

Proposed Wildwood Recreation Area Management Plan

Fact Sheet

1. Planning and Development of Wildwood has taken place since 1961

- **1961** – The lands encompassing Wildwood were withdrawn from the commercial forestland base and classified for public recreation
- **1968 – Phase 1:** Construction of the Family Picnic Area including picnic sites, paved trails, parking areas, and restrooms
- **1971 – Phase 2:** Construction of Group Area shelters, picnic kitchens, ball fields, restrooms, basketball courts, paved trails, and parking areas completed
- **1973 – Phase 3:** Construction of camping units delayed due to the subsurface sewage system, but was a high priority for the area
- **1991 to 1996 – Cascade Streamwatch** was developed in partnership between the USDA Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, and Wolfree, a non-profit environmental education organization
- **2007**– Septic and sewer replacement.
- **2011** – Water line replacement finished, resulting in the completion of the new utility system. Internal feasibility planning and area recreational need assessment began
- **2013** – BLM mandated concessionaire study of three major recreation sites in Western Oregon (Loon Lake, Fishermen’s Bend, and Wildwood) to determine the economic feasibility for a concessionaire to operate and maintain these large BLM recreation sites. The study reviewed comparable sites and what development would be needed for a concessionaire.
- **2015** – Meetings with Clackamas County and bike/pedestrian/access group to discuss transportation and linking different recreation providers/tourism back to the Hood area.
- **2016** – Begin Wildwood Recreation Area Management Planning with formal public meetings. Table at Mt Hood Bike/Pedestrian Meeting (May) in Welches at the Resort at the Mountain and Public Meeting in Sandy at the Senior Center (June 8). The 2013 concessionaire study design drafts were used to portray a draft proposal for camping at Wildwood.
- **Scoping and comment periods** – scoping a draft proposal beginning August 11, comment period to begin with draft environmental assessment sometime in summer of 2017.

2. Fees

- **1999** – Wildwood began charging fees for shelters in 1995 and day-use vehicles after 1999. Day-use fees were \$3 per vehicle. An annual pass was \$10 for the first vehicle in a family and \$5 for each additional vehicle issued to a specific vehicle. Shelters ranged from \$75 to \$200 and picnic kitchens \$30 to \$40.
- **2008** – Day-use fees increased to \$5 per passenger vehicle (under 9 people), \$10 per van (10-20 people), \$20 per bus (21+ people), \$25 for an annual pass with \$10 for each additional annual vehicle pass. Shelters ranged from \$95 to \$240 and picnic kitchens \$45 to \$60.
- **2016**-The BLM is proposing fee changes in 2017.
 - The BLM underwent a thorough market analysis of the region to calculate fees and develop a business plan. The business plan uses economic theories to develop a market identity that is separate from private sector and current federal campgrounds. The business plan was used to help guide development and design.
 - Public camping would not be allowed until the BLM has fee collection approval per the H-2930-1 Recreation and Fee Administration Handbook and the sites are fully developed.

3. Wildwood is a 556-acre recreation site. Currently 8.25 acres of surface area is paved trails, parking lots, or roads or 1.5 percent of Wildwood. The draft proposed development would increase paved surface area by 3 acres or .5 percent of Wildwood. In total, new and old development would only account for 11.25 acres of hardened surfaces or 2 percent of Wildwood.

4. The draft proposal is for camping and day-use activities to occur in different locations. Camping is proposed around the group loop near Hwy 26. Day-use would remain focused at the trailhead and along the Salmon River where it is currently. Day-use would be over 1700 feet from the lower camping area and nearly 3,000 feet from the upper camping area's RV loop.

5. The BLM's water right at Wildwood is allowed 7,756 gallons per day. Similar campgrounds that have higher development than what is proposed averaged a lower daily amount than what Wildwood is allowed.