



IRON MOUNTAIN MANAGEMENT PLAN

MANAGEMENT PLAN OVERVIEW

Management Plans are intended to serve as a working/living document that describes natural resource issues, goals and action plans. The document is intended to guide staff, contractors and volunteer groups performing resource-related activities within City parks. The intent is to be as clear and detailed as possible, but also to remain broad enough so that flexibility and adaptability to circumstances remain possible.

This document also serves as a reference, for stakeholders such as volunteers, staff, contractors, City leaders, and neighbors to have the ability to track activities and understand the goals and planned implementation measures within Iron Mountain Park.

The Iron Mountain Management Plan will have several elements that provide background, general guidance and finally specific action steps. These elements are:

- A. An introduction and background data, which includes public outreach.
- B. Management goals and explanations.
- C. Guidelines which assist with prioritizing actions.
- D. Action Steps (or items) which will be prioritized within an implementation matrix.

Background data and public outreach with specific stakeholders has already occurred and the Open House is the outreach to the general public. During the open house elements B and C are being presented to the community. Once the community has an opportunity to review these elements they will be used to develop action steps, and eventually prioritize these actions in an implementation matrix. The implementation matrix will assist in guiding the Parks and Recreation Department and The Friends of Iron Mountain forward with restoration and stabilization within the park.

The Following are the Management Goals and Guidelines that were developed utilizing the background data and public outreach.

MANAGEMENT GOALS

Management goals provide focus for managing restoration and stabilization efforts. A management plan has several basic goals. The following are the five goals for the Iron Mountain Management Plan.

Goal:

Stabilize and restore Iron Mountain Park's forest, hydrologic and wildlife systems to a predominantly healthy balanced₁ state.

¹ Balanced = a harmony between native and non native species that requires reduced maintenance and poses no significant (real) threat to the environment and the stability of the park's ecosystem.

Goal:

Reduce Iron Mountain Park's fire hazard within the region to protect the natural resource and for public health and safety.

Goal:

Increase the park's stewardship efficiency when it comes to maintenance, public safety, restoration and stabilization activities.

Goal:

Invest in educational opportunities (such as signage, regulatory and interpretive), appropriate recreational opportunities, and public safety while protecting the park's natural resources.

Goal:

Maintain a balance of habitat protection and public recreational use.

GUIDELINES

Guidelines provide direction and focus when determining what priority is placed on restoration and stabilization projects. Guidelines are utilized to provide long term clarity and direction.

Guideline:

Protect existing areas that have been stabilized and restored.

To successfully utilize and maximize limited resources we must protect past efforts in lieu of restoring new areas. If past efforts are not maintained then all of the resources (time, labor and money) that have been invested are lost. To be fiscally cognizant, continued focus must be given to these areas. (This priority takes precedent unless endangered attributes are discovered and a shift in resources is necessary to protect rare and endangered attributes of the park or significant safety concerns develop).

Guideline:

Invest in areas of particular significance or that pose safety concerns.

When additional resources are available, efforts should concentrate on areas that have a particular significance such as:

- high fire risk
- sensitive species
- dense populations of native species
- higher levels of probable restoration success
- when stabilized/restored have additional benefits for example: if an area is restored it will protect sensitive species, provide enhanced habitat, can be used for interpretive/educational examples, or reduce maintenance/restoration efforts (increase efficiency).

Guideline:

Focus on projects that provide multiple benefits, maximizing effectiveness of community resources.

Projects that if implemented, will add to or expand restoration activities, or increase efficiencies, such as maintenance, should be a priority. It is important to look at all opportunities and their ability to leverage additional benefits.

Guideline:

Develop partnerships and utilize programs that provide assistance for restoration, stabilization and maintenance.

To continue restoration, stabilization and maintenance efforts the Department needs to look beyond existing general fund support. Although support from the general fund is welcomed leveraging additional community support will be helpful in supplementing existing efforts. Utilize programs and partnerships such as Clackamas County Fuels Reduction Funds, and the Friends of Iron Mountain. When seeking assistance opportunities will need to be complementary and not have a negative effect on current resources unless the long term gain outweighs the initial investment.

Guideline:

Leverage educational and interpretive opportunities throughout the Park.

An important element for Iron Mountain Park and its stabilization/restoration will be education and interpretive opportunities. To stabilize/restore the park will require more than just labor and financial resources. An educational element will be instrumental in engaging the community. To protect existing and enhance future stabilization/restoration efforts the educational elements will need to inspire as well as educate visitors. The inspiration and education can come from interpretive/ educational signage that complement tangible work that has occurred. To increase park users' understanding and assist on shared goals for restoration, interpretive signage with highlights of the natural area as well as opportunities for service should be provided.