

Park Name: Winchester Lake	Statute #: 67-4212(10)	First Established: 1968	Acres: 418
Classification: Recreation	Primary Attraction: Reservoir access		
Secondary Attractions: Forests, logging history			
Recreation Activities: Camping, picnicking, hiking, cycling, mountain biking, fishing, boating, playground, wildlife and wildflower viewing, snowshoeing, ice fishing, ice skating, nordic skiing			
History			
Local History: The Nez Perce reservation was established in 1877. The reservation was opened up to settlement in 1895. The Town of Winchester was established in 1899. Charles Krohne made a claim under the homestead Act and was granted a patent to 320 acres in 1905. The Craig Mountain Lumber Company began purchasing land at the site in 1907 and received an Indian Fee Patent in 1909 to 101 acres. They bought up several other tracts and built a sawmill. The lumber company constructed a dam to create a mill pond and it became Winchester Lake. By 1960, the Boise Cascade Company bought the mill. The mill closed in 1965.			
Park History: In 1967, the Department of Fish and Game bought the mill site and lakeside properties. They transferred management of the site to the IDPR. The IDPR continues to operate the park under agreement with the Department of Fish and Game.			
Natural Resources			
Types of Ecosystems Present: Ponderosa pine/Douglas fir forest, lake, riparian		Environmental Quality: Good	
Significant Fauna: Whitetail deer, muskrats, black bear, raccoons, osprey, bald eagles, waterfowl, rainbow trout, perch, tiger muskie, bass, bluegill.			
Significant Flora: Ponderosa pine, Douglas fir, willows			
Invasive/Noxious Species: Unknown			Elevation: 3,900
% Developed: 40%	% Undeveloped: 60%	Non-conforming uses: Unknown	
Visitation			
Day Use: 118,068	Camping: 16,288	Annual Total: 134,356 (2017)	
Economic Impact as provided in 2018 BSU Study: \$2,101,000			
Recreation Amenities			
Paved Roads (Miles): 2		Gravel Roads (Miles): <1	Day Use Areas: 4
Paved Parking Lots: 5	Gravel Parking Lots: 0	Boat Ramps: 1	Docks: 11
Miles of trail (paved/gravel): 0		Miles of Trail (unimproved): 5	Visitor Centers: 1
Entrance Stations: 1	Improved Restrooms: 3	Vault Toilets: 11	Campsites Serviced (W,E,S): 0
Campsites Serviced (W, E, or W&E): 42		Companion Campsites Serviced (W,E,S): 2	Dump Stations: 0
Companion Campsites Serviced (W,E): 0		Campsites Primitive/ Standard:	Group sites (including equestrian): 0

		22	
Camping Cabins: 0	Deluxe Cabins: 0	Yurts: 4	Cottages: 0
Future Plans			
A state park master plan is not available. There are immediate approved plans to use \$220,000 to upgrade the electrical system.			
Issues and Remarks			
The Winchester Lake State Park includes lands completely around the lake. However, the Ponderosa Point picnic area and the day use areas adjacent to the dam are outside the park entrance station.			