

PARKS & RECREATION BOARD AGENDA

Date: September 8, 2020, 12:00 PM

Location: Virtual Meeting: Live Stream and On Demand: <http://www.ci.missoula.mt.us/webcasts>
YouTube Live Stream and On Demand:
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC5fnfMPFGSk8Gwq6F5UoqGg>
Live call in phone numbers: 1 (253) 215-8782 1 (888) 475-4499 (landlines only) Meeting ID: 960 049 3694

Members: Dale Harris (chair), Ross Mollenhauer, Wendy Ninteman, John O'Connor, Sonja Verlanic, Daniel Gundlach, Margie Costa

To request auxiliary aids or service to participate in this meeting, please contact Corena Maurer at 406-552-6253. Please provide at least 48 hours advanced notice or more, so we can make needed arrangements.

Pages

1. Administrative Business

1.1 Roll Call

1.2 Approval of the Minutes - August 11, 2020

1

1.3 Announcements

1.4 Public/Guest Comments

2. Action Items

2.1 Glacial Lake Missoula Stone Marker at Overlook/Viewpoint of Barmeyer Trail

Morgan Valliant

5

Recommended motion:

approve placement of the Glacial Lake Missoula stone on the South Hills Spur overlook with exact location to be determined by Missoula Parks and Recreation and Glacial Lake Missoula staff.

2.2 Bancroft Ponds Outdoor Classroom

Morgan Valliant

10

Recommended motion:

amend the adopted master plan for the Bancroft Ponds Natural Area to allow for the addition of an outdoor classroom of natural stone benches located in the Northeast corner of the park.

**2.3 Request Fee Category to Special Use Permit
for Small Groups**

Shirley Kinsey

40

Recommended motion:

approve the staff recommendation to establish a fee for small groups under 10 participants to the Special Use Permit. Establishing a fee of \$15/hour/class For-Profit business, and \$10/hour/class for Non-Profit organizations.

3. Presentations/Discussions/Updates

**3.1 Director/Department/City Planning efforts
update**

Donna Gaukler

3.2 Budget and CIP Update

Ryan Applegate

**3.3 Conservation Lands Management Season
Highlights Update**

Morgan Valliant

45

4. Future or Held Items

5. Adjournment

PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MINUTES

August 11, 2020

12:00 PM

Fort Missoula Regional Park - Bella Vista Pavilion

2725 CCC Rd, Missoula, MT 59804

Members present: Dale Harris (chair), John O'Connor, Sonja Verlanic, Margie Costa

Members absent: Ross Mollenhauer, Wendy Ninteman, Daniel Gundlach

1. Administrative Business

1.1 Roll Call

Public Present: Gwen Landquist - Missoula Softball Association

Staff Present: Donna Gaukler, Shirley Kinsey, Corena Mauer, Cassy Gladwin

1.2 Approval of the Minutes - July 14, 2020

Minutes were approved as submitted.

John O'Connor stated the Clark Fork Island Preserve is a great representation of work the Conservation Lands Advisory Committee (CLAC) does.

1.3 Announcements

No announcements.

1.4 Public/Guest Comments

Gwen Landquist spoke on behalf of the Missoula Softball Association (MSA). MSA supports the request to improve softball warning tracks at Fort Missoula Regional Park. Gwen noted that plan didn't specify if all seven fields would be replaced or total cost for project. MSA would like to see final cost once complete.

2. Action Items

2.1 Elect Vice Chair for Park Board

Dale Harris called for nominations of Park Board Vice Chair.

Margie Costa nominated John O'Connor as Vice Chair to Park Board.

Moved by: Margie Costa

Seconded by: Sonja Verlanic

Elect John O'Connor as the Park Board Vice Chair.

AYES: (3): Dale Harris, Sonja Verlanic, and Margie Costa

ABSTAIN: (1): John O'Connor

ABSENT: (3): Ross Mollenhauer, Wendy Ninteman, and Daniel Gundlach

Vote results: Approved (3 to 0)

2.2 Enterprise Request for Tennis Repair at Playfair Park

Shirley Kinsey presented the referral to repair tennis courts at Playfair Park. Shirley provided information on the current state of the courts and noted the amount requested is estimated from previous years repair. The department does not have a current quote for repairs.

John O'Connor - can the enterprise account fund balance cover a complete redo of courts? How often are courts repaired at Playfair?

Shirley Kinsey - a total revamp of courts would be a sizable amount; balance would not cover all courts. There is a CIP for courts three years out.

John O'Connor - are new courts being included in the Master Plan for Playfair?

Donna Gaukler - yes. The life expectancy for asphalt courts is 15-20 years. The courts were last new in 2002; annual repairs have been needed. The total cost for eight new courts will be around one million.

John O'Connor - does department see any reason the amount requested for repairs will need to be increased?

Shirley Kinsey - no.

Moved by: John O'Connor

Seconded by: Sonja Verlanic

approve the expenditure of up to \$5,000 from the Tennis Enterprise Fund to fill cracks and other repairs at Playfair Tennis Courts.

AYES: (4): Dale Harris, John O'Connor, Sonja Verlanic, and Margie Costa

ABSENT: (3): Ross Mollenhauer, Wendy Ninteman, and Daniel Gundlach

Vote results: Approved (4 to 0)

2.3 Enterprise Request for FMRP Softball Warning Track

Shirley Kinsey presented the referral to improve the softball warning tracks at Fort Missoula Regional Park (FMRP). Shirley provided background on material currently used for warning track, and communications between the department and softball community calling for improvements.

Shirley discussed the budget for the project. Five of the seven fields will be budgeted out of the enterprise fund account. The remaining two will come from Park Operations' budget. Shirley stated there is no current bid for material; department is estimating high end of cost. Excavation and labor will be completed by department staff. Shirley also stated that funds not used in request will return/ remain in enterprise fund account. Donna Gaukler shared that removed material will be repurposed on FMRP trails.

Sonja Verlanic - what is the balance of the account?

John O'Connor - \$103,000

John O'Connor - why aren't all seven fields being budgeted from the enterprise fund account?

Donna Gaukler - FMRP has its own operating budget. Re-purposing the current material will save cost too.

John O'Connor - any other needs that would need to come out of this account?

Donna Gaukler - no , not yet. The budget for program services is separate from maintenance.

John O'Connor recalled public comment from the beginning of meeting. Gwen Landquist had requested on behalf of MSA to see final cost of project. Shirley Kinsey stated she in touch with MSA's President and would provide the final cost.

John O'Connor asked what type of injuries MSA was experiencing from current material in warning track. Gwen stated road rash injuries were the most common resulting from players landing poorly. Gwen shared that traveling teams/ leagues voiced had voiced complaints as well.

Moved by: Sonja Verlanic

Seconded by: John O'Connor

approve up to \$34,000 of softball enterprise funds to improve the quality of warning tracks at request of softball programs and using fees collected from softball.

AYES: (4): Dale Harris, John O'Connor, Sonja Verlanic, and Margie Costa

ABSENT: (3): Ross Mollenhauer, Wendy Ninteman, and Daniel Gundlach

Vote results: Approved (4 to 0)

3. Presentations/Discussions/Updates

3.1 Director's Report/ Department Updates

Donna Gaukler stated the department presented an updated FY21 Budget and CIP Prioritization at Council's Monday meeting. There is 1.4 million in reserve for Park District; 6.5% will be held in reserve and one-time enhancement requests will be expended from the remaining balance. Donna provided examples of one-time requests and noted these are new projects not yet funded. Funds will also be expended for contract services in area of mowing and median care (routine care).

Dale Harris - contract services would be put on retainer?

Donna Gaukler - yes, on contract.

John O'Connor - how much of the reserve will be used to offset shortfall?

Donna Gaukler - \$435,000 will be allocated for Aquatics shortfall. \$450,000 - \$500,000 will be set aside for one-time requests. This will leave approximately \$500,000 as a reserve.

Donna provided update on department's work on equity, childcare needs for Missoula County Public Schools, and plans efforts on a Community Center at Currents.

John O'Connor - can you provide an update on Mount Dean Stone?

Donna Gaukler – a meeting took place last week on trail construction; progress is being made. Public process should happen mid-September.

Discussion followed about trail standards and how the trail can work for all users.

Additional discussion took place about improving trail west of FMRP (trail adjacent to park at West end), Madison Street walking bridge use and patrol by law enforcement, and condition of field turf at FMRP. Donna Gaukler suggested the formation of an ad hoc citizen turf committee. Committee members would be comprised of various user group appointees. Board members were in favor of this suggestion.

3.2 Subcommittee Liaison Updates

CLAC, OSAC, Tree Board, etc.

Donna reviewed Park Board Liaisons to CLAC and OSAC.

Liaisons to Tree Board, Caras Park Extraordinary Events Committee, and Missoula Art Park Extraordinary Events Committee were discussed in March 2020. Follow-up will be done to ensure board members are elected/appointed.

4. Future or Held Items

5. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned 1:35pm

Missoula Parks and Recreation Board Referral

Citizen or Organization Name: Glacial lake Missoula Chapter of the Ice Age Institute

Main Contact: Mindy Mason

Address: 2515 Floral CT.

Phone: 396-8498

E-mail: mmason2@q.com

Parks & Recreation Staff Contact: Morgan Valliant

Referral to: Missoula Parks and Recreation Board

Requested date for Board consideration: September 8, 2020

Referral Item: The Glacial Lake Missoula Chapter is proposing to place an engraved permanent stone marker at approximately the 4200'-4250' elevation high water level of Glacial Lake Missoula (GLM) at the overlook/viewpoint of the South Hills Spur trail. This site is an excellent location to view some of the lake's features (eg, the strandlines on MT Sentinel and Jumbo), sits approximately at the lake's highest filling, is on a well-used trail and would be our 5th stone in the Missoula valley. (A photo and description of the stone is included in the Attachments section below.) The stone would be easily incorporated into the earthen and rock berm that is at the end of the viewpoint. (see photos of this location in the Attachments section below).

We would like to place the stone sometime in October of 2020. Installation would utilize existing roads (the private road at the intersection of Whitaker Dr. / Rimel Rd. / Dean Stone Dr, if permissible), and we would request transport of the engraved stone via the Parks and Recreation lift truck that we used at a previous stone setting along the Pengelly trail on Mt Sentinel. Installation would include securing the stone in place with rebar and concrete.

Motion/Action requested:

I move the Missoula Parks and Recreation Board approve the following item:

Placement of the GLM stone on the South Hills Spur overlook with exact location to be determined by Missoula Park and GLM staff.

Brief Statement regarding the action you want taken by the Park Board.
(see above)

Background information:

We believe the placement of the rock provides a perspective of size, scope and magnitude of Glacial lake Missoula. It provides and enhances the publics' knowledge of the natural history of the Missoula valley. It also coordinates with the four other GLM high water markers placed on Mt Sentinel and Jumbo in coordination with Missoula City Parks and Recreation.

Attachments:

A guide to Ice Age Floods in Montana:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1MFRct_zd9i6Swob3mPWgYYOcOipU8ugk/view

South Hills Spur trail map:

https://www.ci.missoula.mt.us/DocumentCenter/View/43707/South_Hills_Spur-Trail-Map



GoogleEarth photo with pin marking approx. stone marker location



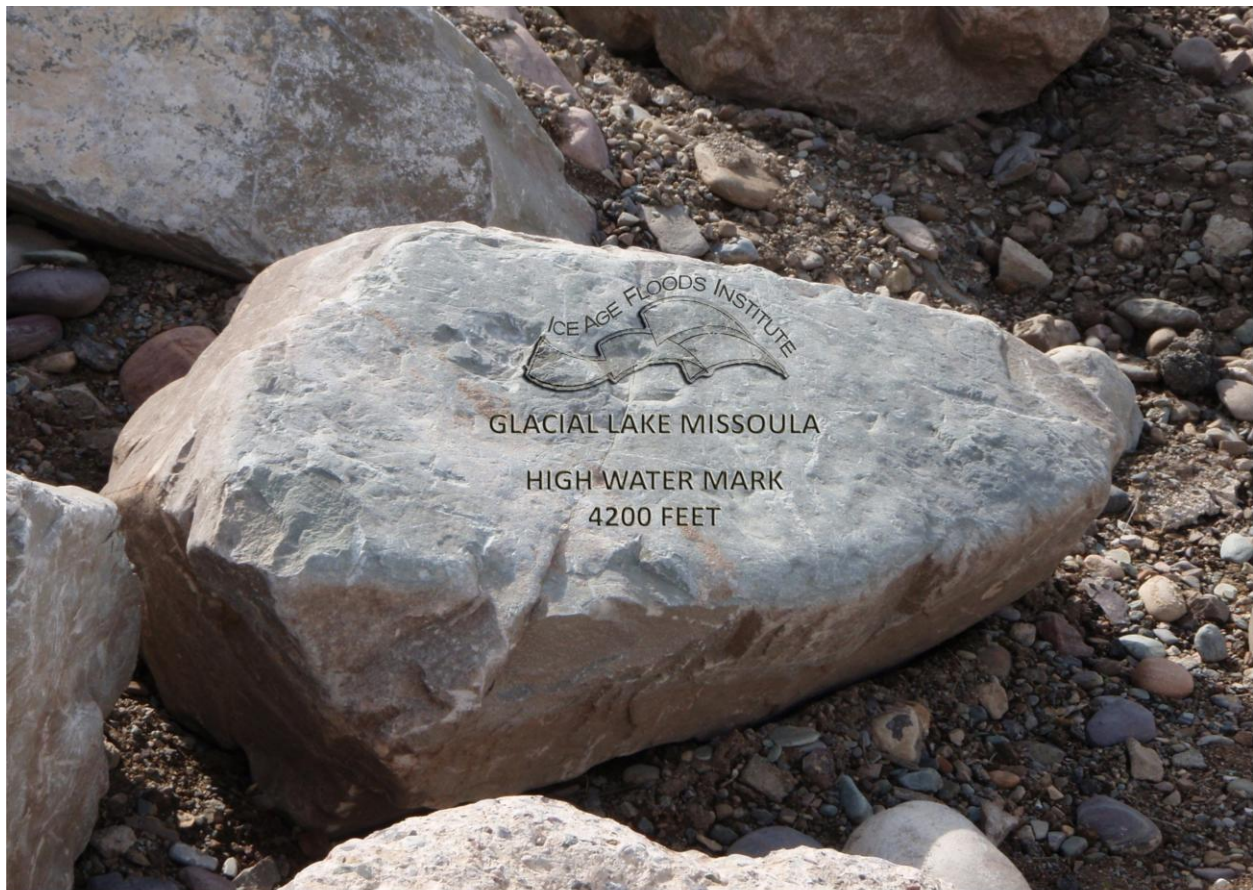
Photo looking WNW over the Missoula valley from South Hills Spur overlook berm



South Hills Spur overlook area and approx. potential location of the GLM stone marker placement

Staff report – The City has a good working relationship with GLMIAI and has partnered on 3 other installations (pre-approved by MPRB) of GLM boulders on City Conservation lands. These GLM boulders are low-profile, non-intrusive, educational installments which fit well with design standards and management goals adopted for Missoula's Conservation Lands. GLM boulders on Mt. Jumbo and Mt. Sentinel have been in place for almost 10 years with no vandalism, degradation or issues. The adopted South Hills Spur Recreation Management Plan allows for installation of educational infrastructure at the this overlook. Addition of a GLM boulder at this location would comply with the adopted rec. plan for this site.

Staff recommendation to Parks Board: Approve placement of a GLM boulder on the Shout Hills Spur Overlook. City Staff will work with the GLMIAI to coordinate transport install and final location of the boulder at the overlook.



Glacial Lake Missoula High Water Stone Monument

Installation would utilize existing roads and trails. An ATV would be used to haul heavy items, such as concrete mix and water for the base and the stone itself.

We anticipate that the dimensions of the argillite rock would be about 30" long and 18" wide. The inscription would be sandblasted into the stone and the recessed lettering would be dyed a dark grey to black color. The IAFI logo could be colored a grey-blue and the lettering above the "wave" portion of the logo will follow the contour of the wave.

The monument would be placed in a concrete foundation. In order to do this, a small pit would be dug, at least 1 to 1 ½ feet in depth and wide enough to accommodate the width of the stone with 6" extra, i.e., about 30" in diameter. Metal rods that are 12 – 18" long will anchor the rock to the concrete.

The topsoil and grass removed for the pit will be saved and placed back as needed.

Missoula Parks and Recreation Board Referral

Citizen or Organization Name: Missoula Parks and Recreation Board

Main Contact: John Conner

Address: Lewis and Clark Neighborhood Leadership Team

Phone:

E-mail: John Conner john.conner.jc5@gmail.com

Parks & Recreation Staff Contact: Morgan Valliant

Referral to: Missoula Parks and Recreation Board

Requested date for Board consideration: 9/8/20

Referral Item: Addition/update to the 1996 Bancroft Ponds master plan

Motion/Action requested: I move the Missoula Park and recreation board amend the adopted master plan for the Bancroft Ponds Natural Area to allow for the addition of an outdoor classroom of natural stone benches located in the Northeast corner of the park.

Brief Statement regarding the action you want taken by the Park Board:
Approve an amendment to the Bancroft ponds master plan to provide a more formal gathering space for student groups visiting Bancroft Ponds Park.
Encourage Park's staff to work with the Lewis and Clark Neighborhood to design, fund and build an outdoor classroom in the park.

Background information: In 1996, the City adopted a management plan for Bancroft Ponds Park. This plan was developed by the Lewis and Clark Neighborhood. For the past 4 years, City staff have been working closely with the Lewis and Clark neighborhood and local schools on improvements in Bancroft Ponds Park. A steering committee from the neighborhood has successfully received multiple grants to improve trails, Improve habitat and increase signage within the park (as per the 1996 master plan). Based on input from over a dozen neighborhood meetings and collaborations with local educators who use the Park for educational purposes the Bancroft Ponds Steering Committee began exploring the possibility of installing an outdoor classroom in the park. The conceptual design attached has been in development for almost two years. It is strongly supported by local educators, the L&C neighborhood and Missoula's Conservation Lands Advisory Committee. In Spring 2020, CLAC voted

unanimously to recommend the MPR Board amend the 1996 Bancroft Ponds Master plan to allow for and outdoor classroom in this park. Final design and layout of this infrastructure would developed by City Staff. Development of this infrastructure would be primarily funded by grants and donations secured by the Lewis and Clark Neighborhood leadership team with in-kind donations of labor from Missoula Parks Staff.

Attachments:

Bancroft ponds outdoor classroom conceptual
1996 Bancroft_plan.pdf

Staff report:

This project has been in development for almost 2 years. There have been multiple L&C neighborhood meetings, Bancroft ponds steering committee meetings and on-site meetings with local educators. Significant public input has been received. This project I strongly supported by the neighborhood, City Staff, local educators, and Ward representatives.

Staff recommendation to Parks Board: Approve addition of an outdoor classroom to Bancroft Ponds Park.

УЧЕБНО-МЕТОДИЧЕСКИЙ СПУТНИК

СОВЕТСКОМУ РАБОЧЕМУ И СЕЛСКОМУ ДЕТЕ



INTRODUCTION

The Children's Fish Pond Park is managed by the Missoula Parks and Recreation Department. It covers approximately five acres and is bordered by Thirty-fourth Street, Bancroft Street, and Stephens Avenue. The land consists primarily of an open field containing three shallow ponds. The main pond varies in depth from several inches to roughly two and a half feet, while the other two are much shallower and often dry up when the water supply from Pattee Creek is not abundant.

This park comprises a unique wetland habitat, supporting riparian vegetation such as willows, cottonwoods, and aspen. The park also serves as breeding and wintering grounds for many species of songbirds and waterfowl, including the Sora, a marsh bird seldom seen in western Montana. The ponds house numerous species of aquatic life, and the area is also visited by deer, muskrat, and racoon.

The Children's Fish Pond Park was created in the 1960's by dredging the area of the main pond and stocking it with fish. Over the years, however, the ponds have gradually filled with silt, decreasing the depth and destroying the fish habitat. This decrease in depth has led to the marsh-like habitat found at the present time. The park is now mainly used for wildlife viewing, dog walking, and as a play area for children. There is little active management of the park, consisting mostly of mowing the grasses several times per year.

Concerns about the park's future have recently arisen, the most obvious being the decreasing rate of the ponds' depth. If this rate is allowed to continue, it is believed the marsh-like habitat will disappear in the near future.

Another problem concerns the disturbance of wildlife by children and dogs. A picture printed in The Missoulian (summer, 1991) showing a child throwing a turtle brought attention to the park. It is believed that children playing in the pond cause significant impacts on the wildlife. Also, dogs have been frequently seen chasing and frightening birds.

Because of these concerns, it is believed necessary to develop a detailed management plan for the park.

ISSUES

The primary issue concerns the level of development of the park. One argument is to not have any management of the park, while the other side of the spectrum would see extensive human developments. Most specific issues stem from this larger question.

1. Use of the park: Should the primary use be nature oriented, or should the park be developed with more traditional city park facilities, such as playgrounds and picnic tables?
2. Water Levels: Should management objectives include regulation of the water level of the ponds, or should they be left as they are? If no management is used, the ponds will eventually silt over.
3. Flora: Should vegetation be managed to introduce and maintain indigenous species, and eliminate foreign species, or should the present system of simply mowing the area twice a year continue? This current method does not allow much species diversity.
4. Fauna: Should facilities be developed to protect species that utilize the area and to encourage other species to visit it? Currently little is done to accomplish this, and there is a perceived problem of wildlife disturbance.
5. Access: Should accessibility be increased by improving bridges and trails?
6. Education and Recreation: What types of facilities and/or organizations should be developed to enhance educational opportunities provided by the park?
7. Enforcement of Objectives: Should the protection and maintenance of the park and natural areas be enforced primarily by regulation, or by education? This leads to the question of who should conduct the enforcement, the Missoula Department of Parks and Recreation, or other interest groups, such schools, nature organization, or private citizens.
8. Safety: Should the safety of children and other users be managed by regulations, education, or physical barriers (around the ponds, for example)? It is possible that any development of the park will make it more of an attractive nuisance.
9. Encroachment: Should encroachment onto the park property by neighboring residents continued to be permitted. Currently several residents use park property for firewood and vehicle storage, and use park land for access to their properties.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The primary goal of this plan is to preserve the natural qualities of the park, including the restoration and improvement of the marsh habitat. In concordance with this goal is to provide the public with educational and recreational opportunities focused on the marsh area.

Specific objectives are as follows:

1. Within five years the park will support a riparian habitat that is primarily natural but is also visually aesthetic. The flora and fauna capable of existing in the urban setting will be determined in an environmental assessment.
2. Visitors to the park will increase their knowledge, awareness, and appreciation of the riparian habitat. This objective will be attained within five years.
3. Within five years recreational activities that do not negatively impact the flora and fauna and do not detract from the natural aesthetic setting of the park will be emphasized.
4. Any man-made facilities installed to meet the management objectives will not be prominently visible from a distance greater than one block.

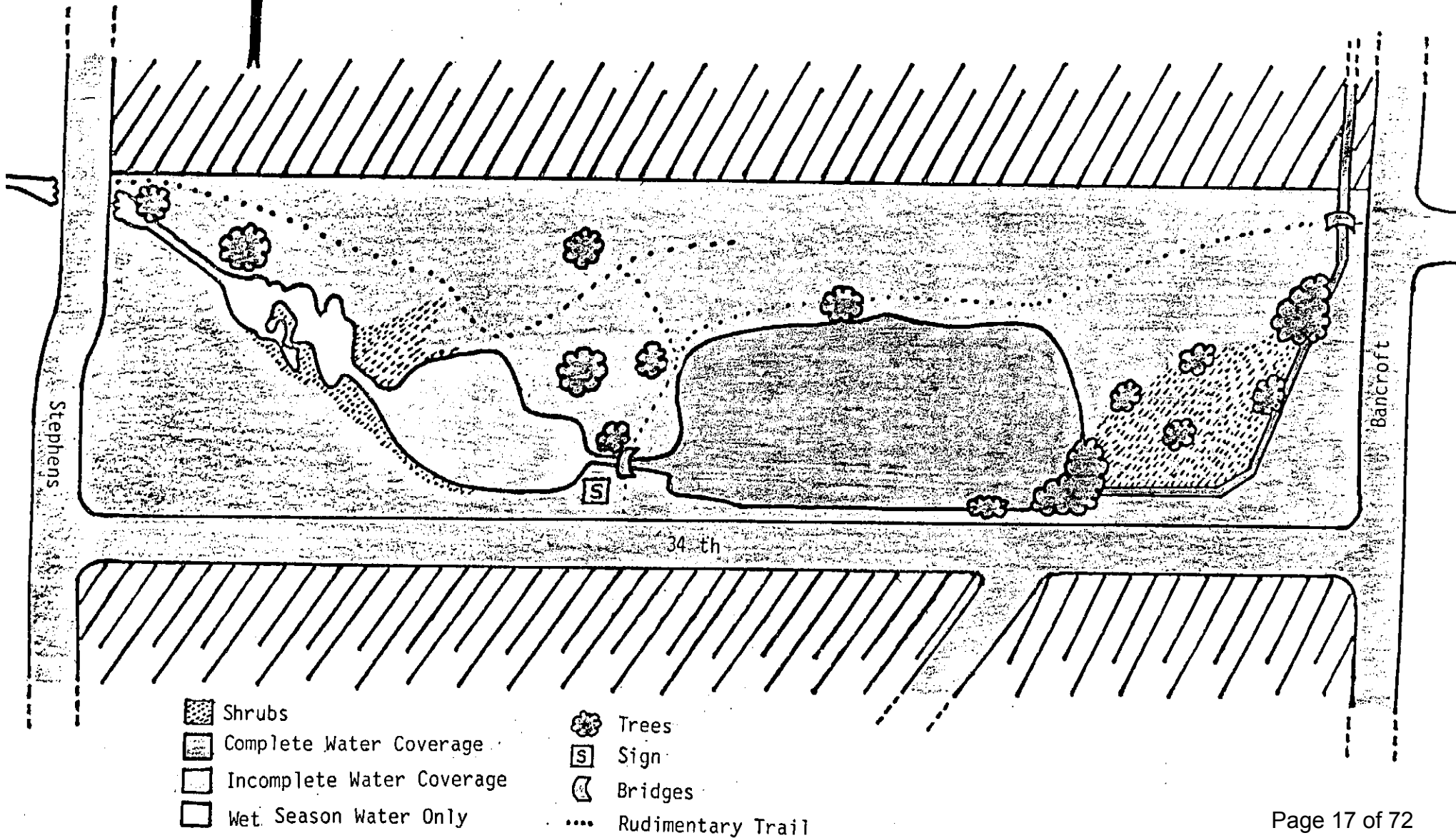
ALTERNATIVES

ALTERNATIVE #1.

1. Water Level: Make no efforts to alter the current water flow.
2. Flora: Continue to mow the area twice a year to provide weed control and reduce fire danger.
3. Fauna: Make no efforts to increase protection of the existing species or to introduce new species.
4. Access: Make no efforts to change the present state of the trails. Build rudimentary foot bridges at the east end of the park over Pattee Creek, and near the south boundary of the park, spanning the gap between the main and secondary ponds.
5. Education and Recreation: Install one sign briefly describing the riparian habitat.
6. Rules: Make no efforts to change present rules or enforcement of them.
7. Safety: Make no efforts to change safety levels.
8. Encroachment: Make no efforts to eliminate encroachment onto park lands.

CHILDREN'S FISH POND PARK

Alternative 1

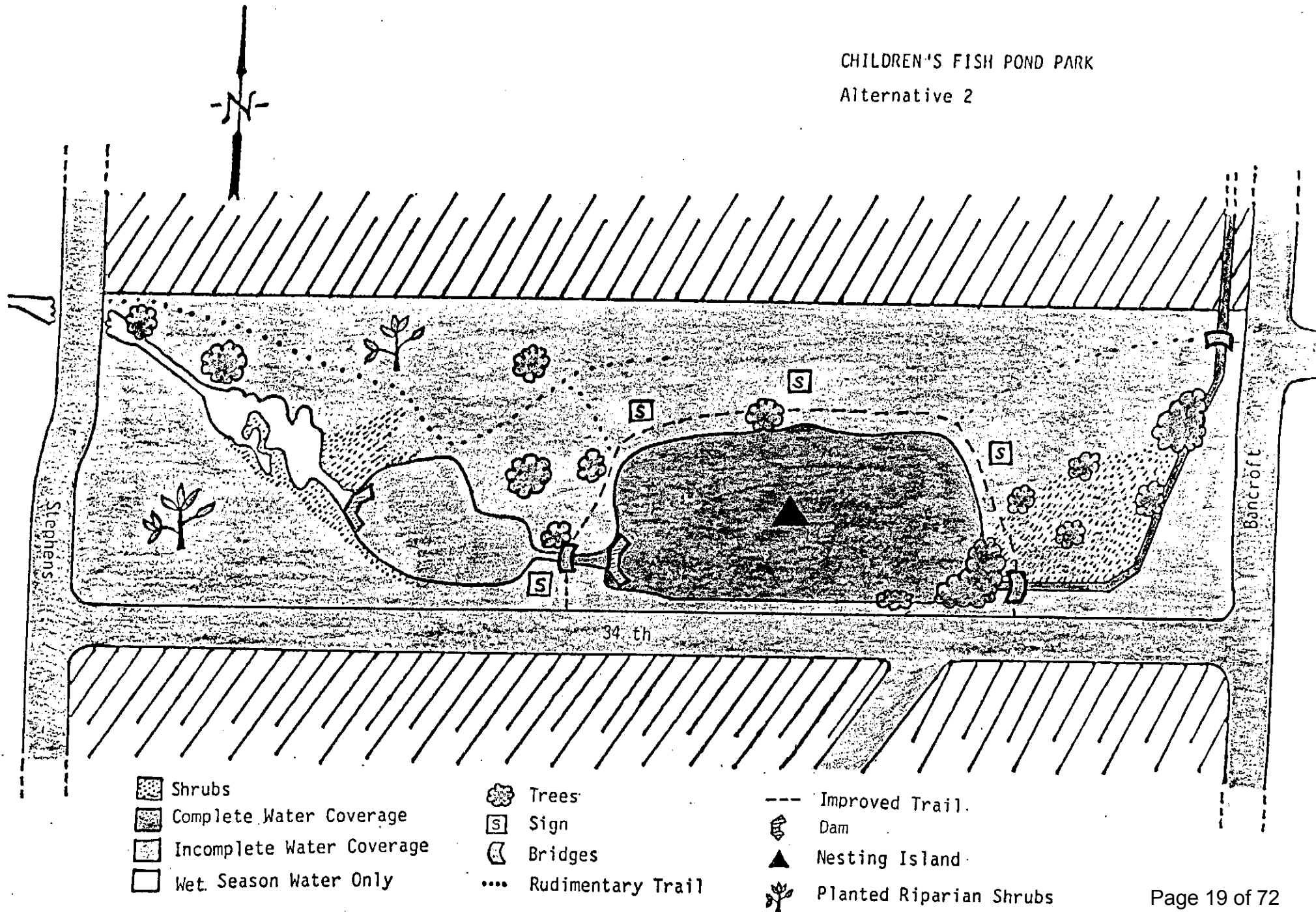


ALTERNATIVE #2.

1. Water Level: Build a dam at foot of main pond to hold more water. Build a dam to enlarge second pond.
2. Flora: Plant a small number of indigenous species on the borders of the ponds. Continue to mow the rest of park twice a year.
3. Fauna: Create a small island in the center of the main pond as a nesting habitat.
4. Access: Widen and level the trail around the main pond. Build bridges that are more accessible to cyclists at the east end of the park over Pattee Creek, and at the south boundary at both the head and foot of the main pond.
5. Education and Recreation: Install four signs along the trail around the main pond describing marsh habitat and different aspects of it, including aquatic vegetation, land vegetation, and wildlife.
6. Rules: Install a sign stating the park's name and the standard Missoula Parks and Recreation rules. Organize a volunteer litter clean-up group.
7. Safety: Make no efforts to change safety levels.
8. Encroachment: Make no efforts to eliminate encroachment onto park lands.

CHILDREN'S FISH POND PARK

Alternative 2

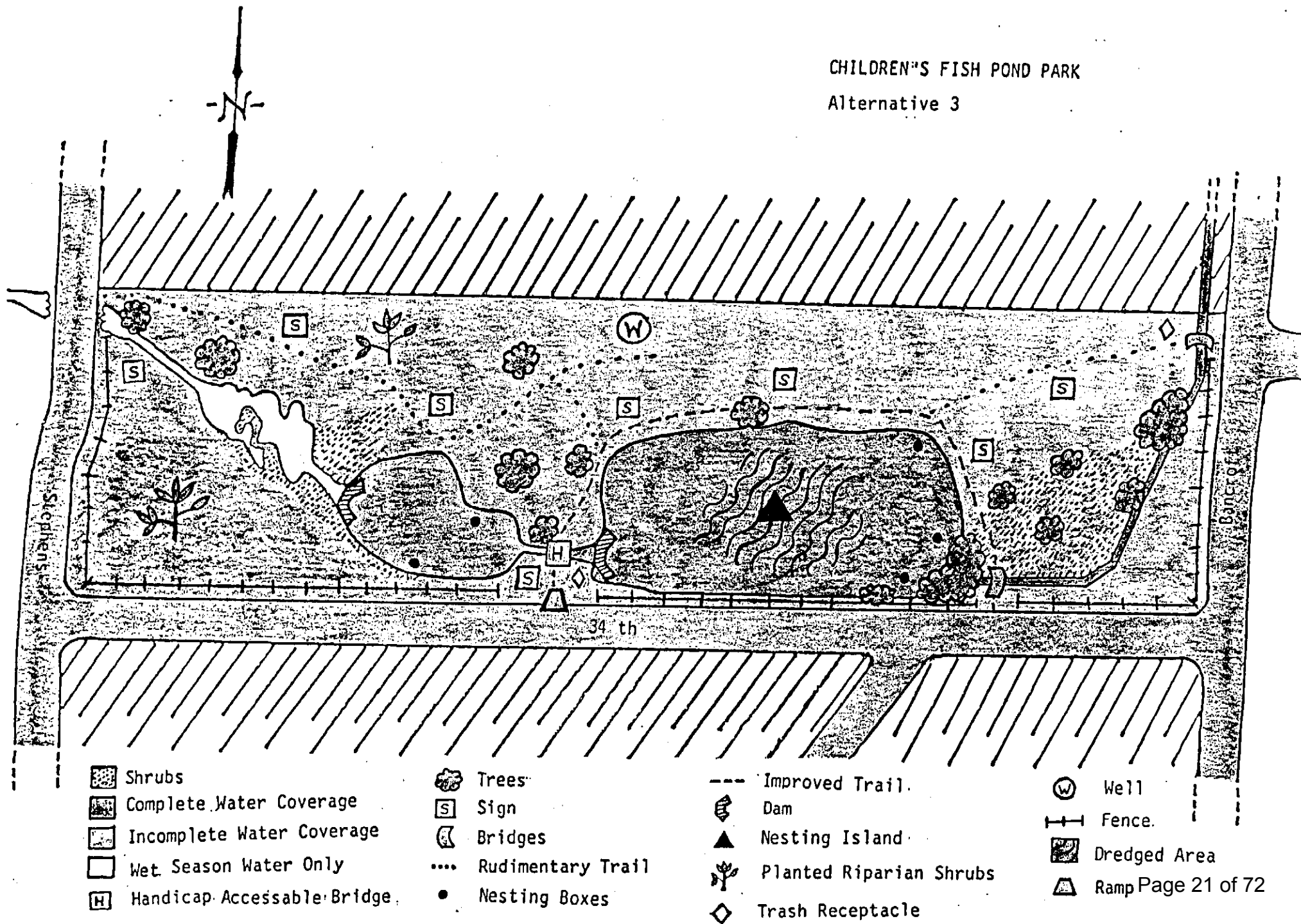


ALTERNATIVE #3.

1. Water Level: Dig a well and install a pump in order to provide the ponds with an easily regulated flow of water. Dredge ponds of silt to deepen.
2. Flora: Eliminate all exotic species, and make extensive efforts to introduce species typical to a riparian habitat.
3. Fauna: Create a small island in the center of the main island as a nesting habitat, and install nesting boxes along the ponds.
4. Access: Widen and level the main trail around the pond, covering it with crushed gravel to make it handicapped accessible. Build bridges more easily accessible to cyclists on the east end of the park over Pattee Creek and at the south side at the head of the main pond. Build a handicapped accessible bridge over the span between the main pond and the secondary pond. Install a handicapped accessible ramp on the street curb in front of this bridge.
5. Education and Recreation: Install eight signs around the park, with four describing the general habitat, and four giving more detailed information about selected species. Install two wooden benches along the trail around the main pond.
6. Rules: Install a sign stating the name of the park and the standard Missoula Parks and Recreation rules. Install two trash receptacles and have hired personnel periodically patrol for litter. Build a four-foot high double beam wooden fence around the area, with two entrances on the south side of the park, and one each on the east and west ends. This will help delineate the area as a special resource, encouraging the public to treat it with respect.
7. Safety: Make no efforts to change safety levels.
8. Encroachment: Require all neighboring residents to remove any and all possessions from park land. Build the entranceways to the fence too small for vehicle entry.

CHILDREN'S FISH POND PARK

Alternative 3



ALTERNATIVE #4.

Any combination of the above alternatives.

PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE

The preferred alternative involves a combination of alternatives one through three.

In managing the water level, the main aspect of the park, a dam at the foot of the main pond will be constructed. This will allow more water to be contained in the pond. The dam will be adjustable, allowing varying rates of water flow. This adjustability will help in providing the optimal habitat for the flora and fauna, and will also allow for flood control.

The center of the main pond will be dredged to remove one to two feet of silt, thereby increasing the depth and delaying the silting-over of the pond.

Flora will be introduced by planting riparian shrubs and trees in the marshy areas.

Mowing will only continue on the permanently dry areas, thereby allowing the native vegetation to resume growth.

The presence of additional riparian fauna will be encouraged by the introduction of vegetative habitat. Nesting boxes will be installed in the main pond to encourage Wood Duck habitation. A small island will be created in the center of the main pond to provide protection of birds from disturbance by dogs and visitors.

Access to the park will be improved in several ways. A bridges easily accessible to bicyclists will be constructed on the east side of the park over Pattee Creek and on the south side at the head of the main pond. A handicapped accessible bridge will be built over the juncture between the main pond and the secondary pond. This bridge will be part of the "main loop" trail bordering the west, north, and east sides of the main pond. This main loop will start on the curbside directly in front of the bridge with a handicapped accessible ramp, and end on the east side of the main pond. The trail will be widened and leveled in order to make it handicapped accessible. No alterations will be made to the other trails, as it is believed that foot traffic will continue to sufficiently delineate those paths.

Educational and recreational opportunities will be increased by installing four interpretive signs along the main loop, briefly describing different components of the riparian habitat. Two wooden benches will be installed along the main loop, allowing relaxed viewing

of the pond areas.

A wooden sign will be placed at the beginning of the main loop, stating the name and the rules and regulations of the park. These rules will encompass the standard Missoula Parks and Recreation Department regulations.

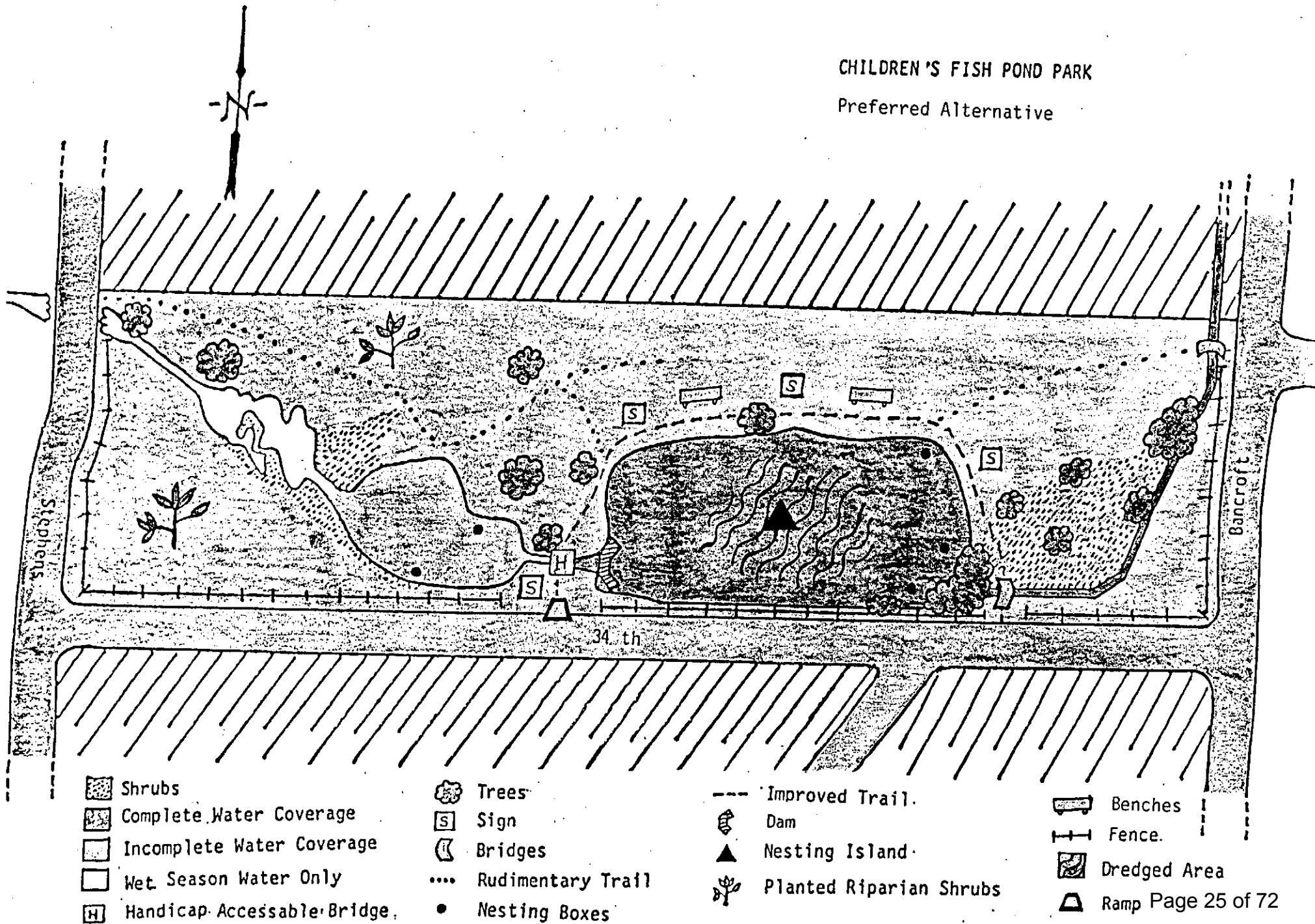
A three- to four-foot high double beam wooden fence will be constructed around the east, south, and west borders of the park. Entranceways will be at the east end in front of the bridge, the south end at the start and end of the main loop trail, and the west end. This fence will help eliminate the unwanted trails in the park. It will also noticeably delineate the park as a special area, thereby increasing the parks aesthetic pleasure and the respect given it. Posted at each entranceway will be small signs asking visitors to leash their dogs.

The entranceways of the fence will have barriers making them inaccessible to vehicles. These barriers will be easily removable by authorized personnel, permitting vehicle entry when necessary for park maintenance. This restriction of public vehicles will eliminate the neighboring residents from using the park as an access point to their yards. Those residents will also be required to remove any and all possessions from park property within the first year.

Control of litter will be continued by unorganized volunteers for the first two years. If after that period the amount of litter is deemed to be a problem, a trash receptacle will be installed at the beginning of the main trail, and paid personnel will periodically remove litter.

CHILDREN'S FISH POND PARK

Preferred Alternative



DECISION CRITERIA

The decision criteria used to develop the preferred alternative stemmed mainly from the perceived need for such an area. An inventory of the resource was first conducted, examining the current and potential presence of wildlife, unusual vegetation, and recreational and educational opportunities. The parks near the Children's Fish Pond park were then inventoried to determine how many other areas possessed these qualities. The Children's Fish Pond park was found to unique in these aspects, as no other parks within several miles are primarily nature based.

Using these criteria of naturalness, the planners determined the public's felt need for such an area. Both the Missoula Parks and Recreation Dept. and the state Fish Wildlife and Parks Dept. expressed strong interest in keeping the park nature-based, citing the value of such a park in the area. The planners then conducted an informal telephone survey, polling fifteen residents who live adjacent to the park. Most expressed interest in preserving the natural qualities of the park.

Following the telephone interviews, a public meeting was held on October 30, 1991. Approximately 150 invitations were issued on October 23 to residences bordering the park. In addition, about fifteen other special interest groups, such as the Parks and Recreation Dept., Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks Dept., and the Audubon Society were contacted and invited to send representatives. Sixteen people attended the meeting.

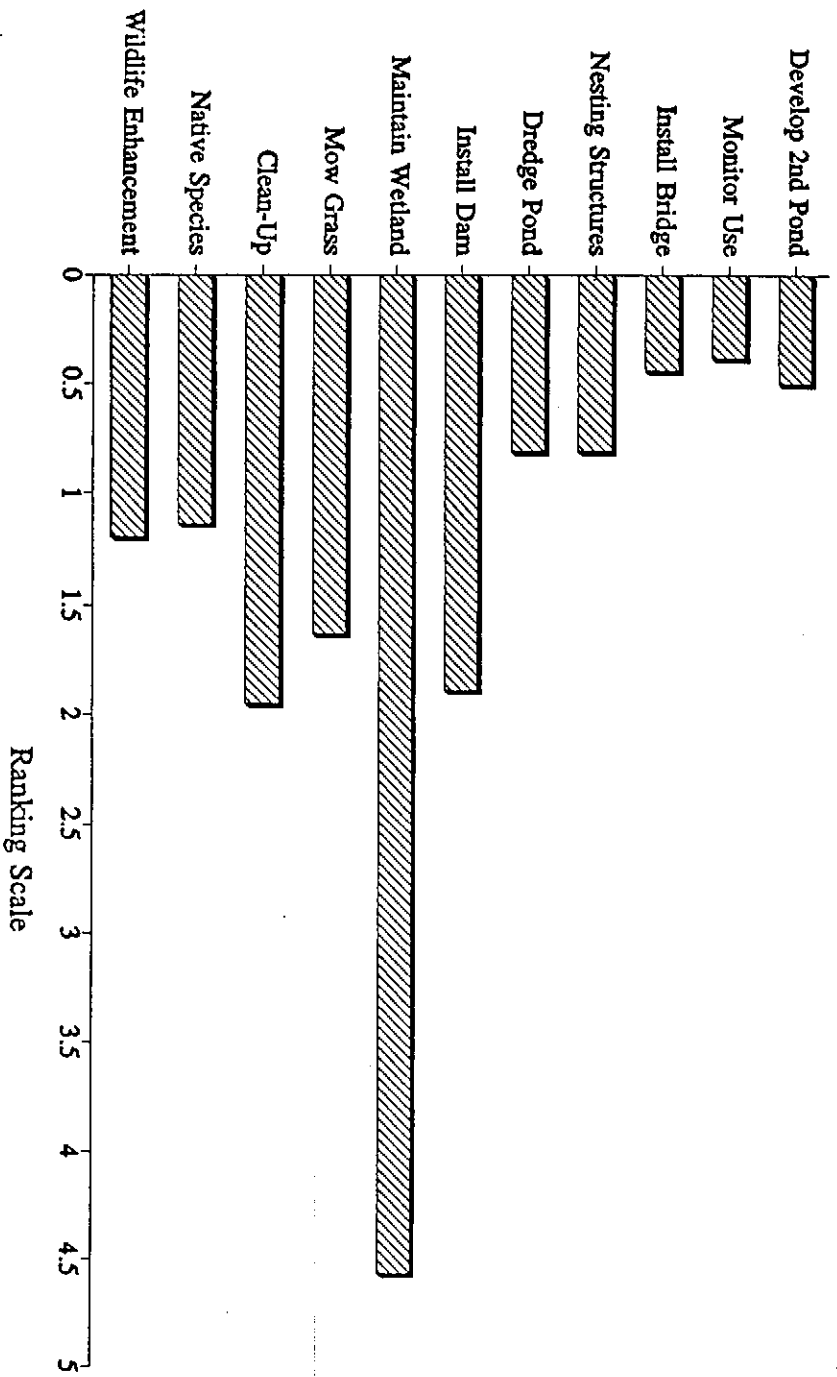
This meeting was structured by the nominal group process, which involves input from all attendants. The question "What facilities or projects should be developed in the park?" was asked, and all ideas were listed on a sheet of poster board. A list of these suggestions is shown in Appendix B. Each individual was then asked to rank their top five ideas, with "one" being of the lowest importance, and "five" the highest. A bar-graph of the highest ranked ideas is shown on page 16. The graph represents ranked suggestions for the park which were representative of the group as a whole. By far, the desires to keep the park natural and to preserve the riparian habitat for wildlife were most important.

Although there were many different suggestions for how to reach these goals, a consensus was reached that not only should the park be kept as a natural setting for wildlife use, but also that some form of management is needed to do so. It was also recognized that the attendants at the meeting may not have been representative of the surrounding residents as a whole. It is believed that those who felt strongly about keeping the park natural were more likely to attend than those who did not have strong opinions.

This goal of preserving and enhancing the riparian habitat was the primary influence in the development of the preferred alternative. Secondly, but also playing a strong role was the desire to enhance recreational and educational opportunities in the park. The park is presently not easily accessible to walkers (because of lack of bridges) and those wanting to sit and relax in the park. Also, the educational focus of the park was thought to be lacking. Increased education about the park and its habitat could enhance the respect and appreciation for such areas and also help eliminate the current disturbances of wildlife and vegetation.

Also considered in developing the preferred alternative was the minimal amount of funding available for managing the park.

Rank Order of Park Issues



FIVE-YEAR BUDGET

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES

Interpretive signs	\$6,500
Dam	\$2,890
Bridges	\$4,250
Handicapped ramp	\$2,000
Bird nesting boxes	\$150
Island in center of pond	\$350
Tree planting	\$360
Fence	\$3,500
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	\$20,000

OPERATING AND MAINTENANCE COSTS

Mowing	\$6,500
Litter clean-up	\$540
General maintenance/ repair	\$3,471
Trails	\$500
Benches	\$604
Dredging main pond	\$800
Tree evaluation	\$200
<u>Rules and regulations sign</u>	<u>\$1,175</u>
TOTAL OPERATING COSTS	\$8,290

TOTAL FIVE-YEAR EXPENDITURES \$28,290

PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

YEAR-ONE EXPENDITURES:

<u>Capital</u>		<u>Operating</u>	
Build dam	\$2,890	Mowing	\$200
Tree planting	\$360	Dredging pond	\$800
<u>Small bridge</u>	<u>\$750</u>	<u>Trail improvement</u>	<u>\$500</u>
TOTAL CAPITAL	\$4,000	TOTAL OPERATING	\$1,500

TOTAL YEAR-ONE EXPENDITURES \$4,500

YEAR-TWO EXPENDITURES:

<u>Capital</u>		<u>Operating</u>	
Handicapped bridge	\$3,500	Mowing	\$200
Nesting boxes	\$150	Tree evaluation	\$200
<u>Island in pond</u>	<u>\$350</u>	<u>Regulations sign</u>	<u>\$1,175</u>
TOTAL CAPITAL	\$4,000	TOTAL OPERATING	\$1,575

TOTAL YEAR-TWO EXPENDITURES \$5,575

YEAR-THREE EXPENDITURES:

<u>Capital</u>		<u>Operating</u>	
Interpretive signs	\$2,000	Mowing	\$200
<u>Handicapped ramp</u>	<u>\$2,000</u>	Litter clean-up	\$180
TOTAL CAPITAL	\$4,000	Maint. / repair	\$670
		<u>Benches</u>	<u>\$604</u>
		TOTAL OPERATING	\$1,654

TOTAL YEAR-THREE EXPENDITURES \$5,654

YEAR-FOUR EXPENDITURES:

<u>Capital</u>	
Fence	\$3,500
<u>Replacement signs</u>	<u>\$500</u>
TOTAL CAPITAL	\$4,000

<u>Operating</u>	
Mowing	\$200
Litter clean-up	\$180
<u>Maint./repair</u>	<u>\$1,357</u>

TOTAL OPERATING \$1,737

TOTAL YEAR-FOUR EXPENDITURES \$5,737

YEAR-FIVE EXPENDITURES:

<u>Capital</u>	
<u>Replacement signs</u>	<u>\$4,000</u>
TOTAL CAPITAL	\$4,000

<u>Operating</u>	
Mowing	\$200
Litter clean-up	\$180
<u>Maint./repair</u>	<u>\$1,444</u>

TOTAL OPERATING \$1,824

TOTAL YEAR-FIVE EXPENDITURES \$5,824

MONITORING

Throughout and following the plan implementation, certain aspects of the park must be monitored to ensure they are meeting the stated objectives. These aspects include water level, flora and fauna introduction and preservation, trail erosion, facility deterioration, and litter amounts.

By regulating the flow of water through the dam, water levels will be maintained to best preserve the riparian habitat. These levels will be determined through an environmental assessment and the determination of who owns the water rights of Pattee Creek.

The water levels will highly influence the species of flora and fauna capable of existing. The appropriate species of flora and fauna will also be determined during the environmental assessment. The vegetation will also be monitored to reduce the overgrowth of weeds that would detract from the visual aesthetics of the park. The survival of the planted trees will also be monitored.

The trails will be monitored to determine if their layout matches the travel patterns of the users. Also, the main trail will be monitored to ensure it remains passable to wheelchairs.

The facilities (fence, signs, bridges, dam) will be monitored for deterioration from vandalism or weathering. Funds are allocated for repair of these structures and the purchasing of replacement signs.

The litter levels will be monitored, and if deemed necessary, trash receptacles will be installed and personnel will be paid to clean up litter, starting in the third year.

APPENDICES

Appendix A.	Literature Cited
Appendix B.	Suggestions from Public Meeting
Appendix C.	List of Birds Sighted in Park
Appendix D.	Key Contacts

A. LITERATURE CITED

- Farran, John Jr. 1988. Western Birds. McGraw-Hill Book Co., New York, NY.
- Mitsch, William J. and James G. Gosselink. 1986. Wetlands. Van Nostrand and Reinhold Inc., New York, NY.
- Rutledge, Albert J. 1971. Anatomy of a Park. McGraw-Hill Book Co., New York, NY.

B. SUGGESTIONS FROM PUBLIC MEETING, OCT. 30, 1991

- Install a log or island in the main pond for ducks and turtles
- Create an additional pond on the west end of the park
- Build wood duck nests
- Prevent flooding of the park and neighboring residences
- Make trails more accessible to bicycles
- Build bridges across culverts and between ponds
- Clean up litter
- Control weeds
- Build a covered picnic area
- Deepen main pond by dredging
- Start educational programs with schools
- Make at least one trail handicapped accessible
- Reduce algae in ponds
- Increase water flow in summer
- Install interpretive signs
- Keep dogs on leashes
- Continue mowing grasses
- Manage to maintain natural wetlands
- Leave as is
- Keep maintenance costs low
- Keep development to a minimum
- Monitor condition of wetlands
- Introduce native species of flora
- Introduce plants to increase food supply of ducks
- Create natural protective barrier around ponds
- Manage brush and grass to be aesthetically pleasing
- Leave trails in present condition
- Create access road
- Build playground equipment
- Divert more water into pond
- Build dams
- Protect wildlife
- Stock ponds with fish
- Determine who owns water rights

C. LIST OF BIRDS SIGHTED IN PARK

<u>Bird Name</u>	<u>Presence</u>	<u>Habits</u>
American Coot (<i>Fulica Americana</i>)	Possible	Breeding, wintering
American Crow (<i>Corvus Brachyrhynchos</i>)	Confirmed	Breeding, wintering
American Goldfinch (<i>Carduelis tristis</i>)	Confirmed	Breeding, wintering
American Kestrel (<i>Falco Sparverius</i>)	Confirmed	Breeding, wintering
American Redstart (<i>Setophaga ruticilla</i>)	Possible	Breeding only
American Robin (<i>Turdus migratorius</i>)	Confirmed	Breeding, wintering
American Tree Sparrow (<i>Spizella arborea</i>)	Possible	Wintering only
Barn Swallow (<i>Hirundo rustica</i>)	Confirmed	Breeding only
Belted Kingfisher (<i>Ceryle alcyon</i>)	Possible	Breeding, wintering
Black-billed Magpie (<i>Pica pica</i>)	Confirmed	Breeding, wintering
Black-capped Chickadee (<i>Parus atricapillus</i>)	Confirmed	Breeding, wintering
Black-chinned Hummingbird (<i>Archilochus alexandri</i>)	Possible	Breeding only
Black-headed Grosbeak (<i>Pheucicus melanocephalus</i>)	Possible	Breeding only
Blue Jay (<i>Cyanocitta cristata</i>)	Possible	Breeding, wintering
Bohemian Waxwing (<i>Bombycilla garrulus</i>)	Confirmed	Breeding, wintering
Brewer's Blackbird (<i>Euphagus cyanocephalus</i>)	Confirmed	Breeding, wintering
Broad-tailed Hummingbird (<i>Selasphorus platycercus</i>)	Possible	no data
Calliope Hummingbird (<i>Stellula calliope</i>)	Possible	Breeding only
Cedar Waxwing (<i>Bombycilla cedrorum</i>)	Confirmed	Breeding, wintering
Chipping Sparrow (<i>Spizella passerina</i>)	Possible	Breeding only
Cliff Swallow (<i>Hirundo pyrrhonota</i>)	Possible	Breeding only
Common Nighthawk (<i>Chordeiles minor</i>)	Confirmed	Breeding only

<u>Bird name</u>	<u>Presence</u>	<u>Habits</u>
Common Snipe (<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>) ng, wintering	Possible	Breedi
Common Yellowthroat (<i>Geothlypis trichas</i>)	Possible	Breeding only
Downy Woodpecker (<i>Picoides pubescens</i>)	Confirmed	Breeding, wintering
Eastern Kingbird (<i>Tyrannus tyrannus</i>)	Possible	Breeding only
European Starling (<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>)	Confirmed	Breeding, wintering
Evening Grosbeak (<i>Coccothraustes vespertinus</i>)	Confirmed	Breeding, wintering
Field Sparrow (<i>Spizella pusilla</i>)	Possible	Breeding only
Golden-crowned Kinglet (<i>Regulus satrapa</i>)	Confirmed	Breeding, wintering
Great Horned Owl (<i>Bubo virginianus</i>)	Possible	Breeding, wintering
Hairy Woodpecker (<i>Picoides villosus</i>)	Possible	Breeding, wintering
House Finch (<i>Carpodacus mexicanus</i>)	Confirmed	Breeding, wintering
House Wren (<i>Troglodytes aedon</i>)	Confirmed	Breeding only
Killdeer (<i>Charadrius vociferus</i>)	Possible	Breeding, wintering
Lazuli Bunting (<i>Passerina amoena</i>)	Confirmed	Breeding only
MacGillivray's Warbler (<i>Oporornis tolmiei</i>)	Possible	Breeding only
Mallard (<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>)	Confirmed	Breeding, wintering
Merlin (<i>Falco columbarius</i>)	Possible	Breeding, wintering
Mountain Chickadee (<i>Parus gambeli</i>)	Possible	Breeding, wintering
Mourning Dove (<i>Zenaida macroura</i>)	Possible	Breeding only
Nashville Warbler (<i>Vermivora ruficapilla</i>)	Possible	Breeding only
Northern Flicker (<i>Colaptes auratus</i>)	Confirmed	Breeding, wintering
Northern Oriole (<i>Icterus galbula</i>)	Confirmed	Breeding, wintering
Northern Pygmy Owl (<i>Glaucidium gnoma</i>)	Confirmed	Breeding, wintering
Northern Rough-winged Swallow (<i>Stelgidopteryx serripennis</i>)	Possible	Breeding only
Northern Shrike (<i>Lanius excubitor</i>)	Confirmed	Wintering
Orange-crowned Warbler (<i>Vermivora celata</i>)	Possible	Breeding only
Pine Siskin (<i>Carduelis pinus</i>)	Confirmed	Breeding, wintering

<u>Bird Name</u>	<u>Presence</u>	<u>Habits</u>
Red-eyed Vireo (<i>Vireo olivaceus</i>)	Possible	Breeding only
Red-tailed Hawk (<i>Buteo jamaicensis</i>)	Confirmed	Breeding, wintering
Red-winged Blackbird (<i>Agelaius phoeniceus</i>)	Confirmed	Breeding, wintering
Ring-necked Pheasant (<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>)	Possible	Breeding, wintering
Rufous Hummingbird (<i>Selasphorus rufus</i>)	Possible	Breeding only
Rufous-sided Towhee (<i>Pipilo erythrophthalmus</i>)	Possible	Breeding, wintering
Savanna Sparrow (<i>Passerculus sandwichensis</i>)	Possible	Breeding only
Sharp-shinned Hawk (<i>Accipiter striatus</i>)	Confirmed	Breeding, wintering
Solitary Vireo (<i>Vireo solitarius</i>)	Possible	Breeding only
Song Sparrow (<i>Melospiza melodia</i>)	Confirmed	Breeding, wintering
Sora (<i>Porana carolina</i>)	Confirmed	Breeding only
Tree Swallow (<i>Tachycineta bicolor</i>)	Possible	Breeding only
Varied Thrush (<i>Ixoreus naevius</i>)	Possible	Breeding, wintering
Vaux's Swift (<i>Chaetura vauxi</i>)	Confirmed	Breeding only
Violet-green Swallow (<i>Tachycineta thalassina</i>)	Possible	Breeding only
Warbling Vireo (<i>Vireo gilvus</i>)	Possible	Breeding only
Western Kingbird (<i>Tyrannus verticalis</i>)	Possible	Breeding only
Western Meadowlark (<i>Sturnella neglecta</i>)	Confirmed	Breeding, wintering
Western Tanager (<i>Piranga ludoviciana</i>)	Possible	Breeding only
Western WoodPewee (<i>Contopus sordidulus</i>)	Confirmed	Breeding only
White-crowned Sparrow (<i>Zonotrichia leucophrys</i>)	Confirmed	Breeding only
Wilson's Warbler (<i>Wilsonia pusilla</i>)	Confirmed	Breeding only
Yellow Warbler (<i>Dendroica petechia</i>)	Confirmed	Breeding only
Yellow-rumped Warbler (<i>Dendroica coronata</i>)	Confirmed	Breeding, wintering

D. KEY CONTACTS

Audubon Society	Audubon Society	
Bruce Bender	Missoula Public Works Dept.	523-4623
Connie Carson	Humane Society	549-3934
Rich Clough	Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks Dept.	542-5500
Hank Fisher	Defenders of Wildlife	549-0761
Byron Lamphear		721-7704
Bob O'Connor	Missoula City Parks Board	549-1258
Deborah Ritchie	Watchable Wildlife	
Sue Reel	Watchable Wildlife	
Richard Sheridan	University of Montana, Botany Dept.	243-3176
Jim VanFossen	Missoula Dept. of Parks and Recreation	721-7275
Doug Waters	Missoula Dept. of Parks and Recreation	721-7275
Chuck Wright	Missoula County Surveying	721-5700

Missoula Parks and Recreation Board Referral

Citizen or Organization Name Missoula Parks and Recreation

Main Contact Shirley Kinsey

Address MPR

Phone: 552-6273

E-mail: kinseys@ci.missoula.mt.us

Parks & Recreation Staff Contact

Referral to: Missoula Parks and Recreation Board

Requested date for Board consideration: Sept 8, 2020

Note: Missoula Parks and Recreation Board meets the second Tuesday of each month at Noon in Headwaters at Currents, 600 Cregg lane. Complete referrals are due no later 8-calendar days before the Board meets. To gain staff review, please forward ALL info no less than 30 calendar days before a Board meeting.

Referral Item: Request fee category to Special Use Permit for Small Groups (under 10 participants)

Motion/Action requested:

I move the Missoula Parks and Recreation board approve the staff recommendation to establish a fee for small groups under 10 participants to the Special Use Permit. Establishing a fee of \$15/hour/class For-Profit business, and \$10/hour/class for Non-Profit organizations.

Brief Statement regarding the action you want taken by the Park Board.

Approve additional fee category for Small Groups conducting programs in city parks. Proposed fees are not currently in the Master Fee Schedule 2020.

Background information: *(Why is project important? How does it benefit public, environment, City, parks, open space, trails, urban forest, and recreation program services?)*

The Fit to Fight (Cancer Association) and Fit4Mom (Franchise Business) are not the only groups who have expressed concerns about our fees associated with the Special Use Permit due to the small number of participants they have in their classes.

In the current Master Fee Schedule we offer a \$10/hr/court for Tennis Pros to rent courts to deliver private lessons, they normally have 1 – 4 students. Along with the fees we require copies of their City Business License, and the Certificate of Liability meeting MT State statute limits and naming the City as additionally Insured. The business license and insurance requirements would remain the same for groups using the Special Use Permit for Small Groups.

Currently Special Use Permit Seasonal rate is \$281 for up to 9 days or \$385 for 10 days or more. This breaks down as \$31.22 per day for 9 days, or \$32.08 per day for 12 days or more (generally those using the 10+ days are meeting 3 days per week).

I propose a compromise to accommodate these smaller groups:

Limit number of users to 10 or less and establish a fee of \$15/hour/facility for private for-profit businesses, and \$10/hour/facility for nonprofit organizations.

Suggested fee rate break down:

Current Special Use Fee	PROPOSED FEE SMALL GROUPS		Day/wk	Monthly	Cost	Savings
	For Profit/day	Non Profit/per day				
1 to 9 days						
\$281	\$15		2	8	\$120	\$161
\$281		\$10	2	8	\$80	\$201
10 + days						
\$385	\$15		3	12	\$180	\$205
		\$10	3	12	\$120	\$265

Attachments: (maps, photos, draft documents, budget, funding sources, logos, reference materials, other documents)

Staff report - more details here, listing specifics and dollar amounts, along with important facts and dates relating to referral. Has request been reviewed by Parks and Recreation Department Head and Staff? Have you responded to their requests for any changes or additions?

Staff recommendation to Parks Board

Staff recommends the Parks and Recreation Board establish new fees for groups under 10 in the Special User Permit for the interim. After this season we will evaluate the merit of the new fee structure and if successful we will establish in the Master Fee Schedule 2021.

Background Research:

Fit4Mom sent a number of examples where fees in other towns were lower than ours. I did not consider contacting the other states listed (Colorado and Idaho) as they all have a different option for supporting Parks and Recreation. The City of Missoula Parks and Rec is supported primarily by Property Tax, State Allocated Revenue, and User Fees. Colorado and Idaho both have Sales tax allocation for support of municipal governments.

E-mail sent from Kory Thomson, Billings Recreation Superintendent

Fit4Mom along with our Advisory Board formulated a change to our park permit policy to start including for-profit businesses. Previous to this year, we did not permit any for-profit use of public parks.

The City of Billings does not charge rental fees for public park use, instead we issue permits that include a permit processing fee of, as of July 20th, is now \$150 per park location/per season. Previously it was \$100. We would like to see a change to this policy and structure, to possibly resemble yours, but that has yet to happen. Our elected officials, when last approached to consider a change to the policy, decided not to do anything that would potentially impact the non-profit organizations that use our parks.

So some of what they are telling you is partially true, our fees are low, but they are only for the processing of permits. Interestingly, Fit4Mom recently decided not to pursue a permit for public park use because the insurance was too expensive and they wanted to use multiple park locations, which would cost them \$150 per park and per season (spring, summer, fall). I'm assuming our insurance guidelines are the same as yours (\$1.5 million per each occurrence and naming the City as an additional insured).

Background Information from Fit4Mom

Missoula Fit4mom is an exercise program for postpartum and pregnant women who are looking for a community of mothers to get out of doors and exercise with their kids in tow. We have been utilizing the paths and trail systems in Missoula for our stroller classes but we were informed that this requires a special use permit. This permit is unaffordable for our small group of 5-10 moms. It is our request that there be more permit types available or that this type of group not require a special use permit, as we do not feel that we meet the description. We do not require use of facilities, pavilions, or

other areas of the park. Classes are an hour long in the mornings and we move along the path or sidewalk. There are similar stroller groups in surrounding areas such as Billings, Coeur d' Alene, Portland, Denver and the list goes on and on that are able to function in their cities for free or for very low cost. For example, in Denver where the medium income is much higher the parks and recreation dept charge \$150 for a 6 month trail use permit and in the other cities I listed the stroller groups operate free of charge.

*Thank you so much for your consideration.
Sincerely, Jaime Medland and the moms of Missoula*



CONSERVATION LANDS PROGRAM: *2019 Maintenance Highlights*

Morgan Valliant
Missoula Parks & Rec.

Conservation Lands Management Goals

1. Conserve Natural and Cultural Resources
2. Protect and Enhance Native habitats
3. Provide Outdoor Recreational and Educational Opportunities.

The Numbers

- **Revegetation :**
 - Seeded 732 lbs. seed across 48 ac. *(970lbs./86ac. in 2018)*
 - Planted approx. 6,272 native trees & shrubs (783) and herbs (5489) across 5.15 acres *(approx. 4451 across 1.3 ac. in 2018)*
- **Herbicide Applications:**
 - 107.4 ac. weeds sprayed across 462 ac. of land. *(58.2ac. Across 365 ac. in 2018)*
- **Handpulling:**
 - Houndstongue, Knapweed, Toadflax, Dames rocket, & Buckthorn across 6.9 acres. *(3ac. in 2018)*
- **Sheep Grazing:**
 - Approx. 0.00ac. in 365 days *(650 ac. in 48 days in 2018)*

The Numbers Cont.

- **Volunteers :**

- 742 people, 2497 hrs. for approx. \$29,964 in labor (*3904 hours in 2018*)
 - *Special thanks to Washington M.S. for bringing out 120 volunteers in a single day!*

- **Trail Closures:** approx. 1.13 mi. closed, signed and replanted (*1.5 mi. in 2017*)

- **Trail Construction:** approx. .96 mi. of new trail (*1.2 mi. in 2018*)

- **Forest management:** 2ac. thinning Jumbo & 12ac. Logging on South Hills Spur (*1.5 ac. in 2018*)

- **Invasive Tree Removals (N. maple, S. Elm, G. Willow & C. Buckthorn):**

- Removed Invasive trees from approximately 6.6 acres in the Rattlesnake GB, and along the Clark Fork River. (*3/4 ac. in 2018*)

South Hills Spur Logging Project



The Numbers Cont.

- **Grants, Donations, Fees:**

- Awarded \$ 125,000, Rattlesnake Dam Removal (MT. State RRGL grant, applicants = Msla Parks and Trout Unlimited)
- Awarded \$50,000, Waterworks Hill Trailhead Universal Trail project (Mt. State Recreation and Trails Grant)
- Awarded \$3,000 Bancroft Ponds Universal Trail project, (Lewis & Clark Neighborhood grant)
- Donation \$500, Bancroft ponds kiosk repairs (Lewis & Clark Neighborhood)
- Donation \$700, Froehlich TH kiosk panel design (5-valleys land trust)
- Donation \$18,000, for trail work at Rs. Dam, Jumbo & North Hills (Missoula Water company reallocates Mt. Cons. Corps labor contract due to fires)
- Generated \$13,555 from the Special Use Permits, fees, and timber sales on CL (Elk Ramble, Pengelly DD, Little Dipper, MOLA, MORE, grazing lease, fence agreement)

- **2019 Total: approx. \$210,755** (2018 Total: \$91,693)

Leveraging Your Dollars

- From 2008 to 2019 the CLM Program budget has grown from \$160,186 to approx. \$979,000
 - Conservation & Stewardship Mil Levy increased the CLM's 2019 budget by \$506K
 - Missoula's CL Management Plan recommends funding (*park preserves*) at \$142/ac.
 - With the C&S mil levy CLM program is now funded at approx. \$225/ac
- Since 2008, the CLM Program has brought in approximately **\$1,233,981** in grants, donations and other revenue!
- On average the CLM Program has brought in approximately \$0.27 for every tax dollar invested!

2019 New Additions

- Added 150 ac. of New Open Space
 - “Bluebird Property” in lower Grant Ck.
 - Provides for future connection to 600 ac. of existing Open Space
- Added Major new Infrastructure at 3 parklands:
 - Syringa Bike Skills Park
 - Hellgate Dog park
 - West Broadway Island

Syringa Bike Skills Park



West Broadway Island



2019 Major Accomplishments

- Major Trail Rehabilitation & Improvement Projects
 - **North Hills:**
 - tread work and minor reroutes along 3/4mi. of the Homestead trail
 - total rebuild of Sunlight property entry trail
 - **Mt. Jumbo:**
 - Total reroute of the Lower “L” trail
 - Total reroute of the Tamarack x N. Loop road connector
 - **Bancroft Ponds:** Construction of a new universal trail and upgrades of existing trail
 - **Rattlesnake Green Belt:** Major trail reroute and construction of overlook at Rs. Dam
 - **Moosecan Gully:** Tread & drainage repairs and construction of Bog Bridges
- Growth of New Partnerships:
 - Multiple cooperative projects between the Conservation Lands Program and City Utilities
 - Culturally significant restoration project with the Confederated Salish and Kootenani Tribes CSKT
 - Lewis & Clark Neighborhood actively funding and trail improvements, habitat restoration, on-site education and more in Bancroft Ponds
- Removal and Restoration of the Rattlesnake Dam is fully funded!

Conservation Land's Trail Projects

What's the Plan??

- 2015 Trails inventory:
 - 65mi. CL trail system
 - 20 mi. user made trails
 - 2.5mi. at >20% slope
 - 350ish problem points
- 2019 work focused on rehab of major problem areas (ie. erosion, veg. loss, braiding, public safety etc.) on high use trails
- New trail construction focused on inclusivity and accessibility



2019 Trail Rehab. Projects

Mt. Jumbo "L" trail



2019 New Trail Construction: Rattlesnake Greenbelt



2019 New Trail Construction

North Hills: Homestead trail



2019 New Trail Construction

Bancroft Ponds Improved accessibility



Moose Can Gully

Jumbo Saddle "Tamarack Trail"

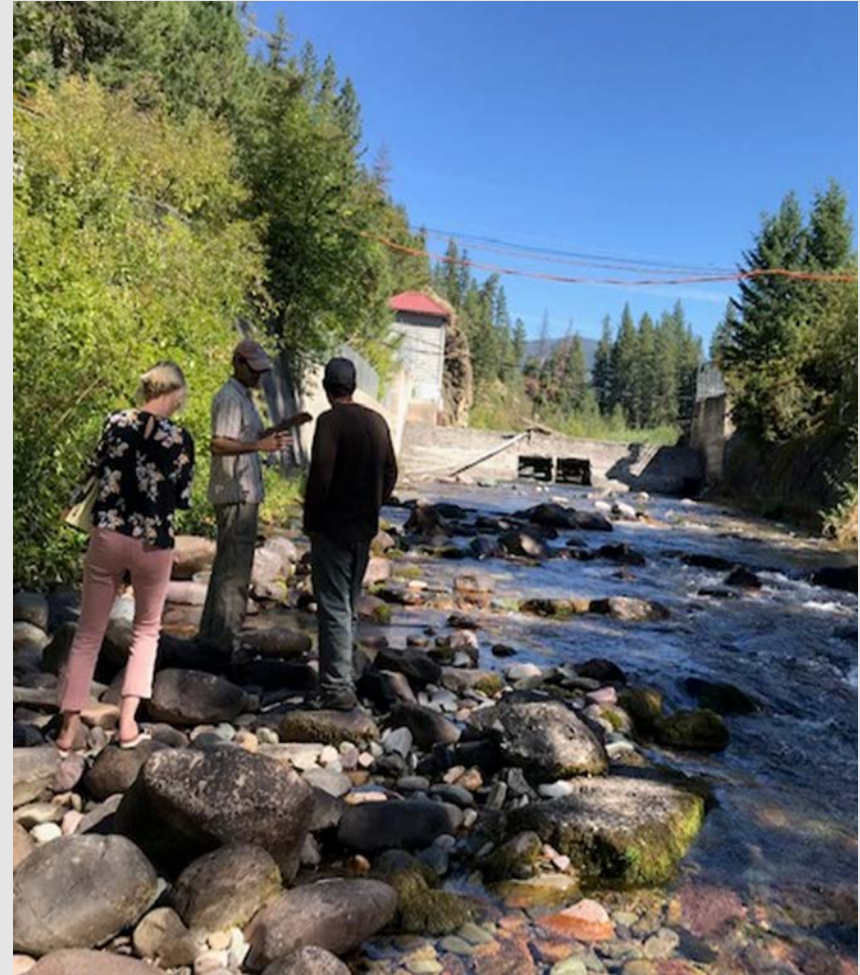


2019 Growth of Cooperative City Projects

City of Missoula Utilities

Missoula Water:

- Rattlesnake Dam removal & restoration will be completed in 2020!
- Waterworks Trailhead & Loop Trail construction begins in 2020!
- CLM Staff are assisting with weed control and long-range plans for the Rattlesnake wilderness dams.



2019 Growth of Cooperative City Projects

City of Missoula Utilities

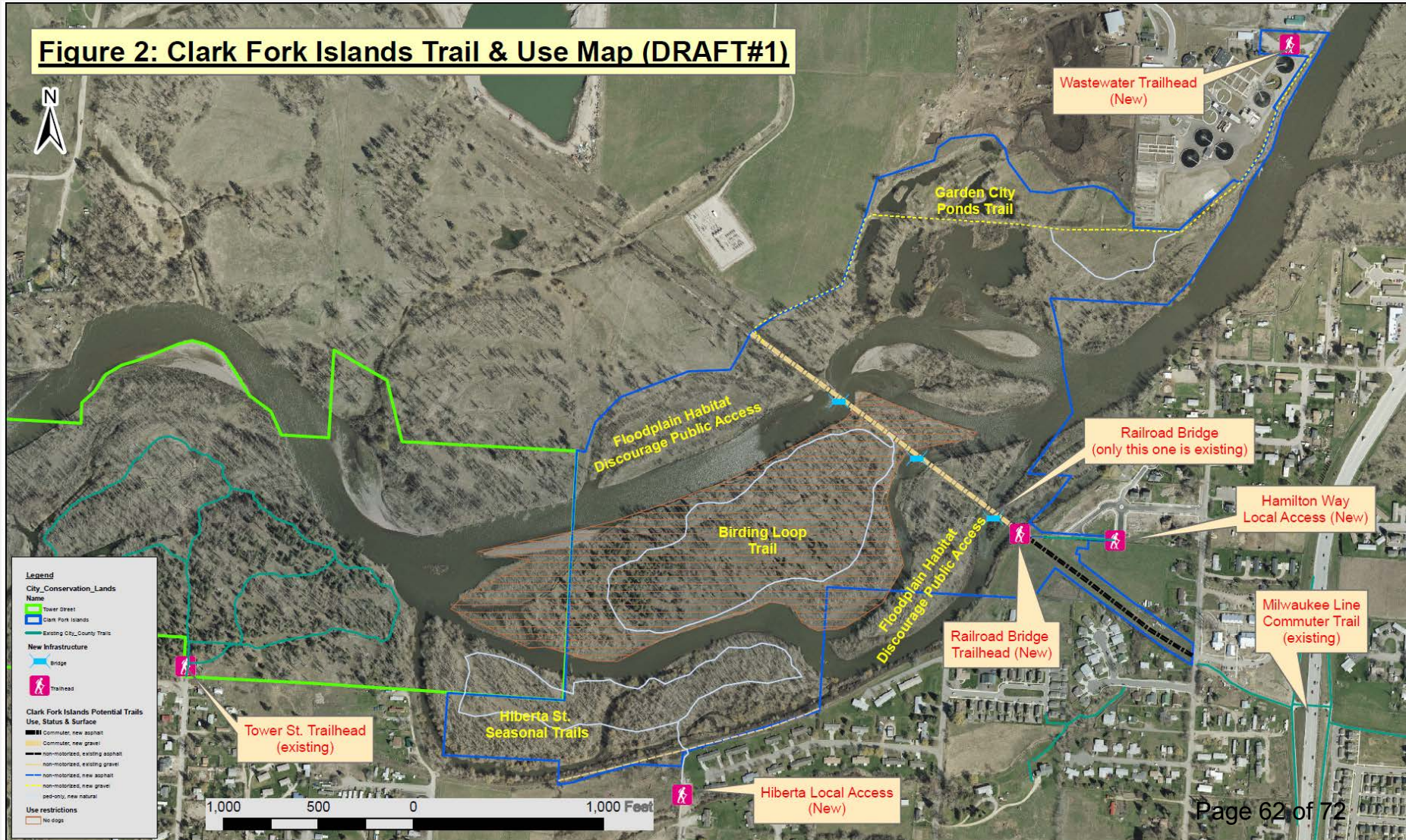
Wastewater & Garden City Compost:

- Established an experimental tree nursery and seed farm on the City's Poplar farm.
- Developing public recreation and habitat conservation Plans on "Wastewater" property



Clark Fork Islands Recreation Management Plan

Figure 2: Clark Fork Islands Trail & Use Map (DRAFT#1)

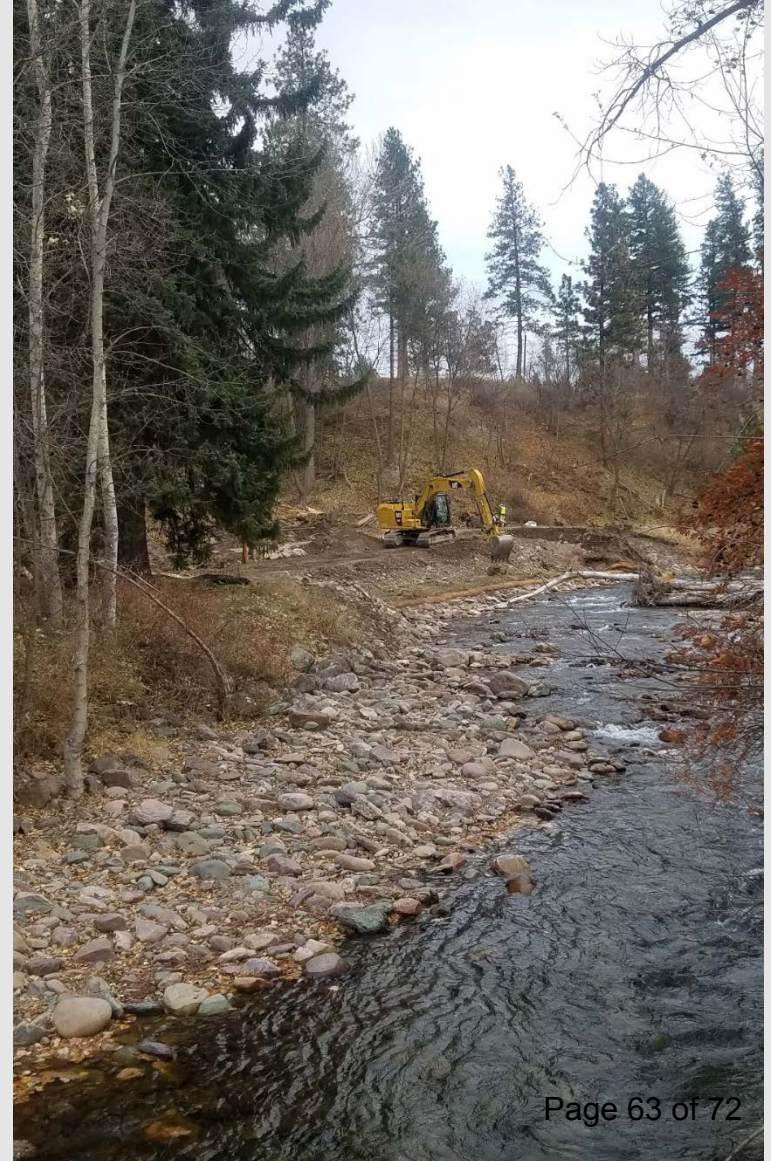


2019 Growth of Cooperative City Projects

City of Missoula Utilities

Missoula Stormwater:

- Implemented a habitat restoration and stormwater improvement project in Greenough park
- With help from the L&C neighborhood received funding to increase public education about holistic beneficial stormwater management at Bancroft Ponds
- Implemented a new way of managing vegetation on Missoula's levees
- Developing a habitat and water quality project in Takima park





2019 Growth of Partnerships

A culturally significant habitat restoration project takes root!

Restoring bitterroot populations at Ft. Missoula regional park :

-Cooperative project between the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes and the City of Missoula

-long-term goal = restore a collectible bitterroot population and reestablish traditional land use on-site

-In 2019 planted almost 1000 Bitterroots on site



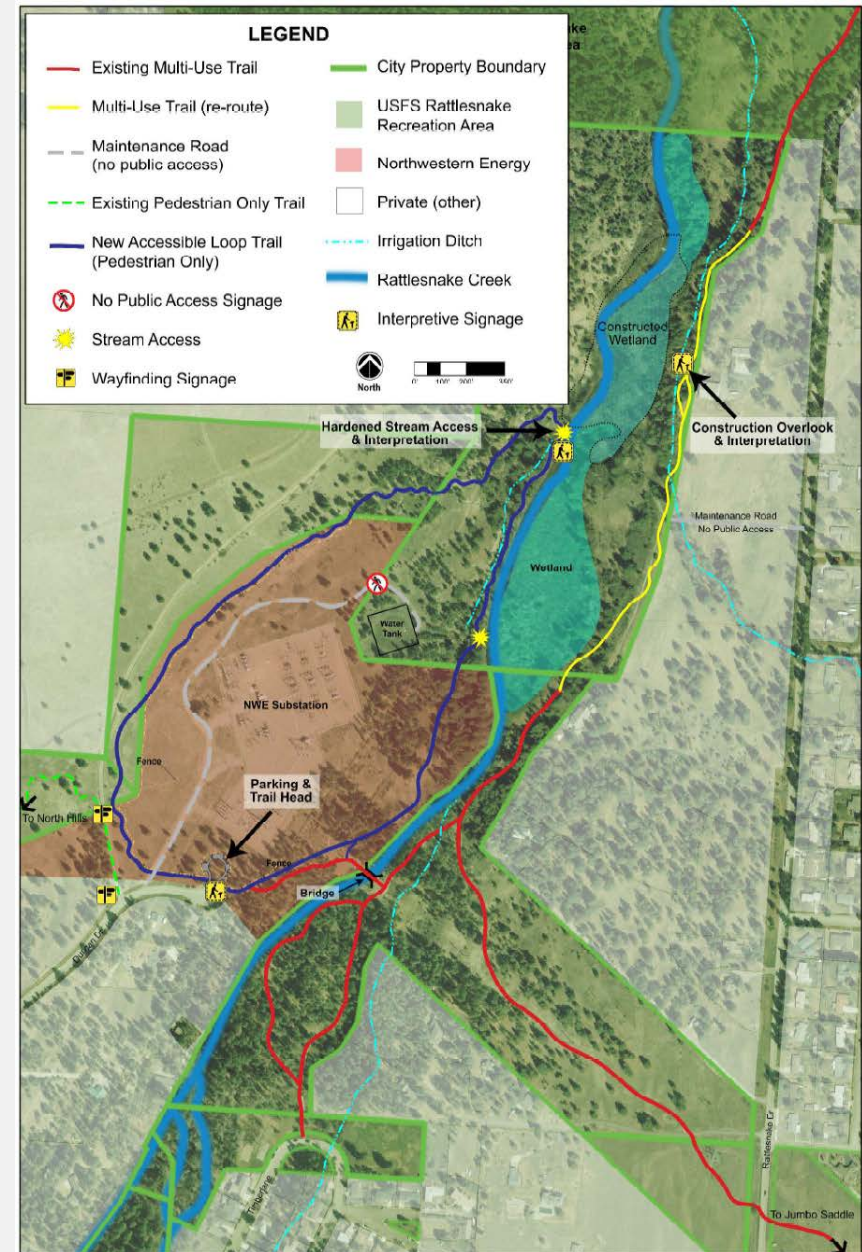
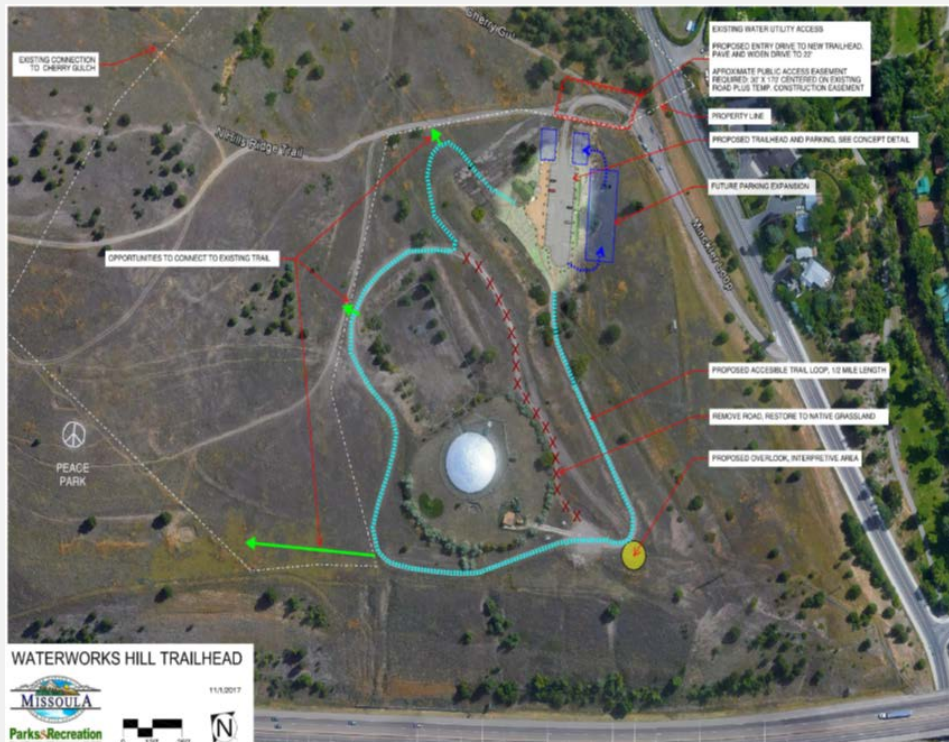
Project Priorities for 2020

Complete \$3 mil. in major habitat restoration and outdoor recreation projects.

- Remove and restore the Rattlesnake Dam and begin implementation of Public access plan on site.
- Rebuild Waterworks Trailhead, start other trailhead upgrades (OS bond projects)
- Begin Design & Engineering of Clark Fork River access sites (OS bond Project)

2019 Trailhead Inventory #s:

- 171 access points
- 19 (constructed) parking lots
- 394 individual signs
- 45 trash cans & 39 mutt-mitts

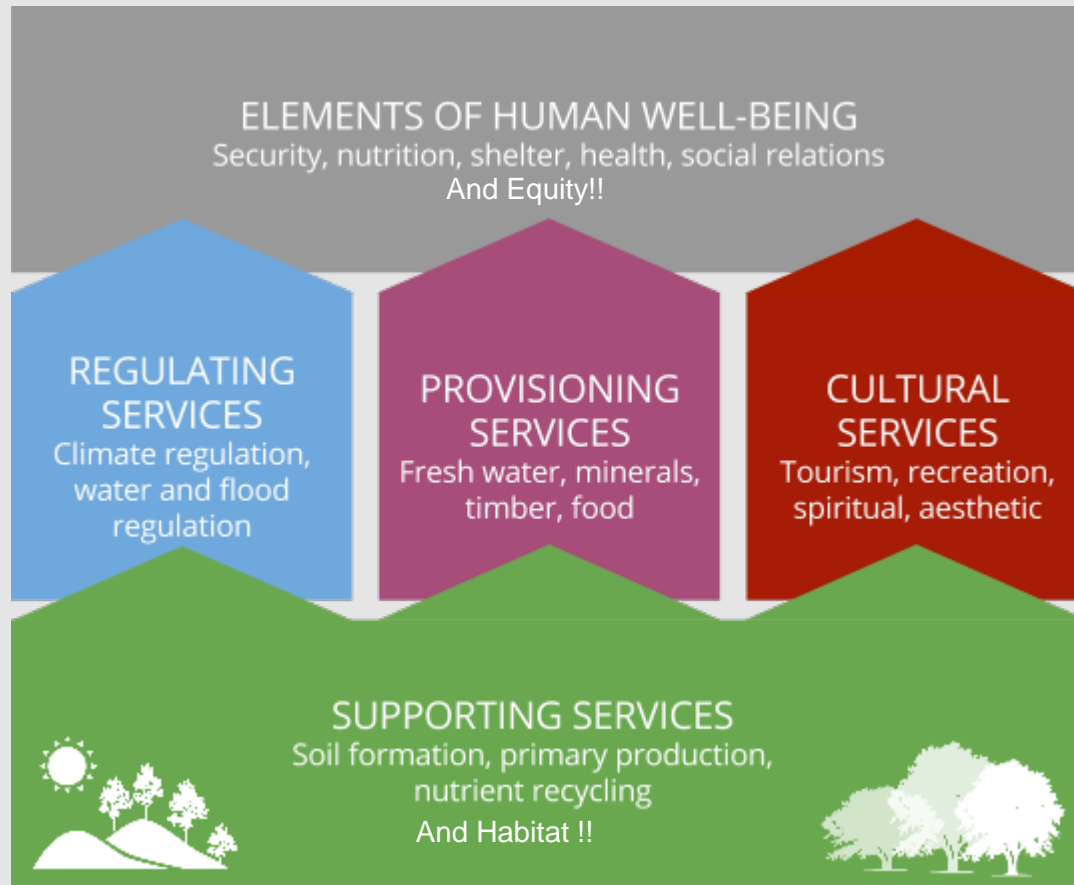


Rattlesnake Reservoir Site
 Figure #2 Conceptual Recreation Plan Page 67 of 72

Division Priorities for 2020

- Expand habitat conservation, environmental stewardship and sustainability projects within the City of Missoula
 - Work to prioritize long-term sustainability on City-owned lands
 - Develop more cooperative conservation, climate resiliency and inclusivity projects
 - Strive for fiscally responsible project implementation and long-term maintenance.
 - Implement the 2019 Open Space Plan, strategies in Missoula's Climate Action Plan and meet public expectations documented in the 2018 PROST survey
 - Add new Professional and Maintenance staff
- Welcome the birth of Missoula's Ecosystem Services Division

Ecosystem Services are the direct and indirect contributions of ecosystems to human well-being.



Missoula's Ecosystem Services Division

Primary Project Areas

1) Green Infrastructure and Climate Resiliency

- Cooperative projects to capture and filter stormwater, reduce human impacts on natural ecosystems and “soften” urban environments
- Implement city plans & policies, develop best management practices and design projects to reduce energy consumption and conserve water resources

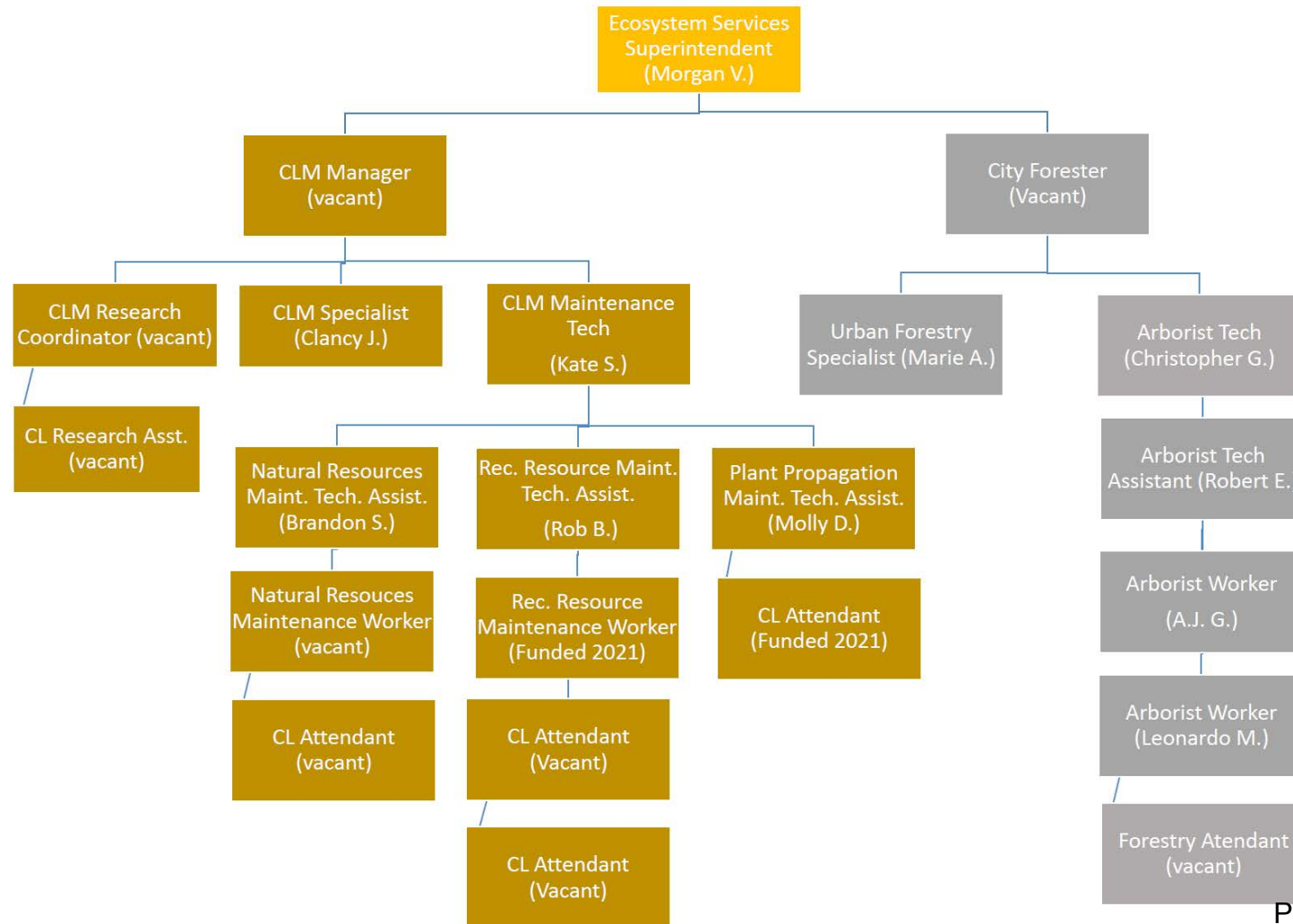
2) Outdoor Recreation Opportunities

- Cooperative projects to develop new and unique outdoor recreation & environmental education opportunities and to ensure long-term maintenance of those facilities
- Expand and improve existing outdoor recreation infrastructure

3) Alternative funding, volunteerism and Public education

- Implement strategies to expand project/program budgets through more grants, donations, partnerships and volunteerism
- Implement targeted educational campaigns, onsite education, outreach and partnerships to increase program support and to shift public practices from misuse to stewardship.

Missoula's Ecosystem Services Division



Thanks for Another Great Season!



Special Thanks to:

Missoula Water/Stormwater/Wastewater Utilities, Missoula Historic Preservation Office, Lewis & Clark Neighborhood Council, Garden City Compost, the Moon-Randolph Caretakers, MT. Dept. of Natural Resource, Clark Fork Coalition, Trout Unlimited, Msla. Co. Weed District, North Msla. Community Development Corp., Mt. Conservation Corps, Run Wild Missoula, MTB Missoula, Five Valley's Land Trust, Mt. Fish Wildlife and Parks, Lolo National Forest, FEMA, CLM crew members and HUNTERS.

Volunteers