

Buffalo River Management Plan Idea Brainstorm

Niche:

- A low and slow river park with prairie
- A natural area so very close to metropolitan Fargo/Moorhead
- A park with a river very different than the Red River in Fargo/Moorhead

Ideas for pond area:

- Natural style playground, area should be kids focused so that it fulfills a similar niche to the pond
- Pretend archeological dig, scavenger hunts and other learning opportunities
- Kids are content to play in the sand: kids need to create, so maybe you should leave it sand, because the kids love to play in the sand
- Pump track for kids to bike on
- Open area that allows for play
- Small amphitheater for programming
- It is important to be mindful of what you can do in the town vs here
- Restore the area, a natural playground, and maintain habitat
- It could be an excellent teaching space where people could learn about pollinators
- Could be a splash pad or some kind of water rec area
- Is there a possibility for any boating?
- Could there be a viewing platform, or education space or family space?
- Could it be an art or educational space?
- Maybe ice skating in the winter or pond
- Telescopes pads in park, space related to astronomy tie in
- Sculptures, or art that fits the historic or natural context
- Information on the history of the region/history of the pond
- What would be a good use for students?
- More engagement with the schools!
- The pond could be a bridge space or accessible space
- Activities that the aging population could participate in
- Introductory space, bridge space, art space, play as an introduction to the park
- Using art and play to introduce people and families to the rest of the park

Ideas for the park as a whole:

- Natural play area as a model of the park
- Ice rink
- Cross country skiing

- Bike trail connection because it is the only park you could bike to realistically from FM, but could have the potential for invasive plant introduction
- Accessible trail
- Track chairs available at the park
- Benches for rest and observation
- Bathroom halfway out on the trail
- River access, watercraft access, boating access—free of poison ivy
- Fishing access
- Foraging for raspberries, promoted or propagated put in more raspberry and grape bushes
- Power and water in good condition for hookups at sites
- Camper cabins—easier entry point for new campers, winter camping opportunity
- Yurts—winter camping opportunity
- Remote campsites
- Buffalo river is the place to go, it is a gateway park so needs lots of camping
- More education and interpretation on Native Americans' history on the landscape
- Interpretation related to WPA, especially if we are removing the pond
- More public use of the Regional Science Center—events, bathrooms, etc.
- Partnerships that provide transportation to the park from Moorhead