Bear Lake Regional Park
Phase I Master Plan (Shoreline Focus) + Shoreline Repair / Restoration Design Project
PRE-DESIGN “POP-UP” VISION & VALUES WORKSHOP - WEST PICNIC SHELTER
9am-3:30pm, September 3, 2021

SUMMARY OF WRITTEN COMMENTS (17 TOTAL)

1. **What draws you to Bear Lake?**
   a. Near home, No resort, Rare crowd.
   b. Location
   c. Swimming, the walking path.
   d. Good walking trails around the lake trail and in the forest, convenient to get to from Mead.
   e. Walk with dog, year-round, 1-2 days a week.
   f. Fishing, walking trail, open space for dog to run off leash.
   g. It is an enchanting spot that is very near to the city. It feels rustic and remote despite being only minutes from the North Side.
   h. Easy disabled access and natural beauty.
   i. Take dog out to hike.
   j. Beautiful lake, path access, trail for HDCP, HDCP parking.
   k. Time with my kid, outdoors, fishing, swimming, etc.
   l. Proximity, walking trail.
   m. Trails, paved and dirt, playground, volleyball, dog walks.
   n. Proximity – I live ~15 minutes away. I come during the week. Weekends too busy, loud.
   o. Swimming, hiking, kayaking, standup paddle boarding, picnics, community events, snow shoeing.
   p. Fishing, swimming, picnicking, fishing dock would be nice.
   q. Dog walking – natural beauty.

2. **Are there existing or other recreational uses that you feel are appropriate to be planned for Bear Lake Regional Park (circle please). Any uses that we missed and should include?**

   Hiking (10 yes)
   Canoe / kayaking (10 yes)
   Swimming (10 yes)
   Fishing (9 yes)
   Quiet areas for wildlife (and for watching wildlife) (8 yes)
   Off-leash dog park / beach (7 yes – but, this may have been a confusing question. Off leash dog park was circled 5 times, and beach was circled 6 times)
   Environmental education (6 yes)
   Biking (6 yes / 1 no)
   Stargazing (5 yes)
   Weddings (5 yes / 1 no)
   Ball or play fields (4 yes)
   Hosting smaller private events (e.g. Company picnics or weddings) (4 yes / 1 no)
   Horseback riding (3 yes)
   Hosting larger community events (e.g. Concerts) (2 yes / 1 no)
   Cabin or yurt rentals (1 yes cabin / 1 no)
   RV camping (3 no)
   Tent camping (3 no)
Other?
-I like the general setup of the lake now.
-Keep it as natural as possible. Field, picnic area for ball & events.
-Places for sitting at regular intervals not in the woods where the mosquitos tend to congregate.
-Fishing dock on west side.
-Dog waste & bag receptacles – i.e. like Kendall Yards area. That would encourage people to clean up dog waste.

3. To help guide design work in the “shoreline focus areas” to replace the gabion baskets and repair erosion, please tell us how you use, or would like to use, these areas (circle please).

Sit quietly and enjoy the view (9 yes)
Swim or float on an inflatable (e.g. Tube) (8 yes)
Launch non-motorized boat (e.g. Rowboat, kayak, canoe) (8 yes)
Watch wildlife (8 yes)
Picnic (8 yes)
Let my dog swim (6 yes)
Socialize with other people (3 yes)
Fish (2 yes)
Snorkel (1 yes)
Other?
-trails
-swim and float. Throw stick for dog.
-walking for disabled.
-viewing benches.
-easy launch area for floatables, beach preferred to walled shoreline.
-the steps need to be safe to walk up and down.

4. Would any of the following amenities improve your experience in the shoreline focus areas (circle please)?

Kayak / canoe drop-off and launch facility (7 yes)
Off-leash dog beach (7 yes)
Wildlife habitat enhancements (7 yes)
Swimming enhancements (dock and / or beach areas) (6 yes)
Additional fishing dock or platform (6 yes / 1 no)
Benches along the shoreline (4 yes)
Improved pathways between parking areas and shoreline (2 yes)
Interpretive signage (1 yes)
Parking enhancements (1 yes)
Other?
-Fishing dock on west side of lake might be nice while family swims @ the adjacent beach area a possible good spot for a dock may be where the large log crosses the trail to the lake.
-Kayak / canoe drop-off and launch facility so that disabled parking is not the most convenient parking – not opposed to disabled parking being moved.
-All of the above would be wonderful!

5. What do you value most about the park?
   a. Quiet, no boat motors; no crowd during week.
   b. Trails, access
   c. Quiet, walkable, and the beach.
d. Good parking, fresh air, wildlife, beautiful lake, good trails.
f. Local, fishing from shore, hiking.
g. The trees, water, and feeling of being in a nature area. Peace and quiet, fishing and kayaking with the kids.
h. Disabled access & natural environment.
i. Beauty and natural surroundings & trails.
j. What a gem for Spokane County to have.
k. Having an area like this close by to enjoy with family and friends, fish & swim. The walking opportunity for my parents to help them stay fit and healthy.
l. Natural setting, clean lake.
m. The natural beauty, dog walks, child play area.
n. No motorized boats, proximity.
o. Access, year-round use, multi-use.
p. It was improved and made beautiful then allowed to deteriorate.

6. **Is there anything we missed or anything else you’d like to share about the park?**
   a. Trail around and west of lake great.
   b. The park is not being maintained like it should be. No effort to remove snag trees and reduce fire danger.
   c. The path along north end / sides floods easily making access difficult, love the playground equip for grandkids.
   d. Great County asset.
   e. Watering and care of grassy areas would keep the park more vibrant and inviting. A more robust approach to litter reduction and clean-up would improve the area greatly. Loud music and keg-parties have caused us to leave the area on several occasions.
   f. In the winter when the road to the play area is closed there is no good place for me to pick up my husband who can’t always walk the entire distance around the lake. More picnic tables near water access or with water view for parents with young children who want to swim. Can there be increased patrol by security later in the day?
   g. Believe need to get more community involvement to help develop and maintain the park.
   h. It is wonderful. Thanks for making improvements – much needed.
   j. Nope. Thank you.
   k. It is so dirty – more cleanup & trash cans. Encourage people to not play loud music. Why is it so green by the other restrooms & so dry here?
   l. Make & maintain beaches.
   m. Fishing dock on north end of lake.
   n. Fix eastside path that floods. Leave or place garbage barrels throughout the park during fall & winter after gates are closed – it would keep park cleaner. Can you open westside bathrooms.
Please add your comments and ideas to the map!
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Shoreline Focus Area

BEAR LAKE REGIONAL PARK
Phase I Master Plan (Shoreline Focus) + Shoreline Repair / Restoration Design Project
29109 N Newport Highway, Chattaroy, WA 99003

East Shoreline Focus Area