

SIGNIFICANT AREA IN WASHINGTON STATE PARKS

By Albert Culverwell
Talk before the Yakima Lions Club at their
noon meeting, Friday, June 1, 1956.

*You country =
Club =*

Sometime ago the National Conference on State Parks made a study which was to establish criteria for evaluating areas for the inclusion into State Parks.

Obviously, such a study was first concerned with ~~the~~ defining a State Park. What is a State Park? How is it to be distinguished from a municipal or county park?

A State Park was defined as an area containing scenic, scientific, or historic values which are of such significance as to warrant State development.

Washington has, on occasion developed recreational areas close to municipalities and where such values are not in evidence, but there has been a need for such recreational development. Such work is not the principle function of the Parks Commission. It is recognized that cities must have adequate recreational facilities for our people face complexities today which require a greater degree of relaxation from them than at any time in our history.

(y. sp. 100.)

The Yakima Lions Club as a service unit is to be congratulated for its program which has seen the development of many of your city parks. Your program beginning in 1926 is unsurpassed among service organizations in this State.

But what has the State Parks and Recreation Commission been doing to develop recreational areas within the State of Washington. I can tell you of 49 supervised parks and 15 historical and geological areas as well as additional tracts to bring the total holdings to 64, 000 ares.

But this does not tell the story. From our definition of a State Park I want to speak and show you how we ~~develop~~ recognize and develop areas of significance in the State of Washington.

Under the following divisions pictures are shown of the Parks.

1. Scenic

Mt. Spokane
~~Field/Spokane~~
Fields' Spring
Deception Pass
Moran
Schafer

*O'Reas Island
Cathlamet - Cathlamet*

2. Scientific (and equally as scenic)

Federation Forest
Beacon Rock
Palouse Falls
Sun Lakes

*E. W. Melrose
Col.*

Museum development in connection with --Ginkgo
and the Fort Columbia Museum (particularly of
historical importance)

3. Historic

Fort Columbia
Peace Arch
Fort Spokane
Fort Simcoe (History and problems of restoration and
interpretation)

Correctly interpreting these areas is most important in the
preservation and development of each of these areas which represent
only a few of the 49 parks in the System. This, however, is the
work of the Historian for the State Parks and Recreation Commission.

You may be interested in the source of our funds. \$1.20 of the
\$3.00 which you pay for your driver's license is used in a continuing
effort to make your recreation enjoyable.

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close to municipalities and where such areas are not in evidence,
but there has been a need for such recreational development.
Such work is not the primary function of the Parks Commission.
It is recognized that cities must have adequate recreational facilities
for our people face complexities today which require a greater degree
of relaxation from their busy life in our history.

The Yarkina Lions Club as a service unit is to be congratulated
for its program which has seen the development of many of your city
parks. Your program beginning in 1930 is unsurpassed among service
organizations in this State.

But what has the State Parks and Recreation Commission been doing
to develop recreational areas within the State of Washington. I can
tell you of 49 supervised parks and 18 historical and geological areas
as well as additional tracts to bring the total holdings to 84,000
acres.

But this does not tell the story. From our definition of a
State Park I want to speak and show you how we have
recognized and develop areas of significance in the State of Washington.

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1. Scenic
 - mt. Spokane
 - Wahluke
 - Elida, Spring
 - Deception Falls
 - Mount
 - Behr
2. Scientific (and equally as scenic)
 - Federation Forest
 - Baden Hook
 - Palouse Hills
 - San James