



Tennessee State Parks

Park Strategic Management Planning Public Meeting

Response To Comments

Natchez Trace State Park

The 10-year individual Park Strategic Management Plans for Tennessee State Parks are part of the overall planning processes within the department and are developed to guide the management and direction of each park. These plans steer continued success of each park and influence long term innovation by the park staff. Building on Tennessee State Parks' strong foundation they seek to address the various challenges anticipated for each park. The Strategic Management Plans present a strategic and actionable strategy for the next 10 years.

This response to comments document is shared publicly as a record of comments that were made at a public information meeting as well as online.

Location: Natchez Trace Lodge

Date: 11/19/24 at 5:30pm

Public Comments:

I am pleased to see the improvements that are taking place to our park . However it is deverstating to see the timber be cut . However if the proceeds are being used in a positively way for the park that's great .

"Thank you for the opportunity to comment... My comment is general, and can be considered for all parks in appropriate Objectives. Bicycle trails or greenway paths serve a wide range of activities and users from young families to seniors. They provide opportunities for visiting unique resources to those that might otherwise not be feasible, helping to educate people and enrich their lives. 1. Please consider adding details in the ""amenities"" section for these types of facilities for each park. Include surface types and difficulty levels on appropriate maps. Google Maps has a bicycle overlay that would also be helpful for electronic guidance, and would support ""crowd sourcing"" of adjacent connections and services, which is also an opportunity to engage businesses and promote economic activity... 2. Also, local schools could develop programs that would bring awareness, enthusiasm and stewardship in the present, and into the future. For example, middle school students tasked with doing a ""tree inventory at their park""



to identify species and conduct risk assessments...coming home with the news that they are going to study the trees at the campground! Both comments above address several Goals and Objectives...and embrace Social, Economic and Environmental considerations. Thank You Sincerely "

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I just wanted to comment and say that I recently camped and used the equestrian facilities and trails at Natchez Trace State Park and enjoyed every minute of it. The trails are wonderful and the footing is soft and perfect (which is hard to find in Tennessee with all our limestone). I HUGELY appreciate that this state park has horse trails and I know all the maintenance that goes into their upkeep - so THANK YOU to everyone at the State Park for all they do. It's growing increasingly harder for equestrians to find trails in the area so I'm grateful that Natchez Traces keeps them open and available. I plan to return and bring a lot of my equestrian friends throughout 2025 and beyond!

I am excited to see the renovations to the Pin Oak Lodge especially. My family and I have been going there for about 20 years. It is in a wonderful and beautiful area. Thank you for making it a priority. We are excited to see all the proposed improvements to the Park. Thank you thank you thank you!

"The phone service is terrible. It needs good phone service at the camp grounds. Maybe black top some or all campsites. The firing range needs to be cleaned up and maintain better. "

Response from Tennessee State Parks:

Thank you for your interest and participation in the Natchez Trace State Park Strategic Plan review process. Your comments and concerns were reviewed and considered by the Tennessee State Parks management and leadership team. We appreciate your support of



the park and our bike trails, programming, equestrian offerings, and lodge renovations. We also hear your feedback on the timber cutting, cell service, campground, and firing range.

Attached is a copy of the final plan. Your input is instrumental, and we appreciate your commitment to making the park even better. Thank you for being a vital part of this collaborative effort to enhance Natchez Trace State Park.