

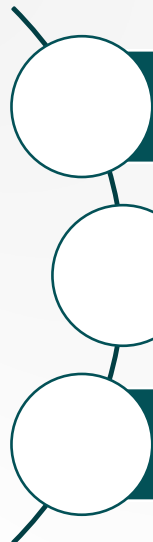


NPS Campground Design Guide

September 2021



Agenda

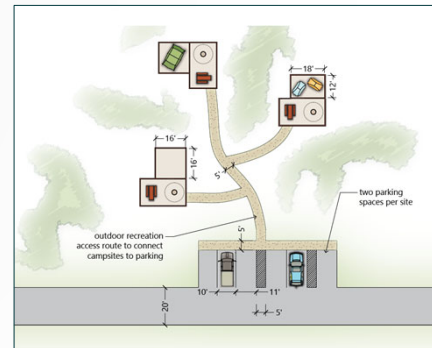
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- Design Guide Overview PPT
(Tamara Delaplane)
 - View and Explore the Guide
(Jessica Brown)
 - Open Discussion/Questions

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Hi I'm Tamara Delaplane I am a landscape architect working with the National park service in the GAOA LRF program office. I was the project manager for the design guide and worked with Jessica Brown at Grand Teton National Park. Jessica served at the technical expert and park representative during the creation of the design guidelines.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE CAMPGROUND DESIGN GUIDELINES

- Why is a design guide important?
 - Consistent approach to campground changes and improvements
- Who helped?
 - Park Planning Facilities & Lands (PPFL), in conjunction with Business Services (BS), Cultural Resources Partnerships and Science (CRPS), and Partnerships & Civic Engagement (PCE)
 - Over 20 national parks
 - Denver Service Center
 - WASO Social Science
 - Harpers Ferry Sign Program
 - BLM, BOR, ACE
 - USDA FS
 - State Parks



The creation or impetuous for the design guidelines was to develop a standardized approach to address the repairs and modernization efforts to NPS campgrounds. This is especially important and relevant as parks have a need to address some level of modernization or rehabilitation to meet visitor expectations and safety requirements. NPS does not intend to modernize every campground but strives to make smart, consistent decisions on when to modernize or rehabilitate a campground based on the park's unique circumstances, local market and financial factors, and applicable policies and regulations.

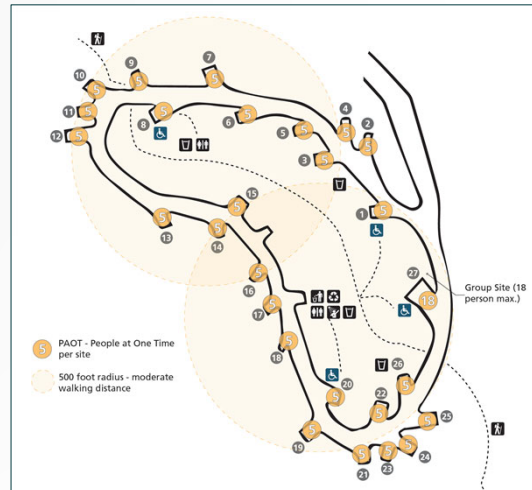
The notion of a NPS specific design guide is not new. In fact, there is precedent for this, especially during the development during the Mission 66 program. Many of these efforts were interagency, which is what we aimed to achieve as well.

Many agencies and professionals assisted with this effort.

Numerous NPS parks, NPS programs, DOI agencies, Army Corps of Engineers, State Parks and the US Forest Service helped develop and provide content. This multi tier input helped us develop relevant and coordinated campground information; however, it important to note this guide was developed through the lens of NPS.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE CAMPGROUND DESIGN GUIDELINES

- Who is this for?
 - all National Park Service staff and private contractors including planners, designers, superintendents, maintenance staff, concessioners and partners
 - Outside groups with interest
- How will it help parks?
 - During planning, design, construction, and maintenance
 - Help parks to build facility projects – this is especially important in the next SCC



So, Who is this for?

The Campground Design Guidelines are intended for everyone. We designed this to consider the needs of NPS planners and designers, AE contract firms, superintendents, concessioners, and very importantly maintenance professionals. I will explain how it is relevant to those users in a minute.

The guidelines are important as we recognize that no two campgrounds are the same. The information in the guide is not necessarily a requirement but rather guidance. Of course we have provided information on federal laws, policies, and some code requirements, which are required in every improvement, but the majority of the information is site and park dependent.

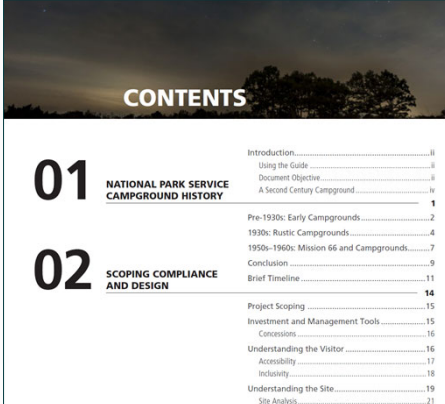
How will it help parks?

The Design Guide is intended to help at roughly every stage in your campground development effort. If a park is considering a campground project the guide offers information beginning with planning, all the way to the maintenance operation tips.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE CAMPGROUND DESIGN GUIDELINES

- Chapters in the Guidelines
 1. NATIONAL PARK SERVICE CAMPGROUND HISTORY
 2. SCOPING COMPLIANCE AND DESIGN
 3. CAMPGROUND DESIGN GUIDELINES
 4. OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE BEST PRACTICES

- How to use the Guide
 - Table of contents contains links to each chapter
 - Links located throughout the document



The image shows a preview of the 'CONTENTS' page from the National Park Service Campground Design Guidelines. The page is titled 'CONTENTS' and features two main sections: '01 NATIONAL PARK SERVICE CAMPGROUND HISTORY' and '02 SCOPING COMPLIANCE AND DESIGN'. The table of contents lists various sub-sections and their corresponding page numbers.

Section	Sub-section	Page
01 NATIONAL PARK SERVICE CAMPGROUND HISTORY	Introduction	ii
	Using the Guide	ii
	Document Objective	ii
	A Second Century Campground	ii
02 SCOPING COMPLIANCE AND DESIGN	Pre-1930s: Early Campgrounds	2
	1930s: Rustic Campgrounds	4
	1950s-1960s: Mission 66 and Campgrounds	7
	Conclusion	9
	Brief Timeline	11
		14
	Project Scoping	15
	Investment and Management Tools	15
	Consensus	16
	Understanding the Visitor	16
	Accessibility	17
	Inclusivity	18
	Understanding the Site	19
	Site Analysis	21

Guide is divided into 4 distinct chapters. These are detailed in the slide. The bulk of detailed Campground and campsite design information is covered in Chapter 3.

When using the guide we recommend maintaining in its digital format. This will help because the guide has numerous links throughout. Jessica will show you more during the second half of this presentation. The table of contents contains links to each pertinent section and each section can more or less be used individually – that means you do not have to read the entire guide to glean the information you need. For instance, if you are developing a project for night sky friendly lighting improvements in a campground, the user can find the information in the table of contents, click on it and be lead to that section. If there is pertinent information to other sections of the document a link to the other section can be found within the night sky friendly section.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE CAMPGROUND DESIGN GUIDELINES

- What is a Second Century Campground?
 - An inclusive campground that provides space for all users
 - Addresses critical systems deferred maintenance
 - Provides an array of reservation windows for different types of visitors
 - Includes an adaptive design that considers emerging technologies
 - Considers return on Investment



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At the start of the document we define what is a second century campground. The information is intended to remind parks of key considerations for modernization and rehabilitation efforts. And I think the information may surprise some. The intent is not make every NPS campsite large and provide Wi-Fi everywhere. The intent is to ensure that there is a place for all user types, that parks are actively addressing their critical infrastructure, there is an array of reservation windows, again providing opportunities for all types of visitors, that our campgrounds are capable of adapting to emerging technologies – such as a need for power, and considers a return on the investment.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE CAMPGROUND DESIGN GUIDELINES



- Unique Content:
 - Accessibility is the primary focus
 - Inclusivity
 - History of NPS campgrounds
 - How to use social science to make informed decisions
 - What makes NPS campgrounds unique
 - Specific campground requirements (campsite size, water needs, distance to facilities, etc.)
 - Operations and Maintenance

O&M - Flush Toilets:

- Flush toilets should include a separate room to store cleaning supplies and other materials.
- Interiors made of concrete are preferred as they are easier to wash out and clean.
- Ensure proper placement of soap dispensers and other site amenities as these are common accessibility (ABAAS 606) mistakes.
- Consider sinks with built-in dryers and soap.
- Low flow toilets can sometimes cause issues with a wastewater system because there is not enough water to wash the effluent to the plant. Consult with USPHS or utility operator before making any large changes to water flow.



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Throughout the design guidelines we included some unique content we would like you all to be aware of.

The primary or largest emphasis was to include accessibility requirements. We discuss the minimum requirements required by law but also give examples and encourage parks to exceed those minimum requirements – making our entire campgrounds more universally accessible.

We also include information on methods to achieve a more inclusive built environment, one that aims to understand not only the visitors using the campground, but understand why others are not using the campground and removing some of those barriers to make a more inclusive campground. An example to this may be to provide walled tent or perhaps glamping opportunities for those visitors less inclined to camp. There is information on how to use social science to obtain a better understanding of visitor preferences.

Another concept we threaded through the document was on the importance of historical precedent. This was important to the team as we felt that understanding our past would provide a foundation to the guidelines for today. We start the guidelines with a detailed history of NPS campgrounds - understanding both how and

why they were designed. What was interesting to find was that the design of campgrounds changed over time largely in response to protecting resources and changing visitor needs – which is no different from today’s needs.

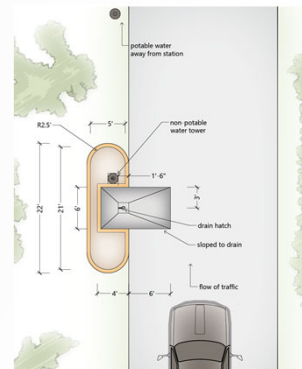
We also detail out specific features that make NPS campgrounds unique – this includes the average space requirements for each campsite, how campsites are sited within the landscape, and more.

The guidelines include specific information such as how to plan facilities such as water and wastewater based on the number of campsites. This information helps in both planning and design.

Lastly, we imbedded operations and maintenance specific information within the specific section. The intent behind that was to ensure O&M was not an after thought but rather part of the planning and design process.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE CAMPGROUND DESIGN GUIDELINES

- The Guide can be found here:
 - [https://doimsp.sharepoint.com/sites/nps-cpmd/CPMDPolicyGuidanceProcess/Campground Guidelines/Campground_Design_Guidelines_508.pdf](https://doimsp.sharepoint.com/sites/nps-cpmd/CPMDPolicyGuidanceProcess/Campground%20Guidelines/Campground_Design_Guidelines_508.pdf)



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- All of this information can help parks plan, design, construct and eventually maintain Facilities. This information will also help facility professionals create better, more thoughtful projects in PMIS.
- As attendees you have access to the guide (it was shared with organizers).
- The design guideline is posted on the NPS electronic technical information center site (<https://pubs.etic.nps.gov>)



View & Explore the Guide

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Jessica will share her screen and walk you through the guide.



Open Discussion/Questions

