

Yakima

Release: Sunday  
May 10

1953

Governor Arthur B. Langlie will dedicate the new wing of the Ginkgo Petrified Forest Museum at Vantage on Saturday, May 16, at 2 p.m. A new type museum, the structure, built by the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission, is intended to preserve and interpret central Washington's natural and human history graphically to enable visitors to grasp the story in a very short time.

The Ellensburg chamber of commerce is in charge of the dedication program, with Prof. George F. Beck, Central Washington College of Education, serving as chairman. Prof. Beck is credited with discovery of the petrified forest in 1931. Other features of the dedication include a ceremony honoring some old families in the area with Superior Judge J. A. Whitfield, Kittitas county, in charge; the flag ritual by members of the Yakima Valley Boy Scout Council, and music by the Ellensburg high school band.

"The dedication is part of the commission's plan to call special attention to historic sites during Washington's centennial year," explained John R. Vanderzicht, director of the commission.

The new wing is <sup>built</sup> of pumice masonry blocks to save construction costs and to provide contrast with the old portion which was built of native basaltic stone. The two buildings are made into a unit through use of a stone planting wall and a stone parapet. A generous roof overhang helps to keep the interior of the building cool and provides circulation for the outdoor terrace.

An outstanding feature of the exterior is the design, sand-blasted on the Japanese oak panels of the main entrance, simulating the Indian petroglyphs on the basaltic stone found in the park along the banks of the Columbia river. Petrified logs have been placed in typically natural positions on the grounds of the museum. Future plans include a small irrigated area with plantings of alpine and native plants as well as a small grouping of live ginkgo trees, from which the forest takes its name.

Visitors enter a foyer to find a three-dimensional effect, achieved both by the architecture and by the presence of two mounted petrified logs, lighted to give a feeling of space around them. Each log weighs more than a ton. At one side of the foyer is an information center with a resident curator in charge, and a small concession where souvenirs may be purchased.

From the foyer, visitors may circulate freely either to the left or to the right without retracing their steps. To the left is the old museum, now remodeled by removal of windows to give more exhibit space and more of a museum atmosphere. To the right is the new wing, at the far end of which is a picture window overlooking the river. Both wings are lined with glass display cases. The floor is of terrazzo, and air-conditioning and heating have been installed.

"The museum, grounds, and exhibit areas are planned as a unit to make a frame around the story they will tell," states John R. Vanderzicht, director of the State Parks and Recreation Commission, in commenting on the structure. When completed, visitors will view pictures, maps, charts, diagrams, dioramas, and displays, including the F. W. Bobo collection of petrified wood, all for the purpose of interpreting the area. It is not possible to have these in place at the time of the dedication, but during coming months they will be added as they are completed," he explained.



Members of the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission and of the Washington State Advisory Board on Historic Sites will both meet in Ellensburg on Friday, May 15, previous to attending the dedication of the new wing of the Ginkgo Petrified Forest Museum at Vantage on Saturday, May 16, at 2 p.m. Walter J. Purdin of Yakima is a member of the Advisory Board, Prof. George F. Beck, Ellensburg, is in charge of the program for the dedication and for the Ellensburg dinner and luncheon features of the program.

On Friday evening, they will attend a dinner at the BPOE hall in Ellensburg to hear Dr. Erna Gunther, professor and executive officer of the Anthropology Museum, University of Washington, talk on her work in Europe last year on northwest history. Her topic is "An American Goes to England to Study Northwest Indians." About 200 persons are expected to attend the dinner which will include special guests and many citizens of central Washington in addition to members of the Commission and the Board.

Following meetings on Saturday morning, the two groups will come together for luncheon with the Ellensburg Kiwanis Club, after which they will travel in a state patrol escorted caravan to Vantage where Governor Arthur B. Langlie will dedicate the new wing of the Ginkgo museum.

News Release  
Yakima Herald & Republic

6/3/53

Several state parks engineering projects are in process of completion in the central Washington region, including the extension of the irrigation system at Yakima State Park which will allow planting of approximately seven additional acres in the park, according to John R. Vanderzicht, director, State Parks and Recreation Commission. Contractors are DeCoto Brothers, Yakima, at a price of \$4,000.

The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission has taken over the administration of Fort Simcoe with the installation of Mathew John as caretaker. Fort Simcoe will be under the supervision of superintendent Dan Hart of Yakima State Park. Mr. Hart is district supervisor for all the state parks in the vicinity of Yakima.



From:  
Ruth E. Pike, Supervisor, Public Information  
State Parks and Recreation Commission  
100 Dexter Avenue,  
Seattle, Washington

Release: Friday, May 9, 1958  
Copy to: Yakima Republic  
Ellensburg Record

Installation of two new displays at Ginkgo Petrified Forest Museum at Vantage was completed last week by the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission, according to John R. Vanderzicht, director.

"One exhibit sets up a geological and anthropological time-table, relating the period of wood petrification to evidences of human and animal existence in the area. The second shows something of the Indian life and seeks to place it in correct prospective to the geological developments," stated Albert Culverwell, state parks historian, who laid out the interpretive plan. "This scene shows Indian artists working on petroglyphs such as found on the columnar basalt at a site on the banks of the Columbia, approximately two miles up-river from the museum."

Displays have been in preparation for the past year in the Seattle studio of Ernest Norling, who produced the art called for in the interpretive plan. Frances Bringloe, another Seattle artist, constructed the Indian figures used in accordance with research provided by the University of Washington department of anthropology.

Placing of the new exhibits was done by Mr. Norling and Mr. Culverwell. During the same period, Professor George Beck, Central Washington College of Education, Ellensburg, and member of the State

Advisory Board on Historic Sites, spent sometime at the museum checking on the accuracy of the interpretations as they are being presented.

"The two displays," commented Mr. Culverwell, "were constructed to answer many questions asked by museum visitors about the plant and animal life existing at the time of the petrification of the wood found in the forest. Many questions were also asked regarding the existence of human life and its relationship in time to wood petrification. The exhibits, based on extensive scientific research, show that it is quite evident that man came late on the geological scene, probably only 8,000 to 10,000 years ago, in contrast to the 10 to 15 million years ago when wood petrification took place."

Additional developments planned this year at Ginkgo Petrified Forest will include repair and improvement for better protection of the field displays adjacent to U.S. Highway 10. More interpretive signs will also be erected at these field displays to aid visitors to understand the petrified forest which once existed in the area.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The State Parks & Recreation Commission today, July 31, 1961, at their meeting in Seattle (City Park Board Building, 100 Dexter), appointed Edward V. Putnam as acting Director of the State Parks & Recreation Commission effective August 1, 1961. John R. Vanderzicht, present Director's resignation, effective August 1st, was submitted to and accepted by the Commission at their June 19th meeting in Seattle.

Edward V. Putnam will be on leave of absence from his position as Superintendent of Parks & Recreation of the Metropolitan Park District of Yakima, a position he has held since 1945. During this tenure as Superintendent, a comprehensive program of parks, tennis courts, swimming pools, buildings and other improvements have been developed under his direction at Yakima. The new acting Director is a graduate of the University of Washington, has a year of graduate study in public administration at the Maxwell Graduate School, Syracuse University, is a member of the American Institute of Park Executives, is past president of the Washington State Recreation Society, has served on two national advisory committees of the National Recreation Association, and is well known for his activities in the parks and recreation field.

At the meeting Clair V. Greeley, Chairman, read the following statement on behalf of the Commission:

"We are pleased to appoint Edward V. Putnam as Acting Director of the State Parks & Recreation Commission. It was unfortunate that circumstances made it necessary to create a tentative vacancy in the position of Director before we were prepared to announce who the new Director would be. This has caused some people some concern. We are grateful to those who have given us their confidence during this short period while we were in



the process of obtaining a new Director. We are sure that everyone will now agree that this change has been in the best interests of State parks and recreation in the State of Washington. We have every confidence in Mr. Putnam, but because of the short period of time we had to make this selection, we will continue to examine other prospects to make sure we have obtained the best qualified man available. We wish to express our gratitude to the Park Board of the City of Yakima for granting Mr. Putnam a leave of absence to serve as our Acting Director."

The State Parks & Recreation

Commission is an autonomous body that administers the Washington State park system, and coordinates recreational opportunities in the State. The Washington State park system includes 66 parks, 28 major historical and geological area, and additional tracts to bring the total to more than 70,000 acres.

State Parks & Recreation Commission  
522 South Franklin  
Olympia, Washington  
FL 2-5611 - Extension 8611

Claire V. Greeley, Chairman - Okanogan  
Joe Hamel, Vice Chairman - Sedro Woolley  
James B. Hovis, Secretary - Yakima  
Ted McTighe - Spokane  
J. S. Whiting - Seattle  
Mrs. Eleanor Gordon - Tacoma





# NEWS RELEASE

April 7, 1965

From: Charles H. Odegaard, Director  
State Parks & Recreation Commission  
522 S. Franklin  
Olympia, Washington

753-5757

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## STATE PARKS OFFICIALLY "OPEN"

1,550,867 Washingtonians must be wrong!

That is the number of people who made use of the Washington State Parks during the 1964-65 "closed season".

State Parks Director Charles H. Odegaard has announced that comfort stations and other facilities throughout the State have now been connected and are operating after being closed for the winter months.

Odegaard has related that the Washington State Parks actually never close as the more than one and one-half million visitors can testify. The water connections are drained during the winter time to prevent freezing. However, more and more Washingtonians are using the parks during the off season.

Based upon last year's attendance and the increase that has already taken place this year it is anticipated that there will be over 11,000,000 visitors in the Washington State Parks this season. The Parks Director has also related that the 1965 Outdoor Recreation Guide, published cooperatively by the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission and the Washington State Department of Commerce and Economic Development will be available this week. Individuals desiring single copies should contact the State Parks and Recreation Commission, 522 S. Franklin, Olympia for a copy.



# NEWS RELEASE

June 14, 1965

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## LIONS AND 200 TON GUNS TO ROAR

"We will have those 10-inch guns in Fort Casey."

So stated Woodrow W. Cecil, GUNS Project Committee Chairman for the Coupeville Lions.

"In response to a request from the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission we are pleased to accept the responsibility of raising nearly \$35,000 to bring those two monumental guns from the Phillipines."

State Parks Director, Charles H. Odegaard, related that he is exceedingly pleased that the Coupeville Lions will spearhead this drive which is so important to the State but which the State has been unable to finance. Odegaard stated that Ralph Dunker, Administrative Assistant, will represent the department with the Lions Club.

Since 1960 the State Parks Commission has been cooperating with Senators Jackson and Magnuson, the United States Navy, and others in an attempt to raise funds to dismantle the guns and crate them so the United States Navy could ship them to Washington.

The task is not small as the estimated weight is 200 tons! Specifically, the guns are 10-inchers located at Fort Wint on Grande Island in the Phillipines. They are model 1895 disappearing carriage rifles built in 1930 in New York.

Mr. Cecil has stated that their club will need aid with this state-wide project and that he hopes that all interested clubs, individuals, and foundations will send their contributions to "GUNS" % GUNS, Coupeville, Washington.





# NEWS RELEASE

FROM: State Parks & Recreation Commission  
522 South Franklin  
Olympia, Washington

Margaret E. Felt, Public Information Officer  
753 - 5761  
November 4, 1965

FOR RELEASE ON NOVEMBER 5, 1965

## AGENCIES SUBMIT RECREATION PLANS

State Parks and Recreation Director, Charles H. Odegaard, announced today that five State agencies, 22 counties, 89 cities, and 10 other agencies submitted their Outdoor Recreation and Open Space Plan which is in its final stages.

Odegaard emphasized that submission does not necessarily mean that all of these plans have met the basic requirements. Those do not meet basic requirements are being sent a notice as to where they are delinquent by William Bush, Parks Department Coordinator of the Study. Any agency receiving such notice has until November 19th to amend it. The three aspects that must be included are: adoption by the authorized body; statement of demand, supply, and need; and an action program by years.

After November 19th no changes will be accepted by the State Parks Department as they will present this Plan to the State Parks Commission on November 22nd. Hopefully, the Commission will approve it at that time and send it onto the Department of Commerce and Economic Development for their approval under the 701 Program.

It is anticipated that if Commerce and Economic Development does approve the Plan it will be submitted to the Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation at their December meeting.



# NEWS RELEASE

FROM: State Parks & Recreation Commission  
522 South Franklin  
Olympia, Washington

Margaret E. Felt, Public Information Officer  
753 - 5761  
November 4, 1965

FOR RELEASE ON NOVEMBER 5, 1965

## STATE PARKS RECEIVES FIRST OUTDOOR RECREATION CASH

State Parks received and spent \$164,750 today and now owns 413 acres of land with 16,000 feet of ocean water frontage and 1,200 feet of lake water frontage.

The opening of the Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation was highlighted today when the first actual cash was presented to the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission, Chairman Ted McTighe, by Mr. Marvin Durning, Chairman of the Interagency Committee. The check for \$164,750 is from the outdoor recreation funds approved last fall by the voters of Washington.

The Spokane Commissioner then presented the check to J. L. Barnes who turned over the "keys" to Fort Worden in Jefferson County and Fort Ebey in Island County.

Parks Director Charles H. Odegaard stated that though many details need to be worked out it is anticipated that Fort Ebey will be serviced out of Fort Casey and that Fort Worden will be serviced out of Old Fort Townsend. At this time it is difficult to predict whether either of these will be open for the 1966 summer season. An official announcement will be made by Odegaard early next spring with regard to both of these parks.





# NEWS RELEASE

FROM: State Parks & Recreation Commission  
522 South Franklin  
Olympia, Washington

Margaret E. Felt, Public Information Officer  
753 - 5761  
November 4, 1965

FOR RELEASE ON NOVEMBER 9, 1965

## WISDOM AND COURAGE

"May God give us the wisdom to know what is right and the courage to do it", so concluded State Parks Chief Charles H. Odegaard today at the Hydraulics Conference at Washington State University.

He commended to the delegates' attention the two books on "Lakes in Washington" put out by the State Department of Conservation from where he quoted that two percent of our land is in lakes with 611,396.4 surface acres. The largest in Eastern Washington is Lake Roosevelt with 79,000 acres while 23,138 acre Lake Washington is the largest in Western Washington. He further stated that of the lakes east of the mountains of over 6,000 acres only two of the 18 are natural. He thus went into the importance of dams.

After showing slides of more than 50 spectacular state parks the Director related that his Commission, Ted McTighe of Spokane as Chairman, accepts the responsibility to meet the growing needs and is striving to obtain \$42,130,508 for boating access (\$10,779,280), boating moorages (\$5,013,200), swimming (\$17,426,920), water skiing (\$4,591,108), and special boating facilities in the San Juan Islands and Puget Sound groupings (\$4,320,000) during the next two decades.

Following his speech Odegaard departed for Newport, Washington, for a meeting with local business leaders concerning parks there.



# NEWS RELEASE

Washington State Parks & Recreation Commission  
522 South Franklin  
Olympia, Washington

Margaret E. Felt, Public Information Officer  
Phone 753-5761

November 18, 1965

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

## ~~AREA NEEDS FOR STATE PARKS~~

Washington State Parks & Recreation Commissioner James Hovis of Yakima said today that the Washington State Parks & Recreation Commission will need, within the next twenty years, \$9,456,012 if the needs of Washingtonians and visitors in Region 6....Kittitas, Yakima, Benton and Klickitat Counties are to be met.

The specific needs of this region include: boating access \$612,382; camping \$7,660,000 nature walks \$26,070; picnicking \$221,760; swimming \$561,020; and water skiing \$374,780.

These activities need a total of \$9,456,012 for acquisition and development. In addition, there is also a need for administrative units for operating these areas at a cost of \$543,750. Further past experience has shown that historical, interpretive and other special needs will cost \$2,194,133.75. In addition State Parks Director Charles H. Odegaard informed Commissioner James Hovis that it will take about \$1,250,000 to bring present facilities up to standard by 1985.

Commissioner Hovis states that the total need for this \$9,456,012 is a part of the total state-wide need for \$144,573,538. He hopes that State Parks will receive these monies from the Marine Recreation Land Act, the Outdoor Recreation Bond Issue, the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund and other sources.

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# NEWS RELEASE

Washington State Parks & Recreation Commission  
522 South Franklin  
Olympia, Washington

Margaret E. Felt, Public Information Officer  
Phone 753-5761  
November 19, 1965

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Beautiful Indian summer weather in Washington State was a major factor in the high attendance figure of 404,526 visitors to State Parks in October, Washington State Parks Director Charles H. Odegaard stated today in reporting attendance figures.

The eastern Washington park of Riverside near Spokane drew the highest number of people in October with 34,980. Saltwater State Park on Puget Sound between Tacoma and Seattle was second with 30,936. Both areas draw heavily from the nearby population areas for picnicking during the good weather although there are still many campers enjoying an outing. Of this latter category of outdoor enthusiasts camp trailer and campers on pickups are figuring prominently in keeping up the off season camping numbers.

Although the Dry Falls Interpretive Center is not as yet open to the public and won't be until May of 1966 at the earliest, the famous geological site attracted some 19,696 people during October. Sun Lakes nearby no doubt contributed many of these sightseers from their 13,667 visitors.

Three other State parks still attracting people during the autumn month were Illahee near Bremerton with 12,755, Deception Pass on Whidbey Island with 11,379, and Dash Point near Tacoma with 11,407.

The total visitors to Washington State Parks for the calendar year of 1965 through October was 12,627,466, Odegaard concluded.

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Washington State Parks & Recreation Commission  
P. O. Box 1128  
Olympia, Washington 98501

Charles H. Odegaard, Director  
Margaret E. Felt, Public Information Officer  
753-5761

## STATE PARKS AND YOUTH PROGRAMS

The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission operates two programs providing employment for young people of the state. The Youth Development and Conservation Corps (YDCC), a Division of the State Parks and Recreation Commission, administers both the YDCC resident camp program and the State Parks Neighborhood Youth Corps program.

The Youth Development and Conservation Corps was created by the 1961 State Legislature. The first YDCC project was a 6-week camp for 40 young men at Lake Easton State Park in the summer of 1961. Since that time the YDCC, under the administration of the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission, has operated 42 projects. These projects have resulted in many improvements in 40 state parks.

Included in their many projects over the past year has been the development of new camping sites, road and trail improvement, old building removal and salvage of lumber, tree planting, beach access construction, assisting park engineers in establishing boundary lines, installation of drainage systems, replacement of water flume, construction of rustic picnic tables, repairs on restrooms and many others. At Beacon Rock they repaired four miles of trail and constructed several foot bridges to improve the hiking in that state park. At Millersylvania State Park near Olympia they reclaimed fallen cedar and produced several thousand hand split shakes for use in repairing buildings in state parks....in the process this crew of boys learning the fast disappearing craft of splitting shakes with a frow and mallet.

In addition to projects on State Park lands the YDCC, through cooperative agreements, has employed young men on a variety of projects for other agencies. These agencies include the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, Department of Public Instruction; State Department of Conservation; Department of Natural Resources; City of Auburn; City of



Seattle; City of Bellevue; and King County.

Over 600 young men have been enrolled in the YDCC. Of this number 251 have been enrolled in summer projects. The remainder have been out-of-school enrollees.

Young men are selected for the summer by applying to the YDCC, 522 South Franklin, Olympia, Washington. Enrollees are selected in a public drawing. Enrollment is allocated on a percentage basis to each of the 49 legislative districts on the basis of the ratio that the population of each district bears to the total population of the State. The applicants for the summer program are primarily high school boys desiring summer employment.

Enrollees for other than the summer program are selected in cooperation with the Washington State Employment Security Department. This allows for statewide recruitment utilizing the services of this effective agency. The young men in the out-of-school program may be school dropouts or similarly disadvantaged youth, or merely young men seeking work experience. The present plan is to keep two 12-man YDCC crews operating on a 6-week cycle.

That the YDCC has been, and will continue to be, a valuable part of State Parks and Recreation Commission's service to the state is an undisputable fact. The work accomplishments are readily visible to all. Yet, perhaps the greatest value of the program is in the benefits to the enrollees.

The Neighborhood Youth Corps (NYC) is a youth work program administered by the U. S. Department of Labor. The NYC program and the YDCC differ in the following respects:

|                 | <u>NYC</u>  | <u>YDCC</u>   |
|-----------------|---|---|
| Financed:       | 90% U.S. Dept. of Labor<br>10% State Parks  | 100% State Parks  |
| Youth eligible: | 16-21 male or female<br>Only those as certified by Employment Security Dept. as from low income families. | Male, 16-21<br>Summer: by public drawing<br>Winter: referred by Employment Security Dept. No restrictions as to income. |

Rate of pay: \$1.25/hr. - maximum  
of 32 hrs/wk.

\$25/wk - 40 hr. week

Type of  
program: Strictly a day-work program.

Resident camps --room and  
board furnished.

Type of jobs: NYC Park Aides - assigned  
to Park Rangers  
NYC 10-man crews  
NYC Lifeguard Aides  
NYC Clerk Aides  
NYC Shop Aides

YDCC enrollees are all crew  
members under supervision of  
YDCC Supervisor.

The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission successfully applied for funds to operate an NYC project to provide employment for 524 youths during a 10-week period in July, August, and September 1965. Nearly every State Park in the system had an NYC boy or girl working last summer. The funds granted for the NYC summer program were fully utilized through a series of extensions running until January 1, 1966. At that time a new NYC program approved November 4, 1965 went into operation. This is a 6-month program providing employment for 125 youths in State Parks and 33 youths for the State Game Department. A third NYC project proposal to employ 100 youths for a 12-month period has been approved.

This is the fifth in a series of articles on Washington State Parks and Recreation. Tomorrow's discussion will center around the Consulting Services offered by the Recreation Division of State Parks Department and the group camps throughout the state which offer youth group camping facilities.

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# NEWS RELEASE

Washington State Parks & Recreation Commission  
P. O. Box 1128  
Olympia, Washington 98501

Margaret E. Felt, Public Information Officer  
753-5761 February 8, 1966

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

The metropolis of St. Louis, Missouri, population 750,000 was proclaimed Sister City to the tiny hamlet of Chinook, Washington, population 250, by Mayor Alfonso Cervantes of the former city this week. St. Louis was the origin of the Lewis and Clark Expedition on May 6, 1804, and at Chinook, Washington in Pacific County they accomplished their mission.... sighting the Pacific Ocean on November 16, 1805.

Charles H. Odegaard, Director of Washington State Parks, the coordinating planning agency for the forthcoming Lewis and Clark Trail Commission meeting to be jointly hosted by Washington and Oregon February 12-15, said January 31 - February 6 was proclaimed by Mayor Cervantes as CHINOOK, WASHINGTON WEEK in St. Louis, Missouri and he called upon "all citizens to express appropriate observance of this occasion."

In a montage of representatives of both communities Frans Johnson, President of the Pacific County Historical Society is shown holding the recently adopted emblem of the Lewis and Clark Trail Commission.

Chinook will be visited by members of the Commission February 15 when they tour the mouth of the Columbia on the last day of this, the third meeting of the federal commission.

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