

Farragut State Park

Introduction: It could be said that Farragut State Park has it all. It has outstanding scenery, a great history, an abundance of recreational facilities, and a diversity of recreational activities to participate in. It sets on the shores of Lake Pend Oreille, Idaho's largest lake. It occupies an area that was once the world's second largest naval training station. The activities that can be enjoyed here include: picnicking, swimming, playing horseshoes, boating, hiking, camping, disc golf, zip lining, horseback riding, history study, and nature study.

The setting of Farragut State Park is one of rolling fields fringed by stands of lush forest at the edge of a beautiful lake surrounded by scenic mountains. The park probably has more diverse scenery in a single place than any other state park. Large mammals abound in and around the park like mountain goats, elk, moose, and white-tailed deer. One of Farragut's most impressive assets is its 16,000 feet of shoreline along Lake Pend Oreille. The park is also one of the most developed with campgrounds, day use areas, group camps, a visitor center, a museum, and scenic roadways.

The park is adjacent to Farragut Wildlife Management Area and Kaniksu National Forest. One of the visitor centers is the Museum of the Brig interpreting the Naval history of the site. The park has its own water treatment and sewage treatment systems. While it is not the largest state park in total area, it is clearly the number one state park for total amount of recreation facilities, camping visitation, and road and trail systems. Farragut is primarily a camping and group use park, but there are numerous picnic tables that are available for individual day users.

The park is unique in that it is both a state park and a wildlife management area. A formal agreement between with the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation (IDPR) and the Idaho Department of Fish and Game provides for co-management of the property by both agencies. Wildlife management activities are the responsibility of the IDFG while the IDPR is primarily responsible for recreation and supervision of public use.

Getting There: Take Highway 95 to Athol, Idaho. Then take Highway 54 east for about 4 miles to the entrance to the state park. The visitor center and registration office will be on the right side of the highway.

Major Features:

The Landscape: The northernmost panhandle region of Idaho is different than most areas of the Rocky Mountains. Its most dominating features are large lakes such as Lake Pend Oreille, Priest Lake and Lake Coeur d'Alene Lake. Lake Pend Oreille is the largest and deepest at 1,158-foot deep, Dozens of smaller lakes dot the surrounding valleys, hills and mountains. The mountains, though appearing to be high, rise only to maximum elevations of 7,000 feet. The varied landscape is carpeted with lush forests that are home to a broad array of plants and animals. Although the area of Farragut State Park is more-or-less flat terrain, it is surrounded by the scenery of very large mountains rising 3,000 to 4,000 high from the shorelines of the lake.

Prior to the construction of the Farragut Naval Station, the land where the state park would be was a rough rolling plain, virtually non-arable because of thick deposits of boulders of gravel. This rough landscape was the remnant of the great floods that came through here from the release of the ice dam on glacial Lake Missoula. Many homesteaders came and made attempts to

Kaniksu National Forest

The Priest River Forest Reserve was proclaimed by President Grover Cleveland on February 22, 1897. It was first administered by the U.S. General Land Office who began to sequester it from the public land entry laws. President Theodore Roosevelt then proclaimed it as Kaniksu National Forest on July 1, 1908. The name Kaniksu is from a Kalispel Indian word which means "black robe." It was used to refer to the Jesuit missionaries who brought their faith to North Idaho and Eastern Washington. It is one of three forests that are aggregated into the Idaho Panhandle National Forests, along with the Coeur d'Alene National Forest and St. Joe National Forest. Kaniksu National Forest has a total area of 1,627,833 acres. Because it was established so early in history it ultimately put into permanent public ownership about 50 miles or 50% of the total shoreline of Lake Pend Oreille. These public lands are mainly on the west and east shores of the lake. Most of the north shore of the lake had already passed into private hands by the time the forest reserve was established. The Bernard Peak/Scout Trail starts in Farragut State Park and continues onto the National Forest lands where it climbs to the top of Bernard Peak.

establish agriculture on the land and removed some of the forest cover in the process. Then came the lumber companies who removed a great deal of trees. Then in 1910 fires spread east from Athol and the entire point of land that is now Farragut State Park burned. Three decades later the landscape was once again altered by the construction and development of the Naval Training Station. So it could be said that the landscape of the park has been severely affected by the human imprint. Yet it now represents a great story of successful environmental restoration in its evolution towards become a state park for all to enjoy.

The Lake: Lake Pend Oreille is Idaho's largest lake. It is the fourth deepest lake in the Pacific Northwest. It sits at an average elevation of 2,050 feet. It is 43 miles long and 6 miles wide at its greatest girth. It is about 1,150 feet deep. It is the fifth deepest lake in the nation. It is 148 square miles in size. It has 111 miles of shoreline. It is fed by the Clark Fork River and drained by the Pend Oreille River. It is surrounded by national forests and small towns. The lake basin was formed about 100,000 years ago by glaciers and volcanic activity. Then approximately 12,000 years ago, out wash from the glacial Lake Missoula floods re-sculpted the shape of the lake and shoreline.

The Park: Farragut State Park consists of 3,929 acres. It is situated at an elevation of

2,054 feet and includes 16,000 feet of shoreline on Lake Pend Oreille. It gets 415,024 day use visitors each year and 92,338 camping visitors for a total of 507,362. When the park is full to capacity it can have a temporary population of about 5,000 people. It is the 3rd most popular park in the Idaho State Park System. A 2018 BSU Study determined that the economic impact of this park is \$12,814,000. The park has 38 miles of paved road, 3 miles of gravel road, 17 parking lots, 6 docks, and 45 miles of trails. It perhaps has more developed recreational facilities than any of the other state parks. It even has its own potable water system and its own waste water treatment system. It has 17 significant use areas described as follows:

Park Visitor Center - There is a paved parking lot here to park while registering or using the visitor center. There are improved restrooms, exhibits, and a gift shop. Several trails start near

the visitor center. The Lynx Trail is a non-motorized trail that connects all facilities on the south side of the park. The Highpoint Trail starts from the parking area just off South Road on the west end of the park. It is three miles in length and goes out to a view point of Lake Pend Oreille. The Scout/Bernard Peak Trail (USFS #37) continues on from the Highpoint Trail over private ground before continuing to Bernard Peak over Forest Service lands. The trail has a steep grade and is 8 miles one-way. The Farragut Loop Trail is a 14.5 mile loop around the exterior portions of the park, best suited to mountain bike use. The Volksmarch Trail leaves from the east side of the Visitor Center.

Waldron Campground - This campground has a paved road with paved parking spurs. There are 58 individual campsites and 11 companion campsites. These campsites have water and electric hookups. There is one improved restroom with showers and one vault toilet available. There are 2 group shelters and 3 camping cabins located here. This campground is well landscaped.

Gilmore Campground - This campground has a paved road with paved parking spurs. There are 38 individual campsites and 5 companion campsites with water and electric hookups. There are another 48 individual campsites with water, electric and sewer hook-ups. There is one improved restroom with showers and two vault toilets available. The Squirrel Cache Nature Trail is a self-guided nature/interpretive trail that covers 1.2 miles. It starts at a trailhead located between Gilmore and Waldron Campgrounds along the South Road.

Buttonhook Group Camps - There are four separate group camps here, Larch, Ocean Spray, Morel, and Saw-Whet, that are designed for tent camping. Only one RV camper is allowed for each site. There are two vault toilets, 20 picnic tables, and 12 fire rings. There is parking for eight vehicles at each site. On the shoreline below these camps are some mooring docks on Buttonhook Bay.

Beaver Bay Day Use Area - This area has a large paved parking lot and improved restrooms with showers and changing areas. It provides access to the park's only swimming beach. There is a Beaver Bay Shoreline Trail that goes east from the Beaver Bay Beach parking lot and makes a 4 mile round trip. The upper section is a wide trail with views of the lake and access to Whitetail Campground, the lower section follows the shoreline and is winding and narrow.

Camp Ward - This area offers place for self-contained RVs to park for overnight stays. Other than parking, there are no amenities provided. Just east of Camp Ward along the South Road is the Bennion Historical Trail. It is a 200 yard trail that is ADA accessible and goes along the western side of the Bennion training camp. A number of historical information signs have been placed along the route.

The Brig Museum - This area has the Museum at the Brig that is a living, ever-expanding memorial to all those who served. Within its walls lie the stories of the Farragut Naval Training Station from its very conception and construction, "boot" training, advanced training, hospital services, WAVES support and POW camp. Since Farragut State Park has hosted several Boy Scout and Girl Scout national gatherings, there is a section of the museum devoted to scouting

memorabilia. The museum has numerous exhibits, artifacts, and even a few restored vehicles from the Navy days at the park. There is also a small gift shop. There is a paved parking lot and improved restrooms. There is a Memorial Plaza in front of the museum that contains artwork that is representative of the recruits that trained at Farragut. The centerpiece is a bronze bust of a U.S. sailor.

Whitetail Campground - This campground has a paved road, but the parking spurs are gravel. There are 55 individual campsites and 6 companion campsites. These campsites do not have RV hookups. There is one improved restroom with showers available.

Eagle Boat Launch Area - This area has 2 paved parking lots that can accommodate vehicles with boat trailers attached. There is one improved restroom and one vault toilet. The boat ramp has 4 lanes with 3 courtesy docks.

Snowberry Campground - This campground has a paved road. There are 44 individual campsites all with water and electric hookups. There is one improved restroom with showers available.

Sunrise-Willow Day Use Area - This area has a large partially paved parking lot, 3 vault toilets, and 2 group shelters. There are 7 camping cabins nearby. There are 5 picnic tables with grills available for individual families. The Willow-Lakeview Trail is a loop route that goes east from the Willow Picnic Area down and along the shoreline for about 1 mile.

Locust Grove Disc Golf Area - This area has a gravel parking lot with one vault toilet.

Locust Grove Group Camp Area - This area has two parking lots with one improved restroom. There is one group shelter and a fire pit here. There is also a commercially operated “Tree to Tree” zip line adventure here.

Tower Event and Corral Equestrian Area - This area has a horse arena with a large gravel parking lot. There is a “campground loop” with corrals. There is one group shelter and two vault toilets. The Buggy Trail is a 10 mile double track loop trail. It is primarily intended for equestrian use. There are many other trails that intersect with it.

Thimbleberry Group Camp - This area has a large gravel lot where camping vehicles can “circle-up” for camping. There is one improved restroom and one vault toilet. There is also a fire-place and fire pit available. This group camp has a capacity for 250 persons.

Scott Group Area - This is the park’s largest group area. This area has a paved access road, two paved parking lots, one very large group shelter for 150 persons and 3 vault toilets. It is also nicely landscaped. With a special permit, this camp can accommodate up to 2,000 persons.

Shooting Range - The shooting range is cooperatively managed with the IDFG. There are parking lots, ranges, and one vault toilet available. There is an extra \$5.00 fee to use this area.

Geology: Northern Idaho has a rich geologic history, the incomplete record of which extends from 2.6 billion years ago to the present. The oldest known rocks, exposed near Priest River, Idaho, originated as sedimentary layers deposited in an ancient ocean. About 2.6 billion years ago, these deposits were intruded by granitic magmas and at some later point metamorphosed to form metasedimentary gneisses. The details of the subsequent billion years of geologic time are sketchy, but included granite magmatism west of present-day LaClede about 1.57 billion years ago. The geologic record improves dramatically at 1.47 billion years when widespread deposition of the Belt Supergroup began, continued for at least 70 million years, and produced a tremendous thickness of sedimentary rock that contains remarkably well-preserved mudcracks, ripple marks, and algal mats. Shortly after this in the Middle Cambrian, about 510 million years ago, sediments containing trilobites were laid down. Remnants of the Cambrian strata are preserved in down-faulted blocks near the southern part of Lake Pend Oreille.

Mountain building began in the Cretaceous (about 140 million years ago) as the entire region underwent compression. Rocks in the west were thrust up and over rocks to the east thickening the crust. Strata low in the geologic column were buried to great depths and metamorphosed. Erosion was extensive, and sediments were shed eastward into central Montana off the uplifted land mass. Granitic magmas intruded into the middle and upper parts of the earth's crust and cooled slowly, forming batholiths. The youngest bedrock in the area is the Miocene Columbia River Basalt Group, which flowed north toward Sandpoint about 16 million years ago. Basalt flows exposed just north of Athol are the Priest Rapids Member of the Wanapum Formation.

Lake Pend Oreille is the largest lake in Idaho and is located about 50 miles south of the British Columbia border in the Purcell Trench. The lake level is 2062 feet above sea level, with the surrounding terrain as high as 6002 feet. The maximum depth of the lake is an impressive 1,150 feet. The location of the lake is probably related to an old river valley controlled by faults. The Lake Pend Oreille basin was carved repeatedly by a lobe of Pleistocene ice, scoured by ice age floods and filled with glacial outwash and flood deposits. The lake is dammed at the south end by thick glacial and flood deposits underlying Farragut State Park.

During the most recent episode of glacial advance, between 13,000 to 18,000 years ago, the Purcell lobe of the Cordilleran ice sheet moved into the Idaho Panhandle to the area that is now occupied by Lake Pend Oreille. This ice sheet would ultimately cover nearly all of Lake Pend Oreille, blocking the Clark Fork River drainage and causing glacial Lake Missoula to form. As its largest, the lake was deeper than 2,000 feet at the dam and held over 500 cubic miles of water - as much as Lake Erie and Lake Ontario combined. The ice dam, however, was subject to repeated failure. The rising water behind the glacial dam weakened it until water burst through in a catastrophic flood that raced across Idaho, Oregon, and Washington toward the Pacific Ocean. These type of events are called "Jökulhlaup." This word originates from the Icelandic language.

When the ice dam broke, a towering mass of water and ice was released, rushing out near the southern end of Lake Pend Oreille. The water swept across the Rathdrum Prairie of Idaho, across Spokane, Washington, and then made its way down toward Oregon, following the Columbia River Gorge on its way to the ocean. The peak rate of flow was ten times the combined flow of all the rivers of the world. The huge lake may have emptied in as little as two or three days. The mountains around Lake Pend Oreille served as the banks for the flood waters guiding them south. The force and speed of the floods was great enough to move boulders the size of automobiles. Over a period of years, the glacier would advance, once again blocking the river, causing the dam and lake to form again. This process was repeated dozens of times, until the ice

sheet ceased its advance and receded to the north at the end of the last Ice Age.

During the last Ice Age, which ended about 11,000 years ago, a giant ice sheet finger pushed south from Canada, creating an unusual yet inviting countryside. As the glacier retreated northward, it left a rich and diverse legacy of lakes, spectacular peaks and flood plains within a 45-mile by 130-mile zone.

Ecosystems and Plant Communities: The park includes four ecosystems: two types of forest (Grand fir/queen's cup, Douglas Fir/ninebark), lake, meadow/grassland, and riparian.

Forest: The Grand fir/queen's cup forest makes up about 52% of the forest ecosystem in the park. The Grand fir /queen's cup forest is one of the most important habitat types that have western white pine in northern Idaho and eastern Washington. Consequently, Farragut provides a superior environment for restoration of this lost ecosystem as well as providing a unique opportunity to educate the public about its plight. The grand fir/queen's cup forest is broadly distributed throughout northern Idaho. This forest type primarily occupies an elevation range of 2,200 to 5,350 feet. It occurs on warm exposures, drained sites, benches, stream terraces, toe-slope to mid-slope positions, low to moderate slopes, and all but northerly aspects. Douglas-fir and grand fir are the dominant species.

The Douglas fir forest/ninebark forest makes up about 48% of the forest ecosystem in the park. The Douglas-fir/ninebark habitat type is the most widely occurring Douglas-fir habitat type in northern Idaho. The ninebark phase represents dry and warm sites. Ponderosa pine is the major seral species while western larch sometimes occurs as an accidental. Douglas-fir is a climax species within the phase. This habitat type has a frequent fire regime, which maintains ponderosa pine as the dominant species. Ponderosa pine and western larch are well represented with numerous large trees. Douglas-fir and grand fir are also present and increasing in abundance due to the absence of naturally occurring fire.

The more common plants in the park's forests include: western larch, western white pine, ponderosa pine, Douglas fir, grand fir, lodgepole pine, western red cedar, western hemlock, Engelmann spruce, poplar, aspen, paper birch, Rocky Mountain maple, Kinnikinnick, syringa, ninebark, chokecherry, wild rose, and thimbleberry.

Grand fir is the keynote species. The grand fir (*Abies grandis*) is also known as giant fir, lowland white fir, great silver fir, western white fir, Vancouver fir, or Oregon fir. It is a fir native to the Pacific Northwest and Northern California of North America, occurring at altitudes of sea level to 5,900 feet. It is a major constituent of the Grand Fir/Douglas Fir Ecoregion of the Cascade Range. The tree may be the tallest *Abies* species in the world. There are two varieties, the taller coast grand fir, found west of the Cascade Mountains, and the shorter interior grand fir, found east of the Cascades.

The grand fir is a large evergreen coniferous tree growing to 130 to 230 feet (exceptionally 320 feet) tall and with a trunk diameter of up to 6 feet. The leaves are needle-like, flattened, glossy dark green above, and with two green-white bands of stomata below, and slightly notched at the tip. The leaf arrangement is spiral on the shoot, but with each leaf variably twisted at the base so they all lie in two more-or-less flat ranks on either side of the shoot. On the lower leaf surface, two green-white bands of stomata are prominent. The base of each leaf is twisted a variable amount so that the leaves are nearly coplanar. Different length leaves, but all lined up in a flat plane, is a useful way to quickly distinguish this species. As it is a true fir, its cones stand upright on the branches. The cones are 2 to 4 inches long. The winged seeds are

released when the cones disintegrate at maturity about 6 months after pollination. The interior grand fir is the variety in northern Idaho and even has a scientific name, *Abies grandis* var. *idahoensis*, that memorializes its Idaho connection. The interior grand fir occupies elevations of 2900 to 5900 feet, on the east slope of the Cascades in Washington and northern Oregon and in the Rocky Mountains from southeast British Columbia south to central Idaho, northeast Oregon and western Montana. It is smaller than coastal variety only reaching 130 to 145 feet tall. The foliage is not as strongly flattened on all shoots, the leaves often raised above the shoot, particularly on upper crown shoots. The cones are slightly stouter with thicker, slightly woody scales. It tolerates winter temperatures down to about -40 °C.

The Lake: The most prominent features at Farragut State Park is most certainly the great Idaho “natural” wonder called Lake Pend Oreille. Lake Pend Oreille encompasses 94,600 surface acres at full pool and is one of the largest and deepest natural lakes in the western United States. The lake is fed primarily by the Clark Fork River which enters the eastern end of the lake. The lake is also the source of the Pend Oreille River which flows out of the northwestern end of the lake at Sandpoint. Lake Pend Oreille lies in the Purcell Trench, a deep glacially carved, u-shaped valley separating the Selkirk Mountains on the northwest, the Cabinet Mountains on the north and east, and the Coeur d’Alene Mountains on the south. Much of the lake’s shoreline is steep rock cliffs. The remainder of the lake’s perimeter is a combination of shifting river deltas, floodplains, and relict glacial deposits. The Pend Oreille River at Albeni Falls Dam drains a watershed of 24,200 square miles that extends east to the continental divide at Butte, Montana and supplies an average stream flow of 25,930 cubic feet per second.

Prior to the settlement era, Lake Pend Oreille was a crystal clear “alpine like” lake. Human use in and around the lake has not been favorable to maintaining it in a natural state. After the war, in January 1951, the US Army Corps of Engineers dammed the lake at a natural falls site, Albeni Falls, on the Pend Oreille River. The lake was enlarged as a result, and the dam helped maintain water levels. The top 11.5 feet of the lake is used as a reservoir and can be manipulated with certain restrictions for power generation, recreation, fish and wildlife needs, and flood control. The dam stabilized and maintained the summer pool elevation at a higher level and for a longer time period than the natural hydrology of the system. Areas that were historically flooded for a short period were inundated during the growing season. The higher summer pool inhibited most plant growth and converted these areas from wetlands to seasonally exposed mud flats. Prior to the construction of Albeni Falls Dam, Lake Pend Oreille fluctuated naturally. Each spring runoff from the large watershed raised the level of the lake an average of 12 feet, normally peaking in May. By late summer, the lake would recede to its normal level and remain there for approximately eight months. Low lying areas adjacent to the lake and Pend Oreille River were seasonally flooded and supported a diverse array of vegetation and associated wildlife.

Typical aquatic vegetation includes pondweed, waterweed, and chara. The abundance of aquatic macrophytes is limited to areas below the winter drawdown zone due to deep inundation during the growing season followed by exposure to freezing and desiccation during winter. Further, Lake Pend Oreille is infested with Eurasian milfoil, curly-leaf pondweed, and flowering rush. There is an infestation of Asian clams in Ellisport Bay which has potential to expand or be transported via boat to another part of the lake.

Native game fish in Lake Pend Oreille include westslope cutthroat, bull trout, mountain whitefish, and pygmy whitefish. However, nine other game fish species have been introduced - Gerrard rainbow, kokanee salmon, Lake Superior whitefish, brown trout, lake trout, black

crappie, yellow perch, walleye, largemouth bass, and smallmouth bass. The introduction of these species has changed the ecology of the lake. This is especially true for the lake trout which have become a burden and threat to kokanee and bull trout. Since 2006, IDFG has worked to manage and suppress lake trout, which threatened to collapse the kokanee population. The IDFG has recently began offering a bounty for walleye as well. Walleyes are voracious predators, and in Lake Pend Oreille they feed primarily on kokanee in the deeper parts of the lake and yellow perch in the shallower areas. IDFG is concerned that walleye numbers may continue to increase to the point where they cause excessive predation on kokanee and compete with or reduce abundance of highly-valued sport fish species, such as rainbow trout and bass, as well as native bull trout and cutthroat trout.

Like Lake Couer d'Alene, Lake Pend Oreille is also dealing with long term threats due to pollution. Wastewater treatment plants and sewer districts often discharge to surface waters. Lake Pend Oreille is already documented as being impaired due to an excessive amount of nutrients. Source pollution, such as municipal dischargers, are part of the issue. But unlike what has happened to Lake Coeur d'Alene, Lake Pend Oreille has not been subject to a long history of toxic mine wastes being discharged into the lake.

Meadow/grassland: Farragut State Park may have had at one time naturally occurring meadows and grasslands. But the park's vegetation cover has been completely altered by early homesteading practices, timber cutting and, most of all, the altering of the landscape to build the Naval Training Station. In fact, when looking at the park from a satellite view the clearings in the forest cover that represent the current meadow/grasslands correspond exactly to the locations of the "camps" that were constructed for the Naval Training Station. The plants present in these meadow/grasslands include :trillium, queen's cup, spring beauty, goldenrod, yarrow, arrowleaf balsamroot, Indian paintbrush, Columbia brome, Idaho fescue, rough fescue, and bulbous bluegrass..

Riparian: The riparian ecosystem is along the edges of the lakeshore. However as outlined above, the lakeshore is not natural due to artificial fluctuations in lake levels. There is also a small intermittent stream at the head of Buttonhook Bay that also supports this ecosystem. The typical species found here include black cottonwood, aspen, alder, birch, pink spirea, willow, and red-osier dogwood. Common grasses include reed canary grass and red top. Emergent plant species primarily include cattail, bulrush species, woolgrass, spikerush, and elk sedge.

Wildlife:

Mammals: The mammals present in the park include: whitetail deer, mountain goat, elk, moose, black bear, coyotes, bobcat, mountain lion, coyote, weasel, Columbia ground squirrel, pine squirrel, chipmunk, badger, porcupine, and striped skunk.

Birds: The birds present in the park include: common loon, pied-billed grebe, great blue heron, Canada goose, mallard, hooded merganser, mountain and western bluebirds, osprey, great horned owl, bald eagle, American kestrel, red-tailed hawk, Cooper's hawk, turkey vulture, common raven, ruffed grouse, wild turkey, common nighthawk, belted kingfisher, northern Flicker, pileated woodpecker, cliff swallow, Steller's jay, Clark's nutcracker, black-capped chickadee, nuthatch, western tanager, and dark-eyed junco.

The western blue bird is the keynote species. The western bluebird (*Sialia mexicana*) is a small thrush, about 5.9 to 7.1 inches in length. Adult males are bright blue on top and on the throat with an orange breast and sides, a brownish patch on back, and a gray belly and undertail coverts. Adult females have a duller blue body, wings, and tail than the male, a gray throat, a dull orange breast, and a gray belly and undertail coverts. Immature western bluebirds have duller colors than the adults, they also have spots on their chest and back. They are sometimes confused with mountain bluebirds, but they can be distinguished without difficulty. The western bluebird has a blue (male) or gray (female) throat, the mountain bluebird lacks orange color anywhere on its body. Its posture consists of perching upright on wire fences and high perches. The western bluebird pounces on the ground when looking for food, such as worms and berries. It also flies to catch aerial prey, like insects, when available. The western bluebird has been chased out of its natural habitat due to the cutting down of trees; however the western bluebird has adapted to coniferous forests, farmlands and semi-open terrain. The summer breeding range extends as far north as the Pacific Northwest, British Columbia, and Montana. Northern birds can migrate to the southern parts of the range; southern birds are often permanent residents. They nest in cavities or in nest boxes, competing with tree swallows, house sparrows, and European starlings for natural nesting locations. Farragut State Park has set aside a "habitat place" for bluebirds in the western part of the park.

Reptiles and Amphibians: The reptiles and amphibians in the park include: garter snake, western skink, alligator lizard, and western toad.

Fish: The fish present in the park include: westslope cutthroat, bull trout, mountain whitefish, pygmy whitefish, Gerrard rainbow trout, kokanee salmon, Lake Superior whitefish, brown trout, lake trout, black crappie, yellow perch, walleye, largemouth bass, and smallmouth bass.

Cultural History: Evidence such as ancient rock art and rare finds of arrowheads in the area suggest that Native Americans lived in the Lake Pend Oreille area as early as 7,000 years ago. This area was important hunting and fishing ground for the Kalispel Indians. Here they hunted deer, caribou and snowshoe hare. While fishing, the Kalispels glided across lakes in "sturgeon-nosed" canoes made of cedar frames and white pine bark.

During the mid to late 19th century, the Kalispel Tribe of Indians worked to preserve its culture and life in the midst of increasing white settlement in the area. Roman Catholic priests began working with the Tribe in 1844. In 1855, the Upper Kalispel Tribe ceded its lands and moved to the Jocko Reservation in Montana at the request of the U.S. Government. The Lower Kalispel Tribe, ancestors of today's Kalispel members, refused to give up ancestral lands and continued to work toward an agreement that would allow the Tribe to remain on its homeland.

During the late 1800s, while most other tribes were going through the process of having reservations established, the Kalispel Tribe of Indians had almost no relationship with the federal government. Congress did propose a treaty in 1872, but the terms were poor and the Tribe refused to sign it. By 1874, Congress had stopped establishing treaties with tribes altogether, leaving the Kalispel Tribe with no legal protection.

By 1875, the Tribal population had shrunk to only 395 people. From 1880 to 1910, as more white settlers moved into Kalispel territory, the Tribe witnessed its land disappearing, but could do nothing to prevent it. Many of the white settlers filed claims under the Homestead Act in order to "legally" obtain land which was rightfully home for much of the Tribe. This time

period also introduced the widespread use of alcohol, which many consider to be a fundamental source of the breakdown of the family unit.

For generations, Kalispel members remained trapped in a subsistence lifestyle. In 1965 only a couple of homes on the reservation had running water and there was only one telephone for the whole Tribe. The average annual income for a Tribal member was approximately \$1,400. The Kalispel Tribe of Indians has faced several challenges associated with life in remote rural areas such as unemployment, inadequate housing, limited economic opportunities and prejudice. With most of the land on the reservation unsuitable for development, the Tribe has had to develop innovative ways to create opportunity for Tribal members. A Kalispel Indian Reservation was established along the banks of the Pend Oreille River near Cusick, Washington in 1914.

History: Between 1808 and 1812, North West Company fur agent and surveyor David Thompson traveled through the area as he established the first circle of trade houses in what his company called “The Columbia District.” Thompson’s distinctive maps clearly show that the trails Kootenai and Salish people showed him follow geologic features across the landscape. In spring 1808, Thompson and his crew canoed down the Kootenai River to an encampment near modern Bonners Ferry. From there Kootenai people led him north to Kootenay Lake, following the path of the Purcell Lobe as it retreated in the last ice age. Although the trader wanted to push south to Lake Pend Oreille, his guides told him that spring flooding had rendered the trail impassable.

In September 1809, David Thompson and a voyageur named Joseph Beaulieu, guided by “a Kullyspel lad,” rode horses around the north end of Lake Pend Oreille to the river. Thompson described a “sandy point” near City Beach at modern Sandpoint, then continued to the outlet of the river near Dover. He established his Kullyspel House at the Clark Fork Delta, which during the Pleistocene would have been beneath the ice dam that backed up Lake Missoula. Thompson wintered in Saleesh House, about 70 miles upstream on the Clark Fork at the modern town of Thompson Falls, Montana. When Thompson canoed across the lake in a Kalispel canoe in April 1810, Thompson put up at the “point of Sand.” When he canoed the route again in June 1811, he set a course by “the Rock below the Sandy Point”. The rock feature is now known as Tank Hill and is composed of granitic bedrock scoured by ice age glaciation and floods. Also in spring 1810, he dispatched clerk Jaco Finlay to build Spokane House, a full hundred miles across a divide and downstream on the Spokane River.

Over the winter of 1811-12, Thompson visited Flathead Lake and the area around Missoula Montana. On his maps, mountains rendered with the “caterpillar” method of the time define the outline of glacial Lake Missoula above the Clark Fork, Flathead, and Bitterroot Rivers. The tribal trail he called the “Skeetshoo Road” leading from Kullyspel to Spokane House follows ice age flood channels across Rathdrum Prairie between the Pend Oreille and Spokane drainages. It would be a French Canadian fur trader in Thompson’s party that likely gave the lake its name. The words “Pend Oreille” are French for “an ear hanging pendent.” The lake is shaped much like a human ear.

Miners were the impetus for rapid growth in the area of Farragut State Park starting in the 1860s. The primary trade route between Portland and the gold fields around what is now Helena ran through early Bayview and surrounding lands. Some miners got off the train on the north end of the lake, where they trekked up into the Canadian gold fields. Paddlewheel steamboats pushed up the Columbia River through the rapids to Wallula, Wash. From there, pack trains and rugged

wagons trekked to Spokane, where they climbed the daunting grade up from what is the Hangman Creek Valley, to the present level of Spokane proper. From there, pioneers went overland again to what was called Pen d'Oreille City

Pen d'Oreille City was just one bay over and about two miles from what is now Bayview. In 1865, Pen d'Oreille City was one of the earliest settlements in the Idaho panhandle. Established on the northwestern edge of Buttonhook Bay, the community quickly grew to include a hotel, general store, pool hall, and five houses. It boasted a population of 25. The community served as an overnight stop for freighters on Lake Pend Oreille.

Zenas Ferry Moody was born on May 27, 1832 in Granby, Massachusetts. In 1851 he and his family came to Oregon from Panama through the isthmus. There Moody ran a store in Brownsville . He was also a surveyor on behalf of the federal government. Then he returned to the East for a while. He came to Washington via Illinois and returned to Oregon in 1862. There he ran a business that supplied the gold miners with the necessary supplies. In The Dalles he then worked as a manager for the Wells Fargo Company . At that time, Moody also operated a steamship company with a license to deliver mail. Soon he became engaged in founding Pen d'Oreille City

Pen d'Oreille City served as the lake's first steamboat port. Zenas Moody, who was affiliated with the Oregon Steam and Navigation Company, had the ship *Mary Moody* built downstream on the Pend Oreille River at a place called Seneacquoteen, which is across the river from present-day Laclede. It would replace the motley assortment of canoes, flatboats and sailing vessels, as the primary carrier of mail, men and supplies to and up the Clark Fork River. The completed boat was named after his wife and became the first paddlewheeler on the lake. The *Mary Moody* was a 108-foot long steamboat and on April 30, 1886 it struck out on its maiden voyage by heading north up the lake carrying a cargo of 85 pack animals, 10,000 lbs. of freight, and 50 passengers. Her destination was the foot of the Cabinet Gorge Rapids on the Clark Fork River. There, the cargo was offloaded by a crew of workers to build a portage road around the rapids for miners and freighters to continue on their journey.

An 1867 article in *Harper's New Monthly Magazine*, described the area of Pen d'Oreille City as

The harbor nestled in a rounded bay of deep, clear water, surrounded by a forest of pines, cedars, and firs. A large tree-studded mound, protecting the harbor entrance, was already claimed by Z.F. Moody as the site of a summer cottage. This location was connected by a neck of land to the shore where the pine-built walls of Pen d'Oreille city fairly glittered in the sunshine.

The business and community of Pen d'Oreille City flourished until 1876 when Missouri merchants beefed up their fleet of drift boats traveling to Fort Benton. The competition destroyed Mr. Moody's business, and Pen d'Oreille City was soon just a fading memory.

Zenas Ferry Moody would go on to become the Governor of Oregon on September 13, 1882. After his term ended, Moody retired from politics. In the following years he became a successful wool trader in eastern Oregon. Zenas Moody died in March 1917. He was married to Mary Stephenson, with whom he had five children.

Bayview, Idaho was originally established as a logging town in 1891. Early settlers would arrive in Bayview and surrounding rural land starting at the turn of the century. It was first known as Lakeview and later Bayview.

The lands in and around the location of Farragut State Park would remain in U.S.

Government hands until November 28, 1898 when the Northern Pacific Railroad would be granted the lands in Section 3, 5 and 9 of Township 53 North, Range 2 West. The lands were then open to general settlement by individuals.

Elmer E. Haddon, wife Ozelia and one child headed west from Nebraska in 1890. Elmer Haddon filed a homestead claim shortly after their arrival in the area. An 1894 General Land Office survey plat shows his location just north of present day Bayview near where Merryweather Road intersects with Perimeter Road. Elmer E. Haddon received patent to his Homestead claim of 160 acres in Section 34 of Township 54 North, Range 2 West on January 27, 1904. This land was not among the parcels that would later make up Farragut State Park, but it was right on the edge of the Town of Bayview. Elmer and Ozelia Haddon would have 14 children. The Haddons left in 1907, but later returned to Bayview between 1920 and 1930. He died in Skagit County, Washington in 1945.

Between 1902 and 1917, 14 parcels of U.S. Government land of various sizes would be patented to individual citizens. Seven of these patents would be cash entries where there was no residency requirement so there is little evidence of their presence in the area. However, two of these persons, Walter Glen and Thomas Russell were early settlers on the land. The seven other persons made Homestead Act entries for 160 acres each. Only three of those persons, Frederick P. Russell, John B. Leiberg, and Hayes Byrum are found in early records to indicate their residency in the area.

Walter Glen most likely arrived in the area just prior to 1900. He received his patent to his homestead claim in section 4 of Township 53 North, Range 2 West on February 21, 1902. He married Mabel Josephine Hockett on September 16, 1908. In their marriage record, they were both identified as residents of Athol.

John Bernhard Leiberg was born October 7, 1853 in Malmo, Sweden. He was a Swedish botanical explorer, forester, and bryologist in the northwestern United States. Leiberg came to the United States in about 1865 and first went to the area of Mankato, Minnesota where he married Caroline (Carrie) Elizabeth Hilliker. In 1892 he spent the winter in Hamilton, Montana. Leiberg arrived in the Bayview area before 1897, eventually buying 1,500 acres between Buttonhook Bay and what is now Scenic Bay. His location is shown on a General Land Office 1897 survey plat map. This land today is where the tip of the peninsula is located where the Sunrise Day Use Area is in Farragut State Park. He and his wife and young son Bernard are found in the 1900 Census living in the Lakeview Precinct of Athol and he reported his occupation as a botanist and his wife Carrie was a physician. He had also made a Homestead claim to 160 acres in section 2 of Township 53 North, Range 2 West and was granted a patent to that land on November 15, 1904.

He spent the first part of his career as an explorer and plant collector for various flora projects mainly in Idaho, Washington, Oregon, and Nevada. Later he worked with the United States Geological Survey. With little formal education, at age 17 he had begun publishing plant collections. He supplied specimens to the New York Botanical Garden. He worked as a field botanist for Frederic Coville, curator of the US National Herbarium. He would be credited with the discovery of nine plants which are named for him.

In 1897 he was transferred to the US Geological Survey and assigned to examine the area of the 6,480 square miles Bitterroot Forest Reserve which later became National Forests in Montana and Idaho. He surveyed the Bitterroot reserve in 1897 and 1898 and wrote the 19th and 20th annual reports for the US Geological Survey describing the topography, trees and mapping locations in an area previously relatively undocumented. From 1900 to 1904 he published

descriptions of several other western forest reserves. He spent a short time in the Philippines, a US protectorate, where he was a forest inspector for the Insular Forest Service. He left government service in 1906 and briefly settled on a farm in Eugene, Oregon. He traveled the world in 1910 and died on October 28, 1913 in Eugene, Oregon. He contributed to and authored many publications including contributions to the flora of Idaho and Minnesota and many forestry related works.

There was a trail that ran from the Leiberg homestead through some daunting mountains, behind Bernard Peak past the Bunco Ranger station and to the headwaters of the Little North Fork of the Coeur d'Alene River. Bernard Peak is named for Leiberg's son Bernard.

Another significant settler family was that of Frederick Pring Russell. Frederick Russell was born on April 14, 1860 in Loose, England. He left England in about 1871 and first went to Illinois. He and his wife Louise Case were married in about 1888. They went to the Spokane, Washington area in 1898 and are found there in the 1900 census. Shortly after that he relocated to the Bayview area as their daughter Rebecca was born in Athol in 1904. He and his family were living on his Homestead claim. He was granted a patent for his 160 acre claim in section 32 of Township 54 North, Range 2 West on November 14, 1907. He and his family would be residents in Bayview in both the 1910 and 1920 census. Frederick Pring Russell died on July 19, 1936 in Bayview.

Although not a resident of Bayview, Frederick Russell's brother Thomas E. Russell made a cash purchase for land in Section 4 of Township 53 North, Range 2 West on December 1, 1904. Thomas Russell and his family lived in Coeur d'Alene.

Another homesteader in the area was Hayes Byrum. He was recorded as living in Athol when he married his wife Minnie Steward in Oakesdale, Washington on February 21, 1904. In the birth record of his son Noah in 1907, his residence was indicated as 6 miles east of Athol. Hayes Byrum was granted a patent to his 160 acre homestead in section 4 of Township 53 North, Range 2 West on August 24, 1908.

John Leiberg became involved in a dispute over a proposed railroad right of way that would run through his land. A lawsuit ensued and Leiberg ended up selling the right of way for the proposed railroad and the remaining bulk of the land to A.F. Blackwell. Blackwell built and operated an electric railroad between Spokane and Coeur d'Alene, owned the lumber mill in Spirit Lake and had many other ventures.

The year 1910 was the year of the "Big Burn" in Northern Idaho. It was most known for the devastating fires in the area of Wallace. Conditions were hot and dry and fires would be burning that year all over Northern Idaho. Closer to Bayview, fires spread east from Athol. The farming community of Belmont was hit and the fires moved east up the back side of Bernard Peak. The entire point of land that is now Farragut State Park burned down to Scenic Bay, but Bayview itself was spared destruction.

Three events coincided in 1910 that would jump-start developments in Bayview. The Prairie Development Company out of Spokane, platted 27 blocks of narrow lots that became the core of Bayview. At the same time, C.E. Corbin, who built the Spokane International Railroad that reached from Spokane to just past the Canadian border, built a branch line into Bayview. It was called the Coeur d'Alene and Pend Oreille Railway. With a railroad, the lime industry went into a boom period.

During World War II, the south end of the lake and the land bordering it, would be used by the United States Military to build the second largest naval training station in the world. It would be built as a result of the Japanese attacks on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. At the

time of the attack, the Navy had only three recruit training stations. By June 1942 enlistments had added 42,000 more men to the Navy which swelled its enlisted strength to 556,000. The current recruitment training stations were inadequate and the location for an additional station was to be sought.

On March 19, 1942, Captain C.D. Leffler (USN), Lt. Cmdr. R.H. Fletcher (MC) and Lt. Jg J.H. Etter USNR flew over the potential Lake Pend Oreille site to inspect its suitability. They agreed that it was the best site for the new station and it was said that Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson favored it because it would be "far from coastal bombings" that some expected to occur.

On March 28, 1942, the U.S. Government announced that the Pend Oreille site had been selected. Soon the lands comprising Farragut Naval Training Station were acquired from private owners, Kootenai County, and a railway company under terms of a Declaration of Taking. A construction contract was made on April 10, 1942 to the Walter Butler Company of St. Paul, Minnesota. The Butler Company broke ground in April and the press was told on May 21 that three of the six camps planned at the Naval Station were under construction and that the total cost was expected to be 58 million dollars which included a 4 ½ million dollar hospital. The first construction started with 22,000 men working on the vast project.

On May 30 1942, The Naval Station was named Farragut by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in honor of Admiral David Glassgow Farragut a Naval hero who served in the Union Navy during the Civil War.

Six self-contained "camps" were to be constructed. Each camp was designed to house, feed, and train some 5,000 men at a time. Each camp was laid out in the form of an oval with the huge drill field, or "grinder", in the center. Along one side was the gigantic drill hall, large enough to accommodate six basketball courts, with a swimming pool 75 feet square attached to one end. Each camp had its own mess hall, 22 double-deck barracks, two medical dispensaries, a recreation and ship's store building, indoor rifle range, regimental headquarters, chief petty officers quarters, and service buildings.

Before construction began, 2,000 men were put to work clearing the pine forest from the site. Unlike many army construction sites where everything was leveled to the ground, an attempt was made to save trees from destruction where possible to provide some shade for buildings in addition to aesthetical considerations. The trees would also provide some degree of camouflage to the area.

Construction on the station reached a peak during the fall and winter of 1942 and were carried on until the termination of the contract on March 6, 1943. Construction of the first camp known as area "C" was finished on August 2, 1942. The first contingent of naval personnel in the capacity of "Ship's Company" arrived to man the new camp on August 9. Area "C" was named Camp Bennion on September 15 in honor of Captain Mervyn S. Bennion, who was killed while serving as commanding officer of the USS West Virginia during the Pearl Harbor attack. President Franklin Roosevelt, accompanied by Idaho Governor Chase Clark made a secret personal inspection of the new Farragut Naval Training Station on September 21.

Camp Ward was commissioned on October 6, 1942 and named in honor of Seaman First Class James R. Ward who was killed in action serving aboard the USS Oklahoma during the Pearl Harbor attack.

Camp Waldron was commissioned on November 3, 1942 and named in honor of Lt. Cmdr. John Charles Waldron who was killed in action with the Torpedo Squadron 8 aboard the USS hornet at the Battle of Midway.

Camp Hill was commissioned on December 1, 1942 and named in honor of Chief

Boatswain Edwin Hill who was killed in action on board the USS Nevada during the Pearl Harbor attack.

Camp Scott was commissioned on December 19, 1942 and named in honor of Rear Admiral Norman Scott who was killed while directing action from the bridge of the USS Atlanta in the Battle of Savo Island.

Camp Peterson was commissioned on March 25, 1943 and named in honor of Chief Watertender Oscar V. Peterson who was killed in action on the USS Neosho in the Battle of the Coral Sea.

The last camp to be commissioned was Camp Gilmore. It was named in honor of Cmdr. Howard W. Gilmore who was the commanding officer of the submarine USS Growler. The USS Growler had been engaged in direct combat with a Japanese gunboat. Cmdr. Gilmore was severely wounded and died.

All of those for which the camps were named had been awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor, except John Charles Waldron who had been awarded the Distinguished Service Cross.

The IDPR has become the stewards of these places named in honor of such American heroes. Although the camps are gone, the IDPR continues to use the place names for the park's recreational facilities.

The Farragut Naval Hospital opened on January 15, 1943 and operated until the end of 1944.

In 1944, the Navy assigned 29 WAVES (Women Accepted for Voluntary Emergency Services) to the Farragut Naval Training Station. They generally served as nurses and clerical staff. A total of 600 WAVES would serve at Farragut.

Farragut also served as a place where German POWs were held. They were mostly captured in conflicts in Europe and Africa. The POWs did maintenance, landscaping, and even served as cooks at the Brig.

On March 10, 1945 Camp Waldron was the last of five camps training recruits to close its role as a boot camp. In 30 months, Farragut trained almost 300,000 sailors. The last recruit to check through the gates had arrived on December 3, 1944, and became number 293,381. The camp then relegated itself to housing enlisted transients, men serving disciplinary sentences, and a limited number of German POWs.

The Farragut Naval Training Station was officially decommissioned on June 15, 1946. After the decommissioning, a portion of the former service school area of Camp Peterson became Farragut College and Technical Institute where many servicemen received educational training under the G.I. Bill of Rights.

In 1948 use of the former Naval Station for a college was discontinued. The area was declared surplus: equipment, buildings, and land were made available through the General Services Administration. By this time most of the 776 buildings had been sold off or removed. The Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) bought parcels along the shoreline and these acquisitions led to an agreement to obtain the remaining land for use as a Wildlife Management Area.

The IDFG made a formal application on September 30, 1948, to secure the property. In February 1950, the Idaho State Legislature met in Boise for its first Extraordinary Session and approved the IDFG application with the following terms:

1. The transfer of 3,816 acres, together with all roads, all of the perimeter fence, thirteen buildings, pump house No. 8 with equipment, and the underground utilities at the married officers quarters, to the State of Idaho, without any payment or transfer of funds.

2. The purchase of 95.5 acres of land in six parcels by the IDFG for the price of \$49,985.
3. The purchase of 37.9 acres of land by the IDFG for the price of \$9,695.

The land at the site was transferred to the State of Idaho in 1949. It then was designated as the Farragut Wildlife Management Area (WMA). IDFG began restoration work on the WMA with seeding grasses and legumes on 85 acres and planting about 12,000 shrubs.

On October 1, 1952, a full time refuge manager was stationed on the area. The refuge manager's duties included maintenance of fences and other property, repair and upkeep of buildings, storage and safekeeping of salvage materials obtained from the former naval training station, planting crop production programs, shrub and plant care, planning wildlife management of the area, and general supervision of the property.

In about 1955, the IDFG built a small campground and a boat dock on Lake Pend Oreille for public recreation.

During the 1950s and 1960s, Army Reserve Units from Coeur d'Alene, Sandpoint, Wallace, and Moscow used some of their weekend drill time and summer training sessions to renovate the area. Altogether, there were about 680 building foundations razed by military dynamite and heavy equipment, with the sites reseeded with grass. By 1962, all that remained of the training station was the brig, a few foundations, and two water towers.

Park History: In 1964, the IDFG deeded 2,566 acres of the Farragut WMA back to the U.S. government. The Idaho Legislature created the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation (IDPR) in 1965. The U.S. government then transferred the 2,566 acres relinquished by the IDFG under the Parks Act to the IDPR with a conditional deed that it be used as a Public Park. Also in 1965, the Idaho Legislature passed legislation establishing Farragut State Park. Later, IDPR transferred 80 acres of abandoned railroad right-of-way back to the U.S. government who then gifted it to Kootenai County as a public recreation trail.

On July 1, 1965, the IDPR drafted a long range plan of acquisition, development, operation, maintenance, and protection of the Farragut lands and natural resources, so that the health, happiness, and outdoor recreation of the people would improve.

The large expanses of this area were perfect for attracting and accommodating large encampments by youth groups. Starting on July 13, 1965, the then Farragut WMA and soon to be Farragut State Park hosted a Girl Scout Senior Roundup that was attended by 12,000 Girl Scouts.

On March 9, 1966, the IDPR agreed to assume administrative supervision of all property, structures, and buildings previously known as Farragut WMA.

In August of 1967 Farragut State Park became the site for the 12th Boy Scout World Jamboree. Over 12,000 Boy Scouts attended from all over the world with 105 countries represented. This was the first World Jamboree to ever be held in the United States. Two years later in July 1969 Farragut State Park hosted the National Boy Scout Jamboree that brought 34,251 Boy Scouts to Idaho.

In 1971 a vault toilet was placed at the rifle and pistol range.

The 1973 National Scout Jamboree was held in two places, Moraine State Park in Pennsylvania in the East and Farragut State Park in the West. The Farragut venue was held in August 1973 and had about 35,000 Boy Scouts in attendance.

The development by scouting organizations can still be seen in park facilities, including the visitor center, Whitetail Campground, Locust Grove Group Picnic Area, the swim beach at Beaver Bay, the group area at Thimbleberry, the Farragut Amphitheater and the friendship poles.

The World Fair held in nearby Spokane in 1974 generated the next phase of development. To handle the expected demand of modern campers for this event the Snowberry Campground was built providing water and power hook-ups. The park received 138,285 visitors that year.

The IDPR began building the system of recreation trails starting in 1975. Also in that year, the Eagle Boat Ramp was built that included pilings, docks, concrete ramps, restrooms and parking.

In about 1979 then Secretary of the Interior (former Idaho Governor) Cecil Andrus directed some funding toward Idaho from the Land and Water Conservation Fund to continue development of Farragut State Park. Two group camps at Kestrel and Nighthawk and the Sunrise/Willow Day Use Area would be constructed in 1984.

Starting in the late 1990s IDPR converted Kestrel and Nighthawk group areas into the multipurpose Waldron Group Campground. Ten camping cabins were added at Willow and Waldron, resulting in a redesign of the Willow Picnic Area.

In 1991 the IDPR accepted a donation of five acres of private land adjacent to the Park.

In 2006 park staff developed the Corral Equestrian Area and Buggy Trail to meet growing demand for horse use.

The year 2007 marked the opening of Gilmore Campground. Then in 2009 new pilings were installed at the Buttonhook mooring docks.

In 2011 an ADA compliant vault toilet was added to the Eagle Boat Launch area to provide for off-season sanitation when flush toilet facilities are winterized and out of service.

In 2012 the access path to the Buttonhook moorage docks underwent revision to meet ADA compliance standards.

The second phase of the Gilmore Campground was completed and opened in 2019. The redesigned and constructed Scott Group Area also opened in 2019.

Today the IDFG and the IDPR cooperatively administer by formal agreement 1,418 acres of Farragut WMA and 2,491 acres of Farragut State Park. The Farragut Shooting Range remains within the WMA boundaries. The shooting range has continued to be used by the Idaho citizenry from 1946 to the present. Daily operational oversight of recreational activities at the range is administered by the IDPR.

Recreation Activities:

Camping: Camping is perhaps the most popular activity at the park. The park features 265 individual campsites, 10 camping cabins, and 9 group camps.

Picnicking: There are five picnic tables available for individual use at the Sunrise-Willow Day Use Area. There are four group shelters available in the park.

Boating: The park has two parking lots that can accommodate vehicles with boat trailers attached. The boat ramp has 4 lanes with 3 courtesy docks. Both motorized and non-motorized craft can be launched here. The IDFG estimates that up to 20% of all Lake Pend Oreille boat access occurs at this launch ramp..

Cycling: The park has 38 miles of paved road suitable for riding skinny tire bicycles, but there are no paved bike trails just for this use. Much of the 45 mile park trail system is open to the use of mountain bikes. However, the trail surfaces have not been particularly enhanced for this use.

Trails: There are over 45 miles of trails in the park. Most of these trails are designated for multi-use for hiking and mountain biking. They may also be used for winter sports such as nordic skiing, and snowshoeing. One specific trail, the Scout/Bernard Peak Trail provides hikers and mountain bikers the opportunity for a long and difficult hike or ride. It makes a 8 mile climb from just outside the park boundaries to the top of Bernard Peak in the Kaniksu National Forest. The 10 mile Buggy Trail is meant for equestrian use.

Horseback Riding: The park has a group camp area meant for equestrian users. It has a horse arena with a large gravel parking lot. There is a “campground loop” with corrals. There is one group shelter and two vault toilets here. The 10 mile Buggy Trail Loop starts here and is primarily intended for equestrian use.

History Study: The park is rich in Idaho history. You can go to Buttonhook Bay and observe where Pen d’Orielle City once stood and the sternwheeler *Mary Moody* used to dock. The tip of the peninsula is where early western explorer John Leiberger once lived. Then there is the history of the Farragut Naval Training Station. You can tour the park and see where the various “camps” once stood or you can go to the Museum at the Brig to see the artwork, exhibits, and artifacts. Park staff also offers a guided tour of the entire historic training center for \$30.00.

Nature Study: Despite a history of landscape alterations, Farragut State Park is also a great “nature” park. You can start your nature study at the park visitor center where there are exhibits, guides, and nature oriented books and publications available. You can enjoy the Squirrel Cache Nature Trail that is a self-guided nature/interpretive trail that covers 1.2 miles. It starts at a trailhead located between Gilmore and Waldron Campgrounds along the South Road.

Swimming: The park only has one official swimming beach and that is located at Beaver Bay. The parking lot with space for about 120 vehicles is the limiting factor. Once the parking lot is

Please Remember

- There is a \$5.00 per vehicle per day fee required for access to the park even though there are no entrance stations. Those who do not have a state park passport or annual pass must stop at the visitor center to pay the fee prior to entering the park.
- All campers are asked to stop at the visitor center and register before occupying your campsite, even when you have a reservation..
- Open fires are not allowed on the beaches.
- There are no lifeguards on duty at the designated swimming beach.
- Personal floatation devices are required for any watercraft on the lake.
- All watercraft must display a current invasive species decal.
- Dogs must be on a leash at all times, and are not permitted in the buildings. Pets are not allowed on Beaver Bay Beach.
- Motor vehicles are to stay on established roadways unless directed otherwise. When parking lots are full, please do not park on the side of the access roads.
- Motor vehicles (including OHVs) must have a park permit and be street legal, licensed, and insured.

full, visitors must not park along the sides of the access road. Near the parking lot is an improved restroom with showers and changing areas. The unique beach with small peninsula is located directly below the restroom building. Swimming can also be done in the upper reaches of Buttonhook Bay near the mooring docks, but this is not an improved swimming beach. Swimming and gathered on the lake shore at the Eagle Boat Ramp is discouraged.

Fishing: The fish that can be caught include: westslope cutthroat, bull trout, mountain whitefish, pygmy whitefish, Gerrard rainbow trout, kokanee salmon, Lake Superior whitefish, brown trout, lake trout, black crappie, yellow perch, walleye, largemouth bass, and smallmouth bass.

Model aircraft: There is a flyers' field located in the north part of the park for flying radio-controlled model airplanes.

Rifle Range: There is a rifle and pistol range in the far northwestern portion of the park. The entrance to this area is off of Perimeter Road at the intersection with East Cooperhead Road. There are "range masters" on duty to supervise the activity. There is a separate \$5.00 fee to use the ranges.

Resource Management Issues:

Forest Management: Extensive logging, fire suppression, and the introduction of the disease white pine blister rust have reduced the white pine ecosystem to less than 1% of their historic range. For centuries, western white pine dominated the moist forest ecosystems of the Inland Northwest. It was perpetuated by both a combination of mixed-severity and stand replacing wildfires, and colonization of smaller natural forest opening created by disease pockets and blow down. In spite of a relatively high fire frequency in this forest type, old growth structure often persisted for centuries. Although western white pine remains one of the most ecologically important species across much of the region, it has been reduced to a relic by past logging, fire suppression, insects, and perhaps most importantly, the disease white pine blister rust. Today western white pine is limited to less than 10% of its former distribution only 100 years ago. The northern block of the park is ideally suited for restoration of western white pine because of habitat type, average annual precipitation, and relative absence of white pine blister rust alternative host Ribes. However, the large northern block parcel of the park is now comprised almost entirely of the grand fir forest type.

Fire suppression has altered the fire frequency in old growth ponderosa pine habitats resulting in changes in forest structure and composition, and diminishing habitat quality for ponderosa pine-associated wildlife species. Tree density, fuel loads, and development of ladder fuels prevent direct reintroduction of fire to these stands without significant risk of severe damage or total loss of the residual ponderosa pine stand.

Restoration of the "natural forests" in the park will require management direction that is both active and custodial. To meet the ponderosa and white pine management objective will require application of selective logging, use of prescribed fire, chemical weed control, and some tree planting to restore historic forest structure and composition. Further, occasionally park staff must cut trees and thin forest in the campgrounds and day use areas for scenic and aesthetical reasons as well as hazard reduction. Some of this necessary forest management work has been subject to visitor complaints and displeasure.

Noxious Weeds: The 2014 Farragut WMA Management Plan states that the presence and spread of extensive noxious weed infestations has the potential to decrease the quality of wildlife habitat. However, the plan does not list the invasive weeds present other than cheat grass.

Overcrowding and Access Control: In 2017 the park received 415,024 day use visitors and 92,338 camping visitors for a total of 507,362 (½ million visitors). About 206,000 or 41% of these visitors were from out of state. An intensive public use survey conducted by the IDFG in 2004 indicated that almost half (49.1%) of the visitors identified themselves as non-Idaho residents with the majority (81.1%) coming from Washington state. This confirms the simple fact that Farragut State Park is Spokane's backyard. The park's campgrounds are often full by reservations long before the summer season starts. There have been incidents reported of Washington residents making attempts to use the Idaho addresses of friends and relatives to make their reservations to avoid the out of state fee surcharge. This has created an extra burden on park staff to require campers to park their vehicle and come into the park office to register prior to occupying their campsite. This is so park staff can verify that they are or are not Idaho residents by inspecting license plates, driver's licenses, and state park passports, if they have one. This procedure often requires park staff to walk out into the parking for verification inspections.

A state highway runs right through the center of the park and because the park does not operate entrance stations and have numerous points of entry, many day use visitors are entering without having paid the motor vehicle entry fee (MVEF). Another big problem is demand often exceeds the parking spaces at the Beaver Bay Day Use Area and the Eagle Boat Ramp. The parking lots fill and visitors start parking alongside access roads which impedes traffic in and out. Some day users desiring shoreline access have resorted to attempts to use the boat ramp area for swimming and day camping which conflicts with the boat launching routines and takes up parking spaces meant for vehicles with boat trailers.

Shoreline Erosion: There has been significant soil erosion at Beaver Bay which is causing the beach area to become smaller.

Future Improvements Planned: There appears to be no current master plan or general development plan available for this park. However, there is a 2014 Farragut WMA Management Plan that was done by the IDFG that describes some of the resource management issues in the park.

Suggestions for the Future: The following are suggested improvements to the park:

- Park staff have proposed solving the access control problem by eliminating all access points to the park to only the road that is in front of the Museum at the Brig for access to the south side of the park and the road directly across State Highway 54 for access to the north side of the park. The proposal also is to designate the Museum at the Brig as the park's primary visitor center and converting the old visitor center into park offices only. This proposal has great merit and should be implemented as soon as possible. In conjunction with this, IDPR should consider building an entrance station like the one at Ponderosa State Park at the "Brig Road" entrance. With this, park staff can make all registration inspections necessary to register visitors right at their vehicles in a much more efficient manner. The entrance road will have to be reconstructed to include at least

two lands for entry. The parking lot at the Museum at the Brig would also have to be enlarged somewhat and provide spaces for vehicles with trailers. Then IDPR should consider building a small entrance station on the road across the highway. This entrance station would only be staffed when a large influx of visitors are expected to enter the group use areas in the north side of the park.

- It is obvious that the park has a shortage of places to swim in the lake. The Beaver Bay beach area was constructed back in the 1970s when visitation was only about 25% of what it is today. Expanding parking at Beaver Bay will only lead to overcrowding of the beach itself. IDPR should consider surveying the existing shoreline in the park to determine where a second swimming beach might be developed. It seems that Buttonhook Bay and the Sunrise/Willow Day Use Area are possible locations for this. The Sunrise/Willow Day Use Area already has a large parking area that could be easily expanded. Some engineering and earth moving work would be required to change and re-contour the slope leading down to the shoreline and import sand for the beach.
- The IDPR has been dealing with the camping demand by recently adding 48 campsites to the Gilmore Campground. They have also redesigned the Scott Group Camp. But it seems that it is a “build it and they will come” situation. The new campsites are filling as fast as they are being built. Fortunately the park seems to have plenty of room and favorably terrain for additional campsites. Additional campsites are recommended. But IDPR will have to consider how much of the park’s open space will be given up to accommodate this demand.
- Some of the roads in the park are deteriorating. IDPR should consider resurfacing all paved roads in the park and paving all the gravel roads.