

# Mount Rainier

N A T I O N A L P A R K

An Update on the General Management Plan

Agency Issues and Public Concerns  
Volume 1, Winter 1995

## MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT



Dear Friends:

*On behalf of the National Park Service, I thank those of you who are already active in planning the future of Mount Rainier National Park. For those yet to become involved, I invite you to join this important process.*

*Set in the Pacific Northwest's Cascade Mountains, Mount Rainier National Park features panoramic vistas, ancient forests, pristine alpine and subalpine meadows, and abundant glaciers. The aura of this special resource has attracted people from the region and beyond for generations.*

*Native Americans held "Takhoma" in awe and used the flora and fauna of its lower reaches for food, clothing, housing, and tools. Early explorers and settlers were attracted by the mountain's imposing profile, its spectacular scenery, and the challenge of climbing its upper slopes.*

*The Puget Sound area's population has grown tremendously since Mount Rainier was designated a national park in 1899. Today, it is one of the nation's largest and fastest growing metropolitan areas. With this growth, Mount Rainier has taken on the complexity and problems of a park in an urban setting. Growing threats to park resources and changes in the neighboring area accompany the two million annual visitors. Issues such as transportation to and within the park, along with protection of Mount Rainier's irreplaceable resources, must be addressed.*

*Your suggestions, concerns, and support are important as we prepare the plan that will guide the management of Mount Rainier National Park for the next 15 to 20 years. Please join us by participating in this challenging and hopefully rewarding task.*

William J. Briggie

## THE PLANNING PROCESS

### *An Introduction*

This is the first in a series of newsletters informing you of the ongoing process in planning for the future of Mount Rainier National Park. Newsletter #1 consists of information and findings from recent meetings involving the park planning staff and the public.

Each park in the national parks system has or will have an approved general management plan (GMP) that sets forth a management concept for the park; establishes a role for the unit within the context of regional trends; plans for conservation, recreation, transportation, economic development, and other regional issues; and identifies strategies for resolving the issues, usually within a period of 15 years.

The existing *Mount Rainier General Management Plan* was completed in 1974. This plan is outdated and does not address current trends and issues. The National Park Service (NPS) has initiated a planning process to create a

new, updated General Management Plan that will guide the park into the 21st century.

The National Park Service has assembled a park planning team with a wide range of backgrounds. The core planning team consists of professional planners from the NPS office in Denver and a staff of specialists from the park. Other contributors will include planning and engineering consultants from the private sector and planners from the NPS regional office in Seattle.

There are 3 major phases in the formulation of a general management plan:

- gathering information
- considering the possibilities
- selecting and refining a proposal

You will be involved in each one of these phases. ■

## PARK PURPOSE AND SIGNIFICANCE

One of the first tasks in the information gathering phase of the planning process is to provide a foundation and guiding parameters that describe the unique aspects of a national park. The park purpose and significance statements describe why a particular area is established as a national park, and what makes the area different and unique from other areas.

Park planners met at Mount Rainier from October 25-27, 1994, to determine how Mount Rainier National Park's purpose and significance will direct the planning process.

### PURPOSE

The purpose of Mount Rainier National Park is to:

- Protect and preserve its natural and cultural resources, processes, and values, while recognizing their increasing importance in the region and nation.
- Provide opportunities for visitors to experience and understand its environment without impairing its resources.
- Maintain wilderness values and provide for wilderness experiences.

### SIGNIFICANCE

The significance of Mount Rainier National Park

- At a height of 14,411 feet, Mount Rainier is the highest peak in the Pacific Northwest. It reaches into the upper atmosphere to disturb

great tides of eastwardmoving Pacific maritime air, resulting in spectacular cloud formations, prodigious amounts of rain, and world class snow falls.

- As a part of the Pacific Rim of Fire, Mount Rainier is an outstanding example of Cascade volcanism and has the largest alpine glacial system in the contiguous United States.
- Mount Rainier's history of eruptions and mudflows present a significant hazard to lowland communities.
- Because of its great elevation range and extensive glacial systems, Mount Rainier offers outstanding opportunities to study how biological communities respond to climatic change.
- The park contains outstanding examples of diverse vegetation communities, ranging from old growth forest to extensive subalpine meadows and ancient heather.
- The park is a vital remnant of the once widespread primeval Cascade ecosystem that provides habitat for species of the region's flora and fauna.
- As urban development expands, the park plays an increasingly important role in the region for the protection of open space and natural environment.
- Mount Rainier's watersheds nourish plant and animal communities in the valleys below, and are an important

source of water for the growing Puget Sound region.

- Mount Rainier has been a source of inspiration to many peoples through time. This quality contributed to the establishment of the national park in 1899.
- The mountain continues to be a prominent landmark that shapes the physical environment and human experience in the Pacific Northwest.
- The park's human environment, including roads, trails, buildings, and designed landscapes, is one of the best examples of how NPS policies, tourism trends, and environmental ethics have influenced development in the nation's parks during the 20th century.
- The park contains one of the nation's best examples of a largely intact complex of historic structures in the rustic park architectural style from the Civilian Conservation Corps era.
- The park offers recreational and educational opportunities in a wide range of scenic settings including, wildflower meadows, glaciers, and rain forests, all in a relatively compact area that is easily accessible to a large urban population.
- Mount Rainier's terrain and weather conditions offer world-class climbing opportunities that have tested the skills of climbers for more than a century. ■



# AGENCY ISSUES AND PUBLIC CONCERNS

## WHAT THE PUBLIC SAID

Public meetings were conducted from November 14-19, 1994 in Enumclaw, Morton, Eatonville, Tacoma, Seattle, and Yakima. The planning team discussed issues that were identified through scoping meetings with agency officials. The issues were organized into six categories and presented at each meeting for public consideration and input. At these meetings, concerned citizens from these communities and surrounding areas assisted the planning staff in identifying what they saw as the planning issues of Mount Rainier National Park.

Issues that were presented to the public included:

### NATURAL HAZARDS

Cautionary measures for flood and mudflow hazards are needed

### PARK BOUNDARIES

Are adjacent wilderness areas and "late successional reserves" enough to protect the park?

### NEIGHBORING COMMUNITIES

Unplanned growth in gateway communities could threaten or interfere with visual and natural resources of the park. At the same time, it may not be desirable to expand services within the park. Possible solutions suggested by the planning staff included:

- orderly growth in gateway communities
- opportunities to plan and locate administrative and transit facilities outside the park boundaries
- reliance on gateway communities to provide commercial services for park visitors

### WILDERNESS RESOURCES AND USE

-Solitude is diminishing.  
-Resources are being degraded.  
-Air and water quality, fisheries, and wildlife are threatened.  
-Day use is increasing and is becoming unmanageable.  
-Staff increases are unlikely.

### DEVELOPED AREA RESOURCES AND USE

-Existing parking capacity is grossly exceeded.  
-Trails in wildflower meadows may be over capacity.  
-Visitors wander off trails and cause damage.  
-Vegetative restoration is costly and only partially successful.

### WINTER USE

-Costs of roadclearing and supervision of safe snowplay are high.  
-Winter access problems exist in other areas of the park.

### OTHER CONCERNS

Other issues the public wishes to discuss

After listening to the issues identified by the planning team, participants then divided into groups of 8-10 to discuss the validity of the issues, identify other issues, and provide their comments on how issues and concerns could be solved.

Comments that were expressed in most or all communities included:

### NATURAL HAZARDS

-Educate the public about natural hazards that occur in the park such as mudflows, flooding, and fire.  
-Establish an emergency/evacuation plan.  
-Provide information both inside and outside of the park about the potential risks involved with natural hazards that occur in the park.

### PARK BOUNDARIES

-Coordinate with surrounding public and private agencies to develop cooperative land management plans.  
-Do not rely solely on Forest Service land use preservation policies on surrounding forest lands to protect the park ecosystems.  
-Clearly mark park boundaries.

### NEIGHBORING COMMUNITIES

-Provide a shuttle system from outside of the park to alleviate congestion.  
-Establish long-term planning for gateway communities.  
-Discourage strip commercial development in gateway communities.  
-Encourage commercial businesses in gateway communities to provide information about the travel conditions near and in the park.

### WILDERNESS RESOURCES AND USE

-Educate visitors about the environmental damage caused by off-trail use.  
-Educate visitors before they arrive at the park.  
-Recruit more volunteers to help educate visitors and maintain trails.  
-Law enforcement rangers must be more strict with visitors who walk off of trails.  
-Limit the number of day users in wilderness areas by:

- issuing permits
- providing shuttle services
- controlling the number of visitors entering at the gates

### DEVELOPED AREA RESOURCES AND USE

-Implement methods to control overcrowding.  
-Provide a transit system.  
-Educate people about staying on trail and the impacts that occur from off-trail use.  
-Educate visitors on how they can protect and preserve the park's resources by providing videos, talks, and written information during a shuttle ride into the park.  
-Use shuttle vehicles that produce less pollution (i.e. propane gas).  
-Limit the number of visitors in developed areas.

### WINTER USE

-Charge a winter use fee to offset high costs of road and snowplay area maintenance.  
-Develop a special snowboarding area.  
-Prohibit snowboarding in the park.

### OTHER CONCERNS

-Fees collected at the park should stay in the park.  
-Westside Road should be reopened.  
-Westside Road should remain closed.



## MORTON

Thirteen people registered at the meeting in Morton. Participants divided into two groups and brainstormed over comments presented by the park planning team. Topics that generated lengthy discussion included the relationship of the park with surrounding communities and landowners and alternative transportation methods.

Most people felt that gateway communities must strive for better communication with the park. Likewise, the park should continue to network closely with gateway communities and community organizations to relay day-to-day park information (i.e. possible boundary changes), and listen to community concerns. Participants also thought that the park should coordinate with public and private agencies to manage for a uniform transition of land uses ranging from wilderness uses along park boundaries to more intensive uses farther from park boundaries. Other suggestions for enacting transitional uses along boundaries were to offer private owners incentives and land exchanges that would protect critical wilderness areas. One person expressed concern that if shuttle buses were located outside of gateway communities, then park visitors may be "transported" past various businesses in the communities.

Wilderness comments included defining who uses the wilderness (i.e. older or younger visitors) and what type of wilderness experience they are seeking (i.e. solitude). Several participants felt that park planners need to arrive at a balance between wilderness preservation and wilderness use. Suggestions included education and outreach programs to communicate acceptable ways to use the park, recruitment of more volunteers to help educate visitors to stay on trails, stronger law enforcement for visitors who wander off trails, and visitor day-use limits through a permit system.

Some participants expressed many of the same concerns for developed area use as wilderness use. Many felt that an acceptable day-use recreation setting must be defined before establishing use limits. One person thought that too many uses are concentrated in too small an area. A variety of recreational activities should be dispersed within and outside of the park to help re-distribute visitors and alleviate crowded areas.

Many participants felt that a wide range of winter uses should be retained and winter access should be provided. One person thought that winter use should be expanded because it would provide for year-round employment and be beneficial to the local economy.



## ENUMCLAW

Ten people registered at the meeting in Enumclaw. Participants focused their attention on access into the park, transportation concerns, limiting visitor numbers, and how to better obtain day-to-day information at the park.

The participants expressed mixed ideas on the subject of access into the park. Some thought that roads should be

closed or restricted to certain uses. Others thought that closing roads and trails in some areas would put pressure on other areas in the park. Some people thought that climbing access on Mount Rainier should be restricted, while others felt that such a move would discriminate against climbers.

Most participants felt that a shuttle transportation system that originated outside park boundaries was necessary. One suggestion was to have an efficient transportation system that accommodates and educates users between dropoff points. Some people felt transportation systems for pedestrians and cyclists should be improved. One person cited problems with transit systems and suggested that planners become more aware of mistakes and problems occurring elsewhere.

Most participants felt that the park needs to manage visitor numbers more efficiently. Suggestions included managing a high volume of visitors by zoning the park or allow a self-limiting number to occur. One person stated that everyone has a right to the park and should be allowed access.

Several participants offered ideas on educating the public through more efficient distribution of information. Some suggested placing a gate at the park entrance on State Route 410 and staffing this facility year-round.



## YAKIMA

Eight people attended the meeting in Yakima. Because of the small number of people attending, participants remained in one group. The group had several comments on neighboring communities, wilderness resources, and winter use.

One person felt that more park information should be available to Yakima residents and suggested that the Forest Service (Natchez) remain open on weekends to offer information on Mount Rainier as well as Forest Service lands. Another participant suggested that a toll free phone number be made available to Yakima residents so they could call to gain information about weather, road closures, etc., before travelling to the park.

Participants felt that stricter law enforcement for non-compliant behavior was needed in the wilderness and that rangers should inform visitors about noncompliant behavior. One participant thought that monetary fines need to be given to visitors that repeatedly walk off trails.

Solutions to wilderness issues that were discussed included the use of trams or reducing commercial services to limit the number of visitors in the park, and closing Sunrise to White River area to reduce negative impacts on natural resources. One person stated that increased visitor distribution in the park may result in widespread negative impacts on natural resources.

Other ideas included increasing winter access to the park from Yakima, ensuring that visitors have paid by checking their receipts when they exit the park, implementing a lift gate operated by a credit card to save costs associated with entrance gate employees, and charging fees per person instead of by car.



## EATONVILLE

Ten people registered at the meeting. Participants divided into two groups after the park planning staff presentation. Issue categories that generated the most response included neighboring communities, developed area use, and wilderness use.

Many participants expressed concern over potential uncontrolled growth in gateway communities, and suggested that planning be examined in a regional context (i.e., working with Pierce County and the state of Washington to plan comprehensively). On a local level, participants thought that communities should work to maintain their rural character and discourage commercial strip development along busy corridors.

Participants felt that the Park Service needs a rationale for protecting existing park boundaries or establishing new ones. One person suggested that any proposed boundary changes should be based on ecological systems or features such as streams or wildlife corridors, and not property lines.

Participants believed that wilderness use comments could be addressed through the distribution and education of users rather than an overall limit on visitor numbers. One group discussed the issue of solitude and questioned whether the same degree of solitude should be maintained throughout the park. Concluding that it should not, these participants brain-

stormed methods to protect resources and maintain solitude in heavily used wilderness areas. Methods included limiting parking lot capacities at trailheads, designating pedestrian pullouts along trails to control visitor direction and distribution, and education through multi-lingual brochures, videos, and programs. The other group discussed ways of distributing wilderness users by developing unmaintained trails, placing limits on heavily used or impacted areas, and educating the public about alternate hiking and climbing routes.

In regard to developed area comments, one person suggested that visitors could be encouraged to visit less crowded areas by providing a shuttle to those areas. Other ways of limiting or distributing crowds included enforcing laws to prohibit overflow parking in Paradise, and providing long-term parking or a shuttle for overnight visitors. One participant suggested encouraging visitors to visit the park during low-use days by charging a higher entrance fee on weekends, holidays, and other high-use days.

Other issues that were discussed included the appropriateness of, and ways of reducing costs of winter use. One participant thought that the park should charge parking fees during the winter to recover the cost of winter plowing. Another suggested clearing only enough parking and loading space for a shuttle, and prohibiting cars in the winter. Other winter use comments included assessing the appropriateness of snowboarding in the park, improving access to and maintenance of wilderness trails, and improving high altitude and wilderness human waste management.



## TACOMA

Thirty-one people attended the meeting in Tacoma. Participants divided into four groups to discuss and brainstorm issue categories presented by park staff. Topics that generated lengthy discussion included implementing mass transit from Tacoma and within the park, issues concerning gateway communities, boundary issues, and winter use issues.

All participants focused on issues of transportation to and within the park. Most participants believed that a proposed train from Tacoma to the park was a good idea, but some expressed concerns that the train would take too long to get to the park and that local residents would not use it. All groups discussed implementing a shuttle system. One group suggested a supervised parking lot with restrooms next to businesses in a gateway community. Some participants cited potential problems associated with shuttles. One person stated that a shuttle may not be beneficial to hikers that must be dropped off at specific points and carry space-consuming equipment. Most agreed that a shuttle should be affordable and staged from outside park boundaries.

Solutions to gateway community issues included planning for commercial opportunities while retaining the character of the community. One participant suggested that the park develop partnerships with neighboring communities to maintain the quality of the environment along corridors to the park. Others felt strongly about locating alternative recreational opportunities outside the park to reduce park visitor impacts on park resources. Participants also suggested that gateway communities provide information to visitors regarding appropriate use of park resources, food and lodging alternatives, and recreational alternatives.

Boundary issue discussions centered around communication and partnership with the Forest Service, Crystal Mountain Ski Resort, and private timber companies. One person suggested that the Park Service work with the Forest Service to address possible mitigations such as replanting logged areas, implementing alternative harvesting plans such as selective cuts, and ensuring the preservation of some areas. Participants also felt that the Park Service should communicate with private land owners such as Champion (west side) and Plum Creek (Carbon area) about protecting forest lands surrounding park boundaries. Participants also suggested that the park work with Crystal Mountain Ski Resort, along with other private, state, and federal agencies, to identify regional recreation opportunities and where various types of recreation opportunities are most appropriate.

Many participants thought that protecting natural resources should be a priority. Discussions included limiting visitor numbers in the wilderness, ensuring wilderness opportunities for all ages and fitness levels, and controlling day use hikers through permitting system for heavily used trails. One person suggested charging a special use fee for use of trails, and returning the profits to the park for trail maintenance. Another felt the park staff should educate visitors about the finite nature of resources in the park, and close the park when a visitor capacity has been reached. Many participants suggested that the Park

Service take advantage of volunteer help, especially for tasks such as park clean-up, visitor education, and public outreach.

Developed area comments again involved implementing a shuttle system. One person suggested that visitors ride a shuttle when parking is near capacity at Paradise. Another stated that a parking fee be charged at Paradise, and profits be used to subsidize a free shuttle system beginning outside the park. Participants felt strongly about developed area parking lots being over capacity. One person stated that overflow parking be controlled by limiting access at entrances, while another person felt that parking lots should be reduced.

Other developed area concerns included reducing speed limits throughout the park, limited widening of roads and cutting of trees, and the preservation/protection of historic buildings.

Participants expressed concerns not covered under other categories. One participant valued summer interpretation and recycling programs and thought they should be retained. Others felt that closed roads should be posted a good distance from the closure. Many agreed that charging climbing fees in the park was appropriate and that fees should be retained in the park.



## SEATTLE

Fifteen people registered for the meeting in Seattle, although approximately 27 people were present. Participants divided into four groups and discussed issues presented by the park planning team. Topics that generated lengthy discussion included natural hazards, boundary issues, and both developed area and wilderness use in the park.

Some participants stressed education and public awareness about natural hazards by reporting natural hazard information in the Tahoma Magazine. Other comments included considering prescribed natural fire, or "let burn" policies, and reducing mud flow hazards by locating any future structures away from the valley bottom.

Participants thought that park and gateway community planning should be done at a regional level. One participant suggested that park planners study different scenarios of outside development and analyze how these scenarios could affect the park. Others suggested that the park and gateway communities take an active role in regional planning by participating in neighborhood planning.

Boundary comments centered around logging practices and land management after logging. One participant felt that more long-term management of clearcuts was needed, and that continued logging is forcing the park to become an "island" that is isolating wildlife species dependent on forested areas. One person suggested alternative logging methods such as selective cuts. Other participants stressed "shared" management plans that employ ecosystem management methods. Someone suggested establishing ideal boundaries for various components of interest such as a wildlife habitat, visual integrity, etc., to create "the ideal" boundary configuration. Other comments include protecting the Chenius Creek area, coordinating with the Forest Service and the state department of transportation on projects such as State Route 410, and controlling illegal hunting along the north boundary.

Wilderness comments varied considerably. One group stressed educating the public about natural resources and potential damage done by human use, while other groups felt that preservation of the wilderness was top priority and that visitor use limits, user fees and fines for non-compliant behavior should be mechanisms to protect resources. A participant stated that if large groups were acceptable in the wilderness, then a "sacrifice" area should be allowed, instead of permitting large groups to adversely impact widespread areas.

Common developed area comments included feasibility of shuttles. Many participants felt that mass transit to the park may compound problems associated with overcrowding. Others felt that showing educational videos about park resources and protection strategies to people riding on shuttles would be an effective way to educate the public.

Other ideas discussed included assessing the risks of diesel fuel storage, ensuring protection of the Nisqually River corridor (from the park to Puget Sound), banning inappropriate uses that may disturb wildlife, enforcement of "don't feed wildlife" policies, and studying the impacts of increasing visitation on park streams.

## VISION STATEMENT: Olympic and Mount Rainier National Parks, June 1993

*Future visitors to Olympic and Mount Rainier National Parks will encounter a landscape where natural processes operate on a grand scale with little hindrance. The many panoramic vistas of these parks show nature functioning as it has for thousands of years. Mountains and forests in various states of succession, pristine watersheds, and wilderness coastlines, reveal natural processes at work. At times, the appearance of these processes may not be visually appealing in the wake of fire or other naturally occurring events.*

*In this grand setting, ecological processes are apparent at all scales, from the geologic time scale of canyons carved by rivers, to ocean tides shaping pristine beaches, from the movement of gigantic ice flows, to the moment-by-moment pace of park fauna. Complex interrelationships of all components of the park's environments - from the mountain tops to the smallest life forms - will be experienced through protection and interpretation.*

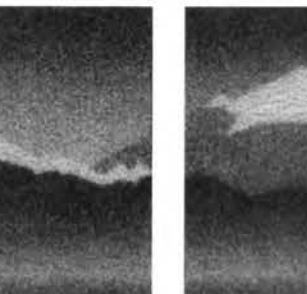
*The parks will be managed consistent with principles of biological diversity,*



*emphasizing the variety of living organisms, the genetic differences among them, and the communities and ecosystems in which they occur.*

*Additionally, cultural resources will be interpreted, as knowledge of the cultural history of these parks complements the natural history. Contributions from the historic, cultural and ethnic diversity of the area will be interpreted.*

*Management activities will be attuned to maintain the naturalness of ecological processes operating with minimal interference. Public use and enjoyment will be encouraged, so that human activities are a reasonable part of these processes. Opportunities for education will comple-*



*ment visitor use of the parks, emphasizing and interpreting the parks' wilderness designation, while recognizing the needs of an expanding urban population.*

*Quality visitor services and facilities will be provided while protection of park resources remains the primary concern. Development will be minimal and of high standards, using complimentary architectural themes. Low impact access impacts to the parks, such as transportation systems, will be pursued. Gateway communities will be encouraged to provide additional appropriate visitor services.*

*To ensure the epitome of park management and operations, a work force will be*

*developed and maintained to meet the highest standard of professionalism, and will remain current in state-of-the-art concepts and technology.*

*The parks will pursue the greatest possible public benefit through partnerships with other federal agencies, as well as state, local and tribal authorities; the Congress, and individuals and organizations in the private sector. "Friends groups" will be encouraged.*

*Public involvement in resource decisions is essential. This effort will be further enhanced by park managers engaging in a proactive information sharing program through the media. These efforts will increase the consciousness of those living in the Puget Sound to the importance and value of the National Park System; Mount Rainier and Olympic in particular.*

**WHERE THERE IS NO VISION - PARKS PERISH  
THE PARKS WILL LEAD BY EXAMPLE**



The planning team will consider the comments put forth by the public in the November 1994 meetings, then formulate a range of potential visions for public comment later in 1995. Each of these broad visions will describe a different kind of Mount Rainier National Park that could result in the future of the park. Each vision will depict a scenario for protecting the parks resources and the types of experiences that would be available to visitors. Your input on these visions at the next

step in the public involvement process will enable the planning team to describe a broad future for the park and will be the basis for generating the plan alternatives. These alternatives will be described later in the draft general management plan and environmental impact statement.

Subsequent newsletters will keep you informed of planning progress and will give you opportunities to comment on the emerging issues. In addition, we will notify you about the next set of public meetings where you will be able to express your views on the alternatives.

**Do you know someone who wants to join our mailing list??**

**Write on the attached comment card or call:**

**Eric Walkinshaw, Chief of Planning  
Mount Rainier National Park  
Longmire, WA 98397**

**(206) 569-2211 x3362**

**The Planning Process**

**Collecting Information** → **Considering Possibilities** → **Selecting and refining a proposal**

**WE ARE HERE**

**Collecting Information:**

- Determine Park Purpose and Significance
- Scoping Agency Issues and Public Concerns

**Considering Possibilities:**

- Develop a Range of Future Visions
- Select a Optimal Future
- Develop Alternative Management Actions for Preferred Future

**Selecting and refining a proposal:**

- Select a Preferred Alternative
- Draft General Management Plan/Development Concept Plans/ Environmental Impact Statement
- Final General Management Plan/Development Concept Plans/ Environmental Impact Statement

**NEWSLETTER #1** → Determine Park Purpose and Significance

**NEWSLETTER #2** → Develop a Range of Future Visions

**NEWSLETTER #3** → Develop Alternative Management Actions for Preferred Future

**DRAFT PLAN FOR PUBLIC REVIEW** → Draft General Management Plan/Development Concept Plans/ Environmental Impact Statement

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We encourage you to write to us if you have any thoughts or comments about what you have read in this newsletter. Please fold this form as indicated, enclose additional sheets of comments if necessary, tape it shut (no staples please) and mail it to the preprinted address. We look forward to hearing from you.

*Thank you for your interest in Mount Rainier National Park.*

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