THE YEAR IN REVIEW

By: Cris Currie, President
Friends of Mt. Spokane State Park

1997 was an eventful year for all friends of Mt. Spokane State Park! Members of the Friends of Mt. Spokane State Park began the year uncertain as to whether work toward our original goal of a $200,000 master plan for the Park would continue. By March, it was clear that the project was not viable. With the cooperation of the Mt. Spokane State Park Advisory Committee, the Friends Group decided that it would begin a planning process for the Park that would be volunteer generated, and would at least initially, follow the example of the management plan process now being used for Riverside State Park.

In April we began our work on an inventory of Park resources. A wide variety of maps were obtained which depict the Park's topography, geology, vegetation, hydrology, soils, wildlife habitat, wildlife migration corridors, and neighboring property ownership. A trail conditions survey as well as a large, detailed trail map were completed. Friends Group members are also working with community volunteers to conduct further scientific studies of various Park resources and conditions such as the condition of its natural meadows and the potential for a destructive forest fire.

In September, the group started the process of inventorying the Park’s resources and uses.

The first step was to divide the Park into subareas. The following nine subareas were identified and mapped:

- Ragged Mountain / Idaho Line Subarea
- Cross Country Skiing / Mt. Bike Trail Subarea
- Deadman Creek / Headquarters Subarea
- Downhill Ski Subarea
- Bald Knob / Civilian Conservation Corps Subarea
- Kit Carson / Deep Creek Subarea
- Day Mountain / Blanchard Creek Subarea
- Inholdings (private property within the primary Park boundary)
- Outholdings (Park property outside of the primary boundary)

Data sheets were then designed containing the following categories to be described for each subarea:

- Subarea name and description
- Land classification
- Existing uses including unauthorized uses
- Potential uses to add or eliminate including restrictions on particular uses and user conflicts
- Important resources to protect
- Existing capital projects
- Existing and planned maintenance projects
- Potential capital projects and associated maintenance projects
- Park policies related to subarea
- Acquisition / Exchange sites associated with subarea
- Miscellaneous issues and concerns

An initial inventory was completed for the first three sub-areas, and work will continue over the next few months to complete the inventory. Once the data collection is complete, the process of creating a recommended management plan will begin. It is expected that as much input as possible will be solicited from local, state, and national experts, Parks Commission staff, and the general public before a final recommendation is made to the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission. Once the plan is approved by the Commission, the work of implementing the various development and maintenance projects specified in the plan will begin. In this way, we hope to guarantee a healthy, sustainable balance between resource protection and recreational use well into the next century for Mt. Spokane State Park.

THANKS TO MT. GEAR
FOR SPONSORING
OUR LOGO
CONTEST!

(509) 325-9000
The Friends of Mt. Spokane State Park is a 501(c)(3)
non profit organization dedicated to the preservation,
maintenance and responsible use of Mount Spokane State Park.
The Advisory Committee and the Friends Board meet at 6:30
PM on the second Thursday of each month at The Bloomsday
Office Located at 1610 West Riverside, Downtown Spokane.
EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

SO WHAT DO YOU GET FOR JOINING?
The most important thing you get (in addition to this sporadically
produced, wonderfully informative newsletter) is a chance to send
a strong message to Olympia that you think Mount Spokane
State Park deserves Better!

It is a chance to join with other Park users in saying, "We want
the State to improve and maintain the facilities in the Park for
the benefit of ALL users in a way that preserves and protects this
incredibly valuable resource and its natural inhabitants for
generations to come."

If our message is backed by action, dedication and dollars we
stand an excellent chance of getting what this very special
"jewel in our backyard" deserves.

BECOME A FRIEND OF MT. SPOKANE STATE PARK
Individual Membership: Mail your membership form to:
$25.00 or 5 hours of volunteer service
The Friends of Mt. Spokane State Park, Suite 509
Family Membership:
$40.00 or 10 hours of volunteer service
621 Mallon, Spokane, WA 99201
Corporate Membership:
$100.00 or more!

PLEASE JOIN US TODAY!

A big THANK YOU goes to all of the fine folks who have
answered the "CALL" by generously donating time, service and
money. They have all become valuable members of
The Friends of Mt. Spokane State Park.

Friends of Mt. Spokane State Park
Board of Directors for 1998
President, Cris Currie
Vice-president, Sherman Spencer
Secretary, Randy Knight
Treasurer, Anita Boyden
At Large Office, Gino Lisiecki
General Board Members:
Eric Sawyer Jeff Corkill
Phil Bolich Barbee Scheibner
Avery Peyton Caroline Halley
Ken Carmichael Diane Evans
Tom Frost Sheila Pachemegg

TRAIL UPDATE
If you haven't explored the new Quartz Mountain trail at the Nordic
area, please do. Whether you ski, hike or mountain bike you'll find the
loop a wonderful addition to the trail system. Kudos to the Inland
Empire Nordic Club and others who create and maintain the Nordic
trails.

COMING EVENTS
Old Growth Tour! Join us
on June 6, 1998 for a guided
tour of the Old Growth Forest
on Mt. Spokane.

Trail Days Lend a hand to
the wonderful folks of the
Inland Empire Nordic Club for
two fun filled trail clean-up
days on June 20th and July
25th. Bring lots of energy,
lunch, water, gloves, and hand
tools such as: pruners, clippers
and/or a small bow saw. Call
Bob at 448-2404 for details.
OLD GROWTH TOUR & POT LUCK DINNER!

When: Saturday June 6, 1998  Tour Begins at 10:00 AM
"Camp Style" Pot Luck Dinner Begins at 4:00 PM

Where: Selkirk Lodge, Mt. Spokane Nordic Ski Center

The Friends of Mt. Spokane State Park is sponsoring a tour of the old
growth forest on Mt. Spokane on Saturday, June 6th. All are welcome to
join us in celebrating and learning more about this incredible resource!

Guiding the tour will be park rangers Peter Wood and Kary Peterson with
forest pathologists Dr. Arthur Partridge, recently retired University of Idaho
Professor of Forest Pathology and Entomology, and his wife Dr. Catherine Bertagnolli.

Dr. Partridge was repeatedly voted "Teacher of the Year" during his tenure in Moscow and both are
most engaging and knowledgeable instructors.

Our guides will explain why old growth forests are so important, how they work, and how modern
forest practices alter nature's delicate balance.

Everyone will get an unforgettable, up close and personal look at both a clear cut, "regenerating"
forest, and a natural, fully mature forest.

We will meet at the Selkirk Lodge parking lot at the Mt. Spokane Nordic Ski Center at 10:00 AM.
From there we will car pool up to Cook's Cabin and drive down the Loop Road to the Park
boundary where we will begin about a 4 1/2 mile guided walk on the Loop Road (a nearly level or
downhill dirt road normally closed to vehicles) back to the "Hairpin Turn" on the Park Drive
where we will rejoin the shuttle vehicles. Please bring your own food, but drinks will be served at
the lunch stop along the way. Expect the tour to last about 5 hours.

The Pot Luck begins at 4:00PM. We'll provide beverages, and condiments. Please bring your
own plates and utensils and a favorite dish to share. Musicians are encouraged to bring their
favorite instruments as well! The Selkirk facilities are limited so prepare for a rustic, "camp
style" Pot Luck and a fun-filled finale to a great day!

There is no charge for the tour, but space is limited. To ensure your place, please leave a message
on the Friends Line (467-9343) by Tuesday, June 2nd with your name, the number of people
planning to attend, and your phone number in case there are last minute changes. Or, mail in the
form below. The tour will happen rain or shine! Hope to see you on the mountain!

For more information, call Cris Currie at 466-9540

I (We) would like to attend the OLD GROWTH TOUR. Please add me (us) to the list.
Name(s): __________________________ Address: ___________________________
Phone # ___________________________ (last minute changes)

I (We) have a ______ Passenger van and are willing to help with the shuttle activities.

MEMBERSHIP OPTIONAL

There is absolutely no charge for the tour and all are very welcome; However, if you'd like to
join the FRIENDS we'd love the support!

I (we) would also like to join the "Friends of Mt. Spokane State Park" Our membership check of
or our pledge of service of _______ hours is included.

Individual membership: $25.00 or 5 hours of volunteer service.

Family membership: $40.00 or 10 hours of volunteer service.

Corporate Membership: $100.00 or more! mail to: Friends of Mt. Spokane State Park

Suite 509, 621 Mallon, Spokane, WA 99201
Friends of
Mt. Spokane State Park

FRIENDS OF MT. SPOKANE STATE PARK

621 WEST MALLON, SUITE 509
SPOKANE, WA 99201

MAIL TO:


The Friends of Mt. Spokane State Park is in dire need of a logo! We would like to produce a decal or patch limited to a mailable size no larger than 4" x 4" and shaped either square, round, oblong or ?

The theme must relate to Mt. Spokane, its inhabitants or activities. The design should be simple, using a maximum of three colors and it must contain the words,

"The Friends of Mt. Spokane State Park"

Get your creative juices flowing and submit your idea to the Friends by July 1st. We'll review the entries and select our choice by August 13th. The lucky winner will be notified by August 15th and will be presented with a $50.00 gift certificate from Mountain Gear, the generous sponsor of this contest! Submit your entry today to the return address listed above!