

Area. A sixth area, Recreation Area A-East, was closed in 1989 due to vandalism and other security concerns. Recreation Area A West, Recreation Area A East, and Recreation Area C were developed by Reclamation as part of the original reservoir project; subsequently, Elks Picnic Area, Sain Creek Picnic Area, and Scoggins Creek Picnic Area were developed by Washington County with cost-share funding from Reclamation. Table 3.3-1 and Figure 3.3-1 list and show existing recreation facilities found at each of these areas (Photo 3-3).

As previously stated, the reservoir is divided almost equally into two sections by a buoy line. On the north end of the reservoir, a no-wake rule is enforced, while the south end has a 35 mph speed limit. This division has some effect on the type and level of activities occurring at the different recreation facilities. In general, the boat ramp at Recreation Area A West is used predominantly by recreational motor boaters and for PWC use, while the boat ramp at Recreation Area C gets more use by anglers, sail boaters, and other no wake or non-motorized boaters. Other uses at these two facilities include picnicking and shore fishing. Recreation Area C has more picnic tables, a larger area available for shore fishing, and receives more group and family use than Recreation Area A West. Almost all of the reservoir's shoreline is accessible for swimming; however, there are no designated swimming areas or lifeguards.

Henry Hagg Lake/Scoggins Valley Park has two concessionaires, both operating daily and located at Recreation Area C. A local boat rental company has been operating at Henry Hagg Lake since 1991 and rents out a variety of boats including paddleboats, rowboats, electric motorboats, canoes, and kayaks. In 2003, motorboats were rented on an hourly (\$12/hour) or daily (\$40/day) basis. Kayaks, canoes, and paddleboats were also rented by the hour (\$8) or all day (\$30). The concessionaire is open daily from opening day through Labor Day. In 2003, the concessionaire paid a fee of \$2,800 to operate at the park.

The other concessionaire is a mobile food stand that has been operating in the park since 1999 and serves a variety of food and beverages. This concessionaire paid a fee of \$3,600 to operate at the park for a 3-year period. Park staff indicated that there has never been any type of problems or complaints with either of the concessionaires (pers. comm., Wayland, 2002). Both contracts for these concessionaires are currently expired; however, the County intends to develop new 2- to 3-year contracts in February 2004 after the RMP is finalized (pers. comm., C. Wayland, 2003).



Photo 3-3. Aerial view of Recreation Area C (center) and adjacent Cove Area (right).

Recreation Area A West is a 2-acre site located just past the entrance to Scoggins Valley Park (Photo 3-4). The site provides picnic tables, a large barbecue, potable water, a restroom, and boat launch. The boat launch has an 800-foot long concrete ramp with three lanes as well as a dock. The picnic area located on a hillside above the boat launch is accessible to persons with disabilities (accessible). By providing visual and physical



Photo 3-4. Recreation Area A West, as seen from the water.

separation from the boat launch and parking area, this site provides a quiet, somewhat secluded area for picnicking away from the noise and activity of the boat and vehicle traffic. The picnic area has 22 single-unit picnic sites, as well as a small group area with six tables.

Recreation Area A East is a 25-acre site that is densely wooded and has parking, three restrooms, and a picnic area. Under the direction of the 1994 NEPA EA, this area was to be opened for camping. It was used as a day use

area but was indefinitely closed in 1989 because of public safety concerns prompted by vandalism and uncontrolled parties. Since then, WACO has conducted selective timber harvesting and clearing of nearly all underbrush to more easily view the site for enforcement and in anticipation that the site would be reopened as a day use or camping area under the direction of the RMP.

Table 3.3-1: Overview of existing recreation facilities at Henry Hagg Lake.

		Recreation Areas						
Facility		Recreation Area A West	Recreation Area A East	Recreation Area C	Sain Creek Picnic Area	Scoggins Creek Picnic Area	Elks Picnic Area	Total
Access & Parking	Road Access (Paved/Gravel)	P	P	P	P	G	G	
	Interior Circulation	P	P	P	P	G	G	
	Car Parking Spaces	38	129	146	104	Undefined	Undefined	417
	Boat Trailer/Car Parking	61		166		Undefined	Undefined	227
	Boat Ramps (lanes)	3		3				6
	Courtesy Docks	1		2				3
	Fishing Docks			1				1
Day Use Areas & Facilities	Picnic Sites - Single Units	22		46	34	15	10	127
	Group Picnic Shelters			1	2			3
	Trails/Paths	*		*		*	*	
Other Support Facilities	Informal/Interpretation							
	Flush Restrooms, 2-Unit						1	1
	Flush Restrooms, 4-Unit							0
	Flush Restrooms, 6-Unit	2	3	2	1			8
	Portable Toilets, 1-Unit					1		1
	Sinks	8	12	8	4			32
	Potable Water	*	*	*	*	*	*	
	Electrical Hookups			*	*			
Maintenance/Storage Facilities	*							
Accessible Facilities	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	

*Indicates existence of facility, but number not relevant or known.

Source: Washington County Parks 2002

Figure 3.3-1 Existing Recreation Sites and Facilities.

Back of Figure 3.3-1.

Scoggins Creek Picnic Area is a 2-acre site with a gravel parking area and 15 picnic tables and barbecue grills. Other facilities include one portable toilet and two trash receptacles. The site is located in a shaded spot on the northwest tip of the reservoir where Scoggins Creek flows into the reservoir and provides direct access to the creek for wading or fishing (Photo 3-5). This site is less developed than the others and has more of a natural and secluded character. There is moderate erosion and vegetation damage along the creek bank due to a combination of fluctuations in the creek's water level and the impacts of footpaths leading to the creek bank.



Photo 3-5. Scoggins Creek Picnic Area.

Recreation Area C is a 38-acre site on the west side of Henry Hagg Lake. Facilities at this site include a boat launch, an accessible fishing pier completed in 2000, a covered group picnic area, and restrooms (Photos 3-6 and 3-7).

The group picnic area, known as The Pavilion, is a large covered, open air picnic structure adjacent to the parking area above the boat ramp. It is accessible and provides 24 picnic tables, six serving tables, two large barbecue grills, and water and electricity hook-ups. The Pavilion overlooks the west end of Henry Hagg Lake, offering good water views and easy access to the shoreline. The site is typically reserved for large group events and can accommodate groups of up to 800 people. In addition to the group picnic area, there are 46



Photo 3-6. Recreation Area C fishing pier as seen from the water.



Photo 3-7. Fishing pier during low water as seen from adjacent Cove Area.

individual picnic sites set in a large grassy area with scattered groups of shade trees. The fishing pier is a large, well-built structure situated away from the boat launch near the individual picnic sites. The boat launch has three lanes, two docks, and is approximately 800 feet long. The docks operate on a rail and cable system that is often difficult to operate and maintain with water fluctuations.

Sain Creek Picnic Area is a 6-acre site located in a small cove at the confluence of Sain Creek and Henry Hagg Lake just south of Recreation Area C. The site has newer, attractive facilities overlooking the reservoir among a large grassy area and several groups of large, mature trees. This site has two group picnic areas, as well as 34 individual picnic sites. The larger group picnic area, known as

Torvend Pavilion, is covered and provides 12 picnic tables, two serving tables, electrical outlets, concrete counters and sink, and a stove flume (Photo 3-8). The accessible site is typically reserved for large group events and can accommodate groups of up to 250 people. The smaller group area provides six tables and two serving tables. Sain Creek Picnic Area overlooks the west end of Henry Hagg Lake, offering good water views and easy access to the shoreline when the water levels are high. Other facilities include benches, restrooms, and drinking fountains.

Elks Picnic Area is a 6-acre site on the south end of the reservoir close to the dam. As the site is adjacent to the dam face, it is a popular bank fishing spot. This site provides fishing access, 10 picnic tables, 4 benches, and restrooms. At one time, this site provided an accessible fishing elevator; however, wave action eroded the bank and the elevator was decommissioned. The fishing pier at Recreation Area C was built to replace this access. This site appears largely as a gravel parking area; however, there is a large wooded area adjacent to the fishing access trail and restroom.



Photo 3-8. The Torvend Pavilion at Sain Creek Picnic Area.

In addition to these facilities, Henry Hagg Lake features an easy to moderate, 15-mile shoreline trail referred to as the Master Trail.

This trail offers hiking, bicycling, and wildlife viewing opportunities. It has a natural surface, with some roots and rocks, and varies in width. Volunteer groups perform periodic litter and debris clearing as well as minor re-grading, while the County does vegetation clearing to maintain an unobstructed trail corridor. There are several pull-offs from the reservoir's perimeter road that provide access to short access trails leading to the Master Trail. The Master Trail utilizes the reservoir's perimeter road shoulder in three areas where there are no trail segments along the shoreline. These areas are located at Scoggins Creek, Sain Creek, and across the dam. The perimeter road shoulder is utilized in these and several other areas because the shoreline has either washed out or eroded. In these cases, trail users use the access trails up to the perimeter road and utilize the road shoulder until the next access trail. The perimeter road shoulder provides a 10.5-mile long, 8-foot wide signed bicycle lane, maintained by the Washington County Department of Land Use and Transportation.

3.3.2 Recreation Activities and Use Levels

Henry Hagg Lake/Scoggins Valley Park is currently used solely for day use activities. Water-based recreation activities are most prevalent; however, land-based activities are also popular and attract many visitors (Titre and Ballard 1999). Outdoor recreation activities include boating, fishing, swimming, water-skiing, picnicking, wildlife viewing, hiking, and bicycling (Photos 3-9, 3-10, and 3-11). Equestrian use is not currently allowed in the park. Annual visitation figures for Henry Hagg Lake for the period between 1990 and 2001 are provided in Table 3.3-2.

The original recreation development plan for Henry Hagg Lake, completed in 1970, projected that visitor recreation days would reach 500,000 within 10 years of initial development

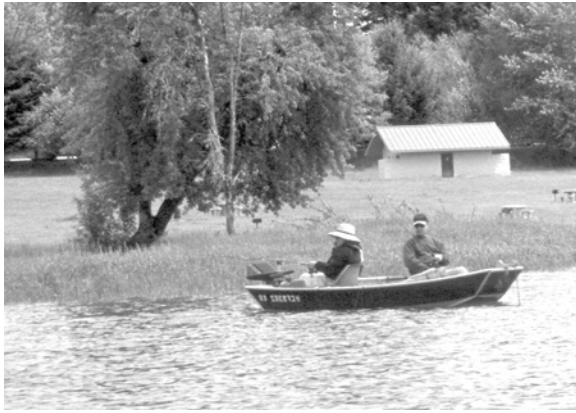


Photo 3-9. Out for a day of fishing on the reservoir.



Photo 3-10. Bank fishing at Sain Creek Picnic Area.

(NPS 1970). Estimated visitation figures shown in Table 3.3-2, however, indicate that visitor recreation days had not reached this projected number in 1990, 20 years after initial development.

In 2002, annual attendance grew considerably; however, much of this growth can be attributed to extending the recreation season by 3 months, which was done in 2002. The new recreation season is March through November. Overall, there has been a trend of increasing annual attendance over the years. Attendance grew to 706,000 in 2002, which is a park record. Attendance from the mid-1990s until the present has fluctuated primarily due to wet or dry conditions (i.e., 1994 through 1998 were generally wet years resulting in a full reservoir; conversely, 1998



3-11. Bicyclists take a break to enjoy the view over the reservoir.

through 2001 were dry, low pool years). In 2003 (through October 28), attendance was 638,730.

Entry into Henry Hagg Lake/Scoggins Valley Park requires either a daily or seasonal pass for both vehicles and boats. Daily passes are available for purchase at the park entrance fee booth. A 2003 vehicle daily pass was \$4.00, while a vehicle with boat daily pass was \$5.00. Season passes are also available. Beginning in 2002, the recreation season was extended from the first weekend in March through November 24th. These dates correspond with the fishing season set by ODFW; prior to 2002, the recreation season opened the last weekend in April and closed October 31st. Approximately 120,000 recreation visitor days were recorded during March and April of 2002, indicating a strong demand during this time of year for the recreation facilities provided at Henry Hagg Lake. Season passes, which allow multiple park visits during the season, are available at several retail outlets throughout the Portland area and surrounding communities. Season passes are sold in the following increments: vehicle pass, \$40; boat pass, \$50; and senior citizen pass, \$35 (boat or vehicle). In addition, a second pass can be purchased for \$20 and can be used in the event that a family wishes to visit the park with two vehicles. No senior citizen rates apply to daily passes. Either a daily pass or season pass must be displayed while visiting the park.

Table 3.3-2: Annual attendance at Henry Hagg Lake.

Year	Annual Attendance	Percent Change in Annual Attendance from the Previous Year
1990	457,266	N/A
1991	459,295	0.4 percent
1992	488,207	6.3 percent
1993	486,119	-0.4 percent
1994	591,272	21.6 percent
1995	633,449	7.1 percent
1996	700,382	10.6 percent
1997	687,954	-1.8 percent
1998	670,052	-2.6 percent
1999	617,912	-7.8 percent
2000	599,656	-3.0 percent
2001	456,175	-23.9 percent
2002	706,000	54.8 percent
2003	638,730 ¹	N/A

¹2003 data are for March 1 through Oct. 28.
 Source: Washington County Parks 2001-2002

In 1999, a survey of recreation users at Henry Hagg Lake was administered, with a sample size of 360 (Titre and Ballard 1999). Survey results provide useful information regarding visitor profiles and perceptions of the park and its facilities. The results of these completed surveys are the basis for the visitor information presented below. However, the sample size is small and provides only a limited view of park user perspectives.

The 1970 Recreation Development Plan for Scoggins Reservoir concluded that “recreation values of Scoggins Reservoir will be primarily of local significance” (NPS 1970). The 1999 Recreation User Survey provided information that supports this early projection by asking respondents the location of their primary residence. As shown in Table 3.3-3, 76% of respondents were from the nearby communities of Hillsboro, Beaverton, Portland, and Forest Grove. The remainder of visitors were from a variety of other communities.

These numbers are supported by the fact that most visitors (97%) traveled from less than 50 miles and that the close, convenient location of the park was the feature respondents listed most (23%) when asked what they liked best about the park. These numbers suggest that Henry Hagg Lake largely serves as an easily accessible recreation facility for nearby residents.

The Recreation User Survey asked respondents to indicate all of the types of recreation activities they participated in while visiting Henry Hagg Lake. The reservoir is known as one of the premier fishing lakes in Oregon; therefore, it is not surprising that fishing was the activity most participated in by park users (47%). The popularity of fishing at Henry Hagg Lake is further supported in that fishing boats were the most common boat type in use on the lake (43%). ODFW stocks the reservoir with fingerling and catchable rainbow

Table 3.3-3: Location of primary residence of visitors to Henry Hagg Lake.

Location of Primary Residence	Percent
Hillsboro	23%
Beaverton	21%
Portland	19%
Forest Grove	12%
Other communities	25%
Total	100%

Source: Titre and Ballard 1999

trout. The reservoir is also home to large and small mouth bass, yellow perch, and bullhead, which have established self-reproducing populations. As noted in Table 3.3-4, other popular activities include picnicking, boating, and a variety of other activities. While nearly half of the park users participate in fishing, this wide range of numbers indicates that the park provides numerous outdoor recreation opportunities.

In addition to indicating the types of recreation activities they participated in, respondents were also asked if they had any favorite locations at Henry Hagg Lake. Almost two-thirds (66%) of users indicated that they had a favorite place. As shown in Table 3.3-5, the most frequently mentioned favorite place was C-ramp, followed by Sain Creek Picnic Area, Elks Picnic Area, the dam, and various other locations. "Good fishing" was the reason most often indicated when respondents were asked why a certain area was a favorite place. This large number of favorite places indicates that the park provides numerous facilities with a wide variety of recreation experiences and opportunities.

Respondents were asked to list changes and improvements they would like to see at Henry Hagg Lake. Desired changes included adding camping, improvement of fishing (especially higher limits), and increasing boating restrictions. Many of the respondents indicated a desire for no changes. Overall, most of the desired changes were related to management

issues rather than facility-related (see Table 3.3-6). This suggests that most visitors are satisfied with the number and quality of existing facilities. As shown in Table 3.3-7, when asked what specific facilities should be added, camping was mentioned most by respondents, followed by none, restrooms and drinking fountains, fishing docks, and a variety of other facilities. The fact that a significant number of respondents indicated that they desired no new facilities suggests that many visitors are satisfied with the number and variety of existing facilities. However, nearly one-third of respondents mentioned a desire for camping facilities, indicating a strong desire for overnight use which is not currently provided at Henry Hagg Lake.

Overall, according to the 1999 survey, visitors perceive few problems with capacity and conflict in the area. Only 3% of respondents indicated a conflict or problem during their experience at the park. Those that did experience a conflict reported boating-related conflicts (45%) and discourteous people (40%) as problems. Although use has generally been increasing, it appears the vast majority of park users are not experiencing conflicts with other users. Overall, visitors who participated in the survey were satisfied with their visit to Henry Hagg Lake. These survey results suggest that park management is successfully contributing to the positive experience of visitors.

Table 3.3-4: Activities participated in at Henry Hagg Lake.

Activity	Percent participating
Fishing	47%
Picnicking	20%
Boating	13%
Biking	7%
Swimming	4%
Other	4%
Hiking	3%
Wildlife viewing	2%
Total	100%

Source: Titre and Ballard 1999

Table 3.3-5: Visitors' favorite locations at Henry Hagg Lake.

Place	Percent Indicating as a Favorite Location
C-Ramp	20%
Sain Creek Picnic Area	14%
Elks Picnic Area	12%
Dam	10%
Scoggins Creek Picnic Area	8%
A-Ramp	7%
Fishing Pier (Accessible)	6%
Trails	7%
Tanner Creek	2%
Other	14%
Total	100%

Source: Titre and Ballard 1999.

Table 3.3-6: Desired changes at Henry Hagg Lake.

Changes	Percent
Add camping	15%
Improve fishing/higher limits	15%
More boating restrictions	15%
None	14%
Better zoning, designations, reservations	10%
Clean up/general maintenance	6%
More fishing piers/docks	6%
Better patrol/enforcement	5%
Lower fees	5%
Other	9%
Total	100%

Source: Titre and Ballard 1999

Table 3.3-7: Desired new facilities at Henry Hagg Lake.

Desired New Facilities	Percent
Camping	27%
None	14%
Restrooms/drinking fountains	10%
Fishing docks	8%
Swimming areas	6%
Parking areas/roads	5%
Picnic areas	5%
Trails	5%
Nature interpretation	5%
Other	15%
Total	100%

Source: Titre and Ballard 1999

3.3.3 Park Security and Safety

Security and safety patrols are conducted by the Washington County Sheriff's Office, Oregon State Police, and park rangers. The Oregon State Marine Board provides funding for the Sheriff's Office to provide marine patrol services. Daily marine patrol is provided from Memorial Day through Labor Day and on

weekends through September. No marine patrol is provided during other periods of the recreation season. Marine patrol facilities and equipment include one patrol boat and a boat-house adjacent to the Recreation Area A West boat ramp. The Sheriff's Marine Patrol is augmented by U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 712, and a volunteer retired State Police program. The Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla maintains a booth at the park from which

they perform safety checks and generally assist the public. Their primary role is to provide education and distribute printed materials to facilitate boater safety. In addition, a bicycle patrol officer is provided by the Sheriff's Office on weekends from Memorial Day through Labor Day, and a Mounted Posse (usually three officers on horseback) is provided by volunteer officers on holiday weekends. Oregon State Police do occasional patrols through the park, largely to cite visitors for fish and wildlife violations, and also respond to call-in reports on an as-needed basis (pers. comm., C. Wayland, 2003). Additional information regarding law enforcement is provided in Section 3.3, Public Utilities and Services.

There are two full-time park rangers at Henry Hagg Lake/Scoggins Valley Park. Park rangers are authorized to cite visitors for any violation of the general rules and regulations set forth in the Washington County Code Park Ordinance (Chapter 11.08). Public use regulations are posted on 17 bulletin boards throughout the park. Common violations for which visitors receive a citation include failure to purchase/display a park pass, unauthorized parking, off-road vehicle (ORV) use (prohibited in all areas of the park), open fires, and unauthorized fishing or camping (pers. comm., R. Blake, 2002). Citations result in a penalty fee of \$48 for failure to display a park pass and \$129 for all other violations. Approximately 10 years ago, however, the park instituted a program through which visitors receiving a violation for failure to purchase/display a park pass have the option to pay for the pass before leaving the park, with a \$5 late charge. If visitors pay for the pass before leaving the park, the \$48 penalty fee is waived and the pass fee and late charge funds are maintained in the park budget rather than going to the County court system (pers. comm., Blake, 2002). This program has successfully reduced the number of violations for failure to purchase/display a park pass and has

enabled the park to recover park fees that would otherwise be lost to the County.

3.3.4 Special Events

Throughout the year, there are several special sporting events held at Henry Hagg Lake (Photos 3-12 and 3-13).



Photo 3-12. ODFW-sponsored "Free Fish Day" at Recreation Area C.

These include bicycle, swimming, and running races; triathlons; water-skiing events; and unique events like "hi-tech adventure racing." In addition, Reclamation and the Bass Anglers Sportman's Society, along with several other agencies, sponsors an annual event called Catch a Special Thrill. This event involves taking approximately 30 disabled youths out in boats to go fishing.



Photo 3-13. Learning the art of casting during Free Fish Day.

Applicants of special events may request exclusive use of the park or only of a portion of the park. No more than two applications for

exclusive use of the park are approved each year. Special events require a Special Event Application that has to be reviewed and approved by the Park Supervisor. The cost of the permit varies depending upon the number of people participating in the event and the number of required facilities. In addition, there is a \$100 processing fee for all Special Event Applications. Those events requiring additional, or special handling for traffic, crowd control, or other law enforcement services must also be approved by the Washington County Sheriff's Department. If the roads within the park are used for the event, such as for a bicycle race, then the permit also requires the approval of the Washington County Land Use and Transportation Department. For larger events, such as a triathlon, Sheriff's Reserve Officers provide event support and traffic control. Park rangers monitor each event and complete an evaluation form that is submitted to the Park Supervisor for review. For certain events, specific areas of the park may be closed to the public for the duration of the special event. If this is the case, the event organizers and park rangers provide advance notification of the closures to the public, and signage is erected at the park entrance and the affected areas.

Specific areas of Henry Hagg Lake are also available for group use for events such as reunions and large picnics. These events require an approved Group Use Application, reservation fee, and security deposit. The amount of the reservation fee and security deposit depend on the size of the group. Four areas are available for reservation: Recreation Area A West and Sain Creek for small groups, and Recreation Area C Ramp Pavilion and Sain Creek Pavilion for large groups.

3.4 Transportation and Access

The majority (76%) of visitors to Henry Hagg Lake and Scoggins Valley Park reside in the nearby communities of Forest Grove, Hills-

boro, Beaverton, and Portland and travel less than 50 miles to the park (Titre and Ballard 1999). Primary vehicle access to the park is by way of Highway 47, which junctions with Scoggins Valley Road, the main arterial of the park. Tualatin Valley Highway (Oregon Highway 8) and Sunset Highway (US 26) are feeders to Highway 47. All three highways carry heavy traffic volumes and are the primary travel routes to the park. No air, rail, bus, or shuttle services are provided to or within the park. Overall, access to the park by road, access within the park by road and trail, and current signage function quite well (pers. comm., C. Wayland, 2002).

3.4.1 Major Arterials

Scoggins Valley Road is the primary vehicular access directly to and within the park. The road enters the park from the southeast and runs along the north and east perimeter of Henry Hagg Lake. The perimeter road on the south and west shore of the reservoir is West Shore Drive, which crosses the dam and intersects with Scoggins Valley Road northeast of the dam. These two roads provide access to the park's seven recreation areas. The Scoggins Valley/West Shore road (perimeter road) is an 11-mile, 2-way, 2-lane road. It has a paved asphalt surface with 12 to 14 foot wide lanes and 6 to 8 foot wide paved shoulders. The road has no traffic lights and one stop sign at the dam close to the park entrance. The speed limit is posted at 35 mph at the park entrance and 45 mph after the dam. Approximately 10 turnouts are located along the perimeter road. The majority are located on the lakeside and provide view access. Other turnouts provide additional parking access to trailheads.

Park visitors primarily use the perimeter road, but it also supports residential traffic, utility vehicles, and logging trucks. The road gets peak usage on weekends and holidays during summer months. The results of a 1992 traffic study which evaluated level of service (LOS)

during the peak hour of an average Saturday designated Scoggins Valley Road as LOS C, which is considered acceptable (Reclamation 1994). The study also indicated that 10% of the traffic on the road consisted of heavy traffic, while 90% were passenger cars. Logging trucks did not constitute a significant volume of traffic on the weekends. A recent traffic count and studies of recreational use indicated that peak hours of usage on Scoggins Valley/West Shore Road are 7-9 a.m. and 2-3 p.m. (pers. comm., Thompson, 2001; Titre and Ballard 1999). In 2001 there were 480,186 park users, the two busiest months being May (97,347 park users) and July (95,591 park users). Due to drought conditions and low reservoir levels, the number of park users in 2001 was considerably less compared to previous years. Between 1996 and 2000, the park accommodated between 600,000 and 700,000 visitors a year (pers. comm., C. Wayland, 2002).

The perimeter road is a County Road maintained by the Washington County Department of Land Use and Transportation (DLUT). The perimeter road has been evaluated and is up to standard with regard to design, safety, and capacity. Unstable underlying soils is the biggest maintenance issue on the road, and there are ongoing maintenance efforts to correct this problem (pers. comm., C. Wayland, 2001). Other maintenance and operations issues with the perimeter road include collision and vandalism of road signs and some instances of speeding (pers. comm., Thompson, 2001).

The Washington County Sheriff's response to roads surrounding the park in 2001 was primarily related to motor vehicle accidents (pers. comm., Julian, 2002).

3.4.2 Local Roads

In addition to the main perimeter road, approximately 20 local roads exist within the boundaries of the park. WACO maintains eight access roads, all of which junction with

the perimeter road. These include Tanner Creek, Stepien, Sain Creek, Lee, Herr, Nelson, Scott Hill, and Hankins roads. All roads are 18 to 22 feet wide, and most have stop signs at their junction with the perimeter road. Logging trucks use Tanner Creek, Stepien, Sain Creek, and Lee roads. Herr Nelson, Scott Hill, and Hankins roads primarily serve residential vehicles.

The remaining local roads are owned by Reclamation and are maintained by WACO. These roads consist of 12 to 14 foot wide single-lane gravel roads and generally do not have stop signs at their junction with the perimeter road. While these roads are intended for fire access, 44 easements provide more than 300 people access to their homes and properties (Washington County 1992).

3.4.3 Parking

The park has designated parking areas at each of the seven recreation areas around the reservoir. In addition, there is some parking availability along the perimeter road. Parking facilities are adequate except for approximately 10 days out of each summer season when the lots become full and people have to park on the perimeter road (pers. comm., C. Wayland, 2002). In a recent study of park users, 15.9% of respondents rated parking facilities as "excellent," 61.5% as "good," 17.3% as "fair," 2.5% as "poor," and 2.8% had no opinion (Titre and Ballard 1999).

3.4.4 Trails

A 10.5-mile multi-use trail runs along the reservoir on the shoulder of the perimeter road. The 6 to 8 foot wide paved lanes are located on both sides of the road and are used by bicyclists and joggers. The lanes also provide additional parking, particularly for anglers in the Sain Creek area. There have not been significant conflicts or safety issues presented by the multi-purpose function of the trail (pers. comm., C. Wayland, 2001).

A 15-mile “Master Trail” generally runs along the reservoir between the shoreline and the perimeter road (Photos 3-14 and 3-15).



Photo 3-14. The “Master Trail” located adjacent to the reservoir.

Hikers, joggers, and bikers use the 5-foot wide dirt trail, with gravel in places where the incline exceeds 8%. Twenty-eight footbridges span ravines and waterways along the trail. The Master Trail and the multi-purpose trail on the perimeter road also support special use events including running races, bicycle races, triathlons, and biathlons. Several smaller trails provide access from the perimeter road to the Master Trail. In addition, hikers have forged several unofficial trails on their own accord. For the most part, this system of unofficial trails has stabilized and no new undesirable footpaths have recently been created (pers. comm., C. Wayland, 2002).

The Master Trail and the multi-purpose trail are generally in good condition (pers. comm., C. Wayland, 2001). The only complaints regarding the paved multi-use trail along the perimeter road have been from cyclists who want the lane swept more often to clear away bark, which falls from logging trucks onto the shoulder. The Master Trail is also in good condition, as there have been ongoing improvements to address erosion issues (pers. comm., C. Wayland, 2001). In a recent study



Photo 3-15. A portion of the Master Trail that runs through trees and over a creek.

of park users, 17.6% of respondents rated trails as “excellent,” 35.2% as “good,” 8.9% as “fair,” 0.3% as “poor,” and 38% had no opinion (Titre and Ballard 1999).

3.4.5 Reservoir/Boat Access

Access to the reservoir for activities such as boating, picnicking, and fishing is provided in seven areas: two recreation areas with boat ramps and picnic facilities (Recreation Area A West and Recreation Area C), three picnic areas (Scoggins Creek, Sain Creek, and Elks), the Recreation Area C Extension (Cove) Area, and the currently closed Recreation Area A East. Anglers access the reservoir at Elks Picnic Area, Sain Creek, and Recreation Area C. Boat access is provided by two boat ramps at Recreation Areas A West and C. These ramps have concrete surfaces, and the adjacent parking lot has a hard paved surface. The Recreation Area A West Boat Ramp usually fills up by 11 a.m. on weekends while the Recreation Area C Boat Ramp only fills up about six

times a year. These boat launch facilities are adequate, and expanding boat launch facilities may overtax the capacity of the reservoir (pers. comm., C. Wayland, 2001). However, the current system, which relies on a series of cables and anchors to raise and lower docks to adjust for fluctuations in reservoir level, is labor intensive to operate and expensive to maintain. A new system using pilings and sliding dock sleeves is expensive but easier to operate and less expensive to maintain (pers. comm., C. Wayland, 2001).

3.4.6 Accessibility

The Park won the U. S. Department of the Interior's Conservation Service Award for its development of accessible facilities. The Park continues to strive for 100% accessibility on all new and existing facilities. These facilities include:

- A 520-foot hiking and viewing trail by the Recreation Area A West Boat Ramp;
- A 260 foot by 10 foot accessible fishing pier by the Recreation Area C Boat Ramp (Photo 3-16);
- Uniform accessibility throughout the park including accessible parking, picnic areas, shelters, garbage cans, water fountains, public phones, and associated access routes.



Photo 3-16. The fishing pier is accessible to all visitors.

