

General Capitol Forest Questions and Answers 7/23/15

- Do I need a discover pass to recreate in the forest? yes no exceptions
- Where can I purchase a discover pass? Anyplace that sells fishing licenses or a State Park
- Can I camp outside of a campground? No
- Can I camp at a trailhead? No
- Can I have a campfire outside of a fire pit in the forest or a campground? No
- If there is a burn ban can I still burn in designated camp fire pit in a designated campground? It depends Currently 8/12/15 no fires are allowed. You can use a propane stove only.
- Where can I camp – see the Capitol Forest map
- Where can I get a map? You can purchase a map at many mountain bike shops in the Olympia area including REI. You can also purchase one from State Printer located in Tumwater or you may visit our website
- Is there an app for my smart phone for the Capitol Forest Map – yes
<http://washingtondnr.wordpress.com/2013/03/05/top-5-reasons-to-download-the-new-capitol-state-forest-map-onto-your-smartphone/>
- Can I **reserve a campsite**? No
- Is there a fee for camping? No though you do however need a discover pass
- Can I get a electronic copy of the map – yes there is a APP for I-phones and Android call Avenza it is very easy to use and works without cell phone coverage.
- Can I have **an event in the Capitol forest**? Possibly, there are insurance and other requirements. Applications are accepted November thru February 1st for the next year. Email phil.wolff@dnr.wa.gov
- Can I **hunt or fish in Capitol Forest**? Yes per WDFW regulations see WDFW website
- Can I recreationally **pan for gold in the Capitol Forest** – yes per WDFW regulations see WDFW website. No mechanized or scuba equipment is allowed.
- Can I target shoot in the Capitol Forest? DNR recommends that you shoot at a range such as the evergreen sportsman's club (360)-357-9080_ or another range. If you must target shoot in the forest see shooting WAC's (rules below)
- Triangle Pit is currently open for recreational access 9am to 6pm. No closures are anticipated
- Can I pick mushrooms – Yes you can harvest up to 5 gallons per day
- Can I cut a Christmas tree – No
- Are there bears and cougars in the forest? Yes
- Is there logging in the forest - Yes Capitol Forest is a working forest – there is often log or gravel trucks on the roads and there are forest management operations on selected parcels
- Is there are map of timbersale units? Yes a map can be found on Capitolforest.com Note this can be used as a general guide but it does not have dates on when a unit could be harvested.
http://capitolforest.com/files/Rec_Trail_Sale_map_1_2013.pdf

- I have more questions where can I find answers? Many answers can be found at the DNR website or a third party web site Capitolforest.com and FOCCF

Capitol Forest Trails

- Does the forest close to motorized use when it is dry? Generally no it would have to be an extremely dry summer for this to happen. As of 8/12/15 the trails are open to all uses even though there are dry conditions
- Can I ride my mountain bike in the forest? Yes on all trails except the equestrian loop, McLane creek and two short hiking trails (see map)
http://www.dnr.wa.gov/Publications/eng_rms_capmapnu_may2.pdf
- Are trails closed for timber harvest Yes from time to time trails and roads close for forest management reasons. The best resource is to sign up to our yahoo group and the capitol forest user group email list contact nick.cronquist@dnr.wa.gov or phil.wolff@dnr.wa.gov
- Can I trail run in the forest? Yes
- Can I ride my horse in the forest? Yes see the Capitol Forest map. You may want to avoid trails above Fall Creek on weekends as there is heavy mountain bike use
- Can I ride my dirt bike, or quad in the Capitol Forest? Yes between May and November you may ride your dirt bike and quad on motorized trails (see map) You can ride year around on non-gated and road NOT signed or blocked.
- ORV tags are needed for all motorized use on trails unless the vehicle is street licensed. If the vehicle is street licensed then it needs a ORV tag or discover pass.
- I live out of state will my state's ORV tag/permit "work" in the forest. Yes if you live in another state and have ID with this information then yes you can use the out of state tab / permit
- Can I ride my UTV – or two to 4 passenger quad on motorized trails? No though you can ride on forest roads (see above)
- Is there trails for 4x4 (jeep) No There are no opportunities for 4x4 off roading
- When do events occur? See Capitolforest.com
http://capitolforest.com/files/CAPITOL_STATE_FOREST_EVENT_SCHEDULE_2014.docx

McLane Creek Nature Trails

- Do I need a discover pass – Yes
- Can I walk my dog – yes if it is on a leash and you pick up after the dog.
- Are there cougar and bears at McLane Creek – Yes If you have a dog it is more likely you may have a dangerous encounter with wildlife. There was a cougar seen in the spring of 2014
- Can I ride my bike, horse or motorcycle - No unless you meet Americans with Disability Act (ADA) requirements contact phil.wolff@dnr.wa.gov

- I am planning an outing with my cub scout, pre-school, college class etc. Does everyone have to have a discover pass in their vehicle? Yes - unless the vehicle has an exempt plate (school bus / school van)
- Is it safe to be on the trails when it is rainy and windy? It is advisable not to go out in the forest when the wind is blowing. The board walks may have standing water.
- I want to do volunteer work at McLane Creek with a group do I need a discover pass – possibly if you pre-arrange a work party and return a work party request form 2 weeks in advance form a one day parking permit could be arranged. Contact Nick Cronquist nick.cronquist@dnr.wa.gov
- Can I have an event at McLane Creek of over 25 people – Possibly certain requirements must be met and it cannot conflict with other use. Contact phil.wolff@dnr.wa.gov Small school outings for salmon viewing do not need a event permit – though please notify DNR at phil.wolff@dnr.wa.gov
- Is it safe to park at McLane Creek – There was a recent break in (7/2014) Please do not leave any valuables in your car. If people would not leave valuables the rate of crime would be significantly reduced. Criminals are not out to steal your car or car radio, they are seeking easy to snatch valuables.

WAC 332-52-145

Firearms and target shooting.

1) (1) What is recreational target shooting? Recreational target shooting is the use of a firearm or bow and arrow on targets and the sighting in of rifles or other firearms on department-managed lands. The department regulates and enforces target shooting on department-managed lands.

(a) The department may restrict target shooting for the reasons set forth in WAC 332-52-100.

(b) Persons shall not target shoot carelessly, recklessly, or without regard for the safety of any person, or in a manner that endangers, or is likely to endanger, any person, pet, livestock, wildlife or property.

(c) Persons shall not discharge tracer or incendiary ammunition or projectile devices on department-managed lands. For purposes of this subsection, "incendiary" means causing or designed to cause fires, such as certain substances or bombs. "Tracer ammunition" means a bullet, projectile, or shell that traces its own course in the air with a trail of smoke, chemical incandescence, or fire, so as to facilitate adjustment of the aim.

(2) Does recreational target shooting include hunting? No. This section does not apply to hunting activities, which are subject to the rules and regulations administered by the Washington state department of fish and wildlife.

(3) Where is target shooting permitted?

(a) Persons may target shoot in:

(i) Developed recreation facilities specifically designed for target shooting; or

(ii) Areas with an unobstructed, earthen backstop capable of stopping all projectiles and debris in a safe manner.

Persons shall not target shoot in any other location.

(b) Persons shall not shoot within, from, along, across, or down roads or trails.

(c) Persons shall not shoot on, at, across, along, down, from, or within five hundred feet, of:

(i) Recreational facilities that are not specifically designed for target shooting;

(ii) Residences;

(iii) Businesses;

(iv) Structures;

(v) Other areas as restricted;

(vi) Areas designated or posted as no shooting.

(4) What may be used as a target?

(a) Items that are commercially manufactured for the specific purpose of target shooting or similar targets privately manufactured by the person(s) engaging in target shooting that are consistent with this section.

(b) Unauthorized targets include but are not limited to:

(i) Natural features, except earthen berms or banks used as backstops for target shooting;

(ii) Vegetation;

(iii) Structures;

(iv) Gates;

(v) Vehicles;

- (vi) Signs;**
- (vii) Other department improvements;**
- (viii) Appliances;**
- (ix) Furniture;**
- (x) Glass;**
- (xi) Privately owned or occupied structures;**
- (xii) Pets, service animals or livestock;**
- (xiii) Wildlife;**
- (xiv) Explosive and incendiary items;**
- (xv) Garbage of any kind.**

Persons shall not target shoot at unauthorized targets.

(5) When is target shooting permitted? Unless otherwise posted, persons shall not target shoot one-half hour after sunset to one-half hour before sunrise.

(6) Is possession of a loaded firearm in or on a motor vehicle permitted on department-managed lands? Persons shall not possess a loaded firearm in or on a motor vehicle, except as provided by state law.

(7) Who is responsible for disposing of spent items resulting from target shooting? Persons who target shoot shall dispose of spent items and remove all shell casings, targets, ammunition packaging, or target fragments resulting from their activity, with the exception of biodegradable clay targets. Failure to remove any such debris is prohibited.

(8) Any violation of this section is a misdemeanor except a violation of subsection (7) of this section is an infraction under chapter 7.84 RCW.

2) Source: <http://apps.leg.wa.gov/wac/default.aspx?cite=332-52-145>