

Douglas County Public Parks Department Outlines Summer Program For Improvement Of Properties

North Umpqua Sites Graded To Increase Parking Space; More Parks Being Considered

By CHARLES V. STANTON

Douglas county's public parks department, unique in the state of Oregon, is being rapidly organized under the direction of the Parks board and its supervisor. Groundwork has been completed for a program of development and improvement, which soon will be attracting much public attention.

Preliminary work already has made recreational facilities available for immediate use. Much work has been outlined for late spring and early summer months. Since recent organization of the department, a great deal of time necessarily has been spent on preliminaries. The public could not see and evaluate this work. It is essential, however, to a sound development program.

Site Appraisals Made

It has been necessary for the supervisor to obtain legal descriptions of all park properties and plat them on maps. Each site has been appraised by the board for its recreational values. Studies of recreational need have been made on a basis of population distribution. Vicinity maps have been drawn of parks most adaptable for early improvement. Work is outlined first for those parks having the greatest immediate recreational value and affecting the most people. At the same time, the department has been checking county-owned lands to determine possible recreational use and value. This is done in advance of offering timber lands for sale. Lists of lands proposed for acquisition have been compiled.

Parksite Donated

Mack Brown Park—This tract of 3.37 acres, located about four miles west of Umpqua along the Tye-Umpqua road, was donated July 24, 1950, by Mack Brown. It consists of a beautiful grove of second growth fir trees. It is clean and free from undergrowth and is free from present. Improvements are to start immediately and should be completed by July. Negotiations for the donation of this property were led by Kenneth Gilkeson, while president of the Roseburg Rod and Gun club.

Anna Drain Park—Acquired with the assistance of the North Douglas Rod and Gun club at Anna Drain, this park supplements Drain's famed living war memorial. It is a tract of 1.7 acres adjoining the memorial swimming pool and athletic field. It was purchased from Anna Drain, May 29, 1950, at a cost of \$1,000, about one-half the then prevailing market value. Development of this park, now in progress, is a community project handled through cooperation with the City of Drain.

Winchester Bay Tidelands Park and Boat Basin—This project is outstanding in the state of Oregon. It consists of 75.33 acres located at the end of Basin boulevard at Winchester Bay. The tidelands had previously been dedicated to the public, but the county purchased riparian rights from a butting owner, thus preserving public access to the entire bay-front, together with total ownership of all future accretions. As Winchester Bay is a famed big fish angling spot during the summer season, acquisitions on behalf of the public prevent any future barriers to access through commercialization. Since the time the park was created, private enterprise has invested money in taxable improvements which will more than pay the cost of all public costs within a comparatively few years. The grounds are particularly well adapted for organizational picnics. The site will be available for public use within a few days. Improvements are contemplated immediately.

North Umpqua Recreation Area—Not yet officially dedicated as a part of the park lands, approximately 400 acres in several sites fronting on the North Umpqua river between Rock creek and Susan creek, will be made a part of the program as soon as use surveys are completed. Obtained from the California Oregon Power company through exchange, the lands are of great true value being, in part, a donation to the county's park program. They include some of the best park sites along the river and would have brought an excellent price as summer homesites. Improvements already have been started. Roads and parking areas have been graded, furnishing parking and picnic space for from 300 to 400 cars. Sanitary facilities and boundary markers are to be installed. The Roseburg Junior chamber of commerce and other groups have furnished tables for some of the sites.

Ada Park—This 14-acre site is located along the Ada road on the southeast side of Siltcoos lake near the north county boundary. It has not yet been explored for development, but is purchased in usable condition. It was purchased in connection with road right-of-way. Boundary markers will be erected this year.

Otter Slough park—This park site, too, has not yet been given a development plan. Consisting of a fine grove on 30 acres of land, it was obtained through tax foreclosure. It is located on the south side of Smith river at Otter slough. Water adjacent to the park furnishes excellent fall fishing. The park is now usable. Improvements are planned this year.

Hidden park—This park was "discovered" only recently in a search of records. It was found that the county owned one-half acre, a block of land in the city of Scottsburg, abutting the river. The tract has been in use for stockpiling gravel. It is adjacent to the county right-of-way to the old ferry slip and the roadway will be dedicated as a part of the park. The old ferry landing and road may now be used for launching small boats. The park will need some improvement before being available for use. It is hoped that development and management will be made a community project.

Singleton park—This park site is the latest acquisition in the program. It consists of slightly more than three acres located at the forks of the Umpqua river, about 10 miles northwest of Roseburg. Improvements include two outdoor fireplaces, pressure water system, ground lighting. It fronts on both tributaries adjacent to one of the most popular fishing and recrea-

Britt Nichols Park—Consisting of 1.5 acres this park is located on the Calahan road about five miles west of Siltcoos, beginning on the first switchback above the former Melrose CCC camp. It is covered chiefly with second growth fir timber, and some deciduous trees, with little timber of commercial value. The park suffered some damage from high winds, but down timber is now being salvaged to reduce fire hazard. No development is contemplated this year aside from marking boundaries.

James Wood Park—This park, of 1.9 acres is located on the Umpqua river off the Tye-Umpqua road, about six miles downstream from Umpqua. It was donated Dec. 31, 1945, by James Wood. It provides 170 feet of access to the river. No development other than boundary marking is contemplated before next year.

Fair Oaks Park—This park, of 1.9 acres is located on the Umpqua river off the Tye-Umpqua road, about six miles downstream from Umpqua. It was donated Dec. 31, 1945, by James Wood. It provides 170 feet of access to the river. No development other than boundary marking is contemplated before next year.

SECTION TWO

The News-Review

Established 1873 ROSEBURG, OREGON—THURSDAY, APRIL 26, 1951 ★ ★ 99-57



DOUGLAS COUNTY PARKS SYSTEM GROWING—The above map, prepared by Charles S. Collins, supervisor for the Douglas County Public Parks department, indicates the rapid growth of the county's unique park system. Started only two years ago, the department now supervises eleven dedicated parks together with several North Umpqua sites soon to be dedicated. More sites are under negotiation. Extensive improvement work will be undertaken during the spring and summer months. Boundary markers are to follow the winning design of a contest held in county schools. Douglas county is the first in Oregon to institute a parks program.

Sutherlin

By MRS. BRITTA SLACK

Colonel and Mrs. Donald Ross and two children of Dayton, Ohio, arrived in Sutherlin last week to spend a few days with Colonel Ross' mother, Mrs. Mabel Ross. Colonel Ross will then return to Detroit, where he will join his regiment and will go overseas. Mrs. Ross and children will spend some time visiting with her parents.

The Indians called Mt. McKinley in Alaska, "Denali"—meaning "Home of the Sun."

More Land in Prospect

Supervisor Collins reports that negotiations are in progress for several additional park sites to be purchased if suitable arrangements can be made and funds are available in the county budget for the next year.

The department is setting up a small woodworking shop in the garage back of the courthouse and expects to use labor from the county jail in building park furniture and marker signs.

The mapping and planning improvements will be continued.

Supervision is being given to vantage logging within park areas where trees require removal.

The park program received \$10,000 in the county budget for the year 1949-50 and \$25,000 for the current fiscal year. The board has not announced budget requests for the coming year, but it is expected the amount asked for will be about the same as for this year.

in town over the weekend visiting friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Parker and Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Swift spent the weekend at Salem with relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Smith, who bought the Jones apartments on Fourth avenue, have completed repairing and remodeling and have moved into one of the apartments. Mr. Smith is destroying the old shack located at the rear of the lots and will build a new garage soon.

Mr. and Mrs. Everett Owens and son, Larry, visited at the Art Hansen home in Wilbur, Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Johnson entertained at a dinner Sunday at 1:30 p.m. in their home on West Second avenue. Spring flowers centered the linen covered table.

Covers were placed for Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Warren of Roseburg, Mrs. Leta Braucht, Wilbur, Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Patterson and the host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. Johnson.

How a McCormick* Farmall* Cub can MAKE MONEY for you



Been wondering if a tractor is a profitable investment for a farm with 10 to 30 or 40 acres of crops? If you have, let a McCormick Farmall Cub remove all doubt from your mind. Here's why:

1. A Farmall Cub will replace 3 or 4 horses or mules.
2. Unlike horses or mules, a Farmall Cub doesn't "eat" when it isn't working.
3. The extra crops from land you've had to pay to grow feed for horses will soon pay for a Farmall Cub... either in cash crops or as extra hay, grain, or pasture that you can convert into beef, pork, milk, poultry, eggs.

Farmall Club Months... April and May

SIG FETT

527 North Jackson Phone 3-4666

West Coast Building Supply Co.

Joy Clark Bill and Mother

Bill Neighbors Dial 3-6614

Budget Terms Available for All Remodeling BORROW OUR CASH AND HOME PLAN BOOKS