



# WANA PA KOOT KOOT: People Working Together on the River



## A Story of Partnership

**People Working Together on the River**

Addresses impacts to cultural resources at Bonneville, The Dalles, and John Day pools.

- 4 federal agencies
- 4 tribes
- 2 state historic preservation offices

Wana Pa Koot Koot has a history of working with others and forging long-lasting relationships. In order to effectively manage historic properties, the FCRPS Cultural Resource Program was created in 1997 as a jointly-administered effort overseen by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Bureau of Reclamation, and Bonneville Power Administration to address NHPA section 106 compliance. Work is guided by a programmatic agreement for management of historic properties affected by the operation and maintenance of the FCRPS.

Despite the technical description of the working groups, the work is only successful through the establishment of meaningful relationships. These relationships are successful in large part due to the willingness of Tribal Members coming together with the Federal Agencies and finding a path of mutual trust and respect.



Other partners we often work with.

Members of the Wana Pa Koot Koot Cooperating Group

## Mayer State Park

The location of Mayer State Park has a long history of occupation and use by Tribes. This is evidenced by the archaeology present, and by the continued use of Tribal members practicing their traditional rights to this day.

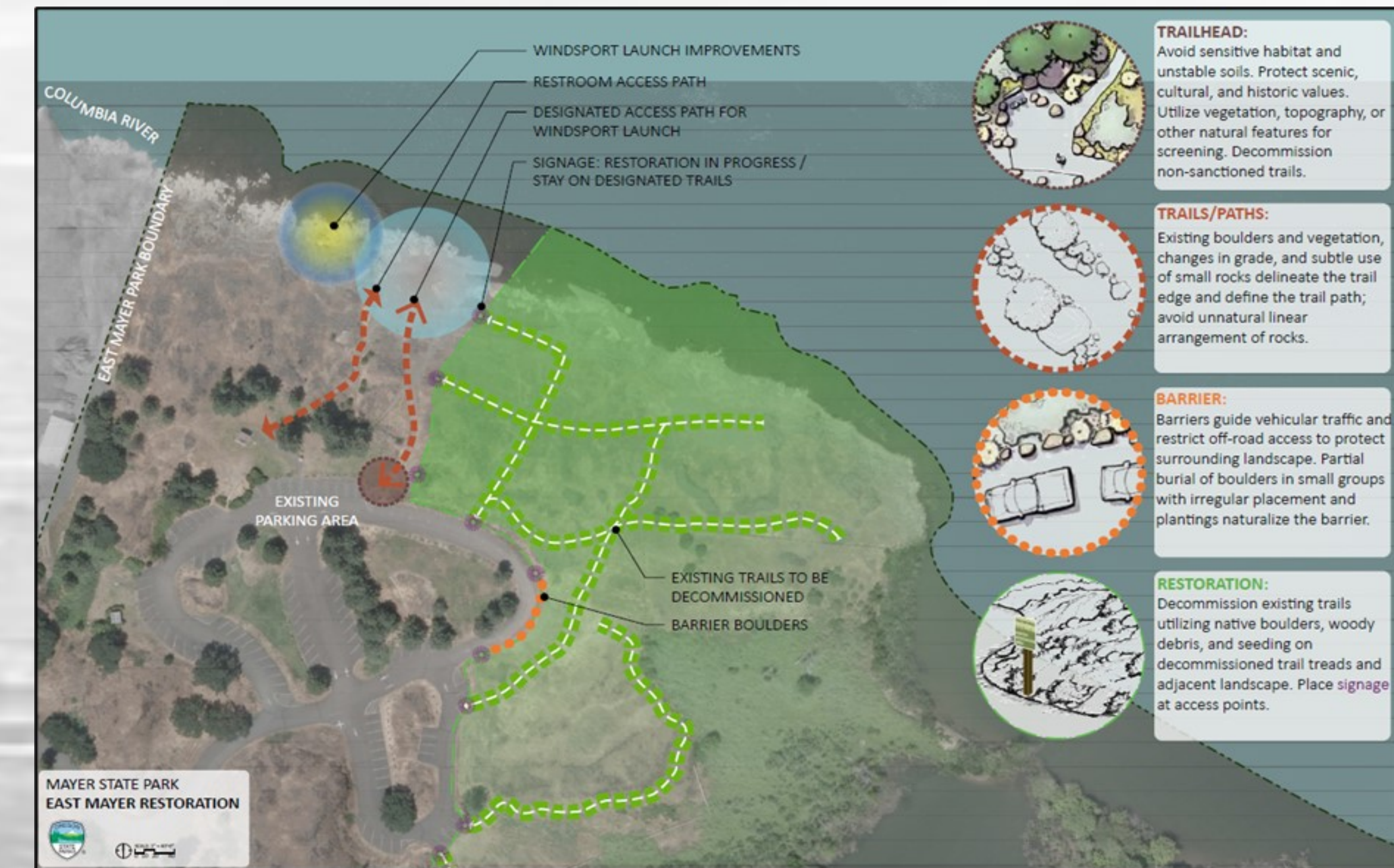
Impacts from active recreational use (windsurfing, unmaintained trails and loss of vegetation) had resulted in adverse impacts to cultural resources.

Mayer State Park represented a unique opportunity to partner outside the Wana Pa Koot Koot Cooperating Group with Oregon Parks and Recreation Department to ensure that Tribal Treaty Rights were protected while still creating space for recreation by the public.

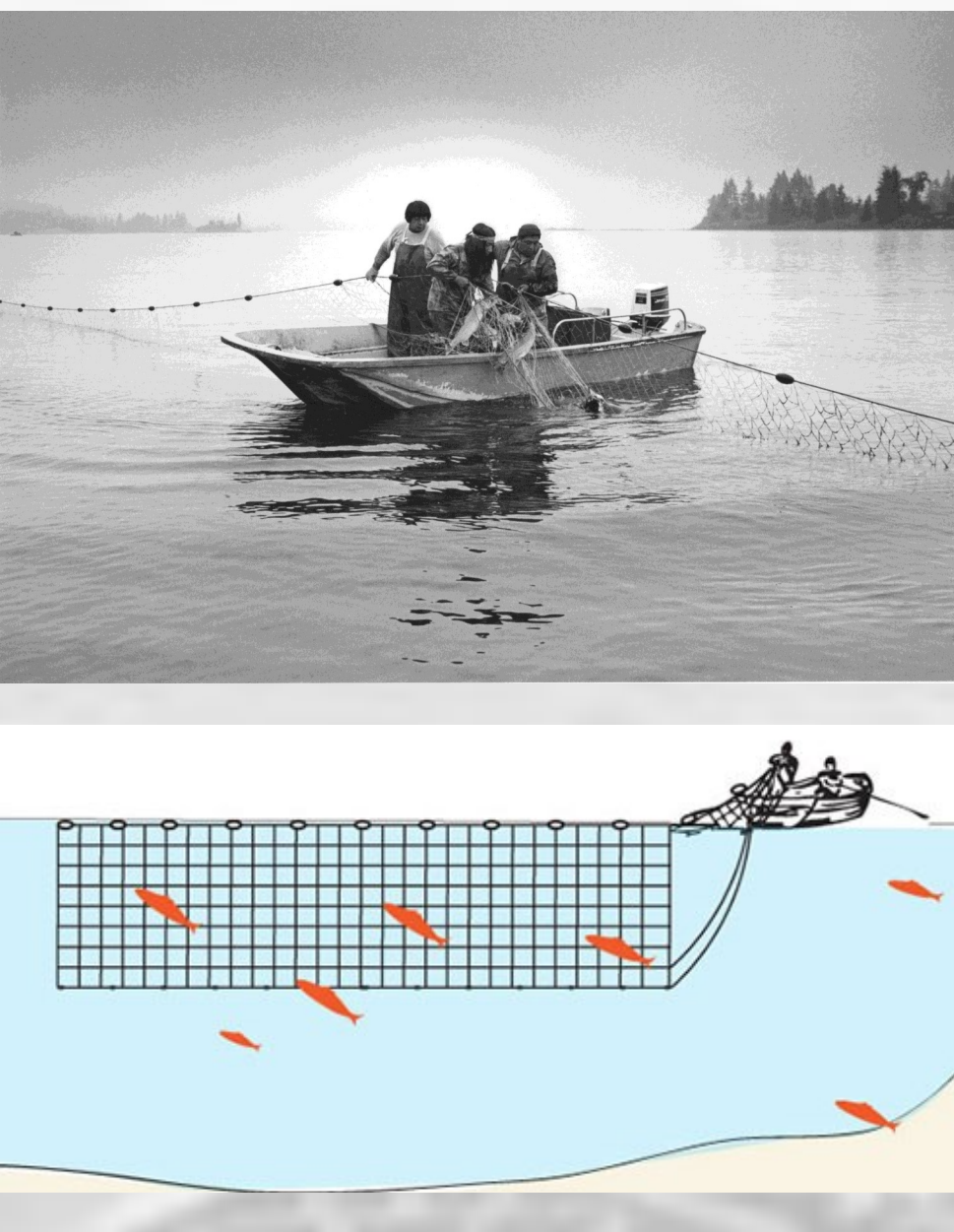
Through this partnership, the Wana Pa Koot Koot Cooperating Group was able to participate in the drafting of Archaeological Resources Protection Act signs, provide preference and expertise on trails that should be closed and trails that could remain open, and created a location where Tribal Treaty Rights could be exercised, native vegetation could be reestablished, and public recreation could coexist.



ARPA Signs to protect cultural and archaeological resources and alert the public.



Trail modifications including revegetation efforts to enhance habitat, and signage to redirect the public to approved paths away from resources requiring protection.



**Courtesy Guide**

To enhance the quality of everyone's visit, please observe this summary of rules for your safety and protection of the park.

- Day Use only. Do not remain in park after posted hours.
- Automobiles, trailers or other vehicles shall be parked only in designated parking areas.
- For your safety, and to protect vegetation, stay on designated trail.
- Keep all pets under physical control and on a leash not more than six feet at all times. The handler is responsible for animal's behavior, containment and removal of animal's wastes.
- For your safety, practice wind sport etiquette by staying 400' from gill nets. Tribal treaty harvest is being exercised.
- Hunting is prohibited. A person may not hunt, poison, trap, kill, injure, or molest any wildlife or disturb their habitats within park area.
- Discharging any firearm, slingshot, pellet gun, saw and arrow or other weapon is prohibited.
- No person shall dig up, deface, or remove any soil, rock, fossil materials, archaeological, historical or Native American artifacts or features. Violators will be fined OAR 736-010-0055. Disturbance of archaeological objects and sites is a violation OAR 358-702 or OAR 97-754. Penalties range up to a Class C Felony and up to a \$50,000 fine (ORS 97-990 (5)).
- Metal detecting prohibited.

A complete copy of Oregon Parks & Recreation Administrative Rules is available at [stateparks.oregon.gov](http://stateparks.oregon.gov)

A day-use parking fee is a charge for parking under OAR 736-010-0055 and not a charge for recreational purposes under OAR 736-010-0054. Payment to OAR 736-010-0054 is a charge for use of the designated area for parking of the state and used for camping, boat, or other recreational purpose or area of state park land. The maximum amount under OAR 736-010-0054 applies to use of state park land for any other recreational purpose.

Partnership with the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department to educate the public on Treaty Rights and how to safely and respectfully recreate on the landscape.

## Grant House

In 1957 two petroglyph boulders were removed from their original location near the modern day The Dalles Dam prior to inundation and relocated to the Grant House at Fort Vancouver. For the next 60 years, the boulders were located one on each side (east and west) of the central footpath that leads up to the Grant House.

In 2021, the Wana Pa Koot Koot Cooperating Group collaborated to return the boulders to their home on the Columbia River. This was a joint effort successfully undertaken by Tribes, States of Oregon and Washington, and Federal Agencies. This is just one example of how these groups work together to find mutually acceptable solutions.



Grant House and the locations of the two recovered boulders with petroglyphs.

**Returned to the River**

These two petroglyph boulders were originally located in an area very near to this spot that was flooded in 1957 upon completion of The Dalles Dam. Prior to inundation, the boulders were moved to Vancouver, Washington and installed on property adjacent to Fort Vancouver.

In 2021, an advisory working group, known as 'Wana Pa Koot Koot', made up of members from the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation, the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon, the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, the Nez Perce Tribe, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Bonneville Power Administration, and other state and federal agencies, worked together to return these important tribal cultural features to their home on the Columbia River.

Since time immemorial, the Columbia River peoples have endeavored to protect and preserve the river's important places and resources, and will continue to do so for the benefit of future generations.

1955 aerial of the surrounding area before much of it was flooded after the completion of The Dalles Dam in 1957

One of the petroglyph boulders in place at the Grant House Eatery in Vancouver, Washington

Educational sign at Columbia Hills State Park explaining how petroglyphs were successfully returned to the river.