

Interpretive Plan for

Silver Falls State Park

June 30, 2009



Interpretive Plan

for

Silver Falls State Park

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Glossary of Terms

The following terms are used in this document:

EuroAmerician

This refers to non-Native Americans who came to settle the West.

Iterative Process

A process that involves repeating a step or series of steps, such as developing and presenting concepts and repeating that presentation with changes and refinements as many times as necessary to gain approval.

Media Prescription

This is the set of recommendations for interpretive and wayfinding strategies in the planning area, such as talks, presentations, exhibits, signs, kiosks, brochures, and interpretive trails. It typically identifies and describes the strategy, identifies the location for the strategy and provides a description and concept to provide information to the designer.

Strategy or opportunity

This refers to a sign, brochure, presentation or some other technique for communicating information.

Universal Design Standards

This is a set of standards for the design of facilities, sites, products, services and environments that accommodate the widest range of potential users, including people with mobility, visual and auditory impairments and other special needs.

Visitor Information Network

This refers to all of the information that supports a visitor's interpretive experience at Silver Falls State Park.

Components of such a network typically include:

- 'Didjacks' – these are tidbits of information; the type that piques curiosity and makes a person want to know more. These essentially market the interpretive experience.
- Interpretation – informal education strategies, such as signs, exhibits and presentations that typically focus on history, natural history and management.
- Orientation – strategies designed to provide overall orientation to a visitor to a location and increase awareness of visitor opportunities in that area. This is typically in the form of a map.
- Wayfinding – strategies focused on guiding that person to all interpretive sites and features, i.e., showing them the way. It includes maps, directional signs, orientation panels and similar strategies.

Table of Contents

Introduction	
Overview	1
Purpose of the Interpretive Plan	1
Keys to Approach	1
Goals and Objectives	
Vision	2
Introduction	2
Goals	2
Objectives	2
The Plan	
Introduction	6
Themes	7
Organization of Themes	7
Primary Theme	7
Themes	7
Delivery Strategies	9
Pre-Visit Strategies	10
South Falls Day Use Area	
Recreation Area	12
Historic District	13
Interpretive Center	19
North Falls Day Use Area	
North Falls Day Use Area	38
Central Entrance and Campground	
Central Entrance and Campground Area	47

Major Gateways, Trailheads and Viewpoints	
South Gateway	51
Winter Falls Trailhead	51
East Rim Trailhead	53
North Falls Viewpoint	53
North Falls Trailhead	55
North Falls Overflow Parking	56
North Falls Bike Trailhead	56
Trail of Ten Falls	
Trail of Ten Falls	58
North Campground and Headquarters Complex	
North Campground	63
Headquarters Complex	64
The Ranches	
The Ranches	65
Smith Creek Conference Center	
Smith Creek Conference Center	68
Silver Creek Youth Camp	
Silver Creek Youth Camp	72
Events	75
Environmental Education and Outreach	77
Cost Range Estimates	79
10-Year Implementation Plan	83
Appendix A: Inventory of Existing Interpretive Signs	84

Introduction

Overview

Silver Falls State Park encompasses an area with rich natural history. At one time, this area was on the coast; uplift and volcanic activity built up the land to the west so it is now in the foothills of the Cascade Mountains. Repeated basalt flows and ash fall created a landscape that was probably relatively flat and barren, but flowing water carved it into a spectacular canyon and series of waterfalls. All of these geomorphology stories can be seen in the existing landscape, from fossilized marine organisms in blocks of sedimentary rock to layers of ash and basalt exposed in the rock faces of the waterfalls. The existing landscape also supports a large tract of lowland temperate rainforest with all its associated flora and fauna, making it an excellent site for learning about an ecosystem that once dominated much of western Oregon.

The park is also rich in cultural history, supporting a wide variety of human endeavors over time.

- Native Americans gathered food and materials from the forests and stream;
- Loggers harvested the timber for fuel and building materials;
- Homesteaders settled and worked the land;
- Entrepreneurs established businesses in Silver Falls City;
- People from Salem came out to camp and visit the falls on weekends;
- June Drake photographed the area extensively and pushed for its protection as a park;
- Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) recognized its value and established the park in 1933;
- Men from the Civilian Conservation Corps and the Work Projects Administration built recreational facilities here and called it home for a short while during the Great Depression;
- A Recreation Demonstration Area (RDA) was established as part of an experimental program in the New Deal, resulting in one of the first and largest conservation efforts in the history of the United States.

Now, thousands of people every year come to enjoy the falls and the recreational opportunities at Silver Falls State Park, one of the jewels in the Oregon State Park system. In fact, it is probably the best known state park in the system.

Silver Falls is an Interpretive Service Level 5 park according to the OPRD Regional Interpretive Framework (RIF), which is the highest level designation for interpretation in OPRD. Based on that designation, Silver Falls is to provide world-class experiences, serve as a base for outreach educational programming, offer dedicated interpretive staffing and public access seven days a week year round, and have multiple interpretive sites in the park with guided and self-guided tours or trails. With the significance of features in the park, notoriety of the park and high visitation, it also has need of an interpretive facility, a feature typically associated with a Level 5 park.

Purpose of Plan

The current interpretive program in the park was established in 2000, and has made significant progress during the first decade of the 21st century. To continue developing an effective high quality interpretive program and to integrate interpretive opportunities into all visitor experiences at Silver Falls, OPRD contracted to have an Interpretive Master Plan developed in conjunction with a Master Planning effort being conducted in-house. This plan is the culmination of the interpretive planning effort. It contains an action plan and design concepts for interpretive, orientation, and wayfinding strategies to guide and facilitate developing the interpretive network. While reading the plan, please consider the following points:

- This is a *plan*, not a design. An Interpretive Plan provides a manager with sufficient information to make decisions regarding funding priorities and a designer with sufficient information to design.
- Although environmental education is an integral part of the Oregon State Parks system, this is an interpretive plan – not an education plan. Although it does address field trips, it does not address environmental education or educational standards.
-
- The content of this plan reflects the current vision

for interpretation in the system of Oregon State Parks.

- The recommendations are based on information and circumstances that are true *at this time*. As circumstances, audience, goals, and information change, the plan should be modified accordingly.

Following approval of the plan, projects will be selected based on the Implementation Plan and on available funding. The new interpretive strategies can then be evaluated based on the desired outcomes of the plan to determine whether the planning effort was successful.

Keys to Approach

Basis for Planning Approach

The plan was developed using an adaptation of the 5-M model of interpretive planning developed by John Hanna and currently endorsed by the National Association for Interpretation (NAI). That approach is documented in "Interpretive Planning: The 5-M Model for Successful Planning Projects" by Lisa Brochu. The 5-M interpretive planning method involves first considering the management issues, intended messages, markets, and mechanics of the site before selecting the media used to deliver the messages.

Universal Design

The intent of ADA provisions is to promote equal access to the built environment for those with impairments. Braille and audio supposedly address the needs of those with visual impairments; elevators, lifts, grade and surface of trails, and other modifications to the physical environment address the needs of those with mobility impairments; and visuals and text, including captioned multi-media programs, address the needs of those with auditory impairments. However, most of the ADA provisions focus on physical access to information, not content. They also do not address the needs of these audiences at the experiential level. To address these needs we used a universal design approach, which focuses on creating experiences that can be enjoyed by all parts of the target audience, including those with impairments. This approach

involves integration of multiple delivery strategies that strive to use multiple senses. The result is an overall experience with opportunities that meet the needs of the few while enhancing the experience of everyone. When this project moves to the design phase, a universal design approach should be used by the designer.

Relationship to Master Plan

This plan was developed concurrently with the master plan for the park and is based on the development concepts called for in that plan. Where applicable, those development concepts are summarized to clarify the recommendations for interpretive opportunities.

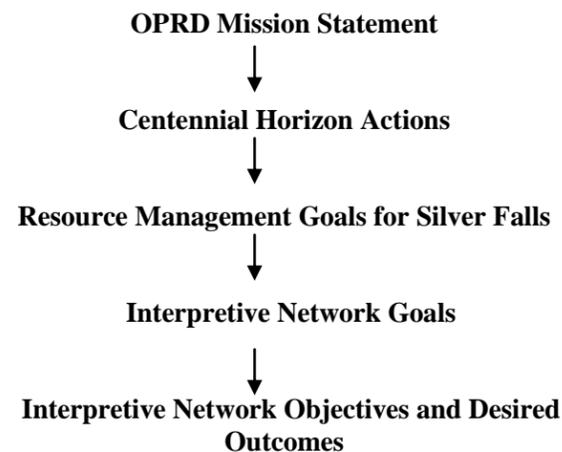
Goals and Desired Outcomes

Vision

“Through interpretation, we will strive to strengthen visitors' interest in, understanding of, appreciation for, and connection to Silver Falls; which, in time, will lead to the preservation and protection of this and other wild places.”

Introduction

The goal hierarchy contained in this section reflects the following structure:



Interpretive Network Goals were derived from the Resource Management Goals by assessing how an interpretive network could help achieve each of the goals. Objectives and Desired Outcomes were derived from the Interpretive Network Goals by determining what measurable changes in knowledge, attitude and behavior on the part of the visitor would help make progress towards each of the Interpretive Network Goals.

The hierarchy is developed in this manner to clearly show the link between recommended actions

associated with developing a network of orientation and interpretive opportunities and the mission statement of OPRD.

In addition to Mission Statement and Resource Management Goals, OPRD Centennial Horizon Actions relating to interpretation in this park and input from the working group on Desired Behavioral Outcomes were used to focus the Goals and Objectives.

The Mission Statement, Resource Management Goals and OPRD Centennial Horizon Principles relevant to this project can be found in the Background Information for the Silver Falls State Park Interpretive Plan.

Goals

- Goal #1:** Protect and conserve natural, cultural and scenic resources of Silver Falls while using them to provide recreational, interpretive and educational experiences.
- Goal #2:** Increase public support and strengthen the constituency for Silver Falls specifically and OPRD in general.
- Goal #3:** Increase the number of visitors taking advantage of interpretive opportunities, both fixed and programmatic at the park, and the number of visitors who engage in extended learning opportunities.

Objectives

Goal #1:
Protect and conserve natural, cultural and scenic resources of Silver Falls while using them to provide recreational, interpretive and educational experiences.

Objective 1-1: An increase in the visitor's personal value, for the park, its cultural and natural resources, and associated interpretive opportunities.

Valuing is the first step in creating a strong environmental ethic and support for OPRD.

Objective 1-2: An increase in user awareness of the susceptibility of the environment to human impacts and ways that positive personal impacts can be maximized.

The focus will be on positive actions, but actions causing negative impacts will be included.

Objective 1-3: An increase in appropriate use patterns and behaviors among park users.

This includes a commensurate decrease in actions causing negative impacts to the resources, such as harassing wildlife, walking in streams, leaving dog excrement, picking wildflowers, and littering.

Objective 1-4: An increase in support for management actions regarding protecting and/or enhancing fish and wildlife habitat.

Support can take the form of positive public comments, a decrease in negative comments, voluntary compliance with regulations, an increase in volunteers and an increase in donations.

Goal #2:
Increase public support and strengthen the constituency for Silver Falls specifically and OPRD in general.

Objective 2-1: An increase in awareness of the story of Silver Falls State Park and the impact that individuals (like the visitor) had on its development.

Objective 2-2: An increase in appreciation and approval of OPRD due to providing high quality interpretive, recreational, and/or educational experiences associated with the park.

Objective 2-3: An increase in awareness and appreciation of the National significance of the Trail of Ten Falls and the Historic District.

Objective 2-4: An increase in awareness and appreciation of the National significance and intact nature of the former Recreation Demonstration Area.

Objective 2-5: An increase in awareness and appreciation of the importance of a large island of lowland temperate rainforest in a sea of cultivated and developed landscapes.

Objective 2-6: An increase in awareness and appreciation for the men of the CCC and WPA and their contributions to the area, the state and the United States.

Objective 2-7: An increase in awareness and appreciation of the fact that OPRD actively manages outstanding cultural, natural, and scenic resources to provide outstanding opportunities for the people of Oregon to recreate.

Objective 2-8: An increase in the number of people volunteering time and/or donating money to State Parks in general and to Silver Falls specifically to support conservation and interpretation of cultural, natural and scenic resources.

Objective 2-8: An increase in membership in the Friends group.

Objective 2-9: An increase in numbers of visitors to Silver Falls who visit other state parks due to their experience in this park.

Goal #3:

Increase the number of visitors taking advantage of interpretive opportunities, both fixed and programmatic at the park, and the number of visitors who engage in extended learning opportunities.

If visitors do not take part in the interpretive opportunities, it will be difficult to motivate them to take part in interpretive opportunities at other parks or to engage in extended learning opportunities. With seasoned travelers who have been exposed to high quality interpretive opportunities, it is necessary to develop opportunities of that level to create the best chance of attracting and holding their attention.

Objective 3-1: An increase in awareness on the part of the potential traveler of the array of desirable visitor opportunities, especially interpretive opportunities, associated with a visit to Silver Falls State Park.

Objective 3-2: An increase in the perceived value of the interpretive experiences associated with the park.

Objective 3-3: An increase in the number of people from communities surrounding Silver Falls using interpretive opportunities associated with the park.

Objective 3-4: An increase in use of interpretive opportunities by groups using overnight group facilities.

Objective 3-5: An increase in use of interpretive opportunities by day use visitors.

Objective 3-6: An increase in the number of field trips to Silver Falls.

Objective 3-7: An increase in use of the Smith Creek Conference Center for interpretive workshops and trainings.

Objective 3-8: An increase in the number of visitors extending their learning by visiting other state parks, museums, Interpretive Centers and/or by reading, participating in programs or engaging in similar activities.

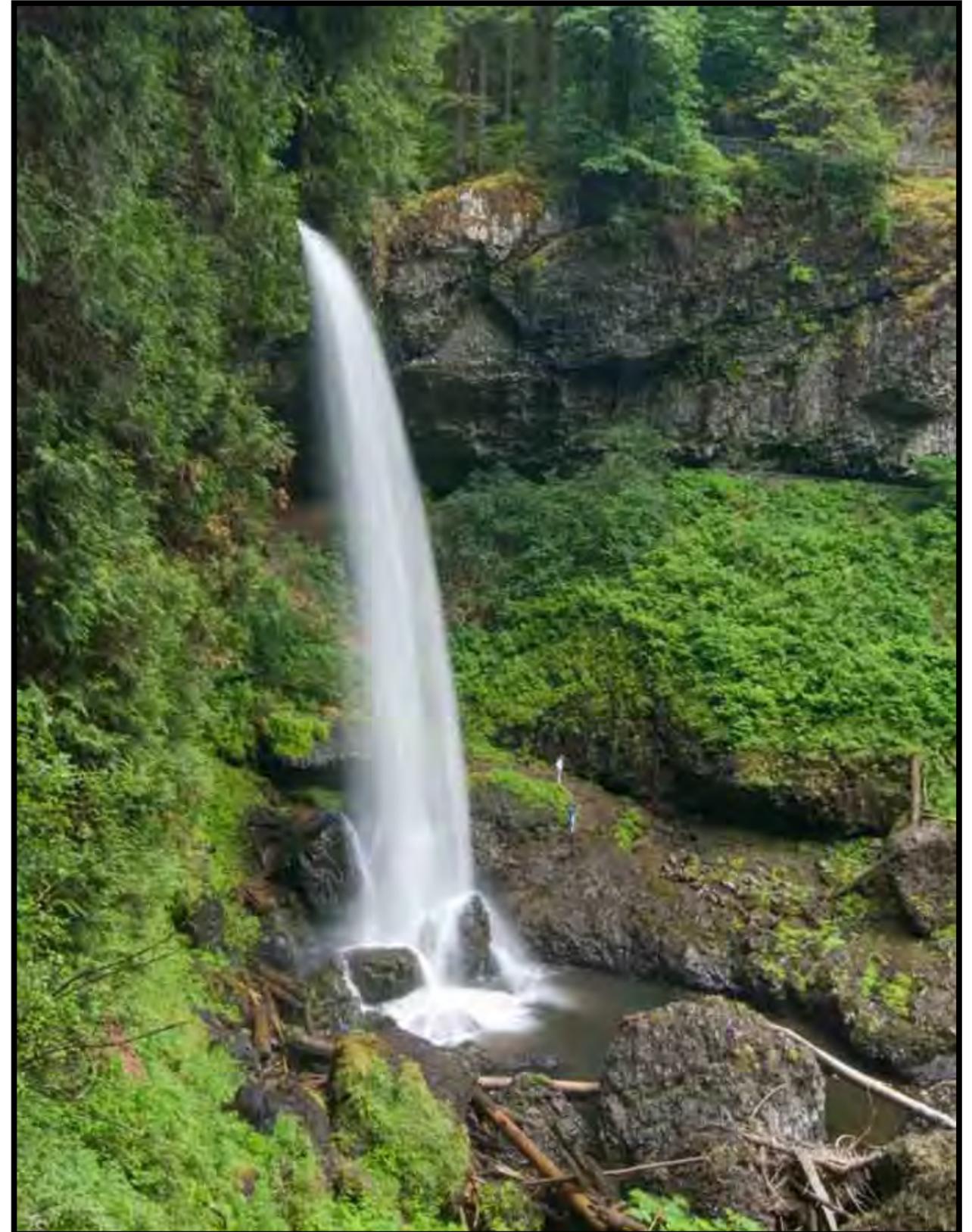
Objective 3-9: Recognition in the form of commendations, awards, and/or write-ups at the state, regional and national level for the quality of the visitor experiences and/or interpretive opportunities.

The Plan

Introduction

Themes

Delivery Strategies



Introduction

This interpretive plan is a blueprint for the information network necessary to support the visitor experiences at Silver Falls State Park. The key parts of the plan include the themes, delivery strategies and the 10-year Implementation Plan. Sections covering Special Events, Environmental Education and Outreach, Cost Range Estimates are included at the end of the plan.

Themes

Themes are the key messages to be communicated within the array of interpretive opportunities. The interpretive stories are selected and developed to communicate the themes. The themes for the interpretive network at Silver Falls State Park are presented in the next section.

Delivery Strategies

The delivery strategies are the media for communicating the interpretive stories, orientation and wayfinding information. They are organized according to the following sites or locations to match the organization of information in the Master Plan (see figure 1, this page).

- Pre-Visit
- South Falls Day Use Area
- North Falls Day Use Area
- Central Entrance and Campground Area
- Major Gateways, Trailheads and Viewpoints
- Canyon Trail (Trail of Ten Falls)
- North Campground and Headquarters Complex
- Howard Creek Overnight Area
- The Ranches
- Smith Creek Conference Center
- Silver Creek Youth Camp

Information for each of the sites includes:

- Key recommendations from Master Plan
- Objectives for Future Experience
- Narrative of Future Experience
- Action Plan to create the desired experience
- Design concepts for the delivery strategies recommended for the area

The 10-year Implementation Plan

This is the schedule for developing the components of the information network.

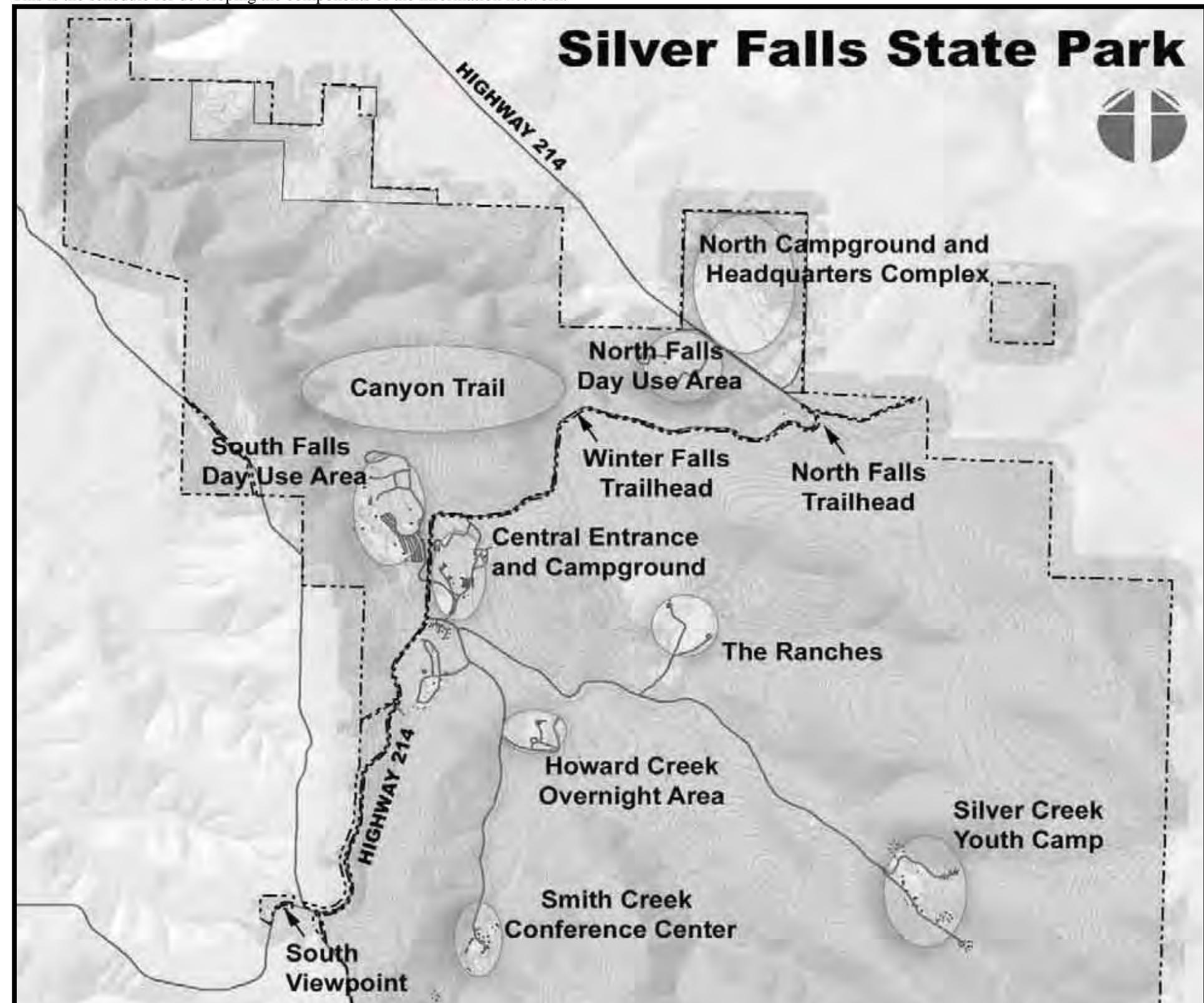


Figure 1: Area designations according to Master Plan

Themes

Introduction

The following Primary Theme, Themes, Sub-themes and Supporting Stories were developed through an iterative process involving park staff, OPRD staff from the Regional and State offices and reviewers from outside the agency. They were approved by OPRD prior to developing the draft final plan.

Organization of Themes

The elements of the theme hierarchy in this plan reflect the direction for theme development in Oregon State Parks. There are four types of themes in this hierarchy:

Primary Theme

This is the key concept reflecting the significance of the park.

Themes

These are the ideas or concepts that together support the Primary Theme. Ideally, all visitors will understand at least one of the themes based on their specific area of interest (cultural history, natural history, etc.)

Sub-themes

These are the ideas or concepts that support a theme.

Supporting Stories

These are the stories that communicate a sub-theme or theme.

Primary Theme

Generations of dedicated people created a park around spectacular waterfalls, planned the landscape, and restored the forest of Silver Falls, creating a special refuge of nature and cultural heritage.

The primary theme links the key tangible resources of the park with intangible concepts to convey the major reasons why a particular property is significant and why it is a park. The primary theme is intended to answer the questions, “why is this a park?” and, “what is significant about this park?” The intent of communicating the primary theme is to establish a sense of value among users of the park so they support the work of OPRD. The Primary Theme reflects the significance of the site and the key stories that can be told there.

In the case of Silver Falls, the main reason this place was established as a park was the national push to create state parks as places for people to go that were not pristine and vulnerable to overuse. The falls provided a local attraction to build the recreation park around, but most of the park was meant to absorb lots of visitors into a place that was not pristine and could be designed, built and restored to be attractive and restorative to the human spirit.

Themes

Theme 1: The series of spectacular waterfalls was produced by natural forces that transformed and continue to shape the canyon.

Sub-theme 1-1: Volcanic forces deep in the earth forged the setting for Silver Creek and the waterfalls we see today.

Example of Supporting Stories:

- The area was beachfront property before tectonic uplift (the sedimentary rock used by the CCC in construction of several buildings contains marine organisms).
- Lava flows from Eastern Washington and Oregon covered the area with layers of basalt (the layers can be seen in the face of the south falls and other waterfalls, and lava casts are found behind North Falls)
- Tectonic uplift raised the area well above sea level.
- The formation of the Columbia River Plateau resulted in those black basalt rock layers (like layers of pancakes), occurring 15-16 million years ago, with layers of softer volcanic ash in between layers.

Sub-theme 1-2: Water and ice sculpted and continue to shape the basalt layers into the unique concentrated series of waterfalls in Silver Creek Canyon that we see today.

Example of Supporting Stories:

- Silver Creek erodes away the softer layers of volcanic ash in sculpting the waterfalls.
- In the cracks, water freezes, expands in the rock and thaws. This process continues eventually breaking the rock apart. As the ice continues to expand, the rock will continue to break. It’s like using a wedge on those rocks.
- Landslides also affect the rocks by providing grinding material for moving water. Landslides are triggered or accelerated by intense or prolonged rainfall or rapid snow melt that cause sharp changes in ground water

levels. Silver Falls is a temperate rainforest, which has an average annual precipitation of 80 inches, so this would promote landslides.

Theme 2: Silver Falls State Park is a nationally significant example of an historic nationwide effort to transform degraded lands into valued areas for people to enjoy outdoor recreation and connect with nature.

Sub-Theme 2-1: The Civilian Conservation Corps, Work Progress Administration and National Park Service changed the face of Silver Falls and left an indelible mark on Oregon’s history.

Examples of supporting stories:

- The CCC transformed the South Falls area from degraded property to a park by building the Trail of Ten Falls, which allows access behind several falls while maintaining a natural appearance, and building the Lodge, Stone Kitchen Shelter, the log cabin, the garage and several other trails and structures
- The NPS provided the designs for the buildings and for the layout
- The WPA supplied the Portland-based architect who designed the South Falls Lodge, craftsmen and artisans to work on Silver Falls, and the artisan who designed the furniture for the lodge at Silver Falls
- Over a million trees were planted in a massive forest restoration effort
- Rustic lodges, cabins, rock walls and picnic shelters are still intact here because it was seen as the typical park style well into the 1950’s and later by park managers. Oregon State Parks was one of the few states that continued the rustic style well beyond its time in other places, becoming iconic in Oregon State Parks
- The development of degraded sites like Silver Falls for outdoor recreation helped to protect other sites that were more pristine from overuse.
- During the Great Depression, out of work men transformed a burned and logged place into a retreat designed to put people in touch with nature.

Sub-theme 2-2: Silver Falls SP contains one of only two relatively intact Recreational Development Areas, artifacts from a historic nationwide experiment to connect people with nature.

Examples of supporting stories:

- The east side of the park was a Recreation Demonstration Area; Silver Creek Youth Camp and Smith Creek Youth Camp which was later develop into a Conference Center
- Conference Center were both built by the Civilian Conservation Corps and Works Progress Administration, with assistance by the National Park Service, as youth camps as part of the development of the RDA
- Silver Falls State Park and Camp David are the two best examples in the United States of an intact Recreational Development Area.

Theme 3: Silver Falls State Park enables visitors to discover the history of land and resource management at this park.

Sub-theme 3-1: Native Americans burned the meadows to promote populations of meadow plants that attracted wildlife such as deer.

Sub-theme 3-2: Early EuroAmerican forest restoration efforts were based on scientific knowledge of the times.

Examples of supporting stories:

- Approximately one million trees were planted at South Falls during the 1930s, creating the monoculture we see today.

Sub-Theme 3-3: OPRD is working towards the goal of ecosystem management based on the principle that every native plant and animal species plays an important role in the ecology of the different ecosystems in SFSP, with intricate links to other species as well as links to other ecosystems on earth.

Examples of supporting stories:

- The meadow restoration, wetland restoration and control of invasive plants

- The management and restoration of ecosystems to support a wide variety of flora and fauna
- The positive effects of past restoration efforts and the current efforts by OPRD reflecting current scientific principles and practices
- Focus on the array of flora and fauna compared with areas that have been developed
- SFSP staff work to promote clean stream water to nurture the aquatic flora and fauna.

Theme 4: Silver Falls State Park provides opportunities for visitors to discover native wildlife and plants, and see how they are interconnected within a temperate rainforest ecosystem.

Examples of supporting stories:

- Silver Falls provides habitats for eight species of owls, including the federally listed (Threatened) Spotted Owl. The eight owls recorded in Silver Falls include the Great Gray Owl, Spotted Owl, and Barred Owl; this park is one of the few places in North America where all three species of the Genus Strix can be found.
- Waterfall mist communities provide specialized habitat for a variety of native plants
- Riparian corridors provide excellent habitat for migratory songbirds
- Two of the top predators in the ecosystem include the cougar and black bear
- Silver Falls receives 80 inches of precipitation a year, one of the characteristics that identify the area as a temperate rainforest.

Theme 5: Throughout the ages, the people of Oregon have valued Silver Falls State Park, whether as a home, for resources, or for recreation.

Sub-theme 5-1: Native Americans valued Silver Falls as a gathering place, with cultures from three Tribes interacting here.

Examples of Supporting Stories:

- The story of Native Americans harvesting materials and burning to retain meadows because they valued the native plants and the native fauna that used the meadows
- The Molalla Trail passed through the area
- In the 1851 treaty that was negotiated locally but not ratified in Washington, various Tribes wanted the area to be a part of their reservation
- The impact on the Tribes when they were removed from this area

Sub-theme 5-2: Native Americans and early European settlers valued resources in the area for building materials, food, and other items necessary to survive.

Examples of supporting stories:

- Story of the 1851 Treaty
- Homesteaders picked out rare flat areas along the creek, cleared them for agricultural/grazing purposes, and encouraged the expansion of natural grasslands (potentially taking advantage of prior Native American stewardship of the area). In this landscape we also see remnants of old homesteads, the sheep barn, fruit trees, ditches, etc.

Sub-theme 5-3: Many public agencies and individuals just like yourself, such as Samuel Boardman, June Drake and others— valued and continue to value Silver Falls as a place to re-connect with nature and to recreate.

Examples of supporting stories:

- June Drake used his camera to campaign for Silver Falls to become a park.

- Samuel Boardman had the foresight to buy the first parcel and continue to add to the land to create SFSP
- The men and women of OPRD actively manage the area to restore and conserve the natural and historic landscape while also promoting recreation
- The Friends group supports the mission of OPRD thru a number of efforts.
- Silver Falls is a great example of a semi-natural landscape that presents us with difficult challenges for future management. Here the natural and cultural factors are interwoven as partners and enemies
- As part of the story, we can talk about 75 years of restoration efforts at Silver Falls, managed by OPRD; specifically how the park has an ongoing study of The Ranches with plans to protect the native species and remnants of the homestead.

Sub-theme 5-4: People today value the scenic beauty of Silver Falls State Park, combined with many miles and types of trails, for solitude, reflection, wonder, rejuvenation and outdoor recreation.

Examples of Supporting Stories:

- Visitors can explore the park on different trail types such as the Trail of Ten Falls and other foot paths, asphalt bicycle trails, mountain bike trails, and horse trails. Note that some will be less traveled, offering opportunities for solitude; some access powerful works of nature, offering opportunities for reflection, etc.
- Visitors can also camp at Silver Falls State Park

Delivery Strategies



Pre-Visit Strategies

Introduction

These strategies help achieve the goals and desired outcomes in several ways. For example, Pre-Visit Strategies help to:

- Motivate visitors to take advantage of interpretive opportunities upon their arrival by making them aware of such opportunities;
- Create a desired use pattern – one that begins with a visit to either of the Gateway facilities;
- Create the correct expectations for a trip, thus helping to avoid disappointment;
- Provide information to help visitors be prepared for hiking the Trail of Ten Falls.

In short, the Pre-Visit Strategies facilitate a user-friendly experience and increase the potential for reaching people with interpretive information.

Experience Objectives (pre-visit information)

- To make potential visitors aware of all recreational, interpretive and educational opportunities at SFSP;
- To encourage visitors to stop at a Gateway facility first;
- To instill an awareness that this is a special place;
- To make people aware of the type of activities and behavior patterns appropriate for SFSP;
- To spark curiosity about both the cultural and natural history of the site.

Future Experience

Outreach strategies promote the **Silver Falls State Park Web Site** as the first stop for people interested in visiting the park. Visitors use the web site to access information on existing opportunities, upcoming events and new opportunities at SFSP. They also print a **SFSP Orientation Map/Brochure** and the **Sense-ational Discovery Quest**. Teachers download the **Teachers Packet for Field Trips**, which helps them prepare their students for a visit, provides materials

for use during the visit, facilitates scheduling a visit, and provides follow-up activities for after a visit.

Action Plan

1. Address the challenges involved in developing a single effective web site due to external factors and develop a web site for Silver Falls State Park.
2. Modify the Teacher's Packet for Field Trips based on the new themes and opportunities.
3. Assign all action items to specific OPRD staff.

Delivery Strategies

SFSP Web Site

Note: A Hispanic version of the Web Site could be developed, but studies show that although emigrants may not speak or read English very well, their children who are born and/or raised in this country do speak and read English.

Objectives

After interacting with the web site, visitors will:

- Want to visit SFSP,
- Want to begin their visit at the Interpretive Center;
- Know the major themes;
- Have a simple map of the area with directions to the site (downloaded as a PDF);
- Be aware of the next major special events at the park;
- Have contact information for park staff;
- Have the Sense-ational Discovery Quest (described later in this section);
- Have the SFSP Orientation Map/Brochure;
- Know what to bring in terms of clothing and equipment for their chosen activities;
- Be aware of all recreational and interpretive opportunities at the park;
- Be aware of the amenities and services available.

Description and Concept

The Web Site is specific to the park. The home page is set up with attractive images of recreational and interpretive opportunities at the park and links to:

- Activity specific information
- Suggested itineraries
- General orientation information
- Thematic overview
- Phone numbers
- Links to other resources for more detailed information about the stories
- Virtual tours
- Podcasts
- Calendar
- Detailed historical information
- Bird, mammal and plant lists
- Distances, trail difficulty and time required for different routes

Teacher's Packet for Field Trips

Objectives

After interacting with this opportunity, educators will:

- Be interested enough to plan and take a field trip to SFSP;
- Be able to develop an itinerary for the field trip;
- Have student activities for before, during and after the field trip;
- Have originals of the SFSP Orientation Map/Brochure and Sense-ational Discovery Quest for copying;
- Have contact information;
- Have a clear list/description of key stewardship behaviors expected of visitors to SFSP.

Description and Concept

This packet contains all the information necessary for an educator to easily plan and run a field trip. Such information includes:

- Directions for accessing the site;
- A map of the site for copying if necessary;
- A description of the educational opportunities available;
- All the necessary information for scheduling visits and arranging for special programs;
- A suggested itinerary, including surrounding sites, with time required for travel and visit;

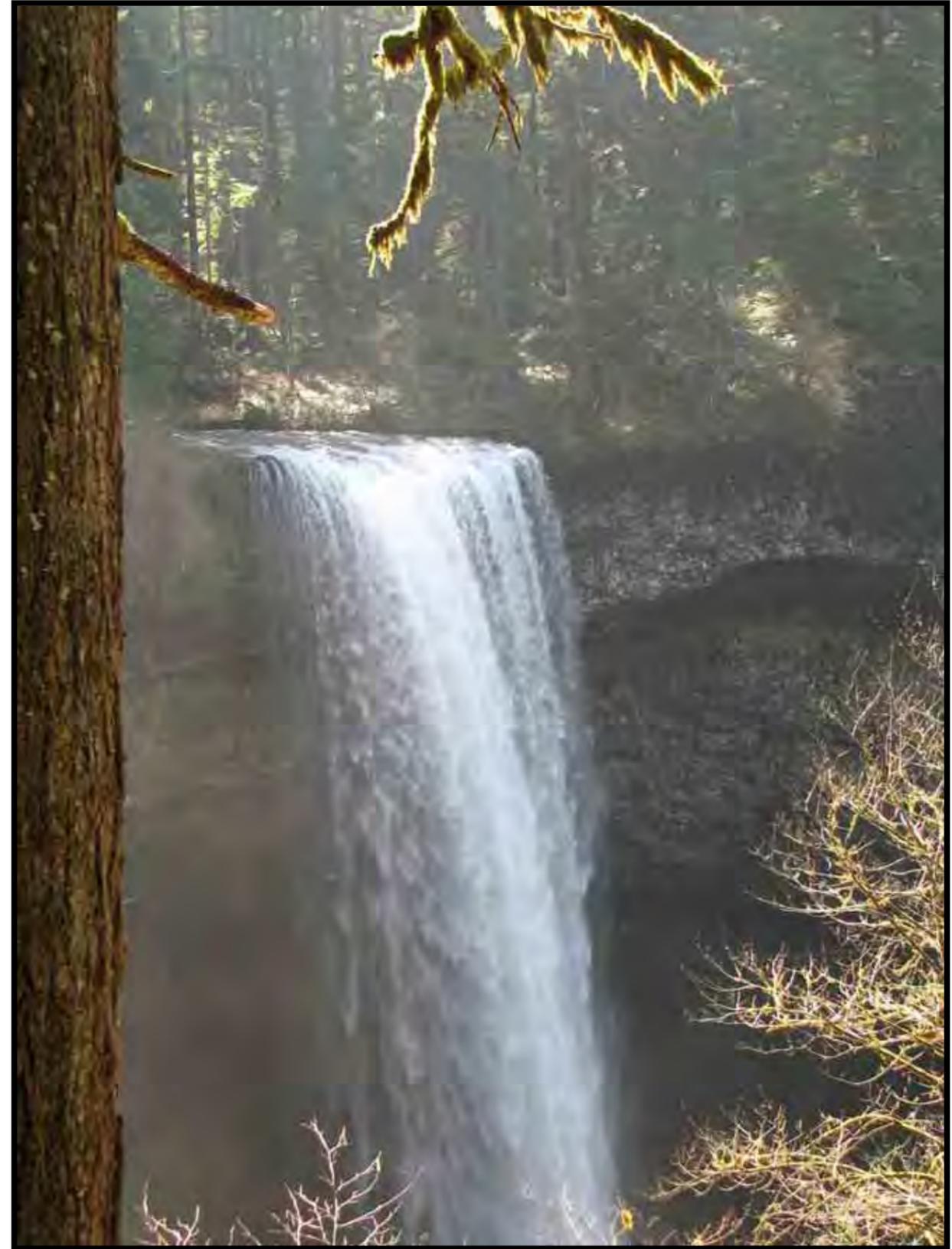
- The Sense-ational Discovery Quest to be copied for each student;
- A suggestion of information to be presented prior to a trip;
- What to take and what to wear;
- Written projects that could be copied and used in the classroom before a trip, others for during the trip, and still others that can be used as a follow up to the field trip. Some activities should be self-guided for use when staff are not available.

The information and curriculum for school groups, and therefore for this strategy, would be developed based on the curriculum used in the local school system.

Comments

The Teacher's Packet could be made available in a printed format and on CD and/or high definition DVD for flexibility. It could also be included as a PDF on the web site for downloading. One or more of the latter formats could also be used to provide a quick overview of this opportunity on a touch-screen monitor at the Interpretive Center.

South Falls Day Use Area



South Falls Day Use Area: Recreation Area

Introduction

This area of the park includes two distinctly different sub-areas: the Recreation Area with the Swimming Beach and the Historic District. Since they are so different, they are treated as two separate areas in this section.

Key Recommendations from Master Plan

- New terraces and visitor-friendly surface at swimming area;
- New picnic tables with shade trees;
- New outdoor showers;
- Existing bathroom and showers upgraded;
- Snack shop replaced with new café, new picnic area and interpretive kiosk;
- Signs to be removed from South Falls Overlook.

Concept for Interpretive Network

Information in this area is limited to interpretive teasers and orientation and wayfinding information designed to attract and guide visitors to other areas of the park.

Future Experience

Visitors arriving from the south on Highway 214 encounter the **South Falls Gateway** (see Master Plan). After turning onto the access road, they encounter a Welcome and Identification Sign specific to the South Falls Day Use Area. **Directional signage** indicates directions to the South Falls Day Use Recreation Area, Swimming Beach, Interpretive Center, Historic District, and the south trailhead for the Trail of Ten Falls. **Secondary directional signage** will sort visitors into the parking areas closest to their desired destination.

Those visiting the Recreation Area at the south end of the parking complex will encounter an information

kiosk where they can get orientation through the **SFSP Orientation Panel** and pick up the SFSP Orientation Map/Brochure. “**Did You Know?**” **Interpretive Panels** will serve to pique people’s interest and motivate them to visit the Historic District and Interpretive Center. Figure 2 on page 14 depicts the approximate location of the kiosk.

Action Plan

1. Develop the SFSP Orientation Map/Brochure.
2. Develop the information kiosk for the Recreation Area at the south end of the Day Use Area and install an SFSP Orientation Panel modified with an appropriate “You are Here” on that structure. Also install a brochure holder for dispensing the SFSP Orientation Map/Brochure.
3. Develop and install the “Did you Know?” Interpretive Panels

Delivery Strategies

SFSP Orientation Map/Brochure

Objectives

After interacting with this brochure, visitors will:

- Feel comfortable in their ability to find their way to and around the site;
- Feel like spending some time taking advantage of the interpretive and recreational opportunities;
- Be aware of all the interpretive and recreational opportunities;
- Be aware of the opportunities that are fully accessible;
- Have a simple map of the park;
- Have contact information for park staff.

Description and Concept

The publication should be small enough to be carried easily, and should be available to people free of charge. Ideally, this brochure would use the same

graphic style as the SFSP Orientation panel. It should include the following elements:

- Map showing how to get to SFSP from Highway 22 and I-5.
- Map of the park with recreational and interpretive opportunities identified (this includes a trail map with mileages);
- Brief description of the interpretive and recreational opportunities;
- Where to get additional information (such as the web site).

Note: Given demand and budget, could reproduce this brochure in other languages.

SFSP Orientation Panel

Locations

This panel would be installed at key access points within the park. Specific locations are noted in the sections on specific areas within the park.

Objectives

After interacting with this sign, visitors will:

- Be motivated to explore SFSP;
- Be motivated to visit the Interpretive Center;
- Have the SFSP Orientation Map/Brochure;
- Feel comfortable in their ability to find their way around SFSP;
- Feel like spending some time taking advantage of the interpretive opportunities;
- Be aware of all the major interpretive opportunities at SFSP;
- Be aware of the opportunities that are fully accessible.

Description and Concept

Use a stylized oblique aerial perspective of the park, oriented with the top representing the direction visitors are facing, so a visitor can ‘see’ where he or she is in relation to the overall site. Images of structures should reflect key details so visitors can identify all the key buildings and features. Interpretive and recreational opportunities, such as hiking trails, should be highlighted (perhaps by being larger) and briefly described. The map would also

clearly show the parking areas, restrooms and any other amenities. Finally, cut-away views of the Interpretive Center, South Falls Lodge and North Falls Welcome Center, stylized to highlight interpretive and other leisure opportunities, would be included as an inset. A brochure dispenser attached to the panel or structure would be used to distribute the SFSP Orientation Map/Brochure.

“Did You Know?” Panels

Location

On the information kiosk

Objectives

After interacting with this opportunity, visitors will:

- Be motivated to visit the Interpretive Center;
- Know that SFSP has significant cultural and natural resources;
- Be inspired to visit the Historic District;

Themes

- **Theme 1:** The series of spectacular waterfalls was produced by natural forces that transformed and continue to shape the canyon.
- **Theme 2:** Silver Falls State Park is a nationally significant example of an historic nationwide effort to transform degraded lands into valued areas for people to enjoy outdoor recreation and connect with nature.
- **Theme 4:** Silver Falls State Park provides opportunities for visitors to discover native wildlife and plants, and see how they are interconnected within a temperate rainforest ecosystem.

Description and Concept

These panels provide tidbits of interpretive information as teasers, both to introduce the key cultural and natural history stories at Silver Falls and also to motivate visitors to visit the Historic District and the Interpretive Center. Develop one panel focusing on the Historic District, one on the formation of the waterfalls and one on the temperate rainforest. Use the title, “Did You Know That . . .” for all panels. For the cultural history panel use a stylized oblique aerial perspective of the South Falls Day Use Area as a backdrop for enlarged images of key cultural

activities that led to the formation of the landscape as it is seen today. Captions under the images complete the sentence started by the panel title. For example, associated with the image of the present day cultural landscape at Smith Creek Conference Center could be enlarged images of the CCC/WPA crews at work on a building. The caption could read, “[Did you know that] . . . Silver Falls SP and Camp David contain the only intact Recreational Development Areas left in the United States? Additional information tells the reader where to go (the Interpretive Center) for more information and shows a walking route to the facility.

South Falls Day Use Area: Historic District

Introduction

Key Recommendations from Master Plan

- Build an interpretive center within the Historic District to the north of the lodge.
- Develop several interpretive trails in association with the new interpretive center.
- Remove existing interpretive signage in the core area of the Historic District.
- Restore/rebuild a picnic shelter similar to the ones built by the CCC that used to be in that area.
- Restore a public access route following the old road that looped around to access the lodge.
- Modify the interior of the main lodge so it is more of a place to relax (no prominent interpretive signage).
- Move the Friends store to the Log Cabin.
- Construct a bike rental structure.
- Restore the historic meadow.

Concept for Interpretive Network

General information is provided at the main access points. In-depth interpretive experiences are available in the new Interpretive Center. The South Falls Lodge has minimal information and signage within the Historic District is limited to directional signs.

Future Experience

Arriving at one of the main access points (see figure 2 on page 14 for locations), visitors encounter a **Portal Panel Cluster** that includes a **SFSP Orientation Panel**, a **Historic District Orientation Panel**, and a **Historic District Interpretive Panel**. At the cluster they pick up a **SFSP Orientation Map/Brochure** from a holder and proceed to the **Interpretive Center**. There they spend some time immersing themselves in a variety of exhibits, orienting themselves to the park and its opportunities and picking up guides and other tools for exploring the park. (See the section on the Interpretive Center for detailed narrative on the Interpretive Center experience.) Their next stop is lunch at the Bistro Café in the South Falls lodge where they spend their time looking through the self-guided tour and the Discovery Guide to plan the rest of their day. They also take in the interpretive tidbits in the Welcome Area before heading out. Their next stop is the **Stone Kitchen Shelter** with its **CCC Exhibits** followed by a walk on the fully accessible **Forest Loop Interpretive Trail**. They stop in at the Friends Store in the log cabin and end up at the viewpoint for South Falls, which is also the south trailhead to the Trail of Ten Falls. There a **Trail of Ten Falls Overview Panel and Trail Orientation Panel** piques their interest. Figure 1 depicts the locations of the fixed interpretive opportunities in the Historic District.

Action Plan

1. Remove existing interpretive signage in the Historic District and the South Falls Lodge.
2. Design, fabricate and install the SFSP Orientation panel and Historic District Orientation and Interpretive Panels.
3. Design, fabricate and install the Trail of Ten Falls Interpretive Panel and Orientation Panel (descriptions in Trail of Ten Falls section).
4. Develop the Self-guided Tour of the Historic District.
5. Develop the Lodge Information Opportunities.
6. Develop the signage for the Forest Loop Interpretive Trail.
7. Develop the interpretive loop trails associated with the planned Interpretive Center.

8. Develop the exhibits for the Interpretive Center (as a part of the construction).
9. Develop the Discovery Guide to Silver Falls.

Delivery Strategies

Portal Panel Clusters

Location

At key access points into the Historic District from the parking areas. Figure 3 on page 16 depicts how this cluster of panels might look.

Objectives

After interacting with these signs, visitors will:

- Be aware of the extent of the Historic District and what it contains;
- Be aware that it is a landscape heavily influenced by activities of the CCC and WPA during the Great Depression;
- Be motivated to take the Self-Guided Tour of the Historic District;
- Be motivated to visit the Interpretive Center.

Panel 1: SFSP Orientation Panel

Described on page 12.

Panel 2: Historic District Orientation

Themes

- **Theme 2:** Silver Falls State Park is a nationally significant example of an historic nationwide effort to transform degraded lands into valued areas for people to enjoy outdoor recreation and connect with nature.

Description and Concept

Use a stylized oblique aerial perspective of the District as the central visual. The 3-dimensional quality allows visitors to orient themselves easier because they are able to recognize shapes of buildings and natural features. Include the self-guided tour route through the district. Include photos around the edge of the center visual highlighting visitors enjoying different opportunities within the Historic District.

Panel 3: The Impact of the Great Depression

Themes

- **Theme 2:** Silver Falls State Park is a nationally significant example of an historic nationwide effort to transform degraded lands into valued areas for people to enjoy outdoor recreation and connect with nature.
- **Sub-Theme 2-1:** The Civilian Conservation Corps, Work Progress Administration and National Park Service changed the face of Silver Falls and left an indelible mark on Oregon's history.
- **Sub-theme 2-2:** Silver Falls SP contains one of only two relatively intact Recreational Development Areas, artifacts from a historic nationwide experiment to connect people with nature.

Description and Concept

Use a stylized oblique aerial perspective of the park as a backdrop for enlarged images of the key structures and activities in the different parts of the park. Include images of CCC constructing the Boys and Girls camps in the RDA and engaged in rehabilitating the marginal farmland; building the historic South Falls Lodge (now the "Log Cabin"); building the Trail of Ten Falls; and living at the camp where the North Falls Group Camp area is now located. Use supporting text to explain the RDA, the CCC and the WPA programs, and the impact on Silver Falls. It should convey the concepts of fine craftsmanship, young men from across the United States, use of local skilled labor, and the fact that the cultural landscape created during the Depression is still relatively intact. An inset or sidebar should use a map of Oregon to depict the locations of all CCC camps and perhaps a few of the more noteworthy structures, such as Timberline Lodge. Table 1 on page 24 contains draft concept text for this panel.

Table 1: Draft Concept Text for Portal Panel: Impact of the Great Depression

Working Title	Impact of the Great Depression
Body Text	<p>Other social changes were unfolding when the Stock Market crashed in 1929; some of those changes interacted to create ripple effects that are still with us.</p> <p>The Industrial Revolution had drawn many to jobs in cities. In the meantime, America's land-use had run roughshod in some places, degrading the landscape. Part of President Roosevelt's plan to pull the country out of the Great Depression was to put the unemployed in the cities to work improving the countryside.</p> <p>Under this plan, half a million workers in the Civilian Conservation Corps planted trees and made erosion control structures, fought fires, built fire towers and roads. And built trails, bridges, and other structures in many parks in Oregon and across the country.</p>
Inset/Sidebar <i>caption for image of farmers in the area</i>	<p>After logging much of the forest, farmers here had been struggling with working the marginal agricultural land that was left.</p> <p>The timing of such improvements for parks was perfect. Americans who had moved to the cities for jobs a few decades before were homesick for rural recreation; as the economy improved, Americans were able to buy new-fangled automobiles to travel to the new parks.</p> <p>Rising to meet this novel and growing interest in large public parks, the young National Park Service developed several Recreation Demonstration Areas to jumpstart a new kind of outdoor recreation. Silver Falls was one of only two RDAs on the west coast, and is only one of two still intact in the entire US. (The second is Camp David.)</p> <p>A new outdoor recreation style was launched—one that millions of Americans, like you, still enjoy. Today, Oregon State Parks continues to restore and conserve these historic resources</p>
Inset/Sidebar <i>caption for image of CCC building such structures</i>	<p>"Silver Creek Falls RDA" historically offered two extensive group camping facilities for children: Silver Creek Camp and Smith Creek Camp (now Smith Creek Conference Center).</p>
Key body content	<p>Should include illustrations (with labels and captions, including year(s) built) of visible, intact CCC/RDA structures—particularly Silver Creek Camp and Smith Creek Conference Center.</p>
Take away message	<p>Economic initiative helped transform American parks and recreation; SFSP is a rare example of this transformation; OPRD is conserving both the natural and the cultural history here.</p>

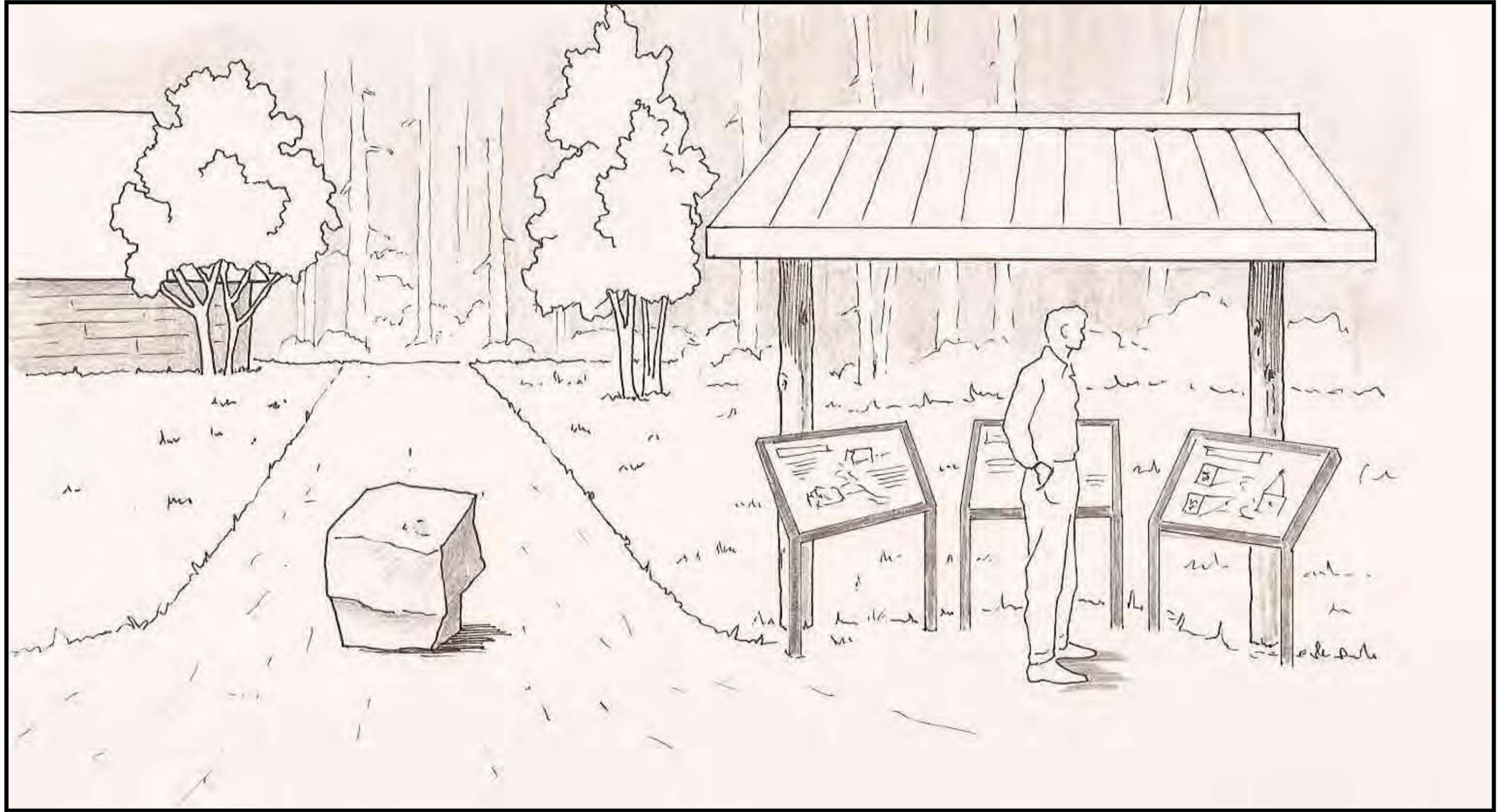


Figure 3: Historic District Portal Panel Cluster

South Falls Lodge Information Opportunities

Location

At various locations within the historic South Falls Lodge

Objectives

After interacting with these opportunities, visitors will:

- Be motivated to learn more about the CCC and WPA;
- Understand that the WPA were local skilled laborers who helped teach the CCC enlistees skills and who also provided skilled labor, including the design of the furniture;
- Understand that the NPS provided building and landscape designs for the site.

Themes

- **Sub-Theme 2-1:** The Civilian Conservation Corps, Work Progress Administration and National Park Service changed the face of Silver Falls and left an indelible mark on Oregon's history.

Description and Concept

The interior of the lodge will be converted to an area that is more for relaxation. Interpretation in the area will be minimal. What interpretation is offered will concentrate on the story told in the interior environment (CCC construction methods) and will be unobtrusive. For example, a podium with a **scrapbook of historic photos, newspaper clippings, diary notes**, etc. could be included in this space. Small panels could be mounted on features, such as the one depicted in figure 4.

Interpretive (Discovery) Trails

*Note: **Interpretive trails** are generally very short and are set up to highlight and interpret specific features in the landscape. Because the focus is on interpretation rather than exercise or access to another area, the best interpretive trails are ¼ to ½ mile loops on relatively flat ground. Interpretation can be included on other trails, such as the Trail of*

*Ten Falls, but this is a **walking trail** with interpretation rather than an interpretive trail.*

Location

A set of nested loop trails beginning at the Interpretive Center.

Objectives

Depends on the opportunities along the trail, but the intent is to emphasize that the environment contains a lot of different species of flora and fauna that are linked together in this ecosystem.

Themes

- **Theme 4:** Silver Falls State Park provides opportunities for visitors to discover native wildlife and plants, and see how they are interconnected within a temperate rainforest ecosystem.
- **Sub-Theme 2-1:** The Civilian Conservation Corps, Work Progress Administration and National Park Service changed the face of Silver Falls and left an indelible mark on Oregon's history.

Description and Concept

The inner trail should be a short (¼ – ½-mile) fully accessible loop through the natural environment behind the interpretive center. The design should be curvilinear to minimize contact with other people, and should be designed to cause focus on the features being interpreted. Interpretation on the inner loop will focus primarily on the historic landscape. The delivery will be within the Guide to the Historic District, through **podcasts** and through audio transmission to avoid signage in the Historic District.

A longer loop would include the **Forest Loop Interpretive Trail** north of the north parking area. Although this loop is short (¼ mile) the distance from the interpretive center to the trailhead creates a longer loop. Interpretation in this area would focus on the temperate rainforest, again using specific species to focus on the vegetation and on the habitat for species of birds and wildlife that live in this environment.

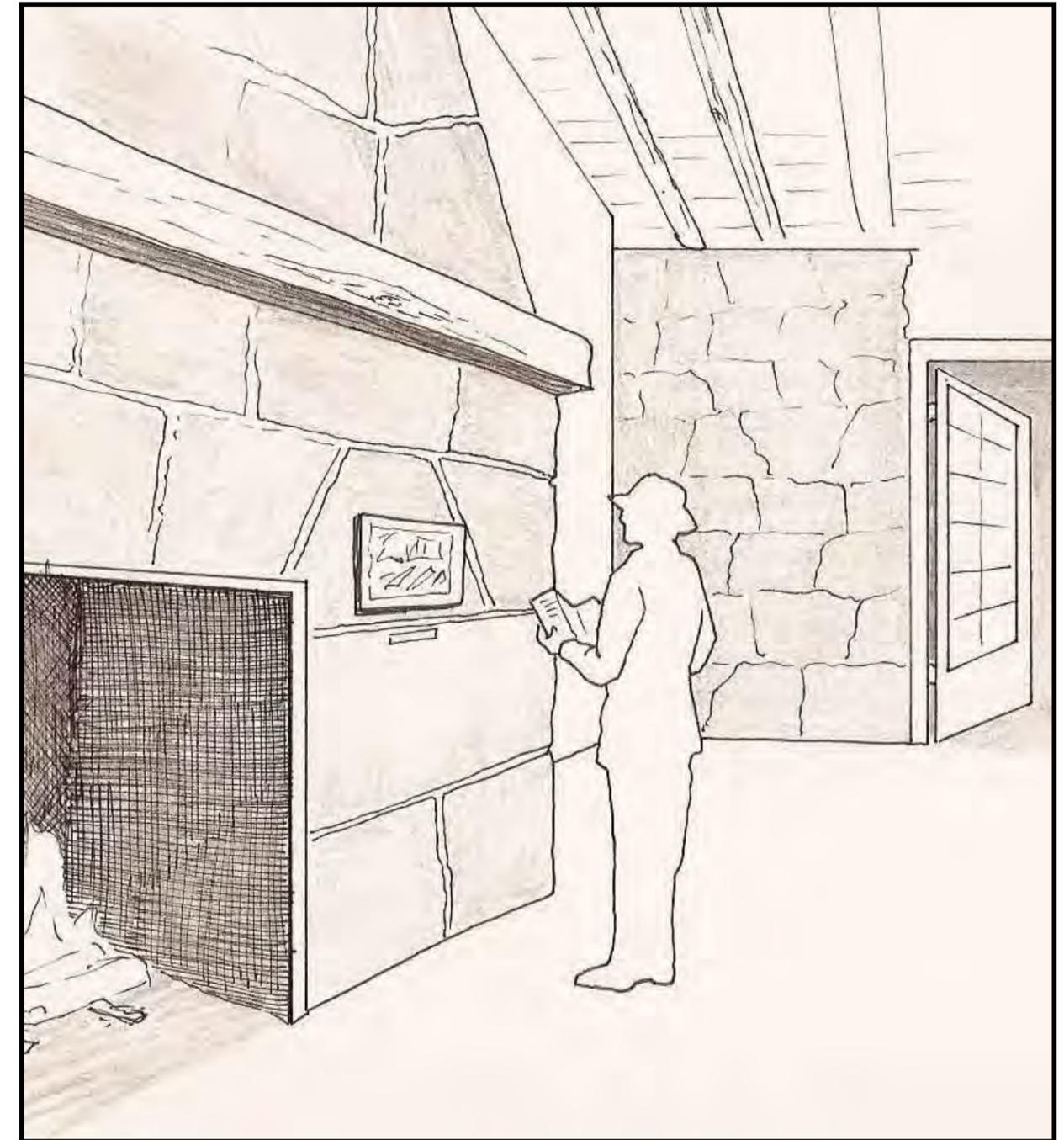


Figure 4: Panel on historic fireplace

Kitchen Shelter Exhibits

Location

In the stone Kitchen Shelter

Objectives

After interacting with these exhibits, visitors will:

- Be impressed with the quality of workmanship exhibited by the CCC and WPA;
- Be motivated to take the Trail of Ten Falls to check out the workmanship by the CCC/WPA;
- Know the difference between the WPA and CCC.

Themes

- **Sub-Theme 2-1:** The Civilian Conservation Corps, Work Progress Administration and National Park Service changed the face of Silver Falls and left an indelible mark on Oregon's history.

Description and Concept

The set of exhibits in the Interpretive Center is intended to provide an overview of the CCC/WPA work in Silver Falls within the context of the work done in the rest of Oregon and in the nation. This set of exhibits focuses on the craftsmanship exhibited by the CCC and WPA and more detail on the work they did at Silver Falls. A number of sub-exhibits could be used to focus on different parts of the story. For example, one could focus on the building of the Trail of Ten Falls, highlighting the tools and techniques they used to make the trail appear as natural as possible. (Until the new Interpretive Center is built, the Virtual Tour of the Trail of Ten Falls could be located in this space.) Another could focus on the NPS rustic style design used for the buildings. A section of building could be recreated to highlight different techniques and tools used. If possible, features visible in the interior of the building could also be used to highlight the techniques and craftsmanship. Finally, a series of exhibits along one wall could focus on the different trades represented – woodworkers, metal workers, stone masons and furniture builders. Each station could have a DVD that features a demonstration of the craft as it was practiced. Figure 5 depicts one possible configuration of exhibits.

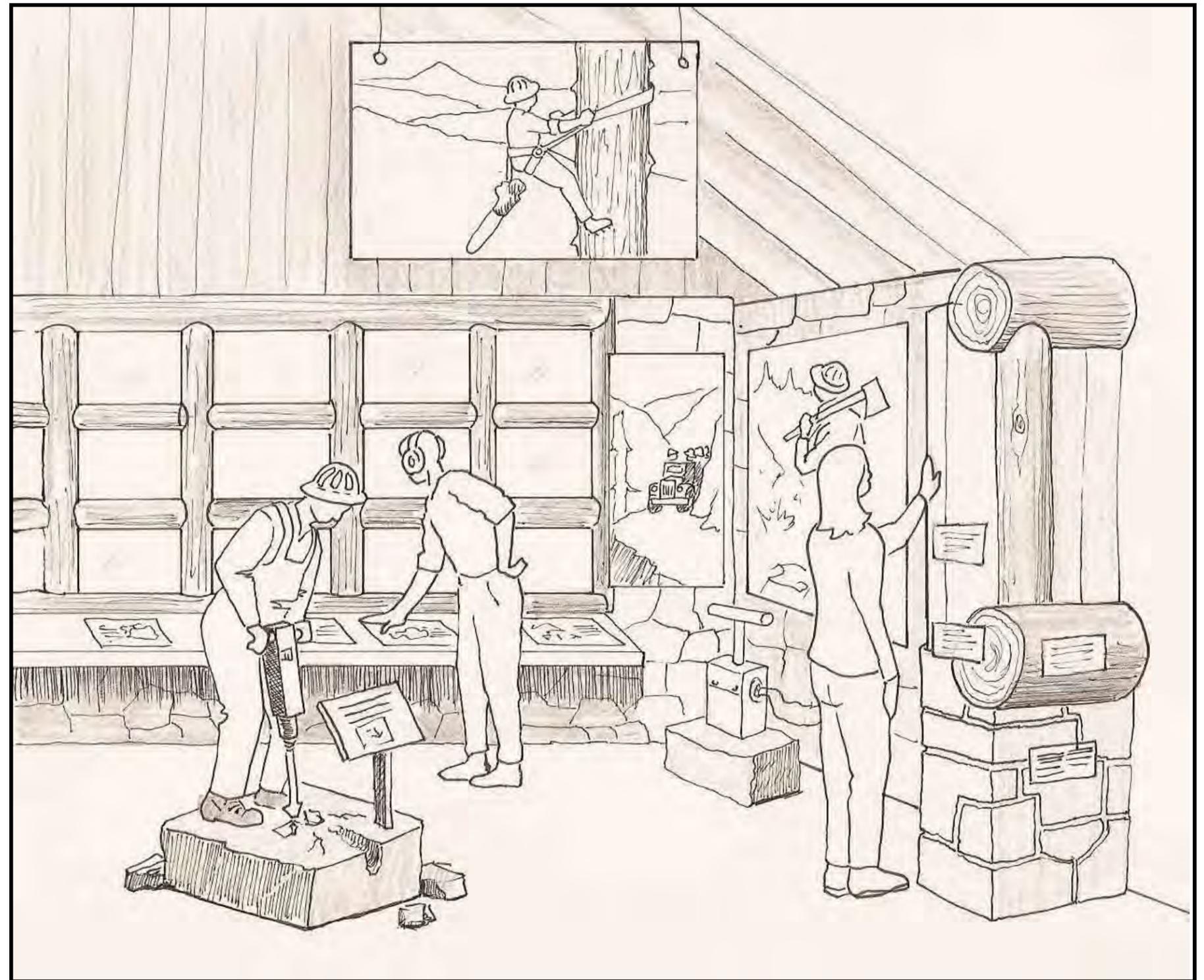


Figure 5: CCC/WPA exhibits in the Stone Kitchen Shelter

Interpretive Center

Building Concept

In order to function as a Service Level 5 park in terms of interpretive services, and to reflect its status as one of the gems of the State Park system in Oregon, Silver Falls needs a more contemporary and larger Interpretive Center. As of the time this plan was developed, the South Falls Lodge was serving as a Visitor Center, with a few exhibits and a place to disperse publications. In addition, the garage associated with the lodge had just been remodeled so audiovisual programs could be presented in the space. Not only were these spaces inadequate for housing an array of exhibits necessary to provide overview for the significant stories at the park or to provide complete orientation for all the uses, they also did not reflect the National significance of the resources or the state wide significance of the park. If interpretation is to be part of the face of the 21st century OPRD, the interpretive opportunities at the Service Level 5 parks, the gems of the State Park system, must pave the way.

With that in mind, OPRD included identifying an appropriate location and design concept for an Interpretive Center as part of this planning process. The process included work sessions led by an architect and work sessions involving the Master Planning Team, the Interpretive Planning Team and key personnel from the State, Region and the Park.

After considering several sites, the site within the Historic District was selected because of its proximity to the outstanding features of the park and its central location in the most heavily used part of the park. Based on that location, and on program information developed during a series of work sessions with the architect, the concept was prepared by the architect and approved by OPRD.

The specific location and orientation reflect the organization of this type of area by the NPS and the WPA/CCC – buildings at the edge of a central meadow (see figure 6 on page 20). The style of the building and construction materials, depicted in figures 7, 8, 9 and 10 (see pages 21-24), were selected

to fit in with the existing structures while providing a more contemporary look.

The building is designed to serve school groups and independent travelers at the same time. It contains classrooms and an associated outdoor space separated from the main exhibit area so each visitor type can have a high quality experience without distraction from the other (see figure 11 on page 25).

The exhibit space contains a series of exhibits providing an overview of the major stories, and also a Window to the Wild, where visitors can sit and enjoy a natural scene from within the building and look for birds and wildlife.

Future Experience

Upon entering the building visitors have clear visual access to a Welcome Desk, an orientation area, the restrooms and the exhibit area with the natural history story. Signage indicates that there is a theater and another exhibit wing. After using the facilities, the visitor takes a look at the **Site Orientation exhibit** and picks up the **Self-Guided Tour of the Historic District** and **Sense-ational Discovery Quest**. The next stop is the theater to see a relatively short film that provides an **Overview of the Silver Falls stories**. A **Virtual Tour of the Trail of Ten Falls** is also available for those who can't walk the trail or don't have the time. After viewing the film, visitors take in the Geomorphology and Temperate Rainforest exhibit areas before taking a break and sitting at the **Window to the Wild** to contemplate the natural beauty of the area and search for some of the inhabitants. On their way out they take in the Human History exhibit area before purchasing the **Discovery Guide to Silver Falls**.

Concepts for the interior exhibits and spaces are included in the Delivery Strategies section.



Figure 6: Orientation of building with respect to central meadow



Figure 7: View of the north elevation



Figure 8: View of the south elevation



Figure 9: View of the building from the front



Figure 10: View of the building from the west, across the meadow from the South Lodge

Delivery Strategies

Welcome to Silver Falls!

Location

Within the Interpretive Center

Objectives

After interacting with this set of exhibits, visitors will:

- Be motivated to visit the other parts of the park;
- Know how long it takes to hike the Trail of Ten Falls;
- Have the Self-Guided Tour of the Historic District;
- Have the Sense-ational Discovery Quest;
- Be aware that the Discovery Guide to Silver Falls and the Trail Guide to Silver Falls can be purchased;
- Be aware of all interpretive and recreational opportunities at Silver Falls State Park.

Description and Concept

Create a “visual menu” of the interpretive and recreational opportunities in the park. Use a stylized aerial perspective of the park, similar to the one used on the SFSP Orientation Panel, as a backdrop for enlarged images highlighting features in the park, such as waterfalls, and the associated activities.

Below the visual, matching the features/activities noted, put the relevant brochures and other literature to facilitate engaging in that activity. Use interesting tidbits of interpretive information accompanying the activities to highlight the fact that interpretive opportunities are available.

The Human History Story

Location

Within the Interpretive Center

Objectives

After interacting with this set of exhibits, visitors will:

- Be motivated to explore and learn about the Historic District;

- Be motivated to walk at least a part of the Trail of Ten Falls to get a feel for what the CCC did to construct the trail;
- Be motivated to visit the Stone Kitchen Shelter to learn more about the WPA/CCC;
- Be inspired to contribute in some way to OPRD and/or the State Parks of Oregon;
- Know that this area had a long history of use by humans.

Themes

- **Theme 5:** Throughout the ages, the people of Oregon have valued Silver Falls State Park, whether as a home, for resources, or for recreation.
- **Sub-theme 5-1:** Native Americans valued Silver Falls as a gathering place, with cultures from three Tribes interacting here.
- **Sub-theme 5-2:** Native Americans and early European settlers valued resources in the area for building materials, food, and other items necessary to survive.
- **Sub-theme 5-3:** Many public agencies and individuals just like yourself, such as Samuel Boardman, June Drake and others— valued and continue to value Silver Falls as a place to re-connect with nature and to recreate.
- **Sub-theme 5-4:** People today value the scenic beauty of Silver Falls State Park, combined with many miles and types of trails, for solitude, reflection, wonder, rejuvenation and outdoor recreation.

Description and Concept

This set of exhibits focuses on the human history of the area. Separate exhibits focus on specific eras in its history, including:

- The Native American era
- Silver Falls City – The Resource Extraction and Early Tourism Era
- The CCC/WPA era
- The OPRD era through today

One possible design approach is to develop different stations where visitors can literally step into the shoes of a particular group of people to view the landscape as they did. Stations include Native Americans, early EuroAmerican settlers, June Drake, Samuel Boardman, the CCC, etc. All stations would have parts that are interactive; all should include

opportunities for using multiple senses; and all should encourage visitors to explore the surrounding landscape for evidence of specific stories.

For example, the section on the CCC/WPA era could have an audio section with an oral history on how someone from another part of the country viewed this landscape and the experience of being in the CCC. This sub-section would include images of the exhibits in the stone Kitchen Shelter to motivate people to visit. The Native American section could have tools fashioned from parts of animals hunted in this area, such as wedges from deer or elk antlers. Visitors could actually try their hand at using such a tool. They could also make cord from animal sinew and smell plants or parts of plants harvested for food. The extraction era could include oral histories from farmers and loggers, and a display of tools and photographs from that time period. Figure 12 on page 27 depicts one possible layout for this exhibit area. Figure 13 on page 28 depicts a possible layout of exhibits in the Native American part of the exhibit. Table 2 on page 29 contains draft concept for the primary text for this exhibit.

The Evolving Landscape Story (geomorphology)

Location

Within the Interpretive Center

Objectives

After interacting with this set of exhibits, visitors will:

- Be motivated to hike the entire Trail of Ten Falls;
- Be motivated to walk at least a part of the Trail of Ten Falls to see the geomorphology story;
- Be motivated to visit other viewpoints and features, such as North Falls and the North Falls Viewpoint, to see more of the geomorphology story

Themes

- **Theme 1:** The series of spectacular waterfalls was produced by natural forces that transformed and continue to shape the canyon.
- **Sub-theme 1-1:** Volcanic forces deep in the earth forged the setting for Silver Creek and the waterfalls we see today.

- **Sub-theme 1-2:** Water and ice sculpted and continue to shape the basalt layers into the unique concentrated series of waterfalls in Silver Creek Canyon that we see today.

Description and Concept

Use a series of 3-dimensional topographic relief models depicting the landscape, especially the canyon, at key points during the geomorphologic evolution. Those could include when the area was on the edge of the Pacific Ocean; after tectonic uplift and other events added land to the west; after basalt flows and ash fall created a relatively barren plain; and after erosion carved the series of waterfalls. Elements in each model would include visible features in the park today if possible. For example, use a block of sedimentary rock from the area with fossilized marine organisms in the section focusing on this area once being on the edge of the ocean. A magnifying glass (if necessary) and associated diagram of the rock surface would help visitors pick out the organisms. Include directions on where to go in the park to see such a rock. The section on basalt flows and ash fall includes a tree cast similar to ones found in the area of the North Falls. Use a replica of a rock face of a waterfall with basalt layers, ash layers and chimneys created by lava flowing around tree trunks in the model representing today. Figure 14 on page 30 contains one possible approach to this exhibit area. Table 3 on page 29 contains draft concept for the primary text for this exhibit.

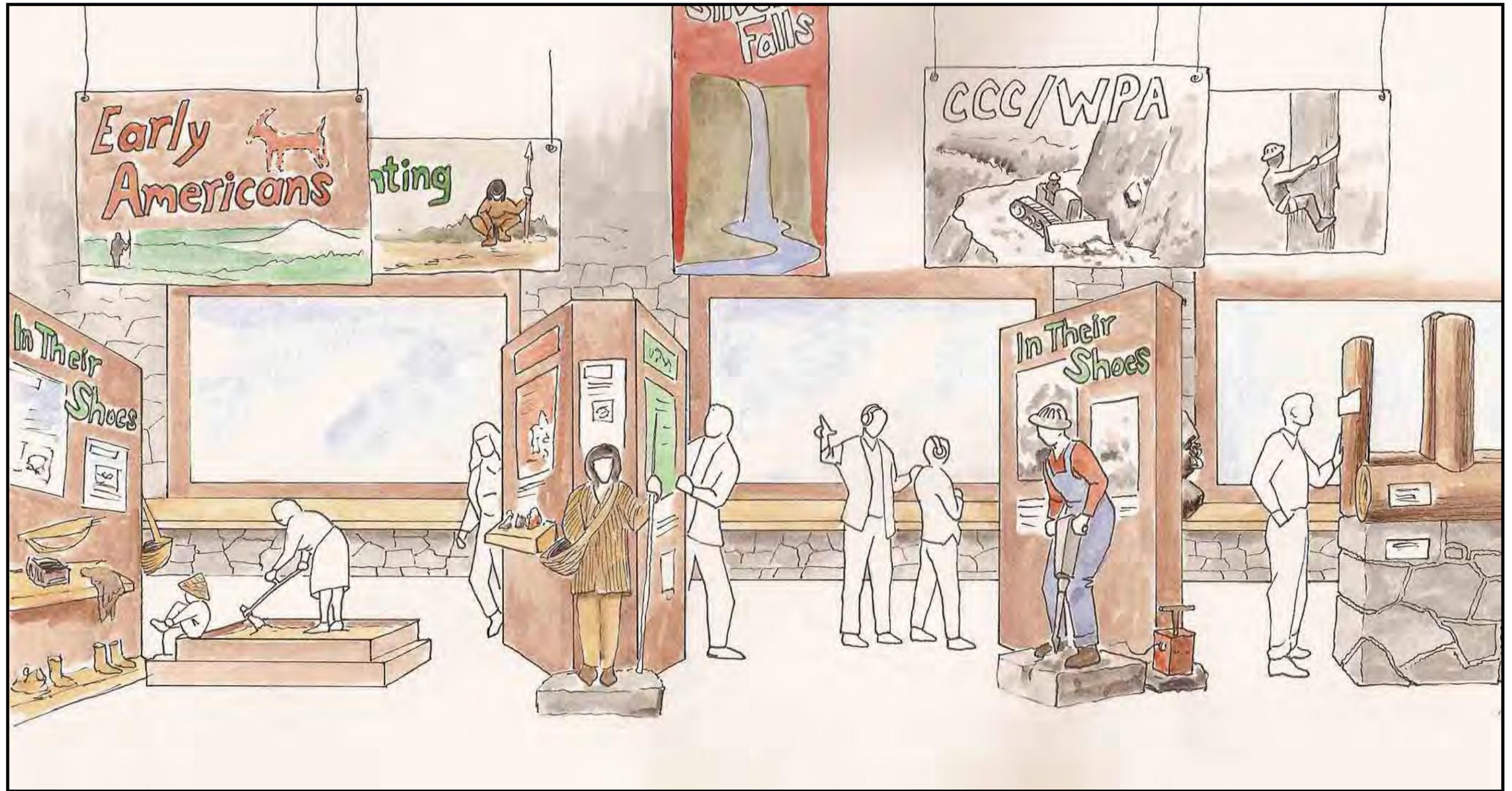


Figure 12: Possible approach to Human History exhibit area



Figure 13: Native American area in Human History exhibit

Table 2: Draft Concept primary text for Human History Exhibit

Working Title	There’s something special about Silver Falls
Body Text	These spectacular falls, lush forests, and verdant meadows are rich in both resources and beauty. People have long sought the plants and animals and wonders of this place—and this place has provided them.
Inset/Sidebar <i>for illustration of First People digging camas or similar</i>	For thousands of years, the First People harvested berries, camas, and other plant foods from this area, as well as collecting building materials and hunting game
Inset/Sidebar <i>for illustration of EuroAmerican settlers plowing or logging with whip saw</i>	EuroAmerican settlers cleared the land for farms. Later, timber from what is now Silver Falls State Park was felled and sold. This significant export of natural resources changed the look of the land.
Inset/Sidebar <i>for illustration of June Drake & his camera</i>	June Drake used his photographs of the many waterfalls to promote the recreational values of this place, helping to establish its value as a public park. Drake’s remarkable photos enticed the “Father of Oregon State Parks,” Samuel Boardman to visit Silver Falls and prompted the National Park Service to select Silver Falls as a Recreation Demonstration Area.
Inset/Sidebar <i>for illustration of CCC workers</i>	Workers who traveled here to build many of the park buildings and roads left an indelible mark on the land in exchange for wages. These remarkable structures are excellent examples of America’s park-building era.
Inset/Sidebar <i>for illustration of OPRD-era recreation</i>	OPRD now manages this park for long-term ecological health, as well as for recreational and spiritual values.
Inset/Sidebar <i>for illustration of person-less landscape</i>	How will you put yourself in the picture?
Key body content	Should include illustrations (with labels and captions) as noted.
Take away message	People have received a variety of benefits from this place over time—and given to the park; now it’s my turn.

Table 3: Draft Concept primary text for Evolving Landscape Exhibit

Working Title	These waterfalls didn’t happen overnight
Body Text	<p>Waterfalls are evidence of change or variation: sudden change in the shape of the land or variation in the underlying rock. The landscape you see here today developed over many millions of years as several major events set the stage for these waterfalls.</p> <p>Over 26 million years ago this area was under the sea, just off the western edge of the continent. As the continent moved westward, the sandstones made of old ocean-bottom were forced up, becoming new land.</p> <p>About 15 million years ago lava oozed up from under the earth’s crust and flowed over the landscape before cooling and hardening to basalt. Several times flowing lava covered this area—as did ash and tuff from nearby volcanoes.</p> <p>Enough time lapsed between most of the lava flows that soils developed and the forest grew back—only to be seared and covered by the next lava flow.</p> <p>Hard basalt, softer burnt soil, hard basalt, softer ash... These events produced layers of different hardness.</p> <p>Hard basalt erodes slowly under water’s force; the layers of burnt soil and soft ash are more easily eroded by the flowing streams. Once water wears or trickles down through the basalt to a softer layer, erosion goes quickly, digging pools and undercutting caverns beneath the stronger cap.</p> <p>When the soft layer is dug back far enough, the unsupported section of the hard cap layer will break, sending chunks of cap to the bottom of the waterfall and revealing a new edge at the top. Over time, the waterfall inches its way upstream.</p>
Inset/Sidebar	<p>How does water erode rock?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water can dissolve almost everything, including some of the minerals in stone. • Water seeps into the small fissures and, in winter, freezes. As water freezes it expands (which is why water bottles swell when you freeze them and is why ice floats). The forming ice widens the fissure and wedges apart the rock. The ice melts; the fissure refills with water that later freezes again. • As anyone who’s been sprayed with a garden hose will recall, flowing water has a lot of physical force—especially if it carries bits or chunks of broken rock. • Flowing sheets of frozen water (glaciers) can very efficiently grind rock to dust.
Key body content	Should include illustrations (with labels and captions) of geologic cross-section, including waterfall cascading over edge, and line drawings of shoreline at the two — particularly.
Take away message	These waterfalls developed because of different hardness of rock layers; the different rock layers were formed quite differently.



Figure 14: Possible approach for the Evolving Landscape exhibit area

The Temperate Forest

Location

Within the Interpretive Center

Objectives

After interacting with this set of exhibits, visitors will:

- Spend some time outside the center searching for some of the birds and wildlife found in this ecosystem;
- Spend some time at the Window to the Wild interacting with the view in some way, whether looking for birds and wildlife, looking more closely at the vegetation, or simply contemplating the view;
- Be motivated to walk at least to the bottom of the canyon to check out the different plants found there;
- Be inspired to come back to see the flowers in bloom;
- Be motivated to visit the Naturalist's Corner.

Themes

- **Theme 4:** Silver Falls State Park provides opportunities for visitors to discover native wildlife and plants, and see how they are interconnected within a temperate rainforest ecosystem.

Description and Concept

The natural history interpretive opportunities focusing on flora and fauna include a series of exhibits and the **Window to the Wild**, a semi-enclosed area that focuses on facilitating a closer look at the natural environment. Figure 15 on page 32 is a photograph of a similar space in another Interpretive Center and Figure 16 on page 33 is a concept for the space in this Interpretive Center. Strategies that make this room effective include outdoor plantings to attract birds and wildlife and minimizing activity in the room to avoid startling them. Binoculars on cables, laminated identification cards in books on podia, microphones that pick up bird calls from outside, and headphones to choose and listen to bird calls as a tool for identifying species are all potential additions to this space. The other section of natural history exhibits focuses on recreating specific parts or features of the natural environment to focus on the flora and fauna. For example, if the scene contained a snag, re-create a

replica of the snag indoors, with opportunities such as using a magnifying glass to look in the cracks of the bark to see what lives there; opening a door to see what nests there; and viewing a web cam with footage to see what might roost there. The point is to highlight components of the natural landscape in such a way that people view them differently and so they make the connection that they can find these same species of flora and fauna in the natural environment if they spend a bit of time looking more carefully. The interpretive store should sell an Explorer's Kit, which is essentially a bag of tools for exploring the environment such as a magnifying glass, a pencil and pad, a pair of inexpensive binoculars, identification keys for common plants, wildlife, animal tracks and birds, and other such items. This kit should be on display in this area. Figure 17 on page 34 depicts one possible approach to the exhibits in this area. Table 4 on page 35 contains draft concept for the primary text for this exhibit.

The Naturalist's Corner

Location

Within the Interpretive Center

Objectives

Everyone who interacts with this exhibit will:

- Be motivated to explore some part of the exterior environment.

Themes

- **Theme 4:** Silver Falls State Park provides opportunities for visitors to discover native wildlife and plants, and see how they are interconnected within a temperate rainforest ecosystem.

Description and Concept

This area contains a variety of opportunities for learning about the external environment (see figure 18 on page 35 for concept). Opportunities might include:

- A small interactive scale model of the canyon. Within the model, a visitor can pull up "cores" to see and learn about the geologic story of the area and the forces that shape it and open flip plates that reveal images of areas of the park during different seasons.

- A changeable component entitled "**What's New at Silver Falls?**" This part of the exhibit focuses on what can be discovered in the park now.
- A journal where visitors log their sightings of birds, wildlife and flowers in bloom. (One option for a bird exhibit is the "eBird Trail Tracker" kiosk developed by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology.)
- A magnetic board that allows visitors to create a visual representation of what they saw and where they saw that attraction.
- A sample "Discovery Pack" with instructions on how to check one out. The pack contains binoculars, identification cards, a magnifying glass and a map of the park so visitors can explore.
- Keys for plant, bird and wildlife identification.
- A display of animal tracks, scat and pelts if it is not included in the Temperate Forest display.

Overview of Silver Falls Stories

Location

In the theater in the Interpretive Center

Objectives

After viewing this film, visitors will:

- Know the basic stories of Silver Falls – the human story, the geomorphology story and the temperate rainforest story;
- Be motivated to take in the exhibits;
- Be motivated to explore the park;
- Be motivated to buy the Discovery Guide.

Themes

All themes would be covered in this film.

Description and Concept

This is a short film that provides an overview of the stories told within the interpretive network. One possible concept is to focus on the natural history, beginning with the geomorphology, continuing with the temperate rainforest, and finishing up with a chronologically organized overview of human activity in the park.

Virtual Tour of the Trail of Ten Falls

Location

In the theater in the Interpretive Center

Objectives

After viewing this film, visitors will:

- Be motivated to hike the entire Trail of Ten Falls;
- Be motivated to walk at least a part of the Trail of Ten Falls to see the geomorphology story;
- Be motivated to visit other viewpoints and features, such as North Falls and the North Falls Viewpoint, to see more of the geomorphology story.
- Know the story of the geomorphologic evolution of the landscape;
- Be aware that the canyon contains a different microclimate and associated flora and fauna.

Themes

- **Theme 1:** The series of spectacular waterfalls was produced by natural forces that transformed and continue to shape the canyon.
- **Sub-theme 1-1:** Volcanic forces deep in the earth forged the setting for Silver Creek and the waterfalls we see today.
- **Sub-theme 1-2:** Water and ice sculpted and continue to shape the basalt layers into the unique concentrated series of waterfalls in Silver Creek Canyon that we see today.
- **Theme 4:** Silver Falls State Park provides opportunities for visitors to discover native wildlife and plants, and see how they are interconnected within a temperate rainforest ecosystem.

Description and Concept

This is exactly what it says – a virtual tour of the Trail of Ten Falls. Features, wildlife and vegetation along the way should be highlighted and used to tell the story of the geomorphologic evolution and the microenvironment in the canyon.



Figure 15: Window to the Wild space in another Interpretive Center

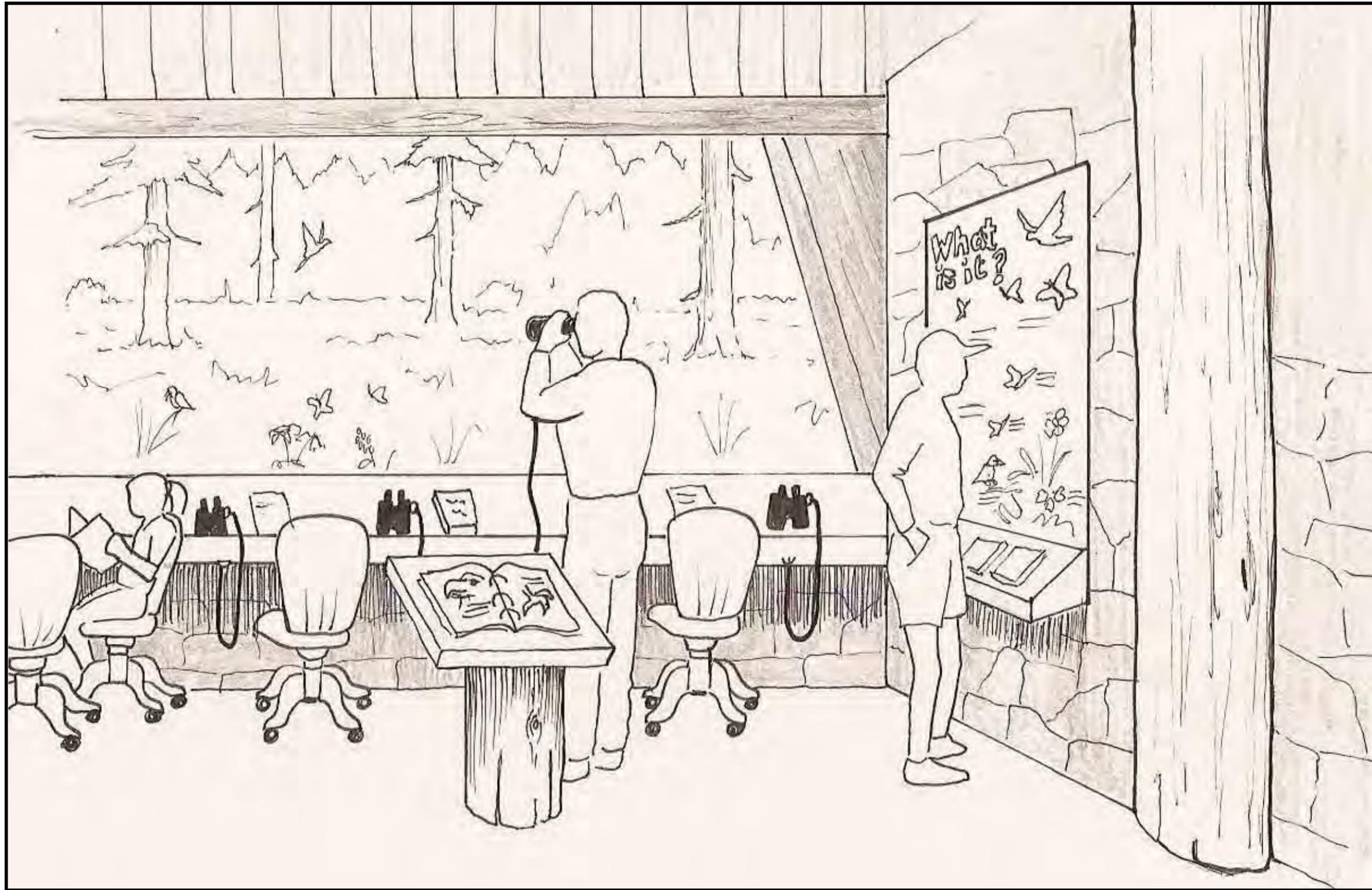


Figure 16: Concept for Window to the Wild

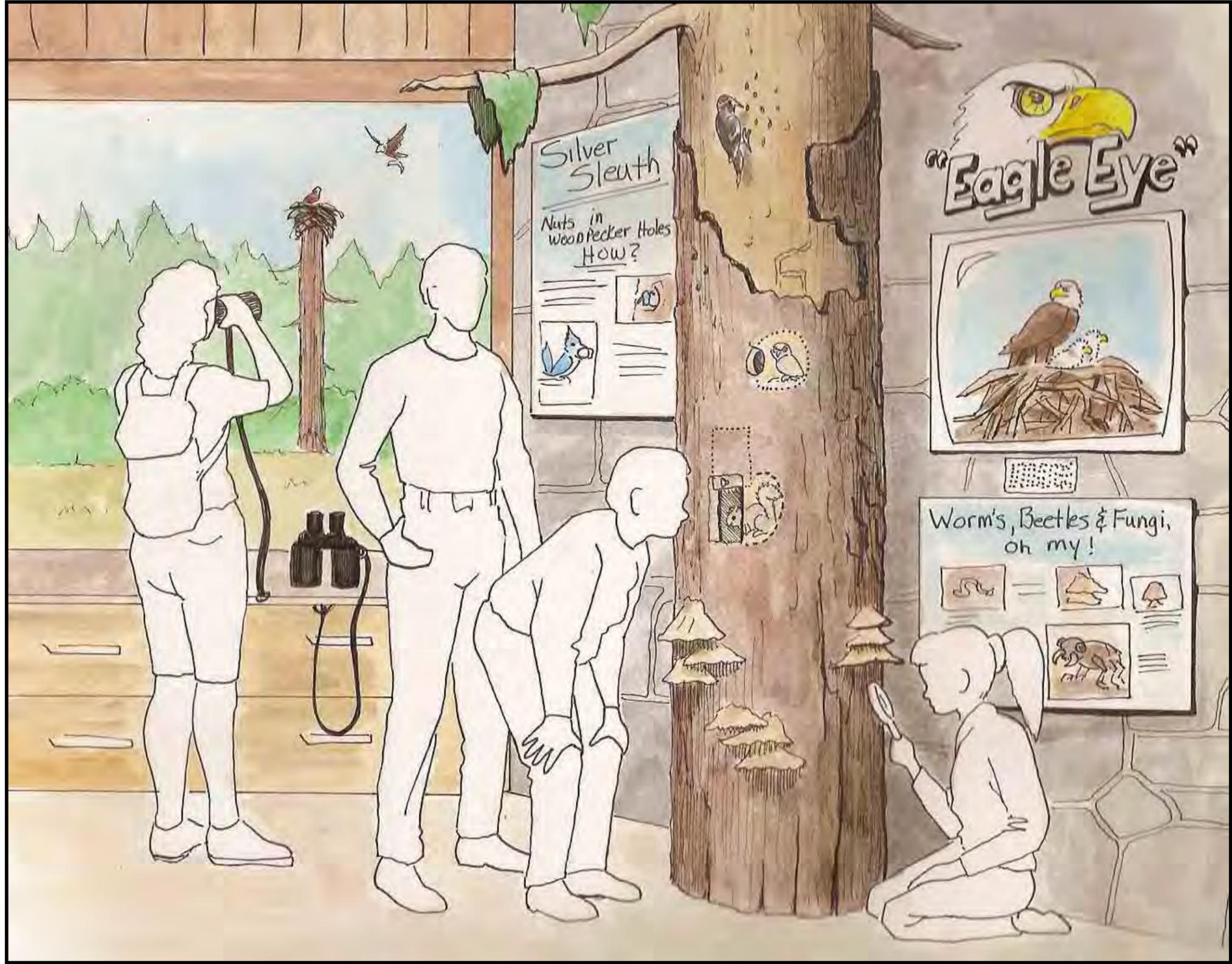


Figure 17: Temperate Rainforest exhibit area



Figure 18: Naturalist's Corner

Table 4: Draft Concept primary text for Temperate Rainforest Exhibit

Working Title	More than a backdrop to the waterfalls...
Body Text	<p>...these towering conifers define the structure of this complex ecosystem.</p> <p>This middle-aged forest of tall trees supports a variety of habitats, from tree-top to forest duff. There’s variety of forest here, too: notice how different the forest is at the water’s edge. The presence of water—flowing in the stream and drifting as mist—defines a riparian corridor of a water-loving community.</p> <p>Of course, a forest is much more than trees!</p> <p><i>Key body content</i> should continue with a brief overview of interacting ecosystems in forest, including mention of the 1865 Silverton Fire as an example of fire’s role in western forest ecology.</p>
Inset/Sidebar caption for image of Douglas fir and western hemlock,	The dominant trees in this temperate rainforest are Douglas fir and western hemlock. Most of the trees around you are around 100 years old, but there is old-growth in the park.
Inset/Sidebar	Why conifers? Most of the 80” of precipitation this area receives comes in winter: western North America is prone to dry summers. With their year-round, drought-resistant needles, many conifers do well in such conditions.
Inset/Sidebar to accompany an image of a nurse log	One of this forest’s strengths is the amount of dead and decaying wood. Both habitat and food source, large “dead” wood, such as this “nurse” log, provides places for a wide variety of living organisms while offering a wealth of nutrients.
Key body content	Should include illustrations of key species (with labels and captions that identify special status where appropriate)—particularly worthy candidates include: spotted owl, barred owl, Townsend’s big-eared bat, red-legged frog (or the salamander visitors are most likely to see), Douglas squirrel, deer, Pacific giant salamander, elk, black bear, cougar, the most common forest-edge birds seen around the Interpretive Center, dipper.
Take away message	forests are neighborhoods of habitats; the riparian zone is one of the key habitats

Self-Guided Tour of the Historic District

Objectives

After interacting with this tour, visitors will:

- Know all the key concepts associated with the CCC/WPA story;
- Be motivated to find out more about the CCC/WPA.

Themes

- **Theme 2:** Silver Falls State Park is a nationally significant example of an historic nationwide effort to transform degraded lands into valued areas for people to enjoy outdoor recreation and connect with nature.
- **Sub-Theme 2-1:** The Civilian Conservation Corps, Work Progress Administration and National Park Service changed the face of Silver Falls and left an indelible mark on Oregon’s history.
- **Sub-theme 2-2:** Silver Falls SP contains one of only two relatively intact Recreational Development Areas, artifacts from a historic nationwide experiment to connect people with nature.

Description and Concept

This booklet contains a self-guided tour of the District keyed to features rather than having numbers or markers. The features interpreted in the booklet focus on the story of the CCC and WPA, their impact on this and other parks and areas in Oregon, the influence of the NPS in the design of the landscape and buildings and other such stories.

Sense-ational Discovery Quest

Objectives

After interacting with this opportunity, visitors will:

- Have personally experienced key features of SFSP using all of their senses;
- Be motivated to explore the natural and cultural environment both within and outside the site.

Description and Concept

This strategy focuses attention on different aspects of the interpretive experience and encourages visitation to all parts of the park by asking participants to find various features or engage in various experiences throughout the primary recreational areas at SFSP (South Falls Day Use Area and North Falls Day Use Area). The actual device can be anything easily carried and used as an identification guide and check-off list, such as a small booklet or set of cards with pictures. Whatever is used, it should contain descriptions and images of features to look for and check off. Each item has two columns to check in the Sense-ational Discovery Quest – one for experiencing the feature in the exhibit and one for experiencing the actual feature. For example, a visitor hears a bird call in an exhibit in the Interpretive Center and puts a check in that column; he or she then hears the bird call while walking the trails and puts a check mark in the corresponding column. Experiences should involve all senses, such as smelling bark, hearing a bird call, identifying a tree by the feel of the bark, etc.

Guide to the Trails of SFSP

Objectives

After interacting with this guide, visitors will:

- Be aware of all the recreational trails in the park;
- Know which trails go where and which ones to take to certain places - mainly to take the Rim Trail from NF to SF.
- Know distances and terrain and other important trail related information
- Know which trails are fully accessible;
- Be inspired to walk the trails and become a detective of the landscape;
- Have contact information.

Description and Concept

This is a guide to the trails and more of an orientation and wayfinding strategy than interpretive. It will contain detailed trail log information and provide some information on cultural and natural features along the trails. Information should include:

- A map of SFSP with the trails highlighted and separated in terms of the types of use allowed;
- Distances, trail difficulty and time required for different combinations of trails;
- Trail logs with backcountry camps noted and described;
- Interpretive tidbits;
- Potential hazards (general);
- What to take along;
- A key to wildlife signs;
- A key to basic plants, with “didjknows” focusing on key aspects of cultural and natural;
- An insert advertising special events;
- Contact information;
- GPS link information.

This information could also be arranged in a Podcast if coverage could be extended to the bottom of the canyon.

Discovery Guide to SFSP

Objectives

After interacting with this guide, visitors will:

- Know all the major themes;
- Be aware of all the recreational and interpretive opportunities;
- Know which trails are fully accessible;
- Be inspired to walk the trails and become a detective of the landscape;
- Have contact information.

Description and Concept

This is a more detailed guide to the trails, both in terms of trail log information and cultural and natural features along the trails. Information should include:

- A map of SFSP with the Interpretive Center and key attractions highlighted;
- Distances, trail difficulty and time required for different combinations of trails;
- Trail logs with interpretive tidbits;
- Potential hazards (general);
- What to take along;
- A key to wildlife signs;
- A key to basic plants, with “didjknows” focusing on key aspects of cultural and natural;
- Suggested itineraries for those new to SFSP;
- A guide to the Historic District (this could be separated out and developed as a separate, shorter publication);
- An insert advertising special events;
- Contact information.

Possible first steps in developing this guide are to develop laminated identification keys and associated species lists that can be used individually. Eventually these can be combined and condensed into the core of the Discovery Guide.

Podcasts

At this time two applications for podcasts have been identified in the plan – the Self Guided Walking Tour of the Historic District and a tour of the Trail of Ten Falls.

North Falls Day Use Area



North Falls Day Use Area

Introduction

Key Recommendations from Master Plan

- Convert the Group Camp area into a Day Use Area;
- Construct a new Welcome Center with a meeting hall;
- Build a Welcome Center Plaza with a kiosk for interpretive and orientation information;
- Develop picnic areas for large and small groups;
- Put in a bike rental structure;
- Develop a new access to the Trail of Ten Falls;
- Put in a series of new parking areas;
- Build a short interpretive trail culminating in a Canyon Overlook;
- Develop a *Natural Play Area in the meadow south of the Welcome Center.

** Natural Play Areas provide an opportunity to re-connect children to and foster interaction with nature through use of natural materials and opportunities for unstructured play in a natural setting. Such an attraction is conducive to addressing Nature Deficit Disorder.*

Concept for Interpretive Network

The information in this area is primarily interpretive overview and orientation using the Plaza area as a hub. Information in the Welcome Center is confined to a small area with a focus on orientation and wayfinding.

Future Experience

Visitors to this area park in one of the designated parking areas where they have immediate visual access to an information kiosk containing site orientation. All pathways lead to the Welcome Center Plaza where they encounter a **North Falls Area Orientation Panel**, **Thematic Overview Panels**, a **North Falls Area Trails Orientation Panel** focused on the trails in this part of the park, and the trailhead for the **Forces of Change Interpretive Trail**, which culminates at an overlook of the canyon. A **Trail of Ten Falls Orientation panel** is

located here also because visitors can access the trail from this point.

The Welcome Center will have a small **Trip Planning Exhibit** inside, but will not have interpretation other than on the back deck, where “**Find Me**” **Interpretive Panels** focus on helping visitors discover flora and fauna through the use of signs of wildlife (such as tracks and scat) and bird calls. In the meadow south of the Welcome Center, a Natural Play Area has whole families enjoying the experience.

Figure 19 on page 39 depicts the general location of interpretive opportunities in this area. Figure 20 on page 40 is a concept for the Welcome Plaza developed by Greenworks Architectural Graphics and Design on a previous contract.

Action Plan

1. Construct small information kiosks similar to those used in other parts of the park in each of the parking areas and put a **North Falls Area Orientation Panel** on each along with directional signage.
2. Construct an information kiosk for the Welcome Center Plaza and put the **SFSP Orientation Panel** on the structure along with a brochure holder for dispensing the **SFSP Orientation Map/Brochure**.
3. Design, fabricate and install the **Thematic Overview panels** on the kiosk.
4. Design, fabricate and install the **North Falls Area Trails Orientation Panel**.
5. Develop the **Trip Planning Exhibit** for the Welcome Center.
6. Develop the **Forces of Change Interpretive Trail** with signage.
7. Design, fabricate and install the “**Find Me**” **Interpretive panels** for the back deck of the Welcome Center.
8. Design, fabricate and install the interpretive panels associated with the features in the playground.

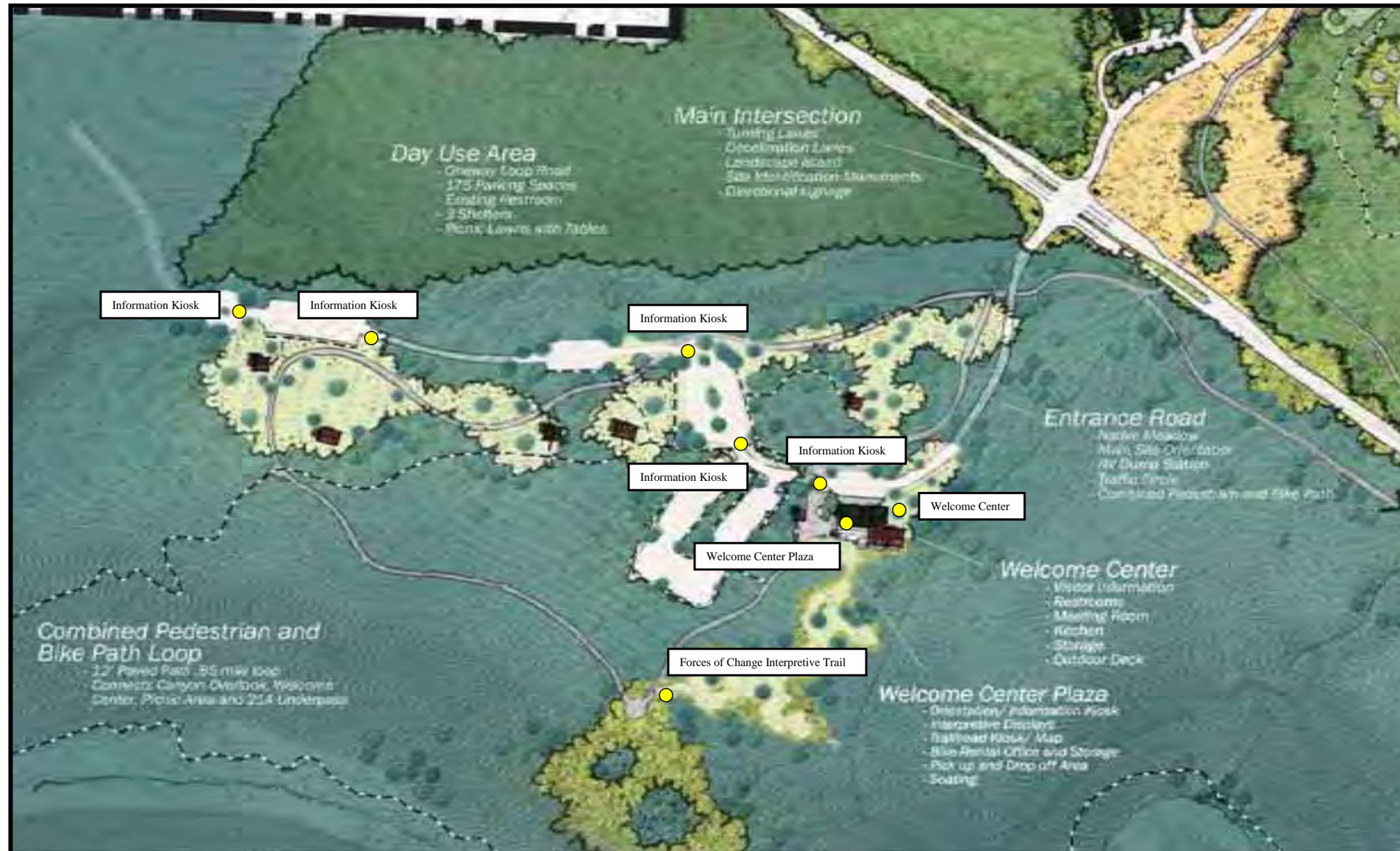


Figure 19: Location of fixed interpretive opportunities at North Falls Day Use Area



Figure 20: Concept for Welcome Plaza at North Gateway Welcome Center from *Draft Master Plan for North Gateway at Silver Falls State Park* by Greenworks Landscape Architecture and Environmental Design

Delivery Strategies

North Falls Area Orientation Panel

Location

Various locations, including on all information kiosks at parking areas and in the Welcome Plaza

Objectives

After interacting with this panel, visitors will:

- Be aware of the recreational and interpretive opportunities at the North Gateway Day Use Area;
- Be motivated to engage in at least the interpretive opportunities in the Welcome Center Plaza.

Description and Concept

Use a stylized oblique aerial perspective of the North Gateway Day Use Area as a backdrop for enlarged images of key features and opportunities. Use supporting text to motivate visitors to explore this part of the park. Ideally, the SFSP Orientation Map/Brochure will be distributed from this panel.

North Falls Area Trails Orientation Panel

Locations

On the information kiosk in the Welcome Center Plaza, at the intersection of the new loop trail to the west, and at the last parking area because it has direct access to trails leading away from the Plaza.

Objectives

After interacting with this opportunity, visitors will:

- Know the extent, condition and difficulty of the trails in this area and be able to make an informed decision on how far they want to walk;
- Be motivated to walk/hike at least one of the trails, if not on this trip then on a return visit.

Description and Concept

This panel focuses on information necessary to make a decision about hiking the trails accessed from this site. Use an aerial perspective of the east side as a backdrop for highlighting trails in the area. Information would include mileage, grade, hazards, what a person should take with them, and which are pet-friendly trails.

Thematic Overview Panels

Location

On the information kiosk at the Welcome Plaza

Objectives

After interacting with this opportunity, visitors will:

- Be motivated to walk the Forces of Change Interpretive Trail;
- Be motivated to visit other parts of the park;
- Be motivated to visit the Interpretive Center;
- Be inspired to find out more information about the CCC, WPA and the history of Silver Falls State Park;
- Be inspired to explore and learn about the temperate rainforest;
- Be inspired to hike at least part of the Trail of Ten Falls and learn about the formation of the landscape

Panel 1: The Changing Cultural Landscape

Themes

- **Theme 5:** Throughout the ages, the people of Oregon have valued Silver Falls State Park, whether as a home, for resources, or for recreation.

Description and Concept

This panel focuses on the changing uses of the land by different groups of people during different eras. To convey this idea, use a series of images showing how this area might have looked at specific times in history. The first could be with Native Americans traveling and/or hunting in the area; the next could be of the area after it had been logged; the next could be of this site with a CCC camp; and the next could be now. The last should be a “?” to indicate that we do not know what will happen next. Table 5 on page 42

contains draft concept for the primary text for this exhibit.

Panel 2: The Dynamic Landscape

Themes

- **Theme 1:** The series of spectacular waterfalls was produced by natural forces that transformed and continue to shape the canyon.
- **Sub-theme 1-1:** Volcanic forces deep in the earth forged the setting for Silver Creek and the waterfalls we see today.
- **Sub-theme 1-2:** Water and ice sculpted and continue to shape the basalt layers into the unique concentrated series of waterfalls in Silver Creek Canyon that we see today.

Description and Concept

Use a series of images depicting different events that led to the current version of the landscape, with a final image representing what it might look like in the future. Events should start with this area being a coastline and then depict the impact of tectonic uplift, lava flows, ash fall and flowing water in succession. Use supporting information to focus on the concept that the landscape continues to change due to a variety of forces working over time. Table 6 on page 42 contains draft concept for the primary text for this exhibit.

Panel 3: The Temperate Forest

Themes

- **Theme 4:** Silver Falls State Park provides opportunities for visitors to discover native wildlife and plants, and see how they are interconnected within a temperate rainforest ecosystem.

Description and Concept

Use an image of the view of the forest from this vantage point as a ghost background to highlight flora and fauna that live in a lowland temperate rainforest. Include those that depend on this ecosystem. Use a sidebar with an image of western Oregon to depict the extent of lowland temperate rainforest prior to EuroAmerican settlement and now. Table 7 on page 43 contains draft concept for the primary text for this exhibit.

Table 5: Draft Concept Text for Changing Cultural Landscape Panel

Working Title	What drew you to Silver Falls State Park?
Body Text	<p>People have been drawn to this place for pretty much the same reasons for many generations, although different reasons have been most important at different times.</p> <p>If you sampled some ripe berries, you’ve joined the ranks of those who’ve harvested the natural resources around the Silver Falls. For thousands of years, the First People harvested berries, camas, and other plant foods from this region, as well as collecting building materials and hunting game.</p> <p>EuroAmerican settlers cleared the land for farms. Later, timber from what is now Silver Falls State Park was felled and sold. This significant export of natural resources changed the look of the land.</p> <p>In the last century, this vicinity offered gainful employment to workers who traveled here to work on site—from the Great Depression’s Civilian Conservation Corps to today’s Oregon State Park Employees.</p> <p>Throughout time, however, the grandeur of the collection of waterfalls drew people for recreation and inspiration, as well as for its economic resources. OPRD now manages this park for long-term ecological health and recreational and spiritual values.</p> <p>What will you take away from Silver Falls today?</p>
Key body content	Should include illustrations (with labels and captions) of the times described.
Take away message	Humans have long treasured this place for economic and spiritual values.

Table 6: Draft Concept Main Text for Dynamic Landscape

Working Title	Just a snapshot
Body Text	<p>The waterfalls you see here today are ever-changing features in a dynamic landscape.</p> <p>Waterfalls form when water erodes over a vertical variation in the underlying rock—here, where layers of harder rock top layers of softer rock.</p> <p>Silver Creek finally cut through the hardest cap layer. The power of water and ice more easily erodes the softer layers, digging out the pool beneath and the cavern behind.</p> <p>As the cavern behind the waterfall grows, unsupported chunks at the edge of the cap layer fall and the waterfall inches its way upstream. A waterfall’s height is determined by the amount of water, the hardness of the rock, and how long the water’s been working on the rock.</p>
Inset/Sidebar <i>caption for image of geologic stages</i>	Traveling continents As North America has moved west, the leading edge of the continent has crumpled, been pushed out of the sea, and—most recently—oozed and spurted melted rock. Here, the results of that journey are layers of basalt and ash with marine sandstone on the bottom. Eventually, the bits of material Silver Creek pounds out of these rocks will become sandstone...perhaps later to be crushed and melted again.
Inset/Sidebar	How does water erode rock? Moving water carries a lot of physical force; water can dissolve many of the minerals in stone; the water in small fissures expands with it freezes, widening the fissure and wedging the rock apart; flowing sheets of frozen water (glaciers) can very efficiently grind rock to dust. What will these waterfalls look like eons from today?
Inset/Sidebar <i>caption for image of waterfall cross-section</i>	Hard basalt, softer burnt soil, hard basalt, softer ash... These are the layers Silver Creek cut through.
Inset/Sidebar <i>captions for set of prehistoric settings/plate tectonics drawings</i>	<p>Over 26 million years ago this area was under the sea, just off the western edge of the continent. As the continent moved westward, the sandstones made of old ocean-bottom were forced up, becoming new land.</p> <p>About 15 million years ago melted rock (lava) oozed up from under the earth’s crust and flowed over the landscape before cooling and hardening to basalt. Several times flowing lava covered this area—as did ash and tuff from nearby volcanoes.</p>
Key body content	Should include illustrations (with labels and captions) of pertinent stages in North America’s movement, including a cross-section of plate tectonics of western edge.
Take away message	what we see today is just a snapshot of much larger processes

Table 7: Draft Concept Text for Temperate Rainforest Panel

Working Title	More than a backdrop to the waterfalls...
Body Text	<p>...these towering conifers define the structure of this complex ecosystem.</p> <p>This middle-aged forest of tall trees supports a variety of habitats, from tree-top to forest duff. There's variety of forest here, too: notice how different the forest is at the water's edge. The presence of water—flowing in the stream and drifting as mist—defines a riparian corridor of a water-loving community.</p> <p>Of course, a forest is much more than trees!</p>
Inset/Sidebar <i>caption for image of Douglas fir and western hemlock, with labels and notes on identifying characteristic</i>	The dominant trees in this temperate rainforest are Douglas fir and western hemlock. Most of the trees around you are around 100 years old, but there is old-growth in the park.
Inset/Sidebar	Why conifers? Most of the 80" of precipitation this area receives comes in winter: western North America is prone to dry summers. With their year-round, drought-resistant needles, many conifers do well in such conditions.
Inset/Sidebar <i>to accompany an image of a nurse log</i>	One of this forest's strengths is the amount of dead and decaying wood. Both habitat and food source, large "dead" wood, such as this "nurse" log, provides places for a wide variety of living organisms while offering a wealth of nutrients.
Key body content	<p>should continue with specific examples of the interacting ecosystems in forest hikers will see from the viewpoint and along the trail, including mention of the 1865 Silverton Fire as an example of fire's role in western forest ecology—if a link can be made.</p> <p>should include illustrations of key species (with labels and captions that identify special status where appropriate)—particularly worthy candidates include: spotted owl, barred owl, Townsend's big-eared bat, red-legged frog (or the salamander visitors are most likely to see), Douglas squirrel, deer, Pacific giant salamander, elk, black bear, cougar, the most common forest-edge birds seen around the Interpretive Center, dipper.</p>
Take away message	Forests are neighborhoods of habitats; the riparian zone is one of the key habitats.

Forces of Change Interpretive Trail

*Note: **Interpretive trails** are generally very short and are set up to highlight and interpret specific features in the landscape. Because the focus is on interpretation rather than exercise or access to another area, the best interpretive trails are ¼ to ½ mile loops on relatively flat ground. Interpretation can be included on other trails, such as the Trail of Ten Falls, but this is a **walking trail** with interpretation rather than an interpretive trail.*

Location

A loop trail beginning and ending at the Welcome Center Plaza

Objectives

After interacting with this opportunity, visitors will:

- Be able to name at least two major forces that have shaped this landscape and how they affected the landscape;
- Be able to name at least two forces of change that continue to work on this landscape, including changes in climate;
- Be inspired to take the trail.

Themes

- **Theme 1:** The series of spectacular waterfalls was produced by natural forces that transformed and continue to shape the canyon.
- **Sub-theme 1-1:** Volcanic forces deep in the earth forged the setting for Silver Creek and the waterfalls we see today.
- **Sub-theme 1-2:** Water and ice sculpted and continue to shape the basalt layers into the unique concentrated series of waterfalls in Silver Creek Canyon that we see today.

Description and Concept

The plaza will be the beginning and ending terminus for a short (1/4-mile) interpretive loop trail that includes a viewpoint of the canyon. The exact focus of the interpretation along the trail will depend on the location, but the intent is to have it provide detail on forces that have shaped this landscape, including human actions, volcanic activity, tectonic uplift, erosion, wind, climate change, and fire. Consequently, the trail should be laid out in a curvilinear design to maximize focus on evidence of

these and any other forces of change. Panels that include a solar-powered audio system for ADA accessibility will be used to provide the interpretation.

Trip Planning Exhibit

Location

In the Welcome Center

Objectives

After interacting with this opportunity, visitors will:

- Be aware of all interpretive and recreational opportunities at Silver Falls State Park;
- Have all information necessary for selecting and planning excursions within the park;
- Have all literature available to support their excursion;
- Have planned their stay at Silver Falls State Park;
- Will be motivated to plan a return trip to view other areas and/or see the park at different seasons.

Description and Concept

Create a “visual menu” of the interpretive and recreational opportunities in the park. Use a stylized aerial perspective of the park, similar to the one used on the SFSP Orientation Panel, as a backdrop for enlarged images highlighting features in the park, such as waterfalls, and the associated activities. Below the visual, matching the features/activities noted, put the relevant brochures and other literature to facilitate engaging in that activity. Use interesting tidbits of interpretive information accompanying the activities to highlight the fact that interpretive opportunities are available. Places to sit to review brochures and a flat surface to lay out maps should be included in the layout to facilitate the trip planning. Figure 21 on page 45 depicts how this exhibit and area might look.

“Find Me” Interpretive Panels

Location

On the back deck of the Welcome Center

Note: A Natural Area Playground is planned for the area to the south of the Welcome Center, which is the area to which these panels are oriented. However, some species of birds do not vacate areas with human presence so these panels will still work to bring a visitor’s attention to the birds and wildlife at Silver Falls and motivate the visitor to seek more information and perhaps better and less intruded-on views in the Window to the Wild room or along trails at the park.

Objectives

After interacting with these panels, visitors will:

- Be aware that the surrounding natural environment is home to a lot of different birds and wildlife;
- Feel more confident in their ability to spot and identify birds and wildlife sign;
- Be motivated to visit the interpretive Center and the Window to the Wild especially to learn how to identify more birds, wildlife and signs of wildlife.

Themes

- **Theme 4:** Silver Falls State Park provides opportunities for visitors to discover native wildlife and plants, and see how they are interconnected within a temperate rainforest ecosystem.

Description and Concept

Develop one primary panel that uses the scene in front of the visitor as a backdrop to highlight birds and wildlife that live in the area and could be seen. Use supporting information to focus on the array of wildlife living in the park, and highlight the Window to the Wild room in the Interpretive Center as a place to go to learn more about identifying birds and wildlife.

Use a series of smaller panels to highlight single species with clues on where to look, how to identify, and the impact OPRD activities have on the populations of the species. The “W” for Watchable

Wildlife should be associated with the back deck. Figure 22 on page 46 depicts how these panels might appear.

In addition, use another panel to highlight OPRD’s commitment to addressing Nature Deficit Disorder and the connection between these efforts and the motivation for the federal government to establish Recreational Development Areas such as the one that was incorporated into the park.



Figure 21: Trip Planning Exhibit



Figure 22: "Find Me" Interpretive Panels

Central Entrance and Campground Area



Central Entrance and Campground Area

Introduction

Key Recommendations from Master Plan

- Build a Welcome Center with parking where the entry station is now located;
- Build an amphitheater across the road from the Welcome Center;
- Move the maintenance yard and headquarters to the new property at the northeast end of the park and develop a campground in that location;
- Build a cabin for the Junior Ranger Programs.

Concept for Interpretive Network

The basic concept is to provide orientation at the new Welcome Center, interpretive opportunities associated with the new amphitheater and some interpretive and orientation opportunities at the campground to motivate people to attend programs and explore the other interpretive opportunities in the park.

Future Experience

Visitors to this side of the park encounter the Welcome Center and the interior **Trip Planning Exhibit** that provides detailed orientation to the park and distributes all relevant publications. From there, visitors travel to their respective camping areas. In each camping area, a central information kiosk will contain a **Campground Orientation Panel**, the **SFSP Orientation Panel** and a brochure holder for dispensing the **SFSP Orientation Map/Brochure**. Each camping area will also have an associated perimeter trail along which visitors will encounter site-specific interpretive panels. In the evenings, they can walk or drive and walk to the amphitheater for evening programs. The trail to the amphitheater will be a **Day/Night Interpretive Trail** focusing on sensing the environment at night and during the day. Evening programs will cover a variety of topics, but

all will focus on the themes for the interpretive network.

Action Plan

1. Refine the interpretive programs presented in the amphitheater to more closely reflect the approved themes for the park.
2. Design and construct an information kiosk in a central location in the new campground. The design could incorporate design elements consistent with the CCC landscape. Place a SFSP Orientation Panel and brochure holder to dispense the SFSP Orientation Map/Brochure on the kiosk.
3. Develop the perimeter trail for the new campground with input from interpretive staff so the route can take advantage of interpretable views and/or features, and design, fabricate and install the panels for that trail.
4. With the construction of the Welcome Center, install a SFSP Orientation Panel in the parking area and the Trip Planning Exhibit for the interior of the Center.
5. Develop the Day and Night Interpretive Trail in conjunction with developing the amphitheater.

Delivery Strategies

Trip Planning Exhibit

Location

In the Welcome Center

Objectives

After interacting with this opportunity, visitors will:

- Be aware of all interpretive and recreational opportunities at Silver Falls State Park;
- Have all information necessary for selecting and planning excursions within the park;
- Have all literature available to support their excursion.

Description and Concept

Create a “visual menu” of the interpretive and recreational opportunities in the park. Use a stylized aerial perspective of the park, similar to the one used on the SFSP Orientation Panel, as a backdrop for enlarged images highlighting features in the park, such as the waterfalls, and associated activities. Below the visual, matching the features/activities noted, put the relevant brochures and other literature to facilitate engaging in that activity. Use interesting tidbits of interpretive information accompanying the activities to highlight the fact that interpretive opportunities are available. Places to sit to review brochures and a flat surface to lay out maps should be included in the layout to facilitate the trip planning. Figure 20 in the section on the North Falls Day Use Area depicts how an area for this exhibit might look.

Amphitheater Programs

Location

In the amphitheater

Objectives

These will vary depending on the program, but at a minimum, when visitors finish engaging in a program at the amphitheater they will:

- Be aware that OPRD is managing the site and is responsible for the high quality program just presented.

Description and Concept

Varies, but programs should focus on the themes.

Day/Night Interpretive Trails

Location

Along the access trails to the amphitheater

Objectives

After interacting with this opportunity, visitors will:

- Be motivated to use all of their senses to experience the park;
- Be motivated to become a detective of the landscape;
- Be motivated to experience the trail during both daylight and at night.

Themes

- **Theme 4:** Silver Falls State Park provides opportunities for visitors to discover native wildlife and plants, and see how they are interconnected within a temperate rainforest ecosystem.

Description and Concept

The specific features to be interpreted will depend on the location of the trails, but interpretation on the way to the amphitheater will focus on features along the trail that can be seen or sensed in some way during the day. These could include:

- Birds and wildlife that could be seen in the surrounding vegetation with clues on how to identify their presence from bird calls, animal tracks, holes or other sign;
- Specific species of plant typically found in a temperate rainforest ecosystem that can be identified by their odor;
- Species of plants that were used by Native Americans and/or early settlers and how they were used;

Interpretation on the return route from the amphitheater will focus on features that can be sensed at night, such as:

- The calls of night birds (use an audio component)
- Sensing the increased humidity and what it means in terms of transpiration;

- How the Native Americans and early pioneers used constellations for navigation.

The signposts could also contain the lights for the trail oriented in such a way that the text could be read, or could have an audio component for the night version of the trail. Specific locations for signs and topics should be determined prior to laying out the trail so trail location can take advantage of interpretive opportunities.

Campground Orientation Panels

Location

On the central information kiosk and at other key locations in a specific campground

Objectives

After interacting with this opportunity, visitors will:

- Be motivated to walk the perimeter trail and take advantage of the interpretive opportunities.

Description and Concept

This is a simple site orientation for the campground that shows the restrooms, other amenities, campground host and the trail around the perimeter with interpretive stops noted.

Major Gateways, Trailheads and Viewpoints



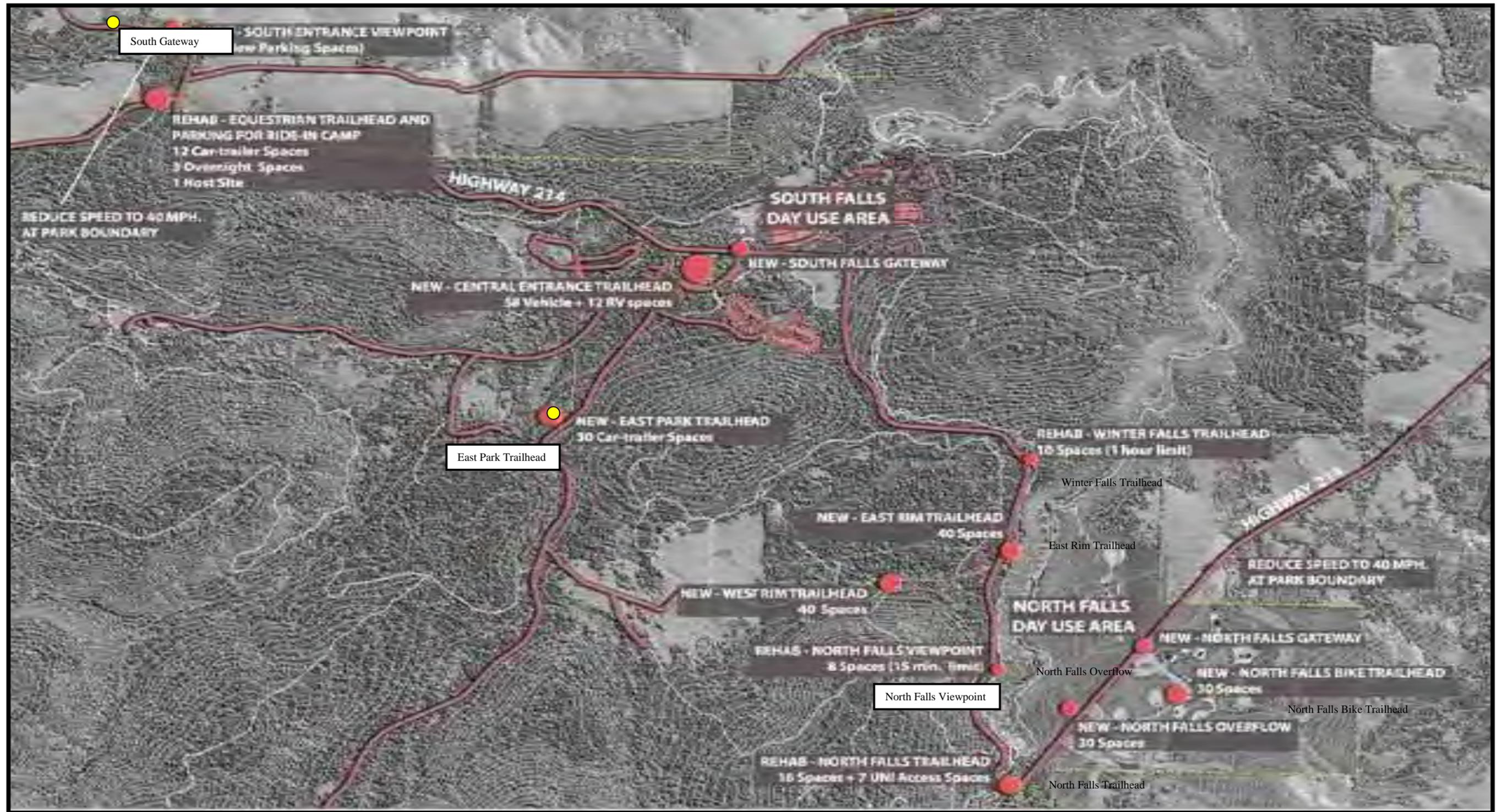


Figure 23: Major Viewpoints, Trailheads and Gateways not included in other section

South Gateway

Introduction

Note: The location of the major Gateways, Trailheads and Viewpoints are indicated on Figure 23 on page 50.

Key Recommendations from Master Plan

This area has already been developed as a viewpoint.

Concept for Interpretive Network

The objectives for information strategies at the South Entrance Viewpoint are:

- To reassure visitors that they have arrived at their destination;
- To make visitors feel welcome;
- To make them aware of the extent of the park and what it has to offer;
- To pique interest in the interpretive stories;
- To guide visitors to their desired destination.

With that in mind, the concept is to have park wide orientation plus interpretive opportunities that are highly visible and do not take a lot of time to absorb.

Future Experience

Visitors arriving from the south on Highway 214 will pull into the South Entrance Viewpoint and have a look at the SFSP Orientation Panel to get their bearings and take in the **Reading the Landscape Interpretive Panels**. They then continue on their way to their first destination in the park, confident that they have arrived and that they can find their way easily.

Action Plan

1. Install a SFSP Orientation panel modified with an appropriate “You are Here”

2. Develop the Reading the Landscape Interpretive Panels.

Delivery Strategies

Reading the Landscape Interpretive Panels

Location

Low-angled panels mounted on the rock wall oriented to the view to the west.

Objectives

After interacting with these panels, visitors will:

- Be motivated to explore SFSP to practice reading the landscape;
- Be motivated to visit the Interpretive Center;
- Know that SFSP has significant cultural and natural resources;
- Be inspired to visit the Historic District;
- Be inspired to hike to at least one of the waterfalls.

Themes

- **Theme 1:** The series of spectacular waterfalls was produced by natural forces that transformed and continue to shape the canyon.
- **Theme 2:** Silver Falls State Park is a nationally significant example of an historic nationwide effort to transform degraded lands into valued areas for people to enjoy outdoor recreation and connect with nature.
- **Theme 4:** Silver Falls State Park provides opportunities for visitors to discover native wildlife and plants, and see how they are interconnected within a temperate rainforest ecosystem.

Description and Concept

These panels will focus on reading the landscape visible from that vantage point with an invitation to come and learn to “read” the intriguing stories of Silver Falls State Park, beginning with a stop at the Interpretive Center. Use the scene in front as a backdrop for highlighting features that are evidence

of natural or cultural events, or that provide clues as to what types of flora and fauna might live in that environment. Design one panel to focus on stories relating to natural history and the other on cultural history. For both panels use a black and white or sepia image or series of images depicting how the area might have looked at some point in the past, with remnants or evidence of that era that can be seen from this vantage point depicted in color on the image. Supporting text should be in the form of interesting tidbits of information about the geomorphologic formation of the area, the lowland temperate rainforest as an island in a sea of development, and the series of human stories that occurred in that island. Tables 8 and 9 on page 52 contain draft concept for the primary text for these panels.

Winter Falls Viewpoint and Trailhead

Introduction

Key Recommendations from Master Plan

- Rehabilitate the trailhead and viewpoint.

Concept for Interpretive Network

Park and trail orientation.

Desired Experience

Visitors traveling the stretch of Highway 214 between the gateways will have the opportunity to pull off at Winter Falls Viewpoint where they encounter a **Trail of Ten Falls Orientation panel** (described in the Trail of Ten Falls section) that emphasizes the Winter Falls access trail, and a **SFSP Orientation Panel**.

Action Plan

1. Develop information kiosks for each vista point and parking area and put the SFSP Orientation Panel and a brochure holder for dispensing the SFSP Orientation Map/Brochure on the kiosk. Also put the Trail of Ten Falls Orientation Panel on the kiosk.

Table 8: Draft Concept Text for Reading the Landscape 1

Working Title	Like a still frame from a movie
Body Text	Gazing across the landscape here your eyes follow the roll of the foothills to the floor of the Willamette Valley to the Coast Range in the distance. The natural processes underway have resulted in what you see—and they continue.
Inset/Sidebar <i>caption for image of geologic series</i>	This area began as ocean bottom, just off the western edge of the continent. As the continent moved westward, the ocean-bottom sandstones were forced up, becoming new land. About 15 million years ago volcanoes erupted and lava oozed up from under the earth’s crust and flowed over the landscape. Erosion shaped the resulting rocks to form the foothills and waterfalls at Silver Falls State Park.
Inset/Sidebar <i>caption for image of meadow/forest edge</i>	The temperate rainforest around you is textured with streams and wetlands, as well as with meadows and brush. Forests grow, mature, and change—here most notably by fire or logging. Today this area is managed for a variety of healthy ecosystems.
Inset/Sidebar <i>caption for image of park</i>	More discoveries await you as you explore the dynamic landscapes of Silver Falls!
Key body content	Should include illustrations (with labels and captions) of the tidbits described above.
Take away message	Natural processes are evident in this landscape—and I can “see” them.

Table 9: Draft Concept Text for Reading the Landscape 2

Working Title	There’s a cultural landscape, too
Body Text	The tree farms nearby and the agricultural fields in the distance are part of the latest chapter in the story of humans in this landscape. This chapter is an interesting read, too!
Inset/Sidebar <i>caption for image of First People harvesting camas or such</i>	Beginning several thousand years ago the First People maintained grasslands with fire to encourage food plants and enrich habitat for food animals. We continue to manage many of these historic grasslands for agriculture or for ecological values.
Inset/Sidebar <i>caption for image of pioneer farm or timber felling</i>	Pioneers used plow and saw to grow crops and harvest timber. Stumps and old logging roads are still evident in Silver Falls State Park [in the area].
Inset/Sidebar <i>caption for image of one of the CCC buildings in the park</i>	Major economic upheavals fostered interesting developments in the land use of this place. Most recently, people have retooled this land as a recreational island in a sea of agriculture and industry—an island that beckons you to recreate, learn, and enjoy.
Key body content	Should include illustrations (with labels and captions) of the tidbits described above.
Take away message	Land use changes can be “read” in this landscape.

East Rim Trailhead

Introduction

Key Recommendations from Master Plan

- This is a new trailhead with 40 parking spaces.

Concept for Interpretive Network

Primarily interpretive overview and orientation.

Future Experience

Visitors to the East Rim Trailhead will encounter an information kiosk with the SFSP Orientation Panel and dispenser for the SFSP Orientation Map/Brochure, an East Park Trails Orientation Panel, a Trail of Ten Falls Orientation Panel (which includes the East Rim Trail), and a Temperate Rainforest Interpretive Panel.

Action Plan

1. Develop an information kiosk for the parking area and put the SFSP Orientation Panel and a brochure holder for dispensing the SFSP Orientation Map/Brochure and Canyon Trail Orientation Panel on the kiosk.
2. Develop the East Rim Orientation Panel and put it on the kiosk.
3. Design, fabricate and install the Temperate Rainforest Interpretive Panel.

Delivery Strategies

East Rim Trail Orientation Panel

Location

At the East Rim Trailhead

Objectives

After interacting with this panel, visitors will:

- Know the extent, condition and difficulty of the trails on the east side of Highway 214 and be able to make an informed decision on how far they want to walk;
- Be motivated to walk/hike at least one of the trails, if not on this trip then on a return visit.

Description and Concept

This panel focuses on information necessary to make a decision about hiking the trails accessed from this site. Use an aerial perspective of the east side as a backdrop for highlighting trails in the area.

Information for each trail should include mileage, grade, hazards, what a person should take with them, and which are pet-friendly trails.

The Temperate Rainforest Panel

Location

At the East Rim Trailhead

Themes

- **Theme 4:** Silver Falls State Park provides opportunities for visitors to discover native wildlife and plants, and see how they are interconnected within a temperate rainforest ecosystem.

Description and Concept

Use an aerial perspective of the trail in the forest as a ghost background to highlight flora and fauna that live in a lowland temperate rainforest. Include those that depend on this ecosystem. Use a sidebar with an image of western Oregon to depict the extent of lowland temperate rainforest prior to EuroAmerican settlement and now.

North Falls Viewpoint

Introduction

Key Recommendations from Master Plan

- Rehabilitate the trailhead and viewpoint.

Concept for Interpretive Network

Park and trail orientation plus interpretation for the viewpoint.

Future Experience

Visitors traveling the stretch of Highway 214 between the gateways will have the opportunity to pull off at North Falls Viewpoint where they encounter a SFSP Orientation Panel, and a **North Falls Interpretive Panel**.

Action Plan

1. Develop an information kiosk and put the SFSP Orientation Panel and a brochure holder for dispensing the SFSP Orientation Map/Brochure on the kiosk.
2. Develop the North Falls Interpretive Panel.

Delivery Strategies

North Falls Interpretive Panel

Location

At the North Falls Viewpoint oriented toward the falls

Objectives

After interacting with this panel, visitors will:

- Understand that the waterfall is moving upstream;
- Be motivated to learn more about the geomorphology of the canyon.

Themes

- **Theme 1:** The series of spectacular waterfalls was produced by natural forces that transformed and continue to shape the canyon.
- **Sub-theme 1-1:** Volcanic forces deep in the earth forged the setting for Silver Creek and the waterfalls we see today.
- **Sub-theme 1-2:** Water and ice sculpted and continue to shape the basalt layers into the unique concentrated series of waterfalls in Silver Creek Canyon that we see today.

Description and Concept

Use up to four views of the waterfall at different points in geologic time all from this vantage point. The third view would be the falls now with the fourth focusing on the fact that a person might not be able to see the falls because it would have eroded upstream. The previous images could include how the area looked after basalt flows (flat). Figure 24 on page 54 depicts how the panel might look in context. Table 10 on page 55 contains draft concept for the primary text for this panel.

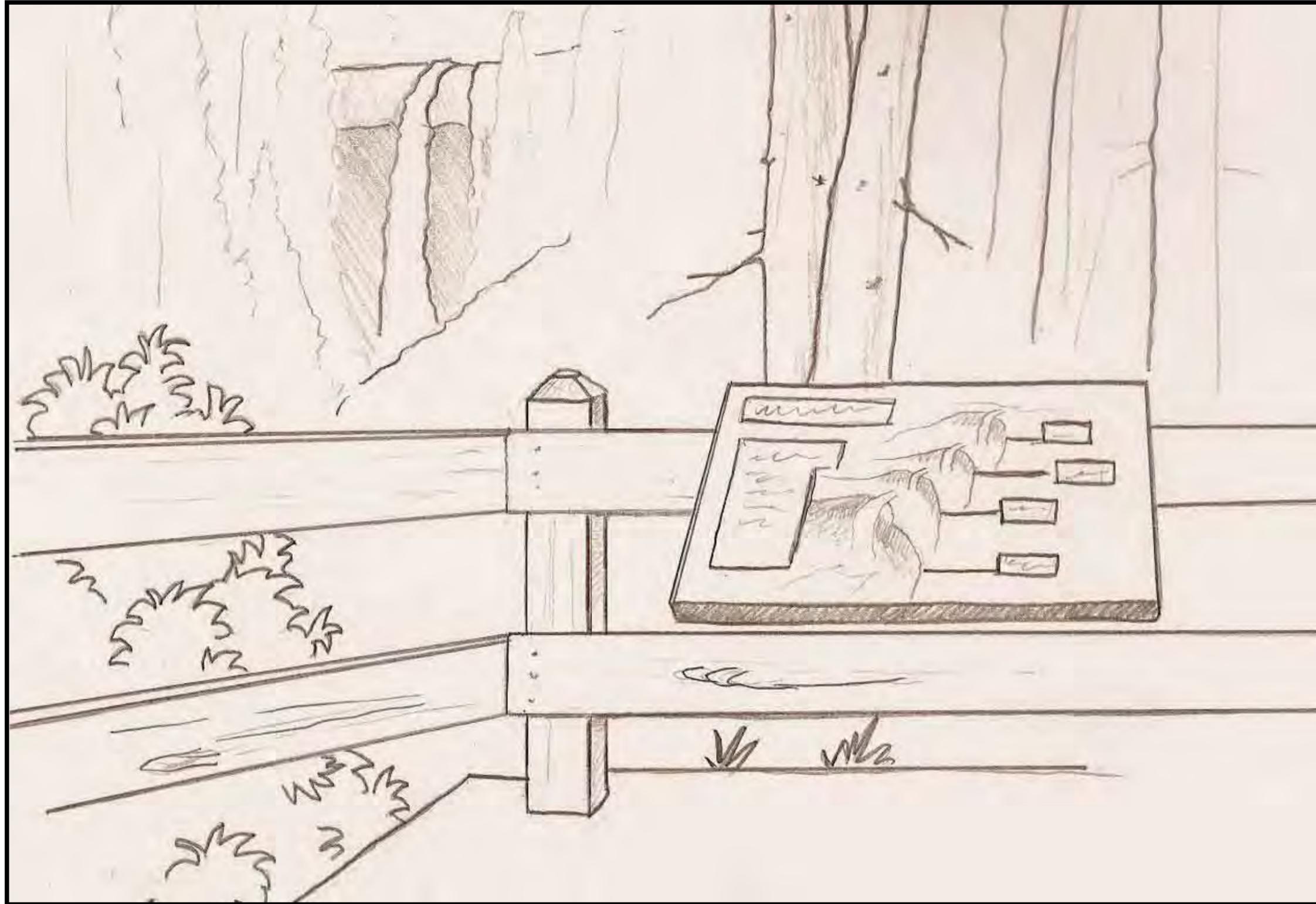


Figure 24: North Falls Viewpoint

Table 10: Draft Concept Main Text for North Falls Viewpoint Panel

Working Title	These waterfalls didn't happen overnight.
Body Text	<p>Waterfalls are evidence of change or variation: sudden change in the shape of the land or variation in the underlying rock. The landscape here today developed over many millions of years as several major events set the stage for these waterfalls.</p> <p>The top layer you see today is basalt, hard cooled lava that flowed over the ground. Layers were formed by several different lava flows, some topped with volcanic ash or grown over by forest. At the bottom are older marine sandstones. (At North Falls, these sandstones aren't yet exposed by the erosion.)</p> <p>Silver Creek finally cut through the hardest cap layer. The power of water and ice more easily erodes the softer layers, digging out the pool beneath and the cavern behind.</p> <p>As the cavern behind the waterfall grows, unsupported chunks at the edge of the cap layer fall and the waterfall inches its way upstream. A waterfall's height is determined by the amount of water, the hardness of the rock, and how long the water's been working on the rock. What will this waterfall look like eons from today?</p>
Inset/Sidebar caption for cross-section drawing	Hard basalt, softer burnt soil, hard basalt, softer ash... These are the layers Silver Creek cut through.
Inset/Sidebar captions for set of prehistoric settings drawings	<p>Over 26 million years ago this area was under the sea, just off the western edge of the continent. As the continent moved westward, the sandstones made of old ocean-bottom were forced up, becoming new land.</p> <p>About 15 million years ago lava oozed up from under the earth's crust and flowed over the landscape before cooling and hardening to basalt. Several times flowing lava covered this area—as did ash and tuff from nearby volcanoes.</p>
Key body content	Should include illustrations (with labels and captions) of geologic cross-section, including waterfall cascading over edge.
Take away message	These waterfalls developed over time because of different hardness of rock layers; those layers were laid down over many millions of years and in different settings.

North Falls Trailhead

Introduction

Key Recommendations from Master Plan

- Rehabilitate the parking area, reducing the number of spaces to 16 plus 7 UNI Access spaces.

Concept for Interpretive Network

Information will be limited to orientation and overview of the geomorphology story.

Future Experience

Visitors to the North Falls parking area will encounter an information kiosk with the SFSP Orientation Panel and dispenser for the SFSP Orientation Map/Brochure. At the trailhead they will encounter a shelter with a customized **Trail of Ten Falls Orientation Panel** that provides detailed orientation to North Falls and Upper North Falls, and a **Canyon Interpretive Panel**. The rustic design and construction of the shelter reflects the existing style of buildings in the park. Figure 24 depicts how these panels might look in context.

Action Plan

- Develop an information kiosk and put the SFSP Orientation Panel and a brochure holder for dispensing the SFSP Orientation Map/Brochure on the kiosk.
- Design, fabricate and install the customized Trail of Ten Falls Orientation Panel and the Trail of Ten Falls Trail Interpretive Panel.

Delivery Strategies

Trail of Ten Falls Panel Cluster

Location

At the trailhead in the North Falls parking area

Objectives

After interacting with these panels, visitors will:

- Know the extent, condition and difficulty of the trail and be able to make an informed decision on how far they want to walk;
- Be motivated to walk at least the Upper North Falls or North Falls section of the trail;
- Be able to describe at least two previous stages in the evolution of the landscape and at least two major forces that helped shape the landscape into what is seen today;
- Understand the concept of a receding waterfall and what it means in terms of this landscape;
- Be motivated to learn more about the geomorphology of this area.

Panel 1: Trail of Ten Falls Orientation

Description and Concept

Use a stylized oblique aerial perspective of the canyon with the Canyon Trail and East Rim Trail highlighted along with key stops and features along the way. Trail mileage, difficulty and time required will all be noted. Enlarged images of the waterfalls and other features, such as birds and wildlife that might be seen along the way, will be arranged around the perimeter of the map with lines connecting the image to the location in which it was taken. A brochure holder will dispense the SFSP Orientation Map/Brochure. Use a large inset or sidebar to highlight the trail to Upper North Falls and the Trail to North Falls.

Panel 2: Canyon Interpretive Panel(s)

Themes

- **Theme 1:** The series of spectacular waterfalls was produced by natural forces that transformed and continue to shape the canyon.

- **Sub-theme 1-1:** Volcanic forces deep in the earth forged the setting for Silver Creek and the waterfalls we see today.
- **Sub-theme 1-2:** Water and ice sculpted and continue to shape the basalt layers into the unique concentrated series of waterfalls in Silver Creek Canyon that we see today.

Description and Concept

Use a series of “snapshots in time” to highlight key stages or events in the geomorphologic history of the canyon. For example, the first could be when this was the coastline; the next could be after uplift; the next could be after basalt flows, and so on. The final image would be a question mark and would come after the visitor is made aware of the fact that the water is eroding the waterfalls so they are retreating upstream. Ideally, all this would be on a long panel, such as 2 ½ high by 6 or 8 feet long, but can be done on two or three standard panels if necessary. Figure 25 on page 57 depicts one possible arrangement of panels at the North Falls Trailhead.

North Falls Overflow Parking

Introduction

Key Recommendations from Master Plan

- This is a new parking area to compensate for the reduction in the parking area at the North Falls Trailhead. It will have connector trails to the Canyon Trail, the North Falls Day Use Area and the North Campground.

Concept for Interpretive Network

The information is limited to orientation.

Future Experience

Visitors parking in this parking area will encounter an information kiosk with the SFSP Orientation Panel and dispenser for the SFSP Orientation Map/Brochure, and a North Falls Area Trails Orientation Panel (described previously).

Action Plan

1. Develop an information kiosk for the parking area and put the SFSP Orientation Panel and a brochure holder for dispensing the SFSP Orientation Map/Brochure and the North Falls Area Trails Orientation Panel on the kiosk. See the North Falls Day Use Area for a description of the Trails Orientation Panel.

North Falls Bike Trailhead

Introduction

Key Recommendations from Master Plan

- This is a new trailhead with connector trails accessing trails in the North Falls Day Use Area, the east section of the park and the North Campground Area.

Concept for Interpretive Network

The information is limited to orientation.

Future Experience

Visitors parking in this parking area will encounter an information kiosk with the SFSP Orientation Panel and dispenser for the SFSP Orientation Map/Brochure, and a North Falls Area Trails Orientation Panel.

Action Plan

1. Develop an information kiosk for the parking area and put the SFSP Orientation Panel and a brochure holder for dispensing the SFSP Orientation Map/Brochure and the North Falls Area Trails Orientation Panel on the kiosk. See the North Falls Day Use Area for a description of the Trails Orientation Panel.



Figure 25: Trail of Ten Falls Portal Panel Cluster: North Falls Trailhead

Trail of Ten Falls



Trail of Ten Falls

Introduction

Key Recommendations from Master Plan

- Rehabilitate the trail.
- Build informal rest areas along the route
- Develop a new trailhead at the new North Falls Day Use Area
- Enhance trailhead parking
- Install better directional signage
- Develop picnic sites at selected nodes along the trail.
- The trail section from the North Falls parking area to the Upper North Falls will be redesigned to provide universal access.
- Remove the interpretive signage at the southernmost overlook of South Falls;
- Remove existing signage along trail;

Concept for Interpretive Network

This is a portal approach with thematic overview and trail orientation provided at key access points and detail provided along the route. The delivery strategies along the route will match the level of development. Interpretive panels will be used at the picnic areas along the way, but all other signage will be eliminated except confidence and mileage markers in the stretches in between so visitors can really immerse themselves in the environment. Interpretation along most of the trail will be provided in the Trail of Ten Falls Guide.

Future Experience

Visitors seeking the Trail of Ten Falls are directed to the appropriate parking areas at the north and south termini by directional signage. At each trailhead, they encounter a **Trail of Ten Falls Portal Panel Cluster** containing a Trail of Ten Falls Orientation Panel and a Canyon Interpretive Panel. Along the way they encounter mileposts identifying how far they have come and how far to the next falls. Picnic areas at bridges have associated interpretive panels that use

features in that specific landscape to provide detail on the stories introduced at the trailheads. The Trail of Ten Falls Guide provides a detailed trail log and interpretive information on the geomorphology and flora and fauna of the canyon.

Action Plan

1. Put mileage markers along the trail that indicate distance to the next falls as well as from each trailhead.
2. Remove the existing signage along the route.
3. Design, fabricate and install the Trail of Ten Falls Portal Panel Clusters.
4. Develop the Trail of Ten Falls Guide.

Delivery Strategies

Trail of Ten Falls Portal Panel Cluster

Location

At the major trailheads accessing the Canyon Trail

Objectives

After interacting with this opportunity, visitors will:

- Know the extent, condition and difficulty of the trail and be able to make an informed decision on how far they want to walk;
- Be able to describe at least two previous stages in the evolution of the landscape and at least two major forces that helped shape the landscape into what is seen today;
- Understand the concept of a receding waterfall and what it means in terms of this landscape;
- Be motivated to learn more about the geomorphology of this area.

Panel 1: Trail of Ten Falls Orientation

Description and Concept

Use a stylized oblique aerial perspective of the canyon with the Trail of Ten Falls and East Rim Trail highlighted along with key stops and features along the way. Trail mileage, difficulty and time required will all be noted. Enlarged images of the waterfalls and other features, such as birds and wildlife that might be seen along the way, will be arranged around the perimeter of the map with lines connecting the image to the location in which it was taken. A brochure holder will dispense the SFSP Orientation Map/Brochure.

Panel 2: Canyon Interpretive Panel(s)

Themes

- **Theme 1:** The series of spectacular waterfalls was produced by natural forces that transformed and continue to shape the canyon.
- **Sub-theme 1-1:** Volcanic forces deep in the earth forged the setting for Silver Creek and the waterfalls we see today.
- **Sub-theme 1-2:** Water and ice sculpted and continue to shape the basalt layers into the unique concentrated series of waterfalls in Silver Creek Canyon that we see today.

Description and Concept

Use a series of “snapshots in time” to highlight key stages or events in the geomorphologic history of the canyon. For example, the first could be when this was the coastline; the next could be after uplift; the next could be after basalt flows, and so on. The final image would be a question mark and would come after the visitor is made aware of the fact that the water is eroding the waterfalls so they are retreating upstream. Ideally, all this would be on a long panel, such as 2 ½ high by 6 or 8 feet long, but can be done on two or three standard panels if necessary. Figure 26 on page 60 depicts one possible arrangement of panels at the South Falls Trailhead. Table 11 contains draft concept for the primary text for this panel.

Trail Interpretive Panel Clusters

Location

Associated with picnic areas along the Trail of Ten Falls

Objectives

To be determined

Themes

- **Theme 1:** The series of spectacular waterfalls was produced by natural forces that transformed and continue to shape the canyon.
- **Sub-theme 1-1:** Volcanic forces deep in the earth forged the setting for Silver Creek and the waterfalls we see today.
- **Sub-theme 1-2:** Water and ice sculpted and continue to shape the basalt layers into the unique concentrated series of waterfalls in Silver Creek Canyon that we see today.
- **Sub-Theme 2-1:** The Civilian Conservation Corps, Work Progress Administration and National Park Service changed the face of Silver Falls and left an indelible mark on Oregon’s history.
- **Theme 4:** Silver Falls State Park provides opportunities for visitors to discover native wildlife and plants, and see how they are interconnected within a temperate rainforest ecosystem.

Description and Concept

Interpretive Panel Clusters of 1-3 panels at developed sites along the trail highlight visible features to tell specific stories introduced at the trailhead. For example, if the view includes a waterfall, the layers in the rock face can be used to focus on specific events in the geomorphology story. If the area contains flora that is specific to the microclimate conditions in the canyon, it could be interpreted from the perspective of linkages to the substrate and environmental conditions, and subsequent linkages to fauna in that area. In all cases, one panel should include an inset of the trail map with a “You Are Here” noted. Figure 27 on page 61 depicts how such panels on a bridge might look.

Table 11: Draft Concept Text for Canyon Trail Portal Panel Cluster: Geomorphology

Working Title	Similar settings—with unique results
Body Text	<p>Waterfalls are evidence of change or variation: sudden change in the shape of the land or variation in the underlying rock. The landscape here today developed over many millions of years as several major events set the stage for these waterfalls.</p> <p>The top layer you see today is basalt, hard cooled lava that flowed over the ground. Layers were formed by several different lava flows, some topped with volcanic ash or grown over by forest. At the bottom are older marine sandstones.</p> <p>Silver Creek finally cut through the hardest cap layer. The power of water and ice more easily erodes the softer layers, digging out the pool beneath and the cavern behind.</p> <p>As the cavern behind the waterfall grows, unsupported chunks at the edge of the cap layer fall and the waterfall inches its way upstream.</p> <p>A waterfall’s height is determined by the amount of water, the hardness of the rock, and how long the water’s been working on the rock. Each of the waterfalls on Silver Creek is a unique combination.</p>
Inset/Sidebar caption for cross-section drawing	Hard basalt, softer burnt soil, hard basalt, softer ash... These are the layers Silver Creek cut through.
Inset/Sidebar captions for set of prehistoric settings drawings	<p>Over 26 million years ago this area was under the sea, just off the western edge of the continent. As the continent moved westward, the sandstones made of old ocean-bottom were forced up, becoming new land.</p> <p>About 15 million years ago lava oozed up from under the earth’s crust and flowed over the landscape before cooling and hardening to basalt. Several times flowing lava covered this area—as did ash and tuff from nearby volcanoes.</p> <p>What will this waterfall look like eons from today?</p>
Key body content	Should include illustrations (with labels and captions) of geologic cross-section, including waterfall cascading over edge.
Take away message	These waterfalls developed over time because of different hardness of rock layers; waterfalls are unique and dynamic.

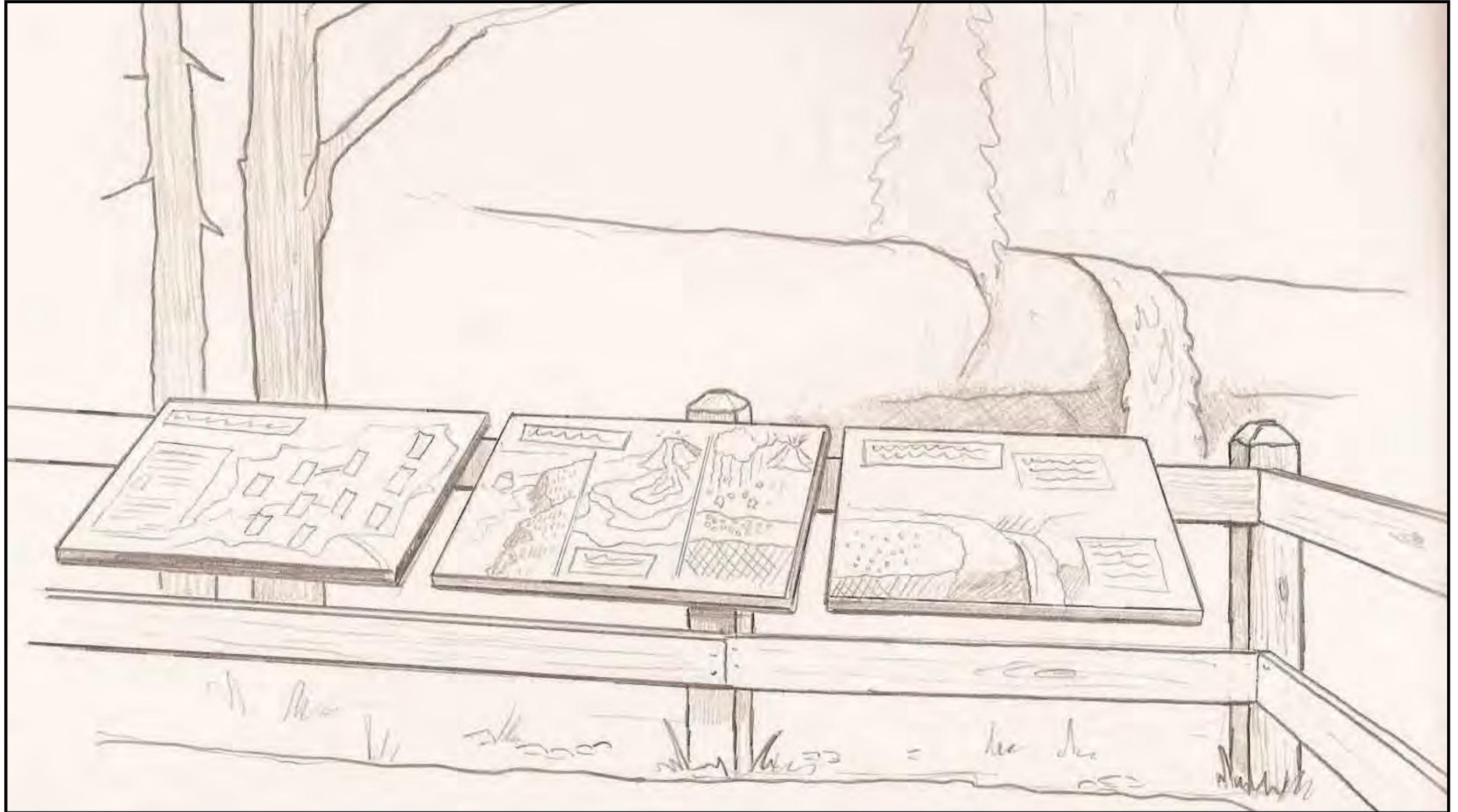


Figure 26: Panels at South Trailhead to Canyon Trail

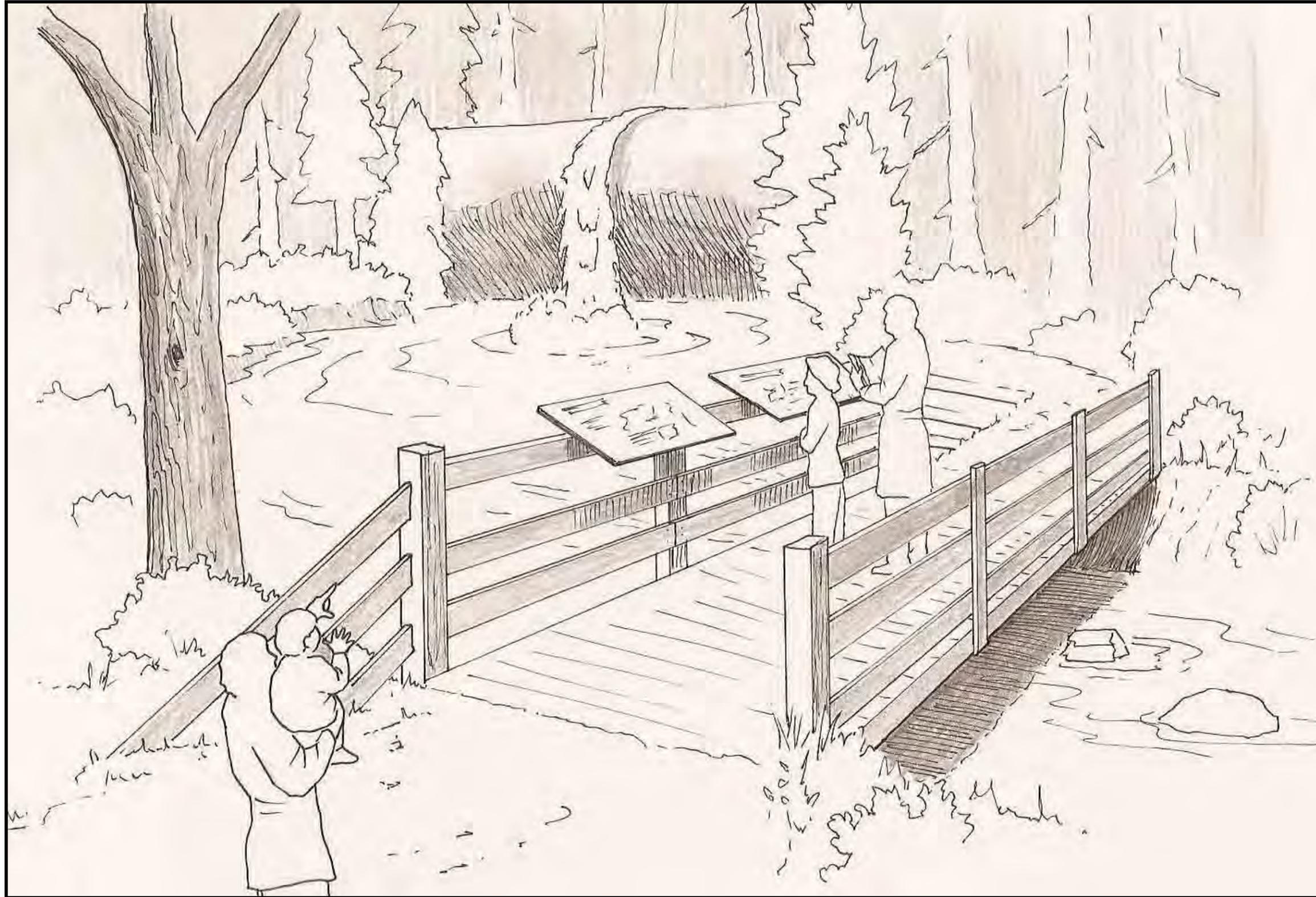


Figure 27: Interpretive Panel Cluster along Trail of Ten Falls



Figure 28: Hikers using the Trail Guide while seated on bench along the Trail of Ten Falls

North Campground and Headquarters Complex



Concept for Headquarters from *Draft Master Plan for North Gateway at Silver Falls State Park* by Greenworks Landscape Architecture and Environmental Design

North Campground

Introduction

Key Recommendations from Master Plan

- Develop Equestrian Camping area and Equestrian Center;
- Develop a group tent camping area;
- Develop two RV and tent camping areas;
- Develop and RV camping area;
- Develop trails in the area and connector trails to the rest of the park trail system.

Concept for Interpretive Network

The concept for the interpretive network in the campgrounds in this area is basically a series of secondary orientation hubs that also distribute the major wayfinding brochure, plus a series of interpretive panel clusters linked by a trail that connects all camping areas. The key intent of information in this area is to provide teasers to motivate overnight visitors to explore other parts of the park, and to facilitate that experience through orientation information. The headquarters will have a kiosk out front with basic information for the visitor. Publications will also be distributed inside; however, this building is the headquarters – not a major visitor facility.

Future Experience

Visitors staying overnight in this area will be able to obtain orientation information from a kiosk in their campground, which will have a **SFSP Orientation Panel** with a dispenser for the **SFSP Orientation Map/Brochure**, a **North Falls Area Trails Orientation Panel**, and a **Campground Orientation Panel**. The Campground Orientation Panel will make them aware of the **Perimeter Trail**, a walking trail around the upper perimeter of the campgrounds. Perimeter Trail Orientation panels at the trailhead in each campground and at key intersections along the trail plus Directional Signage make the trail user friendly. Interpretive Panel clusters along the route use the views from the trail to interpret the landscape that

they can explore more fully during the day. They can also access the trail system for the entire park from this trail.

Action Plan

1. Design and construct an information kiosk in a central location in each campground. The design could incorporate design elements consistent with the CCC landscape. Put an SFSP Orientation Panel and brochure holder to dispense the SFSP Orientation Map/Brochure and a North Falls Area Trails Orientation Panel on the kiosk.
2. Develop a perimeter walking trail easily accessible from all camping areas and design, fabricate and install Trail Orientation Panels and Interpretive Panel Clusters.

Delivery Strategies

Perimeter Trail Orientation Panel

*Note: **Interpretive trails** are generally very short and are set up to highlight and interpret specific features in the landscape. Because the focus is on interpretation rather than exercise or access to another area, the best interpretive trails are ¼ to ½ mile loops on relatively flat ground. Interpretation can be included on other trails, such as the Trail of Ten Falls, but this is a **walking trail** with interpretation rather than an interpretive trail.*

This walking trail traverses the upper edge of this area. It is easily accessible from all camping areas. Exact stops for interpretation, and therefore the focus of the interpretive panels, depend on the eventual location of the trail, but ideally the trail would have features or views that can be used to introduce key stories associated with this area of the park.

Objectives

After interacting with this panel, visitors will:

- Be motivated to walk the trail.

Description and Concept

Use an oblique aerial perspective drawing of the area of the trail to highlight the trail and the key opportunities and access points along the route. Use images of people enjoying the views and the interpretive opportunities. This panel will be located in every campground so the “You are Here” is different for every panel.

Perimeter Trail Interpretive Panels

Two stops with interpretive panels are included. More are possible depending on the location of the trail and features/views available for interpretation.

Cluster 1: Change Over Time

Objectives

After interacting with the signs along the trail, visitors will:

- Be motivated to explore the park and take advantage of other interpretive opportunities.

Themes

The following are all possible themes for these panels. The exact themes to use should be selected based on the features visible from the panel location.

- **Theme 2:** Silver Falls State Park is a nationally significant example of an historic nationwide effort to transform degraded lands into valued areas for people to enjoy outdoor recreation and connect with nature.
- **Theme 3:** Silver Falls State Park enables visitors to discover the history of land and resource management at this park.
- Silver Falls State Park enables visitors to discover the history of land and resource management.
- **Sub-theme 3-1:** Native Americans burned the meadows to promote populations of meadow plants that attracted wildlife such as deer.
- **Sub-theme 3-2:** Early Euro American forest restoration efforts were based on scientific knowledge of the times.

- **Sub-Theme 3-3:** OPRD is working towards the goal of ecosystem management based on the principle that every native plant and animal species plays an important role in the ecology of the different ecosystems in SFSP, with intricate links to other species as well as links to other ecosystems on earth.
- **Theme 5:** Throughout the ages, the people of Oregon have valued Silver Falls State Park, whether as a home, for resources, or for recreation.
- **Sub-theme 5-1:** Native Americans valued Silver Falls as a gathering place, with cultures from three Tribes interacting here.
- **Sub-theme 5-2:** Native Americans and early European settlers valued resources in the area for building materials, food, and other items necessary to survive.
- **Sub-theme 5-3:** Many public agencies and individuals just like yourself, such as Samuel Boardman, June Drake and others— valued and continue to value Silver Falls as a place to reconnect with nature and to recreate.
- **Sub-theme 5-4:** People today value the scenic beauty of Silver Falls State Park, combined with many miles and types of trails, for solitude, reflection, wonder, rejuvenation and outdoor recreation.

Description and Concept

This cluster of panels would be located with a view downhill across the North Campground area and the North Falls area. Use a series of images on a single or multiple panels with supporting text representing different eras in human history to depict how the landscape in the view has changed over time.

Cluster 2: Restoration

Themes

- **Sub-Theme 3-3:** OPRD is working towards the goal of ecosystem management based on the principle that every native plant and animal species plays an important role in the ecology of the different ecosystems in SFSP, with intricate links to other species as well as links to other ecosystems on earth.

Description and Concept

This cluster, located at a stream bank rehabilitation site, would focus on the importance of riparian areas to the health of a stream and to the wildlife in the area. The rehabilitation focus will come in by using an image of the stream bank before restoration with associated flora and fauna – aquatic and terrestrial – noted, and another image of the restored stream bank with an array of flora and fauna depicted.

Headquarters Complex

Introduction

Key Recommendations from Master Plan

- Remodel the DeSantis house into a headquarters complex;
- Move the maintenance yard to this property.

Concept for Interpretive Network

Limited to orientation and distribution of publications at an information kiosk outside the building and inside the Headquarters.

Future Experience

An information kiosk at the headquarters will include the **SFSP Orientation Panel** with a dispenser for the **SFSP Orientation Map Brochure**, and a **North Falls Area Trails Orientation Panel**, which includes the Perimeter Trail. Visitors will also be able to pick up or purchase all publications inside.

Action Plan

1. Design and construct an information kiosk. Put an SFSP Orientation Panel and brochure holder to dispense the SFSP Orientation Map/Brochure and a North Falls Area Trails Orientation Panel on the kiosk.

Delivery Strategies

All strategies have been described in previous sections.

The Ranches



The Ranches

Introduction

Key Recommendations from Master Plan

- Rehabilitate old ranch with new bathroom, showers and winterization;
- Restore a variety of habitats including areas of native grassland and wetland;
- Conserve a variety of habitats.

Concept for Interpretive Network

Provide site orientation, park orientation and at least one interpretive opportunity.

Future Experience

Visitors staying overnight in this area will be able to view an information kiosk at the edge of the parking areas that will include the **SFSP Orientation Panel** with a dispenser for the **SFSP Orientation Map Brochure**. At the trailhead to the northbound they encounter an **East Park Trails Orientation Panel**. Nearby (a short way down the trail) they can take in the **Restoration Panel Cluster** with a **Meadow Restoration Panel**, a **Wetland Restoration Panel** and a **Temperate Rainforest Interpretive Panel**. Figure 29 on page 67 depicts the approximate location of the fixed interpretive opportunities in this area.

Action Plan

1. Design and construct an information kiosk and put an SFSP Orientation Panel and brochure holder to dispense the SFSP Orientation Map/Brochure on the kiosk.
2. Remove existing meadow restoration panel.
3. Design, fabricate and install the East Park Trails Orientation Panel.
4. Design, fabricate and install the panels for the Restoration Panel Cluster.

Delivery Strategies

East Park Trails Orientation Panel

Objectives

After interacting with this panel, visitors will:

- Feel comfortable in finding their way around the nearby trails;

Description and Concept

Use an oblique aerial perspective drawing of the east side of the park to highlight the trails and the key opportunities and access points along the routes. Use images of people enjoying the views and the interpretive opportunities.

Restoration Panel Cluster

Location

At the trailhead for the trails going to the north with visual access to areas where meadow is being restored and areas where wetlands are begin restored.

Objectives

After interacting with these panels, visitors will:

- Be aware that OPRD is actively managing the park to maintain the natural ecosystem;
- Be motivated to learn more about the lowland temperate rainforest, wetlands, meadows and other habitats in the area;
- Be motivated to walk on the trails and look for birds and wildlife.

Panel 1: Meadow Restoration

Themes

- **Theme 3:** Silver Falls State Park enables visitors to discover the history of land and resource management at this park.
- Silver Falls State Park enables visitors to discover the history of land and resource management.
- **Sub-Theme 3-3:** OPRD is working towards the goal of ecosystem management based on the principle that every native plant and animal

species plays an important role in the ecology of the different ecosystems in SFSP, with intricate links to other species as well as links to other ecosystems on earth.

Description and Concept

Focus on the importance of natural grasslands to the wildlife in the area. Use an image of the meadow before restoration and one after restoration to compare and contrast the flora and fauna that inhabit each. Table 12 on page 67 contains draft concept for the primary text for this panel.

Panel 2: Wetland Restoration

Themes

- **Theme 3:** Silver Falls State Park enables visitors to discover the history of land and resource management at this park.
- **Sub-Theme 3-3:** OPRD is working towards the goal of ecosystem management based on the principle that every native plant and animal species plays an important role in the ecology of the different ecosystems in SFSP, with intricate links to other species as well as links to other ecosystems on earth.

Description and Concept

Focus on the importance of wetlands to the wildlife in the area. Use an image of the wetland before restoration and one after restoration to compare and contrast the flora and fauna that inhabit each. Table 13 on page 67 contains draft concept for the primary text for this panel.

Panel 3: Temperate Rainforest

Themes

- **Theme 4:** Silver Falls State Park provides opportunities for visitors to discover native wildlife and plants, and see how they are interconnected within a temperate rainforest ecosystem.

Description and Concept

Use an aerial perspective of the trail in the forest as a ghost background to highlight flora and fauna that live in a lowland temperate rainforest. Include those

that depend on this ecosystem. Use a sidebar with an image of western Oregon to depict the extent of lowland temperate rainforest prior to EuroAmerican settlement and now

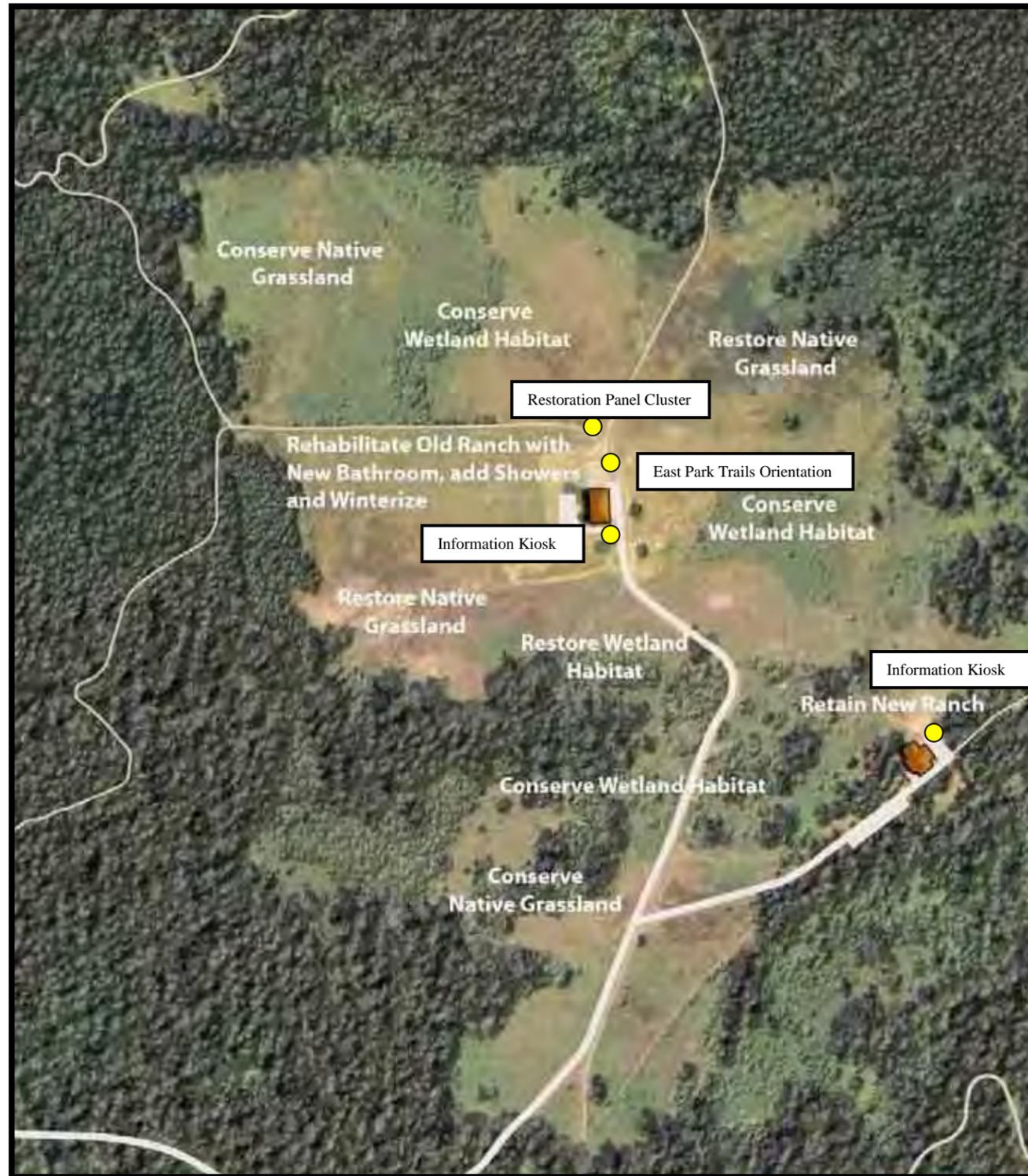


Figure 28: Location of fixed interpretive opportunities at the Ranches

Table 12: Draft Concept Text for Meadow Restoration Panel

Working Title	Humans have managed meadows here for several thousand years
Body Text	<p>The First People in western Oregon managed parts of the landscape by controlled burning, encouraging various grassland plants and diversifying the habitat for wildlife. EuroAmerican farmers continued that tradition with saw and plow. Most recently, 19--, this meadow was farmed for _ [insert crop, depending on location] _.</p> <p>Today, we see a higher value here in preserving the natural vegetation and wildlife habitat of a native meadow.</p> <p>OPRD now manages this grassy area by carefully removing encroaching trees and shrubs by mowing, cutting, or burning. In addition to enriching habitat for local plants and animals that require the meadow, such as _____, maintaining the meadow inside a forest also maintains the rich and diverse “edge” habitat between meadow and forest.</p>
Key body content	Should include illustrations (with labels and captions) of farmland (before) and native meadow (after restoration)—particularly, illustrate and identify key visible species that are unique to each and species that move from one to the other.
Take away message	“Empty” spaces have values worth managing for

Table 13: Draft Concept Text for Wetland Restoration Panel

Working Title	Wetlands are not “wastelands.”
Body Text	<p>In addition to storing and releasing precious water, wetlands are critical habitat for a wide variety of plants and animals. Some species depend on the water-saturated soil, but many others visit for a drink—or a meal.</p> <p>Beavers greatly increase the number of wetlands and ponds in Oregon, playing an important role in diversifying the landscape. Such diversity makes the overall ecosystems more resilient and vigorous.</p> <p>Because rich wetlands are especially vulnerable to invasive species, OPRD actively manages this wetland by identifying and removing invasives, replacing them with appropriate native species. Whenever possible, trees plants that die and fall in the water are left there to add nutrients and complexity to that environment.</p>
Key body content	Should include illustrations (with labels and captions) of this wetland before and after restoration—particularly, illustrate and identify key visible species that require the wetland habitat and show downed tree in water.
Take away message	OPRD is managing this wetland for long-term ecological values.

Smith Creek Conference Center



Smith Creek Conference Center

Introduction

This former girl's youth camp built as part of the Recreation Demonstration Area by the CCC is now used for a variety of workshops and events.

Key Recommendations from Master Plan

- Expand the meeting hall;
- Expand dining hall;
- Construct additional cabins;
- Construct new recreation hall;
- Expand meeting room at Upper Smith Creek Area;
- Add showers to Upper Smith Creek meeting room and cabins;
- Rehab lodge bathrooms and showers.

Potential for Interpretive Events and Workshops

The following recommendations from the Master Plan are critical if the Smith Creek Conference Center is to retain its appeal as a meeting place for training workshops:

- Expanded Dining and Meeting Halls and additional lodging. Large groups currently have a difficult time fitting in the existing space.
- Private showers in the lodging facilities. Some people now refuse to attend workshops at the Center due to the lack of private showers.

Concept for Interpretive Network

The focus is on orientation to the site and the park and on introductory interpretation of the RDA and temperate rainforests. The goal is to attract visitors to areas of the park with more in-depth interpretive opportunities.

Future Experience

Information kiosks at the edge of the parking area and near the Dining Hall contain the **SFSP Orientation Panel** with a dispenser for the **SFSP Orientation Map Brochure**, and an **East Park Trails Orientation Panel**. At a bumpout adjacent to the main parking area they encounter an **RDA Interpretive Panel Cluster**. At trailheads they encounter an **East Park Trails Orientation Panel** and a **Temperate Rainforest Interpretive Panel**.

Action Plan

1. Design and construct information kiosks in the recommended locations and put an SFSP Orientation Panel and brochure holder to dispense the SFSP Orientation Map/Brochure and an East Park Trails Orientation Panel on the kiosk.
2. Design, fabricate and install the panels for the RDA Interpretive Panel Cluster.
3. Install the East Park Trails Orientation Panel and Temperate Rainforest Interpretive Panel at trailheads.

Delivery Strategies

RDA Interpretive Panel Cluster

Location

On a bumpout in the main parking area with a good view of the core complex. This will be an upgrade.

Objectives

After interacting with these panels, visitors will:

- Understand the role of the New Deal in general and the CCC specifically in creating the landscape in the view.
- Understand the intent of RDAs;
- Understand the role of OPRD in maintaining the integrity of the site.

- Be motivated to learn more about the CCC, RDAs and the New Deal.

Panel 1: A Great Experiment

Themes

- **Theme 2:** Silver Falls State Park is a nationally significant example of an historic nationwide effort to transform degraded lands into valued areas for people to enjoy outdoor recreation and connect with nature.
- **Sub-Theme 2-1:** The Civilian Conservation Corps, Work Progress Administration and National Park Service changed the face of Silver Falls and left an indelible mark on Oregon's history.
- **Sub-theme 2-2:** Silver Falls SP contains one of only two relatively intact Recreational Development Areas, artifacts from a historic nationwide experiment to connect people with nature.

Description and Concept

Use a series of visuals to depict the transformation of the area from marginal farmland to a rehabilitated landscape with a camp for youth. Begin with a historic photo of farmers in the area during the depression and images of cutover forest. Move to images of the CCC building the camps, and then the camps being used. Use text to draw attention to the way the camp and surrounding landscape look today and the role OPRD had in restoring and conserving the area. Note that this may take 2 panels. Table 14 on page 71 contains draft concept for the primary text for this panel.

Panel 2: The Impact of the Great Depression

Themes

- **Theme 2:** Silver Falls State Park is a nationally significant example of an historic nationwide effort to transform degraded lands into valued areas for people to enjoy outdoor recreation and connect with nature.
- **Sub-Theme 2-1:** The Civilian Conservation Corps, Work Progress Administration and National Park Service changed the face of Silver Falls and left an indelible mark on Oregon's history.

- **Sub-theme 2-2:** Silver Falls SP contains one of only two relatively intact Recreational Development Areas, artifacts from a historic nationwide experiment to connect people with nature.

Description and Concept

Use a stylized oblique aerial perspective of the entire park as a ghost backdrop image for enlarged images of the key structures built and ongoing activities in the different parts of the park during the Great Depression. Include images of CCC constructing the Boys and Girls camps in the RDA and engaged in rehabilitating the marginal farmland; building the South Falls Lodge; building the Trail of Ten Falls; and living at the camp where the North Falls Day Use area is now located. Use supporting text to explain the RDA, the CCC and the WPA programs, and the impact of those programs on Silver Falls. Note that this park is noteworthy in part because the cultural landscape created during the Depression is still relatively intact. An inset or sidebar map should depict the locations of all CCC camps in Oregon and perhaps a few of the more noteworthy structures. Table 15 on page 71 contains draft concept for the primary text for this panel.



Figure 29: Location of interpretive strategies at Smith Creek Conference Center

Table 14: Draft Concept Text for A Great Experiment

Working Title	A Great Experiment
Body Text	Other social changes were unfolding when the Stock Market crashed in 1929. The Industrial Revolution had drawn many to jobs in cities; in the meantime, America’s land-use had run roughshod in some places, degrading the landscape. Part of President Roosevelt’s plan was to put the unemployed in the cities to work improving the countryside.
Inset/Sidebar <i>caption for image of farmers in the area</i>	After logging much of the forest, farmers here had been struggling with working the marginal agricultural land that was left. The timing of such improvements for parks was perfect. Americans who had moved to the cities for jobs a few decades before were homesick for rural recreation; as the economy improved, Americans were able to buy new-fangled automobiles to travel to the new parks. A new outdoor recreation style was launched—one that millions of Americans, like you, still enjoy.
Key body content	Should include illustrations (with labels and captions, including year(s) built) of visible, intact CCC/RDA structures—particularly _____.
Take away message	Economic initiative helped transform American parks and recreation; SFSP is a rare example of this transformation; OPRD is conserving both the natural and the cultural history here.

Table 15: Draft Concept Text for Impact of the Great Depression

Working Title	Depression Era programs shaped American Parks
Body Text	During the CCC era, half a million workers planted trees and made erosion control structures, fought fires, built fire towers and roads. And built trails, bridges, and other structures in thousands of [several thousand?] parks. Rising to meet this novel and growing interest in large public parks, the young National Park Service developed several Recreation Demonstration Areas to jumpstart a new kind of outdoor recreation. Silver Falls was one of only two RDAs on the west coast, and is only one of two still intact in the entire US. (The second is Camp David.)
Inset/Sidebar <i>caption for image of CCC building such structures</i>	“Silver Creek Falls RDA” offered two extensive group camping facilities for children: Silver Creek Camp and Smith Creek Camp. Many of the trademark park buildings and structures in US parks are CCC constructions, including Timberline Lodge, and US 101 rockwork. CCC structures at Silver Falls State Park include __ [list those illustrated] __.
Inset/Sidebar <i>caption for image of CCC building such structures</i>	“Silver Creek Falls RDA” offered two extensive group camping facilities for children: Silver Creek Camp and Smith Creek Camp. Today, Oregon State Parks continues to restore and conserve these historic resources.
Key body content	Should include illustrations (with labels and captions, including year(s) built) of visible, intact CCC/RDA structures—particularly _____.
Take away message	Economic initiative helped transform American parks and recreation; SFSP is a rare example of this transformation; OPRD is conserving both the natural and the cultural history here.

Silver Creek Youth Camp



Silver Creek Youth Camp

Introduction

This former boy's youth camp built as part of the Recreation Demonstration Area by the CCC is still used for that purpose. The Silver Creek Youth Camp is recognized as a National Historic District with over 60 structures on the historic register.

Key Recommendations from Master Plan

- Expand dining hall;
- Add showers to all bathrooms and construct an additional shower building;
- Develop new multi-use trail;
- Restore amphitheater.

Concept for Interpretive Network

The focus is on orientation to the site and the park and on introductory interpretation of the RDA and temperate rainforests.

Future Experience

An Information kiosk at the edge of the parking area contains the **SFSP Orientation Panel** with a dispenser for the **SFSP Orientation Map Brochure**, and an **East Park Trails Orientation Panel**. At a bumpout adjacent to the main parking area visitors encounter an **RDA Interpretive Panel Cluster**. At trailheads they encounter an **East Park Trails Orientation Panel** and a **Temperate Rainforest Interpretive Panel**.

Action Plan

1. Design and construct the information kiosk and put an SFSP Orientation

Panel and brochure holder to dispense the SFSP Orientation Map/Brochure and an East Park Trails Orientation Panel on the kiosk.

2. Design, fabricate and install the panels for the RDA Interpretive Panel Cluster.
3. Install the East Park Trails Orientation Panel and Temperate Rainforest Interpretive Panel at trailheads.

Delivery Strategies

All have been described in previous sections.



Figure 30: Location of Interpretive strategies at Silver Creek Youth Camp

Events

Events

Introduction

Silver Falls State Park has a series of ongoing annual special events some of which have been held every year for 30+ years. Several of the events predate current park personnel and were established for a variety of reasons. Many of these events serve a purpose – bring visitors to the park in the off-season, celebrate the history of the park and provide an opportunity for visitors to learn more about their park.

With new developments on the horizon for Silver Falls State Park, a review of existing special events is in order to determine if they support management goals, can be produced with existing resources (both budgets and staff) and attract target audiences.

Event Challenges and Opportunities

Challenges for special events will always be the ability of staff to manage and support the events while continuing to perform their regular duties of operating a park. By increasing the capacity of the Friends group to take on an expanded role with special events, park staff will be able to maintain their normal workload without added resources.

Increases in park staff might help improve this situation but initially could be spent in assisting the Friends group to increase their capacity through volunteer recruitment, board training and skill building (i.e. marketing, interpretation, event management). The OPRD Region 2 Friends Forum may be another venue for increasing capacity of the Friends group through networking and sharing of resources.

An opportunity to consider in conjunction with analyzing the array of special events is to determine what demographic groups are being attracted to the events and consider what groups might be missing. That information can be used to determine if other events might increase visitation by different visitor populations.

For example, Washington State Parks has received funding from the Washington Arts Commission to offer musical and other culturally connected programs in State Parks through their Folk and Traditional Arts in the Parks Program. This kind of a grant-funded attraction might be utilized to attract more Hispanic visitors (a large minority population in the nearby Willamette Valley) to a fall Harvest Festival or Silver Falls Christmas Festival.

Additionally, interpretive walks in a language other than English (i.e. Spanish or Russian) could be offered as a part of an existing festival. Hearing carols sung in Spanish or seeing bird names written in the Cyrillic alphabet, can build a more inclusive feel to an event for those audiences different from typical event attendees. Ethnic media outlets – newspapers or radio stations – could be recruited as partners for this component of an event to ensure greater participation.

Existing Events

Mother's Day Wildflower & Birding Weekend

Comments

This event is run in cooperation with the Friends of Silver Falls and local chapter of the Audubon Society. The event not only coincides with spring wildflowers blooming, but also coincides with International Migratory Bird Day.

Held

Mother's Day Weekend, 30+ years.

Purpose

Bring families to the park to support Friends of Silver Falls State Park.

Activities

- Bird and wildflower identification;
- Hands-on displays;
- Walks and talks;
- Native plant sale (benefits Friends of Silver Falls State Park);
- Photography hike.

Future Actions

1. Revise existing or develop new presentations that reflect the approved set of themes. For example, intertwine information about the temperate rainforest and the role it plays as a migratory stopover or destination for birds.
2. Add “didjacks” to the plants being sold that focus on the birds it supports.

State Parks Day

Comments

Event coincides with National Trails Day.

Held

First Saturday in June

Purpose

Thank and acquaint visitors with their state park (state-wide event).

Activities

- Interpretive walks;
- Behind the scenes tours – in 2007, provided an opportunity to discuss planning process with management;
- Free camping and day use;
- In 2007-- added a 5K Run.

Future Considerations

1. Consider adding a hiking element to the event and co-promoting it as a National Trails event with national publicity (<http://www.americanhiking.org/events/ntd/>).
2. Staff is considering adding an additional longer 10K Run in future years.

Al Faussett Days (Historic Silver Falls Days)

Comments: Event operated by Friends of Silver Falls State Park.

Held

Early July; 2008 will be the 80th Anniversary of Al Faussett’s plunge over Silver Falls.

Purpose

Learn about life at Silver Falls in the early 1900s when the South Falls area was a town with Al Faussett as a colorful historical figure.

Activities

- Hands-on activities and games;
- Pie eating;
- Toy canoe race;
- Craft demonstrations (tin punching);
- Food making (pies, biscuits, baked goods);
- Quilts;
- Demonstrations.

Future Actions

1. Reshape the event to reflect cultural and historical interpretive themes;
2. Consider incorporating some living history into the event, such as the characters of Al Faussett, Sam Boardman and June Drake;
3. Consider combining event with Harvest Festival in September.

Silver Falls Star Party

Held

August (event was started in 2006)

Purpose

Learn about astronomy, partnership with local astronomy club.

Activities

- Stargazing;
- Constellation identification in night skies;
- Indoor program preceding darkness.

Future Actions

1. Add day time activities (building telescopes, barbecue/food, storytelling – star legends and mythology) that will continue into the night (currently 9 PM – 12 midnight).
2. Also considering other night-oriented activities, such as night walks to identify night noises and night smells.

Silver Falls Christmas Festival

Comments

This event has a 30-year history

Held

2nd Weekend in December

Purpose

Bring visitors to park during off season (~2000 attend annually)

Activities

Note that array of activities offered depends on the weather.

- Storytelling;
- Crafts – wreaths, cards, ornaments, toys, gingerbread house making;
- In 2006, added crafting handmade toys – early 1900’s toy reproductions for sale in Friends store;
- Food and refreshments;
- In 2006, added some interpretive displays.

Future Actions

1. Clarify purpose of the event – find a means to connect event to interpretive themes;
2. Make a connection for visitors to winter ecology in Silver Falls State Park – what is happening at the park this time of year?

New Events

New Deal Days

Purpose

Highlight and celebrate the contributions of the CCC and WPA to Silver Falls State Park

Activities

Possible activities include:

- Presentations focusing on this story;
- Demonstrations of masonry and other techniques used by the workers;
- Living history (or real history if you can find some old timers who were in the CCC) focusing on telling stories of what life was like in the CCC;
- Tours of the historic structures with a focus on craftsmanship.

Environmental Education and Outreach

Environmental Education and Outreach

Introduction

This is not an Environmental Education Plan – it is an Interpretive Plan, intended to provide a blueprint for the orientation, wayfinding and interpretive opportunities that will support and enrich the experience of visitors to the park. Environmental Education (EE) is a more structured program usually developed in cooperation with nearby schools and as such it is a management tool that can be used to develop a relationship with local communities through schools. When students know more about nearby public lands, they are likely to return and bring their family, and also to use the area more responsibly.

Although this plan does not specifically provide a blueprint for the EE program, our process did include a review of the existing situation in regards to EE and an assessment of some actions for upgrading the program.

Current Situation

Currently, EE programming at Silver Falls State Park is provided upon request to local schools (generally Silverton, Mt. Angel and Sublimity) who would like to visit the park and have students learn more about natural and cultural history related topics. Teachers who want a presentation call and request a particular topic or subject for park employees to present to their students upon arrival at the park.

In spring 2007, this process was reorganized to provide teachers with a menu of pre-selected topics to choose from, such as geology, flora and fauna, park history, waterfalls, etc. This change allowed staff to be more efficient with their time and to have the lead time necessary to create quality programs.

There is interest in developing additional programs and materials for EE in the park but other operational responsibilities generally come first. Finding a means to increase capacity through volunteers, a

concessionaire or hired staff such as AmeriCorps could be a future possibility.

Park staff is also interested in shifting use of the existing YMCA Camp to serve more youth or students with interests in using the park for EE programming.

Recommendations

Other ideas to consider for the future of EE at Silver Falls State Park include:

1. **Environmental Education Plan** – Before doing anything else, an EE plan should be developed that identifies the target groups and the EE experiences that would be most appealing to these groups. That information can then be used to develop programs that are in demand.
2. **Tracking** -- Develop a system for tracking the use of the park for environmental education (requests for programming -- schools and school districts that make requests, teachers, grade levels, topics requested for programs, etc.). Documenting this information will enable the park to have records for future use in applying for potential grants or requesting budget monies for EE support.
3. **Survey** – Continue the existing survey focused on gathering information on the satisfaction of EE program customers. After one year of implementation, develop a simple on-line survey of teachers who have requested EE programs using the revised menu system of choosing topics based on a list provided to the park. Email addresses of teachers who request programs will need to be gathered in order to send out this survey. A simple on-line tool (such as www.surveymonkey.com) can be used to develop the assessment tool. A survey can document teacher satisfaction and gather information that can be used to improve the new process

4. **Grants** – Develop a resource list of granting agencies and organizations. Park staff can begin to gather on-line resources for applying for small EE related grants to finance projects such as developing teaching kits and other outreach materials, and for travel support. If needed, the Friends group could be the official applicant since many grants are awarded only to official non-profits.
5. **Staffing** – Investigate alternative staffing opportunities to increase support for EE programs if and as demand increases. Programs such as AmeriCorps could be investigated to use as a source for staff dedicated to providing EE services and programs. Generally the organization or agency shares and/or matches cost with federal grants to hire eligible young people for specific jobs. If pursuing these opportunities, it will be important to have specific goals and a plan for what this position will accomplish.
6. **Self-guided Materials** – Develop materials for EE groups to use for exploring and studying the park on their own. Park staff is interested in developing materials for teachers and chaperones to use with school and other student groups to guide themselves through the park. With slight modifications, these materials could also be used to send out to teachers to prepare students coming to the park on a field trip. The materials could be made available on the web and/or available on a DVD. If grant monies and staff resources were identified, a short video introduction to the park could be

created and added to these materials.

7. **Teaching Kits** – Develop teaching kits, focused on a specific subject, for use in the classroom or in the park by teachers and/or adult youth group leaders. For a water quality unit, a teaching kit might contain enough equipment for a class of 25 students to test water quality in the park. For a history teaching kit, it might contain images, lesson plans and activities to learn more about the history of the Silver Falls town site. Potential users of the kits should be surveyed to determine their interest and what subjects would be most appropriate to develop.
8. **Partnerships** – Develop partnerships with agencies and organizations that could assist in expanding opportunities for EE programming. Cooperative programming might be possible if partnerships were developed with other entities that had an interest in a topic area. For example, if a unit involved investigating water flow in the park, government agencies such as the EPA and non-government entities with an interest could provide assistance with water quality testing and monitoring programs.

Conclusion

The key to developing a successful EE program will be to prioritize needs – both agency and customer – and determine what to develop or strengthen first. Starting with small projects will build confidence to tackle bigger projects later (i.e. cooperative multi-partner grant funded EE program).

Cost Range Estimates

Introduction

As with construction of anything from an exhibit to a house, accuracy of the estimate is relative to the accuracy and detail of the design. An interpretive plan does not include designs, but rather design concepts, and those are limited to the interpretive strategies rather than infrastructure. Consequently, it is not possible to develop estimates with any meaningful degree of accuracy. However, it is possible to make some basic assumptions for interpretive panels and other strategies in order to develop cost range estimates that can be useful for budgeting.

Basic Cost Information

Interpretive Panels

A typical, digitally produced, laminate panel containing about 6 square feet of surface (2' x 3'), with powder coated steel frames and posts will cost between \$3500 and \$5000 for all design, text writing and fabrication. Shipping and installation are not included because those costs vary significantly with location of the site. The variation in cost is primarily due to the design. Signs with original artwork and complex text are going to cost more than signs with embedded photos and limited text. Interactive and 3-dimensional elements negate this price range. Replacement panels with the same design will cost between \$300 and \$350 (2009 prices). The posts cost about \$500 (2009 prices) so additional panels with posts, such as

duplicate site orientation panels, would cost between \$800 and \$850 (2009 prices).

Audio Listening Posts

The hardware for an audio listening post, including the chip, can be obtained for as little as about \$1500-\$2000. However that does not include the cost of recording the message, which can be relatively inexpensive if done in-house, and very expensive if a professional voice is hired and the work done in a recording studio.

Brochures

Publications are virtually impossible to price without more specific design information because there are so many variables that significantly affect the cost, such as number of pages, folds, binding, colors, source of text, type of artwork, and other variables. However, as a means of providing a basic ballpark cost, we offer the following example: Interpretive Exhibits recently designed (text was supplied) and printed 2000 copies of a 3-fold, four color brochure with printing on both sides for a cost of around \$2000. If they had chosen to have the paper laminated instead of folded, the cost would have doubled. Those prices could provide some insight into the cost of developing the smaller publications if they were contracted out. However, the cost could vary significantly if they were designed and printed in-house.

Exhibits

Exhibits can cost as much or as little as you want. However, as a general rule of thumb, simple exhibits will cost around \$250 per square foot of exhibit space. If more complex exhibits are used, such as dioramas, the cost will be closer to \$500 per square foot. The smaller the facility, the less accurate the cost-per-square foot approach. The stone kitchen shelter is small, so the square foot approach will be less accurate. To allow for some interactive elements, OPRD currently (2009) uses a \$300 per square foot figure for cost estimates.

Specific Cost Range Estimates

The following are cost range estimates based on the information available at this time. They include design development, fabrication and installation at Silver Falls. All panels include design, layout, resource acquisition, text writing, digital file preparation, graphic production, mounting system and installation on-site. Costs are based on current (2009) material prices. The final project cost will vary depending on the length of time that passes prior to the project moving ahead. In order to effectively develop the design concepts presented in this plan into detailed exhibit designs, it will be critical for the designer to have a fabrication budget to use as a guideline for what may and may not be considered, especially when considering 3-dimensional or interactive components. The range of options outlined in the plan is wide, as it should be at this point in the process, but the budget must be established by the client before the designer could proceed efficiently.

Area	Strategy	Unit Cost	Cost	Comments
General Strategies	Site Orientation Map/Brochure			Exists – standard park brochure
	Discovery Guide To Silver Falls		See comments	Too many variables
	Sense-ational Discovery Quest		\$2200-3500	One page both sides; folded; 4-color; 2000 copies
	Web Site		See comments	Can do this one in-house
	Special Events		See comments	Again, depends on the event and what you want to set up and offer.
South Falls Day Use Area: Rec Area	SFSP Orientation Panel	\$3,500 to \$5,000/panel	\$3,500 to \$5,000/panel	. Additional panels at \$1000, primarily for the mount
	Did You Know Panels (3)	\$3,500 to \$5,000/panel	\$9,000-\$13,500	Reflects cost reduction to \$3000 - \$4500 for 3 or more panels
South Falls Day Use Area: Historic District	Portal Panel Cluster 3 panels in cluster 3 sets needed	\$3,500 to \$5,000/panel	\$11,400-\$16,200	Reflects cost reduction to \$3000 - \$4500 for 3 or more panels
	Trail of Ten Falls Panel Cluster (3)	\$3,500 to \$5,000/panel	\$9,000-\$13,500	Reflects cost reduction to \$3000 - \$4500 for 3 or more panels
	Interpretive Center exhibits	\$300 - \$350/sq.ft.	\$450,000 – \$625,000	The program called for 1500 square feet of exhibit space Does not include AV elements
	Kitchen Shelter exhibits	\$300 - \$350/sq.ft.	\$90,000 - \$105,000	Since the space dedicated to exhibits will only be about 300 square feet, this number is likely to be highly variable.
	Virtual Tour of the Trail of Ten Falls		\$3000/finished minute	Depends on finished length.
	Overview Audiovisual Program		\$3000/finished minute	Depends on finished length
	Self-Guided Tour of Historic District		\$2200-3500	One page both sides; folded; 4-color; 2000 copies
North Falls Day Use Area	Trip Planning Exhibit	\$4,000 to \$8000 for all parts	\$4,000 to \$8000 for all parts	
	Panels for Information kiosks (SFSP Orientation Panel, North Falls Area Trails Orientation Panel) 2 panels each 5 sets needed	\$3,500 to \$5,000/panel	\$13,400 - \$16,800	Reflects cost reduction to \$3000 - \$4500 for 3 or more panels. Note that if the SFSP Orientation Panel has already been designed, cost for this package will be reduced. Cost does not include kiosk.
	Thematic Overview Panels (3)	\$3,500 to \$5,000/panel	\$9,000-\$13,500	
	Find Me Panels 2 typical 7 smaller panels	\$3,500 to \$5,000/panel smaller panels at \$2000 to \$2500/panel	\$21,000 - \$27,500	

Area	Strategy	Unit Cost	Cost	Comments
Central Campground and Gateway	Trip Planning Exhibit	\$4,000 to \$8000 for all parts	\$4,000 to \$8000 for all parts	If this has been designed already for the Welcome Center in the North Falls Day Use Area, the cost will be significantly reduced.
	Panels for Information kiosks (SFSP Orientation Panel, Campground Orientation Panel) 2 panels each 5 sets needed	\$3,500 to \$5,000/panel	\$24,200 - \$33,400	Assumes each of the Campground Orientation is different. Reflects cost reduction to \$3000 - \$4500 for 3 or more panels. Note that if the SFSP Orientation Panel has already been designed, cost for this package will be reduced to \$10,700 - \$12,600. Cost does not include kiosk.
Headquarters and north campgrounds	Panels for Information kiosks (SFSP Orientation Panel, North Falls Area Trails Orientation Panel for each of 6. Campground Orientation Panel for each)	\$3,500 to \$5,000/panel	\$36,000 - \$48,500	Assumes each of the Campground Orientation is different. Note that if the SFSP Orientation Panel has already been designed, cost for this package will be reduced. If the North Falls Area Orientation Panel has been designed, costs would reduce by that much again. Reflects cost reduction to \$3000 - \$4500 for 3 or more panels
	Panels for perimeter trail – 2 panels per cluster; 3 clusters	\$3,500 to \$5,000/panel	\$18,000 - \$27,000	Reflects cost reduction to \$3000 - \$4500 for 3 or more panels
Ranches	Restoration Panels (2)	\$3,500 to \$5,000/panel	\$7000 - \$10,000	
	Panels for Information kiosks (SFSP Orientation Panel, East Park Area Trails Orientation Panel) 2 panels each 2 sets needed	\$3,500 to \$5,000/panel	\$8,600 - \$11,700	If these are already designed, the cost will be about \$1000 each including posts
Smith Creek Conference Center	Panels for Information kiosks (SFSP Orientation Panel, East Park Area Trails Orientation Panel) 2 panels each 2 sets needed	\$3,500 to \$5,000/panel	\$8,600 - \$11,700	If these are already designed, the cost will be about \$1000 each including posts
	RDA Interpretive Panel Cluster (2 panels)	\$3,500 to \$5,000/panel	\$7000 - \$10,000	These have to be designed slightly differently than the ones at the Silver Creek Youth Camp to use the landscape in this view as a backdrop for the panels.
Silver Creek Youth Camp	RDA Interpretive Panel Cluster (2 panels)	\$3,500 to \$5,000/panel	\$7000 - \$10,000	These have to be designed slightly differently than the ones at the Smith Creek Conference Center to use the landscape in this view as a backdrop for the panels.
Winter Creek Trailhead	Panels for Information kiosk (SFSP Orientation Panel, East Park Area Trails Orientation Panel)	\$3,500 to \$5,000/panel	\$7000 - \$10,000	If these are already designed, the cost will be about \$1000 each including posts
East Rim Trailhead	Panels for Information kiosk (SFSP Orientation Panel, East Park Area Trails Orientation Panel)	\$3,500 to \$5,000/panel	\$7000 - \$10,000	If these are already designed, the cost will be about \$1000 each including posts

Area	Strategy	Unit Cost	Cost	Comments
South Gateway	Reading the landscape (2 panels)	\$3,500 to \$5,000/panel	\$7000 - \$10,000	
	SFSP Orientation Panel	\$3,500 to \$5,000/panel	\$3,500 - \$5,000	If already designed, this could cost only \$500 if mounted on an existing structure.
North Falls Viewpoint	North Falls Interpretive Panel	\$3,500 to \$5,000/panel	\$3,500 - \$5,000	
	SFSP Orientation Panel	\$3,500 to \$5,000/panel	\$3,500 - \$5,000	If already designed, this could cost only \$500 if mounted on an existing structure.
North Falls Trailhead	Trail of Ten Falls Panel Cluster (3 panels)	\$3,500 to \$5,000/panel	\$9,000-\$13,500	Reflects cost reduction to \$3000 - \$4500 for 3 or more panels
North Falls Overflow Parking	Panels for Information kiosk (SFSP Orientation Panel, East Park Area Trails Orientation Panel)	\$3,500 to \$5,000/panel	\$7000 - \$10,000	If these are already designed, the cost will be about \$1000 each including posts
North Falls Bike Trailhead	Panels for Information kiosk (SFSP Orientation Panel, East Park Area Trails Orientation Panel)	\$3,500 to \$5,000/panel	\$7000 - \$10,000	If these are already designed, the cost will be about \$1000 each including posts
Trail of Ten Falls	Panel Clusters along route	\$3,500 to \$5,000/panel		Depends on number of panels, which should be determined during planning process for upgrading the trail
	Trail Guide to SFSP			Too many variables to estimate

Ten (10) – Year Implementation Plan

Introduction

Although the stated title is '10-year Implementation Plan,' we are interpreting that to mean 'Long-Range Implementation Plan' because what can be done in a year depends entirely on how much money is allocated. The entire interpretive network recommended in this plan could be developed in 2 years or 20 depending on funding. With that in mind, we are presenting an implementation plan categorized into manageable and complete chunks, labeled in terms of Phase and Priority levels. Complete refers to the fact that all parts of a given strategy, and in some cases multiple strategies, have to be completed at the same time in order to provide a complete experience. For example, all thematic overview panels have to be completed at the same time.

For consistency between the Interpretive Plan and the Master Plan, we are using the same phases identified in that plan. Those interpretive components integrally tied to the improvements called for in the Master Plan, such as the exhibits for the Interpretive Center, have been put into the same phase as those projects.

Implementation Plan

Phase One

Key improvements called for in Master Plan

- No capital improvements related to interpretive network.

Actions recommended

The focus of actions during this phase is on the orientation and wayfinding network and on basic parts of the interpretive network, especially in high use areas such as the South Falls Day Use Area.

- Design, fabricate and install the SFSP Orientation Panel

- Design, fabricate and install the Thematic Overview panels
- Design the exhibits for the stone Kitchen Shelter
- Develop the Self-Guided Walking Tour of the Historic District
- Design, fabricate and install the Historic District Portal Panel Clusters at key access points to the Historic District
- Remove the existing interpretive panels in the park
- Design, fabricate and install the Trail of Ten Falls Portal Panel Clusters
- Upgrade the Web Site
- Develop the Sense-ational Discovery Quest
- Develop the Overview film and show it in the garage theater until the Interpretive Center is constructed.

Phase Two

Key improvements called for in Master Plan

- Rehabilitation of Trail of Ten Falls
- Design of New Trail Interpretive Signs

Actions recommended

- Design, fabricate and install Panel Clusters along Trail of Ten Falls
- Fabricate and install the exhibits in the stone Kitchen Shelter
- Develop Reading the Landscape panels for South Gateway
- Develop the Virtual Tour of the Trail of Ten Falls after it has been rehabilitated and offer it as a program in the garage theater

Phase Three

Key improvements called for in Master Plan

- Construct Welcome Center at North Falls Area
- Develop the North Falls Day Use Area
- Remodel North Falls Viewpoint
- Remodel Winter Falls Trailhead
- New Cabin Village near Howard Creek

- More interpretive trails, design and construction.

Actions recommended

- Design, fabricate and install Trip Planning exhibit in North Falls Welcome Center
- Install information kiosk with SFSP Orientation Panel, brochure dispenser, North Falls Area Trails Orientation Panel in the Welcome Center Plaza
- Design, fabricate and install the "Find Me" interpretive panels on the back deck of the Welcome Center
- Develop Forces of Change Interpretive Trail at North Falls Day Use Area
- Design, fabricate and install North Falls Viewpoint Interpretive Panel

Phase Four

Key improvements called for in Master Plan

- North Campground area developed
- Central Campground constructed
- Amphitheater developed.

Actions recommended

- Develop Day/Night Interpretive trails connecting camping areas to amphitheater
- Design and construct perimeter trail around North Campground area and develop interpretive panel clusters at specific viewpoints along the route
- Develop information kiosks with Campground Orientation, SFSP Orientation Panel and North Falls Area Orientation Panel for each camping area

Phase Five

Key improvements called for in Master Plan

- Construction of new Interpretive Center
- Upgrade of Day Use Area
- Upgrade the South Falls Lodge
- Expand trails and trailheads

Actions recommended

- Develop interpretive center exhibits
- Develop loop interpretive trails associated with interpretive center.
- Develop information kiosk in Recreation Area with SFSP Orientation Panel, brochure dispenser and "Did You Know" Interpretive Panels
- Develop Information Opportunities in the South Falls Lodge
- Design, fabricate and install RDA panel clusters
- Design, fabricate and install the Restoration Panel Cluster at the Ranches
- Design, fabricate and install the East Park Trails Orientation Panel
- Develop the Guide to Trails
- Develop the Discovery Guide to Silver Falls

Appendix A: Inventory of Existing Interpretive Signage

Panel	Location	Date installed	Message
Meadow restoration	Ranches		Diversity of habitat important to some species; meadow would disappear without intervention
June Drake crusade	Plaza in historic district	ca. 2005	June Drake was instrumental in Silver Falls becoming a park; one person can make a difference.
CCC and WPA	Plaza in historic district	ca. 2005	CCC and WPA built much of the infrastructure for the park
Rain forest	Plaza in historic district	ca. 2005	Lush and rare ecosystem
A Landscape From Lava	South Falls Viewpoint (lower)	ca. 2005	This landscape was created in part by massive lava flows
Erosional Chimneys	Under South Falls		Freezing and thawing of water creates chimneys in rock face
CCC	South Falls Lodge	ca. 2005	CCC were skilled craftsmen
Silver Falls City	South Falls Lodge	ca. 2005	The City was the product of an era and a casualty of another era (Depression)
Myrtlewood furniture	South Falls Lodge	ca. 2005	Experimental kiln at OSU helped furniture making effort
Carving of waterfalls	South Falls Lodge	ca. 2005	Flowing water carved the canyon and the waterfalls; the landscape is dynamic.
Silver Falls Orientation Panel	2 main entry points to Historic District	ca. 1988	
Canyon Trail Orientation Panel	S. Falls viewpoint (upper)	ca. 1988	
Canyon Trail Orientation Panel	N. Falls trailhead	ca. 1988	
Canyon Trail Orientation Panel	Winter Falls Trailhead	ca. 1988	
Can You Find these plants	Intersection of Winter Falls and Canyon Trail	ca. 1988	Highlights plants that thrive in lush canyon environment