

GOAL 8



RECREATIONAL
NEEDS

STATEWIDE
PLANNING

GOAL 8:

To satisfy the recreational needs of the citizens of the state and visitors and, where appropriate, to provide for the siting of necessary recreational facilities including destination resorts.

CLATSOP
COUNTY GOAL 8:

To satisfy the recreational needs of residents and visitors.

OVERVIEW

Statewide Planning Goal 8 requires local governments to plan for the recreation needs of their residents and visitors, based upon adequate research and analysis of public wants and desires. Inventories are based on adequate research and analysis of available resources. Findings need to be documented in long-range plans and action programs to meet the recreational needs.

Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) 660-034-040 suggests appropriate zoning categories and map designations (a “local park” zone or overlay zone is recommended), including objective land use and siting review criteria, in order to authorize the existing and planned park uses described in local park master plans.

Further, OAR 660-034-0040 provides for the uses listed in OAR 660-034-0035-(2)(a) through 660-034-0035-(2)(g) on agricultural or forest land within a local park provided such uses are listed in a master plan that meets specific requirements. Uses include campground areas, day use areas, recreational trails, boating and fishing facilities, park visitor and employee amenities, park land support facilities and infrastructure, park maintenance and management facilities, natural and cultural resource interpretative, educational and informational facilities, and visitor lodging and retreat facilities.

Goal 8 also requires local governments to address the siting of destination resorts. Clatsop County’s regulations for destination resorts are established in the Land and Water Development and Use Code (LAWDUC), Destination Resort Overlay District (DRO). The purpose of the DRO is to recognize sites that are suitable and appropriate for the location of recreation-oriented tourist and vacation resorts, and to establish standards to guide the development of such facilities. The DRO is intended to ensure the compatibility of tourist and vacation resorts with the natural resources of the County.

CLATSOP COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

The *Clatsop County Parks and Recreational Lands Master Plan*, last updated in 2006, provides a recreational lands inventory, an inventory of recreation providers in the area, community demographic information, projected recreational needs, and a set of goals, objectives, and action strategies to meet those needs. This document constitutes the research and analysis required to satisfy Statewide Planning Goal 8. Included below is a map that indicates the location and boundaries of parks and recreational lands within the County. The Clatsop County Recreational Lands Planning Advisory Committee (RLPAC) has identified updating the master plan as a near-term priority project. The updated master plan should be adopted by reference into the Comprehensive Plan Goal 8 element. At that time, the Goal 8 objectives and policies may also be updated, as necessary.

The *Clatsop County Parks and Natural Areas - Natural Resources Inventory and Stewardship Plan*, adopted in 2010, contains policy recommendations based on an inventory and assessment of the natural resources found within County-managed recreational lands. It is intended to guide management decisions and to preserve and protect resources such as trees, wetlands and wildlife on hundreds of acres of county-owned property and identifies potential threats including erosion, overuse and invasive species.

OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

The following goals, policies, and objectives should be reviewed and revised as necessary in conjunction with future updates to the *Clatsop County Parks and Recreational Lands Master Plan*:

GENERAL POLICIES

- POLICY A:** The County shall identify and plan for the recreational needs of residents and visitors. The plan should establish appropriate levels of management, protection, enhancement and preservation of recreational land resources to meet those needs.
- POLICY B:** The County should, to the extent practicable, retain existing county-owned waterfront properties identified in adopted or approved park master plans, the County Transportation System Plan, or as needed for public access such as boat ramps, trails or other recreational needs.
- POLICY C:** The Recreational Lands Advisory Committee should maintain a public forum for citizen input regarding any future changes that potentially impact parks, recreational lands, trails, boat ramps and related programs within the county.
- POLICY D:** The County should participate with other governmental, private, regional, volunteer and non-profit groups and agencies in coordinating planning

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efforts that may impact the County's recreational resources or park master plans.

POLICY E: County park and recreational lands should be managed in accordance with county adopted or approved park master plans.

POLICY F: Clatsop County may utilize the County Recreational Lands Committee as a primary public review body for all county actions related to recreation issues. This committee may be given the opportunity to review and comment on all County recreational issues including:

1. Potential County land sales involving County Park lands or lands adjoining County park properties;
2. Potential County timber sales involving County Park lands or lands adjoining County park properties;
3. Major County Park improvement proposals; and
4. Annual County Parks budget proposals.

POLICY G: Existing County-owned recreational lands sites, as identified in the Clatsop County Parks and recreational Lands Master Plan, should not be sold, traded, rezoned or exchanged without first requesting the input of the County Recreational Lands Advisory Committee and a careful examination of existing and potential recreational values.

POLICY H: Revenue generated from the use, sale or lease of county parks should be used solely for county park purposes.

POLICY I: The Clatsop County Recreational Lands Master Plan should be reviewed every 5-8 years and updated as necessary to reflect community priorities and new opportunities.

POLICY J: The County will continue to maintain the Rural Community Parks (RCP) zone in support of the Clatsop County Recreational Lands Master Plan and in conformance with OAR 660-034.

POLICY K: The County may pursue zoning code amendments as appropriate to support the Clatsop County Recreational Lands Master Plan.

POLICY L: New projects not specifically listed in the master plan should be reviewed for consistency with the master plan goals and policies and be vetted by the Recreational Lands Planning Advisory Committee and Board of Commissioners.

POLICY M: As new projects are completed, park inventories should be updated and a determination should be made of whether any new goals or policies are necessary.

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- POLICY N:** The County should utilize population and demographic projections to determine how changes will affect recreational needs and amenities.
- POLICY O:** The County may consider what amenities may be required to serve users from more urbanized areas.
- POLICY P:** Parks furthest away from population concentrations may be preserved and protected as wilderness areas.
- POLICY Q:** The County may establish a rating system/grading system for parks such as semi-wild or wilderness, which could also be used to establish the level of required amenities.
- POLICY R:** The County should maintain and improve the County's park and recreational resources.
- POLICY S:** The County should ensure a sustainable, high quality and cost-effective park operation.
- POLICY T:** The County should establish a more integrated and connected system of parks and recreational resources within the county parks system and between the county and other public and private recreation providers.
- POLICY U:** Existing public land should be preferred for recreational development, but should not prohibit acquiring additional locations.
- POLICY V:** Subdivision or planned developments along major streams and rivers should provide access points to the water for residents of the development. Provision of such access points should not prohibit acquisition of additional locations.
- POLICY W:** Use of recreational motor vehicles on recreation land should be restricted to established roads and trails which are designated for that purpose.
- POLICY X:** Parks should be managed to leave natural vegetation when possible.

GOAL 8 - IMPLEMENTING OREGON ADMINISTRATIVE RULES (OAR):

[OAR 660-034 State and Local Park Planning](#)

COORDINATING STATE AGENCIES:

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD)

Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD)

BACKGROUND REPORTS AND SUPPORTING DATA:

[Clatsop County Parks and Recreational Lands Master Plan \(2006\)](#)

[Clatsop County Parks & Natural Areas, Natural Resources Inventory & Stewardship Plan \(2010\)](#)

GOAL 8: RECREATIONAL NEEDS

CLATSOP COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

[Oregon Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan \(SCORP\)](#)
[Goal 8 Background Report](#)