

## **A. BACKGROUND**

### **1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:**

Adoption of Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission land classifications and long-term boundary for Saint Edward State Park.

### **2. Name of applicant:** Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission

### **3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person:**

Bill Koss, Manager, Planning & Research  
7150 Cleanwater Drive, PO Box 42650  
Olympia, WA 98504-2650  
Phone: (360) 902-8629 FAX: (360) 902-8840  
e-mail: [bill.koss@parks.wa.gov](mailto:bill.koss@parks.wa.gov)

### **4. Date checklist prepared:** December 2006

### **5. Agency requesting checklist:** Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission (Commission)

### **6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable):**

This checklist contains non-project SEPA analysis, which includes land classifications and a long-term boundary for Saint Edward State Park.

The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission (Commission) held public meetings on October 11, 2005, October 15, 2005, February 16, 2006, February 18, 2006, November 9, 2006 and November 11, 2006 at Kenmore, Washington to consider taking action on this proposal. Since fall 2005, State Parks with the assistance of a 15 member Advisory Committee has worked to prepare the long-term boundary, land classifications, and a comprehensive plan for Saint Edward State Park. The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission will take action on staff recommended long-term boundary and land classifications at the regularly scheduled January 12, 2007 Commission meeting. The January 12, 2007 Commission meeting will be held at Normandy Park Community Club (The Cove) Normandy Park, Washington. The Commission meeting is scheduled to begin at 9:00 a.m., this will be the first item on the agenda.

### **7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain.**

Yes. This SEPA checklist analyzes the foreseeable impacts associated with the Commission's adoption of the proposed staff recommendation for a land classification plan and long-term boundary for Saint Edward State Park.

A park management plan for Saint Edward State Park will be developed in the future (Spring 2007) to implement the Commission's proposed land classifications, long-term boundary, and to provide management direction. In addition, the management plan will provide guidance on future use of park facilities. The management plan is an administrative document that will be approved by the Deputy Director when finalized. Portions of the plan may be reviewed under SEPA, where applicable. Policy decisions regarding any lease of park facilities such as the Seminary Building will require approval by the Commission. Leases longer than 10 years require Commission approval; unanimous approval is needed for leases longer than 20 years. State Parks anticipates that future decisions on facility leases will require further review under the State Environmental Policy Act. Interested parties should state their desire to receive future documentation for the management plans.

Any future project actions depend upon securing adequate funding and regulatory approvals. Additional SEPA documentation will be prepared for specific project actions at such times when developments are proposed. NEPA review will be required for any proposal that might change existing uses at the park. State Parks will coordinate with the National Park Service for such review, as appropriate.

**8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal.**

- Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife. 2006. Priority Habitat and Species Program GIS DATA.
- Washington State Department of Natural Resources: Natural Heritage Program GIS DATA. 2006.
- Saint Edward Seminary Cultural Landscape Inventory. August 2006. Prepared by National Park Service for Washington State Parks
- SEPA checklist and DNS (non-project action) for revision of the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission's Land Classification System. October 1995.
- National Wetland Inventory GIS Data. October 2004.
- Federal Emergency Management Agency Flood Maps. October 2004.
- Building Use Study Report for Saint Edward State Park prepared by Jones and Jones, Inc. for Washington State Parks, 1981
- Alternate Land Use Proposals for Saint Edward State Park prepared by Jongejan/Gerrard Associates for Washington State Parks, 1978
- Commission Agenda Minutes for the naming and classification of Saint Edward State Park, 1978
- United States Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service: 1973 Soil Survey of King County Area, Washington.

**9. Do you know whether applications are pending for governmental approvals of other proposals directly affecting the property covered by your proposal? If yes, explain.**

None known.

**10. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known.**

Only Commission approval is required for this non-project action.

**11. Give brief, complete description of your proposal, including the proposed uses and the size of the project and site. There are several questions later in this checklist that ask you to describe certain aspects of your proposal. You do not need to repeat those answers on this page. (Lead agencies may modify this form to include additional specific information on project description.)**

The review for this proposal will be phased. "Phased review" means the coverage of general matters in broader environmental documents, with subsequent narrower documents concentrating solely on issues specific to the later analysis (WAC 197-11-776). Phased review will allow State Parks to focus on decisions regarding the proposed land classification designations and long-term boundary. This is the first phase of environmental analysis for Saint Edward State Park. Subsequent phases will include environmental analysis for specific project actions at such time developments or other actions are proposed.

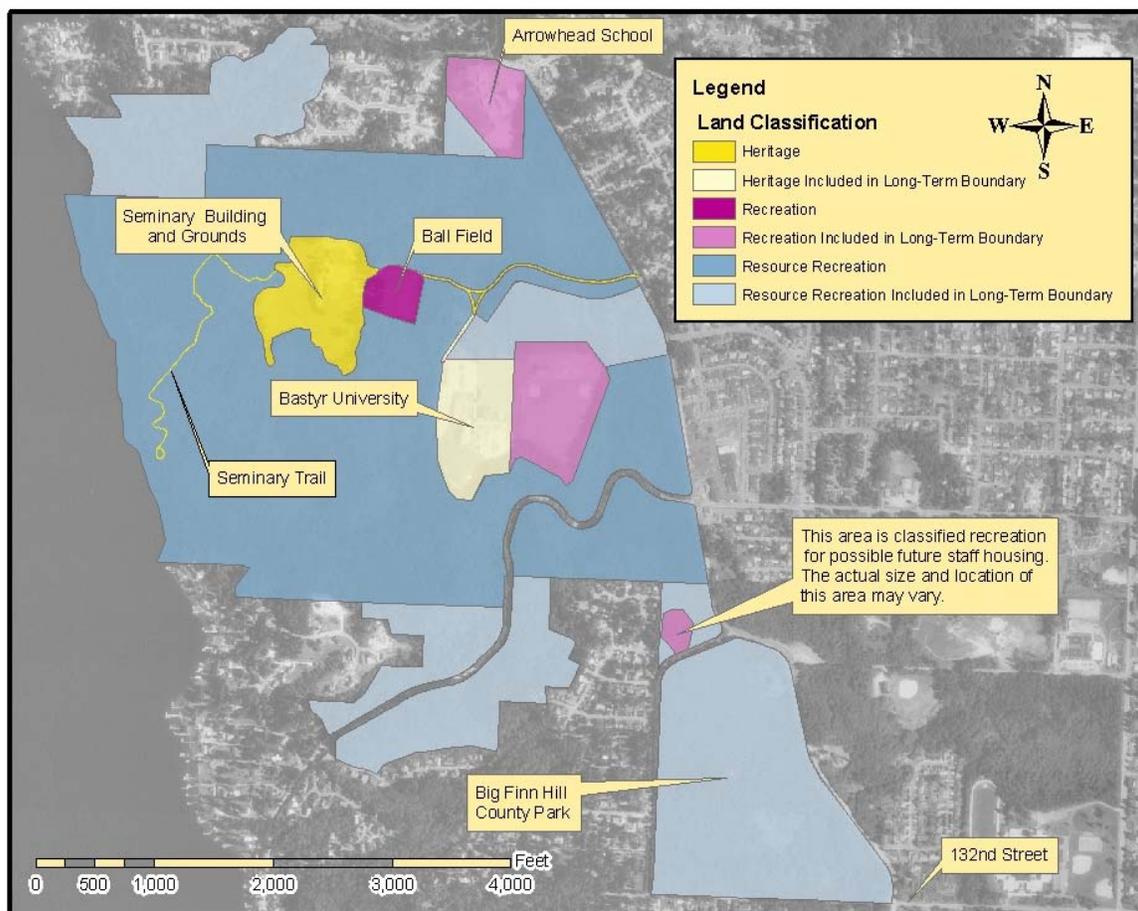
The full range of potential actions (adoption of the long-term boundary and land classifications) by the Commission will be outlined in the agenda item for the January 12, 2007 Commission meeting, which is incorporated in total by reference into this document. Persons interested in a detailed understanding of the proposal should familiarize themselves with descriptive materials in the agenda item.

Proposal seeks Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission approval of:

1) a long-term boundary for Saint Edward State Park that includes certain private and additional public lands near Saint Edward State Park in the city of Kenmore. The long term boundary of the park represents that area which the agency deems desirable for management, consistent with the park mission. Inclusion within the long term boundary does not necessarily indicate a desire to own the property in full, options include less than full acquisition of certain property rights or a management agreement.

2) a specific land classification system for properties within the long-term boundary. The purpose of land classification is to provide general policy guidance to staff on appropriate management and use of land holdings in the state park. The land classification system was revised in October 1995, and is codified under WAC 352-16.

### Land Classification & Long Term Boundary Map



#### Land Classification-

Within the long-term boundary, staff with the help of the Saint Edward Advisory Committee has developed recommendation for classification. Land classification is like internal zoning for the park. Land classification is regulated by WAC 352-16-020. Although all classifications were considered for the park, three land classes are proposed as part of this action. As described in WAC 352-16-020 the classifications proposed for the park are:

- (1) Recreational areas are suited and/or developed for high-intensity outdoor recreational use, conference, cultural and/or educational centers, or other use serving large numbers of people.

- (2) Resource recreation areas are suited and/or developed for natural and/or cultural resource-based medium-intensity and low-intensity outdoor recreations use.
- (3) Heritage areas are designated for preservation, restoration, and interpretation of unique or unusual archaeological, historic, scientific, and/or cultural features, and traditional cultural properties, which are of statewide or national significance.

Appropriate land classifications were identified by with Parks' staff and the Advisory Committee. The final recommendations for the park were chosen to provide a high level of protection to the park's natural and historic resources while considering current and future recreational uses and opportunities.

The proposal classifies State Parks' land, adjacent and public and private holdings identified as potential additions to Saint Edward State Park, and State Parks' land that may be appropriate for acquisition. Important note: proposed land classifications are for State Parks policy direction only and should not be used as a basis for making local government decisions on private land holding within the proposed long term boundary of Saint Edward State Park.

Within the proposed long term boundary, there are properties that the park may be interested in co-managing or acquiring, All options will be subject to future decisions by the Commission and further SEPA analysis.

Please see figure 1 above for a graphical representation. Please note that solid line color coding of the classification types as follows: Recreation (reddish color), Resource Recreation (bluish color), and Heritage (yellowish). The lighter versions of those colors describe the land classification for lands that are not owned by State Parks, but are included in the final staff recommendations to the Commission (or park lands that may be appropriate for surplus/exchange).

In the 1930s, the Catholic Church built the Saint Edward Seminary to be used as an institution for training and education by the Sulpician Order of Catholic Priests. In 1977, declining enrollment and changes in the education of seminarians caused the diocese to sell the property to Washington State to be used as a state park. The land classifications proposed (see attached) are intended to sustain the cultural intent and uphold existing uses while maintaining preservation of historic and recreational uses. The classifications reflect the significant cultural and natural resource values and opportunities that occur within the park.

The Seminary building and surrounding landscapes have been classified as heritage areas. Any uses or facilities deemed inappropriate in a heritage classification will not be considered. The heritage classification will allow for adaptive reuse of the facility and uses in keeping with the historic importance of the site. Furthermore, specific treatments to historic structures and landscapes will be reviewed for consistency with State Parks Cultural Resource Policy and the Secretary of the Interior Standards and Guidelines for Historic Preservation.

Saint Edward State Park occupies a unique role in the state park system. The park serves a densely populated urban area and contains open recreational space, infrastructure, and recreational facilities to accommodate such populations. The parking areas, ball fields, and play structure have been designated as recreation areas to continue to provide quality, high-intensity recreational opportunities for a large number of park visitors.

The majority of forest area within the park, outside of the recreation and heritage areas, has been designated as resource recreational areas. Resource recreation areas include sites with high quality natural or cultural resources that appeal and attract low to moderate intensity human recreation. These areas have been designated to emphasize the significance and importance of the preservation and interpretation of natural processes occurring within this unique, forested vegetation community while maintaining a balance with low-intensity recreational use.. Areas within the park classified as resource recreation will continue to provide low-to medium-intensity recreational opportunities (such as picnicking, hiking, mountain biking, orienteering) while emphasizing protection of natural and cultural resources. Existing and proposed recreational opportunities within lands designated as resource recreation will permit low-to-medium intensity outdoor activities including access to the unique 3,000-foot of forested, undeveloped shoreline habitat along Lake Washington and other remote natural resources of the park. . The classification recognizes the unique and very important habitat component the park serves within this urban setting, and is designed to preserve the habitat connectivity between the shoreline of Lake Washington and the

western, forested portion of the park . Future project actions or developments within resource recreation areas will be designed and constructed to minimize impacts to the environment and promote sustainable practices. Designation and management of resource recreation areas will stress the centrality of preserving the quality of the natural resources while permitting appropriate levels of recreational use. For more details on the allowed uses within each classification designation please see Appendix A, Washington State Parks Land Classification and Use Matrix.

**12. Location of the proposal. Give sufficient information for a person to understand the precise location of your proposed project, including a street address, if any, and section, township, and range, if known. If a proposal would occur over a range of area, provide the range or boundaries of the site(s). Provide a legal description, site plan, vicinity map, and topographic map, if reasonably available. While you should submit any plans required by the agency, you are not required to duplicate maps or detailed plans submitted with any permit applications related to this checklist.**

Saint Edward State Park is located on the north end of Lake Washington in Kenmore, WA. The park address is 14445 Juanita Drive NE, Kenmore, WA 98028. The park is located within the northern half of Section 23, NW ¼ of Section 24, SW ¼ of Section 13, and southern portion of Section 14, T26N, R4E WM, King County, Washington. Note: The above description does not constitute a legal description of Saint Edward State Park properties, and should not be considered as such. See map attachment for park boundaries and locations.

## **B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS**

### **1. Earth**

**a. General description of the site (circle one): Flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other . . . . .**

Areas in the eastern portion of the park within the parking areas, buildings, ball fields, and play structure are generally flat. Much of the other land within the park encompasses hills and steep slopes especially along trails, drainage ditches, and areas west of the Seminary Building.

**b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)?**

Most of the steepest slopes within the park are approximately 30%.

**c. What general types of soils are found on the site (for example, clay, sand, gravel, peat, muck)? If you know the classification of agricultural soils, specify them and note any prime farmland.**

The Natural Resource Conservation Service (formally known as the Soil Conservation Service) 1973 Soil Survey for King County Area indicates that the following soils occur within the boundaries of the park (NRCS 1973):

- Alderwood gravelly sandy loam, 6 to 15 percent slopes (AgC)
- Alderwood and Kitsap soils, very steep (AkF)
- Kitsap silt loam, 15 to 30percent slopes (KpD)
- Mixed alluvial land (Ma)
- Norma sandy loam (No)
- Ragnar-Indianola association, moderately steep (RdE)

**d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe.**

The NRCS Soil Survey for King County Area, WA indicates that Alderwood gravelly sandy loam, Alderwood and Kitsap soils, and Kitsap silt loam have severe erosion hazards. Alderwood and Kitsap, Kitsap, Mixed alluvial land, Norma Sandy, and Ragnar-Indianola associated soils are listed as possessing very limited soil conditions preferred for the development of trails, paths, etc. NRCS Soil Surveys indicate that these soils may have some unfavorable characteristics for trail construction (such as slope instability) requiring special design features, appropriate best management practices, and higher levels of maintenance. Areas within the park's trail system including the Seminary Trail demonstrate these geological hazards. For example, in spring 2006, a portion of the hillside west of the Seminary building sloped, causing the closure of the Seminary Trail. Existing and proposed trail establishment

will include appropriate location, sustainable design, and implementation of Washington Department of Ecology's Best Management Practices to prevent and reduce erosion and landslide activity.

**e. Describe the purpose, type, and approximate quantities of any filling or grading proposed. Indicate source of fill.**

No fill or grading activities are proposed for this non-project action. Future trail development within appropriate areas of the park may require minor amounts of fill or grade; such proposals will be analyzed to ensure minimization of environmental impacts and implementation of best management practices.

**f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe.**

The proposed non-project action will not result in erosive activities. Land classification designation for this park has incorporated sensitive geological hazard areas to prevent future project actions within such areas. Future project actions will include appropriate location, sustainable design, and implementation of Washington Department of Ecology's Best Management Practices to prevent and reduce erosion and landslide activity.

**g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)?**

None for this non-project action. Future project actions may result in a small increase of impervious surfaces (especially compared to the overall park size).

**h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any:**

As stated above, staff considered sensitive geological hazard areas when developing land classifications. No further measures to reduce or control erosion are included within this non-project action. Future project actions will include appropriate siting to avoid geologic hazards, sustainable design, and implementation of Washington Department of Ecology's Best Management Practices to prevent and reduce erosion and landslide activity.

**2. Air**

**a. What types of emissions to the air would result from the proposal (i.e., dust, automobile, odors, industrial wood smoke) during construction and when the project is completed? If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known.**

None for this non-project action. Future project action may result in minor exhaust and minor fugitive dust emissions (particulate matter).

**b. Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe.**

None

**c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any:**

No measures to reduce or control emissions are included within this non-project action. Future project actions will include measures to reduce emissions, such as using dust control during dry weather and encouraging carpooling.

**3. Water**

**a. Surface:**

**1) Is there any surface water body on or in the immediate vicinity of the site (including year-round and seasonal streams, saltwater, lakes, ponds, wetlands)? If yes, describe type and provide names. If appropriate, state what stream or river it flows into.**

Yes, the park area includes approximately 3000 feet of shoreline along Lake Washington. In addition, the National Wetland Inventory (NWI) and Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife GIS databases indicate that palustrine and lacustrine wetlands occur within park boundaries (WSPRC GIS Library 2006). Any project actions proposed near and/or within these wetland areas will require wetland determinations, delineations, and appropriate mitigating

measures.

**2) Will the project require any work over, in, or adjacent to (within 200 feet) the described waters? If yes, please describe and attach available plans.**

No work over, in, or adjacent to the described waters is required for this non-project action. Lands adjacent to the shoreline have been designated as resource recreation areas. Future project actions within such classified areas will be consistent with the use limitations outlined in the Washington State Parks Land Classification and Use Matrix, Appendix A.

**3) Estimate the amount of fill and dredge material that would be placed in or removed from surface water or wetlands and indicate the area of the site that would be affected. Indicate the source of fill material.**

No fill or dredge material is required for this non-project action. Staff classified the park to emphasize appropriate management and future uses of sensitive areas such as surface water and wetlands. Future project actions shall be consistent with the designated land classification and allowed uses.

**4) Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.**

No surface water withdrawal or diversions are required for this non-project action.

**5) Does the proposal lie within a 100-year floodplain? If so, note location on the site plan.**

All areas of the park are outside of the 100-year and 500-year flood plains. The shoreline of Lake Washington has been altered and modified significantly by anthropogenic activities including the 1916, lowering of the lake's water level by 8.8-feet. Although outside of 100-year and 500-year floodplains, there are a series of drainages and seeps within the park boundaries that drain into Lake Washington.

**6) Does the proposal involve any discharges of waste materials to surface waters? If so, describe the type of waste and anticipated volume of discharge.**

No discharges of waste materials to surface waters will result from this non-project action. Staff classified the park to emphasize appropriate management and future uses of sensitive areas such as surface water and wetlands. Future project actions within the designated resource recreation areas will be consistent with the WSPRC land classification and allowed uses policies. Future actions will ensure compliance and implementation of Ecology's best management practices.

**b. Ground:**

**1) Will ground water be withdrawn, or will water be discharged to ground water? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.**

No ground water will be withdrawn or discharged as a result of this non-project action.

**2) Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources, if any (for example: Domestic sewage; industrial, containing the following chemicals. . . ; agricultural; etc.). Describe the general size of the system, the number of such systems, the number of houses to be served (if applicable), or the number of animals or humans the system(s) are expected to serve.**

None for this non-project action. The park is connected to city sewer; any future projects may increase quantities of waste discharged to the city's sewer system.

**c. Water runoff (including stormwater):**

**1) Describe the source of runoff (including storm water) and method of collection and disposal, if any (include quantities, if known). Where will this water flow? Will this water flow into other waters? If so, describe.**

No surface water runoff will be generated by this non-project action. Future project actions that result in generation of storm water runoff will include collection techniques consistent with Ecology's Stormwater Management Manual for Western Washington.

**2) Could waste materials enter ground or surface waters? If so, generally describe.**

No waste material will enter ground or surface waters as a result of this non-project action.

**d. Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground, and runoff water impacts, if any:**

None for this non-project action. Future project actions will include measures that follow federal, state and local governmental storm water regulations and other best management practices.

#### 4. Plants

**a. Check or circle types of vegetation found on the site:**

deciduous tree: alder, maple, apple, aspen, other

evergreen tree: fir, cedar, hemlock, pine, and yew, other

shrubs including Rhododendron, rose, berries, etc

grass

pasture

crop or grain

wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bullrush, skunk cabbage, other

water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other

other types of vegetation- ornamental vegetation

**b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered?**

None for this non-project action. The majority of forest within the park has been designated as resource recreation areas, and will allow low to moderate intensity uses. As such, very little vegetation will be removed or altered in these areas. Future project actions may result in the removal or alteration of native and non-native vegetation and will require staff review for consistency with the Washington State Park Land Classification and Use Matrix, Washington State Park Critical Areas Policy, and the Washington State Park Natural Resource Policy.

**c. List threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site.**

No threatened or endangered plant species have been documented on or near the site based on a review of Washington Natural Heritage Program GIS database, November 2006.

**d. Proposed landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site, if any:**

None for this non-project action. Future project actions may include measures to preserve or enhance vegetation. Native plants would be preferred for future landscaping, although non-native plants could also be included in landscape plans. Saint Edward State Park encompasses a large area of forested vegetation adjacent to the shorelines of Lake Washington. The land classifications chosen would preserve most of the existing vegetation while permitting current recreational uses through a combination of land classification designations. Any proposed modifications or alterations must be consistent with the cultural landscape plan and follow guidance procedures provided within the Saint Edward Seminary Cultural Inventory document.

The majority of the park has been proposed for designation as Resource Recreation Areas to provide protection for the vegetation communities and restrict high intensity recreational use. The Heritage corridor through this area will continue to permit low- to medium- intensity recreational and access to the shoreline of Lake Washington while providing protection and preservation of the forested area. All of these land classifications focus on providing a high level of protection to the natural resources while continuing to permit low-to medium- impact recreational use. Other areas within the existing developed footprint of the park will be classified in order to continue to provide existing recreational opportunities. The Seminary building, entrance road, trails, and other structures of historical significance will continue to allow existing uses while preserving the historical facilities for interpretation. Future activities and uses of the heritage areas will accommodate low-to-moderate intensity recreation uses that do not detract from the principal purpose of the area. The existing parking areas and athletic fields will continue to provide high intensity recreational opportunities, since these areas occur outside of the forested area and are were initially planned and designed to allow for regular maintenance and mowing activities.

## 5. Animals

**a. Circle any birds and animals which have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site:** Bird species listed below includes observations documented by the East Lake Washington Audubon Society Study conducted August 2003-August 2004

**birds:** hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, other: duck, geese, grouse, gull, jay, osprey, owl, quail, swan, woodpecker (downy, hairy, pileated), wren, bufflehead, chickadee (chestnut backed and black-capped), double-crested cormorant, brown creeper, bald eagle, peregrine falcon, American crow, American robin, house and purple finch, northern flicker, olive sided flycatcher, pacific slope flycatcher, Canada goose, horned grebe, red-necked grebe, black-headed grosbeak, red-tailed hawk, Rufous hummingbird, dark-eyed junco, American kestrel, belted Kingfisher, northern harrier, ruby-crowned kinglet, golden-crowned kinglet, red-breasted nuthatch, barred owl, red-breasted sap sucker, northern shoveler, pine siskin, sparrow (house, white-crowned, song), European starling, bushtit, spotted towhee, mallard, common merganser, American coot, western grebe, (violet-green, barn, and tree) swallows, Vaux's swift, Swainson's thrush, western tanager, thrush, Hutton's vireo, warbler (black-throated gray, orange-crowned, Wilson's, yellow, yellow-rumped), western wood-pewee, and other species

**mammals:** deer, bear, elk, beaver, other: bobcat, chipmunk, coyote, fox, marmot, marten, mink, mountain goat, muskrat, otter, rabbit, raccoon, skunk, squirrel, weasel

**fish:** bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish (fresh water mussels), other: bullhead

**b. List any threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site.**

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) Priority Habitat and Species GIS data indicates that the following priority habitat and species occur within park boundaries: Bald Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) (A federal and state threatened species), Urban Natural Open Space, Pileated Woodpecker habitat, and a variety of wetland habitats (WSPRC GIS Library 2006).

WDFW Washington Lakes and Rivers Information System Database (wlris) and NOAA Fisheries indicate that the following aquatic species may be present within Lake Washington for portions of their lifecycle: Puget Sound Fall Chinook salmon Evolutionary Significant Unit (ESU) (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*) (Federally Threatened, State Concern), Puget Sound/Strait of Georgia Coho salmon ESU (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*) (Federal Species of Concern), the Coastal – Puget Sound populations of Dolly varden (*Salveninus malma*)/ Bulltrout (*Salveninus confluentus*) (Federally Threatened, State Concern), Sockeye Salmon (*Oncorhynchus nerka*) (Puget Sound population not listed), and Puget Sound Steelhead ESU (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) (Federally Proposed Threatened, State Concern).

**c. Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain.**

Yes, the park is part of the Pacific Flyway. In addition, multiple salmon species (listed above), bulltrout, and steelhead migrate through Lake Washington and the Sammamish River for some portion of their life cycles.

**d. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any:**

The proposal establishes a protective land classification scheme that would leave much of the project area in open-space. Lands identified as being priority habitats in the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife databases were classified as “Resource Recreation Areas” which limit use to medium and low intensity recreation, such as non-motorized trails. The focus of “Resource Recreation Areas” land classifications is to provide greater protection for natural resources by minimizing allowed uses and restricting development options. Resource Recreation Area designation will provide a high level of habitat protection, while permitting low intensity recreation opportunities. The Heritage corridor will continue to provide public access and recreational opportunities while preserving the historic uses of the site as well as the significant shoreline, forested habitat. “Recreation Area” classifications and proposed facility development that would allow higher recreation use have been applied in existing disturbed areas and/or in a manner to avoid compromising the wildlife management of the park. Specifically, Saint Edward State Park serves a densely populated urban area and must contain open recreational space, infrastructure and facilities to accommodate recreation. However, the existing parking areas, ball fields, and play structure have been designated as recreation areas and will continue to provide quality, high-intensity recreational opportunities for a large numbers of park visitors. Designation of these areas as recreation concentrates the high-intensity recreational use in its existing location and away from areas that may impact habitat and wildlife use.

The future Management Plan for Saint Edward State Park will include guidance on proper construction techniques and trail management focusing on avoiding or minimizing potential impacts to wildlife within the vicinity.

**6. Energy and natural resources**

**a. What kinds of energy (electric, natural gas, oil, wood stove, solar) will be used to meet the completed project's energy needs? Describe whether it will be used for heating, manufacturing, etc.**

No changes in energy consumption are anticipated for this non-project action. Future project actions may result in electricity or propane use to heat buildings. Future action regarding facility uses will have to consider whether or not, and what kind of, energy will be necessary to meet future management decisions, historic structure preservation, and/or potential adaptive reuse of the seminary building.

**b. Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties? If so, generally describe.**

No impacts to the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties will result from this non-project action.

**c. What kinds of energy conservation features are included in the plans of this proposal? List other proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts, if any:**

No energy conservation features are included in this non-project action. Future project actions at the park will include energy conservation measures consistent with Washington State Parks Sustainability Plan.

**7. Environmental health**

**a. Are there any environmental health hazards, including exposure to toxic chemicals, risk of fire and explosion, spill, or hazardous waste, that could occur as a result of this proposal? If so, describe.**

None for this non-project action. Park staff has conducted hazardous material testing in the Seminary building. There is lead based paint on the exterior and some asbestos containing materials exist. .

**1) Describe special emergency services that might be required.**

No additional or special emergency services will be required for this non-project action. Currently, Park staff has limited training in emergency services and are qualified to provide a certain amount of those services.

**2) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any:**

State Park policy on known or suspected hazardous material is to not disturb the material to minimize exposure to lead dust and asbestos fibers. If this is not possible, a certified abatement contractor must remove or abate the hazard.

**b. Noise**

**1) What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (for example: traffic, equipment, operation, other)?**

None for this non-project action.

**2) What types and levels of noise would be created by or associated with the project on a short-term or a long-term basis (for example: traffic, construction, operation, other)? Indicate what hours noise would come from the site.**

No changes in type of level of noise is anticipated as a result of this non-project action.

**3) Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any:**

None for this non-project action. Noise impacts caused by future project actions will be controlled by using best management practices during construction, and enforcing quiet hours in the state park. Noise caused by boats on the lake is controlled by local ordinances that control boat speed limits and hours of operation.

**8. Land and shoreline use**

**a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties?**

All property was classified as a “Recreational Area” under Washington State Parks’ old land classification system. In 1981 the Commission adopted the recommendations and findings of studies and reports prepared by consultants to provide guidance on management and future planning, development and use of the Seminary grounds and buildings. The development plan suggested that “All future planning, development, and operation of the grounds shall be aimed at maintaining the natural character of the beach area, hillside, canyons, and open meadows...” Proposed building uses, which the report recommended, included a suggestion that the main seminary building be used as a combination community/ recreation hall and offices primarily for recreation and natural resource-oriented tenants and that the swimming pool and gymnasium be used “as public recreation facilities”. Although adopted, budget constraints have prevented Parks from proceeding with the implementation of the recommendations presented at that time. Parks has performed standard maintenance practices of the facilities, constructed additional parking areas, and minor upkeep projects associated with the swimming pool and gymnasium. In addition, the community constructed a play structure within the park.

Saint Edward State Park provides access to hiking, biking, wildlife watching, picnicking, soccer, bird watching, baseball and softball, play structures, orienteering, retail area, water related activities, indoor swimming and gymnasium, and other recreational opportunities. For more information about the park, please see [www.parks.wa.gov](http://www.parks.wa.gov). Adjacent properties include residential areas, Arrowhead Elementary School, Big Finn Hill Park, Bastyr University, and undeveloped forest areas.

**b. Has the site been used for agriculture? If so, describe.**

Yes, by 1935, small garden spaces and rooms were established throughout the seminary grounds as the seminarians worked to redefine the landscape. These areas included the grotto, the Nun’s Garden, an orchard, and more. These garden spaces provided educational services, places for solitary worship, contemplation, and ritual as well as a food source for the seminarians (especially during the Depression Era). Today, these areas still remain an important aesthetic aspect of the cultural landscape of the park. Although no longer producing fruit, visitors can still enjoy the solitude of the orchard area along the Perimeter trail for contemplation, ritual, and interpretation of historic landscapes. This area can be reserved for group events and gatherings.

**c. Describe any structures on the site.**

Structures within Saint Edward State Park include the Seminary building, gymnasium, indoor heated pool, parking areas, comfort stations, park storage facilities, play structure, ball fields, Bastyr University, and more.

**d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what?**

No structures will be demolished as a result of this is a non-project action. Any future proposed alteration to existing historic structures will require review and approval by the National Parks Service, Washington State Park's Historic Preservation Manager, consistency with the Commission's Cultural Resource Management Policy, and review by the Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation.

**e. What is the current zoning classification of the site?**

R-4 (City of Kenmore)

**f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site?**

Public/ Private Institution- City of Kenmore

**g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site?**

Conservancy- City of Kenmore

**h. Has any part of the site been classified as an "environmentally sensitive" area? If so, specify.**

Areas within the park have been classified as environmentally sensitive by the city of Kenmore's Critical Areas Ordinance. These areas include landslide hazard and erosion hazard areas.

**i. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project?**

No change in staff residence or number of positions will result from this non-project action. Future decisions regarding the level use of the seminary building may result in a change in the number of staff working and residing within the park.

**j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace?**

N/A. Future project actions may result in a minor displacement of park staff.

**k. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any:**

None.

**l. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any:**

Parks staff has met with local planning officials to receive input on land uses and plans that may be applicable to the proposal. Local governments and interested parties will receive a copy of this checklist and have the opportunity to offer further comment on consistency with existing and projected land use plans. At this time, the proposed land classifications and long term boundary appear to be compatible with existing and projected lands uses and plans. State Parks will work closely with local government planning staff during all future planning processes affecting the park.

**9. Housing**

**a. Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.**

No additional housing units are included with this non-project action. Future decisions regarding the use of the seminary may result in a change in the number of Park Ranger residences within the park.

**b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.**

No housing units will be eliminated as a result of this non-project action. Future decisions regarding the use of the seminary building may result in the relocation of staff housing, the exact location has not been determined.

**c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any:**

Should future project actions and decisions regarding the use of the seminary building result in the need to eliminate park housing from within the building, staff housing shall be relocated and offered elsewhere; the exact location has not yet been determined.

**10. Aesthetics**

**a. What is the tallest height of any proposed structure(s), not including antennas; what is the principal exterior building material(s) proposed?**

N/A. Future project actions may require the construction of additional park structures.

**b. What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed?**

The Cultural Landscape Report, drafted by the National Park Service, identifies views within the culturally sensitive area of the seminary building. Notwithstanding existing facilities, the proposed classification will protect these views from alteration that might otherwise negatively impact the cultural landscape. Future project actions may affect views in the immediate vicinity. However, the land classification system has been used to preserve/protect view sheds from within the park and from adjacent properties looking toward the park. The park structures including the Seminary building, comfort stations, play structure, fields, etc. are surrounded by dense, forest vegetation providing natural screening from adjacent view sheds. Any future modifications to park infrastructure must blend with cultural landscape setting and occur within the appropriate designated areas and must be consistent with the specific land classification and uses.

**c. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any:**

N/A. The proposed land classifications include measures to preserve the forest areas around existing development and structures. These vegetated areas will be protected and allow for limited use and development. Modifications or future project actions will be guided by permitted land use as well as design standards that could minimize potential visual impacts. Building/structure materials, design, and color schemes included in all future proposals shall be reviewed and approved by WSPRC Historic Preservation Manager for consistency with WSPRC Cultural Resource Management Plan and the Secretary of the Interior Standards and Guidelines for Historic Preservation. In addition, project design will be strategically developed to avoid non-park view intrusions and impacts to the cultural landscape perspective.

**11. Light and glare**

**a. What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of day would it mainly occur?**

N/A. Future project actions may result in an increase of the number of exterior lights in the developed areas and glass that could increase glare. Future proposal will analyze potential sources of light intrusion and impacts they may impose on neighboring properties and activities.

**b. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views?**

N/A. Future project actions including management and use of the Seminary Building may increase light produced from vehicles and Seminary buildings when it is dark. Future proposal will analyze potential sources lights and impacts they may impose on neighboring properties and activities.

**c. What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal?**

N/A

**d. Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any:**

N/A. Future project actions will be guided by design standards that include measures to reduce and control light and glare impacts, such as down lighting (special light fixtures to limit light “wash” and planned landscaping to limit light and glare intrusion on the landscape.) In addition, the designation resource recreation areas will preserve existing forested vegetation, buffering any light sources produced from park structures.

## **12. Recreation**

### **a. What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity?**

Project sites within Saint Edward State Park are classified using the Washington State Park Lands Classification System. Recreational uses are permitted as described in the attached Washington State Parks Land Classification and Use Matrix. Recreational opportunities within the park include hiking, bird watching, biking in designated areas, picnicking, playground, soccer, softball, tennis, orienteering, kite-flying, etc. Non-project work will occur almost exclusively outside of developed recreational areas. Please visit Washington State Parks’ website [www.parks.wa.gov](http://www.parks.wa.gov) for information on other recreational opportunities.

Areas adjacent to the park include city and county parks as well as Arrowhead Elementary School. These facilities offer recreational opportunities including hiking, biking, and use of ball fields. The proposed classification authorizes a new trail for cycling and pedestrian uses along the parks south and western perimeter.

### **b. Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe.**

N/A. Future project actions may displace recreational uses in the short-term.

### **c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any:**

The purpose of land classification is to manage appropriate recreational opportunities in balance with natural and cultural stewardship responsibilities. The proposed land classifications designate significant cultural and natural resource features and promote the preservation and protection of such resources while upholding existing recreational uses. Recreational opportunities will not be reduced as a result of these classifications, and are likely to increase proportionately with the growing population. Future decisions on use of the seminary building may change recreational use within the park and possibly impact recreational opportunities. The impacts from future decisions will be analyzed prior to decisions on such future uses.

## **13. Historic and cultural preservation**

### **a. Are there any places or objects listed on, or proposed for, national, state, or local preservation registers known to be on or next to the site? If so, generally describe.**

Yes, the Saint Edward Seminary was listed in the Washington State Heritage Register on October 9, 2006. A request was submitted by the Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation to have the property listed on the National Register of Historic Places; as of this writing the nomination has been forwarded to the Keeper of the Register in Washington D.C. for final consideration.

### **b. Generally describe any landmarks or evidence of historic, archaeological, scientific, or cultural importance known to be on or next to the site.**

There are no known prehistoric sites within Saint Edward State Park. All the archaeological records available to WSPRC regarding Saint Edward State Park have been reviewed. The National Parks Service produced a technical report, Saint Edward Seminary Cultural Landscape Inventory, to provide Washington State Parks with baseline information on potential cultural landscape resources and guidance on facilities management and maintenance. This document will serve as a tool in future planning efforts and project design.

### **c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts, if any:**

Washington State Parks’ archeologists have conducted literature reviews for historic and archeologically significant sites for previous projects. State Parks has communicated with Native American Tribal officials during the

planning process. State Parks will conduct archaeological surveys, as necessary, to identify cultural and historic resources and provide appropriate recommendations. Proper clearances will be obtained prior to construction. Additionally, future contracts with construction contractors will contain provisions regarding the protection of archaeological, cultural and historic resources in compliance with Chapter 27.44 RCW, Chapter 27.53 RCW, and State Parks Cultural Resources Policy. Project work will not take place around or disturb any known sites.

Furthermore, the seminary building and surrounding landscapes have been classified as heritage areas. The heritage classification would allow for adaptive reuse of the facility and uses in keeping with the historic importance of the site. Any uses or facilities deemed inappropriate in a heritage classification will not be considered. Specific treatments to historic structures and landscapes will be reviewed for consistency with State's Parks Cultural Resource Policy and the Secretary of Interior Standards and Guidelines for Historic Preservation. In addition, any proposed alteration to existing historic structures will require review and approval by National Parks Service, Washington State Park's Historic Preservation Manager, consistency with the Commission's Cultural Resource Management Policy, and review by the Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation.

#### **14. Transportation**

**a. Identify public streets and highways serving the site, and describe proposed access to the existing street system. Show on site plans, if any.**

The park is accessed from Juanita Drive, Kenmore, Washington.

**b. Is site currently served by public transit? If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop?**

King County Metro, Route 935 stops at Juanita Drive and Saint Edward State Park as well as Juanita Dr NE and NE 153<sup>rd</sup> Place, both stops require approximately less than one-half mile from the park entrance (King County Metro Online 2006).

**c. How many parking spaces would the completed project have? How many would the project eliminate?**

No parking spaces will be created or destroyed for this non-project action. Future project actions may include the construction of additional parking spaces or facilities.

**d. Will the proposal require any new roads or streets, or improvements to existing roads or streets, not including driveways? If so, generally describe (indicate whether public or private).**

No, not for this non-project action.

**e. Will the project use (or occur in the immediate vicinity of) water, rail, or air transportation? If so, generally describe.**

No.

**f. How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur.**

None for this non-project action. Future designation of appropriate seminary building use may generate additional vehicular trips per day on local roads.

**g. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any:**

No impact to the existing transportation system is anticipated as a result of this non-project action. Future management plans and proposals may increase transportation needs. The existing transportation system and potential impacts will be analyzed, applicable reports will be written, and appropriate mitigation measures will be taken, as necessary.

**15. Public services**

**a. Would the project result in an increased need for public services (for example: fire protection, police protection, health care, schools, other)? If so, generally describe.**

None for this non-project action.

**b. Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any.**

Park staff will continue to coordinate emergency response with local fire, police and EMS. Park rangers will continue to provide law enforcement and patrol activities for the state park.

**16. Utilities**

**a. Circle utilities currently available at the site: electricity, natural gas, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer, septic system, other.**

Water, electricity, propane, refuse, telephone, internet, and sewage utilities.

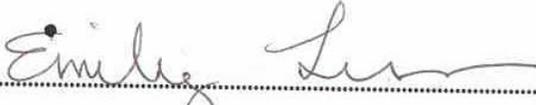
**b. Describe the utilities that are proposed for the project, the utility providing the service, and the general**

**construction activities on the site or in the immediate vicinity which might be needed.**

None for this non-project action. Future project actions may result in additional use of existing utilities, such as water, electric, and sewage.

**C. SIGNATURE**

The above answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the lead agency is relying on them to make its decision.

Signature: .....  .....

Date Submitted: ..... December 8, 2006 .....

#### **D. SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS**

##### **1. How would the proposal be likely to increase discharge to water; emissions to air; production, storage, or release of toxic or hazardous substances; or production of noise?**

Land classifications will serve to guide existing and continuing development and use of the park. It is possible that recreational uses could increase in areas classified as Recreation. If recreational uses are not properly managed, then it is possible that impacts would increase in these areas. Increased use may require additional structures and infrastructure to control impacts. Additional development could result in a net increase in impervious surfacing associated with buildings, hard trails, roads, and parking areas. Such development could cause a localized increase in storm water discharges. Likewise, it is likely that increased vehicular uses would cause a minor localized increase in automobile emissions. Increased human use of the park could cause a net increase in human waste and noise levels above that which currently exists. Washington Department of Ecology's Best Management Practice's will be implemented for all future projects to prevent and reduce impacts to the environment resulting for proposed project construction.

##### **Proposed measures to avoid or reduce such increases are:**

Future development and use will follow the guidelines of the Land Classification. Management planning will be required to minimize impacts. Management planning will guide development within the park based on policies adopted by the Commission through land classification efforts. In general, any future developments will be designed so that storm water runoff is directed to grassy swales for bio-filtration and infiltration; such development will be in compliance with local government storm water regulations and best management practices. Additional sanitary facilities could be installed for collection of human waste. Such facilities would be routinely maintained and connected to the city sewer system and facilities. Furthermore, any development or management activity adjacent to Lake Washington or associated wetlands within the park will require consistency with the approved uses for Resource Recreation Areas and in addition to compliance with the Shoreline Master Program for the City of Kenmore, along with critical areas review. Development in the areas classified as Recreation would be included in a Planned Development and subject to review and approval by the City of Kenmore. Parks will work with the City to assure any future development meets local government criteria.

##### **2. How would the proposal be likely to affect plants, animals, fish, or marine life?**

The immediate proposal will likely have no direct effect on plant, animals or fish. Finding a balance between the protection of natural systems and public recreational access to those natural systems is the basis for developing land classification and management planning. The application of land classification and management planning to Saint Edward State Park confirms State Parks' stewardship role to protect the natural systems of state park areas while accommodating increased demand for parks and open space.

The proposal establishes a protective land classification scheme that would leave much of the project area in open-space . The majority of the park has been designated resource recreation areas to provide protection of plant and animal communities. The focus of "Resource Recreation Areas" land classifications is to provide greater protection for natural resources by minimizing allowed uses and restricting development options. Resource

Recreation Area designation will provide a high level of habitat protection, while permitting low intensity recreation opportunities. The Heritage corridor and resource recreation designation will continue to provide public access and recreational opportunities while preserving the historic uses of the site as well as the significant shoreline, forested habitat. "Recreation Area" classifications and proposed facility development that would allow higher recreation use have been applied in existing disturbed areas and/or in a manner to avoid compromising the wildlife management of the park.

**Proposed measures to protect or conserve plants, animals, fish, or marine life are:**

One goal of proposed land classifications is to preserve the quality natural, cultural and historic resources of the park. All options recognize the importance of preserving the quality of the natural resources within the park, including wildlife, while allowing for appropriate levels of human use. Efforts will be made to minimize habitat loss by locating future developments in areas previously disturbed or in areas with low habitat value. Continued consultation with WDFW Area Habitat Biologists will reduce site-specific impacts to wildlife species through implementation of management recommendations. Furthermore, staff will undertake more detailed inventories prior to any project to assure park development does not impact the park's natural or cultural resources.

**3. How would the proposal be likely to deplete energy or natural resources?**

The proposal is unlikely to have a direct effect on the depletion of energy or natural resources. Existing activities and future proposed actions will be consistent with Park's Sustainability Plan to ensure energy and natural resource conservation.

**Proposed measures to protect or conserve energy and natural resources are:**

The majority of the park will continue to be managed as recreation/open space. As stated above, any proposed use of park property must be consistent with Park's Sustainability Plan to ensure energy and natural resource conservation. All appropriate conservation measures will be implemented throughout the park.

**4. How would the proposal be likely to use or affect environmentally sensitive areas or areas designated (or eligible or under study) for governmental protection; such as parks, wilderness, wild and scenic rivers, threatened or endangered species habitat, historic or cultural sites, wetlands, floodplains, or prime farmlands?**

The proposal will designate the majority of park area as Resource Recreation Areas to provide protection of natural systems, as well as priority habitat and species and restrict high intensity recreational use. Areas within the park classified as Resource Recreation Areas allow for low-to-medium intensity outdoor recreational use to minimize environmental impacts as well as restrict future development activities. All of these land classifications focus on providing a high level of protection to the natural resources while continuing to permit low-to-medium- impact recreational use. Other areas within the existing developed footprint of the park will be classified in order to continue to provide existing recreational opportunities. The Seminary building, entrance road, trails, and other structures of historical significance will continue to allow existing uses while preserving the historical facilities for interpretation. Future development proposals and use of park infrastructure and facilities must be consistent with the Land Classification Matrix and Usage. Future development activities within sensitive areas such as geologic hazards, unstable soils, wetlands, and sites of importance historic and cultural significance will be avoided where possible; unavoidable actions shall be mitigated and consistent with local, state, and federal regulations as well as State Park's Natural Resource Policy and Critical Areas Policy.

**Proposed measures to protect such resources or to avoid or reduce impacts are:**

Continued public ownership and the proposed land classifications will accomplish many of the aims noted above. Any future developments will be subject to regulations administered by federal, state and local governments. All required permits and approvals will be obtained prior to any development. A management plan will be developed and implemented to further identify management issues and appropriate mitigation measures to minimize impacts and protect sensitive resources. State Parks will work closely with regulating agencies to ensure compliance with their rules and ordinances.

**5. How would the proposal be likely to affect land and shoreline use, including whether it would allow or encourage land or shoreline uses incompatible with existing plans?**

Saint Edward State Park encompasses 3,000-feet of undeveloped shoreline habitat, a unique oasis of forest within an urban setting. The proposed land classifications designate the entire shoreline area as resource recreation to provide a high level of protection for the vegetation communities and restrict high intensity recreational use. The Heritage corridor and Resource Recreation areas will continue to permit low- to medium- intensity recreational use such as mountain biking and access to the shoreline of Lake Washington while providing protection and preservation of the forested area. All of these land classifications focus on providing a high level of protection to the natural resources while continuing to permit low-to medium- impact recreational use. Any proposed land use within the designated resource recreation area must be consistent with Park's natural resource policy as well as local, state, and federal regulations.

**Proposed measures to avoid or reduce shoreline and land use impacts are:**

State Parks will work closely with federal, state and local governmental agencies to assure compatible management objectives on all State Parks' owned and/or managed lands. As stated above, any development activity within the shoreline environment must be consistent with allowed development and activities defined in the Land Classification and Use Matrix .

**6. How would the proposal be likely to increase demands on transportation or public services and utilities?**

Land classifications reflect existing and previously planned development patterns. No increase in these services is directly contemplated by this proposal. Future use of the seminary building may increase the number of daily visitors and vehicular trips to the park causing an increase in demands for parking, public transit access, public services, and utilities. All elements will be examined and thoroughly analyzed prior to approval.

**Proposed measures to reduce or respond to such demand(s) are:**

Any proposed use activity or development requiring an increase in transportation, utilities, and public services must be consistent with Park's Sustainability Plan. State Parks staff has developed coordinated law enforcement and emergency response plans with local emergency service departments and county sheriff departments. Access for emergency vehicles has been provided to certain areas of the park. Park rangers will continue to patrol the park on a routine basis and provide emergency response and law enforcement when in the area.

**7. Identify, if possible, whether the proposal may conflict with local, state, or federal laws or requirements for the protection of the environment.**

The proposal does not appear to be in conflict with any known local, state or federal laws or requirements for protection of the environment. Future development and use of the seminary building will be compliant with local, state, and federal requirements and regulations.

## **APPENDIX A: WASHINGTON STATE PARKS LAND CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM**

### **Washington Administrative Code Establishing Land Classification System**

WAC 352-16-020 Land classification system. State park areas are of statewide natural, cultural, and/or recreational significance and/or outstanding scenic beauty. They provide varied facilities serving low-intensity, medium intensity, and high intensity outdoor recreation activities, areas reserved for preservation, scientific research, education, public assembly, and/or environmental interpretation, and support facilities. They may be classified in whole or part as follows:

- (1) Recreational areas are suited and/or developed for high-intensity outdoor recreational use, conference, cultural and/or educational centers, or other uses serving large numbers of people.
- (2) Resource recreation areas are suited and/or developed for natural and/or cultural resource-based medium-intensity and low-intensity outdoor recreational use.
- (3) Natural areas are designated for preservation, restoration, and interpretation of natural processes and/or features of significant ecological, geological or paleontological value while providing for low-intensity outdoor recreation activities as subordinate uses.
- (4) Heritage areas are designated for preservation, restoration, and interpretation of unique or unusual archaeological, historical, scientific, and/or cultural features, and traditional cultural properties, which are of statewide or national significance.
- (5) Natural forest areas are designated for preservation, restoration, and interpretation of natural forest processes while providing for low-intensity outdoor recreation activities as subordinate uses, and which contain:
  - (a) Old-growth forest communities that have developed for one hundred fifty years or longer and have the following structural characteristics: Large old-growth trees, large snags, large logs on land, and large logs in streams; or
  - (b) Mature forest communities that have developed for ninety years or longer; or
  - (c) Unusual forest communities and/or interrelated vegetative communities of significant ecological value.
- (6) Natural area preserves are designated for preservation of rare or vanishing flora, fauna, geological, natural historical or similar features of scientific or educational value and which are registered and committed as a natural area preserve through a cooperative agreement with an appropriate natural resource agency pursuant to chapter 79.70 RCW and chapter 332-60 WAC.

WAC 352-16-030 Management within land classifications. (1) The director shall develop management guidelines for each land classification listed in WAC 352-16-020. The guidelines shall provide specific direction for each classification, outlining the philosophy of each classification, its appropriate physical features, location, allowed and prohibited activities, and allowed and prohibited developments. (2) Nothing in this section shall be construed to allow uses that are otherwise prohibited, nor prohibit uses that are otherwise expressly allowed, by the commission, this code, or by statute.

**Land Classification Management Guidelines  
Recreation Areas**

TITLE	DEFINITION	PHILOSOPHY	PHYSICAL FEATURES	LOCATION	ACTIVITIES	DEVELOPMENTS
Washington State Parks Recreation Areas	<u>State Parks Recreation Areas</u> are suited and/or developed for high-intensity outdoor recreational use, conference, cultural and/or educational centers, or other uses serving large numbers of people.	<u>State Parks Recreation Areas</u> are to respond to the human needs for readily available areas for outdoor recreation and facilities to congregate for education, artistic expression and other ennobling pursuits. They are to provide a variety of outdoor recreational, educational, artistic, and cultural opportunities to large numbers of participants. Primary emphasis is on the provision of quality recreational services and facilities with secondary recognition given to protection of the areas natural qualities.	<u>State Parks Recreation Areas</u> physiographic features such as topography, soil type, drainage, etc., shall be adaptable to varied types of intensive uses and development. An attractive natural setting is desirable, however, human-made settings are acceptable. There are no specific size criteria.	<u>State Parks Recreation Areas</u> generally are made, not found. They shall be located throughout the state with primary emphasis to service major centers of urban populations and/or outstanding recreational tourist attractions. Scenic and inspirational values shall be considered but are secondary to the site adaptability and population criteria. When part of a large diverse park, recreation areas should be sited in proximity to public roads and utilities.	<u>State Parks Recreation Areas</u> may allow and provide for a wide variety of indoor and outdoor day, weekend and vacation activities. Provision may be made for high intensity participation in camping, picnicking, trail use, water sports, winter sports, group field games, and other activities for many people Off-trail equestrian and/or bicycle use may be appropriate in selected areas if approved by the commission. Activities requiring high levels of social interaction are encouraged.	<u>State Parks Recreation Areas</u> shall provide appropriate facilities and services for the participation and enjoyment of high concentrations of outdoor recreationists and/or participants in indoor educational, cultural and artistic activities. A high degree of development is anticipated. Facilities may include road and parking networks, swimming beaches, full service marinas, trails, bathhouses, artificial lakes and pools, play fields, large sanitary and eating facilities; standard and utility campgrounds, stores, picnic grounds, group shelters, conference centers, environmental learning centers, hostels, and administrative support facilities.

**Land Classification Management Guidelines  
Resource Recreation Areas**

TITLE	DEFINITION	PHILOSOPHY	PHYSICAL FEATURES	LOCATION	ACTIVITIES	DEVELOPMENTS
<p>Washington State Parks Resource Recreation Areas</p>	<p><u>State Parks Resource Recreation Areas</u> are suited and/or developed for natural and/or cultural resource-based medium- and low-intensity recreational use.</p>	<p><u>State Parks Resource Recreation Areas</u> are sites where the high quality of a particular natural or cultural resource or set of such resources is the lure for human recreation. Thus, the rationale for recreation is based on the value of attractive natural or cultural resources. Management of these areas must stress the centrality of preserving the quality of the natural and cultural resources while allowing appropriate and sustainable levels of human use and enjoyment.</p>	<p><u>State Parks Resource Recreation Areas</u> have a variety of physiographic features. While they may contain areas of environmental sensitivity, most portions of each area will be able to withstand low- to medium-intensity recreation use without significant environmental degradation.</p>	<p><u>State Parks Resource Recreation Areas</u> may be located anywhere in the state where natural or cultural factors produce land and water sites particularly suited for recreation in a natural setting. Access to these sites should be reasonably proximate to major urban centers, but some access restriction may be necessary to avoid overuse of resources. Within large diverse parks, these areas should be located at least a moderate distance from public roads and high use intensity areas, while still maintaining reasonable public access for their intended use.</p>	<p><u>State Parks Resource Recreation Areas</u> provide opportunities for low- and medium-intensity recreational experiences including, but not limited to, picnicking, primitive camping, a variety of recreational trail experiences, interpretive facilities, historic/cultural exhibits, nature observation, photography, orienteering, kayaking, canoeing, floating, and fishing. Off-trail equestrian and/or bicycle use may be appropriate in selected areas if approved by the commission. Basketball, tennis, organized group sporting activities requiring formal sports fields, commercial-sized piers and docks, standard and utility camping, indoor accommodations and centers, developed swimming areas, and other similarly intense uses are not appropriate. Scientific research is permitted.</p>	<p><u>State Parks Resource Recreation Areas</u> development shall be permitted to the extent necessary to serve allowed activities. Parking, sanitary facilities, and other ancillary developments and support facilities should be constructed in a manner that is consistent with the site's ability to manage environmental change.</p>

**Land Classification Management Guidelines  
Natural Areas**

TITLE	DEFINITION	PHILOSOPHY	PHYSICAL FEATURES	LOCATION	ACTIVITIES	DEVELOPMENTS
Washington State Parks Natural Areas	<p><u>State Parks Natural Areas</u> are designated for preservation, restoration, and interpretation of natural processes and/or features of significant ecological, geological or paleontological value while providing for low-intensity outdoor recreation activities as subordinate uses.</p>	<p><u>State Parks Natural Areas</u> are to respond to the human need for readily available "conservatories" of nature and open spaces. Emphasis is directed toward nature and the conservation of native flora and fauna, special geologic or paleontologic resources, and the natural amenities of the area. Human wants for other than naturally existing educational and recreational opportunities are considered secondary to nature's requirement for the sustained maintenance of its natural balances, or the preservation of special geologic or paleontologic features.</p>	<p><u>State Parks Natural Areas</u> have a variety of topography and features to provide a diversified natural environment with interesting but not necessarily unique flora and fauna, or geologic or paleontologic features. Where classification is based on biological considerations, sites should consist of land areas large enough to maintain natural biological processes in a nearly undeveloped state and provide users with a feeling of solitude and tranquility, and an opportunity to view nature in its "uncontrolled" form. They may be partially or wholly on land, subterranean, or part of the marine environment.</p>	<p><u>State Parks Natural Areas</u> are not "made", but rather currently exist due to historical circumstances that have resulted in little or no human interference in the natural environment. Those areas most desirable in terms of physical features and size usually are "found" and "held" against creeping encroachments and raising land values. They often become over used and "lost" as populations spread around them. As a part of the overall system, these areas should be geographically spread throughout the state. When classifying specific park areas, consideration must be given to the ability to adequately manage the areas against undesirable human encroachment.</p>	<p><u>State Parks Natural Areas</u> provide opportunities for outdoor recreation on designated trails. Those trails may be developed and used only to the extent that they do not significantly degrade the system of natural processes in a classified area. Hiking, non-groomed cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, or other trail uses of similar impact to natural systems and providing a compatible recreational opportunity, may be permitted, after consultation with appropriate local, state, federal and tribal resource management agencies, and upon a finding by the agency that such trails are not likely to significantly degrade natural processes. Relocation of existing equestrian, bicycle, nordic track or other similar trails into a natural area may be permitted upon a finding by the director that such relocation is for the purpose of reducing overall resource impacts. All trails may be moved, redesigned, closed and/or removed upon a finding that their use is causing significant degradation to the system of natural processes. Technical rock climbing requires authorization by the commission. Off-trail use for nature observation, photography, cross-country skiing, harvesting of mushrooms and berries and similar uses are permitted to the degree that they do not significantly degrade natural processes. Scientific research is permitted.</p>	<p><u>State Parks Natural Area</u> development shall be limited to facilities required for health, safety and protection of users and features consistent with allowed activities. Facilities to enhance public enjoyment shall be limited to primitive items such as trails, trail structures and minor interpretive exhibits. All improvements shall harmonize with, and not detract from, the natural setting. Parking and other trailhead facilities should be located outside of a classified area.</p>

**Land Classification Management Guidelines  
Heritage Areas**

TITLE	DEFINITION	PHILOSOPHY	PHYSICAL FEATURES	LOCATION	ACTIVITIES	DEVELOPMENTS
Washington State Parks Heritage Areas	<u>State Parks Heritage Areas</u> are designated for preservation, restoration, and interpretation of outstanding, unique or unusual archaeological, historical, scientific, and/or cultural features, and traditional cultural properties, which are of statewide or national significance.	<u>State Parks Heritage Areas</u> are designated to preserve and/or interpret selected areas or features for the education and enjoyment of the public, an area's intrinsic cultural value, and/or for scientific research.	<u>State Parks Heritage Areas</u> vary in size and physiographic makeup according to their location and reason for existence. Historic landscapes may require relatively large acreage while archaeological sites may be measured in square feet.	<u>State Parks Heritage Areas</u> usually are located where they are found or the feature exists. However, in some instances relocation or re-creation of artifacts, resources or facilities is possible. In these situations they may be located in appropriate settings and concentrated near major population centers and along primary travel routes.	<u>State Parks Heritage Area</u> activities shall generally be limited to those directly associated with the interpretation of the area or feature, and the education of the patrons. Picnicking, recreational trails, and other low- to medium-intensity recreation uses may be allowed if they do not detract from the principal purpose of the area, its setting, structures, sites and objects.	<u>State Parks Heritage Area</u> development shall generally be limited to that necessary for the protection and interpretation of the area or feature, and the education and safety of the patrons. Sanitary facilities, recreation trails, and picnicking facilities may be provided in a manner which does not detract from the aesthetic, educational or environmental quality of the area, its setting, structures, sites or objects, or, if applicable, its value for scientific research.

**Land Classification Management Guidelines  
Natural Forest Areas**

TITLE	DEFINITION	PHILOSOPHY	PHYSICAL FEATURES	LOCATION	ACTIVITIES	DEVELOPMENTS
<p>Washington State Parks Natural Forest Areas</p>	<p><u>State Parks Natural Forest Areas</u> are designated for preservation, restoration, and interpretation of natural forest processes while providing for low-intensity outdoor recreation activities as subordinate uses, and which contain: (a) Old-growth forest communities that have developed for 150 years or longer and have the following structural characteristics: Large old-growth trees, large snags, large logs on land, and large logs in streams; or (b) Mature forest communities that have developed for 90 years or longer; or Unusual forest communities and/or interrelated vegetative communities of significant ecological value.</p>	<p><u>State Parks Natural Forest Areas</u> are places where human access to and interpretation and enjoyment of natural forest processes are limited to those activities and facilities that do not significantly degrade natural forest processes. Public access into these areas emphasizes appreciation of nature through experiencing nature. The principal function of these areas is to assist in maintaining the state's bio-diversity while expanding human understanding and appreciation of natural values.</p>	<p><u>State Parks Natural Forest Areas</u> have a variety of topographic and vegetative conditions. They are generally large enough (300 or more acres) to contain one or more distinct and relatively intact vegetative communities. Smaller areas may be appropriate if representative of a unique or unusual forest community. Desirably, they are part of a large system of open space, wildlife habitat, and vegetative communities that provide a good opportunity for long-term ecosystem sustainability.</p>	<p><u>State Parks Natural Forest Areas</u> may be located anywhere in the state where natural factors produce forest vegetative cover. These areas are not "made", but rather currently exist due to historical circumstances that have resulted in little or no human interference in natural forest progression. As a part of an overall system, these areas should be geographically spread throughout the state, recognizing that maintenance of bio-diversity is one of the primary functions of their classification. When classifying specific park areas, consideration must be given to the ability to adequately manage the areas against undesirable human encroachment.</p>	<p><u>State Parks Natural Forest Areas</u> provide opportunities for outdoor recreation on designated recreation trails. Those trails may be developed and used only to the extent that they do not significantly degrade the system of natural forest processes in a classified area. Careful design of recreation trails should match intended uses, to maintain consistency with the purpose and philosophy of the classification. Hiking, non-groomed cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, or other trail uses of similar impact to natural systems and providing a compatible recreational opportunity, may be permitted, after consultation with appropriate local, state, federal and tribal resource management agencies, and upon a finding by the agency that such trails are not likely to significantly degrade natural forest processes. Relocation of existing equestrian, bicycle, nordic track or other similar trails into a natural forest area may be permitted upon a finding by the director that such relocation is for the purpose of reducing overall resource impacts. All trails may be moved, redesigned, closed and/or removed upon a finding that they are causing significant degradation to the system of natural forest processes. Technical rock climbing requires authorization by the commission. Off-trail use for nature observation, cross-country skiing, photography, harvesting of mushrooms and berries and similar uses are permitted to the degree that they do not significantly degrade natural forest processes. Scientific research is permitted.</p>	<p><u>State Parks Natural Forest Areas</u> development shall be limited to facilities required for health, safety and protection of users and features consistent with allowed activities. Facilities to enhance public enjoyment shall be limited to trails, trail structures, and minor interpretive exhibits. All improvements shall harmonize with, and not detract from, the natural setting. Parking and other trailhead facilities should be located outside of a classified area.</p>

**Land Classification Management Guidelines  
Natural Area Preserves**

TITLE	DEFINITION	PHILOSOPHY	PHYSICAL FEATURES	LOCATION	ACTIVITIES	DEVELOPMENTS
<p>Washington State Parks Natural Area Preserves</p>	<p><u>State Parks Natural Area Preserves</u> are designated for preservation of rare or vanishing flora, fauna, geological, natural historical or similar features of scientific or educational value and which are registered and committed as a natural area preserve through a cooperative agreement with an appropriate natural resource agency pursuant to chapter 79.70 RCW and chapter 332-60 WAC.</p>	<p><u>State Parks Natural Area Preserves</u> are sites where human access is limited to educational and scientific purposes. The principal function of these areas is to preserve natural ecosystems or geologic features of statewide significance. Public access for recreation must be subordinate to the principal function of the classification.</p>	<p><u>State Parks Natural Area Preserves</u> have a variety of topographic and vegetative conditions. They are generally large enough (300 or more acres) to contain one or more distinct and intact ecological communities. Smaller areas may be appropriate if representative of a unique or unusual ecological community or geologic feature. They may be partially or wholly on land, subterranean, or part of the marine environment. Desirably, they are part of a large system of open space, wildlife habitat, and vegetative communities that provide a good opportunity for long-term ecosystem sustainability.</p>	<p><u>State Parks Natural Area Preserves</u> may be located anywhere in the state where natural ecological systems or significant geologic features exist. These areas are not "made", but rather exist due to historical circumstances that have resulted in little or no human interference in the natural system. As a part of an overall system, these areas should be geographically spread throughout the state.</p>	<p><u>State Parks Natural Area Preserves</u> provide opportunities for scientific research and education about natural systems, geologic features, sensitive, rare, threatened or endangered species or communities. Recreational use of existing or relocated trails may be permitted, provided that it can be clearly demonstrated that such use does not degrade the system of natural processes occurring in the preserve. Otherwise, trails are limited to administrative, scientific and organized educational activities and uses. No other activities are permitted.</p>	<p><u>State Parks Natural Area Preserves</u> development shall be limited to access facilities for permitted activities and structures to inhibit general public access. No other facilities or structures are permitted.</p>

### Land Use and Land Classification Compatibility Matrix – Facilities

	Recreation	Resource Recreation	Heritage	Natural/Natural Forest Area	Natural Area Preserve*
Amphitheater	P	C	C	N	N
Archery/Target Range	C	C	N	N	N
Camping - Std and Util	P	N	N	N	N
Camping - Primitive	P	P	C	N	N
Camping - Adirondack	P	C	N	N	N
Camping - Horse-oriented	C	C	N	N	N
Camping - Water Trail	P	P	C	N	N
Children's Play Area	P	C	C	N	N
Day Use Picnic - Tables	P	P	C	N	N
Day Use Picnic - Group Shelter	P	N	C	N	N
Day Use Lodges/Centers	P	N	C	N	N
Environmental Learning Centers	C	N	C	N	N
Equestrian Facilities	C	C	C	N	N
Fields - Informal Play/Mowed	P	C	C	N	N
Indoor Accommodations	P	N	C	N	N
Interpretive - Centers	P	N	P	N	N
Interpretive - Kiosks	P	P	P	C	N
Interpretive Trail	P	P	P	P	C
Interpretive - Signs	P	P	P	P	C
Parking - Vehicles	P	P	C	N	N
Roads	P	P	C	N	N

**Land Use and Land Classification Compatibility Matrix – Facilities (Continued)**

	Recreation	Resource Recreation	Heritage	Natural/Natural Forest Area	Natural Area Preserve*
Sanitary: Comfort Stations	P	N	C	N	N
Sanitary: Composting/Vault	P	P	C	C	N
Sports Fields	C	N	N	N	N
Skiing - Alpine Facilities	C	C	N	N	N
Swimming Facilities	P	N	C	N	N
Trails - Hiking	P	P	P	P	C
Trails - Mountain Biking	P	C	C	N**	N
Trails - Equestrian	C	C	C	N**	N
Trails - Nordic Track Skiing	P	P	C	N**	N
Trails - C-C skiing	P	P	P	P	C
Trails - Snowmobile	P	C	C	N**	N
Trails - Paved non-motor	P	C	C	C	N
Water: Docks/Piers ≥ 10 boats	P	N	C	N	N
Water: Docks/Piers < 10 boats	P	P	C	C	N
Water: Launch Ramps	P	C	N	N	N
Water: Hand Launch Areas	P	P	C	C	N
Water: Mooring Buoys	P	P	C	C	N

P (Permitted) - Use permitted with normal agency design review

C (Conditional) - Use may be permitted, but conditioned to assure design is compatible w/purpose of land classification and abutting classification objectives.

N (Not Permitted)- Use not permitted.

NA - Not Applicable

\* All uses in a Natural Area Preserve must be specifically approved by the Park and Recreation Commission as part of a management plan.

\*\*Relocation of existing trails into a natural or natural forest area is permitted per WAC 352-32-070(3) and WAC 352-32-075(2)(b).

**Land Use and Land Classification Compatibility Matrix – Activities**

	Recreation	Resource Recreation	Heritage	Natural/Natural Forest Area	Natural Area Preserve*
Farming/Orchards	C	C	C	N	N
Filming/Special Events	P	P	P	C	N
Grazing	C	C	C	N	N
Harvesting - Edible Fruiting Bodies	P	P	P	P	N
Harvesting - Mushrooms	P	P	P	P	N
Harvesting - Shellfish	P	P	P	P	N
Harvesting - Fish	P	P	P	P	N
Harvesting - Algae, etc.	P	P	P	P	N
Haying	P	P	P	N	N
Metal Detecting	P	P	C	N	N
Orienteering	P	P	C	N	N
Ocean Beach Driving	P	C	N	N	N
Off-Trail: Equestrian	C	C	C	N	N
Off-Trail: Hiking	P	P	P	P	N
Off-trail biking	C	C	C	N	N
Paragliding	P	P	C	N	N
Technical Rock Climbing	P	P	C	C	N

### Land Use and Land Classification Compatibility Matrix – Activities (Continued)

	Recreation	Resource Recreation	Heritage	Natural/Natural Forest Area	Natural Area Preserve*
Water: Jet Skiing	P	C	N	N	N
Water: Kayak/Canoeing	P	P	P	C	N
Water: Power Boating	P	C	N	C	N
Water: White Water Boating	P	P	C	C	N
Water: Sailing	P	P	P	C	N
Water: Skiing	P	C	N	N	N
Water: Swimming	P	P	P	P	N
Water: Wind Surfing	P	C	C	N	N
Winter: Alpine Skiing	C	C	N	N	N
Winter: C-C Skiing (off-trail)	P	P	P	P	C
Winter: Mushing/Sled Dogs	C	C	C	N	N
Winter: Snowshoeing	P	P	P	P	C
Winter: Snowmobiling (off-trail)	P	P	C	N	N
Wood Debris Collection	P	P	P	N	N

P (Permitted) - Use permitted with normal agency design review

C (Conditional) - Use may be permitted with Commission concurrence, but conditioned to assure compatibility w/purpose of land classification and abutting classifications.

N (Not Permitted)- Use not permitted.

NA - Not Applicable

\* All uses in a Natural Area Preserve must be specifically approved by the Park and Recreation Commission as part of a management plan.

\*\*Relocation of existing trails into a natural or natural forest area is permitted per WAC 352-32-070(3) and WAC 352-32-075(2)(b).