Mica Peak Trail System Development

NOVA Nonmotorized - 16-2570 D
Spokane County Parks, Recreation & Golf
John Bottelli, Assistant Director
**Goal:** Develop a 14-mile, four season trail system on Mica Peak utilizing the Mica Peak Non-Motorized Recreation Plan.

- Renovate 7.25 miles of existing trail
- Develop 6.4 miles of new trail
- Install four season trail signage
- Restore habitat
- Install “Working Forest” interpretive signage

**Grant Request:** $106,000 (58.89 %)
**Matching Funds:** $74,000 (41.11 %)
Site Introduction
Over 600,000 people within 30 miles.
Site Introduction

City of Spokane Valley

City of Liberty Lake

Liberty Lake Regional Park

Mica Peak Trailhead (Existing)

Project Site

Summit – Elev. 5,205’
Site Introduction

- Liberty Lake Regional Park
- IEP
- County
- DNR
- Easement
- Summit – Elev. 5,205'
- Trailhead – Elev. 2,720'
Site Introduction
Site Introduction
Site Introduction
Site Introduction
9% of Spokane County is in public ownership
Need
Stevens Creek Trailhead Weekly Totals – Car Counter

4/07-4/13 - 1,653 Cars

3/29 - 4/4 – 2,903 Cars
Need

4 miles to Riverside State Park
Need
Need
Need
Need

Mica Peak Non-Motorized Recreation Plan

SPokane County | Parks, Recreation & Golf | January 2017
2. Need Fulfillment

Liberty Lake Regional Park

Proposed Trail System

IEP

Trailhead Parking
2. Need Fulfillment
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A Walk in the Woods

This spruce-fir forest juts out on a ledge to the edge of the sea—epitomizing Acadia’s
maine’s rocky coastline. Dense stands of red spruce and balsam fir limit the sunlight,
reducing the diversity of plants on the forest floor. But mosses, lichens, and witches’
bonnet—a jelly fungus—flourish in the shade and moisture down below as they slowly
degradate rock and bark into soil. Birds dine on insects and conifer seeds while red
squirrels tear into fir cones and store seeds for the long winter ahead.
3. State Plan Priorities

Trends in Outdoor Recreation Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activities That Increased in Rank</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Firearms (hunting or shooting)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visiting a nature interpretive center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fishing for shellfish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fishing from a bank, dock, or jetty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horseback riding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Camping-backpacking/primitive location</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hiking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water skiing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Climbing or mountaineering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snowshoeing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wildlife viewing / photographing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fishing from private boat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gathering/collecting things in nature setting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snowboarding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skiing, downhill</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Graph showing the rankings of various outdoor recreation activities.
Continue to offer diverse outdoor recreation activities and opportunities.

Washington residents participate in a wide variety of outdoor recreation activities. Many of the Town Hall contributors emphasized the importance of expanding the number and diversity of recreation opportunities as a way to manage user conflict. Offering diverse opportunities is also important in meeting the demands of underrepresented populations.
5. Project Design

Summit – Elev. 5,205’

Trailhead – Elev. 2,720’
5. Project Design

Map 3.1: Public Input Map Results

Legend:
- Preferred Trails by the Public
- Proposed Trail Closures by the Public
- Erosion Control Points (erosion issues)
- Potential Wetlands
- Positive Control Points (areas likely to be in stable condition)
- Stream Crossing
- Existing Trails

Trailhead Parking
5. Project Design

Map 4.1: Recommended Trail System

Trailhead Parking

Legend:
- Existing/Renovated Spine Trails
- Alternate Access Roads
- Proposed Spine Trails
- Proposed Single Track
- Proposed Mountain Bike Flow Trail
- Overlooks
- Positive Control Points

Scale: 0 400 800 1000 Feet
5. Project Design
5. Project Design

Mountain Bike Flow Trail Profile:

Length: 2.65 mi
Elevation Loss: 941 ft
5. Project Design

IEP

Singletrack Trail Profile

Length: 1.8 mi
Elevation Gain / Loss: 560 ft
5. Project Design

Check Dams

Use 381-mm (12-in) diameter logs or 100- x 150-mm (4- x 6-in) dimensional lumber.

SIDE VIEW

Use 16d ringshank or barbed nails.

50- x 300-mm (2- x 12-in) stakes.

150 to 250 mm (6 to 10 in) typical

125 mm (6 in) min.

Include logs, rocks, or dimensional lumber at least 300 mm (12 in) into undisturbed bank.

Recommended log check dam detail, Source: USFS

Typical Intensive Trail Decommissioning - Plan View

"CLOSED FOR RESTORATION" SIGN

48" TEMPORARY FENCE

54" CLOSURE BERM (2:1 SIDE SLOPES)

EVERGREEN TREE SEEDLINGS (10 PER CLOSURE)

PLACE SLASH ACROSS TRAIL

TRAIL RECONTOURING (25 YDS)

EROSION CONTROL & revegetation (25 YDS)

LOG CHECK DAMS OR DRAINAGE KNICKS (SEE TABLE FOR FREQUENCY)

ENTRANCE TREATMENTS

ESTABLISHED TRAIL
8. Sustainability
A Walk in the Woods

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9. Readiness to Proceed

- Trail Plan finalized
  - Includes design plans
- Permits in hand
- Commitments from volunteer groups
  - On their work calendars for Fall 2017
- All aspects of this project will be completed by Spring 2019
10. Predominantly Natural
11. Project Support

Donations towards this project:

- Washington Trails Association - $30,000
- Evergreen East MBA - $15,000
- Backcountry Horsemen - $3,000
- Spokane Nordic Ski Assoc. - $1,500

Support for and Participation in the Mica Peak Non-Motorized Recreation Plan:

- WA DNR
- WDFW
- Avista Corp
- Inland Empire Paper
- Riley Creek Lumber
- Mountain Gear
- REI
11. Project Support

OUTDOORS

Diamond in the rough: Mica Peak Conservation Area transitioning to public use

SATURDAY, JUNE 11, 2016, 7:44 P.M.

The Clark family ends many of their days with a hike through the lush forest and craggy hills west of Mica Peak. They were surprised earlier this year to arrive at their hiking spot and find a gravel parking lot, wide enough for horse trailers as well as SUVs hauling outdoor enthusiasts.

“We just walked up and said, ‘Oh my gosh,’ ” said Lori Clark, surrounded by her sons McCade, Sean and Brendan, and the family’s two dogs, Cassie and Gunner.
11. Cost - benefit

Fiscal Cost
Total Project Value: $180,000
- $7,285 per mile
- 41.11% Match
  - 68% Non-Governmental

Benefit
- 14 mile multiple use trail system
- Available year-round
- Serving 25,000 annually
- Less than 30 minutes from Downtown Spokane
- Trailhead with capacity already in place
11. Cost - benefit
Thank you!
The Plan

Summit – Elev. 5,205’

IEP

Trailhead – Elev. 2,720’