Lewis & Clark Trail

Update

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March 8, 2019

From 2006 Presentation

Regional Trail Name: Lewis & Clark Greenway Trail (formerly known as Vancouver Lake Trail, Waterfront Trail, Evergreen Highway Trail)

User Groups: Pedestrians, Bicycles, Paddlers
*Equestrian use is not permitted in the City of Vancouver

Project Length: 46.1 miles (9.5 miles built)

Project Description: This trail corridor extends from Washougal to Vancouver and on to Ridgefield following the Columbia River downstream re-tracing the route of Meriweather Lewis and William Clark 200 years ago. Along the route are several historical markers and parks and stops dedicated to their Corps of Discovery. This trail corridor is a multi-modal facility that accommodates walkers and bicyclists. Some reaches of the greenway accommodate horse riders as well. Sidewalks or bike lanes may be either separated or attached to roadways.

Environmental Constraints: Because of this trail's relationship to the Columbia River, some alignment alternatives may present greater shorelines, habitat and wetland permitting that may necessitate extensive preconstruction costs. Alignment alternatives analysis at sensitive areas may be necessary.

LEWIS AND CLARK CENTENNIAL TRAIL
CAMAS TO WASHOUGAL
OVERVIEW MAP

LEWIS AND CLARK CENTENNIAL TRAIL
CASCADE PARK TO CAMAS
OVERVIEW MAP

LEWIS AND CLARK CENTENNIAL TRAIL
VANCOUVER TO CASCADE PARK
OVERVIEW MAP

LEGEND

- PRIMARY TRAIL ROUTE
- SECONDARY TRAIL ROUTE
- ALTERNATIVE TRAIL ALIGNMENT
- COMMUNITY CONNECTOR TRAIL
- EXISTING TRAIL
- WATER TRAIL
- PROPOSED OTHER TRAIL
- RAILROAD
- BIKE LANE
- CITY BOUNDARY
- PROPOSED BRIDGE or UNDERPASS

LAND OWNERSHIP

- FEDERAL LAND
- WASHINGTON STATE LAND

Vancouver Lake to Ridgefield

Initial “Dream” Map:

- Connects Felida Park & Salmon Creek to Trail
- Provides Loops around Vancouver Lake & Shillapoo Wildlife Recreation area ∞
- Uses existing Erwin O’ Reiger Memorial HWY

  (Note: Hwy ends at 229th)
- Provides connection to nature

DFW Letter

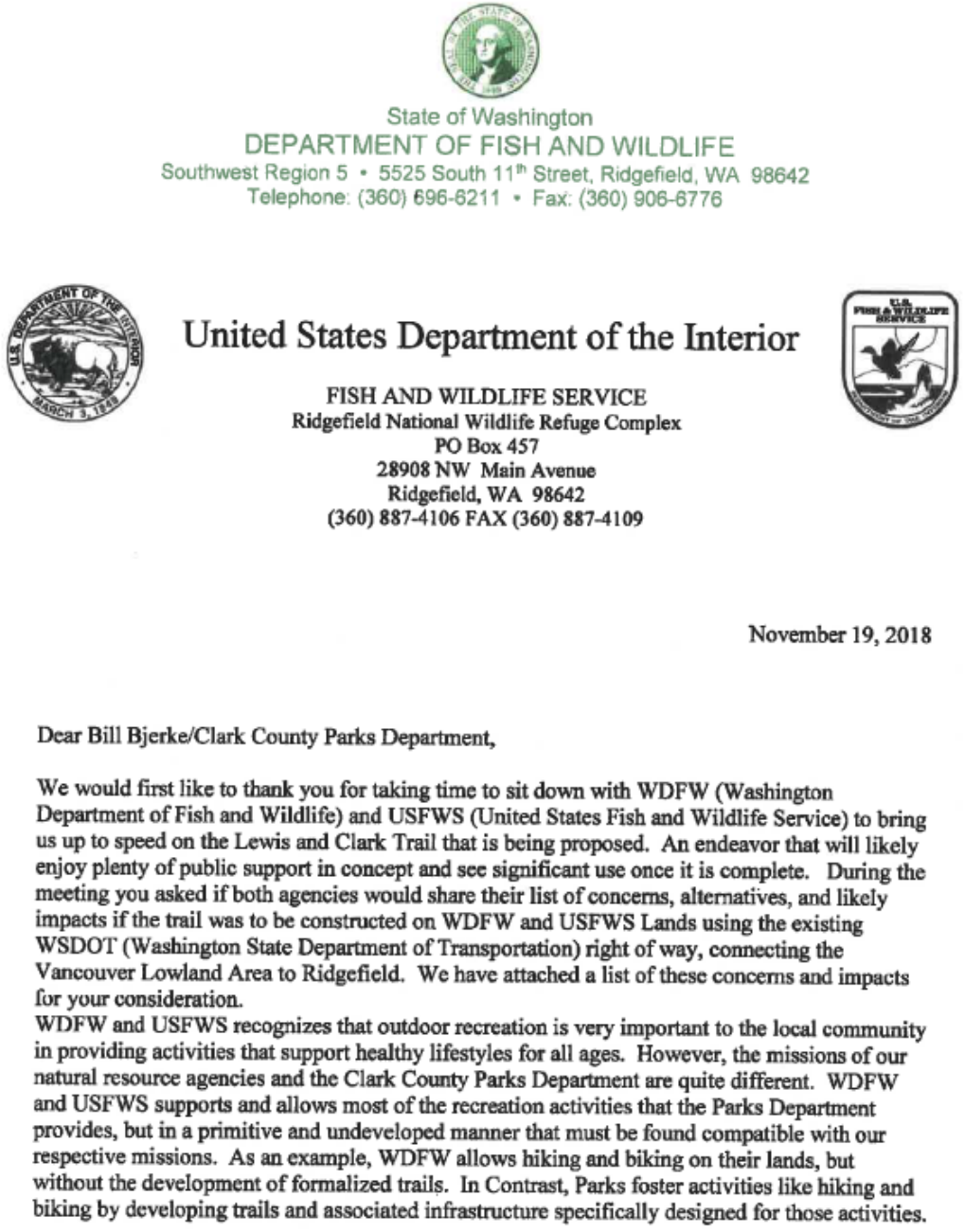
October 2018: National Parks Service requested input from stakeholders

November 2018: Clark County submitted 3 alternatives all of which touched State and National wildlife areas.

The Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife agreed to our alternative #3

The route alternative was later followed up with a letter from WDFW and USDFW

A 5-page list of concerns was also submitted.



State of Washington
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
Southwest Region 5 • 5525 South 11th Street, Ridgefield, WA 98642
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United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge Complex
PO Box 457
28908 NW Main Avenue
Ridgefield, WA 98642
(360) 887-4106 FAX (360) 887-4109

November 19, 2018

Dear Bill Bjerke/Clark County Parks Department,

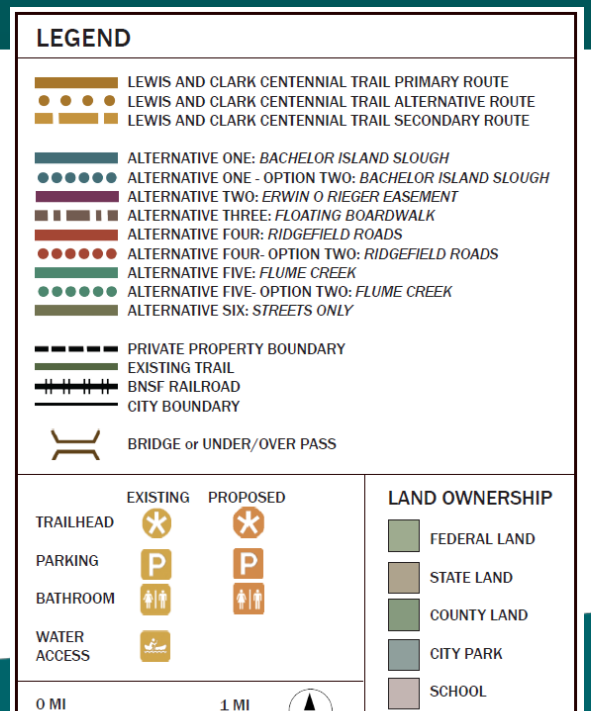
We would first like to thank you for taking time to sit down with WDFW (Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife) and USFWS (United States Fish and Wildlife Service) to bring us up to speed on the Lewis and Clark Trail that is being proposed. An endeavor that will likely enjoy plenty of public support in concept and see significant use once it is complete. During the meeting you asked if both agencies would share their list of concerns, alternatives, and likely impacts if the trail was to be constructed on WDFW and USFWS Lands using the existing WSDOT (Washington State Department of Transportation) right of way, connecting the Vancouver Lowland Area to Ridgefield. We have attached a list of these concerns and impacts for your consideration.

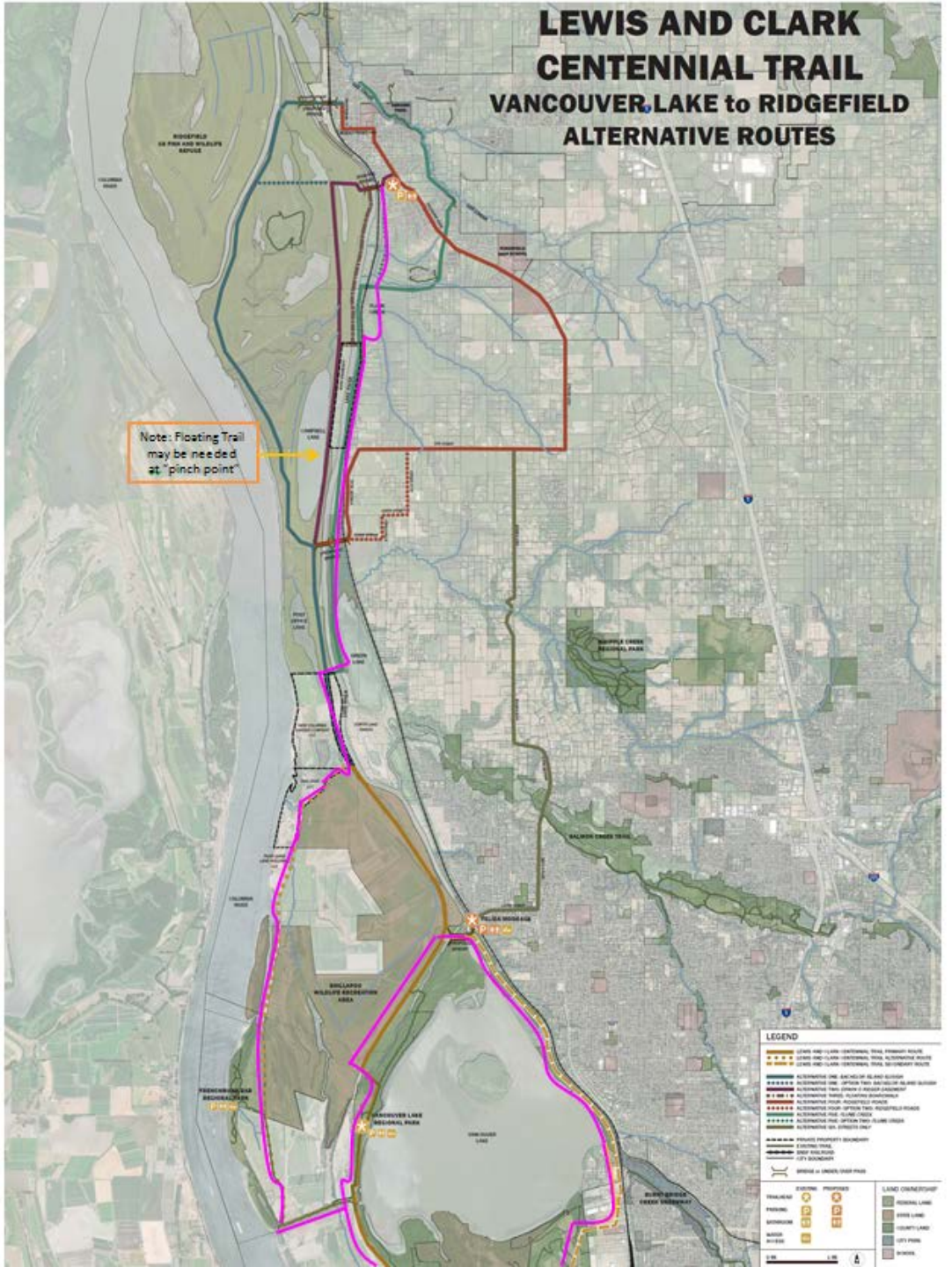
WDFW and USFWS recognizes that outdoor recreation is very important to the local community in providing activities that support healthy lifestyles for all ages. However, the missions of our natural resource agencies and the Clark County Parks Department are quite different. WDFW and USFWS supports and allows most of the recreation activities that the Parks Department provides, but in a primitive and undeveloped manner that must be found compatible with our respective missions. As an example, WDFW allows hiking and biking on their lands, but without the development of formalized trails. In Contrast, Parks foster activities like hiking and biking by developing trails and associated infrastructure specifically designed for those activities.

Vancouver Lake to Ridgefield

Agreed upon alternative *(See bright pink line)*

- Loops around Vancouver Lake
- Provides river view access along Lower River Road
- Connects to ALTERNATIVE TWO: *ERWIN O RIEGER EASEMENT*
- Connects to ALTERNATIVE ONE: *BACHELOR ISLAND SLOUGH*
- Crosses over to Flume Creek (County owned)
- Follows ALTERNATIVE FIVE: *FLUME CREEK*
- Connects to the City of Ridgefield trail system





Challenges

WA Department of Fish & Wildlife

Lower River Road

Erwin O' Reiger Memorial HWY

Vancouver Lake

Frenchmans Bar

0.4mi

Challenges:

- This alternative passes through private land
- The U.S. Dept. of Fish & Wildlife would like the trail to move to the Green Lake / Mettler property at their property border.
- This will require a bridge to access the County Legacy Land

Green Lake to Flume Creek

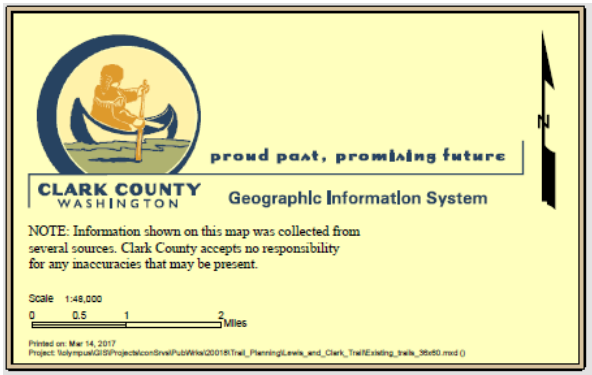
- The railroad right of way is steep & narrow.
- Pinch point at Fales Road near NW 209th Street where a floating trail section may be needed.
- Will need to cross the BNSF railroad right of way to access the Flume Creek property.

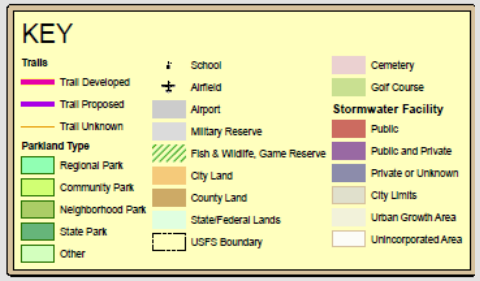
Next steps

Meeting with National Parks Service on 3/22/19

- Review maps
- Add details and comments
- Discuss report
- Discuss outreach plan and next steps

Note: WSDOT Alternative Transportation is very interested in this regional project





Thank you!

Questions?