

USDA Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Region
Willamette National Forest
Detroit Ranger District

DECISION NOTICE / FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

for the

Detroit Lake State Park Master Plan Environmental Assessment

Detroit Tribs Watershed, T10S, R5E, Sections 2, 3 and 10, WM

Marion County, Oregon

Decision

I have decided to implement *Alternative Two* of the Detroit Lake State Park Master Plan Environmental Assessment (EA). This decision approves the DRAFT Management Plan for the three Detroit Lake State Park properties and identifies the conditions for a 20-25 year special use permit to be issued to the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) to manage the three Detroit Lake State Park sites. The permit will be approved and issued when all terms and conditions of the permit are met and agreed upon by the OPRD. In addition, this decision approves specific projects that will be implemented in the next five years to accomplish master plan objectives. These projects are identified for each of the three State Park sites in Section VII - Developmental Concepts of the DRAFT Master Plan (January 2002).

My decision includes only those actions that are within the scope of my authority on National Forest System Lands. This proposal includes several actions located on US Army Corps of Engineer (COE) managed lands and can only be approved by the Responsible Official for the COE. These projects include the construction of boat docks, fishing piers, designation of swimming areas, and the low water boat ramp. A separate decision document will be completed by the COE for these projects.

Rationale for the Decision

The following describes the specifics of my decision and rationale for selecting each action:

- 1) A 20-25 year special use permit will be issued to the OPRD for management of the three Detroit Lake State Park Sites. These sites include Detroit Lake State Park Campground, Tumble Creek Point Site, and the Mongold Day Use Area. This permit will include all mitigation measures as described in the EA on Table 2.1, pages II-15 & II-16. The permit will also include a requirement that the OPRD must comply with all applicable Federal, State, County and local laws and regulations. Approval of the permit for a period of 20-25 years will allow the OPRD to amortize their improvements at the State Park and continue to provide high quality recreational activities and facilities in the Detroit Lake area.
- 2) Approval of the DRAFT Master Plan will allow OPRD to manage the three Detroit Lake State Park sites according to the objectives and concepts described in the Management Plan. This management plan meets the pre-requisite for the approval of a long-term special use permit to OPRD for the management of Detroit Lake State Park.
- 3) Specific projects proposed for the first five years of the permit are approved to meet the objectives of the Management Plan at the three Detroit Lake State Park sites. Implementation of these actions will comply with the priorities and project phasing as described in the EA, Appendix B. These projects include:

Detroit Lake State Park Campground

- Development of a Sewer Facility Plan and Water Feasibility Study. Approval for the construction of these facilities is not included in this decision. OPRD will be required to develop a feasibility study for upgrades to the existing water and sewer treatment facilities. It is expected that the feasibility study will consider a full range of alternatives, including the possibility of connecting to the Detroit/Idanha Sewer Treatment Facility upon completion. Following a complete analysis of the feasibility study, a decision will be made whether or not to allow the construction of water and sewer treatment facilities.
- Complete highway improvements to the entrance of the park. Proposed improvements will allow for the safe access of visitors to the three sites, plus add emergency exit locations at the Detroit Lake State Park Campground.
- Construct a lakefront trail. This trail will improve conditions along the lake shore by removing existing, undeveloped user trails and construct a designated trail for users of all abilities along the lakefront.

- In camp loops A-E, overhaul the loop including vegetation enhancement projects, construction of cabins and a group site, construction of a new restroom, and rehabilitation of existing restroom facilities.
- Vegetation enhancement projects throughout the campground include thinning approximately 30% of the standing trees and retaining the dominant and co-dominant trees to increase stand health and vigor. These projects will improve the overall stand structure within the campground. This will also allow more light into the campground and increase understory vegetation providing additional screening between campsites.
- General rehabilitation throughout the campground including campsite removal to provide overflow parking to accommodate extra vehicles and boat trailers. Approximately 98 campsites are proposed to be removed from the existing campground thus reducing overall campsite density by approximately 33%. Although the number of camping sites would decrease to 220, the quality of campsites, addition of group sites and cabins, and the higher amenities provided would better align with the demand of overnight visitors to the lake. Campsites are expected to receive higher annual occupancy rates and higher numbers of occupants per site as a result of this shift, and net change in the number of visitors could be relatively minimal. This action will also provide for additional overflow parking spaces.
- Construct new facilities that support a limited portion of campground administration within the campground. This action will provide OPRD with new buildings for administrative use such as a crew room and office building, storage building, visitor center expansion, recycling center and campfire wood station, and an administrative use boat dock. This will allow other facilities such as warehouse, shop, main office, and manager's residence to be relocated to a location other than the three sites.

Tumble Creek Point Site

- Relocate the manager's residence, main office, and administrative shops to a location other than the three OPRD sites. This action will allow the Tumble Creek Point site to be managed as a recreation use area instead of an administrative use site. Some administrative facilities will be constructed at the Detroit Lake State Park Campground and some will be located at a location other than the OPRD sites.
- Convert the Tumble Creek Point Site to an Overnight Group Use Area. This action will allow the construction of up to 8, 1-story deluxe cabins, a group meeting hall, and a host site with hook-ups.

- Construct up to 8 boat moorage slips and boat ramp, including administrative area for employee and boat trailer parking.

Mongold Day Use Area

- Construct a low water boat ramp, including vault toilet, to serve users. This new low water boat ramp will replace the existing ramp at a better location and provide safe access for boats to launch into Detroit Lake during low pool periods from October through March.
- Improve Mongold entrance, specifically booth and turnaround. This action will allow for safe access to and from Mongold Day Use Area and allow for OPRD to better manage traffic within the parking area.
- Design and construct Mongold Day Use area retaining wall in the parking area. This action will allow for the expansion of the current parking lot and will allow large trucks with trailers the opportunity to safely turn around.
- Design and construct new portion of Mongold Day Use area. This action will allow the expansion of the Mongold Day Use area to include additional picnic areas, hiking trails, swim beach, fishing dock, and a group use shelter for day use. Additional parking will be added to accommodate the additional use and reduce congestion from the current boat launching facilities.

Purpose and Need for Action

The purpose and need for action is discussed in the EA on page I-4. In summary, the underlying purpose for this project is to approve a Master Plan which guides how the three Detroit Lake State Park sites will be managed, issue a 20-25 year special use permit, and provide for site specific actions to implement the Master Plan for the first 5-years. There is a need to provide a safe, healthful, aesthetic, non-urban atmosphere for the pursuit of natural resource-based recreation consistent with resource protection needs and anticipated user demand, as well as, to provide facilities and services where opportunities for meaningful recreation experiences exist. There is also a need for:

- The USDA Forest Service to issue a long-term special use permit for the operation of the three Detroit Lake State Park sites. The permit is needed to allow OPRD's long-term presence and operation of the sites so they can amortize significant financial investments needed for identified rehabilitation and facility development projects.

- Approval of a Master Plan outlining strategies for managing the three Detroit Lake State Park sites, as well as, defining specific projects intended to meet objectives in the master plan. The plan will serve as the basis for agreement about the methods of management at the sites between the USDA Forest Service and OPRD.
- Improving maintenance and rehabilitation of park facilities and infrastructure, increasing staffing levels, providing necessary on-site storage and staff facilities, upgrading electrical systems, improving facilities and rehabilitating hard-to-manage areas.
- Regulating occupancy and use through campground design measures to protect and enhance the outstanding natural, cultural and scenic resources. There is also a need for improving and enhancing the facilities and infrastructure to accommodate the current user expectations, and provide a safe and healthful atmosphere.
- Providing for current recreational needs by providing more day use activities on the lake, responding to public demand for better RV camping amenity levels, providing group overnight and day use opportunities, providing more overnight moorage and extra vehicle parking at the campground, and providing for desired amenities.
- Improving park access, including new orientation and working to improve highway safety, enhancing the safety of access points by improving site visibility and signage, coordinating with the USDA Forest Service regarding access points for vehicles and pedestrians, and providing for emergency evacuation of the campground.
- Using prime recreation sites around the reservoir, such as the Tumble Creek Point Site, as a recreation area instead of an administrative use site. This would allow the area to better serve the public and to respond to user demands.
- Improving facilities to provide access for persons with disabilities and provide enjoyment for all abilities.
- Establishing a safe, low-water boat launching facility for year-round use.
- Meeting the demand of the public for increased use at the Mongold Day-Use area.

Other Alternatives Considered in Detail

Alternative 1: No Action Alternative - The No Action alternative proposes no change to the existing management of the Detroit Lake State Park sites. OPRD would continue to operate the three sites under a special use permit, which will be evaluated for renewal at five-year intervals. Proposed projects designed to meet the objectives identified in the DRAFT Master Plan would not be implemented at this time, but could be proposed and evaluated individually, as the need arises.

Comment Period and Comments Received

The availability of the environmental assessment and proposed action for this project was first published in the legal notice of the Eugene Register-Guard on May 5, 2003, and Salem Statesman Journal on May 6, 2003. A copy of the EA and OPRD Master Plan were also posted to the Willamette National Forest web page on May 5, 2003. Copies of the EA were mailed to parties who requested the document on May 2, 2003. Comments were accepted until June 4, 2003. A total of 3 comment letters were received resulting in 16 substantive comments. Substantive comments as defined by 36 CFR 215, and responses to those comments, are included in Appendix A of this document.

Consistency Findings Required by Other Laws & Regulations

I used the following Laws, Regulations and Policies as a basis for my decision:

1. After reviewing my decision, I have determined that the selected action (Alternative 2) is consistent with the Willamette National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (Forest Plan), as amended by the Record of Decision and Standards and Guidelines for Management of Habitat for Late Successional Species and Old Growth Dependent Species Within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl (NWFP 1994).

This finding is based on how the environmental analysis was prepared in accordance to Forest Plan Management Areas and Standards and Guidelines, as cited in the Detroit Lake State Park Master Plan EA and other supporting documents in the Project Record.

2. My decision is consistent with the New Management Guidelines for Water Quality from the State of Oregon and the Clean Water Act. All management activities would be done in such a manner to comply with current standards for soil, water, and riparian management. Mitigation measures for this project will meet the requirements outlined in General Water Quality Best Management Practices (PNW Region Nov. 1988). This would then constitute a no effect for soil and water related resources (EA, page III-3 & 4).

3. My decision is consistent with the National Historic Preservation Act. A heritage resource report has been completed and forwarded to the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) in accordance with 36 CFR 800.5 (B). Per the 1995 Programmatic Agreement between the Advisory Council for Historic Properties (ACHP), the Oregon State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), and the USDA Forest Service, Region 6, consultation is not required for this project because survey results determined that the project will have no effect on cultural resources. (EA, page III-6)

4. My decision is consistent with the Endangered Species Act. A biological evaluation was completed on the project and found that this project is not expected to have any adverse effects to Threatened or Endangered wildlife species, including fish and aquatic species (Project Record, Sections G & I). Therefore, no formal consultation was required with the USDI Fish & Wildlife Service (USF&W). Furthermore, no formal consultation has occurred with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries) due to the lack of Threatened, Endangered, and Sensitive fisheries species above Detroit and Big Cliff Dams. Finally, there is no Essential Fish Habitat that exists above Detroit Dam on the North Santiam River as described in the Magnuson-Stevens Act (1976). (EA, pages III-6 through III-8)

5. The Detroit Lake State Park Master Plan EA was completed in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The range of alternatives is adequate and sufficiently responds to the issues raised during public scoping. The analysis was sufficient to provide the information to make an informed decision. Documentation of the analysis process is located in the Detroit Lake State Park Master Plan EA project record and available from the Detroit Ranger District office upon request.

Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI)

I have reviewed the Detroit Lake State Park Master Plan Environmental Assessment. Based on the site specific analysis documented in the EA, I have determined that this is not a major federal action and it will have no significant effects on the quality of the human environment; therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement will not be prepared.

In making this determination, I have considered beneficial and adverse direct, indirect, and cumulative environmental impacts discussed in the Environmental Assessment, which has disclosed these effects within the appropriate context and intensity. This determination was made considering the following rationale:

Context

The popular Detroit Lake State Park sites are located on National Forest System lands along the north shore of Detroit Reservoir, the second heaviest used boating lake in Oregon according to a 1999 Oregon State Marine Board Boating Report. Currently the three sites are operated by OPRD under a special use permit from the USDA Forest Service. The original permit for operation of the sites was issued for 30 years in 1955. For the last 15 years, OPRD has been operating the sites under short-term special use permits that must be renewed every five years. The current permit expired in December 2002; however, a 6-month extension has been issued and will expire on June 30, 2003.

They do not have a current, long-term master plan to direct management of the sites and identify specific development projects designed to guide objectives outlined in the master plan for the sites. Furthermore, it is difficult for a permit holder, such as OPRD, to make major investments and improvements if their permit is for a short time frame and they are not able to fully amortize their costs.

Intensity

- 1. Impacts may be both beneficial and adverse. A significant effect may exist even if the Federal agency believes that on a balance the effects will be beneficial.**

Implementation of the selected action will be beneficial to the recreation users in the Detroit Lake area. Actions identified in the Master Plan will improve the park environment and provide adequate, updated facilities to meet the public's need for quality day-use, overnight and group use recreation. Implementation of actions over the course of the first 5-year period will improve safe access to and within the sites, provide adequate infrastructure to accommodate the number of users that visit the parks, and the types of facilities demanded by the public.

Further, the Master Plan improves the health of vegetation and decreases soil compaction caused by recreation activities. Implementing an action plan to improve the health and vigor of the forest over the course of the permit period will enhance and sustain the scenic quality of the natural park setting over the long term.

Implementation of the master plan will also help meet the demand for day-use opportunities and parking, which is in short supply around the reservoir. Some visitors may be turned away during peak use weekends and holidays, and displaced to other campgrounds or dispersed campsites. However, visitors to the State Park typically plan their trip in advance and reserve campsites and if

sites are booked may opt to choose not to come to Detroit Lake and go elsewhere, or plan their trip for another date that isn't booked. Encouraging use during these other non-peak times is beneficial to the local economy. (EA, page III-3)

2. The degree to which the proposed action affects public health or safety.

This project does not adversely affect public health and safety (EA, page III-12 & 13). Several proposed actions in the DRAFT Management Plan are designed to improve public safety. At the Detroit Lake State Park Campground these include highway access improvements, decreased crowding in the campground, additional parking, and new trail construction. At the Mongold Day Use Area, expansion of the site nearly doubles the parking capacity and significantly reduces the congestion and traffic flow problems along Highway 22. A new day use area and beach access at Mongold also separates boaters from swimmers. The existing low water boat access is moved to a new location resulting in a safe launching site during times of low water. Finally, approval of the Management Plan allows for the continued improvement at all three sites for the next 20-25 years to increase public safety.

3. Unique characteristics of the geographic area such as proximity to historic or cultural resources, park lands, prime farmlands, wetlands, wild and scenic rivers or ecologically critical areas.

There is no farm land or range land located within the project area; therefore this project will have no effect on these resources. (EA, page III-5)

The project area is not located within a designated or eligible Wild and Scenic River corridor; therefore this project will have no effect to rivers listed on the National Wild and Scenic River System. (EA, page III-5)

No irreversible and/or irretrievable use of the soils or geologic resources is anticipated beyond that which has been previously identified in the Willamette National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan, as amended by the Northwest Forest Plan of 1994. Under multiple-use management some irretrievable commitments of resources are unavoidable and acceptable at developed recreation sites. (EA, page III-13)

There are no 303d listed streams, designated wetlands, or floodplains within the project area; therefore this project will have no effect on these resources. (EA, page III-5). Detroit Reservoir is a source of drinking water for the City of Salem and other downstream municipalities, however, with the implementation of Best Management Practices, there are no expected direct, indirect, or

cumulative effects to water quality in the area (EA, page III-5). Utilizing Best Management Practices would result in no adverse impacts to downstream beneficial water users.

4. The degree to which the effects on the quality of the human environment are likely to be highly controversial, or involves unknown risks.

No specific actions for this project have been considered highly controversial or involve unique or unknown risks. The information available in the EA is adequate to make an informed decision.

5. The degree to which the action may establish a precedent for future actions with significant effects or represent a decision of principle about a future consideration.

This decision does not set precedent for future actions that may have a significant effects.

6. Whether the action is related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant impacts.

The selected actions are not expected to create significant cumulative effects.

7. The degree to which the action may adversely affect districts, sites, travelways, structures or objects listed in the National Register of Historic Places or may cause loss or destruction of significant cultural or historical resources.

Within the project area, there are no districts, historic or pre-historic sites, highways, structures, or objects listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register. As a result, this project will have no effect on heritage resources. (EA, page III-6)

8. The degree to which the action may adversely affect an endangered or threatened species or its habitat that has been determined to be critical under the Endangered Species Act.

A Biological Evaluation (BE) for the EA was completed (Project Record, sections G and H) and addresses the effects on Threatened and Endangered wildlife and fish species. The proposed project will not adversely affect bald eagles or spotted owls or their habitat. All other threatened or endangered species, or their habitat, are not present in the project area and therefore will not be affected by the project. (EA, pages III-6 through III-8)

9. Whether or not the action threatens a violation of Federal, State, or local law protection of the environment.

This action complies with relevant federal, state and local laws, regulations and requirements designed for the protection of the environment. The selected alternative will meet or exceed requirements for State water and air quality.

Implementation Date

If no appeal is filed, the USDA Forest Service will implement the Detroit Lake State Park Master Plan five days after the close of the forty-five day appeal period, which starts on the date the legal notice announcing the decision appears in the Eugene Register-Guard. If an appeal is filed, implementation of this decision will occur 15 days following the date of the appeal disposition.

Appeal Rights

This decision is subject to appeal by people or organizations who have provided comments or otherwise expressed interest in this selected alternative pursuant to 36 CFR Chapter 2, Part 215 or Part 251. Any written appeal of this decision must be fully consistent with 36 CFR 215.15 or 251.88 and must include the reason for an appeal. A written appeal, in duplicate, must be postmarked and submitted to the following address within 45 days of the date that the legal public notice of this decision appears in the Eugene Register-Guard newspaper.

Appeal Deciding Officer
Regional Forester
Attn: 1570 Appeals
P.O. Box 3623
Portland, OR 97208-3623

For further information about this project, contact:

Jim Romero, District Planner
HC73 Box 320
Mill City, OR 97360
Phone: (503) 854-4212

Responsible Official: /s/ Dallas Emch

Date: June 11, 2003

Dallas Emch
Forest Supervisor
Willamette National Forest

Detroit Lake State Park Master Plan – Decision Notice

Appendix A – Response to Public Comments

The Environmental Analysis (EA) was made available on May 5, 2003. Copies of the EA were mailed to 18 individuals who requested the document. Letters indicating the availability of the EA were also mailed to those individuals on the original scoping list for the project. A copy of the EA was made available for review on the Willamette National Forest web site. The 30-day public comment period ended on June 4, 2003. Three individuals submitted comments. Copies of the comment letters are available in the project record located at the Detroit Ranger District office.

Comments from each letter are listed in the table below in alphabetical order by resource concern. References are made to the Detroit Lake State Park EA where appropriate.

Name of Commenter	Public Comment	Forest Service Response
Ann Cavanagh	Page I-1, insert the following sentence. "Detroit Reservoir is a source of drinking water for the capital, Salem, and other cities downstream, all of which are growing rapidly."	Thank you for your comment; however, we cannot make changes to the EA once it is final. Water quality is addressed in the EA, pages III-4 and III-5, plus we do recognize that the North Santiam Watershed is a key municipal watershed for the Cities of Salem and other downstream users. This statement was added on page 9 of the Decision Notice.
Kristen Stahlman - Oregon Parks & Recreation Department	Would like to clarify the following statement on Page II-5: "Maximum number of vehicles in Loop "A" through "E" is 103 and 125 sites in loops "F" - "H". This statement actually refers to the maximum number of vehicles allowed in the overflow parking areas and should not be confused with the maximum number of vehicles allowed within the campground.	A correction was made on page 3 of the Decision Notice.
Karen Sjogren	I question the validity of the statement at the bottom of Page I-4 which characterizes "campers". What is your source for this statement... By building facilities to accommodate these "campers", state parks attract such use, to the detriment of the parks' aesthetic appeal and safety.	Information on the types of visitors that use the OPRD sites is provided from OPRD and the DRAFT Master Plan. Most of the projects proposed in the Master Plan are a modification of existing facilities and are designed to meet the needs of the users of the park. New facilities will be required to be visually subordinate to the surrounding area and utilize vegetative screening where possible.

Name of Commenter	Public Comment	Forest Service Response
Karen Sjogren	... at least one meeting should have been held in Salem to present the Draft plan and accept public comment. Any future major action on this Master Plan should include a presentation/meeting in Salem.	Meetings during the development of the Master Plan were scheduled by OPRD in consultation with the USDA Forest Service. Meetings were held in locations targeted to urban areas most affected by the project area. Based on information provided by the OPRD, it was decided to hold meetings in Portland and Detroit. During the NEPA scoping process, it was determined that no additional public meetings were necessary and public scoping was conducted through mailings. Only a few comments were received during public scoping of this project. No future meetings are proposed for this project.
Karen Sjogren	Tumble Creek Point Site: Given the limited potential sites for development, I question the conversion of this site into a high-end, group-use only facility.	The recommendation for use of this site as a recreation facility is described in the Detroit Lake Composite Area Management Guide (1992). Demand for group use facilities is high along the shoreline of Detroit Lake, with existing facilities at Hoover and Cove Creek Campgrounds, that are closed for use between October through April. No group use facilities are available year-round. The group use proposal was also generated to minimize daily entries and exits to and from Highway 22 at a location where the highway has a limited sight distance.
Karen Sjogren	Sewer and Water: The best alternative would be tying into the Detroit sewer/water system... The feasibility system will be a sham if it is a foregone conclusion that State Parks will design and construct an independent system, as the text indicates.	OPRD will be required to develop a feasibility study for the water and sewage treatment facilities. Once submitted, the Forest Service will complete a NEPA analysis of the proposal, including scoping, identification of issues, alternatives, and effects of implementation. It is expected that one alternative will identify connecting to the Detroit/Idanha system once completed.
Karen Sjogren	Swimming/Fishing/Boating: My principal concern with the development of recreational facilities for these purposes is that they be well separated, for safety, health, and aesthetic purposes.	The conceptual designs for each project display approximate location of facilities. Following a decision, a final design will be prepared by OPRD that shows specific project details for the selected action including location of facilities and construction details. Although the location of facilities may vary slightly from the conceptual design, the types of facilities would not change. All design concepts will comply with Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT), Oregon State Marine Board, and USDA Forest Service guidelines. The Oregon State Marine Board is responsible for designating specific locations of facilities and their proximity to one another.

Name of Commenter	Public Comment	Forest Service Response
Karen Sjogren	It is an inappropriate use of publicly owned land to provide facilities which will only accommodate those who can afford to pay for them. This site should be developed to allow for day use also, rather than crowding all day use into Mongold Park.	Day use facilities are available at all USDA Forest Service campgrounds and at the Detroit Lake State Park Campground. It is our understanding that the proposed Tumble Creek Point Site will not be exclusively overnight use.
Karen Sjogren	It is important that the tree thinning project in camp loops A-E be done by the Forest Service rather than State Parks...	The three Detroit Lake State Park sites are located on National Forest System Lands and operated under a special use permit. Because of this fact, the lands and trees are property of the U.S. Government and the USDA Forest Service will be responsible for the thinning operation at the campground.
Karen Sjogren	I am suspicious of the statement that thinning will "increase potential revenue to the Federal Government by removing a large quantity of trees in fewer operations and by removing trees before they are dead."	By removing the smaller diameter, suppressed trees now, the remaining stand will increase in diameter resulting in a healthier stand for the future. Thinning trees is also needed since the current stand density is at a level that will soon result in increasing mortality, poor growth and loss of live crowns. This stand of trees is not planned for scheduled timber harvest because of its location at a recreation site.
Karen Sjogren	Water Quality: Water quality will certainly be adversely affected, albeit indirectly, by increased boat moorage and traffic in these areas.	Water quality of Detroit Lake is not expected to decrease with implementation of the selected action. The construction of the boat moorage docks will allow boat users to store their boats at a safe location as opposed to current use of tying boats and affecting resources along the shoreline.
Karen Sjogren	Habitat for any wildlife species which does utilize snags would be adversely affected by this project, since thinning the campground forest and removing the trees will preclude the natural mortality which would otherwise result in snag creation, providing habitat for dependent species.	Due to the nature of use for the area - developed recreation - we are not allowed to retain snags in campground areas. There are ample amounts of habitat for snag dependent species in close proximity to the three State Park sites around the reservoir. No Threatened, Endangered, or Sensitive species were found to be using the three State Park sites.

Name of Commenter	Public Comment	Forest Service Response
Karen Sjogren	How will implementation n of the action alternative increase the probability of survey and manage fungi, lichen and bryophyte recruitment, if 30% of the forest cover is to be removed?	<p>Thinning is proposed to reduce the existing density from a basal area of 245 sq. ft. / acre to 180 sq. ft. / area or approximately 30% of the existing trees. However, the thinning will remove the smaller diameter, suppressed trees that generally do not attribute to the canopy of the stand. Overall stand cover is maintained by retaining the dominant and co-dominant trees in the stand.</p> <p>The probable increase in survey and manage fungi, lichens, and bryophytes would occur as a result of increased ground vegetation and within riparian areas that will be protected from future development and restored in existing riparian areas.</p>
Karen Sjogren	<p>It seems unfair to put the additional boat dock in Phase 1, while relegating both the fishing pier and new swimming area to Phase 4.</p> <p>Tumble Creek improvements: Why are these overnight, restricted use and highly developed facilities given priority over the day use facilities at Mongold?</p> <p>Camp Loops "A - E": Why is expansion of the existing swimming area here, which requires camping to access, given priority over redeveloping the swimming area at Mongold, which is accessible by all who wish to pay the day use /seasonal state park fee?</p>	<p>Priorities for projects within the first 5 years were :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Health and Safety 2) Resource Values 3) Visitor Needs <p>The list represents a logical phasing of master planned projects. The list considers the construction schedules and necessary coordination with partnership projects such as City of Detroit and Idanhd's sewer improvement project. The identified Forest Service priority rankings are also taken into account. This phasing list will be updated on a bi-annual basis by OPRD. At that time, the list will be re-evaluated against other agency priorities and assessed for permitting feasibility prior to further funding allocation.</p>