

OZETTE

SEPTEMBER 1988

DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT PLAN/OLYMPIC NATIONAL PARK/WASHINGTON



RECOMMENDED:


Robert S. Chandler, Superintendent, Olympic National Park

10/17/1988

Date


Caleb G. Cooper, Assistant Manager, Denver Service Center

10/17/1988

Date

APPROVED:


Charles H. Odegaard, Regional Director, Pacific Northwest Region

10/17/1988

Date

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT PLAN
OZETTE AREA
Olympic National Park
Washington

PROPOSAL

The National Park Service (NPS) proposes to approve the Development Concept Plan for the Ozette area of Olympic National Park which will guide NPS management of this area for the next 10 to 15 years. The major emphasis of the plan is on appreciating, understanding, and enjoying the wilderness character of this coastal region. The visitor experience will involve use of the lake and immediate trail systems, longer treks into the proposed wilderness area, or overnight camping experiences at remote areas on the lake or along the ocean beaches in an informal atmosphere. The facility needs and development are based on this management direction. A complete description of the proposed actions is contained in the attached plan.

An environmental assessment was prepared that described and evaluated the impacts of the draft plan and four possible alternatives, including no-action.

WHY THE PROPOSAL WILL NOT HAVE A SIGNIFICANT EFFECT ON THE ENVIRONMENT

The plan will maintain the existing patterns of development and visitor use, and new facilities will generally be confined to previously disturbed sites. Overall, new development and trails will adversely impact approximately 6.5 acres of vegetation and soils, including 5.0 acres of elk habitat. No significant impacts on air quality, water quality, or fisheries would occur.

There would be no new development in wetlands. Wetlands in prairie areas will be allowed to revert back to natural moisture regimes following the elimination of human disturbance.

Of the existing facilities which are known to be subject to flooding, the maintenance storage sheds and ranger residence will be removed and the campground will be retained and expanded. New developments that will be within the floodplain include day use picnic facilities, boathouse/dock, and trails. National Park Service guidelines for implementing Executive Order 11988 (Floodplain Management) identify the dock construction, and the development of picnic areas and campground facilities as actions excepted from compliance with the executive order, provided that floodproofing is a consideration in their design and construction. Therefore, all proposed actions will be in compliance with Executive Order 11988.

The Fish and Wildlife Service has concurred with the National Park Service's determination that the plan's development concepts

will not affect any listed threatened or endangered species, pending incorporation of mutually agreed upon conservation measures. As the more detailed site design plans for the Ozette area, including trail location, construction, and use, are developed the NPS will again contact the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service to further insure that any measures that may be necessary to mitigate impacts to bald eagles are incorporated into the site design plans.

Surveys for state sensitive plant species will be conducted prior to design or construction of facilities and appropriate mitigation measures implemented as necessary.

In compliance with section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, and the programmatic memorandum of agreement between the National Park Service, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers, comments were solicited and received from the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and the Washington State Historic Preservation Officer. Based on these comments appropriate changes were made in the final Development Concept Plan.


The proposal will not be located in nor have any direct or significant affect on the coastal zone. Site design plans will incorporate any necessary measures to insure that impacts to the coastal zone are avoided.

PUBLIC REVIEW AND AVAILABILITY

The draft Development Concept Plan/Environmental Assessment was made available for public and agency comment on May 1, 1988. Public meetings were held May 17 - 21 at Port Angeles, Forks, Aberdeen, Quinault, and Seattle. Copies of this Finding of No Significant Impact will be sent to all those who received a copy of the environmental assessment, or submitted oral or written comments.

DETERMINATION

Based on the environmental assessment and public comment, it is the determination of the National Park Service that the proposal is not a major Federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment. Nor is the proposal without precedent or similar to one which normally requires an environmental impact statement. Therefore, in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act, an environmental impact statement will not be prepared.

Recommended:  10/17/1988
Superintendent, Date

Approved:  10/17/1988
Regional Director, Pacific Northwest Region Date

SEPTEMBER 1988

DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT PLAN

OZETTE AREA

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INTRODUCTION

PLANNING PROCESS

In 1976, the Master Plan for Olympic National Park was completed to provide general, park-wide guidance for management. Since 1976, several factors have changed in the Ozette area. These factors include a park expansion adding the entire Ozette Lake shoreline; NPS land acquisition in the area; the closure of the Ozette archeological dig; the approval of the 1986 Interpretive Prospectus which called for a visitor contact station at Ozette; and recent counts of visitor use showing an increase in visitation to Ozette of 20 percent per year.

In 1987, a Development Concept Plan (DCP) was started to address these issues. A DCP is an intermediate planning step between the Master Plan, and the next step of site-specific design drawings. This DCP focuses on a particular developed area within the park in need of conceptual, area-wide management direction. It concentrates on facility needs and development, rather than operational or backcountry resource needs.

In April 1988, an Environmental Assessment/Draft DCP was completed which presented a range of alternative management directions for the area, and the environmental impacts expected from each of these alternatives. Together with the NPS's recommended plan, presented as the "preferred alternative," other possible solutions were also presented to provide the public with a wide range of alternatives. Comments received at six public meetings and in writing were considered, revisions were made as determined by the park superintendent and regional director, and this final DCP was adopted to guide management for the next 10 to 15 years.

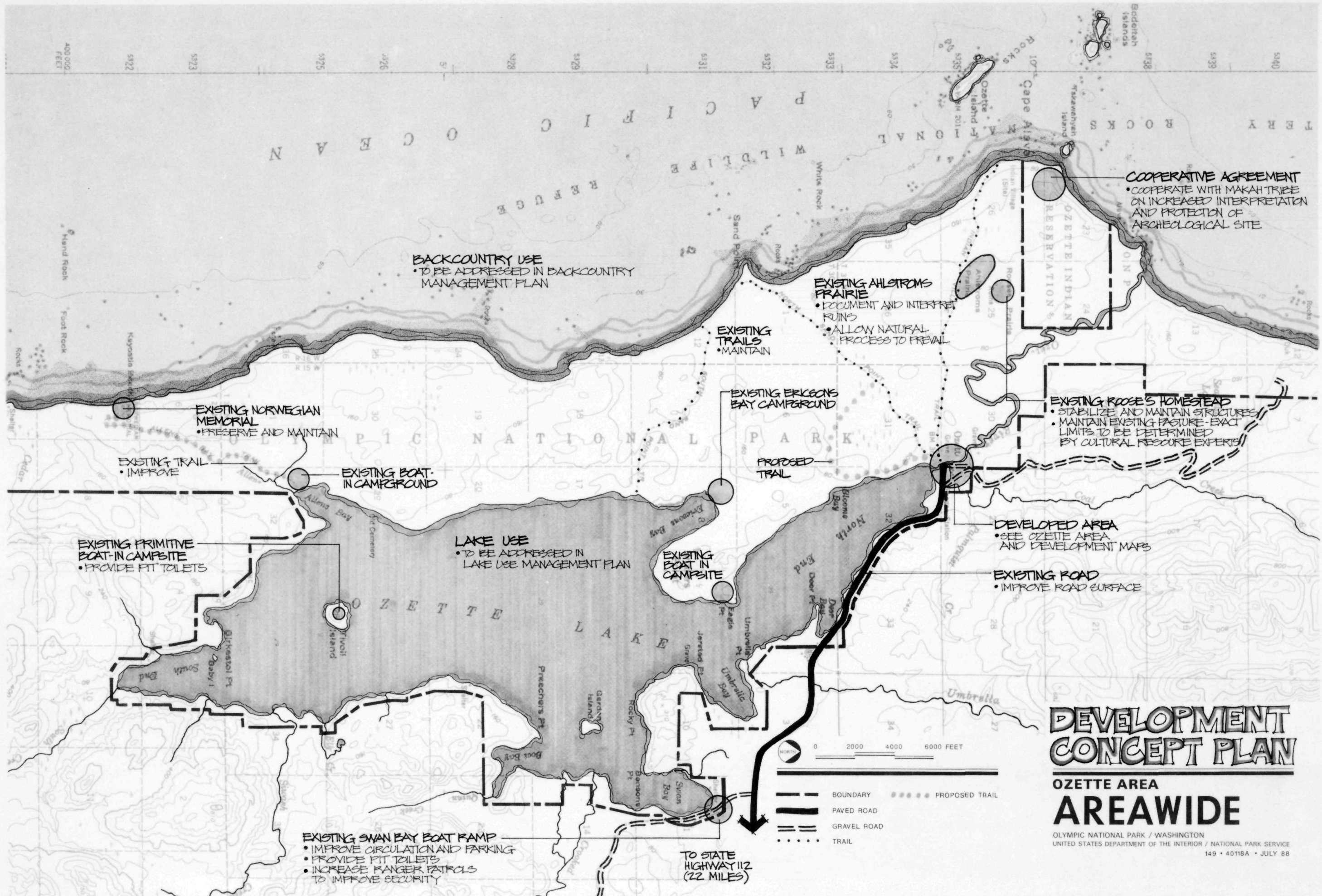
This DCP for Ozette is one of four concurrently completed for different areas on the west side of the park — the Quinault valley, the Kalaloch coastal strip, the Soleduck valley, and the Ozette area. How each area interacts with the others in terms of the park visitor experience, both independently and in combination, was considered in the preparation of the four DCPs.

PLAN SUMMARY

The DCP includes the following development concepts:

- 1) provide a visitor experience which emphasizes the wilderness character of the area, involving lake, trail and overnight beach experiences;
- 2) remove the existing access road to the developed area; develop new access to the parking area using existing logging road; improve existing parking; limit the developed areas to pedestrians;
- 3) replace the information kiosk and obsolete ranger station with a new visitor contact/ranger station;
- 4) expand and reorganize the existing campground without formalizing sites; develop walk-in camping nearby;
- 5) reserve the lakeshore west of the campground and along the river as a day-use area; develop a new picnic area and local trails;
- 6) upgrade the existing boat launch in the developed area;
- 7) stabilize historic structures at Roose's homestead; document and interpret ruins at Ahlstrom's Prairie;
- 8) add a lakeside trail to Bloom Bay and connect with N. Sandpoint Trail; improve Allen's Bay Trail;
- 9) replace existing employee housing with new facilities north of the developed area; and replace maintenance facilities with a new facility near the leach field.





BACKCOUNTRY USE
 • TO BE ADDRESSED IN BACKCOUNTRY MANAGEMENT PLAN

EXISTING AHLESTROMS PRAIRIE
 • DOCUMENT AND INTERPRET RUINS
 • ALLOW NATURAL PROCESS TO PREVAIL

EXISTING TRAILS
 • MAINTAIN

EXISTING ERICEONS BAY CAMPGROUND

EXISTING ROOSE'S HOMESTEAD
 • STABILIZE AND MAINTAIN STRUCTURES
 • MAINTAIN EXISTING PASTURE-EXACT LIMITS TO BE DETERMINED BY CULTURAL RESCUE EXPERTS

EXISTING NORWEGIAN MEMORIAL
 • PRESERVE AND MAINTAIN

EXISTING TRAIL
 • IMPROVE

EXISTING BOAT-IN CAMPGROUND

EXISTING PRIMITIVE BOAT-IN CAMPSITE
 • PROVIDE PIT TOILETS

LAKE USE
 • TO BE ADDRESSED IN LAKE USE MANAGEMENT PLAN

EXISTING BOAT IN CAMPSITE

DEVELOPED AREA
 • SEE OZETTE AREA AND DEVELOPMENT MAPS

EXISTING ROAD
 • IMPROVE ROAD SURFACE

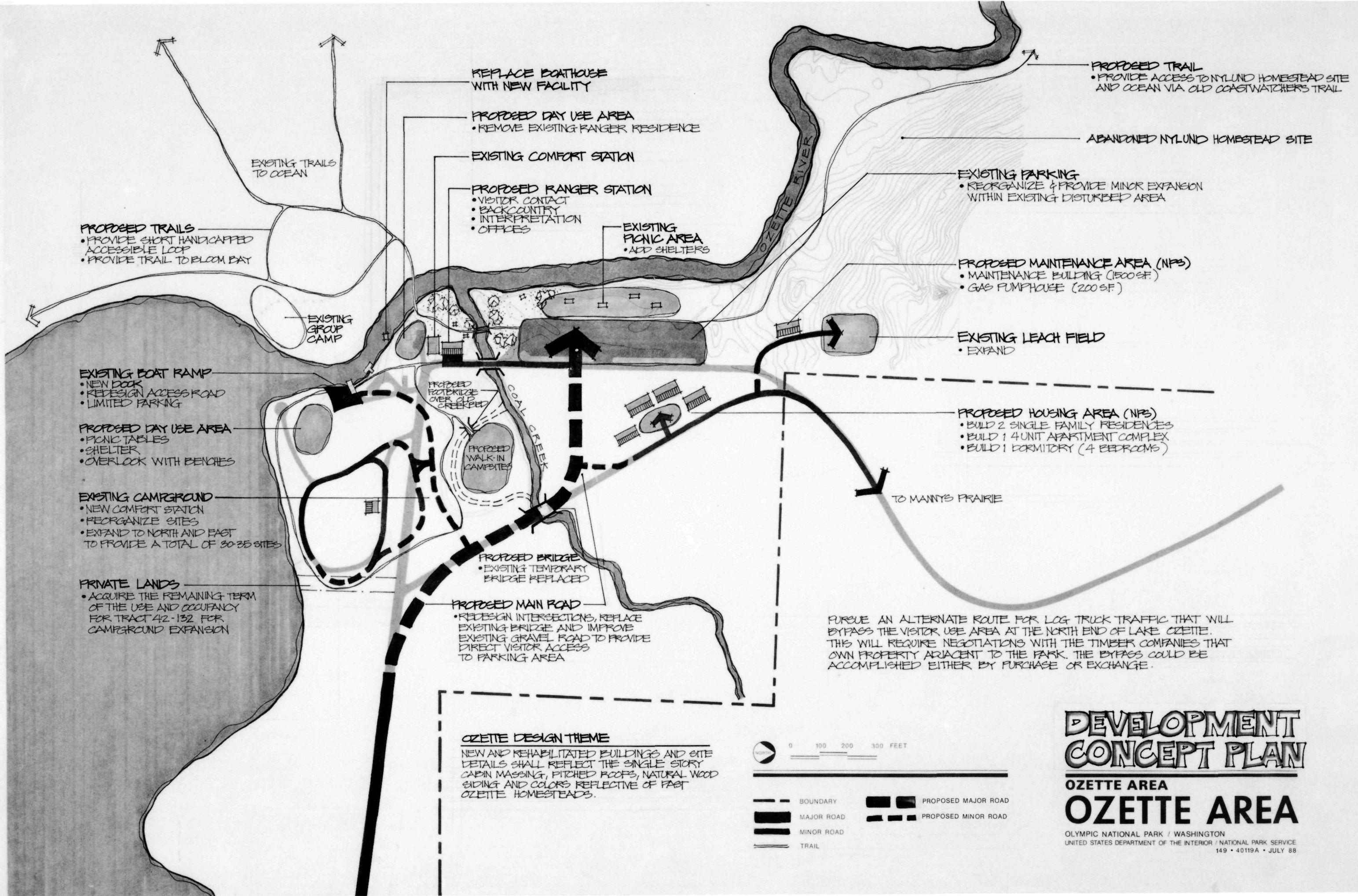
EXISTING SWAN BAY BOAT RAMP
 • IMPROVE CIRCULATION AND PARKING
 • PROVIDE PIT TOILETS
 • INCREASE RANGER PATROLS TO IMPROVE SECURITY

TO STATE HIGHWAY 112 (22 MILES)

DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT PLAN

OZETTE AREA AREAWIDE

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REPLACE BOATHOUSE WITH NEW FACILITY

PROPOSED DAY USE AREA
• REMOVE EXISTING RANGER RESIDENCE

EXISTING COMFORT STATION

PROPOSED RANGER STATION
• VISITOR CONTACT
• BACKCOUNTRY
• INTERPRETATION
• OFFICES

EXISTING PICNIC AREA
• ADD SHELTERS

PROPOSED TRAIL
• PROVIDE ACCESS TO NYLUND HOMESTEAD SITE AND OCEAN VIA OLD COASTWATCHERS TRAIL

ABANDONED NYLUND HOMESTEAD SITE

EXISTING PARKING
• REORGANIZE & PROVIDE MINOR EXPANSION WITHIN EXISTING DISTURBED AREA

PROPOSED MAINTENANCE AREA (NPS)
• MAINTENANCE BUILDING (1500 SF.)
• GAS PUMPHOUSE (200 SF.)

EXISTING LEACH FIELD
• EXPAND

PROPOSED HOUSING AREA (NPS)
• BUILD 2 SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENCES
• BUILD 1 4 UNIT APARTMENT COMPLEX
• BUILD 1 DORMITORY (4 BEDROOMS)

PROPOSED TRAILS
• PROVIDE SHORT HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE LOOP
• PROVIDE TRAIL TO BLOOM BAY

EXISTING TRAILS TO OCEAN

EXISTING GROUP CAMP

EXISTING BOAT RAMP
• NEW DOCK
• REDESIGN ACCESS ROAD
• LIMITED PARKING

PROPOSED DAY USE AREA
• PICNIC TABLES
• SHELTER
• OVERLOOK WITH BENCHES

EXISTING CAMPGROUND
• NEW COMFORT STATION
• REORGANIZE SITES
• EXPAND TO NORTH AND EAST TO PROVIDE A TOTAL OF 30-35 SITES

PRIVATE LANDS
• ACQUIRE THE REMAINING TERM OF THE USE AND OCCUPANCY FOR TRACT 42-132 FOR CAMPGROUND EXPANSION

PROPOSED FOOTBRIDGE OVER COAL CREEK

PROPOSED WALK-IN CAMPBITES

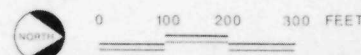
PROPOSED BRIDGE
• EXISTING TEMPORARY BRIDGE REPLACED

PROPOSED MAIN ROAD
• REDESIGN INTERSECTIONS, REPLACE EXISTING BRIDGE AND IMPROVE EXISTING GRAVEL ROAD TO PROVIDE DIRECT VISITOR ACCESS TO PARKING AREA

PURSUe AN ALTERNATE ROUTE FOR LOG TRUCK TRAFFIC THAT WILL BYPASS THE VISITOR USE AREA AT THE NORTH END OF LAKE OZETTE. THIS WILL REQUIRE NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE TIMBER COMPANIES THAT OWN PROPERTY ADJACENT TO THE PARK. THE BYPASS COULD BE ACCOMPLISHED EITHER BY PURCHASE OR EXCHANGE.

OZETTE DESIGN THEME

NEW AND REHABILITATED BUILDINGS AND SITE DETAILS SHALL REFLECT THE SINGLE STORY CABIN MASSING, PITCHED ROOFS, NATURAL WOOD SIDING AND COLORS REFLECTIVE OF PAST OZETTE HOMESTEADS.

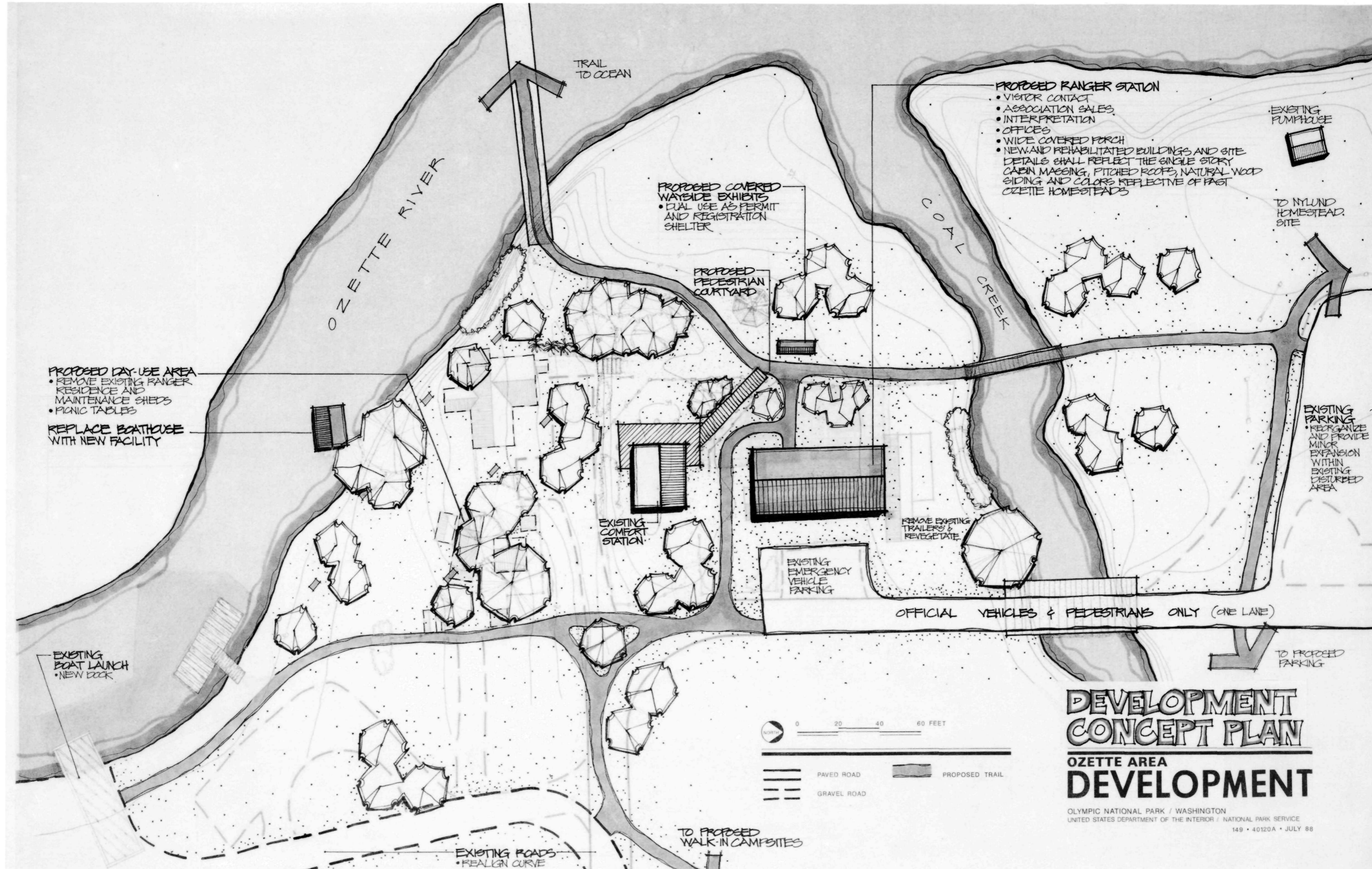


- BOUNDARY
- == MAJOR ROAD
- MINOR ROAD
- TRAIL
- PROPOSED MAJOR ROAD
- PROPOSED MINOR ROAD

DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT PLAN

OZETTE AREA

OLYMPIC NATIONAL PARK / WASHINGTON
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TRAIL TO OCEAN

OZETTE RIVER

COAL CREEK

- PROPOSED RANGER STATION**
- VISITOR CONTACT
 - ASSOCIATION SALES
 - INTERPRETATION
 - OFFICES
 - WIDE COVERED PORCH
 - NEW AND REHABILITATED BUILDINGS AND SITE DETAILS SHALL REFLECT THE SINGLE STORY CABIN MASSING, PITCHED ROOFS, NATURAL WOOD SIDING AND COLORS REFLECTIVE OF PAST OZETTE HOMESTEADS

EXISTING PUMPHOUSE

TO NYLUND HOMESTEAD SITE

- PROPOSED COVERED WAYSIDE EXHIBITS**
- DUAL USE AS PERMIT AND REGISTRATION SHELTER

PROPOSED PEDESTRIAN COURTYARD

- PROPOSED DAY-USE AREA**
- REMOVE EXISTING RANGER RESIDENCE AND MAINTENANCE SHEDS
 - PICNIC TABLES

REPLACE BOATHOUSE WITH NEW FACILITY

- EXISTING PARKING**
- REORGANIZE AND PROVIDE MINOR EXPANSION WITHIN EXISTING DISTURBED AREA

EXISTING COMFORT STATION

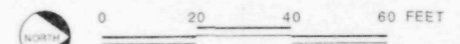
REMOVE EXISTING TRAILERS & REVEGETATE

EXISTING EMERGENCY VEHICLE PARKING

OFFICIAL VEHICLES & PEDESTRIANS ONLY (ONE LANE)

EXISTING BOAT LAUNCH
• NEW DOCK

TO PROPOSED PARKING



- PAVED ROAD
- GRAVEL ROAD
- PROPOSED TRAIL

DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT PLAN

OZETTE AREA DEVELOPMENT

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EXISTING ROADS
• REALIGN CURVE

TO PROPOSED WALK-IN CAMPSITES

DESCRIPTION OF CONCEPTS

Emphasis and Experience	<p>The emphasis is on appreciating, understanding and enjoying the wilderness character of this coastal region.</p> <p>The visitor experience will involve use of the lake and immediate trail systems, longer treks into the wilderness area, or overnight camping experiences at remote areas on the lake or along the ocean beaches in an informal atmosphere.</p>	Concession Services	No concession services.
Interpretation and Information Facilities	Provide visitor contact and interpretation services at new ranger station; interpretation would cover the wilderness coastline and cultural resources; remove and replace the information kiosk; interpretation of cultural resources at Ahlstroms Prairie.	Maintenance Facilities	Develop maintenance facility adjacent to existing leach field; remove existing maintenance structures.
Ranger Station	New ranger station with offices and backcountry permit desk; remove existing ranger station.	Housing	Develop housing north of the developed area; remove existing housing.
Day-use Facilities and Trails	Develop new day-use area along the river and lake at site of existing ranger residence and maintenance buildings (which would be removed); develop picnic area near parking area with shelters; develop trails in developed area; develop viewpoint with benches on east point of river with lake.	Roads	Using the bypass road, develop new access to parking area; construct new bridge on bypass road; provide access to campground off new access road; provide access to boat launch from campground access road; provide access to housing and maintenance areas from bypass road; remove existing access road to campground and developed area; provide official vehicle access to ranger station from parking area; improve surface of entrance road. Pursue an alternate route for log truck traffic that will bypass the visitor use area at the north end of Lake Ozette. This will require negotiations with the timber companies that own property adjacent to the park. The bypass could be accomplished either by purchase or exchange.
Campground	Reorganize, but do not formalize existing campground; expand to 30-35 sites; add comfort station; new 8 to 10 site walk-in area north of existing campground.	Parking	Reorganize existing parking area and provide minor expansion within existing disturbed area; improve parking at Swan Bay launch site.
Lake Use	Replace NPS boat house; retain existing boat ramp in developed area and replace boat dock; continue boat launch site at Swan Bay and add pit toilets; lake use to be addressed in lake use management plan.	Land Acquisition	Acquire the remaining term of the use and occupancy for tract 42-132 for campground expansion.
Backcountry Trails and Campgrounds	Maintain existing trails; improve Allen's Bay Trail; add lakeside trail from developed area to Bloom Bay and connect to N. Sandpoint Trail; with respect to bald eagles, any trail locations and seasons of use will be determined in consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; maintain Ericsons Bay campground; maintain boat-in campgrounds at Eagle Point, Allens Bay and Tivoli Island; provide pit toilets on Tivoli Island; other backcountry uses to be addressed in backcountry management plan.		
Cultural Sites	Document and interpret ruins at Ahlstroms Prairie and allow natural processes to prevail; stabilize and maintain structures at Roosees Homestead, and determine the extent of and maintain pasture; retain Norwegian Memorial; cooperate with Makah Tribe on interpreting and protecting archeological dig site.		

CONSTRUCTION COST ESTIMATES



NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Interpretation and Information	\$196,000
Ranger Station	196,000
Cultural Sites	33,000
Day-use	242,000
Campground	145,000
Lake-use	56,000
Backcountry	4,000
Trails	231,000
Maintenance	327,000
Housing	504,000
Roads	713,000
Parking	52,000
Utilities	246,000
Gross Construction ¹	\$2,945,000
25% of Net ²	562,000
TOTAL COST	\$3,507,000

1. Net construction costs, plus construction supervision and contingencies

2. Advance and project planning and design costs

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As the nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has basic responsibilities to protect and conserve our land and water, energy and minerals, fish and wildlife, and parks and recreation areas, and to ensure the wise use of all these resources. The department also has major responsibility for American Indian reservation communities and for people who live in island territories under U.S. administration.

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