



# KITSAP COUNTY PARKS

## 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.



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## 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.

Acceptable Land use: Prescriptive habitat restoration. Monitor ecosystem health. Invasive species management and control.



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.





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## 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.

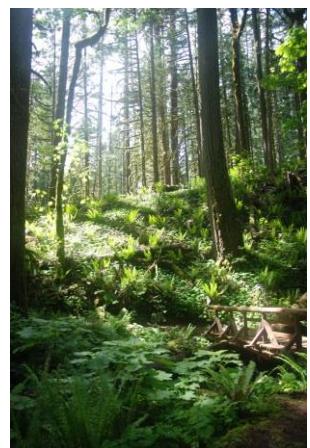
Acceptable Land Use: Dependent on recreational experience and activity demands.

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.