



## LECLERC CREEK WILDLIFE AREA 2007 MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife



### Land Management Summary

This is an update to the 2006 LeClerc Creek Wildlife Area Management Plan

([http://wdfw.wa.gov/lands/wildlife\\_areas/management\\_plans/index.htm](http://wdfw.wa.gov/lands/wildlife_areas/management_plans/index.htm)) that provides management direction

for the LeClerc Creek Wildlife Area located in Pend Oreille County along the east side of the Pend Oreille River; about 25 miles northwest of Newport and 65 miles northwest of Spokane. The four land units totaling 614 owned acres were purchased with Pitman-Robertson and State Wildlife funds in 1972. The majority of the area is forested and is managed for a variety of wildlife habitat improvements and public

recreation opportunities. The plan identifies needs and guides activities on the area based on the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) Mission of “Sound Stewardship of Fish and Wildlife” and its underlying statewide goals and objectives as they apply to local conditions.

Plans are updated annually as habitat and species conditions change, as new regulations and scientific knowledge develop, as public issues and concerns evolve, and as administration of wildlife areas change. This management plan update also includes 2006 accomplishments, new issues, new land management strategies and performance measures for 2007.

### Updates/Changes

No updates or changes to the 2006 plan were identified for 2007.

### New Issues

No additional new issues were identified in 2006.

### Major Stewardship Accomplishments

Noxious weed management goals were met in 2006. Populations of Leafy Spurge, Diffuse Knapweed and Dalmatian Toadflax were reduced.

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### **Status Report of 2006 Performance Measures**

Key performance measures are identified each year to monitor progress and identify any issues that might interfere with planned priority activities. This information will be used to delete, add or alter priority strategies for 2007.

| <b>2006 Performance Measure</b>   | <b>Status of Performance Measure</b>  | <b>Explanation of Progress/ 2007 Related Activity/ Comments</b>                 |
|---|---|---|
| Work with WDFW forester and local biologists to develop forest management practices that accomplish PHS objectives for the wildlife area. | Discussed possible forest management options with WDFW forester and the district biologist. | Continue to develop in 2007. Implement appropriate management if budget allows. |
| Meet the goals in the weed management plan for 2006.  | Accomplished in 2006.   | Continue in 2007.   |
| Mow 2 acres of forest openings to increase succulent forage.  | Not accomplished. Staff on other projects.  | Identify new areas and continue in 2007.  |
| Expand open meadows by 1 acre and install 10 nest boxes for bluebirds.  | Not accomplished.   | Continue in 2007. Use local volunteer or school groups to complete this.        |
| Develop/implement Grizzly Bear management guidelines in 2006.   | Not accomplished.   | Post appropriate signs for public awareness in cooperation with USFS.           |

### **New Strategies**

No new strategies were identified for 2007.

### **2007 Performance Measures**

Performance measures for the Sherman Creek Wildlife Area are listed below. Accomplishments and progress toward desired outcomes will be monitored and evaluated annually.

- 1) Plan management of LeClerc and Sherman Creek Wildlife Areas so that performance measures are adequately addressed
- 2) Develop a list of forest management options to be implemented if funding becomes available.
- 3) Mow 2 acres of forest openings to increase succulent forage.
- 4) Appropriate weed control on the wildlife area, with focus on areas adjacent to roads. Meet the goals for 2007 outlined in the weed management plan. Concentrate control efforts on Leafy spurge, Diffuse Knapweed, and Dalmatian Toadflax populations. Review the year's weed control work, using reports generated, and compare effort and success to previous years' weed control activities.
- 5) Post signs to increase public awareness of Grizzly Bears.
- 6) Document options for elk management projects.

- 7) Explore options for waterfowl habitat development along the Pend Oreille River (ponds, nesting habitat etc).
- 8) Expand open meadows by 1 acre and install 10 nest boxes for bluebirds.
- 9) Close road access where road conditions are not safe or where conditions have a significant negative impact on fish and wildlife.
- 10) As habitat surveys are conducted and analyzed, determine general trend of habitat quality. If quality is declining, attempt to determine cause of decline and develop/implement strategies to improve habitat quality.
- 11) Conduct at least 1 project using volunteer or school groups for outreach and education.
- 12) Update plans as appropriate, including WA plan and all listed appendices.
- 13) Maintain all signs, parking areas and access sites.
- 14) Maintain current licenses and certifications required for staff.
- 15) Identify any capital project needs for the wildlife area.
- 16) Maintain current fire protection contracts

### **Citizens Advisory Group Input**

A CAG meeting was scheduled for August of 2007. No input was received.

#### **Want to see the full plan?**

Go to -

[http://wdfw.wa.gov/lands/wildlife\\_areas/management\\_plans/index.htm](http://wdfw.wa.gov/lands/wildlife_areas/management_plans/index.htm)

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