. Project request includes: replacing the upper story wooden windows (now boarded over) and cedar shingles, repainting the lower story windows with wood windows and repainting the cedar lap-siding. The schoolhouse building with its wooden floors, blackboards, and school bell, along with schoolyard playground are part of Washington’s first community schools heritage.

OLALLA BOAT LAUNCH PARKING – Construction Contract

Project bids were received on June 3. Engineer estimate for the project was $180,000. Staff is reviewing contractor bids.

HISTORIC HOWE FARM BARN – Restoration

Staff is reviewing our reconstruction / restoration approach with the historic barn with staff from the State Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation to confirm our methodology. The Barn construction type (circa 1920-1930), is on the Washington State Heritage Barn Register.
A region-wide Watertrails Advisory Committee is selecting signage type and design for potential watertrail sites. Sub-committees are discussing site management, and program education and public information necessary to implement a county-wide watertrail park program. Special celebration for the Kitsap Water Trail System and National WaterTrail status, is planned, along the trail routes and culminating at Silverdale Waterfront Park for the

Please join the Kitsap County Board of Commissioners, local, state and federal dignitaries and the public to celebrate the designation of the Kitsap Peninsula Water Trails by the Department of Interior to be included as part of the National Water Trails System, the first in Washington State, and the only salt-water trail in the United States.