



Lord Hill Regional Park 2020 Master Plan Update

**Snohomish County Parks, Recreation and
Tourism**

**Presentation by
Amy Lucas
Senior Park Planner**





Agenda

- ▶ 1988 Master Plan Discussion
- ▶ Project Scope and Timeline
- ▶ Snohomish County Planning Process Review
- ▶ Interim Trail Plan Alternatives
- ▶ 2020 Master Plan Update
 - ▶ Process
 - ▶ Traffic and User Counts
 - ▶ Future Trail Plan Alternatives
- ▶ Funding
- ▶ Q & A
- ▶ Survey Instructions





Regional Park Designation

▶ 1988 Definition

“Regional Parks are designated to serve a multi-county population with a wide range of recreation activities associated with the natural environment”

▶ Other Regional Parks in 1988 -

- ▶ Kayak Point Regional Park
- ▶ Flowing Lake Regional Park
- ▶ River Meadows Regional Park
- ▶ Meadowdale Beach Regional Park
- ▶ McCollum Regional Park
- ▶ Backman Regional Park

▶ Common Uses -

- ▶ Day Use swimming, fishing, picnicking, playground and multi-use trails
- ▶ Camping
- ▶ Boat Launch





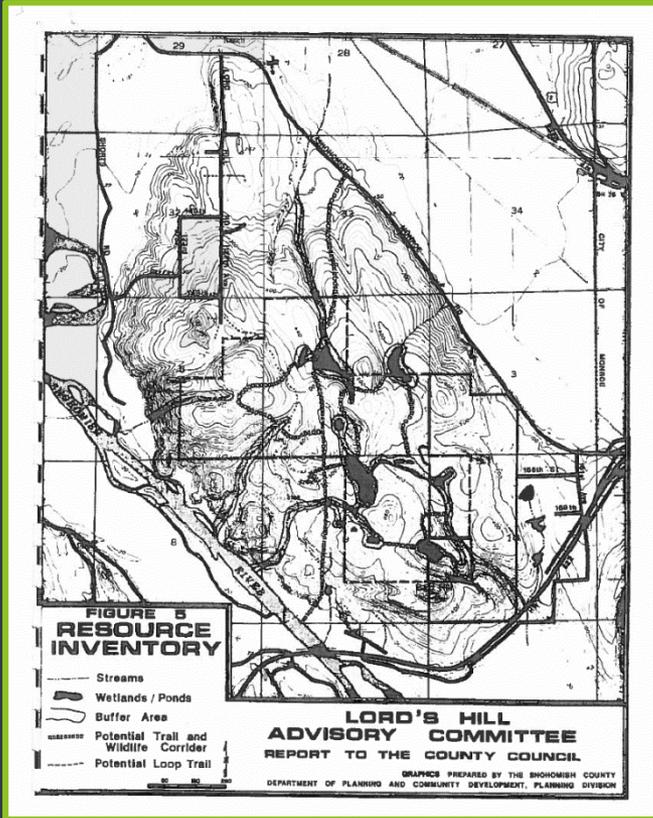
Regional Park Designation

- ▶ 1988 Recreation Activities designated for Lord Hill
 - ▶ 13.5 miles of multi-use and designated trails
 - ▶ Hiking trails
 - ▶ Biking Trails
 - ▶ Bridle Trails
 - ▶ An Interpretive Trail
 - ▶ An Accessible Trail
 - ▶ A paddlecraft put-in as part of a regional water trail
 - ▶ Public Fishing
 - ▶ Hike-in / Ride-in camping
- ▶ Original Plan also recommended 60 year logging rotation





Regional Park Designation





2020 Master Plan Update

1,480 acres with 32 miles of trails

Master Plan Goals

1. Preserve natural, undeveloped character and protect natural areas
2. Series of circulation routes throughout park – provide for all non-motorized uses and ADA accessibility
3. Restrict access to wetlands and natural sites with observation points
4. Create educational experiences
5. Year round recreational opportunity with on-site Ranger/caretaker
6. Directional trail system design and signage
7. Allow trial base use of mountain bikes and evaluate trail degradation
8. Evaluate trail and land degradation due to over-use or misuse – consider seasonal use, re-routing and decommissioning





Interim Trail System and Designated Trails

32 Mile Trail System

Original 6 mile system from former logging and skid roads

Many trails built socially

No accurate signage or wayfinding points

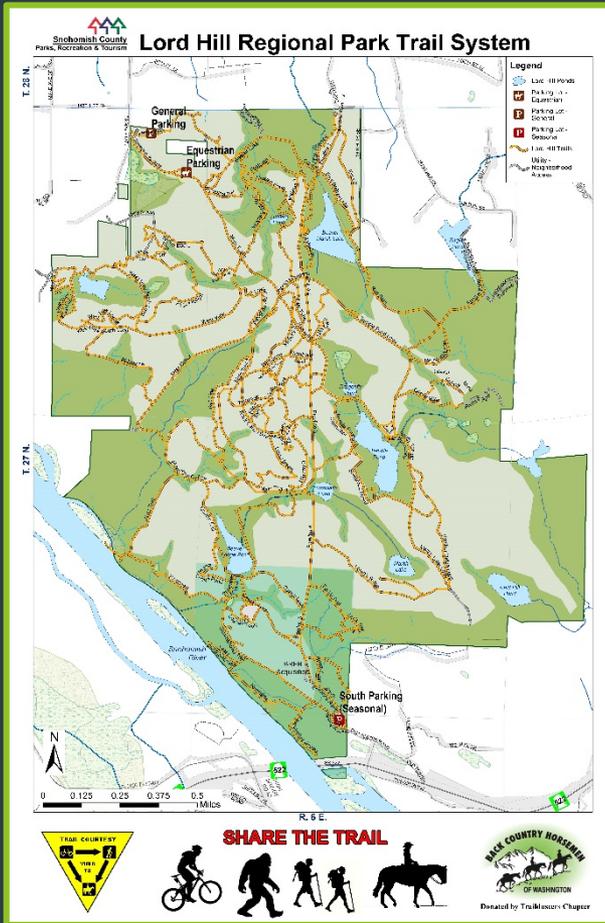
User conflicts



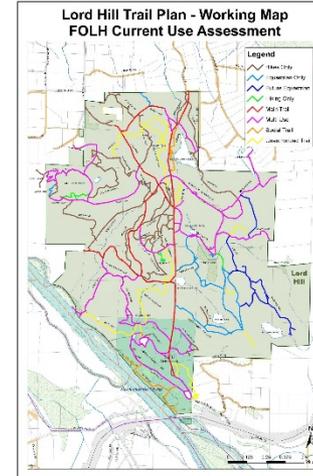
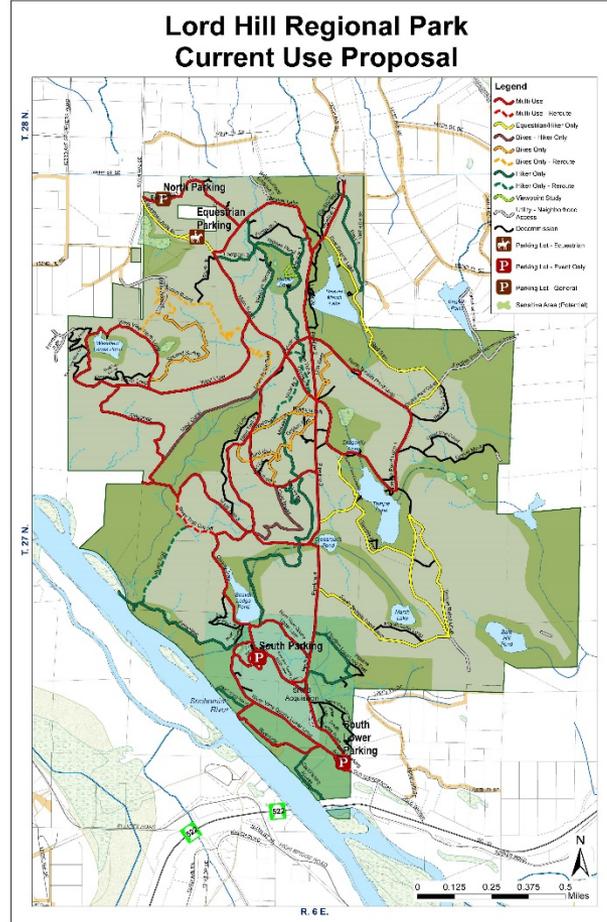
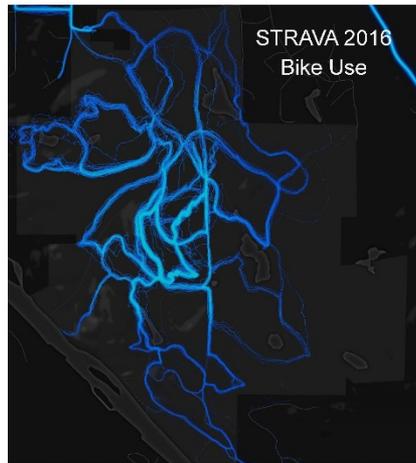


Need – Interim Trail System Designations

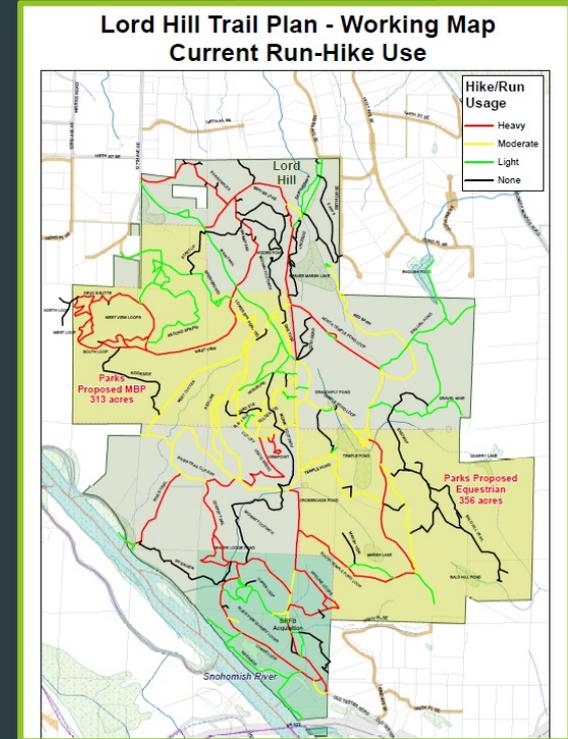
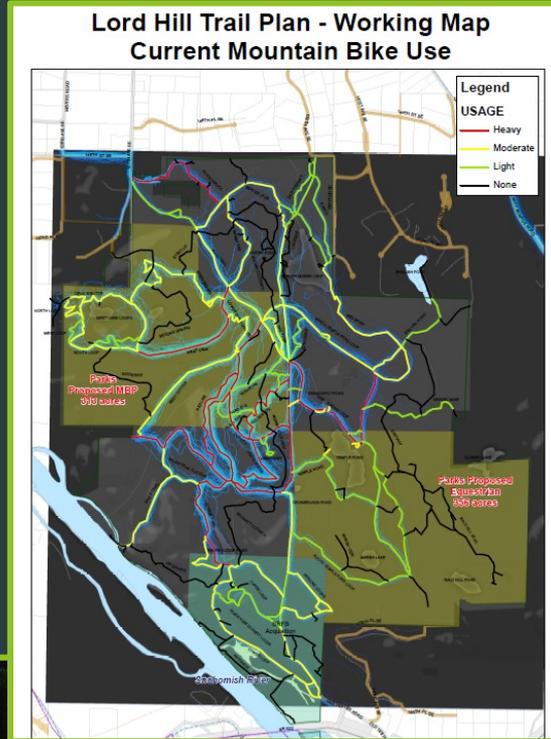
Undefined Trail System



User Group Process



User Group Process





User Group Process

Concerns From the Study Group

Concern	Addressed	Pending
Environmental Degradation	Wayne's World	River Trail Riverview Trail Ear Therapy Riverside
Safety	Upper Springboard Golden Eye Midway Connections Midway Re-route 2	Mountain Bike Trails Signage Trail Etiquette Signage Wayfinding signs and posts Speeds Bikes in Equestrian Lot
Utility/Private Property	Upper Springboard	Red Barn
Parking	Striping Signage Plan - Equestrian Lot	Striping Signage Plan - Main Lot, Tester Road Tester Road Caretaker Tester Road Security
Accessibility	ADA Parking in Equestrian Lot	New Bike/Ped entrance from Main Lot



Public Process



Concerns From 2017 Survey

Concern	Addressed	Pending
Wayfinding	Wayfinding and Sign Plan drafted	Funding for full implementation
Safety	Line of Sight issues Trail Use Designations Regulatory Signs	Additional Signage Funding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trail Etiquette Signage • Wayfinding signs and posts • Speeds Bikes in Equestrian Lot Mountain Bike Trail Re-routes
Parking	Striping Signage Plan - Equestrian Lot	Explore Additional Parking Expansions Striping Signage Plan - Main Lot, Tester Road Tester Road Caretaker Tester Road Security
Accessibility	ADA Parking in Equestrian Lot	New ADA entrance from Main Lot Explore options for reducing grade on Boardwalk Entrance for bikes
Environmental Protection	Initial Bird Blitz - Pilchuck Audubon Society Plant Surveys - Washington Native Plant Society Sword Fern Die-off - Monitoring	Wildlife Protection Salmon Protection Habitat Protection





Interim vs. Master Plan Trail System Designations

Difference Between Plans:

Interim Trail System

- To be implemented in 2019
- Designates trail usage by type
- Map distribution and sign installation

Master Plan

- Covers long-term planning horizon
- Designates trail usage by type
- Includes options for additional trails





Interim Plan Trail System Alternatives

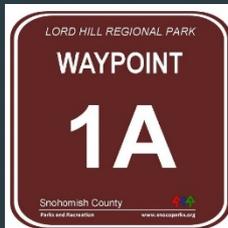
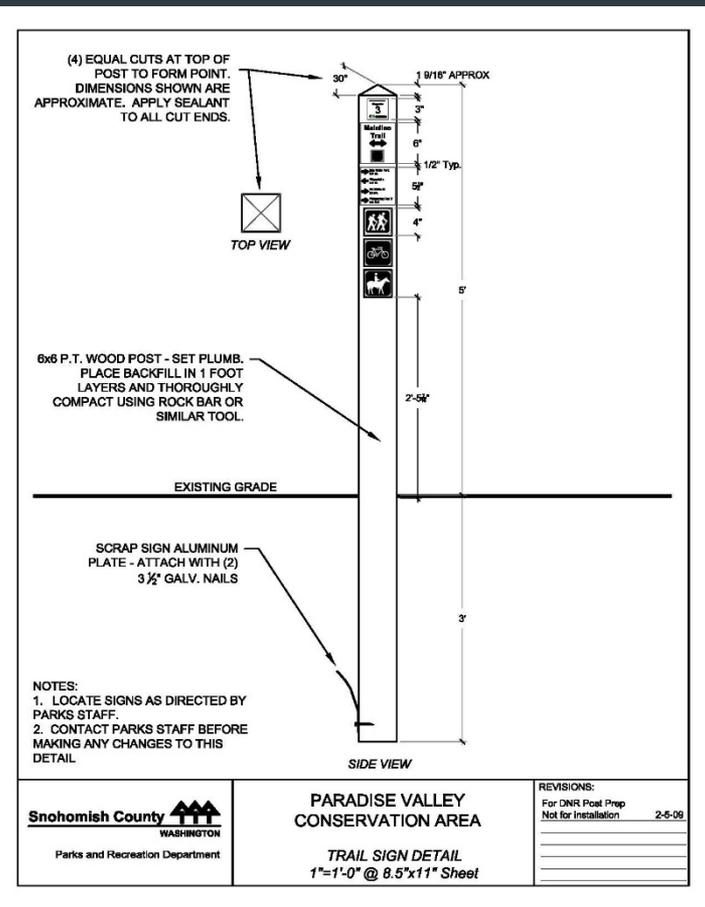
Total Trail Miles Accessible by Use Type

Use Type	Alternative 1	Alternative 2
Hiker	24.1 miles	24.1 miles
Equestrian	15.2 miles	11.6 miles
Bike	17.7 miles	15.1 miles





Wayfinding and Sign Plan



Accessibility Entrance



Hiker Only

- 5% or less grade
- Boardwalk Entrance contains 17% – 20% grade hills
- Only 1 ADA parking space in Equestrian Lot
- Will connect with Equestrian Bypass

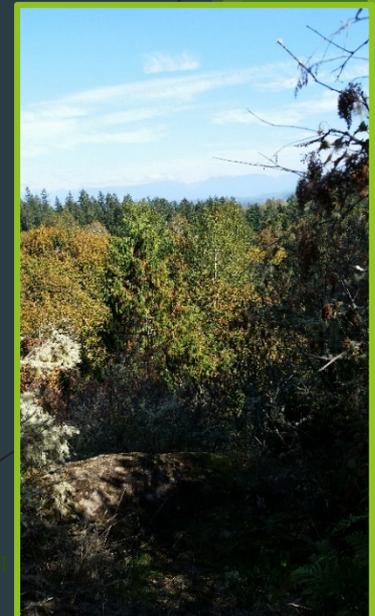


Critical Areas Reconnaissance and Studies



Plan Scope –

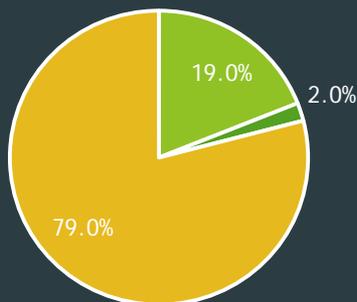
- Map locations of all critical areas within the park
- Focus Critical Area Studies only where impacts are known:
 - Bridge crossings for new equestrian trails



Preliminary Traffic Counts

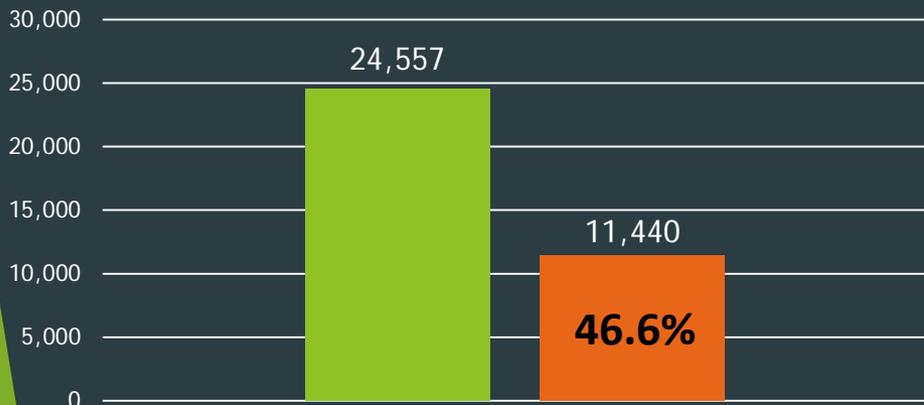


Preliminary Traffic Count Results
(% 127th Ave SE Traffic)



■ Main Parking Lot
 ■ Equestrian Lot
 ■ Neighborhood/Thru-Traffic

127th Ave SE Speed Summary



■ Total Traffic Count
 ■ Total Traffic Exceeding Speed Limit

Plan Scope –

- **3 Traffic Counts per year for 2 years**
 - Off season – 15%
 - Shoulder season – 20%
 - Peak season – 25%
- **4 Locations**
 - Tester Road Parking Lot
 - Equestrian Parking Lot
 - Main Parking Lot
 - 127th Ave SE (35 mph)



Preliminary Trail Counts



Plan Scope -

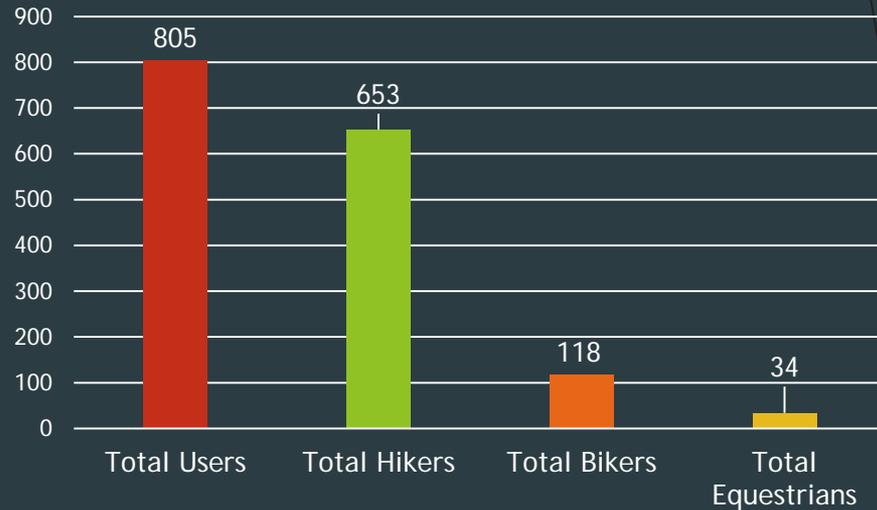
2-4 Hour Trail Counts

- Hours range from 8 am to 6 pm
- Directional using Federal Bike/Ped trail count methodology
- Talled by User Type

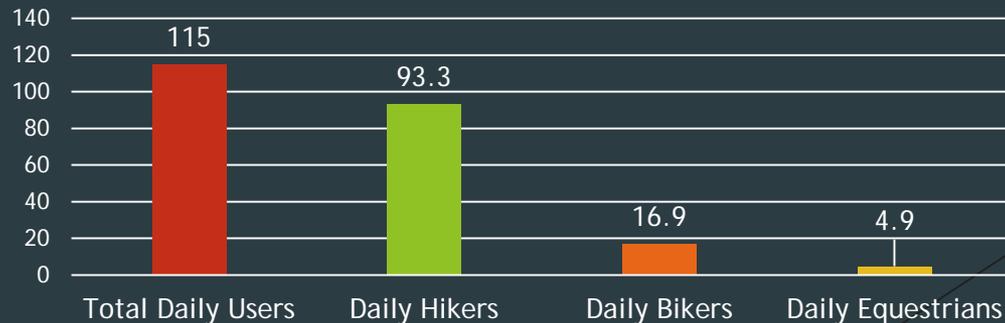
Multiple Locations

- Main Intersections near entrances
- Major internal park intersections

Lord Hill Users to date
7/24/2019



Averaged Daily Users to date
7/24/2019

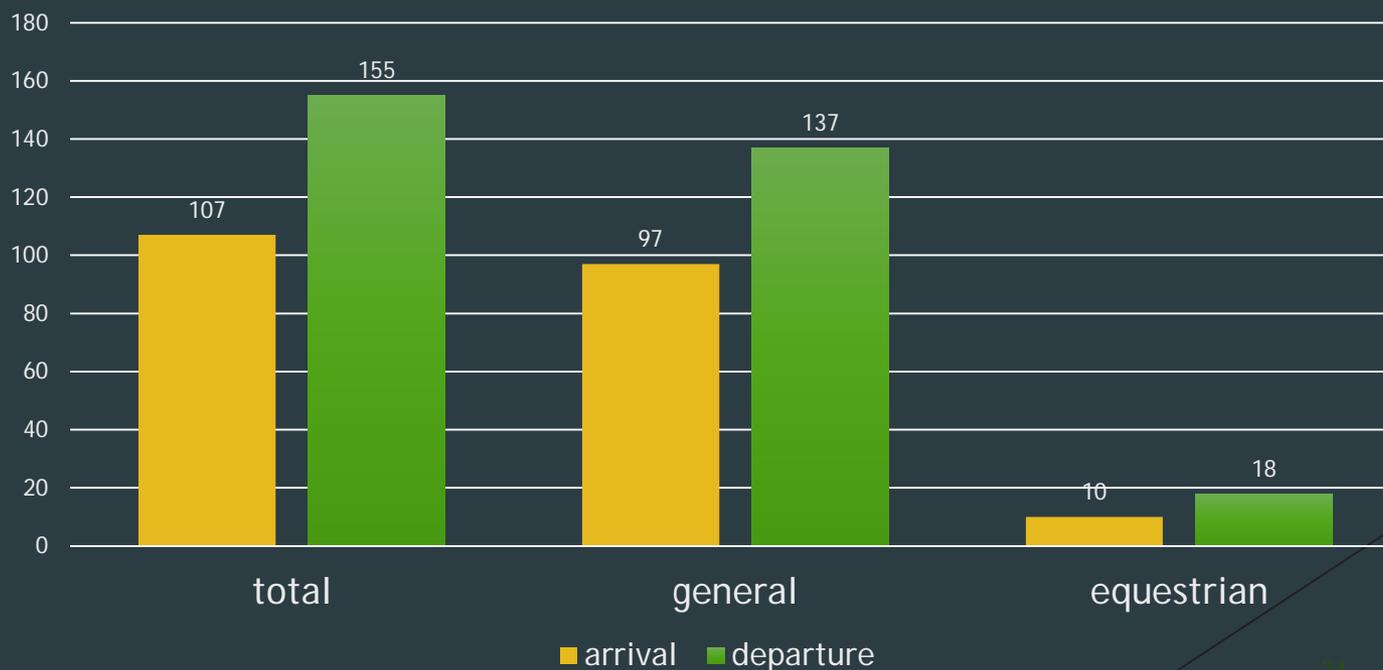


Preliminary Trail Counts



**Plan Scope –
Parking lot counts
taken at beginning and
end of trail count
periods**

Parking Lot Count
to date 7/24/2019



24

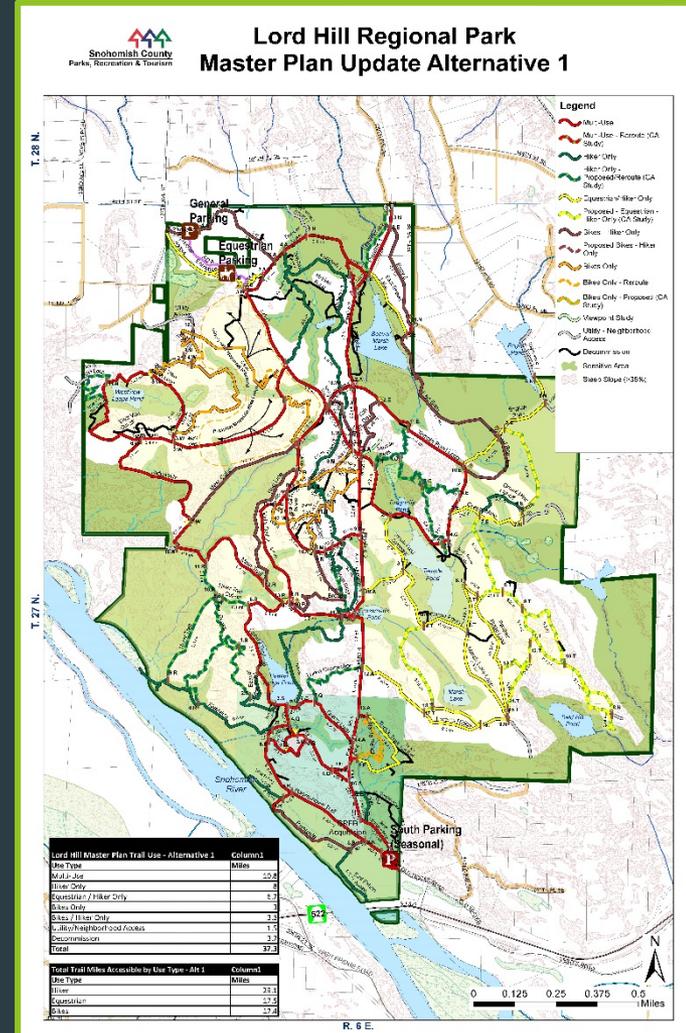




Master Plan Trail System Alternatives

Alternative 1 – Shared Use System with new trails

- Developed by User Group Collaboration
- Multi-Use circulation system throughout park – 10.8 miles
 - Same multi-use to designated use distribution as Interim Plan Alternative 1
 - Hiking Only focus in SW portion of park
- Maintains Bike and Equestrian access to river
- New Equestrian Trails and Mountain Bike connections

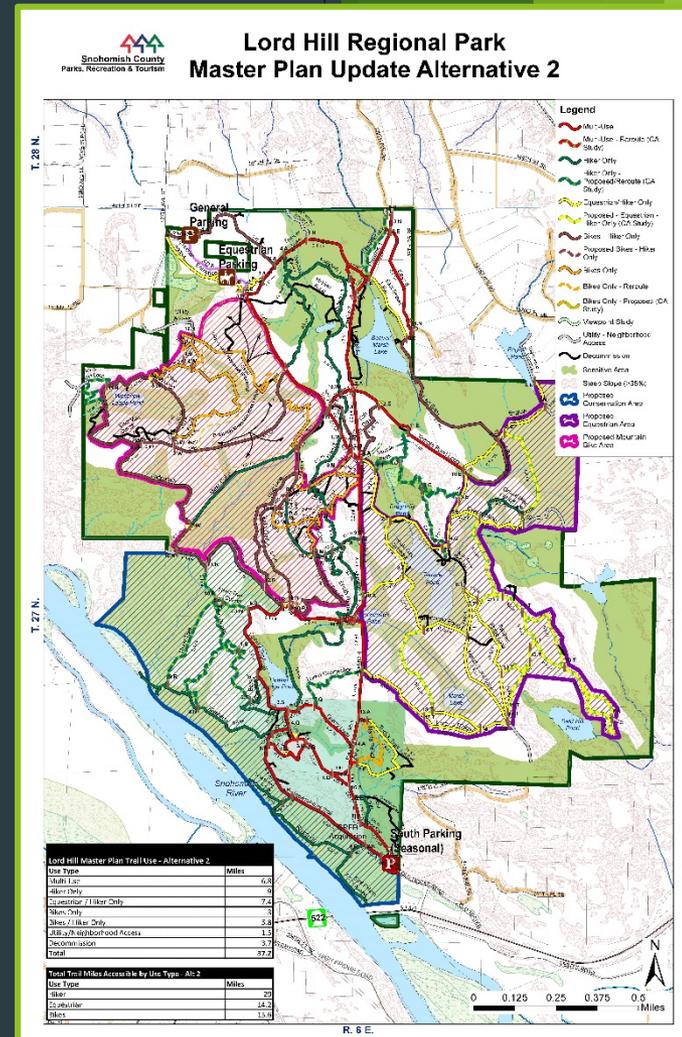




Master Plan Trail System Alternatives

Alternative 2 – Separated Use System

- Developed to address survey environmental and safety concerns
- Multi-Use spine system distributes users
- North/South – 6.8 miles
 - Equestrian/Hike Only access to SE portion of park
 - Bike/Hike Only access to NW portion of park
 - Hiker Only access to SW portion of park
- Conservation Area Designation – Hiker only
- New Equestrian Trails and Mountain Bike connections





Master Plan Trail System Alternatives

Alternative 3 – No New Changes

- Developed as part of the SEPA process as the No Change Alternative

Lord Hill Regional Park Master Plan Update Alternative 3

No New Trails **No Parking Expansions**

- Will officially implement selected Interim Trail Plan
- Will include wayfinding and sign posts
- Will include Critical Area Reconnaissance for Master Plan Update
- Will include Seasonal Closures
- Will allow regular trail maintenance and re-routing of intersections for safety





Master Plan Trail System Alternatives

Total Trail Miles Accessible by Use Type

Use Type	Alternative 1	Alternative 2
Hiker	29.1 miles	29 miles
Equestrian	17.5 miles	14.2 miles
Bike	17.4 miles	15.6 miles



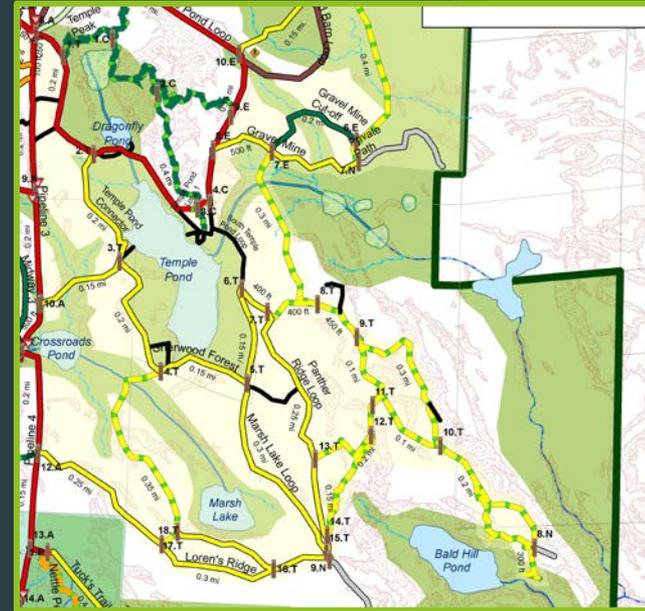


Master Plan Trail System Alternatives 1 and 2

New Equestrian Trails

Sponsors: Friends of Lord Hill and Lord Hill Homeowners

- Additional loops in SE portion of park
- Additional connectors and new Temple Pond outflow crossing



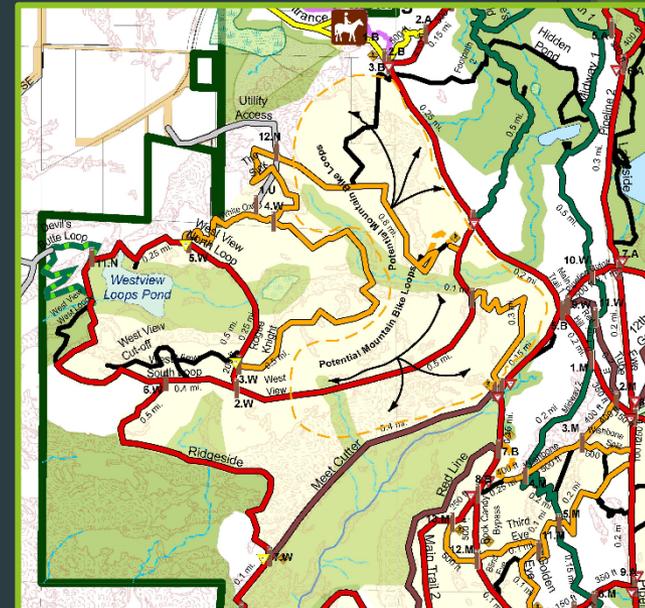


Master Plan Trail System Alternatives 1 and 2

New Mountain Bike Connectors

Sponsors: Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance and Lord Hill Mountain Bikers

- Additional connectors in NW portion of park
- Some trails or portions of trails may be decommissioned for better connections

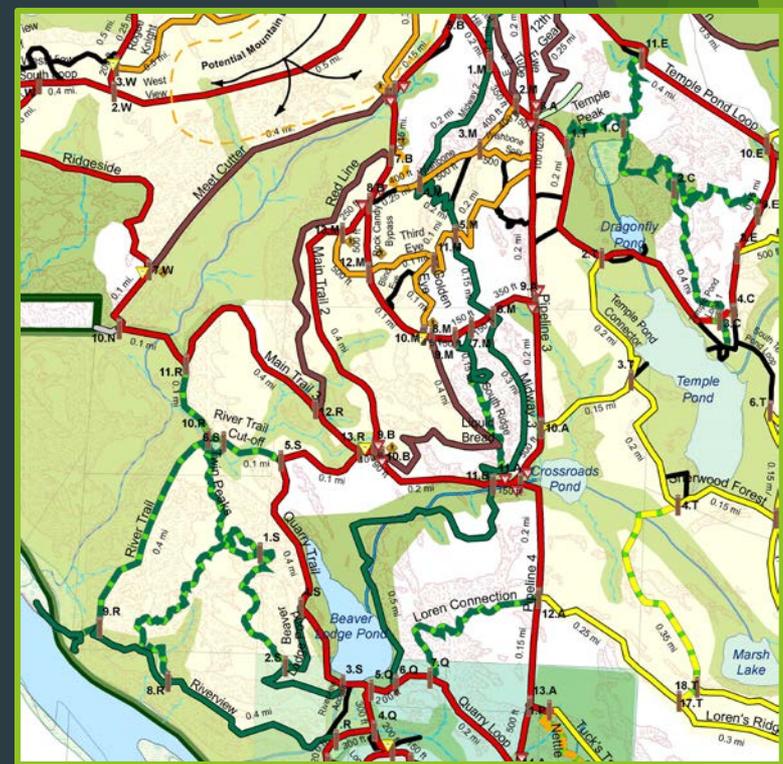
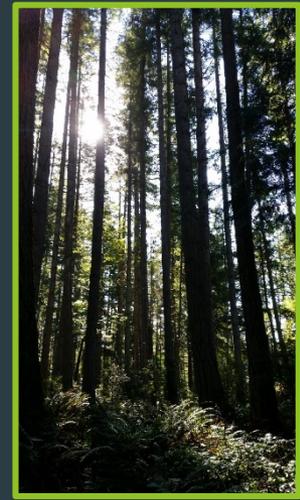




Master Plan Trail System Alternatives 1 and 2

New Hiking Trails
Sponsors: Lord Hill Homeowners

- Additional hiking only trails to Temple Peak and Twin Peaks
- Additional connectors in South portion of park



Funding



Funded:

- Critical Areas Reconnaissance and Studies
- Traffic Studies
- Trail Counts
- Parking Expansion Feasibility Study
- New Trail Feasibility Studies
- New Equestrian Kiosk



Partially Funded:

- Wayfinding and Sign Plan
- New Trail Permitting Costs

Not Funded:

- New Trail Construction
- Parking Lot Expansion
- Additional Operations



Funding



Partnerships and Donations:

Signs – BuDu Racing, Back
Country Horsemen of
Washington Traildusters Chapter

Trail Maintenance – Friends of
Lord Hill, Lord Hill Park
Homeowners, Lord Hill Park
Mountain Bikers, Washington
Trails Association, Washington
Conservation Crew, Everett
Mountaineers, Snohomish Youth
Cycling, Trails to Success

Funding Partner – Lord Hill Park
Advocates





Questions?



Survey Instructions

Material Review and Survey available online



Complete this evening
OR
Online Survey -

<https://www.snohomishcountywa.gov/3757/Lord-Hill-Trail-System>



Lord Hill Regional Park 2020 Master Plan Update



Thank You



Snohomish County Parks and Recreation

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