



**U.S. Department of the Interior**  
**Bureau of Land Management**  
 Vale District  
 Baker Resource Area

# WALLOWA & GRANDE RONDE RIVERS

## FINAL MANAGEMENT PLAN/ ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

DECEMBER, 1993



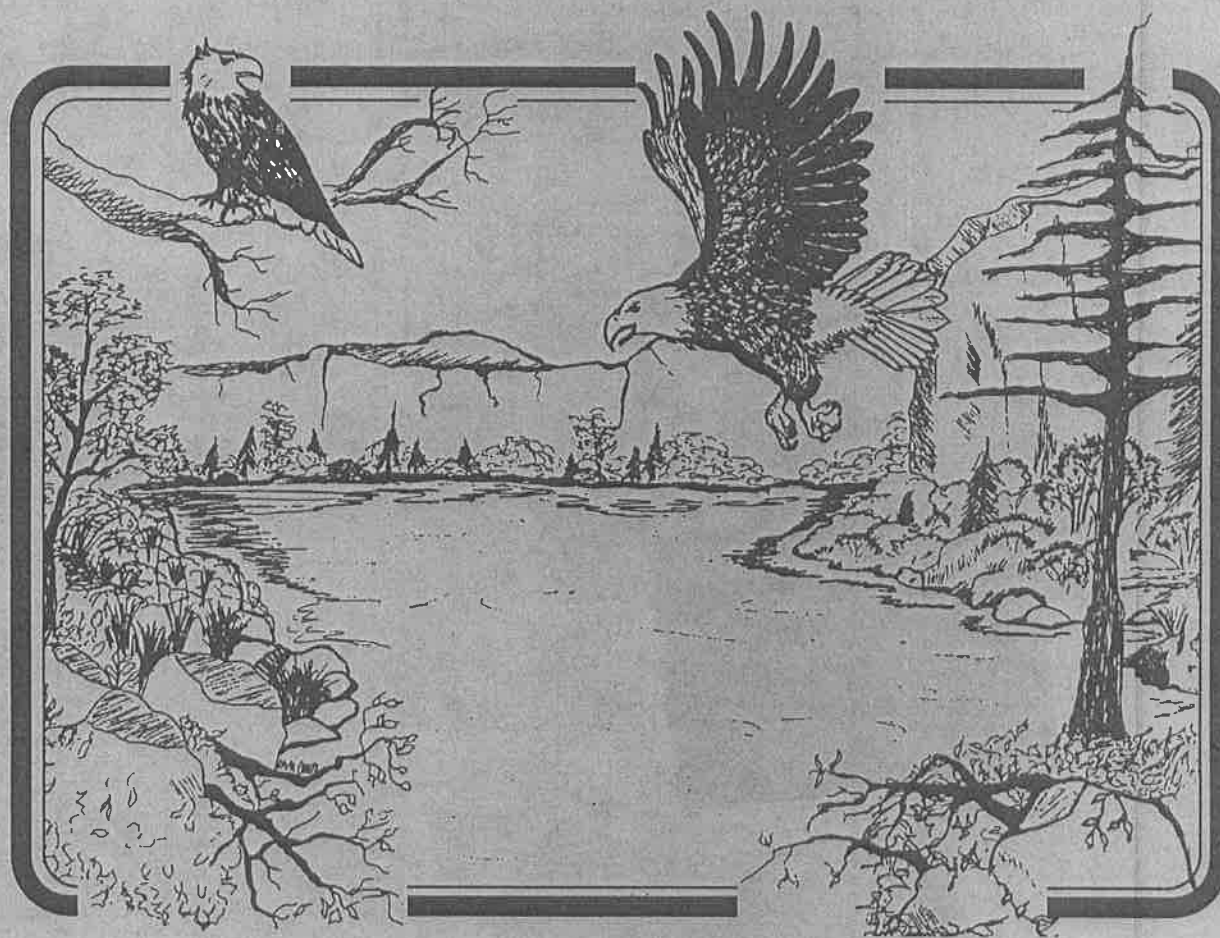
**U.S. Department of the Agriculture**  
**Forest Service**  
 Wallowa-Whitman National Forest  
 Umatilla National Forest



**Washington State**  
**Shoreline Program**  
 Asotin County



**Oregon State Parks &  
 Recreation Department**  
 Scenic Waterways Program



*Dear Interested River Public:*

Enclosed is a copy of the Management Plan for the Willowa/Grande Ronde Rivers. Development of this plan has been a four year effort between the public, three citizens planning teams, various county and state agencies, Oregon State Parks and Recreation Department, Washington State Shoreline Program, the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management. The primary purpose of this plan is to provide management direction for the Outstandingly Remarkable Values found within the river corridor designated as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System, and those river segments and accompanying resource values that are not under federal designation.

Specific elements of the plan include a desired future condition of the river corridors, design standards, and management guidelines for recreation, fisheries, water, scenery, cultural, transportation, and land acquisition. Also included is a monitoring plan that identifies the elements to be monitored throughout the life of the plan, and a list of projects that will be implemented pending funding.

The final Environmental Assessment (EA) identifies issues and analyzes alternatives and their impacts for management within the River Corridor. The EA has been incorporated in Chapter 7 of this river management plan.

If you have questions about the management of the Willowa/Grande Ronde Rivers, contact Dorothy Mason, Acting Area Manager, Baker Resource Area, (503)523-6391; Tom Reilly, District Ranger, Walla Walla Ranger District, (509)522-6276; or Glen McDonald, District Ranger, Willowa Valley Ranger District, (503)426-4978; Gary Miniszewski of Oregon State Parks and Recreation Department, (503) 378-6378; or Don Brigham of the Washington Shoreline Program, (509) 758-9646.



James E. May  
District Manager  
Vale District



John P. Kline  
Deputy Forest Supervisor  
Umatilla National Forest



R.M. Richmond  
Forest Supervisor  
Willowa/Whitman National Forest



Robert L. Meinen  
Director  
Oregon State Parks and Recreation Dept.



Don Brigham, Jr.  
Shoreline Administrator  
Washington



Planning issues were identified through sixteen public scoping meetings held in Baker City, Troy, Enterprise, LaGrande, Pendleton, Imnaha, Richland, and Ukiah, Oregon and Clarkston, Washington. Concern for the Wild and Scenic Rivers and State Scenic Waterways designations and how they affect private land, recreation use of the corridor, multiple resource use of the corridor, and management direction were the major topics of public interest.

Alternative management options identified in Chapter 7 (Environmental Analysis) range from commodity/economic emphasis to naturalness/preservation emphasis. Each of the options are within the parameters of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, the Oregon Scenic Waterway Act, Washington State Shoreline Act and agency land use plans, where they apply.

Corridor management will integrate the entire system from Minam, Oregon on the Wallowa River to Heller Bar, Washington on the Grande Ronde River into one plan. Although most of the land along the Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers is managed by federal agencies, other state and local government agencies, landowners and private parties have vested interests in the resources of the rivers and adjoining lands. Agencies cannot effectively manage the river area without interagency cooperation and public support. The agencies will also explore ways of improving formal communication regarding river management.

### ***ORGANIZATION OF THIS DOCUMENT***

This document is presented in eight chapters:

Chapter 1: provides background information on the management plan, management planning process, the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, relationship of the plan to other jurisdictions and authorities, and public involvement.

Chapter 2: describes the affected environment, the Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORV's), the physical, biological, social, and economic resources of the Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers between Minam, Oregon and Heller Bar, Washington.

Chapter 3: describes the management objectives and constraints, issues, and the management actions to be implemented within the Wallowa/Grande Ronde

corridor. These actions relate directly to the issues identified at the public scoping meetings and the mandates of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

Chapter 4: describes the Oregon State Scenic Waterway Program.

Chapter 5: describes Washington State (Asotin County) Shoreline Program.

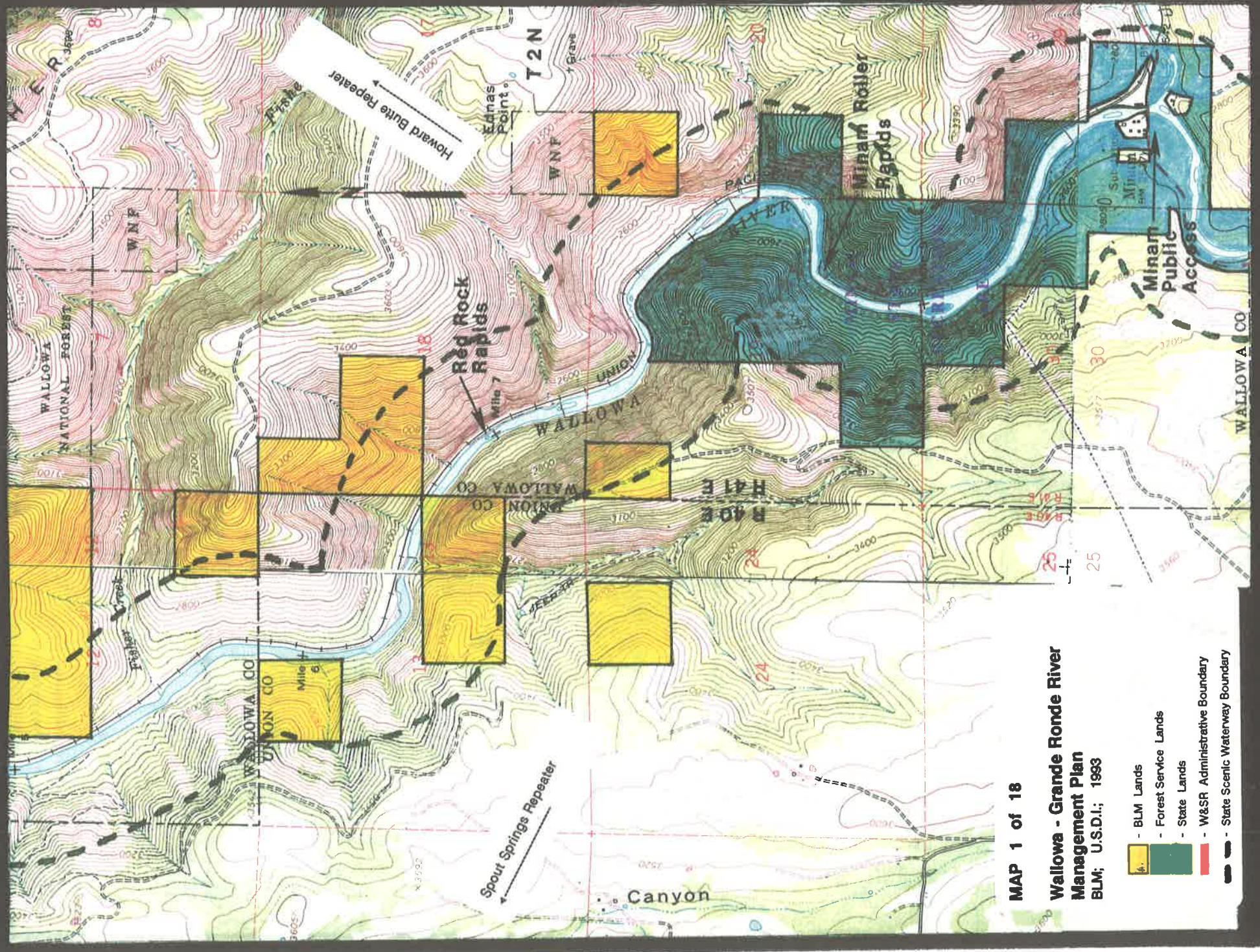
Chapter 6: provides basic cost or funding requirements for implementation of the river plan.

Chapter 7: contains the Environmental Analysis and Decision Notices for this plan.

Chapter 8: contains the appendices for this river plan. Appendix A, is boundary descriptions; Appendix B, is the Recreation Opportunity Spectrum; Appendix C, is planning participants; Appendix D, is the bibliography; Appendix E, laws and regulations; Appendix F, Public Comments; Appendix G, Oregon State Scenic Waterway Rules for Land Management; Appendix H, Memorandum of Understanding; Appendix I, Memorandum of Understanding; Appendix J, Glossary of Terms; Appendix K, Oregon County Land Use Administration; Appendix L, Executive Summary Biological Evaluation and Letter of Response.

### ***METHOD FOR PLAN PREPARATION***

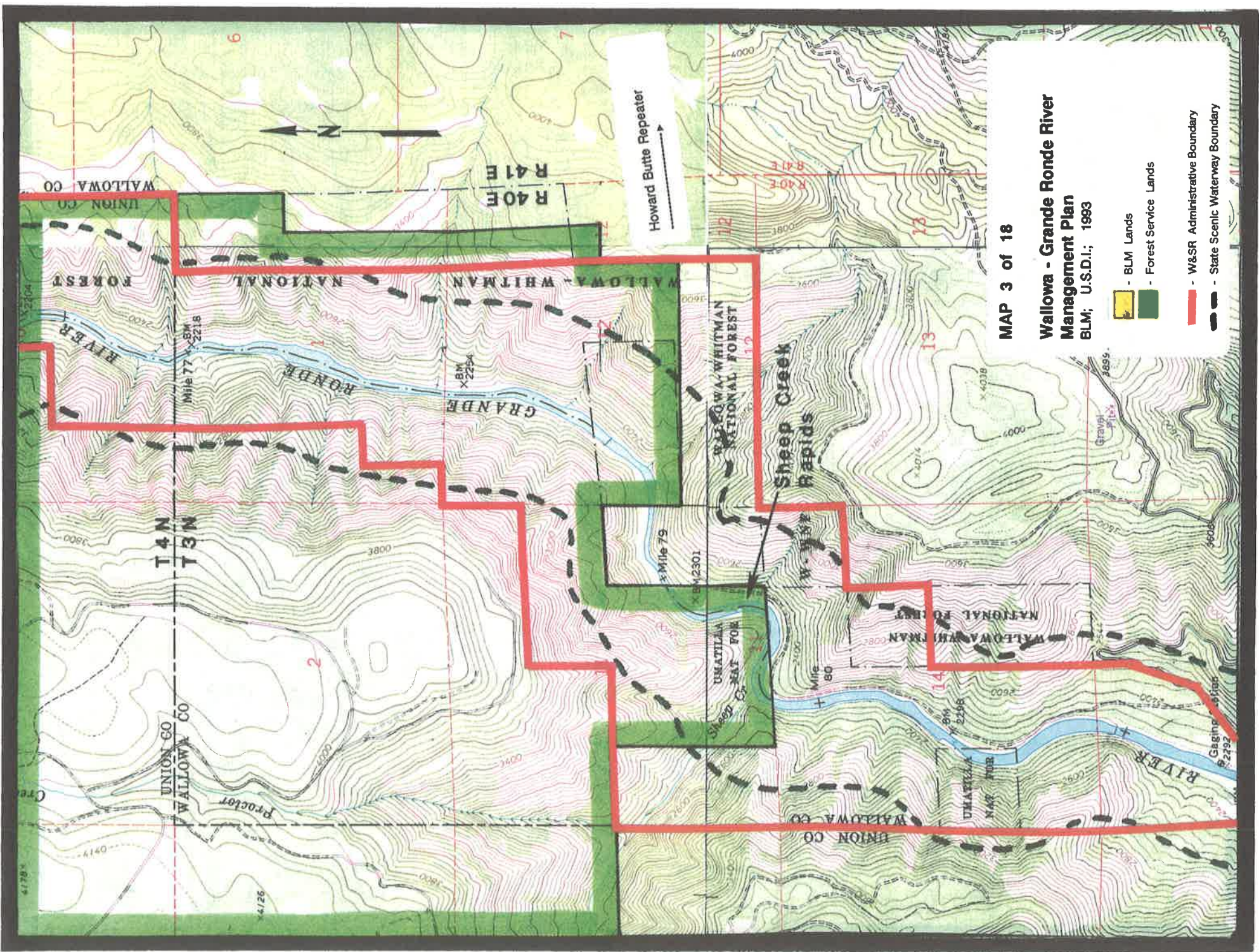
This plan was prepared using three Citizens Ad Hoc Teams and an interdisciplinary team approach (a list of river planning team members and resource specialists is included in Appendix C). The planning process provided opportunities for involvement of State and local governments and interested citizens in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968, including all amendments.



MAP 1 of 18

**Wallowa - Grande Ronde River  
Management Plan  
BLM; U.S.D.I.; 1993**

- BLM Lands
- Forest Service Lands
- State Lands
- W&SR Administrative Boundary
- State Scenic Waterway Boundary

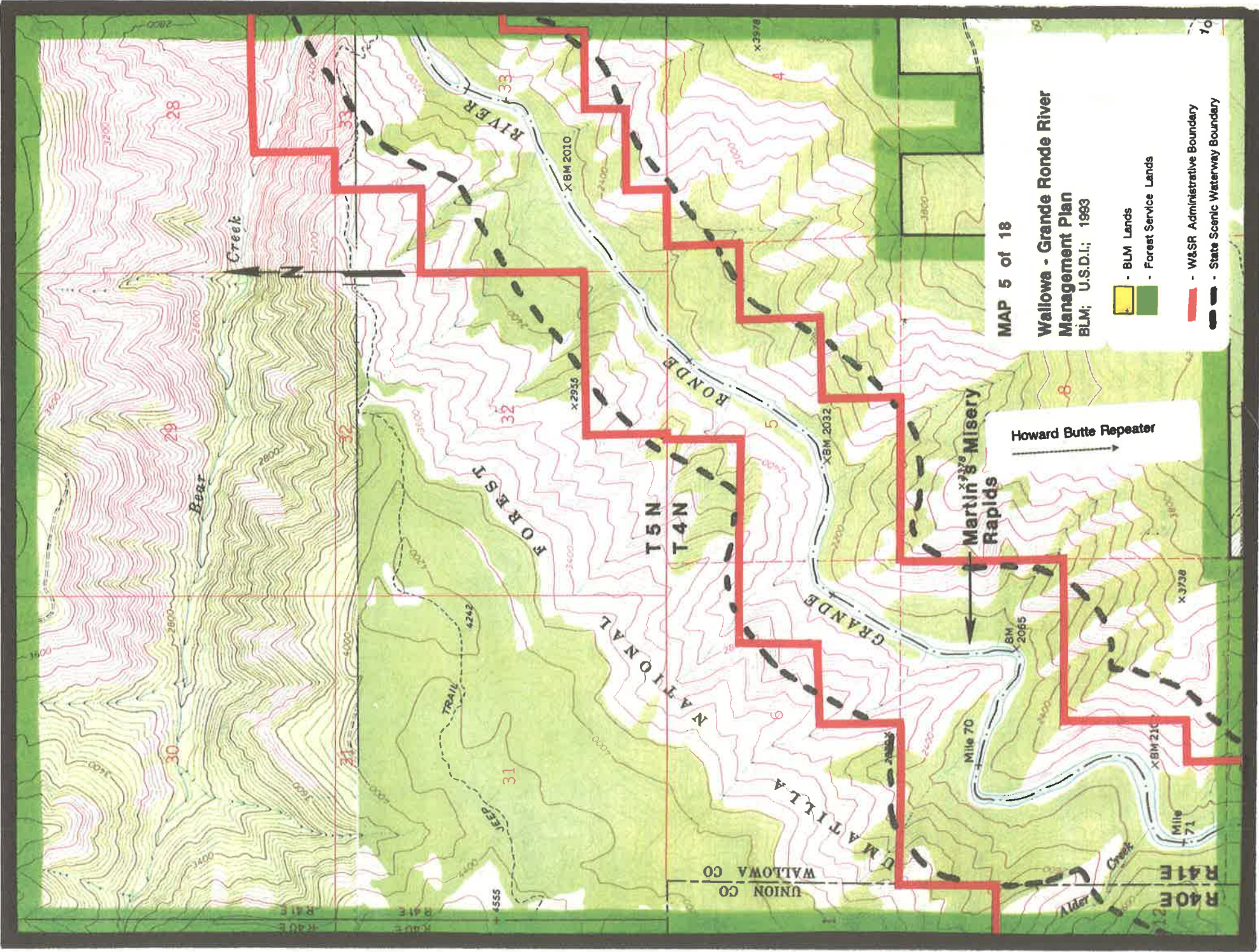


MAP 3 of 18

**Wallowa - Grande Ronde River  
Management Plan**  
BLM; U.S.D.I.; 1993

-  - BLM Lands
-  - Forest Service Lands
-  - W&SR Administrative Boundary
-  - State Scenic Watershed Boundary

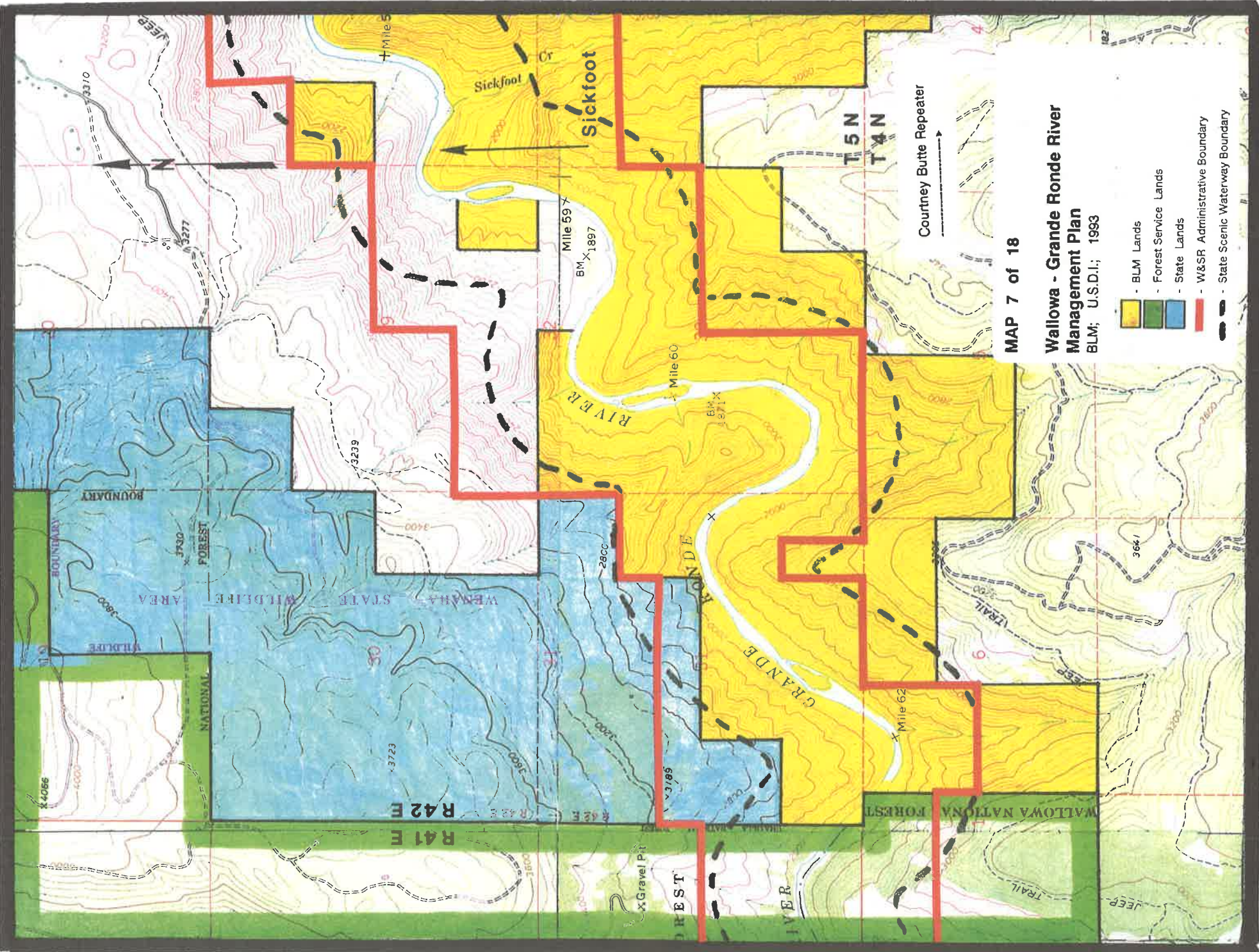
Howard Butte Repeater  
↑



MAP 5 of 18

**Wallowa - Grande Ronde River  
Management Plan**  
BLM; U.S.D.I.; 1993

- BLM Lands
- Forest Service Lands
- W&SR Administrative Boundary
- State Scenic Waterway Boundary



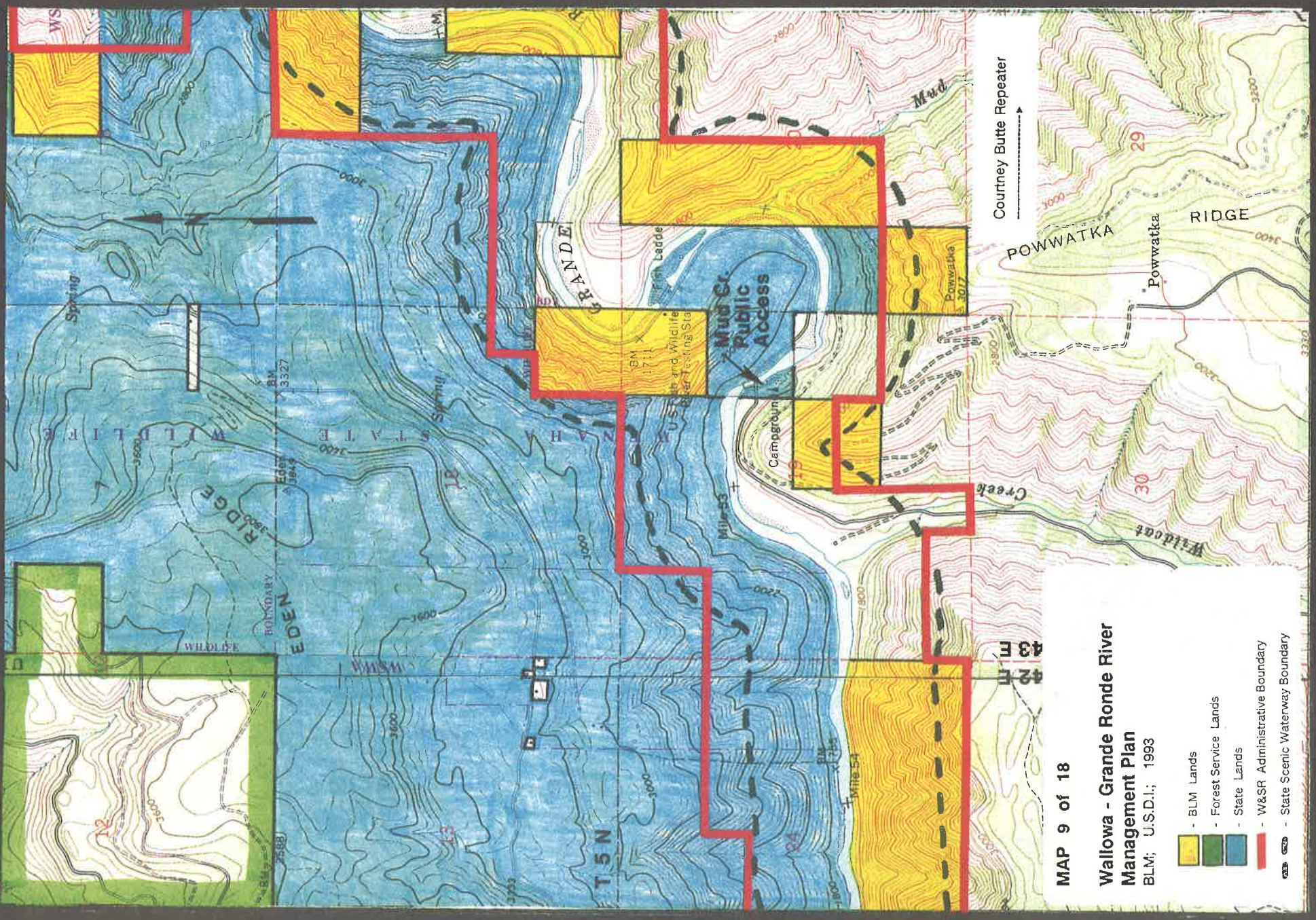
MAP 7 of 18

**Wallowa - Grande Ronde River  
Management Plan**  
BLM; U.S.D.I.; 1993

- BLM Lands
- Forest Service Lands
- State Lands
- W&SR Administrative Boundary
- State Scenic Waterway Boundary

Courtney Butte Repeater





MAP 9 of 18

**Wallowa - Grande Ronde River Management Plan**

BLM; U.S.D.I.; 1993

- BLM Lands
- Forest Service Lands
- State Lands
- W&SR Administrative Boundary
- State Scenic Waterway Boundary

Courtney Butte Repeater



POWWATKA RIDGE

Wildcat

42 E  
43 E

T 5 N

Spring

WILDLIFE

BOUNDARY

EDGE MOUNTAIN RIDGE

STATE

Spring

GRANDE RONDE

Grande Ronde

Mud Cr. Public Access

Camogrum

Mud

Powwatka

30

29

RIDGE

Powwatka

3200

3300

3400

3500

3600

3700

3800

3900

4000

4100

4200

4300

4400

4500

4600

4700

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5200

5300

5400

5500

5600

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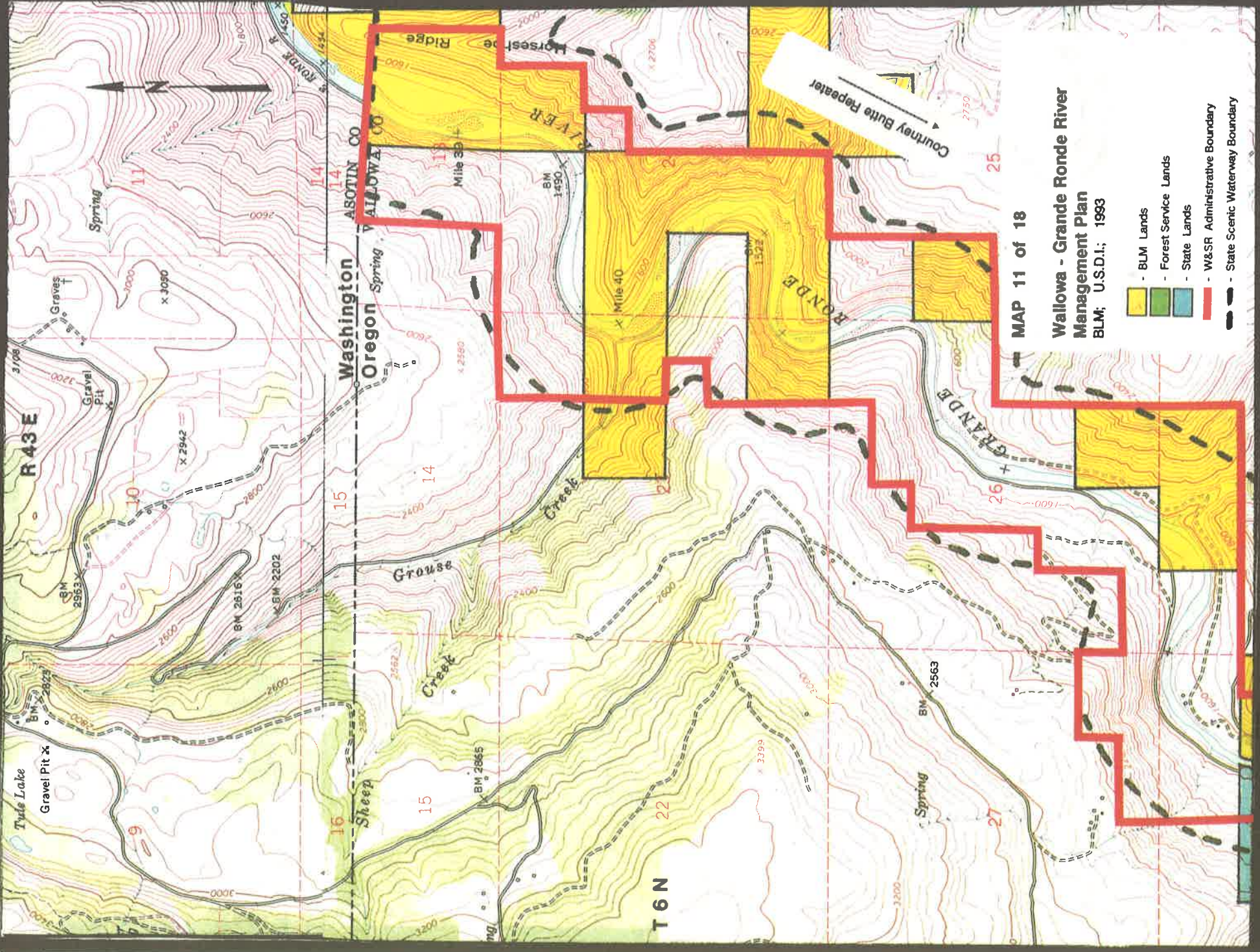
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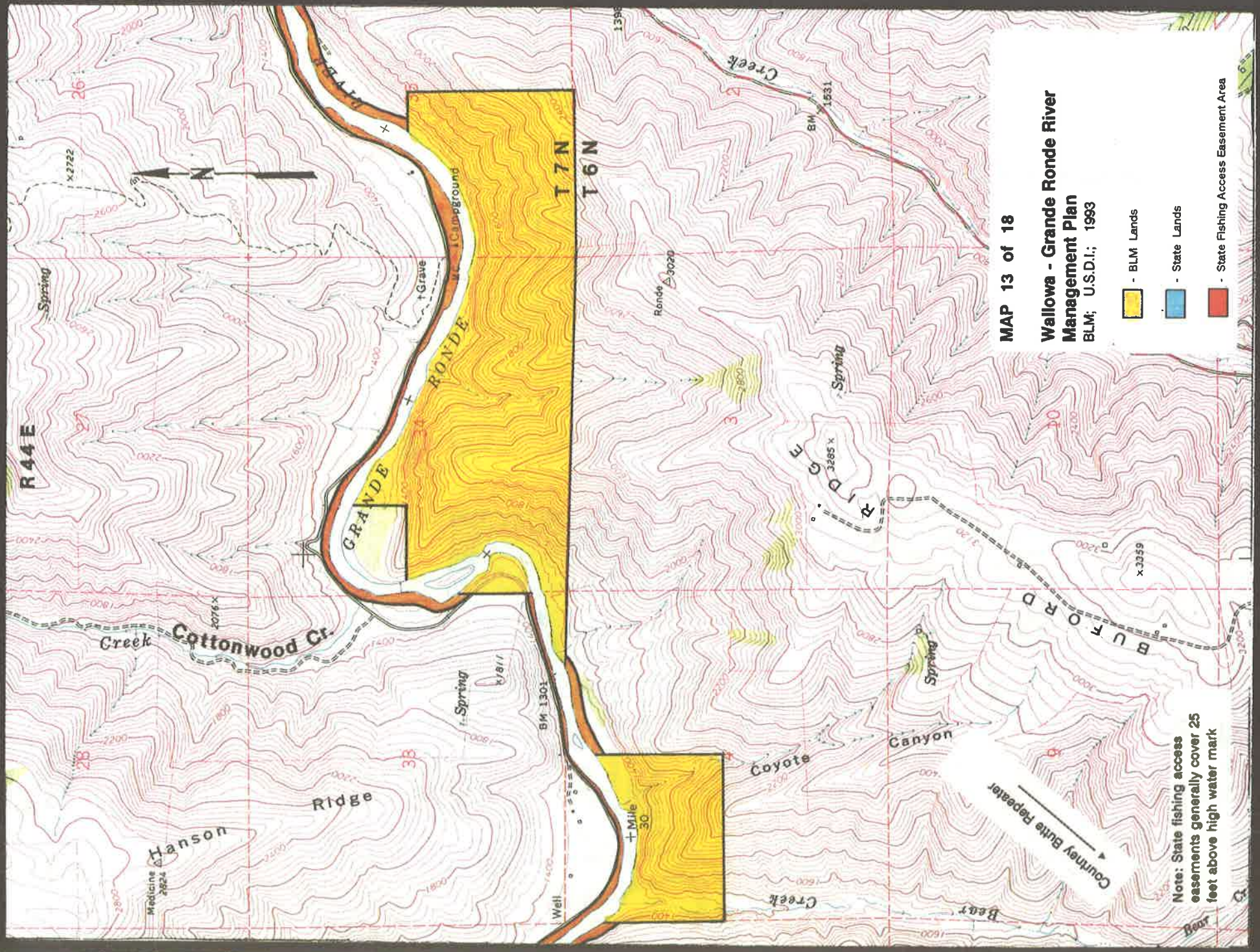




MAP 11 of 18

**Wallowa - Grande Ronde River  
Management Plan**  
BLM; U.S.D.I.; 1993

- BLM Lands
- Forest Service Lands
- State Lands
- W&SR Administrative Boundary
- State Scenic Waterway Boundary

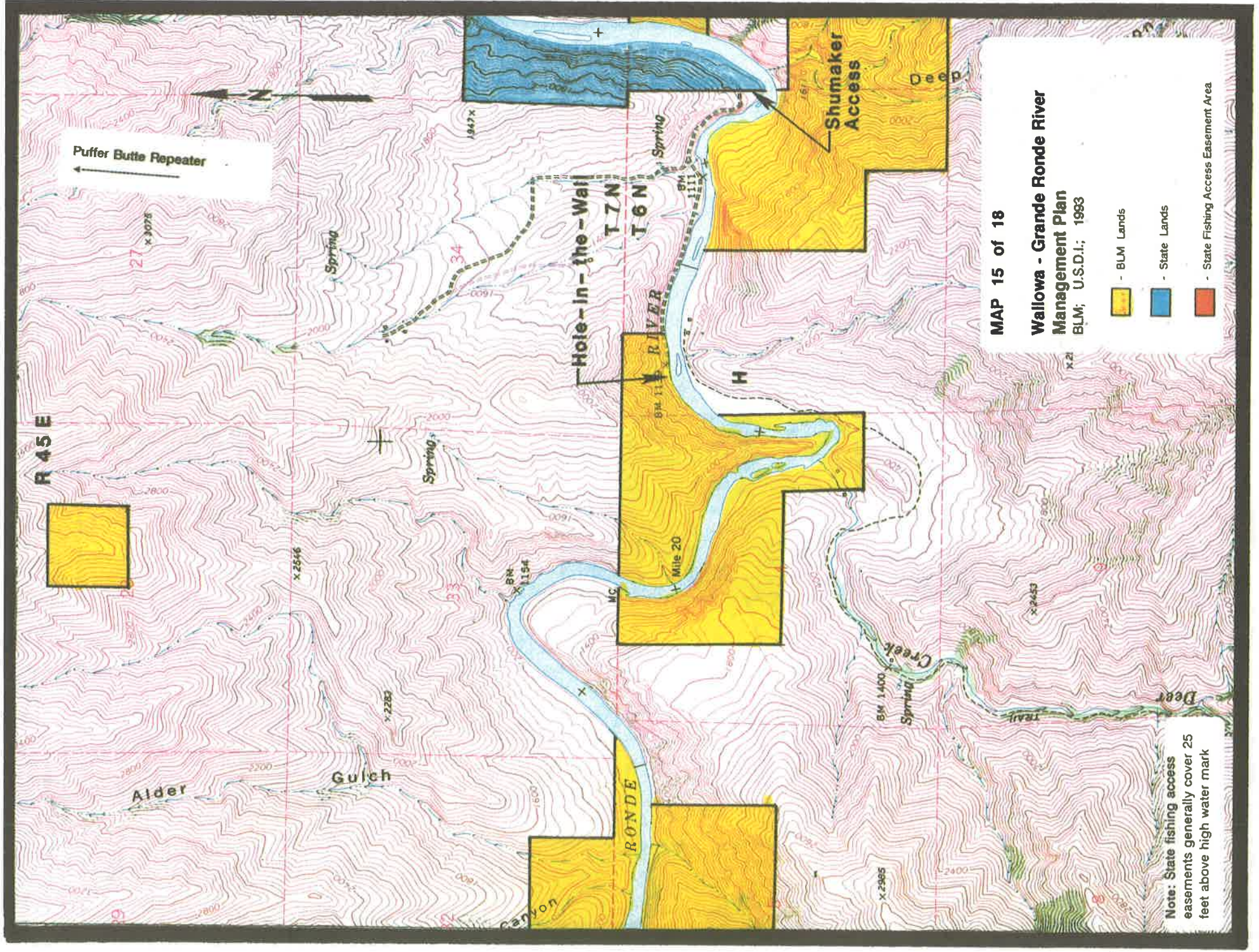


MAP 13 of 18

**Wallowa - Grande Ronde River  
Management Plan**  
BLM; U.S.D.I.; 1993

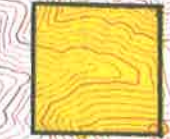
- BLM Lands
- State Lands
- State Fishing Access Easement Area

Note: State fishing access easements generally cover 25 feet above high water mark



Puffer Butte Repeater  
 ←

R 45 E



Alder

Gulch

Canyon

Hole-in-the-Wall

T 7 N

T 6 N

GRANDE RONDE RIVER

Mile 20

Shumaker Access

x 2985

BM 1400

BM 1154

BM 1111

Spring

Spring

Spring

Deer Creek Spring

Trail

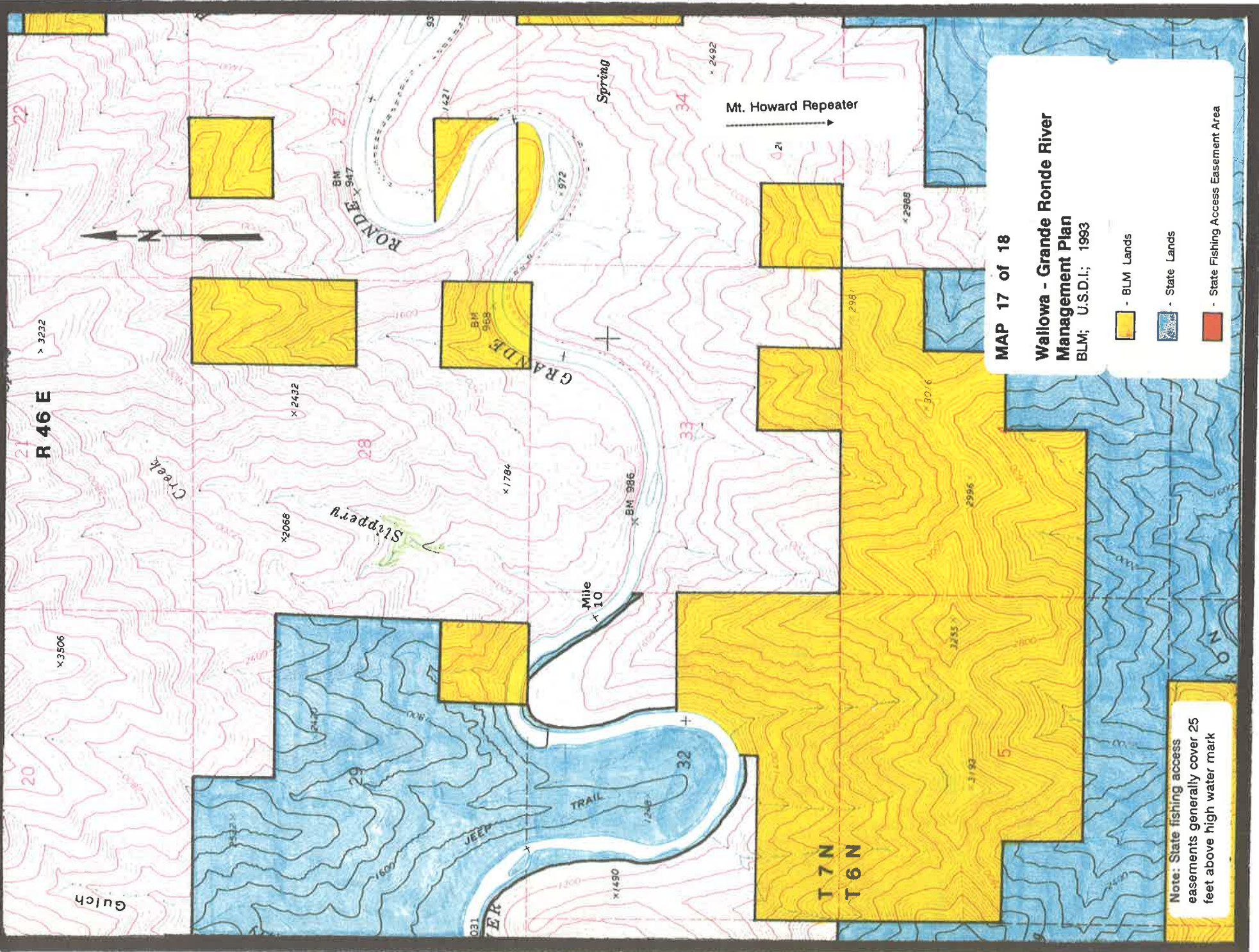
Deer

MAP 15 of 18

Wallowa - Grande Ronde River  
 Management Plan  
 BLM; U.S.D.I.; 1993

- BLM Lands
- State Lands
- State Fishing Access Easement Area

Note: State fishing access easements generally cover 25 feet above high water mark



**MAP 17 of 18**

**Wallowa - Grande Ronde River  
Management Plan**  
BLM; U.S.D.I.; 1993

- BLM Lands
- State Lands
- State Fishing Access Easement Area

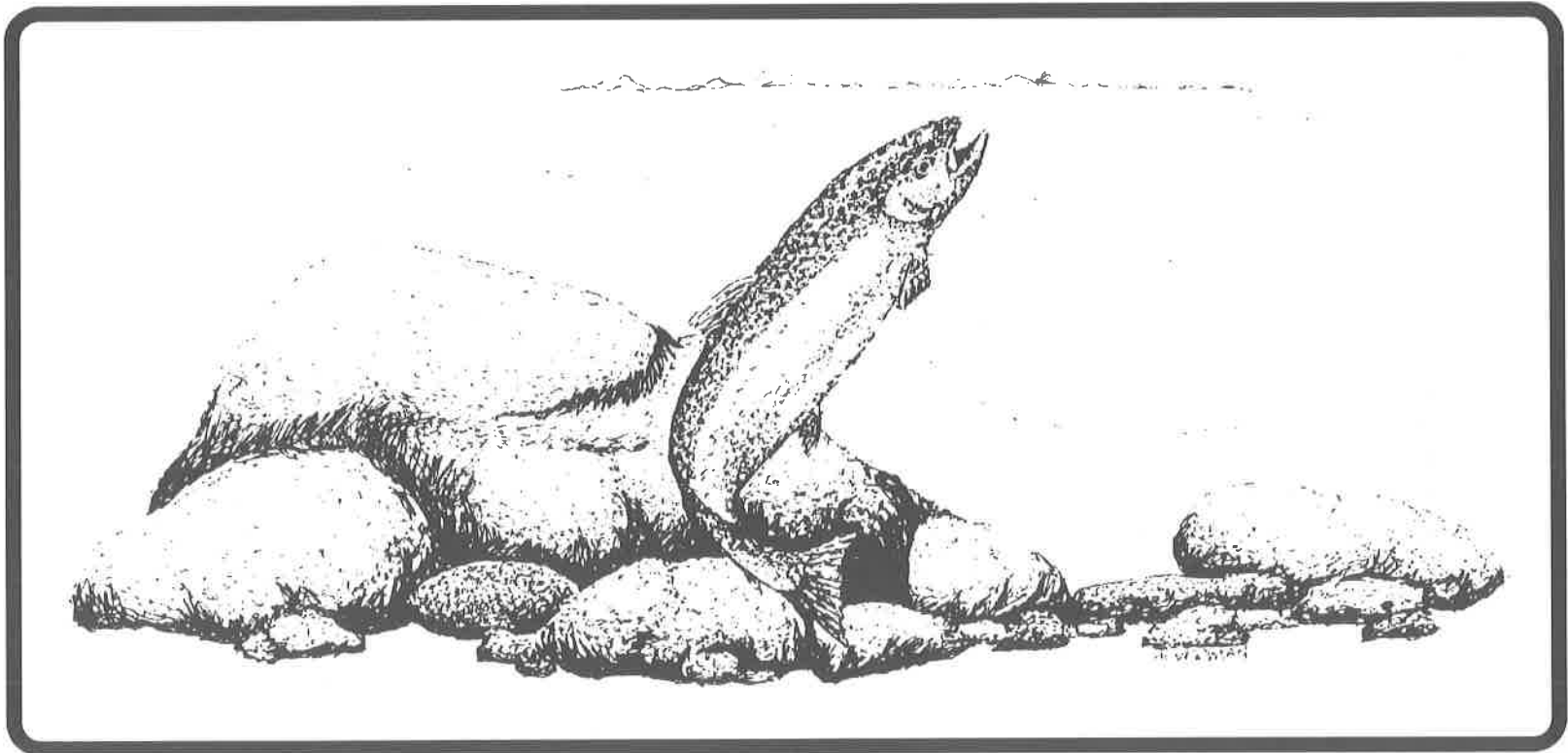
**Note:** State fishing access easements generally cover 25 feet above high water mark



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# *CHAPTER 1 - INTRODUCTION*





Program, established in 1970 by the State of Oregon, is administered through the State Parks and Recreation Department and is a component of this plan through the Department's Administrative Rules process.

The Grande Ronde River in Washington is included in the Washington State (Asotin County) Shoreline Program and carries additional management guidelines as identified in Chapter 5 of this plan.

A short segment of the Wenaha National Wild and Scenic River overlaps designation with the Grande Ronde at the town of Troy, Oregon. That sector of the Wenaha has the same issues and concerns common to the Grande Ronde corridor. Therefore, this plan will provide direction for management of the 0.15 mile recreation segment of the Wenaha. The result of this planning effort is one management plan for the Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers system that provides the user, private landowners, and managing agencies a single source document that establishes management direction.

#### ***PURPOSE AND NEED***

Congress has directed the Department of Interior through the Bureau of Land Management to prepare a coordinated Wild and Scenic River Management Plan for the designated sections of the Grande Ronde River. In addition, the Bureau of Land Management is also preparing a River Management Plan for the Wallowa River which is proposed for designations by the Forest Service as a part of the overall planning effort. Because of the proximity of the two rivers, common public interests and issues, and timing of the planning efforts, it was appropriate to combine the analysis into a joint plan covering both rivers.

The purpose of the analysis and planning is to establish the desired future conditions and management directions for each of the rivers. As part of development of the plan, identification of appropriate management boundaries was needed for the rivers. The goal was to provide for protection and enhancement of the identified Outstandingly Remarkable Values including the scenic, recreational, fisheries, and wildlife values and others of high quality. Another goal was to provide for public and landowner interest in the management of the river, as far as possible, within the scope of the laws and

regulations concerning Wild and Scenic rivers, Oregon State Scenic Waterways, and Asotin County Shoreline. The overall intent of the rivers management plan is to guide the specific development or activities within the river corridors.

#### ***PROPOSED ACTION***

The proposed action is the development of a comprehensive river management plan for the Grande Ronde River as a result of Congressional designation via Omnibus Oregon Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1988 and for the Wallowa Wild and Scenic Study river expected to be designated through Legislative Environmental Impact Statement (LEIS) proposals developed by the Forest Service (Jan. 1993). This action also includes development of this plan to meet the requirements of the Oregon State Scenic Waterway program and the Washington State, Asotin County Shoreline Program.

#### ***RELATED FEDERAL, TRIBAL, STATE AND LOCAL PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITIES***

Although the Omnibus Oregon Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1988 assigned a Special river planning and management role to a unique blend of Federal, Tribal, State and local entities and citizen users, it was not the first cooperative planning and resource management effort in the Wallowa/Grande Ronde River area. The same mix of landownership and authorities has been applied to a wide variety of resources and joint programs for many years. County plans have been developed under State guidelines in close consultation and coordination with Federal agencies and the public since the late 1970's. Federal plans, such as the BLM's Vale District Baker Resource Management Plan, have been developed with substantial interagency review. Special emphasis programs, such as wildfire control, historic preservation, noxious weed control and wildlife habitat enhancement are routinely coordinated among agencies, landowners and other affected publics. It is expected that most of these resource management relationships will remain unchanged as a result of this river management plan. The responsibility for implementation of management actions within the framework of this plan, identified in Chapter 3, will be taken by the following agencies. Each agency will use authorities for lands and/or land uses under their individual jurisdictions.



### ***FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION***

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission is an independent, five member commission with the Department of Energy that retained many of the functions of Federal Power Commission.

The Federal Power Commission (FPC) has jurisdiction over the power values in the public lands which are classified, withdrawn, or reserved for power purpose by virtue of Section 24 of the Federal Power Act of June 10, 1920.

The Geological Survey (GS) has authority to classify the public lands for power and certain other purposes by virtue of the act of March 3, 1879 (43 U.S.C. 31), and delegation from the Secretary of Interior.

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has certain management jurisdiction of the surface and subsurface resources, but not including the power values therein, in public lands classified, withdrawn, or served for power purposes by delegation from the Secretary of the Interior. A Memorandum of Understanding (July 20, 1966) between FPC and Department of the Interior sets out each agencies responsibilities and needed concurrences on withdrawn lands.

### ***NORTHWEST POWER PLANNING AND COUNCIL***

The Bonneville Power Administration (BPA), FS and BLM coordinate resource management programs through a memorandum of understanding. The memorandum allows regional and district coordination where similar interests exist in water resources and major utility corridors. The BLM, FS, BPA and the Northwest Power Planning Council (NPPC), through authorization by the Pacific Northwest Electric Power Planning and Conservation Act (P.L.96-501), are involved in stabilization and improvement of anadromous fish habitat, including riparian zones, through grants provided by the BPA. The BPA also assists the BLM, FS, and others in identifying and evaluating regional utility corridor options.

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) reviews proposals for new power sites, and interstate energy-related pipelines; however, designation

of the Grande Ronde as a Federal Wild and Scenic River precludes future dams or instream diversion structures, on the designated portion, which might be permitted by FERC.

### ***TRIBAL GOVERNMENT***

The Grande Ronde/Wallowa Wild and Scenic planning area is within the lands that were ceded to the United States Government, through a ratified treaty, by the Nez Perce Tribe. The river planning area does not include any reservation lands. Under the provisions of the 1855 Treaty, the Nez Perce Tribe reserved the right on ceded lands for its members to take fish in all usual and accustomed places, to hunt, gather roots and berries, and to pasture livestock on unclaimed lands in common with citizens. The courts have defined unclaimed lands as all Federal lands. The Nez Perce Tribe continues to use the area for hunting, fishing and other traditional practices at usual and accustomed places. The Nez Perce Tribe actively pursues protection of cultural and sacred sites, which include burials, and their treaty rights. The Tribe also jointly manages the fish and wildlife secured to them by treaty in the planning area, along with state and Federal agencies.

Lands neighboring the planning area were ceded by 1855 Treaty with the Umatilla, Cayuse, and Walla Walla tribes. That treaty reserved to the tribes rights to fish at usual and accustomed places on reaches of the Grande Ronde beyond the boundaries of the planning area. Accordingly, the Nez Perce and the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla mutually support interest and concern for the fishery habitat of the Grande Ronde River drainage as a whole. Historically, portions of the Nez Perce treaty lands of the Grande Ronde and Wallowa Rivers planning area were also used by the Cayuse Tribe for fishing, hunting, and gathering.

The American Indian Religious Freedom Act affirms the right of Native Americans to believe, express, and exercise their traditional religions; including access to sacred sites, use and possession of sacred objects, and the freedom to worship through ceremonial and traditional rites. In the Wallowa and Grande Ronde/Wallowa river planning area, sites may exist which are considered sacred or important to the practice of religion by members of the Nez Perce tribe, or individuals of closely related tribes. The Native American





potential impacts on aesthetic and scenic values, as viewed from the river. Property owners wanting to build roads or houses, develop mines, harvest timber, or other similar projects, must provide written notification to the Oregon State Parks and Recreation Department. Parks evaluation of the project will be coordinated with other natural resource agencies (federal and state) having regulatory responsibility and with the local jurisdiction. Parks relies on its river classification and administrative rules for each segment of the scenic waterway to determine whether the proposed project is incompatible or inconsistent with the designated classification. State Parks will work with the landowner to reach a mutually satisfactory resolution of any conflicts. Where such a resolution cannot be reached, the Commission must decide, within one year of the original notification, whether to pay the property owner for the land or the development rights, or allow the landowner to proceed in accordance with the original written notification.

A number of agencies other than Oregon State Parks have land management and/or land use responsibilities within the Grande Ronde and Willowa state Scenic Waterway corridors. Most of both corridors are within Willowa County, with a few small portions in Union County. The Willowa River Scenic Waterway is under study for inclusion in the federal Wild and Scenic Rivers program; lead agency for the study is the Willowa-Whitman National Forest. The Grande Ronde Scenic Waterway is designated under the federal Wild and Scenic Rivers program; lead management agency is the Baker Resource Area, Vale District of the Bureau of Land Management. A memorandum of understanding between the United States Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management with Oregon State Parks has provided the framework by which the USFS and BLM will notify and consult with State Parks regarding land use activity on federal lands.

#### ***OREGON STATE MARINE BOARD***

The Oregon State Marine Board was established in 1959. The Board promotes safe recreational boating and regulates the use of watercraft on waterways throughout the state. All motorized watercraft and sailboats over 12' in length are required to be titled and registered with the Marine Board. Fishing and hunting guides and outfitters who operate in Oregon are also required to register with the Board.

The Board has the authority to adopt rules governing the operation of recreational watercraft including the ability to “make special regulations relating to the operation of boats, including the establishment of designated speeds and prohibition of the use of motorboats for the protection of game and game fish at the request of the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, or the carrying out of the provisions of the federal Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, Public Law 90-542, and the Oregon Scenic Waterways Act, ORS 390.805 to 390.925.”

State boating laws and operating rules are enforced by county sheriffs and the State Police. The Marine Board contracts for local enforcement services and provides the necessary funding for staff, equipment, and training for marine programs in 33 counties. In addition to law enforcement, marine patrols conduct safety inspections, place and maintain uniform waterway markers and navigational aids, and provide search & rescue services.

Grants for the development and maintenance of boating related facilities are also available to state agencies, cities, counties, port authorities, and park and recreation districts from state funds appropriated to the Board. The Board also develops and distributes boating education and safety materials including printed literature, school programs, and informational kiosks at boating access sites. Funds for the Board’s programs and services come from fees paid by boaters, fuel taxes, and federal grants.

#### ***ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION***

The Oregon and Washington Advisory Committees on Historic Preservation consists of nine members recognized professionally in the fields of history, architectural history, architecture, archaeology and/or other disciplines. One member represents the public at large and one represents Native Americans. The members are appointed by the Governor.

The Committees are charged with reviewing nominations to the National Register of Historic Places within the States of Oregon and Washington and recommending approved nominations to the State Historic Preservation offices pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. The committees also review Statewide Plans for Historic Preservation.



The classifications may include domestic, livestock, municipal, irrigation, power, industrial, mining, recreation, wildlife and fish life uses. The State Water Resources Board (predecessor to current Water Resources Commission) adopted a basin program for the Willowa/Grande Ronde River in 1958.

The Scenic Waterway Act prohibits new dams, impoundments, and placer mining in scenic waterways and on tributary streams within scenic waterway boundaries. The Scenic Waterways Act requires Water Resources Commission concurrence on proposed land condemnations, new scenic waterway management plans and scenic waterway additions proposed by State Parks and Recreation Department for designation by the governor. The Water Resources Commission must also find its actions have no adverse effects on flows that support fish, wildlife, and recreation in downstream scenic waterways. In order to make findings the Water Resources Commission approved a scenic waterway flow assessment for the Willowa and Grande Ronde Rivers Scenic Waterways in March of 1992. This assessment reviews the known data for fish, wildlife and recreation.

OWRD issues instream water rights to protect streamflows for public purposes. Instream water rights can be granted in two ways: (1) conversion from minimum perennial stream flows and (2) application from the three state agencies: Department of Fish and Wildlife, Parks and Recreation Department, and Department of Environmental Quality. Any one of the three agencies can also acquire an instream right through donation, lease, or purchase of an out-of-stream right.

#### *OREGON STATE LAND BOARD*

The Division of State Lands (DSL) is the administrative arm of the State Land Board (composed of the Governor, Secretary of State, and State Treasurer). Under constitutional and statutory guidelines, the Board is responsible for managing the assets of the Common School Fund as well as for administering the Oregon Removal-Fill Law. These assets include the beds and banks of Oregon's navigable waterways and are to be managed for the "greatest benefit for the people of this State, consistent with the conservation of this resource under sound techniques of land management."

"DSL also administers the State's removal-fill law, which protects Oregon's waterways from uncontrolled alteration. The permit review process involves coordination with the natural-resource and land-use agencies from the local through the federal levels. Within Oregon Scenic Waterways, special authorization is needed from the Board and DSL for "any alteration of the beds and banks" of the Willowa/Grande Ronde Rivers (ORS 390.835)."

#### *WALLOWA, UNION, AND ASOTIN COUNTY SHERIFF DEPARTMENTS*

All three county sheriff departments are empowered to enforce all Oregon and Washington State Statutes in their respective states. This generally occurs within their respective counties, however they do have authority to cross county lines within state boundaries. Each of the counties has a marine patrol that can be conducted on the river. County sheriff activities are coordinated with State and Federal law enforcement agencies and assisted by the general public. The sheriff departments also enforce river management laws and rules adopted and implemented by the State Marine Board in Oregon and the Asotin County Shoreline Committee in Washington.

#### *COUNTY AND CITY COMPREHENSIVE PLANS*

The Omnibus Oregon Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1988, the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 and the National Environmental Protection Act of 1969 (as amended) all encourage or mandate intergovernmental coordination, consultation and, where possible, plan consistency. Since the Omnibus Act envisioned a high reliance on local comprehensive plans to achieve the objectives of the Act, a review and analysis of the adequacy of the existing plans for Willowa, Union counties in Oregon and Asotin county, Washington is critical.

The comprehensive plans for Willowa and Union Counties in Oregon have been acknowledged by the Oregon Land Conservation and Development Commission and are in conformance with statewide planning goals and objectives. Under Section 202 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act all BLM plans, including RMP's and site-specific activity plans (such as the Willowa/Grande Ronde River Plan), must be consistent, insofar as possible, with officially approved or adopted State and local agencies'



The plan identifies potential natural hazards, sensitive fish, wildlife and plant habitats, significant visual resources and water quality protection needs. The plan constrains potential mineral development, urges the use of low toxicity pesticides and provides for the protection of historical resources. The plan supports recreation site, trail and facility development, provided that adequate protection is offered to adjoining landowners and on-site sensitive resources. Improved and additional recreational access receives limited endorsement. The absence of extensive population growth has resulted in few new structures in the river corridor since the shoreline plan was drafted. There are no incorporated cities within the river corridor in Asotin County.

In summary the Asotin County Shoreline plan provides a moderate degree of specific protection of natural and cultural resources in the Grande Ronde River corridor. It supports recreational and economic activities that complement the agricultural life-style and economic base of the county.

### *LOCATION AND ACCESS*

The Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers corridor from Minam, Oregon to Heller Bar, Washington is located in northeast Oregon in Wallowa and Union Counties and in southeast Washington in Asotin County (Map Overview).

Boating access (put-in) and landing (take-out) points on the Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers are largely determined by motor vehicle accessibility. The most popular put-in point from which to begin a float trip is located near the community of Minam at the confluence of the Minam and the Wallowa Rivers off State Highway 82. Other popular put-in points include Mud Creek on the Grande Ronde River (one-half mile downstream from the Powwatka Bridge above Troy), the town of Troy, and Boggan's Oasis in Washington where State Highway 129 crosses the Grande Ronde.

The most frequently used take-out points on the upper half of the Grande Ronde (above Troy) are Mud Creek, and the town of Troy. The most popular take-out points on the lower Grande Ronde (below Troy) are Shumaker and Heller Bar near the confluence of the Grande Ronde and Snake Rivers.

Most sections of the Wallowa and Grande Ronde are roadless, untrailed, and primitive. Along the Wallowa River, the Union Pacific Railroad follows the river for 10 miles. A country road parallels the Grande Ronde River for 27 miles from the Powwatka Bridge at Wildcat Creek, downstream to Boggan's Oasis, Washington.

### *AREA SIZE AND OWNERSHIP*

Boise Cascade Corporation and several local ranchers control land use along the Wallowa River from Minam to approximately 2 miles below the confluence of the Wallowa and the Grande Ronde Rivers. The BLM manages 340 acres along the east bank of the Wallowa River. On the stretch of the Grande Ronde between its confluence with the Wallowa River and the town of Troy, the Walla Walla Ranger District of the Umatilla National Forest manages 17 miles of river frontage and the Baker Resource Area of the BLM's Vale District manages 9 miles. The remaining frontage, approximately 11 miles, is in State of Oregon or private ownership. On the lower half of the Grande Ronde, between Troy and the Snake River, a total of 48 miles, the Baker Resource Area of the BLM manages 13 miles of river frontage. The remaining 35 miles is in State (Oregon or Washington) and private ownership.

State ownership to the beds of navigable waterbodies was granted to Oregon in 1859 as an incidence of statehood and is an inherent attribute of state sovereignty protected by the U.S. Constitution. Currently, both the state and federal government and in some cases private property owners, claim ownership of the river's bed and bank. While the long term resolution of this issue is not the subject of this river plan, the future management implications are obvious. Therefore, while there may be disagreement on ownership, it is vitally important that there be agreement on the management philosophy for the Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers.

Under state law, the Division of State Lands (DSL) is responsible for the management of the beds and banks of navigable waterbodies (ORS 274.005-274.590). DSL is the administrative arm of the State Land Board (the Board), composed of the Governor, Secretary of State, and State Treasurer. Under constitutional and statutory guidelines, the Board is responsible for



affirmatively to the earlier 2,500 mailing. Comments to the draft plan/EA are in Appendix F. These contacts represent a large cross section of interested river publics.

In 1989, the BLM established two citizens Ad Hoc Work Groups, one in Oregon and one in Washington, to provide planning direction for the development of the Wallowa/Grande Ronde River Management Plan. These teams consisted of representatives from state agencies, county government, Indian Nations, local communities, conservation groups, forest industries, agricultural industries, commercial outfitters, noncommercial recreation groups, and private landowners. The two citizens teams have spent many hours of volunteer time meeting with their constituents, attending team meetings, developing plan objectives, formulating issues and management alternatives. The teams have met 34 times in different locals from Joseph, OR., to Asotin, WA., providing the agencies with invaluable assistance in developing the Wallowa/Grande Ronde River Management Plan.

During this same period, the Forest Service, Wallowa-Whitman National Forest, established an Ad-Hoc citizens team to assist them in the development of a Suitability/Eligibility Study for the Wallowa River from Minam to Rondowa, under the direction of the 1988 Rivers Act. The study was independent of this management plan. However, the issues identified under the Wallowa River segment of this plan, and many of the management actions, are a direct result of input from this study group.

A summary of public comments received throughout the planning process, are included in Appendix F.

### ***DECISIONS TO BE MADE***

Specific decisions need to be made regarding the following items:

- Specific determination of the river corridor boundaries to facilitate management and protection of the rivers;
- resource use and management activities that will occur;

- acquisition of conservation easements on private lands;
- will mineral withdrawals be requested;
- the level of protection and enhancement for resource values;
- whether additional management direction (standards and guidelines) are required to achieve desired future conditions; and
- the need to amend existing management plans.

### ***CONFORMANCE WITH EXISTING MANAGEMENT PLANS***

The Baker Resource Management Plan (BLM) and the Umatilla and Wallowa/Whitman Forest Plans (FS) support the development of this plan as directed by the National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act and Oregon State Scenic Waterways Act for those river segments within Oregon and the Baker Resource Management plan for the Washington segment. This river plan is also supported by the Oregon State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan and the Asotin County Shoreline Plan in Washington.

The Baker RMP provides the following decision on the Grande Ronde Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC): Public lands on the Grande Ronde River (9,715 acres) in Oregon and Washington, and on the Snake River in Washington, are designated and will be managed as an ACEC. Within the ACEC, approximately 2,570 acres of BLM lands are included within the boundaries of the Grande Ronde Wild and Scenic River. The ACEC will be managed to promote protection of the area's unique natural, scenic, geologic, ecologic, and cultural resource values; and to protect wildlife habitat and enhance recreation opportunities. Geologic system values of the Goosenecks National Natural Landmark near the mouth of the Grande Ronde will be protected. The visual resource will be protected within the viewshed corridor along the rivers; only those uses compatible with maintaining visual resource classifications will be allowed. Habitat for bald eagles, raptors, game and non-game species, and anadromous fish will be maintained or improved in cooperation with federal and state agencies. A management plan will be

# *CHAPTER 2 - EXISTING SITUATION*





The Grande Ronde River offers a diversity of landscapes that contain those visual qualities that result in outstandingly remarkable scenic values. This finding confirms the Congressional Record relating to the scenic values of the Grande Ronde River.

**RECREATIONAL**

Criteria for Outstandingly Remarkable Rating

Recreational opportunities are, or have the potential to be, unique enough to attract visitors from outside of the geographic region. Visitors would be willing to travel long distances to use the river resources for recreational purposes. River-related opportunities could include, but not be limited to, sight-seeing, wildlife observation, photography, hiking, fishing, hunting, and boating.

Interpretive opportunities may be exceptional and attract or have the potential to attract visitors from outside the geographic region.

The river may provide or have the potential to provide settings for national or regional usage or competitive events.

Evaluation of the Present Situation

Use surveys conducted in 1984, and over the period of 1987-1991, show that the Grande Ronde River is visited by recreationists of geographically diverse origins. Eighty-four percent of visitors to the river are from outside northeast Oregon. In addition, 22 percent are visitors from outside the tri-state region of Oregon, Washington, and Idaho. International visitors have also been present each season.

Visitors travel long distances to recreate along the Grande Ronde River because it has the following attributes:

- The river is floatable from ice break-up in the spring until freeze-up in the winter for 2 years out of 5. This is an unusually long float season for a free flowing river.

- The river provides a rare, 2 to 5 day duration, primitive float experience for individuals of beginning and moderate skill levels.
- The recreational experience occurs within a pleasingly diverse landscape. Typical float trips begin in a setting dominated by coniferous forests and end in a semi-arid grassland steppe.
- Existing recreational uses that are exceptional in quality include: anadromous and resident fishing, floating (rafting, canoeing, and kayaking for overnight use), and big game viewing/hunting.

Conclusion

The recreational opportunities available on and near the Grande Ronde River are determined to be of outstandingly remarkable value. This finding confirms the Congressional record relating to the recreational value of the Grande Ronde River.

**GEOLOGIC**

Criteria for Outstandingly Remarkable Rating

The river or the areas within the river corridor contains an example(s) of a geologic feature, process, or phenomena that is rare, unusual, one-of-a-kind, or unique to the geographic region. The feature(s) may be in an unusually active stage of development, represent a "textbook" example and/or represent a unique or rare combination of geologic features (erosional, volcanic, glacial, and other geologic structures).

Evaluation of the Present Situation

The Grande Ronde River flows in a canyon eroded primarily through the Columbia River Basalt Group and Associated sedimentary interbeds. At the confluence with the Snake River, erosion has exposed an older limestone formation. Volcanic and erosional features such as rooster combs, devil's post piles, caves, talus slopes, rim rocks and narrow tributary canyons add visual diversity to the recreation experience and increase the visitor's interest in the area. However, the nearby Snake River in the Hells Canyon National



of species is an important consideration and could in itself lead to a determination of outstandingly remarkable.

Habitat: The river or area within the river corridor provides exceptionally high quality habitat for wildlife of national or regional significance, or may provide unique habitat or a critical link in habitat conditions for federal or state listed or candidate threatened, endangered, and species. Contiguous habitat conditions are such that the biological needs of the species are met. Diversity of habitats is an important consideration and could, in itself, lead to a determination of outstandingly remarkable.

Evaluation of the Present Situation

The Grande Ronde River corridor is a highly sensitive wintering area for the bald eagle (a federally listed threatened species in Oregon and Washington) and has the potential for providing nesting habitat based upon historical use. The Grande Ronde is encompassed in an Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Special Management Area for bighorn sheep, elk, mule deer, and whitetail deer. The river corridor provides critical wintering habitat for these species. There is an exceptional diversity of species affording excellent viewing opportunities for game and nongame species. Major species include waterfowl, herons, shorebirds, raptors, upland birds, perching birds, river otters, mink, black bear, bobcat, turkey, and mountain lion. The wildlife resource within the canyon corridor is an important Nez Perce subsistence hunting treaty area.

Conclusion

The quality and importance of the habitat and its resulting wildlife species diversity qualifies this resource to be considered and outstandingly remarkable value. This finding confirms the Congressional Record relating to wildlife values of the Grande Ronde River.

*PRE-HISTORIC, CULTURAL*

Criteria for Outstandingly Remarkable Rating

The river or area within the river corridor contains a site(s) where there is evidence of occupation or use by Native Americans. Site(s) must have unusual

characteristics or exceptional human interest value(s). Sites may have national or regional importance for interpreting prehistory; may be rare and represent an area where a culture or cultural period was first identified and described; may have been used concurrently by two or more cultural groups; or may have been used by cultural groups for rare or sacred purposes. Of particular significance are sites or features listed in, or are eligible for inclusion in, the National Register of Historic Places.

Evaluation of the Present Situation

The river corridor was extensively utilized by Native Americans for over 8,000 years as a hunting, fishing, and gathering area. There are also indications of religious uses of the area associated with Native Americans. No systematic cultural resource inventories have been completed for the river corridor. It is known, however, that all river flats were occupied, at least seasonally, and that pit houses, sweat lodges, and rock shelters are present.

Conclusion

Although no cultural resource inventories have been completed for the Grande Ronde River corridor, there are indications the area was extensively utilized. Its significance regionally or nationally is yet to be determined. A cultural inventory to identify sites in the river corridor will be completed with a determination of resource significance. During the interim, known and discovered sites are protected under existing statutes, regulations and policy.

*HISTORIC, CULTURAL*

Criteria for Outstandingly Remarkable Rating

The river or area within the river corridor contains a site(s) or feature(s) associated with a significant event, an important person, or a cultural activity of the past that was rare, unusual or one-of-a-kind in the region. A historic site(s) and/or feature(s) in most cases is 50 years old or older. Of particular significance are sites or features listed in, or are eligible for inclusion in, the National Register of Historic Places.



**TABLE 2: AVERAGE MONTHLY AND ANNUAL RUNOFF, 1927-1982  
GRANDE RONDE RIVER AT RONDOWA**

Month	Minimum (CFS)	Maximum (CFS)	Mean (CFS)	Standard Deviation (CFS)	Coefficient Of Variation	Percent of Annual Runoff
OCTOBER	343	1978	641	266	.41	2.5
NOVEMBER	342	3346	858	491	.57	3.3
DECEMBER	358	3942	1256	858	.68	4.8
JANUARY	298	3554	1326	845	.64	5.1
FEBRUARY	395	5029	1791	1055	.59	6.9
MARCH	611	7600	2674	1215	.45	10.3
APRIL	1498	8089	4274	1540	.36	16.5
MAY	1965	10010	5576	1795	.32	21.5
JUNE	1561	9662	4709	1914	.41	18.1
JULY	345	4692	1712	933	.54	6.6
AUGUST	269	1098	589	210	.36	2.3
SEPTEMBER	318	933	543	151	.28	2.1
ANNUAL	855	3416	2160	608	.28	100.00

**TABLE 3: AVERAGE MONTHLY AND ANNUAL RUNOFF, 1945-1982  
GRANDE RONDE RIVER AT TROY**

Month	Minimum (CFS)	Maximum (CFS)	Mean (CFS)	Standard Deviation (CFS)	Coefficient Of Variation	Percent of Annual Runoff
OCTOBER	603	2559	915	320	.35	2.4
NOVEMBER	688	3023	1239	519	.42	3.3
DECEMBER	685	6295	2158	1544	.72	5.7
JANUARY	702	6280	2273	1363	.60	6.1
FEBRUARY	769	7386	3095	1612	.52	8.2
MARCH	888	11520	3893	1855	.48	10.4
APRIL	2257	10780	6335	2251	.36	16.9
JUNE	2159	13820	7656	2496	.33	20.4
MAY	2368	11610	6035	2112	.35	16.1
JULY	520	4951	2291	990	.43	6.1
AUGUST	448	1375	873	219	.25	2.3
SEPTEMBER	574	1190	798	140	.18	2.1
ANNUAL	1136	4912	3125	816	.26	100.00





Current BLM policy is to use States' instream flow water right processes to preserve the flow-dependent values for which the river was designated. The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (PL 90-542) specifically reserved the minimum quantity of water necessary to fulfill the purpose(s) for which the river was designated. This Federal Reserved water right for the designated reaches of the

Grande Ronde River has a priority date of October 28, 1988, the date of designation. A Federal Reserved water right is exercised only if the State's appropriative instream water right is inadequate to protect the designated values of the rivers.

**TABLE 4:  
NONPOINT SOURCE STREAM SEGMENTS AND IMPACTS <sup>1/</sup>**

<u>Segment Name</u>	<u>Segment No. Number</u>	<u>Water Quality</u>	<u>Fisheries</u>	<u>Aquatic Habitat</u>	<u>Water Contact Recreation</u>
Grande Ronde R	271	M/O	M/O	M/O	-
Grande Ronde R	272	S/D	M/D	S/D	S/D
Courtney Creek	292	M/O	M/O	M/O	-
Wallupa/Wildcat Ck	293	S/O	S/O	S/O	-
Grossman Creek	294	M/O	M/O	-	-
Wallowa River	295	S/D	M/D	M/O	S/D
Joseph Creek	302	S/O	M/O	S/O	-

M = Moderate, S = Severe, D = With Data, O = By Observation

<sup>1/</sup>Nonpoint Assessment Report located in Vale District Office

**TABLE 5:  
SELECTED STATE WATER QUALITY CRITERIA FOR THE GRANDE RONDE RIVER BASIN**

pH	6.5 to 8.5 (OR&WA)
Water Temperature	No measurable increase outside of assigned mixing zone when temp. 68 deg.F or greater; or more than 0.5 deg. increase from single source when waters are 67.5 deg. or less; or more than 2 deg. increase from all sources when waters are 66 deg. or less. (OR) Temperature shall not exceed 18 deg.C due to human activities. Nor exceed $t = 28/(T + 7)$ , at any time. When natural conditions exceed 18 deg.C no increase allowed which will raise receiving water by greater than 0.3 deg.C (WA)
Dissolved Oxygen	Not < than 75% saturation at season low Not < than 95% saturation in spawning areas (OR) Shall not exceed 8.0mg/l (WA)
Turbidity	No more than a 10% cumulative increase over natural stream turbidities (OR) Shall not exceed 5 NTU over background when turbidity is 50 NTU or less or more than 10% when turbidity is 50 or more (WA)
Fecal Coliform	Mean of 200 per 100ml in a 30 day period 10% samples not exceeding 400 per 100ml (OR) Mean of 100 per 100ml, with not more than 10% samples exceeding 200 per 100ml (WA)



time numbered at least 5,000 in the Wallowa River. Both species are now extinct in the river system. More than 12,000 spring chinook were estimated to be entering the Grande Ronde River subbasin in the late 1960's but now number less than 1,000. No early estimates for fall chinook populations are available but recent surveys have found zero to seven redds in the Washington section. Nearly 16,000 summer steelhead were estimated to be entering the Grande Ronde system in the late 1960's while the present estimate is 11,000.

This decline is due to over harvest (especially in the late 1800's), irrigation diversions, Columbia and Snake River Dams and irrigation diversion dams, and turn of the century hatchery practices in the Grande Ronde and Wallowa Rivers. Irrigation diversions dry up portions of streams, divert juvenile salmonids onto the fields, and return silt laden water to the streams which smothers salmon eggs and food organisms. Irrigation diversion dams, which include gravel berms, were generally constructed without thought for fish passage. The Wallowa Lake Dam outlet is also impassable for adult fish migrating upstream to spawn.

The Lower Snake River Compensation Plan and associated hatcheries was developed to mitigate for losses of fish attributed to construction of the four lower Snake River dams. Three hatcheries were constructed (Lookingglass for spring chinook, Lyons Ferry for fall chinook, and Irrigon for steelhead), one hatchery was modified to eye-up summer steelhead eggs (Wallowa) and two satellite facilities were constructed as acclimation/release and adult capture sites (Big Canyon and Cottonwood Creek). The only species which has responded favorably to the current hatchery system is summer steelhead.

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Washington Department of Wildlife, Washington Department of Fisheries, and Nez Perce Tribe biologists stress the importance of the lower Grande Ronde and Wallowa Rivers remaining in a free-flowing state for the protection and enhancement of the fishery on this river system. The lower river segments are especially important during winter months as holding areas for young salmon and steelhead on their migration downstream. The smaller streams in the upper tributaries of the rivers become too cold in winter for the young fish to survive, so they move into the lower river as water temperatures drop. Likewise, adult steelhead migrating upstream move into the lower river and winter there, waiting for the spring runoff and

warmer water before moving upstream to spawn. Natural spawning areas in the tributaries of the upper Grande Ronde and Wallowa Rivers are important in the production and rearing of salmon and steelhead as fish stocks are re-introduced into these streams.

With the official listing by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) of Snake River chinook salmon stocks as threatened and sockeye salmon stocks as endangered on April 22, 1992, and November 20, 1992 respectively, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and Forest Service are required to comply with the Endangered Species Act (ESA) Section 7(a)2 - to insure that any BLM or Forest Service action is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of the species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of critical habitat of such species (refer to Appendix L).



TABLE 9: BIRDS OF THE WALLOWA/GRANDE RONDE RIVERS CORRIDOR

American Gold Finch	Ferruginous Hawk	Marsh Hawk	Song Sparrow
American Redstart	Flammulated Owl	Meadow Lark	Spotted Sandpiper
Ash-throated Flycatcher	Flicker	Merlin	Steller's Jay
Audubon's Warbler	Golden Eagle	Mountain Bluebird	Swainson's Hawk
Bald Eagle*	Golden-crowned Kinglet	Mountain Chickadee	Swainson's Thrush
Bank Swallow	Goshawk	Nashville Warbler	Townsend's Solitaire
Barn Owl	Gray Catbird	Northern Oriole	Townsend's Warbler
Barn Swallow	Gray Jay	Olive-sided Flycatcher	Tree Sparrow
Barred Owl	Gray Partridge	Orange-crowned Warbler	Tree Swallow
Barrow's Goldeneye*	Greentailed Towhee	Osprey	Turkey
Belted Kingfisher	Great Blue Heron	Peregrine Falcon*	Turkey Vulture
Black Rosy Finch	Great Gray Owl	Pileated Woodpecker	Varied Thrush
Black-billed Magpie	Great Horned Owl	Pine Siskin	Vaux's Swift
Black-capped Chickadee	Hairy Woodpecker	Prairie Falcon	Veery
Black-chinned Hummingbird	Hammond's Flycatcher	Pygmy Nuthatch	Violet-green Swallow
Black-throated Gray Warbler	Harlequin Duck*	Pygmy Owl	Warbling Vireo
Blue Grouse	Hermit Thrush	Raven	Western Bluebird
Brewer's Blackbird	Hooded Merganser	Red Crossbill	Western Flycatcher
Broad-tailed Hummingbird	Horned Lark	Red-breasted Nuthatch	Western Kingbird
Brown Creeper	House Finch	Red-eyed Vireo	Western Wood Peewee
Calliope Hummingbird	House Finch	Red-tailed Hawk	White-breasted Nuthatch
Canyon Wren	House Sparrow	Robin	White-crowned Sparrow
Cedar Wax-wing	House Wren	Rock Wren	White-headed Woodpecker
Chestnut-backed Chickadee	Kestrel	Rough-legged Hawk	White-throated Swift
Chickadee	Killdeer	Rough-winged Swallow	Williamson's Sapsucker
Chukar	Lazuli Bunting	Ruby Crowned Kinglet	Willow Flycatcher
Clark's Nutcracker	Lewis Woodpecker*	Ruffed Grouse	Wilson's Warbler
Cliff Swallow	Lincoln's Sparrow	Rufus Hummingbird	Winter Wren
Common Goldeneye*	Loggerhead Shrike	Rufus-sided Towhee	Wood Duck
Common Junco	Long-billed Marsh Wren	Saw-whet Owl	Yellow Warbler
Common Merganser	Long-eared Owl	Screech Owl	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker
Cooper's Hawk	Long-eared Owl	Sharpshinned Hawk	Yellow-breasted Chat
Crow	Mac Gillivray's Warbler	Snipe	Yellow-rumped Warbler
Downy Woodpecker	Mallard	Solitary Vireo	

\* Indicates species that are on the States and/or Federal rare, threatened, and endangered species list.



TABLE 10: WALLOWA AND GRANDE RONDE RIVERS BOTANICAL SURVEY, 1991

GENUS	SPECIES	SUB SPECIES (VARIETY)	LOCATION
<b>A. Plants of Special Interest</b>			
<b>1. Federal T&amp;E Lists</b>			
<b>Federal Candidate C-2</b>			
Lepodactylon	pungens (Torr.)Nutt	ssp.hazeliae (Peck)Meinke	
<b>2. Washington T&amp;E Lists</b>			
<b>Extirpated/Extinct List</b>			
Hackelia	hispida (Gray)Johnst.	var. hispida	Grande Ronde River Mile 23.5, N side
<b>Sensitive List</b>			
Astragalus	arthuri Jones		Grande Ronde River Mile 11, S side
Astragalus	cusickii Gray	var. cusickii	Grande Ronde River, Mile 23.5 N side
Lomatium	serpentinum(M.E.Jones)Math.		Grande Ronde River, Deer Cr Mile 19
<b>3. Oregon T&amp;E Lists</b>			
<b>Federal T&amp;E Candidate</b>			
<b>Oregon (ODA) T&amp;E Candidate</b>			
<b>Oregon Natural Heritage Program (NHP)</b>			
<b>List 1</b>			
Lepodactylon	pungens (Torr.)Nutt	ssp.hazeliae (Peck)Meinke	
<b>List 3 (Review List)</b>			
Corydalis	caseana Gray	var. cusickii (Wats.)Hitchc.	Wallowa River Mile 8, below Minam St Park
<b>List 4 (Watch List)</b>			
Allium		madidum Wats	W bank of Wallowa River, Mile 2.2
Cyripedium	montanum Dougl.		West side of Wallowa River at Mile 8



GENUS	SPECIES	SUB SPECIES (VARIETY)	LOCATION
Claytonia	lanceolata Pursh	var. lanceolata	Southern Boundary of Minam State Park
Clematis	liguticifolia Nutt.		N Bank Grande Ronde River, Mile 8.0
Collinsia	parviflora Lindl.		Grande Ronde River, Mile 23.5, N side
Collomia	grandiflora Dougl.		Grande Ronde River, Mile 11, S side
Collomia	linearis Nutt.		Grande Ronde River, Mile 63.8, N side
Collomia	tinctoria Kell		Grande Ronde River, Mile 23.5, N side
Cornus	stolonifera Michx.	var. stolonifera	Grande Ronde River at Deer Cr Mile 19
Crepis	atrabarba Heller	var. atrabarba	Grande Ronde River, Mile 63.8, N side
Cryptantha	torreyana (Fray)Greene		Grande Ronde R Mi 4.7 (The Narrows)
Delphinium	nuttalianum Pritz.	var. nuttalianum	Grande Ronde River Mile 23.5, N side
Descurainia	pinnata (Walt.)Britt.	var. nelsonii (Rydb.)Peck	Grande Ronde R Mi 4.7 (The Narrows)
Dicentra	cucullaria (L.)Bernh.		Grande Ronde River Mile 23.5, N side
Dodecatheon	conjugens Greene		Grande Ronde River, Mile 17, S bank
Draba	stenoloba Ledeb.	var. nana (Shultz)C.L. Hitchc.	Grande Ronde River Mile 23.5, N side
Draba	verna L.		Grande Ronde River, Mile 23.5, N side
Erigeron	divergens T.& G.		Grande Ronde R Mi 4.7 (The Narrows)
Erigeron	philadelphicus L.		Wallowa River, Mile 5.0, E side
Eriogonum	compositum Dougl.		N bank Grande Ronde River, Mile 8.0
Eriogonum	niveum Dougl.		N bank Grande Ronde River, Mile 8.0
Eriogonum	umbellatum Torr.		N bank Grande Ronde River, Mile 8.0
Eriophyllum	lanatum (Pursh)Forbes	var.integrifolium(Hook)Smiley	Grande Ronde River, Mile 60.1
Erysimum	asperum (Nutt.)DC		Grande Ronde R Mi 4.7(The Narrows)
Erythronium	grandiflorum Pursh	var. grandiflorum	Southern boundary of Minam State Park
Fragaria	vesca L.	var. crinata (Rydb)Hitchc.	West side of Wallowa River at Mile 8
Fritillaria	pudica (Pursh)Spreng.		Grande Ronde River, Mile 11, S side
Galium	aparine L.	var.echinosperrum(Wallr.)Farw.	20' W of Wallowa R at Minam, Mile 10
Galium	multiflorum Kell		Grande Ronde River, Mile 63.8, N side
Geranium	viscosissimum F&M		Wallowa River, Mile 5.0, E side
Gilia	aggregata (Pursh)Spreng.	var. aggregata	
Heracleum	lanatum Michx.		Wallowa River, Mile 1, W bank
Heuchera	cylindrica Dougl.	var. alpina Wats.	West bank of Wallowa River at Mile 8
Heuchera	micrantha Dougl.		Wallowa River, Mile 4.5
Hydrophyllum	capitatum	var. capitatum	
Lappula	redowskii (Horneng)Greene	var. capulata (Gray)ME Jones	N. bank Grande Ronde River, Mile 8.0
Leptodactylon	pungens (Torr.)Nutt.		GR River, Mi 58.3 (Opp Sickfoot Cr)
Lithophragma	parviflora (Hook.)Nutt.		Grande Ronde River Mi 23.5 N side
Lithospermum	ruderae Dougl.		Grande Ronde River Mi 23.5 N side
Lomatium	ambiguum(Nutt.)Coult.&Rose		Grande Ronde River Mile 23.5, N side
Lomatium	cous(Wats.)Coult.&Rose		Grande Ronde River Mile 23.5, N side
Lomatium	dissectum(Nutt)Math&Const.	var.multifidum(Nutt)Math&Const	Grande Ronde River Mile 23.5, N side
Lomatium	macrocarpum(Nutt)Coult&Rose		Grande Ronde River, Mile 11, S side
Lomatium	triternatum(Pursh)Coult&Rose		SR 129 Grande Ronde River, Mile 26.2



GENUS	SPECIES	SUB SPECIES (VARIETY)	LOCATION
Saxifraga	arguta D. Don		West bank of Wallowa River, Mile 8
Scutellaria	antirrhinoides Benth		50 yds NE SR 129 Bridge, Mile 26.2
Sedum	lanceolatum Torr.	var. lanceolatum	Grande Ronde River, Mi 52.6, N bank
Senecio	integerrimus Nutt.	var. exaltatus(Gray)Cronq.	Grande Ronde River, Mile 63.8, N side
Sidalcea	oregana (Nutt.) Gray		
Silene	scouleri Hook.	var. scouleri	Island in Grande Ronde River, Mile 8.2
Smilacina	racemosa (L.) Desf.		Wallowa River, Mile 3.7, E side
Smilacina	stellata (L.) Desf.		GRR Mile 19, 1/2 mi S Deer Cr
Symphoricarpos	oreophilus Gray	var. utahensis (Rydb.) A Nels	Grande Ronde River, Mile 63.8, N side
Thalictrum	occidentale Gray		West side of Wallowa River at Mile 8
Thelypodium	lancinatum (Hook.) Endl.	var. streptanthoides (Leiburg) Pays.	N Bank Grande Ronde River, Mile 5.6
Thermopsis	montana Nutt.		Grande Ronde River, Mile 23.5 N side
Tonella	floribunda Gray		50 yds NW SR 129 Brdige, Mile 26.2
Tragopogon	dubis Scop.		Grande Ronde River, mile 63.8, N side
Trifolium	longipes Nutt.	var. reflexum Nels.	West side of Wallowa River at Mile 8
Urtica	dioica L.		Island in Grande Ronde River, Mile 8.2
Vicia	americana Muhl.	var. truncata (Nutt.) Benth	50 yds NW SR 129 Bridge, Mile 26.2
Woodsia	oregana D. C. Eat.		West bank of Wallowa River at Mile 8
Wyethia	amplexicaulis Nutt.		Wallowa River, Mile 5.0, E. side

**D. Introduced Plants**

Alyssum	alyssoides L.		N bank Grande Ronde River, Mile 8.0
Anthriscus	scandicia (Weber) Manfield		Grande Ronde River, Mile 23.5, N side
Aspergo	procumbens L.		Grande Ronde River, Mile 13, S bank
Cynoglossum	officinale L.		20' W of Wallowa R at Minam, Mile 10
Erodium	cicutarium (L.) L'Her		Grande Ronde River, Mile 23.5, N side
Lamium	amplexicaule L.		Grande Ronde R at Deer Cr., Mile 19
Lamium	purpureum L.		20' W of Wallowa R at Minam, Mile 10
Lepidium	campestre (L.) R. Br		20' W of Wallowa R at Minam, Mile 10
Lepidum	perfoliatum L.		Grande Ronde R at Deer Cr., Mile 19
Morus	alba L.		Island in Grande Ronde River, Mile 8.2
Myosotics	micrantha Pall		Grande Ronde R. Mile 23.5, N side
Thlaspi	arvense L.		20 yds NW SR 129 Bridge, Mile 26.2
Valerianella	locusta (L.) Betcke		20' W of Wallowa R at Minam, Mile 10



Evidence of the rivers' cultural history can be glimpsed today in the form of historic and prehistoric places and objects on the public land. These cultural resources, both historic and prehistoric are fragile and irreplaceable. Both historic and archaeological sites and burials have been damaged by looting and vandalism, but there are as yet cultural resource properties on the river with a high degree of integrity. Other documented or potential threats to the cultural resources in the Grande Ronde River include recreation uses, livestock grazing and unauthorized land disturbing actions, such as road construction or trespass timber harvest.

The Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979, as amended, the Antiquities Act of 1906, and the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990 protect this cultural heritage on public lands for the benefit of all Americans. Illegal surface collection, excavation, and disturbance is subject to both criminal and civil penalties. In Oregon and Washington, state laws provide protection against disturbance of archaeological sites and prohibit the disturbance of Indian graves on both public and private lands.

## Recreation

Recreation opportunities in the Grande Ronde and Wallowa Rivers include boating, camping, picnicking, fishing, hunting, scenic viewing, nature study, horseback riding, hiking and swimming.

Recreation use data for the Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers is incomplete. Some recreational use, by activity, is available from ODFW Wallowa/Grande Ronde Trout Study in 1981, the BLM/USFS Grande Ronde River Use Survey in 1983, and the BLM Wallowa/Grande Ronde River Ranger end of year reports of 1987 -1991.

The above survey results, although not entirely consistent, show that use on the rivers is directly correlated to the weather and the water flow. Rainy, cold weather and/or droughts caused significant reductions in the amount of river use and other activities associated with boating. Refer to Tables 11 and 12.

The amount of recreational use is occurring at acceptable levels. Normal depreciatory behavior is present. Many floaters are novice and not familiar or equipped for "no-trace" use.

Other user data comes from the Oregon State parks and Recreation Division visitor use recorded for the Minam State Recreation Area. This data only shows overnight camping and day use, no breakdown of other activities is available.

Whitewater boating is the most popular recreation activity that takes place on the Wallowa/Grande Ronde, and has been for several years. The river can be floated almost any month except during late summer and winter when

**TABLE 11: WALLOWA/GRANDE RONDE RIVERS FLOAT SEASON VISITOR USE SUMMARY 1991**

	No. of Users	No. of Launches	Avg. Group Size	User Days	Average User Length of Stay
Commercial	297	35	8.5	679	2.4
Noncommercial	2540	446	5.7	6070	2.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>2837</b>	<b>481</b>	<b>5.9</b>	<b>6749</b>	<b>2.5</b>
Administrative River Patrols <sup>1/</sup>	122	26		334	

<sup>1/</sup>Figures represent actual river based patrols (i.e. land based vehicle/foot patrols not included)



in 1978 to 23 outfitters in 1991. There is no limitation on the amount of use or the number of permits that may be issued to all applicants who meet basic qualifications and follow the prescribed administrative process.

No trails for recreational, point-to-point travel exist within the corridor. Some short, informal pathways have been developed by use of campers and hunters.

In 1987 the Bureau of Land Management and the Forest Service began administering a River Ranger Program on the Wallowa and Grande Ronde Rivers. The rangers monitor commercial river use, maintain campsites, gather valuable river use information, and provide visitor services and information, including stream flows and river hazards. The Rangers also provide rescue and safety assistance. The river Rangers are stationed at Minam, Oregon throughout the spring/summer use season, and patrol from Minam to Heller Bar.

The BLM conducted campsite inventories during the 1989-1991 float seasons. The inventory, completed in 1991, identified 224 camps on public land along the 90 mile Wallowa/Grande Ronde corridor. All campsites inventoried are primitive and serve also as rest stops and picnic sites. Refer to Table 13.

The Oregon State Parks and Recreation Division has a 602 acres parcel along the west side of the Wallowa River below Minam that extends down river for about 2 miles. This camping area is accessible by road as well as by the river.

The Recreation Area has 12 primitive campsites with tables, fire-rings, toilets and water available. There are also five picnic units.

Recreational fishing on the Grande Ronde/Wallowa Rivers like camping, is also closely associated with floating the rivers. Angler counts by the Oregon and Washington Departments of Fish and Wildlife indicate that about 80 percent of angling occurs in June and July, which correlates to the greatest frequency of boaters. According to department biologists, the trout fishing improves as the river flow decreases and fish become concentrated in deeper pools where they find more cover and cooler temperatures.

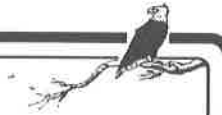
Trout fishing is primarily for rainbow of which there are both wild and stocked populations. The streams are managed to encourage maximum utilization of the trout fishery by recreationists. Fisherman also catch bull trout, whitefish and smallmouth bass. Steelhead fishing is done mostly in the spring and fall, but is sometimes associated with float boating as well, particularly steelhead fishing. More typically, steelhead are caught on the lower section of the Grande Ronde in Oregon and Washington.

Plans are underway to reestablish historic salmon runs. However, the sport salmon fishery on the lower Grande Ronde will only be improved slightly due to high water conditions at the time of the salmon migration. The lower river reaches, below Troy, will be improved more than in the rest of the corridor.

**TABLE 13: WALLOWA/GRANDE RONDE RIVERS PUBLIC LAND CAMPSITE INVENTORY, 1991**

	Wallowa River	Grande Ronde River		Total
		Oregon	Washington	
Number of Sites	3.0	87.0	41.0	131.0
Number of Camps	8.0	147.0	69.0	224.0
Campsite Capacity (# of People)	185.0	2585.0	1335.0	4105.0
Campsite Capacity/People (Avg.)	23.1	17.6	19.3	18.3
Campsite Capacity (# of Boats)	45.0	822.0	289.0	1156.0
Campsite Capacity/Boats (Avg.)	5.6	5.6	4.2	5.2
Average Milceage Between Sites			0.48	0.90





During the early 1900's, grazing occurred all season long as weather, water and forage availability permitted. Sheep and cattle allotments peaked in 1920. A cattle grazing permit existed, at one time, on the portion of public land from Bear Creek to Elbow Creek in the Wild portion of the river corridor. This permit was curtailed in the 1950's and the area is now considered elk winter range. The only remaining domestic grazing in this portion of the river designated as Wild is solely supported by private land, with the exception of some scattered BLM parcels. The general pattern of use for grazing on this land has been in April-May and/or November-December, depending on the weather and forage conditions. Range condition is in generally fair condition.

A generally shorter winter season is often experienced in the lower reaches of the river. Particularly during mild winters, the range can often accommodate grazing during this period. During various times of the year, elk, deer, bighorn sheep, and cattle coexist. Wildlife often prefer the more palatable regrowth occurring after initial forage utilization by cattle. Production agriculture on the breaks of the corridor provides an important additional source of year round forage for wildlife.

Livestock operations are an important part of the local and regional economy.

With the official listing by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) of Snake River chinook salmon stocks as threatened and sockeye salmon stocks as endangered on April 22, 1992, and November 20, 1992 respectively, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is required to comply with the Endangered Species Act (ESA) Section 7(a)2 - to insure that any BLM action is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of the species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of critical habitat of such species (refer to Appendix L).

## *Geology*

The Wallowa/GrandeRonde Rivers are within the Blue Mountains physiographic province of northeast Oregon and southeast Washington. The portions of the rivers included in this management plan flow in canyons eroded into the Tertiary age Columbia River Basalt Group. Between 17.5 and 6 million years before present, the basalt lava flows of the Columbia River Basalt Group

repeatedly erupted from fissures up to 90 miles long. These eruptive fissures were concentrated in the Blue Mountains province. The hot molten lava spread out over more than 77,000 square miles (a total area larger than the State of Washington) and formed the Columbia River Plateau. The basalt averages about 3500 feet in thickness with a maximum of nearly 15,000 feet near the center of the Plateau. Larger individual eruptions covered over a third of the Plateau in a few days time.

During the last stages of the basalt eruptions, the Blue Mountains province was uplifted, folded and faulted. These tectonic events formed the seven mountain ranges and the intermontane valleys that we see today. The Wallowa and Grande Ronde rivers began flowing through the lower terrain in the down-faulted valleys and basins and have continued to erode steep-sided canyons through the many basalt flows and the associated sedimentary interbeds. As a result the canyon walls typically look stair-stepped with many steps filled in with talus (loose rock) from layers above. The river has cut through 1,000 to 2,500 feet of basalt and excavated over seven cubic miles of rock out of the main canyon to shape it to its present form.

Beds of alluvial gravel and cobble rock can be seen on the slopes of the canyon above the river. These show the location of the river channel at times in the past. Rocks seen in these deposits, and in gravel bars along the river today include basalt and older metamorphic and intrusive igneous rocks found in the Wallowa Mountains.

Within the upper reaches of the corridor, there are several bends where the river has undercut a basalt layer, leaving an overhang just above the river that adds to the geologic interest and scenic beauty of the canyon.

## *Forestry*

Forest stands in the river corridor from Minam to Troy, Oregon consist primarily of old growth/mature mixed conifers. North slopes tend to have more Douglas and Grand fir in the overstories while south slopes tend toward ponderosa pine. Both aspects have dense understories of Douglas and Grand fir. Historically these stands carried a much lower level of stocking in the overstories and that ran much heavier to ponderosa pine and



The lignite field extends from northern Union County on into northwestern Wallowa County, Oregon and on into Asotin County, Washington and is the most extensive lignite field in Oregon. Within Oregon, a very preliminary estimate calculated that 1.9 billion tons of low quality lignite averaging about 4500 British thermal units may occur within the Grande Ronde lignite field. However, extensive drilling in the area immediately east of the corridor has shown the lignite seams to be discontinuous, extremely variable in depth and thickness and overlain with hard layers of basalt. This area is also prospectively valuable for oil and gas.

No oil and gas lease applications or valid mining claims involve BLM or National Forest system lands.

### *Communities/Utilities/Transportation*

The rural communities of Minam and Troy in Oregon, and Boggan's and Heller Bar in Washington adjoin the Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers.

The rural community of Minam is at the beginning of the corridor and includes a motel, general store, old school house (used as a residence), some livestock sheds and corrals, a power substation and powerlines, railroad, public paved highway, bridge, and other sections of road.

From Minam, the next two miles downstream on the left bank is the Minam State Recreation Area, a public recreation area with camping, picnicking and rest-rooms.

The Union Pacific railroad line from Elgin to the Wallowa Valley parallels the river on the right bank, the full length of the Wallowa section. There are several old logging roads northeast in the corridor along with a powerline right-of-way. There is an abandoned ranch house with a corral and two cabins used in conjunction with ranching or logging operations, plus a railroad bridge near the south end at Rondowa.

From Rondowa to Wildcat Creek is largely public land in federal and state ownership. The first 1 ½ miles, however, is private and includes logging roads. Seventeen of the twenty-eight miles of river in this section are in the Umatilla

and Wallowa-Whitman National Forests and are used exclusively for recreation and scenic viewing. The National Forest segment has never been roaded or logged, although it has had a history of large fires over the years, the last one being the Ward Canyon fire in 1989 which burned several thousand acres on both sides of the canyon.

Below the National Forest boundary the canyon opens up slightly, and is owned and managed by private entities, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Evidence of existing and former homesteads are detectable but not readily visible as far as Wildcat Creek. Much of the area is grazed by livestock and there is a limited amount of timber harvest and forest reproduction.

The ODFW manages several miles of the left bank, the Lower Wenaha Wildlife Management Area, for large game animals; primarily elk and deer. Private lands in this section are used mostly for cattle ranching. The BLM leases some land for grazing, but there is no timber harvest on public land within the canyon. BLM land on the north side of the river, contiguous with the lower Wenaha Wildlife Management Area, is managed by ODFW for wildlife purposes.

Land use in the lower river section is mostly agricultural including farmstead, grazing and hay production. A number of ranches use water from the Grande Ronde to irrigate hay fields and water livestock.

About one mile below the Powwatka Bridge, astraddle a channel along the left bank, is a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service experimental facility. It was used to experiment with directing migrating fish away from hydroelectric spillways and turbines. The facility has not been used since 1982.

The rural community of Troy in this section has several residences, general store, service station, tavern and motel occupying the townsite on the left bank, plus a school and residences on the right bank.

The river in this segment is crossed by two bridges and several utility lines, and is paralleled by a road for 14 miles to Boggan's Oasis. There are several ranch operations with associated facilities along this entire segment.

# *CHAPTER 3 - MANAGEMENT ACTIONS*





3. The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act prohibits condemnation of private land for fee title, as the rivers corridor is in over 50 percent public ownership (Section 1277(b)).
4. The Oregon segment is under the Oregon State Scenic Waterways program and the Washington segment is under the Asotin County Shoreline Program.
5. There are two federal agencies and five state agencies with land management responsibility in the 90 mile corridor.
6. Vehicle access to the Oregon segment is limited above Mud Creek. While below Mud Creek, vehicle access is abundant.
7. Both federal and state listed sensitive, threatened, and endangered plant and animal species are present within the corridor.
8. Many significant historic and prehistoric sites exist within the canyon complex.
9. Requirements of rural communities of Minam, Troy, Boggan's, and Heller Bar.
10. The river corridor supports year round recreational opportunities.
11. Multi-resource activities are prevalent within the canyon corridor.
12. Approximately 38 percent of the corridor is in private ownership.
13. One Indian Nation, the Nez Perce Tribe has treaty rights within the corridor.

## *Issues*

The Oregon and Washington citizens Ad-Hoc teams spent many hours developing broad issue categories developed from issues identified at 16 public scoping meetings. The recognition and resolution of important issues is the key to successful planning and management. This section identifies

critical issues to be considered in the alternatives and addresses program emphasis related to river planning, the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, the State Scenic Waterway Act, and the Asotin County Shoreline Program. These issues are carried forward throughout this document for alternative development and analysis.

Results of public involvement form the basis for identification and development of key issues. Analysis of the comment showed a spectrum of views on management of the Wild and Scenic Rivers. Differences in perspectives were expected due to the wide diversity of agencies, Indian tribes, groups, and individuals interested and involved in the planning effort.

Two broad themes emerged from the public comment and underlie the identification of the issues. One body of interested citizens tended to emphasize protection and enhancement of the free flowing character and ORVs, as described under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Acts. These groups and individuals expressed concerns about providing for water related recreation experiences, allowing access to these opportunities, enhancing the fisheries resources, protecting the scenic, and wildlife resource and providing for diversity. Many of these people support activities that enhance supplies of cool, clean water, river corridor easements for improved public access, recreation opportunities, cultural resource protection, vegetative practices that maintain or support wildlife, scenery, and riparian habitats. They see a need for management of the river corridor and surrounding lands in the Wild and Scenic River section to minimize development and commodity activities while allowing for more natural processes.

Another body of concerned groups and individuals focused on the potential impacts that river management may have on opportunities to use lands and resources. They expressed concerns that undue constraints or restrictions resulting from Wild and Scenic River management direction prohibit, reduce, or substantially change a variety of ongoing activities. These include timber harvest (timber supply reductions), livestock grazing, agricultural practices in surrounding or upstream areas, mineral extractions, water use and allocation, use of land for transportation and utility corridors and other activities. Many local landowners and others were concerned about landowner rights such as the ability to develop and manage private property, land acquisitions, water



### ***ISSUE 5 - SCENERY***

River management could affect the scenic qualities of the lower Wallowa River Canyon. Steadily increasing recreational use is already having its effect.

### ***ISSUE 6 - CULTURAL RESOURCES***

Manage the river corridor to protect, enhance and interpret cultural resource sites in cooperation with other agencies, historical societies and the Nez Perce Tribe. Management should promote a sense of pride and stewardship of cultural resources by all users of the corridor.

### ***ISSUE 7 - LIVESTOCK***

River management could have an impact on livestock management options.

The proposed project area has historically been grazed by livestock and access to the river is necessary to provide a balance of grazing on the adjoining lands and maintain viable economic units.

### ***ISSUE 8 - TRANSPORTATION***

River management could have an impact on transportation use and opportunities. The proposed project area has historically been used as a transportation route by the railroad, lumber industry, Native Americans, livestock industry, river runners, and others.

### ***ISSUE 9 - HYDRO-POWER (WATER RESOURCES)***

Changes in how the river is managed may affect opportunities for hydro-power development.

### ***ISSUE 10 - LANDOWNER RIGHTS***

Changes in how the river is managed may affect land owners decisions in managing and/or developing their property.

### ***ISSUE 11 - BIODIVERSITY***

River management could impact both the current and future level of biodiversity of the Wallowa River and canyon corridor. Changes in biodiversity could result from ground or vegetative alteration, recreation use, or could result from management aimed at protecting and enhancing species and community compositions and the ecologic functions.

### ***Grande Ronde River (Wild and Scenic River Segment)***

#### ***ISSUE 1 - LAND***

River management may affect the type of grazing and at what utilization levels, and may direct management systems and facilities that are appropriate to achieve desired management objectives.

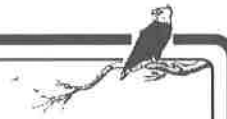
River management may determine what role fire should play in achieving desired vegetative types and conditions. It may determine levels of fire control and rehabilitation, and may also determine management actions desirable to eliminate or reduce, to acceptable levels, fuel build-up and hazards that are a result of past management and/or natural catastrophic events. Complexities and consequences of boundaries and ownerships may also be addressed in relation to fire management.

Management approaches may determine tolerable levels of undesirable weeds, insects and disease.

Corridor management may affect the range of prescriptions available for timber management and the potential economic impacts of accomplishing desired conditions.

River management could affect the range of agricultural practices available and the potential economic impacts of accomplishing the desired conditions.

Management of the river corridor could affect the extraction of mineral resources.



Oregon State Legislature have the authority to restrict certain types of water use in a given drainage or basin. These restrictions are adopted for a variety of reasons, such as protecting fish habitat or developing irrigation projects.

Oregon Water Resources Department (OWRD) is evaluating flow requirements for recreation, fish and wildlife on the Grande Ronde/Wallowa River segments in Oregon. Flows needed to preserve the existing range of recreational, fish and wildlife uses are identified based on information from user guides, agency reports and expert opinions. These flows will assist the Oregon Water Resources Commission in making findings on pending applications and future water rights.

Current BLM policy in managing Federally designated Wild and Scenic Rivers is to use States' instream flow water right processes to preserve the flow-dependent values for which the river was designated. The Wild and Scenic River Act (PL 90-542) specifically reserved the minimum quantity of water necessary to fulfill the purpose(s) for which the river was designated. This Federal Reserved Water Right for the designated Grande Ronde River has a priority date of October 28, 1988, the date of designation. A Federal Reserved water right will be exercised only if Oregon's appropriate instream water right processes are inadequate to protect the designated values of the river.

#### *ISSUE 5 - BIOLOGICAL*

River management should take a holistic approach to management of the biological resources and consider implications beyond artificial boundaries. Management may foster maintenance and enhancement of fish and wildlife populations and habitats and provide options for change as new information becomes available. Corridor management may provide direction for restoration of threatened, endangered, and sensitive species and habitats, while providing for the basic ecological requirements for fish and wildlife.

Corridor management should encourage understanding and cooperation of all participants in the maintenance and enhancement of the quality of riparian areas. Management should consider options for change with the development of new information.

River management could promote a wide variety of flora and fauna species and their associated habitats without unduly risking any one native species existence. Short term management could foster long term biodiversity and productivity.

#### *ISSUE 6 - ADMINISTRATION*

River management could identify the level of control of user numbers and activities to meet the requirements and intent of the state and federal acts and management objectives. Management may ensure controls continue to be appropriate and provide for equitable distribution of the resource at all levels. Appropriate mechanisms should be in place to allow for coordination between the managing agencies.

Management within the river corridor may accommodate the concept of a viable economic unit that results in resource protection and minimizes impacts to landowners. Management could address resource protection within the corridor and impacts outside the corridor. It could also encourage management actions outside the corridor, within the basin, which help to meet the goals of the Acts.

Corridor management may determine the level of agency acquisition appropriate to accomplish the intent of the acts and management objectives.

Costs to implement river management should be responsive to meeting the intent of state and federal legislation, emergency situations (catastrophic events), and economic efficiency for the public good.

River management may contain mechanisms to respond to catastrophic events.

Management of the river corridor should include an informal process for dispute resolution.

Corridor management may provide for water right maintenance of flows sufficient to meet the purposes of the acts without impacting water rights which are protected by the acts.



River impoundments/energy diversions and developments shall comply with all Asotin County Shoreline objectives and State and Federal regulations.

Monitor and initiate programs necessary to protect and enhance identified Threatened & Endangered Species (plant & animal populations).

Assess impacts of chemical application to plant and animal populations prior to use. Integrated pest management should be encouraged as an alternative to chemical application where appropriate.

### *ISSUE 3 - PUBLIC LAND/MANAGEMENT*

Develop partnerships for recreation and Resource management programs with private landowners, interested publics and all federal, state and local management agencies with jurisdictional responsibilities.

Public lands within the Washington section of the Grande Ronde River corridor should be managed to emphasize the recreational opportunities that the river provides.

Authorizations for development, construction and/or maintenance of facilities on public lands should be in compliance with visual and environmental objectives.

Develop an information and education program for all river corridor users which focuses upon minimizing user conflicts. Work with other entities to coordinate information and education materials.

Establish use regulations which address identified user conflicts.

Monitoring will be used to determine compliance with regulations and to determine if regulations are meeting the intent.

Livestock management actions should be in conformance with river management objectives within the corridor.

Plan will strive to coordinate objectives with land use management plans developed by Federal, State and County entities.

Recreation use should be consistent with management objectives and be directed toward public land opportunities.

Various public information materials will be made available and distributed based upon need and purpose.

Monitoring programs will be established to determine appropriate levels of use, resource protection, and/or enhancement within the corridor consistent with overall management objectives.

Management actions must consider and document the social, economic and cultural implications on local residents and surrounding communities.

### *ISSUE 4 - RECREATION*

River management will consider the social, economic, and cultural implications on local residents and surrounding communities.

The lower Grande Ronde River (Washington Section) should be managed to provide (family) recreation opportunities within the limitations that land ownership, access, and environmental requirements will accommodate.

Manage recreation use in keeping with the social, environmental, and physical capacity of the river corridor to sustain a high quality experience.

Develop an information and education program for users.

Access should be commensurate with the use levels recommended by the management plan.

Carrying capacities will be identified for recreation use.

Establish environmental, social, and physical monitoring studies to determine impacts of human use on river resources.

Develop, maintain, or improve recreation facilities on public lands necessary for resource protection and recreation management consistent with a overall management objectives.



Anglers will continue to enjoy a high quality fishing experience on the Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers. During the week and in late summer there could be many opportunities for a pristine angling experience with few boater encounters. Greater education efforts regarding proper fishing etiquette will help to alleviate conflicts between increasing numbers of anglers vying for a limited number of fishing holes.

Overland access to the riverbank in the wild and natural sections will be most difficult. Floaters will not need to compete with trail users for available campsites.

### ***FISHERIES***

The goals and priorities of NMFS, ODFW, WDF, and tribal governments, will be accomplished, including: increasing natural production of spring Chinook, and fall Chinook, increasing the survival of downstream migrating Chinook, maintaining high numbers of steelhead and wild trout, and monitoring the production of wild fish.

Fish habitat will continue to improve with the drainage-wide application of state-of-the-art riparian guidelines, natural recruitment of large woody material, and fish habitat enhancement projects.

The adequate protection, enhancement, and restoration of anadromous fish habitat, along with an adequate return of adults to spawning areas, will produce sustained high numbers of smolt (young salmon). The adequate protection and restoration of resident fish habitat will result in healthy resident fish populations.

### ***BIODIVERSITY***

Ponderosa pine sites will be managed to maintain open stands of large old pine trees. Douglas fir and/or grand fir sites will be managed to maintain old growth characteristics with special considerations for reducing catastrophic fire potential. The canopy will provide shading of tributary streams running through the corridor and partial shading of the Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers. With limited timber harvest on the Federal lands in the corridor,

successional changes over a long period of time can be expected to alter the species composition of the forest stand somewhat. However, a mature forest type will continue to provide habitat and cover for old-growth dependent species. When and if catastrophic events such as the Ward Canyon Fire occur in the corridor, these successional changes could occur much more rapidly, and the mature forest type may be partially or completely converted to an early successional stage. A quality habitat will be available for all threatened, endangered or sensitive species known to use the corridor.

Habitats for wildlife species dependent on mature and old-growth stands will be maintained within the river corridor. The age-class diversity and distribution of stands will improve with rotation harvest methods on private lands within the corridor. These changes will improve foraging habitat for deer and elk. Habitats will be protected and populations of threatened, endangered, or sensitive plant and animal species will be maintained. Wetlands and riparian areas will be functioning effectively. Unusual plant and animal communities which contribute to any special biological diversity of the area will be identified prior to any ground-disturbing activity and be protected.

### ***CULTURAL***

Prehistoric cultural resources will be maintained or enhanced, and will not be degraded as a result of human activity. Cultural sites will remain stable, and where necessary, stabilization measures will be taken to prevent deterioration caused by natural processes. Vandalism will be deterred by an increased management presence, and by and expanded interpretive and educational effort.

### ***WATER QUALITY AND QUANTITY***

Baseline data on the water quality of the Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers will be pursued through a multi-agency (State and Federal) long-term water quality monitoring program. Water quality will be maintained or improved, as riparian vegetation throughout the watershed continues to develop. Less sedimentation will enter the corridor as past road and harvest units revegetate and stabilize, and new projects and timber harvest follow state-of-the-art riparian guidelines.





management is to keep the character and rate of change due to human factors within acceptable levels and consistent with the objectives of the plan.

The primary emphasis of the LAC system is on the conditions desired, rather than on how much use or abuse an area can tolerate. The management challenge is not one of how to prevent any human-induced change in the planning area, but rather one of deciding what changes should occur, how much change will be allowed, what management actions are needed to guide and control it and how the managing agencies will know when the established limits are being or have been reached.

Once in place and functioning, the mechanics of the LAC system can alert the managing agencies to unacceptable change in the Wallowa/Grande Ronde River Canyon before it is too late to react. For each river value to be monitored, one or more key indicators are selected which allow the managing agencies to keep their "thumb on the pulse" of that aspect of the ecosystem or social setting. For each key indicator, a standard is set. This is the threshold value which determines the amount of change that is either desired or will be accepted. The purpose of the indicators and standards is to provide managers with a tool to determine if the resource values and opportunities they are trying to manage for are actually being provided. The standards serve as "triggers" which cause predetermined management actions to be implemented by the managing agencies when the limit is being approached.

Monitoring will be the foundation for the long-term protection and enhancement of the outstandingly remarkable values and primary river-related values in the Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers Canyon. It must, however, be flexible enough to allow for unique site specific situations, provide ample opportunity for public involvement and be cost effective.

### 1. VISUAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT (SCENIC VALUES)

Assigning values to visual resources is a subjective process. The phrase, "beauty is in the eye of the beholder," is often quoted to emphasize the subjectivity in determining scenic values. Yet, researchers have found consistent levels of agreement among individuals asked to evaluate visual quality. Designers have used the basic design elements of form, line, color,

and texture to describe and evaluate landscapes for hundreds of years. Modifications in a landscape which repeat the landscape's basic elements are said to be in harmony with their surroundings. Modifications which do not harmonize often look out of place and are said to contrast or stand out in unpleasing ways. These basic design elements and concepts have been incorporated into the Visual Resource Management (VRM) system to lend objectivity, integrity, and consistency to the process. The VRM system is designed to separate the existing landscape and the proposed project into their features and elements and to compare each part against the other in order to identify those parts which are not in harmony. Then, ways are sought to bring them back into harmony. An understanding of basic design principles and how they relate to the appearance of projects is essential in order to minimize visual impacts. Refer to Table 14 for VRM components for monitoring to be conducted within the Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers Corridor.

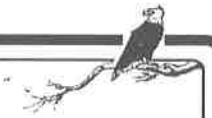
### 2. RECREATION AND FACILITY MANAGEMENT

Recreation management actions shall focus on providing resource protection, monitoring, visitor services, and essential recreation facilities to ensure the long-term use and enjoyment of the land and water resources found, within the Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers Corridor. Facilities important to the protection and enjoyment of recreation resources shall be provided. Refer to Table 14 for recreation activity components for monitoring to be conducted within the Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers Corridor.

### 3. FISH AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

Monitoring is a key tool in achieving objectives of the agencies fish and wildlife programs. The primary purpose of monitoring is to gather information on the distribution, condition, trend, and utilization of fish and wildlife habitat. Monitoring ensures that adequate baseline resource data is available to make the required determinations and resource management decisions. Refer to Table 14 for fish and wildlife habitat components for monitoring to be conducted within the Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers Corridor.

Establish baseline monitoring for T and E Species to assist in accomplishing the recovery plan goals.



source pollution that affect water quality or quantity are considered a high priority area for photo sites and monitoring establishment.

Table 14, the Monitoring Table, identifies the ORVs to be protected and/or enhanced and the other critical resource values to be appropriately managed; the key indicators that will be monitored for each resource value to see if change is occurring; the standard for each key indicator that will be managed for and when exceeded will cause additional management actions to occur; and the type of monitoring required.

The last column identifies these management actions that will be implemented as required to protect and/or enhance the resource values if the standards are not being met. These are management actions that are in addition to those identified in the management action section. They will only be implemented if standards are not being achieved, and then will only be phased in from the least restrictive to the most restrictive as necessary.

## *Design Standards*

There are design procedures and management directions or actions common to all activities within the river corridor. These management directions must conform with the requirements of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, the Oregon State Scenic Waterway Act and Washington (Asotin County) Shoreline Act. These procedures are as follows.

Design features to be incorporated into specific surface disturbing activity plans and authorizations include: scalping, saving, and respreading available top soil; regrading and resloping to natural contours; reestablish appropriate stabilizing vegetation; and water erosion and runoff prevention measures, such as waterbars, benches, and drainage systems. Management activities in riparian areas will be designed to protect and/or enhance riparian values; roads and utility corridors will avoid riparian zones.

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW), Washington Department of Wildlife (WDW), Washington Department of Fisheries (WDF), and/or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife (USFWS) and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) will be consulted before implementing projects that could affect

habitat for Threatened and/or Endangered (T&E) or sensitive species. Should potential adverse impacts on T&E species be determined through the agencies biological assessment process, formal consultations with USFWS or NMFS will be initiated under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended. Technical assistance will be requested from the USFWS and NMFS for Candidate 1 and 2 species and for agency sensitive species. Coordinate with the Oregon and Washington Departments of Agriculture for state listed or candidate plant species, and with ODFW, WDF, and WDW for state listed fish and wildlife species.

Coordination with ODFW, WDW, and WDF will be completed prior to undertaking construction, and/or surface disturbing activities in high value wildlife and fisheries habitat. In crucial wildlife habitats construction and maintenance work will be designed to avoid or minimize disturbance to wildlife. Areas disturbed during project construction will be reseeded with a mixture of grasses, forbs and shrubs to meet site specific needs and habitat requirements. All new fences will be built to standard agency wildlife specifications. Management actions will be avoided which may result in disturbance and adverse impacts on crucial wildlife and/or plant habitat for threatened, endangered, candidate, state listed and sensitive species. Inventories will be conducted to determine if any of those species exist on proposed areas of development.

Livestock grazing on public lands immediately adjacent to the Grande Ronde River will be excluded from August 1 through April 1 (spawning through emergence) of the Snake River Chinook salmon.

No camping will be allowed below the high water line of the Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers.

The agencies will continue to inventory lands on the Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers for historic and archaeological resources and will evaluate the significance of known historic and archaeological sites. The BLM will consult with the Nez Perce tribe to identify and protect traditional use locations. Archaeological sites threatened by human or naturally caused erosion or deterioration will be protected by restricting uses, physical protection measures and fencing or signing, and stabilization. Camping and/



### *SCENERY*

- Retain the existing character of the landscape with only a low level of change. Activities may be seen but should not attract attention. Management public lands as a visual resource management class II.

### *RECREATION*

- Construct a visitor contact station and administrative facilities at Minam to provide for a focal point for management and serve as the principal access point for the 90 mile corridor.
- Improve river staging areas at Minam to increase convenience for river users.
- Open to both motorized and non-motorized watercraft with certain restrictions as determined by monitoring studies on timing, size, and number of trips, for motorized craft. Motorized and mechanized equipment is allowed for administrative and emergency use.
- Develop and utilize a work group to assist in the implementation of the plan and the formulation of recreation monitoring indicators and standards utilizing the limits of acceptable change process.
- Voluntary river registration until monitoring studies determines that indicator standards are not being met, then a sequence of staged management actions as identified on the monitoring table will be implemented.
- A special use authorization will be required for all commercial recreation services. A single outfitter-guide permit will be issued which authorizes use on all administrative jurisdictions.
- Outfitter-guide permits will remain open to applicants who have basic technical and financial capability, providing they follow the prescribed administrative process. Permits will not be reissued to permit holders who receive an "unacceptable" performance rating by the land manager.

- Develop intensive visitor awareness of river resources and user interrelationships.
- Require mandatory use of fire pans and pack out of human waste.
- Trail construction, reconstruction and maintenance will be encouraged along the slopes above the river. Trails and trail use will be discouraged as access to the river. Recreation trails will not be constructed within 500 vertical feet of the river, unless the horizontal distance is a minimum of one mile.
- Signing should enable floaters to orient themselves on maps. Public land and facilities should be clearly marked. Geographic features identified as a convenience to users and to instill confidence in orienteering skills.

### *FISH AND WILDLIFE*

- Minimize new road development on public land within the river corridor.
- Minimize human impacts in wildlife winter ranges through public awareness programs.
- Maintain or create snags within 1/4 mile each side of the river to accommodate winter roosting needs of bald eagles.
- Maintain cooperative agreements between ODFW and BLM.
- Maintain and/or improve fisheries habitat through instream and riparian enhancement projects.

### *CULTURAL RESOURCES*

- Inventory and evaluate cultural resources on public land in the river corridor.
- Conduct periodic patrols for all cultural resources, and install cultural resource protection signs to discourage vandalism of cultural properties.



- Reduce current stand densities as needed to maintain stand vigor, insofar as this does not conflict with interim protection of river values.

**LIVESTOCK**

- On public land, manage livestock grazing through season of use, and utilization levels to achieve the monitoring standard identified on Table 14.
- Encourage cooperative projects on all riparian rehabilitation projects regardless of land ownership. Restrict livestock for three to five growing seasons, following vegetative enhancement treatments.

**SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CONSIDERATIONS**

- Develop management actions that maintain existing rural life-styles of corridor residents.
- Maintain prescribed levels of resource utilizations in the agricultural and forest industries.
- Maintain physical resources necessary for the continuation of recreation based industries.
- Assist Union and Wallowa Counties in broadening the economic bases of various communities through resource cost share and grant programs.

**Grande Ronde River (Wild and Scenic River Segment)**

The Omnibus Oregon Wild & Scenic Rivers Act of 1988 designated 43.8 miles of the Grande Ronde River from Rondowa to the Oregon/Washington border, in the following classes:

**Segment A** Recreational: The 1.5 miles from Rondowa to the Umatilla Forest boundary.

**Segment B** Wild: The 26.4 miles from the Umatilla Forest boundary to Wildcat Creek.

**Segment C** Recreational: The 15.9 miles from Wildcat Creek to the Oregon/Washington border.

As directed by the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, a corridor boundary was established based on resource values, not to exceed an average of 320 acres per river mile. The attached Maps 2 through 11 show private and federal land ownership. The State Scenic Waterway segment which overlaps with the federal Wild and Scenic River designation is from Rondowa to the Oregon/Washington border. The boundaries for the State Scenic Waterway are set at ¼ mile on each side of the river from mean high water line, and is set by legislation.

The designated segments of the Grande Ronde River to the Oregon/Washington stateline is included in with the Wallowa and Grande Ronde (Washington segment) to produce one management plan for the entire 90 mile river corridor.

The following resource management actions are designed to protect and/or enhance the Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORV's) of scenery, recreation, fisheries, and wildlife.

The Grande Ronde River Citizens Ad Hoc Team Vision Statement for the Management of the National Wild and Scenic River Segment of the Grande Ronde River is as follows:

*“Our Vision is to protect and/or enhance the physical, biological, social, economic, cultural, and other special qualities that give the free-flowing Grande Ronde River its unique character. We recognize the validity and importance of existing private land uses while protecting and enhancing the natural and cultural resources that are shared with adjacent public lands. The management plan shall reflect the different mix of uses, ownership and development of each segment.”*

To protect and Enhance Outstanding Remarkable Values (ORV) on the Grande Ronde River, while recognizing private landowner interests and rights consistent with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, the following actions will be taken:



- Maintain levels of resource utilizations in the agricultural and forest industries on private land at the time of the passage of the Act as directed by the State Scenic Waterway program.
- Maintain physical resource base necessary for the continuation of recreation based industries.
- Assist Union and Willowa counties in broadening the economic bases of various communities through resource cost share and grant programs.
- Boundaries of river segments and significant administrative units should be well marked.
- Recreation Section: Signing should enable floaters to orient themselves on maps. Public land and facilities should be clearly marked. Geographic features identified as a convenience to users and to instill confidence in orienteering skills.
- Wild Section: Signing should be at a level which requires high orienteering skills. Geographic features will not be signed. Only locations to facilities needed for resource protection will be marked.

**BIOLOGICAL**

- Monitor and assess fish and wildlife habitat and populations within the corridor.
- Manage resource activities to restore wildlife and fish habitat and watershed stabilization by utilizing instream, riparian, and watershed improvement projects.
- Monitor sensitive, threatened, and/or endangered plant and wildlife species populations. Identify and improve habitat conditions (quality and quantity) that might be limiting.
- Improve habitat requirements for species that fall under the Federal Threatened and Endangered Species Act.

- Monitor and assess fish and wildlife ecological requirements to enhance existing populations of corridor species.
- Develop cooperative agreements between Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and private landowners for protection and enhancement of riparian habitats.
- Maintain or enhance fish and wildlife populations using current and updated management practices in cooperation with ODFW, Nez Perce, and related agencies.
- Develop monitoring activities of corridor fish and wildlife populations to ensure long term biodiversity and productivity.
- Management activities within the corridor will balance flora, fauna and physical element conditions in conformance with the vision statement.
- Monitor the impacts of recreation on wintering wildlife species and nesting activities of bald eagles within the corridor.
- Implement limitations on recreation use when monitoring determines that use exceeds the standard on wintering wildlife species and nesting activities of bald eagles within the corridor.

**WATER**

- Water quality monitoring will be conducted within the corridor to determine cause, extent, and location of point and non-point source pollution.
- Resource management actions within the corridor will meet minimum water quality standards as set by Oregon Department of Environmental Quality.
- Cooperate in developing a water monitoring program to assist agencies and private land owners in meeting water quality and quantity requirements for fish and wildlife resources and domestic and recreation uses.



- Continue present fire suppression agreements between BLM, Forest Service and Oregon Department of Forestry.
- Develop control systems for weeds, insects, and disease to include herbicides, pesticides, fire, plowing, seeding, and biological controls for the protection of the corridors ORVs.
- Agricultural practices on public land administered by Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife will utilize current ground manipulation applications for producing desired forage.
- The wild classification segment is withdrawn from mineral entry and the recreation classification segments are currently open to locatable mineral exploration and development.
- Location mineral exploration and development on public land will require a plan of operation demonstrating protection of Wild and Scenic river values.
- Within the Wild segment, oil and gas leasing is excluded within one-quarter mile of the mean high water mark on either side of the river. Oil and gas leasing will be allowed outside of this corridor and in the other designated segments with a special, “no surface occupancy” stipulation.
- This area is not a coal production area currently, and no federal coal leasing will result from this plan.
- Development of mineral material resources, aggregate and other common variety minerals, shall be prohibited on public land, unless needed on an “emergency basis,” to protect the ORVs.
- The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act prohibits power and water development on existing withdrawn lands within the river boundaries. No new water power withdrawals would be allowed.
- Revoke all withdrawals within the river corridor. Since these lands cannot be used from their withdrawn use (energy development) revocation of the

withdrawals to BLM would provide a positive benefit to all agencies involved. FERC would not be encumbered with management of lands that no longer provide the intent of the original withdrawal. BLM would be able to more effectively manage the river corridor because of the more contiguous land patterns.

- Minimum flow needs to protect ORVs and acquisition of state water rights would impact future hydro-potential.
- Agricultural practices on public land administered by Bureau of Land Management under 302 permits will utilize current ground manipulations, herbicide, and pesticide applications for producing desired forage.
- Authorize existing unauthorized Agricultural, occupancy and other uses under a 302 permit as long as they are compatible with Wild and Scenic river values.
- Salvage of dead and dying timber may be used as a means of protecting or enhancing ORV’s.
- Utilize timber harvest as a tool to restore forest health and improve wildlife habitat whenever it is the most effective method and insofar as it does not conflict with protection and enhancement of ORVs.

#### *ADMINISTRATIVE*

- Develop and utilize a work group to assist in the implementation of the plan and the formulation of recreation monitoring indicators and standards utilizing the limits of acceptable change process.
- Develop appropriate cooperative agreements, as necessary, between all involved agencies and groups for management of the river and implementation of this plan.
- Develop contingency plans for proper action during emergency situations (catastrophic events) including an economic analysis.



*with, and contribute to, plans developed by state and local agencies, resulting in a cooperative management environment whereby all benefit, including resources.”*

### **ENVIRONMENTAL**

- Protect the natural scenic and geologic values of the designated Grande Ronde Goosenecks National Natural Landmark in Oregon and Washington.
- Develop control systems for weeds, insects and disease to include herbicides, pesticides, fire, plowing seeding and biological controls. Develop agreements with County Weed Control District.
- Agricultural practices on public land administered by Washington Department of Wildlife will utilize current ground manipulation, herbicide, and pesticide applications for producing desired forage.
- Develop regulations and facilities to require mandatory pack-out of human waste and garbage. River Ranger patrols will assist in corridor maintenance.
- Assess impacts of chemical application to plant and animal populations prior to use. Integrated pest management should be encouraged as an alternative to chemical application where appropriate.
- Monitor, identify and implement programs that have the least environmental impact on the river ecosystems with emphasis on Threatened and Endangered Species and habitats.
- Resource management actions within the corridor will meet minimum water quality standards as set by Washington Department of Ecology.
- Cooperate in developing a water monitoring program to assist agencies and private land owners in meeting water quality and quantity requirements for flow-dependent resources and domestic and public uses.
- Water quality monitoring on public lands will be conducted within the corridor as needed to determine point and non-point source pollution.
- Regulate resource activities on public land within the corridor watershed that would have the potential to degrade water quality of quantity of the Grande Ronde River.
- Identify sources of pollution within the corridor and correct where economically and physically feasible.
- Optimize resource activities to enhance wildlife and fish populations by utilizing instream and riparian improvement projects.
- Maintain or enhance fish and wildlife populations using current and updated management practices as determined by WDW, WDF, Nez Perce Tribe, and related agencies.
- Improve habitat for species that fall under the Federal Threatened and Endangered Species Act.
- Monitor and assess fish and wildlife ecological requirements to enhance existing populations of corridor species.
- Develop cooperative agreements between agencies and private landowners for protection and enhancement of riparian habitat.
- Maintain or enhance riparian habitats through utilization of current and updated management practices.
- Develop monitoring activities of corridor fish and wildlife populations to insure long term biodiversity and productivity.
- Management activities within the corridor will enhance existing flora, fauna and physical elements.
- Maintenance activities will meet visual and cultural resource requirements.



- Complete administrative or legal property surveys to protect cultural resources on public lands from trespass and illegal actions.
- Protect and enhance cultural resource sites and traditional use locations through administrative or physical protection measures, stabilization or documentation.

### *PUBLIC LAND*

- Authorized livestock grazing of the corridor will be allowed on public land through permit licensing by the appropriate agency with individual grazing permittees and managed to achieve the monitoring standard for riparian communities.
- Seasons of use and rotation systems to disperse livestock and achieve desired utilization levels as shown on Table 14, will be established through the development of grazing plans.
- Fencing, water developments and holding facilities will be developed at critical locations to protect resource values and assist livestock management, subject to visual resource constraints.
- Reintroduce fire as an effective vegetative management tool through the use of prescribed burns.
- Eliminate or reduce to acceptable levels of fuel build-up and hazards that are a result of past management and/or natural catastrophic events.
- Continue present fire suppression agreements between appropriate agencies.
- Agricultural practices on public land administered by Washington Department of Wildlife will utilize current ground manipulation, herbicide, and pesticide applications for producing desired forage.
- Mineral extraction on public land will require a plan of operation, demonstrating protection of river values. Within 200 feet of the mean

high water mark each side of the river mineral extraction is prohibited as directed by Asotin County Shoreline Management Plan.

- Develop a public awareness plan for all users on river resources, public and private use, management policies and user responsibilities.
- Assist Asotin county in broadening the economic bases of various communities through resource cost share and grant programs.
- Develop appropriate cooperative agreements as necessary between all involved agencies and groups for management of the river and implementation of this plan.
- Minimize new road development on public land within the river corridor.
- Develop contingency plans for proper action during emergency situations.
- Valid holders of water rights would be unaffected. Management plans will be implemented to maintain instream flows, based on the Baker Resource Area RMP and the Washington Divisions of Wildlife and Fisheries recommendations.
- Implement cooperative inter-agency agreements to develop adequate law enforcement policies and patrol criteria and responsibilities of each agency.
- Develop a signing plan to clearly identify boundary lines between public and private lands.
- Initiate a private land acquisition program from willing sellers only. Private party initiated easement/acquisition proposals will be processed on a priority basis. No condemnation of private land will occur.
- Develop maintenance and improvement programs to enhance public use facilities.
- Continue maintenance of transportation systems including state, county, and private roads.





**TABLE 14  
MONITORING**

Value to be Protected and/or Enhanced	Key Indicator	Management Standard to be Used	Monitoring Required	Management Action(s) to be Implemented
1. Visual Resources (Scenery) (ORV)	Cultural modifications (human-caused changes, such as livestock grazing, access development, timber harvest, recreation facility development, etc.) which would significantly alter landform, vegetation, water, color or character of the area.	Contrasts created by new management activities will not be allowed if they attract the attention of the casual observer within the characteristic landscape, as determined by BLM Manual 8331 objectives for Class I and Class II. Natural ecological changes will predominate.	Ongoing as proposals are implemented and supplemented with on-the-ground surveillance during weekly patrols to detect possible unauthorized activities.	<p>Specific standards identified in BLM Manual 8331 will be used for a scenery quality rating which addresses acceptable and unacceptable cultural modifications including degrees of change in land use, surface disturbance and development densities.</p> <p>Visual contrast rating and evaluation will be conducted for all proposed cultural modifications on public lands. Actions which are not consistent with visual resource management objectives will be modified or rejected.</p>
2. Recreational Use (ORV)	Boating-Encounters per trip with other float parties.	Five or less encounters per trip - 80% of the time.	<p>Random week-day and week-end/holiday sampling conducted during the primary use season at boat landing sites to monitor actual numbers of boaters.</p> <p>Sampling error will be within 5 percent.</p> <p>Develop short survey of visitors utilizing questionnaire about quality of recreation experience. Administer survey at random shore locations on randomly selected half days during the primary use season.</p>	<p>Develop public use brochures and map to inform and educate boaters how to avoid peak use periods and reduce user impacts.</p> <p>Provide basic site protection measures in launch and landing areas.</p> <p>Design and sign launch and landing areas for efficient, expedient and safe use.</p> <p>Institute uniformed agency, and volunteer personnel as information and education resources.</p> <p>The following list will be implemented in order as management standard (LAC) are exceeded).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Design a voluntary program of staggered starting time for boats during the high use season.</li> <li>2. Institute a self-regulating use system on the basis of even/odd use on weekends.</li> <li>3. Institute a permit system for weekends only.</li> <li>4. As a last resort after a 3-year attempt to achieve the management standard through indirect means and in an effort to regulate use levels to protect and enhance the identified river values, establish a river use allocation system for all users. Develop the system through extensive public involvement with a consensus solution between affected users that maintain the quality of the recreational experience.</li> </ol>



**TABLE 14  
MONITORING**

Value to be Protected and/or Enhanced	Key Indicator	Management Standard to be Used	Monitoring Required	Management Action(s) to be Implemented
2. Recreational Use (ORV) - Continued	Soil Stability - Continued	<p>2. Moderate-Previous ground vegetation intact, but growth somewhat retarded. Ground vegetation worn away in center of activity area.</p> <p>3. Heavy-Most previous ground vegetation gone, beginning tree root exposure, trails radiate from site, erosion absent, litter or duff still present, impact restricted to site.</p> <p>4. Extreme-Previous ground vegetation gone, dead trees, tree roots exposed, erosion present or beginning, compacted soil restricts reestablishment of indigenous vegetation, changes in species composition, bare mineral soil widespread, little litter or duff, satellite areas may be present.</p>		
	Other Recreational Users- Quality of experience.	Acceptable (LAC) number of visitors per segment per day to be determined by studies.	Conduct short survey of visitors utilizing questionnaire about quality of recreation experience. Administer survey at random locations on randomly selected half days during the primary use season. Sampling error will be within 5 percent.	Develop public use brochures and map to inform and educate users on how to avoid peak use periods and utilize less crowded sections of the river.
3. Fish/Wildlife Habitat (ORV)	Riparian vegetative condition.	Vegetation: less than 1/3 of the plots monitored indicating reduction in species and/or percent cover as compared to control plots.	Establish 8-10 plots, stratified by amount of recreation use, with transects identifying plant species and percent ground cover. Each plot should have two controls, matching the monitoring plot. Transects read at two-year intervals.	Modify or eliminate the activity (livestock grazing, timber sales, recreation use, etc.) that has been determined to be in excess of the use standard.
		Channel bank: less than 1/3 of the monitoring sites show a reduction in condition rating.	Document channel stability rating using Pfanchuck stability form at monitoring sites established for vegetation plots (above). Stability rating performed every two years in conjunction with vegetation monitoring.	
	Quality and quantity of spawning gravel downstream of Minam, OR.	To be determined by comparison with gravel in control area and historical accounts.	Annual pebble count and interstitial space index at key spawning areas. Area of existing spawning gravel.	
	Amount of large pools and percent composition of substrate.	Historic stream surveys as baseline.	Fish habitat survey of Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers every 5 years.	



**TABLE 14  
MONITORING**

Value to be Protected and/or Enhanced	Key Indicator	Management Standard to be Used	Monitoring Required	Management Action(s) to be Implemented
4. Cultural (Historic & Archaeological) - Continued			<p>2. House pits, rock shelters, burials, rock art sites, and National Register listed sites which are not easily accessible or in high use areas at least twice per year.</p> <p>3. Rock features and cairns, shell middens, talus depressions, lithic procurement locations, lithic scatters and historic sites or features which are easily accessible or in high use areas at least once per year.</p> <p>4. Rock features and cairns, shell middens, talus depressions, lithic procurement locations, lithic scatters and historic sites or features which are not easily accessible or in high use areas at least once every 2 years.</p> <p>5. Annual cultural resource specialist reconnaissance float trip during the high recreation use season.</p>	<p>Public information and education efforts through brochures, signs, information stations and visitor contact points will be implemented.</p> <p>Human use will be managed, restricted or closed by signing and/or fencing if damage to significant sites is now occurring or could occur in the future.</p> <p>Impact to cultural resources may be mitigated in some high use areas by surface collection of visible material.</p> <p>Surveillance or patrols of significant sites will be conducted by archaeologists, field personnel, law enforcement, and/or volunteers on a regular basis. Patrols of sensitive sites are scheduled at least bi-monthly.</p> <p>Stabilization of significant sites will be implemented if feasible if stabilization of the disturbed or threatened site is not feasible, the site will be salvaged to the degree possible.</p> <p>Inventory of lands in the river corridor and regular monitoring with baseline condition documentation of all recorded sites.</p> <p>Impact to cultural resources may be mitigated by physical protection measures or data recover.</p> <p>Consultation with Nez Perce tribe on all management actions affective cultural resource sites or traditional use areas.</p>
5. Riparian and Associated Plant Communities	Ecological condition and trend as indicated by the composition of woody and herbaceous vegetation.	Riparian plant communities on public lands would be managed to maintain or achieve full vegetative potential with a minimum of 60 percent of ecological status being achieved within 15 years. All sites would have a mix of shrubs at the 50 percent potential level with the dominant species.	Complete ecological site inventory on all public lands.	Programs or measures will be implemented which promote cooperation and education in the process of achieving the plan's vegetative standards. Livestock grazing will be managed to meet established standards. This management could include various intensive grazing management systems or temporary or permanent exclusion of livestock from the riparian zones.



**TABLE 14  
MONITORING**

Value to be Protected and/or Enhanced	Key Indicator	Management Standard to be Used	Monitoring Required	Management Action(s) to be Implemented
			<p>Temperature: No measurable increases shall be allowed inside of the assigned testing zone, as measured relative to an established control point except for specifically limited duration activities which may be authorized by DEQ or DOE under such conditions as DEQ or DOE and the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and Washington Department of Fisheries may prescribe and which are necessary to accommodate legitimate uses of or activities where temperatures in excess of this standard are unavoidable and all practical preventive techniques have been applied to minimize temperature rises.</p>	
			<p>Dissolved oxygen: Dissolved oxygen concentrations shall not be less than 90 percent of saturation at the seasonal low, or less than 95 percent of saturation in spawning areas during spawning, incubation, hatching, and fry stages of resident fisheries.</p>	
			<p>Turbidity (Jackson Turbidity Units, JTU): No more than a 10 percent cumulative increase in natural stream turbidities shall be allowed, as measured relative to a control point immediately upstream of the turbidity causing activity.</p>	

*CHAPTER 4 -  
OREGON STATE SCENIC WATERWAY  
ADMINISTRATIVE RULES*





or inconsistent with the designated classification. State Parks will work with the landowner to reach a mutually satisfactory resolution of any conflicts. Where such a resolution cannot be reached, the Commission must decide within one year of the original notification whether to pay the property owner for the land or the development rights. If the Commission does not decide within one year to acquire the land or development rights, then the landowner may proceed in accordance with the original development proposal.

Other local and state agencies must comply with the scenic waterway law and rules. Parks also works closely with federal agencies to assure their actions are compatible with scenic waterway law, rule, and resource management recommendations.

***THE MANAGEMENT PLANNING PROCESS***

The goal of the scenic waterway management planning process is to develop a comprehensive and workable management plan which will protect or enhance the special attributes of the designated river corridor. Primary emphasis is the protection of aesthetic, scenic, fish and wildlife, scientific and recreational features. The intent is to maintain the scenic “status quo” condition of the area, without “turning back the clock” on existing land uses. The mechanisms for protection and enhancement include:

**River Classification** - Within the management plan, scenic waterways are classified into one or more of six possible classifications, according to the character of the landscape and the amount and type of development.

**Administrative Rules** - Once the classifications are set, specific guidelines for new development are established as rules.

**Other Management Recommendations** - These are suggestions for actions to protect or enhance corridor values, to be implemented by the State Parks Department, other state agencies, organizations, or persons.

**SCENIC WATERWAY CLASSIFICATION**

Under Oregon law (ORS 390.845 - Functions of the department; use of adjacent lands), the scenic waterway program is administered by the State

Parks and Recreation Commission, and staffed by the Oregon State Parks and Recreation Department. The Parks Department is required to protect the aesthetic, scenic, fish and wildlife, scientific and recreation features based on special attributes of each river area. The Parks Department strives to protect special attributes of the river while recognizing existing land uses and management practices on adjacent lands.

In order to define and achieve management goals, the river is classified into one or more of six possible classifications, according to the present level of land development or landscape alterations. Once the classifications are set, appropriate guidelines for new development or landscape alterations are established as rules. The aim of the program is to maintain the existing scenic condition of the river.

The following are existing land use and land alteration conditions usually associated with each of the six river classifications; and how each kind of classification should be administered (managed) in scenic waterways:

1. Natural River Areas are generally inaccessible except by trail or river, with primitive or minimally developed shorelands. Preservation and enhancement of the primitive character of these areas is the goal of this and the next two classifications.
2. Accessible Natural River Areas are relatively primitive, undeveloped areas with access by railroad or lightly traveled road.
3. Natural Scenic View Areas are designated where one riverbank is inaccessible, undeveloped or primitive in character while the opposite bank is accessible and developed.
4. Scenic River Areas may be accessible by roads, but are largely undeveloped and primitive except for agriculture and grazing. River segments considered “Scenic” are managed to maintain or enhance their high scenic quality, recreation value, fishery and wildlife habitat. The intent is to preserve their largely undeveloped character while allowing continuing agricultural uses.



structures at Rondowa. Harvesting timber has been a normal and continuing activity in this area and its visual impact, for the most part, has been minimal. These features are localized, and the overall impression is primitive and isolated. The management goal is to maintain the primitive character of the landscape.

### ***PROPOSED LAND MANAGEMENT RULES***

#### **I. River Community Area**

That segment of the Wallowa River zoned Rural Service by Wallowa County at Minam.

**Rule:** This River Community Area shall be administered consistent with the standards set by OAR 736-40-035 and OAR 736-40-040(1)(f) (see Appendix G). In addition to these standards, all new development shall comply with Wallowa County land use regulations.

New mining operations and similar improvements shall be permitted only when they are substantially screened from view from the river by topography and/or existing vegetation. If inadequate topographic or vegetative screening exists on a site, mining and similar forms of development may be permitted if vegetation is established which would provide substantial screening of the affected area. The condition of “substantial screening” shall consist of an ample density and mixture of evergreen and deciduous vegetation (preferably native) to totally obscure the altered improvement site.

If land is to remain in forest use, visible timber harvest may be allowed provided that: 1) the operation complies with the relevant Forest Practices Act rules, 2) harvest methods with low visual impact are used and 3) the effect of the harvest enhances the scenic view within a reasonable time (5-10 years). For the purposes of this rule, “enhance” means to improve timber stand health, including reducing stand density, by emulating the mosaic character of the natural forest landscape (pre-forest management tree density patterns - prior to 1920).

New roads constructed for timber harvest, mining or any other purpose shall be partially screened, either with vegetation or topography. If inadequate

topography or vegetative screening exists, the road may be permitted if vegetation (preferably native) is established to provide partial screening of the road within a reasonable time (4-5 years). The condition of “partial screening” shall consist of an ample density and mixture of evergreen and deciduous vegetation (preferably native) to allow a partially filtered view (at least 30% filtering) of the road.

Improvements needed for public recreation use or resource protection may be visible from the river, but shall be designed to blend with the natural character of the landscape.

Whenever the standards of OAR 736-40-035 and the above rule are more restrictive than the applicable County Land Use and Development Ordinance, the above Oregon Administrative Rules shall apply.

#### **II. Recreational River Area**

That segment of the Wallowa River from the River Community Area to the north boundary of Minam State Park.

**Rule:** This Recreational River Area shall be administered consistent with the standards set by OAR 736-40-035 and OAR 736-40-040 (1)(c)(B) (Appendix G). In addition to these standards, all new development in resource zones (i.e. farm and forest related dwellings) shall comply with Wallowa and Union County land use regulations.

New structures and associated improvements (except as provided under OAR 736-40-030 (5)) shall be partially screened with native vegetation and/or existing topography. If inadequate topography or vegetative screening exists on a site, the structure or improvement may be permitted if vegetation (preferably native) is established to provide partial screening of the proposed structure or improvement within a reasonable time (4-5 years). The condition of “partial screening” shall consist of an ample density and mixture of evergreen and deciduous vegetation to partially obscure (at least 30%) the viewed improvement or structure, or allow a partially filtered view (at least 30% filtering) of the proposed structure or improvement.



Existing visible roads may be upgraded when those roads are moderately screened or moderate screening is established. No side cast which would be visible from the river is permitted. Excess material shall be hauled to locations out of sight from the river. If inadequate screening exists, upgrading the road may be permitted if native vegetation is established to provide moderate screening of the road within a reasonable time (4-5 years). The condition of "moderate screening" shall consist of an ample density and mixture of evergreen and deciduous vegetation (preferably native) to allow a moderately filtered view (at least 50% filtering) of the road.

Proposed utility facilities shall share existing utility corridors, and any vegetation disturbance shall be kept to a minimum.

Improvements needed for public recreation use or resource protection may be visible from the river, but shall be primitive in character and designed to blend with the natural character of the landscape.

Whenever the standards of OAR 736-40-035 and the above rule are more restrictive than the applicable County Land Use and Development Ordinance, the above Administrative Rules shall apply.

***GRANDE RONDE RIVER SCENIC WATERWAY LAND MANAGEMENT PROGRAM***

***PROPOSED CLASSIFICATIONS***

The Parks Department proposes to apply four classifications to the Grande Ronde River Scenic Waterway.

Scenic River Area

From the confluence of the Willowa and Grande Ronde Rivers (Rondowa) to the Umatilla National Forest boundary is classified as a Scenic River Area. This segment is approximately 2 miles long, and includes both private and public lands. Visible from the river are a few cabins, railroad crossing, a gauging station, a cable crossing, and a logging road. The timber stands on both sides of the river are actively managed for timber production (harvest,

thinning, fertilization, etc.), with the most recent harvest occurring within the last 15 years. However, most of the harvest are unobtrusive. The management goal is to allow continuation of existing farm, forest, and recreation uses while protecting the scenic character of the area.

Natural River Area

From the Umatilla National Forest boundary, downstream about 26 miles to Wildcat Creek is classified as a Natural River Area. This segment is the least developed portion of the Grande Ronde scenic waterway. Most of the land fronting this segment of the river is publicly owned and overall character of this area is primitive and isolated. This segment is only accessible to cross country hikers and horseback riders, and to boaters. It offers a wild and unspoiled landscape where human presence is not apparent. The management goal is to preserve and protect the primitive undeveloped character of the area.

Recreational River Area

From Wildcat Creek approximately 15 miles to the Oregon State line, except for the community of Troy, is classified as a Recreational River Area. A county road parallels the entire river segment on one side and there are several miles of farm road on the other side. There are two main bridge crossings and several public access points. The ranch steads are thinly dispersed and picturesque, and are an integrated component of the existing landscape mosaic. Most of the structures are unobtrusive. The management goal is to allow the continuance of existing farm and ranch use with minimum restrictions, and to provide for public recreational needs.

Troy River Community Area

Troy is a small rural community, with a number of houses and one commercial facility. This community, designated Rural Service on the Willowa County zoning map, is classified as River Community Area. The management goal is to protect the rural quality of the settlement while minimizing additional regulation.





**Rule:** This Natural River Area shall be administered consistent with the standards set by OAR 736-40-035 and OAR 736-40-040(1)(a)(C) (Appendix G). In addition to these standards, all new development in resource zones (i.e. farm and forest related dwellings) shall comply with Wallowa and Union County land use regulations.

New structures and associated improvements shall be totally obscured from view from the river except as provided under OAR 736-40-030 (5) and except those minimal facilities needed for public outdoor recreation or resource protection.

Visible tree harvest may be allowed provided that: 1) the operation complies with the relevant Forest Practices Act rules, 2) harvest methods with low visual impact are used and 3) the effect of the harvest enhances the scenic view within a reasonable time (5-10 years). For the purposes of this rule, "enhance" means to improve timber stand health, including reducing stand density, by emulating the mosaic character of the natural forest landscape (pre-forest management tree density patterns - prior to 1920).

New roads will be permitted only when fully screened from the river by topography and/or existing vegetation.

Any existing roads, visible from the river, shall not be extended, realigned, or improved substantially. When a road is regraded, no side cast which would be visible from the river is permitted. Excess material must be hauled to locations out of sight from the river.

New mining operations and similar improvements shall be permitted only when they are substantially screened from the river by topography or existing vegetation. The condition of "substantial screening" shall consist of an ample density and mixture of evergreen and deciduous vegetation (preferably native) to totally obscure the altered improvement site at all stages of its development.

Proposed utility facilities shall share existing utility corridors, and any vegetation disturbance shall be kept to a minimum.

Improvements needed for public recreation use or resource protection may be visible from the river, but shall be primitive in character and designed to blend with the natural character of the landscape.

Whenever the standards of OAR 736-40-035 and the above rule are more restrictive than the applicable County Land Use and Development Ordinance, the above Oregon Administrative Rules shall apply.

### III. Recreational River Area

That segment of the Grande Ronde River from Wildcat Creek to the Oregon State line, except for the community of Troy.

**Rule:** This Recreational River Area shall be administered consistent with the standards set by OAR 736-40-035 and OAR 736-40-040(1)(c)(B) (Appendix G). In addition to these standards, all new development in resource zones (i.e. farm and forest related dwellings) shall comply with Wallowa and Union County land use regulations.

New structures and associated improvements (except as provided under OAR 736-40-030 (5)) shall be partially screened with existing vegetation and/or topography. If inadequate topography or vegetative screening exists on a site, the structure or improvement may be permitted if vegetation (preferably native) is established to provide partial screening of the proposed structure or improvement within a reasonable time (4-5 years). The condition of "partial screening" shall consist of an ample density and mixture of evergreen and deciduous vegetation to partially obscure (at least 30%) the viewed improvement or structure, or allow a partially filtered view (at least 30% filtering) of the proposed structure or improvement.

Visible tree harvest may be allowed provided that: 1) the operation complies with the relevant Forest Practices Act rules, 2) harvest methods with low visual impact are used and 3) the effect of the harvest enhances the scenic view within a reasonable time (5-10 years). For the purposes of this rule, "enhance" means to improve timber stand health, including reducing stand density, by emulating the mosaic character of natural forest landscape (pre-forest management tree density patterns- prior to 1920).



Whenever the standards of OAR 736-40-035 and the above rule are more restrictive than the applicable County Land Use and Development Ordinance, the above Oregon Administrative Rules shall apply.

***MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE WALLOWA AND GRANDE RONDE SCENIC WATERWAYS***

1. Managing agencies should identify areas which are in need of riparian vegetation protection and restoration and assist landowners in finding ways to protect and restore these areas.
2. Managing agencies should identify areas on public lands suitable for wildlife viewing improvements.
3. The Umatilla National Forest, Wallowa-Whitman National Forest and the Bureau of Land Management should provide the Oregon State Parks & Recreation Department draft plans, environmental assessments or environmental impact statements on activities that may affect the Wallowa and Grande Ronde state scenic waterways.
4. The State Parks Department shall seek the cooperation of all local, state and federal agencies in meeting the objectives of this program and complying with the State Scenic Waterway Act and State Parks Commission rules.
5. Public agencies should provide for and post standardized, well designed, boundary signs distinguishing private lands from public lands where requested and where trespass has been identified as a continual problem.
6. When a master plan is developed for the Minam Recreation Area, use of this park by bank anglers and boaters putting in to float the Wallowa/ Grande Ronde Rivers be considered in the design and provision of park improvements.
7. A Kiosk will be constructed at the boat launching site of the Minam Recreation Area when economically possible. The Kiosk have information on the state and federal protective status of the river, and how and where boater camping can occur.

***CHAPTER 5 -  
WASHINGTON STATE  
(ASOTIN COUNTY)  
SHORELINE PROGRAM***





(Archaeological Sites and Records) and shall comply with WAC 25-48 as well as the provisions of this master program.

6. Archaeological excavations may be permitted subject to the provisions of this program.

7. Identified historical or archaeological resources shall be considered in park, open space, public access, and site planning with access to such areas designed and managed so as to give maximum protection to the resource and surrounding environment.

8. Clear interpretation of historical and archaeological features, and natural areas shall be provided when appropriate.

### ***CLEARING AND GRADING***

#### ***REGULATIONS***

1. All clearing and grading activities shall be limited to the minimum necessary for the intended development, including residential development.

2. Clearing and grading within designated shoreline (structural) setback (or vegetation management corridor, depending on how the SMP is structured) areas shall not exceed the following maximums (all measurements taken parallel to the shoreline):

- Lots, parcels with up to 200' of shoreline frontage: 30' maximum.
- Lots, parcels with between 201' and 500' shoreline frontage: maximum of 15% of the lot frontage along a shoreline.
- Lots, parcels with over 500' lot frontage: maximum of 15% of total lot frontage provided clearing occurs in two or more segments separated by at least 100' of undisturbed area; where no one segment exceeds 75' in length long the shoreline.

• When applying the above clearing and grading standards the following plant communities shall determine in descending order of preference allowed where clearing and grading occurs. The first plant community listed indicates the most preferred location for clearing and grading:

- grass
- shrub/scrub
- forest

3. Clearing and grading activities may only be permitted (landward of required setbacks) when associated with a permitted shoreline development, **Provided** that upon completion on construction remaining cleared areas shall be replanted with species contained in the county approved plant list or native species. Replanted areas shall be maintained such that within three years time the vegetation is fully reestablished.

4. Normal non-destructive pruning and trimming of vegetation for maintenance purposes shall not be subject to these clearing and grading regulations. In addition, clearing by hand held equipment of invasive non-native shoreline vegetation or plants listed on the State Noxious Weed List is permitted in shoreline locations if native vegetation is promptly reestablished in the disturbed area.

5. Conform to the standards for maximum percentage of site clearing in the Environment Designation provisions.

### ***ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS***

#### ***REGULATIONS***

1. The location, design, construction and management of all shoreline uses and activities shall protect the quality and quantity of surface and ground water adjacent to the site and shall adhere to the guidelines, policies, standards and regulations of applicable water quality management programs and regulatory agencies.



2. When a development site encompasses environmentally sensitive areas, these features shall be left intact and maintained as open space or buffers. All development shall be set back from these areas to prevent hazardous conditions and property damage, as well as to protect valuable shore features.

3. All shoreline development shall be designed in accordance with all applicable local and FEMA flood control and management codes and regulations, the State Environmental Policy Act, and other applicable local land use codes.

4. Areas with either an existing or high potential for aquaculture activities shall be protected from degradation by other types of uses which are located or are proposed to be located within one mile on the adjacent upland. A conclusive finding that such an adjacent use would result in irreparable damage to or destruction of an existing aquacultural enterprise shall be grounds for the denial of such use or activity.

5. The use of herbicides and pesticides shall be prohibited to remove noxious plants in streams and wetland areas except where no reasonable alternatives exist and it is demonstrated that such activity is in the public interest. A CUP (Conditional Use Permit) shall be required in such cases. Mechanical removal of noxious weeds shall be timed and carried out in a manner to minimize any disruption of wildlife or habitat.

## ***Wetlands***

### ***REGULATIONS***

1. For identifying and delineating a marsh, bog, or swamp, applicants shall use the Federal Manual for Identifying and Delineating Jurisdictional Wetlands.

2. No development or activity including removing or disturbing soil, filling, changing the water level, placing obstruction, constructing a structure, destroying or altering vegetation, or introducing pollutants may be permitted within a wetland or its buffer unless authorized by a conditional use permit.

3. Development or activities shall not be authorized in a wetland except where it can be demonstrated that:

- a. The impact is both unavoidable and necessary;
  - (I) In order to demonstrate that impacts are unavoidable and necessary, the applicant must demonstrate that there are no practicable alternatives which would not involve a wetland or which would not have less adverse impact on a wetland, and would not have other significant adverse environmental consequences.
  - (II) Where nonwater-dependent activities are proposed, it shall be presumed that adverse impacts are avoidable. This presumption may be rebutted upon a demonstration that 1) the basic project purpose cannot reasonably be accomplished utilizing one or more other sites in the general region that would avoid, or result in less, adverse impact on a wetland ecosystem; and 2) a reduction in the size, scope, configuration, or density of the project as proposed and all alternative designs to that of the project as proposed that would avoid, or result in less, adverse impact on an aquatic ecosystem will not accomplish the basic purpose of the project; and 3) in cases where the applicant has rejected alternatives to the project as proposed due to constraints such as zoning, infrastructure, or parcel size, the applicant has made reasonable attempt to remove or accommodate such constraints.
- b. Unavoidable and necessary impacts are offset through the deliberate restoration, creation, or enhancement of wetland of equivalent or greater resource value, including acreage and function;
- c. The restored, created, or enhanced wetland will be as persistent the wetland it replaces; and
- d. The applicant demonstrates sufficient scientific expertise, supervisory capability, and financial resources to carry out the proposed replacement activity.

4. For wetlands of exceptional resource value, the applicant, in addition to complying with the provisions above, shall demonstrate that there is a compelling public need for the proposed activity or that denial of the permit would impose an extraordinary hardship on the part of the applicant brought about by circumstances peculiar to the subject property.

5. In-kind replacement of functional values shall be provided, unless it is found that in-kind replacement is not feasible or practical due to the characteristics of the existing wetland and a greater benefit can be demonstrated



- a. Minor activities which are found to have no adverse impact on the wetland functions or integrity;
- b. Stormwater management facilities having no feasible alternative location outside of the buffer; or
- c. Linear developments having no feasible alternative location outside of the buffer.

15. The location of all required buffer zones shall be clearly and permanently marked on any project site prior to initiation of site work.

## ***Parking***

### ***REGULATIONS***

1. Parking in shoreline jurisdiction shall directly serve a shoreline use.
2. Parking facilities shall be designed and landscaped to minimize adverse impacts upon adjacent shoreline and abutting properties. Landscaping shall consist of native vegetation and be planted before completion of the parking area in such a manner that plantings provide effective screening within 3 years of project completion.
3. Parking facilities serving individual buildings on the shoreline shall be located landward from the principal building being served. EXCEPT when the parking facility is within or beneath the structure and adequately screened, or in cases when an alternate orientation would have less adverse impact on the shoreline or as amended in the Environmental Designation Provisions.
4. Parking facilities for shoreline activities shall provide safe and convenient pedestrian circulation within the parking area and to the shorelines.
5. Parking facilities shall provide adequate facilities to control surface water runoff from contaminating water bodies, using the best available technologies and include a maintenance program that will assure proper functioning of such facilities over time.

## ***Public Access***

### ***REGULATIONS***

1. In the review of all shoreline substantial development or conditional use permits, consideration of public access shall be required. Provisions for adequate public access shall be incorporated into a shoreline development proposal (including land division unless the applicant demonstrates one or more of the following provisions apply:
  - a. Unavoidable health or safety hazards to the public exist which cannot be prevented by any practical means;
  - b. Inherent security requirements of the use cannot be satisfied through the application of alternative design features or other solutions;
  - c. The cost of providing the access, easement, or an alternative amenity is unreasonable disproportionate to the total long-term cost of the proposed development;
  - d. Unacceptable environmental harm will result from the public access which cannot be mitigated; or
  - e. Significant undue and unavoidable conflict between any access provisions and the proposed use and/or adjacent uses would occur and cannot be mitigated. Provided that the applicant has first demonstrated and the County has determined in its findings that all reasonable alternatives have been exhausted, including but not limited to:
  - f. Regulating access by such means as maintaining a gate and/or limiting hours of use;
  - g. Designing separation of uses and activities (e.g. fences, terracing, use of one-way glazing, hedges, landscaping, etc.); and
  - h. Provisions for access at a site geographically separated from the proposal such as a street end, vista of trail system.
2. Development uses and activities shall be designed and operated to avoid blocking, reducing, or adversely interfering with the public's physical access to the water and shorelines.
3. Public access provided by shoreline street ends, public utilities and right-of-way shall not be diminished (RCW 35.797.035 and RCW 36.87.130).



transportation systems, providing such uses will not unduly interfere with utility operations or endanger public health and safety.

## ***View Protection***

### ***REGULATIONS***

1. Shoreline uses and activities shall be designed and operated to avoid blocking, reducing, or adversely interfering with the public's visual access to the water and shorelines.
2. Public lands such as street ends, rights-of-way, and utilities shall provide visual access to the water and shoreline in accordance with RCW 35.79.035 and RCW 36.87.130 (See Shoreline Public Access Handbook).
3. Submerged public rights-of-way shall be preserved for visual access.
4. In providing visual access to the shoreline, the natural vegetation shall not be excessively removed either by clearing or by topping (See Clearing and Grading).
5. Development on or over the water shall be constructed as far landward as possible to avoid interference with views from surrounding properties to the shoreline and adjoining waters.
6. Marinas with covered boathouses shall limit their height above mean water level (See Environmental Designations - Matrix in master document).
7. Development on the water shall be constructed of non-reflective materials that are compatible in terms of color and texture with the surrounding area.

## ***Water Quality***

### ***REGULATIONS***

1. All shoreline development shall minimize any increase in surface runoff so that the receiving water quality and shore properties and features are not adversely effected. Control measures include but are not limited to dikes,

catch basins or settling ponds, oil interceptor drains, grassy swales, planted buffers, and fugitive dust controls.

2. The local government and proposed shoreline uses and activities shall mitigate reduced water quality by erosion of rivers and stream systems by increasing storage of runoff peaks utilizing the hydraulic storage capacity of floodways and wetlands.
3. The County shall require setbacks, buffers and storage basins for all industrial, commercial, residential, recreational and agricultural use (refer to Specific Use and Environmental Designations chapter in master document for specific limits).

### ***VEGETATIVE MANAGEMENT***

#### ***REGULATIONS***

1. All unique and fragile shoreline shall be protected from degradation caused by the modification of the land surface within the shoreline area and/or the adjacent uplands, (See Site Specific Environment Designations in master document).
2. Wherever possible, development of commercial, industrial, residential and/or recreational shall be located away from the shoreline that has been identified as unstable and/or sensitive to erosion, (See Site Specific Environment Designations in master document).
3. The restoration of any shoreline that has been disturbed or degraded shall use native plant materials with a similar diversity and structure as what was originally occurring.
4. The use of commercial nursery stock in the restoration of disturbed or degraded shorelines shall emulate the previously existing vegetation in both size, structure, and diversity at maturation.
5. Stabilization of exposed erosional surfaces along shorelines including but not limited to rivers and streams shall, whenever feasible utilize soil bioengineering techniques.

# *CHAPTER 6 - COST AND IMPLEMENTATION*



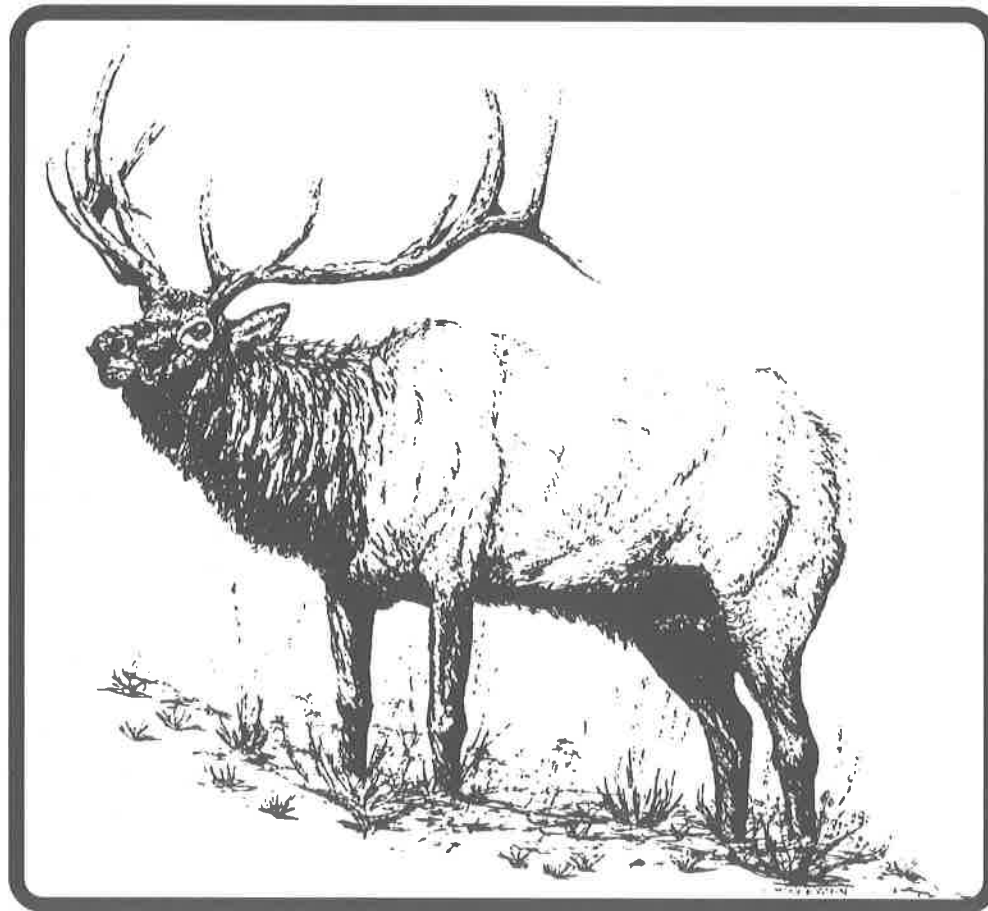




## *FACILITY DEVELOPMENT*

This category includes the survey, design, and construction of river related recreational facilities, including trails, river access developments, administrative facilities, signing, and trash and waste disposal facilities. Annual facility development funding requirements depend on project submissions and approvals for any given fiscal year. Development of facilities range from small signing projects of \$3,000 to full camp ground development of over \$1.3 million.

# *CHAPTER 7 - ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS*





The Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Wallowa/Grande Ronde River Management Plan on the Vale District of the Bureau of Land Management is enclosed in this document as Chapter 7 for public review. The EA is also available for public review of at the Vale District Office in Vale, Oregon, and the Baker Resource Area Office in Baker City, Oregon. The selected alternatives described below for each of the three river segments appends the Baker Resource Management Plan (RMP).

**DECISION**

As the Area Manager for the Baker Resource Area of the Vale District, Bureau of Land Management, it is my decision to implement alternative A for the Wallowa Segment, alternative B for the Grande Ronde Wild and Scenic River Segment, and alternative B for the Washington Segment.

These alternatives delineate a final river boundary, identify specific actions, and provide a detailed monitoring plan for the implementation of the river plan. The selected alternatives prescribe the following activities:

**Wallowa River Segment**

Alternative A: Protect and Enhance those values on the Wallowa River that are being considered under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, fully recognizing private landowner interest and rights consistent with the Act.

- Will not actively pursue acquisitions except from willing parties.
- Enhance Study River values on Public Land and Waters.
- County/State regulations apply on private land.
- Reduce impact/conflicts of recreation use on private land in River corridor.

**Grande Ronde Wild and Scenic River Segment**

Alternative B: Protect and Enhance ORV's on the Grande Ronde River while recognizing private landowner interests and rights consistent with the Act.

- County and State regulations apply on private land.

- Meet legal requirements (protection and/or enhancement) on private land with minimum use of regulations.
- Reduce impacts/conflicts of recreation use of private land in Wild and Scenic Rivers corridor.
- Land owner assistance for ORV enhancement.
- Will not actively pursue acquisition/easements except from willing parties.
- Emphasize multiple use of river corridor resource.
- No restriction on search and rescue techniques within corridor.
- Implement State Scenic Waterway Administrative Rules for river corridor.
- Develop intense Information and Education Program for all river users.
- Provide specific management direction for anadromous and resident fish programs.
- Restrict motorized water craft from river from Umatilla Forest Boundary to Oregon/Washington stateline.
- Establish citizens team to assist agencies in river management issues.
- Resolve conflicts on private land by starting at the local jurisdictional level.

**Washington River Segment**

Alternative B: Protect and/or enhance natural values while recognizing private landowner interests and rights.

- Public agencies will not actively pursue acquisitions/easements except from willing parties.
- Enhance river values on public land and waters.
- Pursue assistance for resource improvements on private land at owner request.
- County/State regulations apply on private land.
- Meet legal requirements on private land with minimum use of regulations.
- Promote recreational activities and develop facilities which are compatible with the present physical and social character of the corridor.
- Reduce impact/conflicts of recreation use on private land in corridor.
- Develop and implement public information and education materials and programs for interpretation and proper use of the corridor.



- No acquisition of fee title by condemnation.
- Will not actively pursue land acquisition.

### Washington Segment

Alternative A: Promote maximum resource utilization within the parameters of local, state, & federal law, regulations, and/or policy within the river corridor.

- Protect River Values.
- Utilize Physical Factors as limiting factors for carrying capacity.
- Emphasize Highly Developed Recreation.
- Emphasize Multiple Resource Facilities & Service Developments.
- Emphasize Economic Potential of the Resource.
- Develop additional Road & Trail access.
- Will not actively pursue land acquisition.

Alternative C: Protect and enhance natural values. Emphasize recreation opportunities compatible with resource protection.

- Actively pursue land acquisition.
- Enhance River Values within corridor regardless of land ownership.
- Develop intensive info-education programs.
- Utilize Social Factors as “limiting” factors for carrying capacity.
- Encourage low-impact recreation uses/activities.
- Regulate commodity uses.
- Limit access and developments.

Alternative D: No Action beyond present management direction from various agencies.

- No planned enhancement of River Values.
- Meet legal requirement with minimum use of regulations.
- Level and degree of existing uses neither discouraged or encouraged.
- Low priority for acquisition of easements or lands.

### *RATIONAL FOR THE DECISION*

I selected alternatives A, B, and B, because they prescribe the best mix of activities to achieve the project objectives and attain the desired condition.

Of the thirteen alternatives, alternatives A, B, and B, provide for the best opportunity to protect and enhance all of the Outstandingly Remarkable Values, protect free flow, and protect water quality while minimizing the impacts to private landowners.

### *SCOPING AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT*

Extensive public involvement has occurred since the Wallowa/Grande Ronde River planning process began in 1988. Several groups of volunteers contributed a large amount of time and effort in the initial stages of the process. A series of 16 meetings were held to begin identifying issues for each river segment. Many members of the public participated in these early scoping meetings. Meetings were held in Baker City, Oregon, LaGrande, Oregon; Troy, Oregon; Enterprise, Oregon; Richland, Oregon; Ukiah, Oregon; Pendleton, Oregon; Imnaha, Oregon; and Clarkston, Washington. Approximately 600 people attended these scoping meetings, providing the BLM and Forest Service with an extensive list of issues and concerns to be addressed during the planning effort. Coupled with the public scoping meetings, approximately 2,500 interest cards were mailed to individuals, groups, and agencies along with numerous letters and telephone calls, seeking input to the development of this plan. On April 15, 1992, approximately 1,500 letters of availability for a copy of the draft plan/environmental assessment were mailed to those individuals, groups, and agencies that responded affirmatively to an earlier 2,500 mailing. These contacts represent a large cross section of interested river publics.

In 1989, the BLM established two citizens Ad Hoc Work Groups, one in Oregon and one in Washington to provide planning direction for the development of the Wallowa/Grande Ronde River Management plan. These teams consisted of representatives from state agencies, county government, Indian Nations, local communities, conservation groups, forest industries, agricultural



Once in place and functioning, the mechanics of the LAC system can alert the managing agencies to unacceptable change in the Wallowa/Grande Ronde River Canyon before it is too late to react. For each river value to be monitored, one or more key indicators are selected which allow the managing agencies to keep their "thumb on the pulse" of that aspect of the ecosystem or social setting. For each key indicator, a standard is set. This is the threshold value which determines the amount of change that is either desired or will be accepted. The purpose of the indicators and standards is to provide managers with a tool to determine if the resource values and opportunities they are trying to manage for are actually being provided. The standards serve as "triggers" which cause predetermined management actions to be implemented by the managing agencies when the limit is being approached.

Monitoring will be the foundation for the long-term protection and enhancement of the primary river-related values in the Wallowa/Grande Ronde River Canyon. It must, however, be flexible enough to allow for unique site specific situations, provide ample opportunity for public involvement and be cost effective.

### ***SPECIFICALLY REQUIRED DISCLOSURES***

There are no unavoidable, adverse effects associated with implementing alternatives A, B, and B, that are not already identified in the Final EIS for the Baker RMP.

There are no short-term uses proposed in the project. Promoting long-term health and productivity of the Forest's ecosystems is a project objective.

There are no irreversible or irretrievable losses from implementing alternatives A, B, and B, that are not already identified in the Final EIS for the Baker RMP.

There are no unusual energy requirements associated with implementing alternatives A, B, and B.

There are no specific projects planned within wetlands or floodplains.

The management plan will cause no adverse effects to any Threatened or Endangered species or critical habitat; prime farmland, rangeland, or forest land; cultural resources; or civil rights, women, and minorities not already identified in the Final EIS for the Baker RMP.

### ***RELATIONSHIP WITH OREGON STATE SCENIC WATERWAY ACT***

The Wallowa/Grande Ronde River is also a State Scenic Waterway from Minam to the Oregon/Washington state line. The State Scenic Waterway program is administered by the Oregon State Parks and Recreation Department. State Parks has worked cooperatively with the BLM and Forest Service to identify the special values of the Wallowa/Grande Ronde River and to determine a best course of action for their protection as related to the State Scenic Waterway program.

The environmental assessment analyzes the consequences of alternative management regimes for the federal designated portion of the Wallowa/Grande Ronde River. This decision, for the entire Wallowa/Grande Ronde River corridor, provides protection of river-related values at a level that meets or exceeds the goals of the State Scenic Waterway program. To serve the public, the Bureau of Land Management, Forest Service and Oregon State Parks and Recreation Department have cooperatively developed a joint River Management Plan. The River Management Plan displays information related to management of the Federal and State portions of the River and includes the State's proposed river classifications and rules of land management.

### ***FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT***

Following a review of the environmental assessment, I have determined that this is not a major federal action that will significantly affect the quality of the human environment. Therefore, an environmental impact statement is not necessary and will not be prepared. This determination is based on the following consideration:

1. Irreversible and irretrievable commitments of resources and adverse cumulative or secondary effects will not exceed those discussed and evaluated



***Decision Notice  
and  
Finding Of No Significant Impact  
National Forest Administered Portion of  
the Grande Ronde Wild and Scenic River  
Management Plan Forest Plan Amendment***

***USDA - FOREST SERVICE  
UMATILLA AND WALLOWA-WHITMAN NATIONAL FORESTS  
WALLA WALLA AND WALLOWA VALLEY RANGER DISTRICTS***

***WALLOWA COUNTY, OREGON***

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Forest Service (FS), and Oregon State Parks and Recreation Department have worked cooperatively to prepare an environmental assessment and management plan for the designated Grande Ronde (and Wallowa) Wild and Scenic River. The management plan is required by the Omnibus Oregon Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1988 and Oregon State Scenic Waterways program. Early in the planning process, the three agencies with responsibility for management of the river agreed that one plan should be developed for the entire river, with the BLM as the lead agency.

This Decision Notice and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) documents the Forest Service Decision to implement a management plan and final boundary for the part of the Grande Ronde Wild and Scenic River administered by the Forest Service (see below) under the Omnibus Oregon Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. The process and analysis for arriving at the decision is described in the Environmental Analysis (EA) supporting the management plan decision. The EA contains alternatives for managing the river in accordance with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 and other appropriate laws. The selected management plan amends the Forest Plans for the Umatilla and Wallowa-Whitman National Forests.

The decision is applicable to the section of river and adjacent lands beginning at the confluence of the Wallowa and Grande Ronde rivers at Rondowa and ending downstream at the Wallowa-Whitman Forest boundary (Sections 1, T.4N., R.41E., and 6, T.4N., R.42E., W.M.). This portion of the river contains two classified sections, Recreation and Wild. The Recreation section is approximately 1.5 miles in length from Rondowa to the Umatilla National Forest boundary (sections 11/14, T.3N., R.40E., W.M.) and is all private land. The Wild section is approximately 17.4 miles and is primarily public lands including both Umatilla and Wallowa-Whitman National Forest.

The EA for the Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers management plan is available for public review at the Umatilla National Forest Supervisor's Office in Pendleton, Oregon, and the Wallowa-Whitman Supervisor's Office in Baker City, Oregon. The document is also available for review at the BLM's Vale District Office in Vale, Oregon, and Baker Resource Area Office in Baker City, Oregon.

***DECISION***

As Forest Supervisors of the Umatilla and Wallowa-Whitman National Forests, our decision is to amend each Forest Plan by implementing Alternative B of the EA for the National Forests' administered part of the Grande Ronde Wild and Scenic River. The decision is applicable to the Recreation and Wild segments described in the above introduction. Our decision is also to recommend the new boundary, including the boundary location on National Forest lands, to the Regional Forester.

The alternative provides a management plan that delineates river corridor boundaries, identifies appropriate management practices, and provides for monitoring. The alternative meets the intent of maintaining free flowing conditions and water quality, protecting and/or enhancing the identified outstandingly remarkable values (ORVs), meeting standards for the Wild river classification and addressing the major public issues.

The overall goal of Alternative B is to protect and/or enhance the identified ORVs and other special quantities of the Grande Ronde River while recognizing landowner interests and rights consistent with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Acts.



- Reintroduce fire as an effective vegetation management tool.
- Continue present fire suppression agreements among agencies.
- Wild classification segment is withdrawn from mineral entry, oil and gas leasing is excluded, and power and water development is prohibited.
- Timber harvest is not scheduled; no new roads will be constructed on public lands.

**Administrative**

- Develop and implement cooperative agreements among involved agencies and groups, as needed. Agreements may cover recreation standards and monitoring, emergency situations, law enforcement, facilities maintenance, and threatened, endangered, and sensitive species habitat management.
- Develop and use working groups to assist implementation of the Plan.
- Acquisition of private lands will only be from willing sellers. Condemnation for scenic easements will only be used as a last resort.

**Monitoring**

Develop and use monitoring of the variety of ORV's and other special values, as outlined in the Plan.

**SCOPING AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT**

The public has been extensively involved throughout the process since the river planning process began in 1988. A series of 16 meetings throughout northeast Oregon and southeast Washington were held to identify issues and concerns. About 600 people attended the scoping meetings. Approximately 2,500 interest cards were also mailed to individuals, groups, and agencies along with numerous letters and telephone calls seeking input on the Plan.

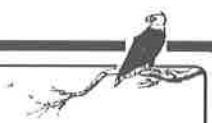
In 1989, the BLM established two citizens Ad Hoc work groups; one in Oregon and one in Washington to provide planning direction for the development of the management plan. The team consisted of representatives from state agencies, county governments, Indian Nations, local communities, commercial outfitters, recreation groups, and private landowners. The two groups helped to develop plan objectives and formulate issues and management objectives. The teams met 34 times at different locations and provided the agencies with invaluable assistance in developing the Management Plan.

On April 15, 1992, the BLM sent approximately 1,500 letters of availability for a copy of the draft plan and environmental assessment to the individuals, groups, and agencies who responded to the initial interest mailing. Numerous individuals, groups, and agencies covering a cross section of interested publics provided comment on the draft documents.

**ISSUES**

Results of the public involvement form the basis for identification and development of the key issues. For the Grande Ronde River, Wild Segment, six key issues were formulated and carried forward through the process including: land (use), social, cultural/scenery, water, biological and administration.

As characterized in the EA, two broad themes emerged from the public comment and underlie the identification of the issues. One body of interested citizens tended to emphasize protection and enhancement of the free flowing character and ORV's, as described under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Acts. These groups and individuals expressed concerns about providing for water related recreation experiences, allowing access to these opportunities, enhancing the fisheries resources, protecting the scenic, and wildlife resource and providing for diversity. Many of these people support activities that enhance supplies of cool, clean water, river corridor easements for improved public access, recreation opportunities, cultural resource protection, vegetative practices that maintain or support wildlife, scenery, and riparian habitats. They see a need for management of the river corridor and surrounding lands in the Wild and Scenic River section to minimize development and commodity activities while allowing for more natural processes.



The identified ORVs are key elements in defining future management direction on river sections for which the Forest Service has administrative responsibility. An important consideration is to maintain and improve the traditional float experience for beginning and moderate skill levels and associated recreation opportunities in a diverse and scenic environment. We prefer Alternative B because it most effectively (of the alternatives) meets the criteria by promoting existing recreation opportunities and experiences and by protecting the scenic and other values into the future. Fish habitat/water quality and wildlife habitat were also important considerations in our decision. Alternative B best supports our Forest management objectives; activities are designed for protecting and improving fish habitat, fish populations, water quality, and wildlife habitat. We also prefer the more “balanced” emphasis provided by Alternative B to management of ORVs because we believe that the public interests and needs are better served under such a plan. In our view, the other alternatives, in whole or in part, are not as effective as Alternative B in protecting and enhancing all of the ORVs and achieving a balance between the values.

The selected alternative meets the requirements for each classified river segment from the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, as documented in each of the Forest Plans. Alternative B is also consistent with and reinforces direction in the Forest Plan.

Most of the lands administered by the Forest Service are public and are relatively primitive and undeveloped. The river classification and direction under Alternative B maintains these conditions. However, we recognize that public concerns about Wild and Scenic River management, expressed in the issues, and how the issues are resolved can influence management and future conditions on Forest Service administered sections. From our perspective, Alternative B more favorably addresses the concerns expressed about maintaining opportunities to use private lands and natural resources while protecting and enhancing OR and other important values. We believe that more compatible management for the entire river results from Alternative B. We also believe that the working group process used by the BLM engenders better issue resolution and more support and acceptance for the Plan. With acceptable issue resolution, under Alternative B, we think that the Forest Service can more effectively manage our river responsibilities into the future.

The plan encourages and establishes coordination and cooperation requirements with agencies, Indian Nations, and others and provides direction for continued use of working groups on resources, monitoring, and additional planning issues. We prefer these cooperative approaches to resolving problems and developing agreed upon approaches to management of the river corridor and associated values.

### ***SPECIFICALLY REQUIRED DISCLOSURES***

There are no unavoidable, adverse effects associated with implementing Alternative B of the Grande Ronde Wild and Scenic River segment that are not already identified in the Final EIS for the Umatilla and Wallowa-Whitman Forest Plans.

Short-term uses are not proposed in the Management Plan. Promoting long-term health and productivity of the Forest’s ecosystems is an objective of the river management plan.

No irreversible or irretrievable losses from implementing Alternative B have been identified that are not already described in the Final EIS for each of the Forest Plans.

There are no unusual energy requirements associated with implementing Alternative B.

There are no specific projects planned within wetlands or floodplains that can be implemented under this decision without further analysis and a separate Decision Notice issued addressing wetland or floodplains.

The management plan will cause no adverse effects on any Threatened or Endangered species or critical habitat; prime farmland, rangeland, or forest land; cultural resources; or civil rights, women, and minorities not already identified in the Final EIS for the Forest Plans.





of a Notice of Appeal) and must be filed with John Lowe, Regional Forester, P.O. Box 3623, Portland, Oregon 97208 within 45 days of the date stated in the legal notice of this decision, which appears in the Baker City Herald or the East Oregonian.

***CONTACT FOR FURTHER INFORMATION***

For further information regarding the Grande Ronde Wild and Scenic River Management Plan, contact Marty Gardner at the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest Supervisor's Office, P.O. Box 907, Baker City, Oregon 97814 or at (503) 523-6391; or Gerry Meyer, at the Baker Resources Area Office, P.O. Box 987, Baker City, Oregon at (503) 523-6391.



JOHN P. KLINE  
Deputy Forest Supervisor  
Umatilla National Forest

December 13, 1993

Date



R. M. RICHMOND  
Forest Supervisor  
Wallowa-Whitman National Forest

December 15, 1993

Date



**TABLE 15: WALLOWA RIVER (STUDY RIVER SEGMENT) - SUMMARY OF ALTERNATIVE**

<p><b>Alternative A. (Preferred Alternative)</b> Protect and Enhance those values on the Wallowa River that are being considered under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, fully recognizing private landowner interests and rights consistent with the Act.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will not actively pursue acquisitions except from willing parties.</li> <li>Enhance Study River values on Public Land and Waters</li> <li>County/State regulations on private land.</li> <li>Reduce impact/conflicts of recreation use on private land in River corridor.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Alternative B.</b> Protect and Enhance Study River Values with emphasis on Recreation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Actively pursue acquisition.</li> <li>Enhance all Study River Values within corridor regardless of land ownership.</li> <li>Develop intense information and education programs.</li> <li>Utilize Social Factors as the "limiting" factors for carrying capacity.</li> <li>Promote types of recreation use according to river segment classification.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Alternative C.</b> Protect and Enhance Study River Values with emphasis on Naturalness (Wildlife/Fisheries/Vegetation).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Manage to "Primitive" end of spectrum for Recreation.</li> <li>Biological factors determine carrying capacity.</li> <li>Actively pursue acquisitions</li> <li>Regulate commodity uses.</li> <li>Limit access and developments.</li> <li>Maximize challenges and self reliance.</li> <li>Restrictions on public use of public and private land.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Alternative D.</b> No Action plus meeting minimum legislative intent.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No planned enhancement of Study River Values.</li> <li>Allow level and degree of existing uses to continue.</li> <li>Meet legal requirements with minimum use of regulations.</li> <li>No acquisition of rights by condemnation.</li> <li>Will not actively pursue land acquisition.</li> </ul>
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**TABLE 16: GRANDE RONDE RIVER (WASHINGTON RIVER SEGMENT) - SUMMARY OF ALTERNATIVES**

<p><b>Alternative A.</b> Promote maximum resource utilization within the parameters of local, state, &amp; federal law, regulations, and/or policy within the river corridor.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Protect River Values.</li> <li>Utilize Physical Factors as limiting factors for carrying capacity.</li> <li>Emphasize Highly Developed Recreation.</li> <li>Emphasize Multiple Resource Facilities &amp; Service Developments.</li> <li>Emphasize Economic Potential of the Resource.</li> <li>Develop additional Road &amp; Trail access.</li> <li>Will not actively pursue land acquisition.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Alternative B. (Preferred Alternative).</b> Protect and/or enhance natural values while recognizing private landowner interests and rights.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public agencies will not actively pursue acquisitions/easements.</li> <li>Enhance River Values on Public Land &amp; Waters.</li> <li>Pursue assistance for resource improvements on private land at owner request.</li> <li>County/State regulations apply on private land.</li> <li>Meet legal requirements on private land with minimum use of regulations.</li> <li>Promote recreational activities and develop facilities which are compatible with the present physical and social character of the corridor.</li> <li>Reduce impact/conflicts of recreation use on private land in corridor.</li> <li>Develop and implement public information and education materials and programs for interpretation and proper use of the Corridor.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Alternative C.</b> Protect and enhance natural values. Emphasize recreation opportunities compatible with resource protection.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Actively pursue land acquisition.</li> <li>Enhance River Values within corridor regardless of land ownership.</li> <li>Develop intensive info-education programs.</li> <li>Utilize Social Factors as "limiting" factors for carrying capacity.</li> <li>Encourage low-impact recreation uses/activities.</li> <li>Regulate commodity uses.</li> <li>Limit access and developments.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Alternative D.</b> No Action beyond present management direction from various agencies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No planned enhancement of River Values.</li> <li>Meet legal requirement with minimum use of regulations.</li> <li>Level and degree of existing uses neither discouraged or encouraged.</li> <li>Low priority for acquisition of easements or lands.</li> </ul>
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## *Range of Alternatives for the Wallowa River Segment*

### *ALTERNATIVE A (PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE):*

To protect and enhance those values on the Wallowa River that are being considered under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act and fully recognizing private landowner interests and rights consistent with Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

#### *SCENERY*

- Retain the existing character of the landscape with only a low level of change. Activities may be seen but should not attract attention. Management public lands as a visual resource management class II.

#### *RECREATION*

- Construct a visitor contact station and administrative facilities at Minam to provide for a focal point for management and serve as the principal access point for the 90 mile corridor.
- Improve river staging areas at Minam to increase convenience for river users.
- Open to both motorized and non-motorized watercraft with certain restrictions as determined by monitoring studies on timing, size, and number of trips, for motorized craft. Motorized and mechanized equipment is allowed for administrative and emergency use.
- Develop and utilize a work group to assist in the implementation of the plan and the formulation of recreation monitoring indicators and standards utilizing the limits of acceptable change process.
- Voluntary river registration until monitoring studies determines that indicator standards are not being met, then a sequence of staged management actions as identified on the monitoring table will be implemented.

- A special use authorization will be required for all commercial recreation services. A single outfitter-guide permit will be issued which authorizes use on all administrative jurisdictions.
- Outfitter-guide permits will remain open to applicants who have basic technical and financial capability, providing they follow the prescribed administrative process. Permits will not be reissued to permit holders who receive an "unacceptable" performance rating by the land manager.
- Develop intensive visitor awareness of river resources and user interrelationships.
- Require mandatory use of fire pans and pack out of human waste.
- Trail construction, reconstruction and maintenance will be encouraged along the slopes above the river. Trails and trail use will be discouraged as access to the river. Recreation trails will not be constructed within 500 vertical feet of the river, unless the horizontal distance is a minimum of one mile.
- Signing should enable floaters to orient themselves on maps. Public land and facilities should be clearly marked. Geographic features identified as a convenience to users and to instill confidence in orienteering skills.

#### *FISH AND WILDLIFE*

- Minimize new road development on public land within the river corridor.
- Minimize human impacts in wildlife winter ranges through public awareness programs.
- Maintain or create snags within 1/4 mile each side of the river to accommodate winter roosting needs of bald eagles.
- Maintain cooperative agreements between ODFW and BLM.
- Maintain and/or improve fisheries habitat through instream and riparian enhancement projects.



- Utilize harvest prescriptions which have low visual impact, yet favor fire tolerant species, by emulation the mosaic character of the natural landscape.
- Keep large old trees in the stands.
- Reduce current stand densities as needed to maintain stand vigor, insofar as this does not conflict with interim protection of river values.

#### *LIVESTOCK*

- On public land, manage livestock grazing through season of use, and utilization levels to achieve the monitoring standard identified on Table 14.
- Encourage cooperative projects on all riparian rehabilitation projects regardless of land ownership. Restrict livestock for three to five growing seasons, following vegetative enhancement treatments.

#### *SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CONSIDERATIONS*

- Develop management actions that maintain existing rural life-styles of corridor residents.
- Maintain prescribed levels of resource utilizations in the agricultural and forest industries.
- Maintain physical resources necessary for the continuation of recreation based industries.
- Assist Union and Wallowa Counties in broadening the economic bases of various communities through resource cost share and grant programs.

#### *ALTERNATIVE B:*

Protect and enhance those values on the Wallowa River that are being considered under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act with emphasis on recreation opportunities.

#### *SCENERY*

- Stipulate development projects, including resource commodity uses, to insure that management activities provide for the protection of the characteristic landscape and do not dominate the immediate viewshed.
- During all construction projects, incorporate visual design criteria that are compatible with the corridor's characteristic landscape.

#### *RECREATION*

- Construct a facility at Minam to serve as a visitor contact station, river interpretive center, and agency administrative headquarters to provide for a focal point for management and serve as the principal access point for the 90 mile corridor.
- Improve the river staging areas at Minam to accommodate additional vehicle parking, boat access, and rest-room facilities.
- Obtain access easements from private landowners in the Rondowa vicinity for vehicle access to the confluence of the Wallowa and Grande Ronde Rivers.
- Mandatory river registration for all recreational users of the Wallowa River.
- Develop monitoring studies to determine the social, physical, and environmental carrying capacities of the river corridor.
- Implement visitor use and party size limitations when monitoring indicates a trend toward unacceptable resource damage.



- Cooperate in developing a water monitoring program to assist agencies and private land owners in meeting water quality and quantity requirements for fish and wildlife resources and domestic and recreation uses.
- Stipulate resource activities on public land within the corridor watershed that would have the potential to degrade water quality or quantity of the Wallowa River.

***LANDOWNER RIGHTS***

- Continue existing uses of private land within the corridor as directed by Union and Wallowa County zoning and the Oregon State Scenic Waterway Administrative Rules (refer to Chapter 4).
- Actively pursue land acquisition programs with private landowners within the river corridor.

***TRANSPORTATION***

- Allow for the continued maintenance of transportation systems including state, county, and private roads, and railroad track and bed.
- No new roads will be built on public land.
- Upgrade the road from Palmer Junction to Rondowa to gravel, all weather road standards.
- Maintenance activities will meet visual and cultural resource requirements.
- New transportation requirements on private land will meet Oregon State Scenic waterway guidelines within the corridor.

***FORESTRY***

- Manage timber to optimize wildlife habitat, recreation and visual values on all available moderate or highly capable commercial forest lands.

- Emphasize diversity of habitat. Maximize forage cover ratios on selected areas to favor elk.
- Little additional road construction or improvement will be required. Roads will be closed as necessary to protect wildlife, soils or water quality.

***LIVESTOCK***

- Eliminate domestic livestock grazing within the river corridor on public land.
- Initiate trespass actions on unauthorized use of public land by livestock within the corridor.

***SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CONSIDERATIONS***

- Management actions will adversely affect the existing rural life-styles of corridor residents through the elimination of domestic livestock grazing within the river corridor on public land.
- Manage existing and prescribed levels of resource utilization in the agricultural and forest industries to enhance river recreation opportunities.
- Maintain physical resources to insure the continuation and expansion of recreation based industries.
- Assist Union and Wallowa Counties in broadening the economic base of various communities through recreation cost share and grant programs.
- Develop public awareness programs for recreational users of the Wallowa River corridor.



- Conduct annual monitoring of all cultural resources on public land.

### ***BIODIVERSITY***

- Management actions within the corridor will maintain or enhance flora, fauna, and physical elements most similar to the present baseline condition.

### ***WATER RESOURCES***

- Maintain the free flowing character of the Wallowa River.
- Continue utilization of river for water domestic livestock on private land.
- Cooperate in developing a water monitoring program to assist agencies and private land owners in meeting water quality and quantity requirements for fish and wildlife resources and domestic and recreation uses.
- Consider resource activities on public land within the corridor watershed that would have the potential to degrade or enhance water quality and/or quantity of the river.

### ***LANDOWNER RIGHTS***

- Continue existing uses of private land within the corridor as directed by Union and Wallowa County zoning and the Oregon State Scenic Waterway Administrative Rules (refer to Chapter 4).
- Actively pursue private land acquisitions (including condemnation actions) to preserve the naturalness of the corridor.

### ***TRANSPORTATION***

- Continue maintenance of transportation systems including state, county, and private roads, and railroad track and bed.
- No new roads will be built on public land.

- Upgrade the road from Palmer Junction to Rondowa to gravel, all weather road standards.

- Maintenance activities will meet visual and cultural resource requirements.
- New transportation requirements on private land will meet Oregon State Scenic Waterway guidelines within the corridor.

### ***FORESTRY***

- Manage timber solely to optimize wildlife habitat, recreation and scenic values.
- Prescribe timber harvesting to meet wildlife, recreation and visual objectives.
- Little additional road construction or improvement will be needed.
- All commercial forest land is unregulated. No potential yield is calculated.

### ***LIVESTOCK***

- Eliminate domestic livestock grazing within the river corridor on public land.
- Initiate trespass actions on unauthorized use of public land by livestock within the corridor.

### ***SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CONSIDERATIONS***

- Management actions are to enhance naturalness and may adversely affect the existing rural life-styles of corridor residents.
- Manage existing and prescribed levels of resource utilization in the agricultural and forest industries to enhance natural values.
- Develop public awareness programs for users of the Wallowa River corridor to promote natural value preservation.



**FORESTRY**

- Optimize wood fiber outputs on all available moderate or highly capable private land.
- Utilize harvest prescriptions which have low visual impact, yet favor fire tolerant species, by emulating the mosaic character of the natural landscape.
- Attempt to always keep some large old trees in the stands.
- Reduce current stand densities as needed to maintain stand vigor.
- Special cuts as justified to meet resource objectives other than commercial timber harvest.
- Road improvement and construction will be required including some presently unroaded areas.
- Screen new roads from view from the river utilizing vegetation and topography.

**LIVESTOCK**

- On public land, restrict livestock grazing through season of use, utilization levels, and livestock numbers.
- Continue livestock grazing on public land within the canyon under authorized permits.
- Establish an information network where owners are informed of stray livestock. Initiate trespass actions on unauthorized use of corridor by livestock.

**SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CONSIDERATIONS**

- Management actions will not adversely affect the existing rural life-styles of the corridor residents.

- Manage existing and prescribed levels of resource utilization in the agricultural and forest industries to meet current demand within the parameters of the Acts.

**Impacts of Alternatives**

**SCENERY**

Alternatives A, B and C are exactly alike and state that all developmental projects, uses, and management activities remain subordinate to the visual quality and characteristics of the present landscape. Alternative D differs in that it does not specifically state that recreational construction and management activities must conform to and be subordinate to the natural characteristics of the corridor.

**RECREATION**

Alternative A (Preferred Alternative): Under this alternative, the impacts to the existing recreational use of the river would be largely enhanced. The improvements to the launching areas including better staging areas, improved visitor contact station/administration office at Minam would allow a more universal use and knowledge of the corridor. Improvements along this line would allow easy access to both non-motorized and motorized watercraft. The developments along the corridor including party size limitations, mandatory use of fire pans, and removal of human waste would improve the health and cleanliness of the corridor for both boaters as well as those who camp along the shore. Volunteer river registration and commercial use programs would remain as they presently exist with the addition of motorized watercraft.

Alternative B: This alternative is very similar to alternative A in most of the developments and improvements. This alternative, however, provides for the obtaining of vehicle access to the corridor from the private landowners. This when combined with a mandatory registration policy would greatly increase specific river section availability and the ability of emergency and rescue personnel to know the whereabouts and locate river users.



### ***BIODIVERSITY***

Alternative A (Preferred Alternative): This alternative would have the greatest beneficial impact on the river corridor due to the action of enhancing the flora, fauna and physical elements most similar to the present baseline condition. Both alternatives A and B allow for maintaining or enhancing the aforementioned elements while D offers strictly to maintain those elements. Only the preferred alternative (A) would make enhancement a necessity.

### ***WATER RESOURCE***

Alternative A (Preferred Alternative) and B: The impacts of these alternatives would be beneficial to the quality of water in the river corridor. By maintaining a free flowing river with continued livestock utilization combined with the development of water quality programs and activity stipulations will create a more controlled and maintained water resource.

Alternative C: This alternative lists the same actions as A and B except that it eliminates all activities that could possibly degrade the water quality of the river. This alternative would be the most beneficial to the water resources and quality.

Alternative D: This alternative would impact the river in a very negative way. By maintaining the current use conditions without formulating any control measures, the quality of the existing water resource can not possibly be regulated or maintained.

### ***LANDOWNER RIGHTS***

None of the four mentioned alternatives would effect the rights of the private landowner from what currently exists as directed by Union and Wallowa zoning and the Oregon State Scenic Waterway Administration rules.

Under alternatives A (preferred alternative) and D, land acquisition programs will not change from current management. However, under alternatives B and C, agencies will actively pursue acquisitions, resulting in larger acreages of the corridor in public ownership.

### ***TRANSPORTATION***

Alternative A (Preferred Alternative): The impacts to the transportation along the river corridor under this alternative would be minimal. By continued maintenance of existing roads without eliminating the possibility of necessary new roads construction, existing travel means can be retained. At the same time, the criteria of maintenance activities meeting visual and cultural resource requirements will continue to enhance the visual aesthetics of the corridor.

Alternative B and C: Under these alternatives, the possible need for new road construction would be eliminated. Although the remaining actions to this alternative are the same as alternative A, the absence of new road construction could possibly hinder transportation if existing roads become unrepairable.

Alternative D: Alternative D would maintain current policies.

### ***FORESTRY***

Alternative A (Preferred Alternative): Under this alternative long term timber production would be reduced below the long term biological potential by less than 5%. These reductions would result from efforts to maintain visual quality and from extending the time to reduce stocking levels. Since long term timber production can be maintained while carrying 60% of current inventory, this reduction may not be apparent until the third decade.

Alternative B: The impacts resulting from this alternative would minimize the forest industry potential for production. By managing timber to optimize wildlife, recreation, and visual values, the existing timber harvest within the corridor will be seriously decreased. Production would be reduced below biological potential by 27% (35 Mbf/year) immediately. With little road construction or improvement and additional restrictions for habitat diversity, the viability of timber management within the corridor will be further threatened. The resulting damage to the livelihoods of harvesters will be serious.





- During construction projects, incorporate visual design criteria that are compatible with the corridor's characteristic landscape.

### *SOCIAL*

- Improve river staging and camping areas to include handicap and family opportunity requirements, additional vehicle parking, boat access, and restroom facilities.
- Continue commercial permit programs for river outfitters that require one permit for all administrative jurisdictions.
- Continue existing uses of private land within the corridor as directed by Union and Wallowa county zoning and the Oregon State Scenic Waterway administrative rules.
- Management actions will not adversely affect the existing rural life-styles of corridor residents.
- Maintain physical resources to insure the continuation and expansion of resource based industries.
- Manage existing and prescribed levels of resource utilization in the agricultural and forest industries to maintain resource opportunities.
- Assist Union and Wallowa counties in broadening the economic base of various communities through cost share and grant programs.
- Open river corridor to both motorized and non-motorized watercraft.
- Voluntary river registration for all recreational users of the Grande Ronde corridor.
- Voluntary use of fire pans and pack out of human waste.
- Develop intensive visitor awareness programs for river resources and user interrelationships, along with river resource policies (ie...carry in/carry out).

- Develop and implement awareness programs (ie...posters/signs/published articles) to accommodate residents and non-residents on types of river resource experiences in both seasonal periods and transportation methods.

- Develop intensive awareness programs between private landowners, users, and the general public on rights and responsibilities of all involved parties.

### *BIOLOGICAL*

- Implement resource activities to maintain wildlife and fish populations.
- Minimize human impacts through the use of intensive public awareness programs.
- Maintain habitat requirements for species that fall under the Federal Threatened and Endangered Species Act.
- Develop cooperative agreements between Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and private landowners for protection and maintenance of riparian habitats.
- Management activities within the corridor will maintain flora, fauna and physical elements most similar to baseline conditions.
- Stipulate road development on public land within the river corridor.

### *WATER*

- Water quality monitoring on public lands will be conducted within the corridor as needed to determine causes, extent, and location of point and non-point source pollution.
- Resource management actions within the corridor will meet minimum water quality standards as set by Oregon Department of Environmental Quality.



- Mineral extraction on public land will require a plan of operation, demonstrating protection of Wild and Scenic river values.
- Optimize wood fiber outputs on all available moderate or highly capable land.
- Utilize harvest prescriptions which have low visual impact, yet favor fire tolerant species, by emulation the mosaic character of the natural landscape.
- Attempt to always keep some large old trees in the stands.
- Reduce current stand densities as needed to maintain stand vigor.

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE**

- Develop and implement monitoring methods to determine maximum visitor use of the corridor. Continue monitoring process to insure appropriate changes in visitor use possibilities.
- Develop cooperative agreements between all involved agencies groups.
- Develop management actions within the corridor and basin to insure the existing life-styles of corridor residents, while maximizing corridor conditions and public use.
- Implement monitoring and management practices in relation to federal and state regulations.
- Assess cost estimate in regards to possible catastrophic events, legislation and economic efficiency.
- Develop contingency plans for proper action during emergency situations (catastrophic events).
- Develop a list of possible members for an informal problem solving work group.

- Continue existing water rights of landowners, while maintaining minimum flow requirements according to Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW).
- Implement cooperative inter-agency agreements to develop law enforcement policies and patrol criteria and responsibilities of each agency.
- Implement developmental procedures for the recreational use from Minam, Oregon to Heller Bar, Washington in regards to maximum public use.
- Develop intensive public awareness programs and signing plans to clearly identify boundary lines between public and private lands.
- Develop studies to determine if acquisition of private lands is necessary to meet the minimum protection criteria of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. Agencies will not actively pursue acquisition.
- Develop maintenance and improvement programs to increase public use facilities and utilities.
- Increase new road development on public lands to increase user opportunities.
- Continue maintenance of transportation systems including state, county, and private roads.
- Maintenance activities will meet visual and cultural resource requirements.
- New transportation requirements on private land will meet Oregon State Scenic Waterway guidelines within the corridor.

#### **ALTERNATIVE B (PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE):**

Protect and enhance Outstanding Remarkable Values (ORV) on the Grande Ronde River while recognizing private landowner interest and rights consistent with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.



- Maintain levels of resource utilizations in the agricultural and forest industries on private land at the time of the passage of the Act as directed by the State Scenic Waterway program.
- Maintain physical resource base necessary for the continuation of recreation based industries.
- Assist Union and Wallowa counties in broadening the economic bases of various communities through resource cost share and grant programs.
- Signs should be located and designed to enhance the recreation experience.
- Boundaries of river segments and significant administrative units should be well marked.
- Recreation Section: Signing should enable floaters to orient themselves on maps. Public land and facilities should be clearly marked. Geographic features identified as a convenience to users and to instill confidence in orienteering skills.
- Wild Section: Signing should be at a level which requires high orienteering skills. Geographic features will not be signed. Only locations to facilities needed for resource protection will be marked.

**BIOLOGICAL**

- Monitor and assess fish and wildlife habitat populations within the corridor.
- Manage resource activities to restore wildlife and fish habitat and watershed stabilization by utilizing instream, riparian, and watershed improvement projects.
- Monitor sensitive, threatened, and/or endangered plant and wildlife species populations. Identify and improve habitat conditions (quality and quantity) that might be limiting.

- Improve habitat requirements for species that fall under the Federal Threatened and Endangered Species Act.
- Monitor and assess fish and wildlife ecological requirements to enhance existing populations of corridor species.
- Develop cooperative agreements between Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and private landowners for protection and enhancement of riparian habitats.
- Maintain or enhance fish and wildlife populations using current and updated management practices in cooperation with ODFW, Nez Perce, and related agencies.
- Develop monitoring activities of corridor fish and wildlife populations to ensure long term biodiversity and productivity.
- Management activities within the corridor will balance flora, fauna and physical element conditions in conformance with the vision statement.
- Monitor the impacts of recreation on wintering wildlife species and nesting activities of bald eagles within the corridor.
- Implement limitations on recreation use when monitoring determines that use exceeds the standard on wintering wildlife species and nesting activities of bald eagles within the corridor.

**WATER**

- Water quality monitoring will be conducted within the corridor to determine cause, extent, and location of point and non-point source pollution.
- Resource management actions within the corridor will meet minimum water quality standards as set by Oregon Department of Environmental Quality.



- Eliminate or reduce to acceptable levels of fuel build-up and hazards that are a result of past management and/or natural catastrophic events, insofar as this does not conflict with the protection and enhancement of ORVs.
- Continue present fire suppression agreements between BLM, Forest Service and Oregon Department of Forestry.
- Develop control systems for weeds, insects, and disease to include herbicides, pesticides, fire, plowing, seeding, and biological controls for the protection of the corridors ORVs.
- Agricultural practices on public land administered by Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife will utilize current ground manipulation applications for producing desired forage.
- The wild classification segment is withdrawn from mineral entry and the recreation classification segments are currently open to locatable mineral exploration and development.
- Location mineral exploration and development on public land will require a plan of operation demonstrating protection of Wild and Scenic river values.
- Within the Wild segment, oil and gas leasing is excluded within one-quarter mile of the mean high water mark on either side of the river. Oil and gas leasing will be allowed outside of this corridor and in the other designated segments with a special, "no surface occupancy" stipulation.
- This area is not a coal production area currently and no federal coal leasing will result from this plan.
- Development of mineral material resources, aggregate and other common variety minerals, shall be prohibited on public land, unless needed on an "emergency basis," to protect the ORVs.
- The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act prohibits power and water development on existing withdrawn lands within the river boundaries. No new water power withdrawals would be allowed.
- Revoke all withdrawals within the river corridor. Since these lands cannot be used from their withdrawn use (energy development) revocation of the withdrawals to BLM would provide a positive benefit to all agencies involved. FERC would not be encumbered with management of lands that no longer provide the intent of the original withdrawal. BLM would be able to more effectively manage the river corridor because of the more contiguous land patterns.
- Minimum flow needs to protect ORVs and acquisition of state water rights would impact future hydro-potential.
- Agricultural practices on public land administered by Bureau of Land Management under 302 permits will utilize current ground manipulations, herbicide, and pesticide applications for producing desired forage.
- Authorize existing unauthorized Agricultural, occupancy and other uses under a 302 permit as long as they are compatible with Wild and Scenic river values.
- Salvage of dead and dying timber may be used as a means of protecting or enhancing ORV's.
- Utilize timber harvest as a tool to restore forest health and improve wildlife habitat whenever it is the most effective method and insofar as it does not conflict with protection and enhancement of ORVs.

#### *ADMINISTRATIVE*

- Develop and utilize a work group to assist in the implementation of the plan and the formulation of recreation monitoring indicators and standards utilizing the limits of acceptable change process.



## *SOCIAL*

- Obtain access easements from private land owners in the Rondowa vicinity for vehicle access to the confluence of the Wallowa and Grande Ronde rivers.
- Maintain and enhance river staging and camping areas to include handicap and family opportunity requirements, additional vehicle parking, boat access and restroom facilities.
- Develop monitoring studies to determine the social carrying capacity of the river corridor.
- Implement party size limitations when monitoring studies determine that social use exceeds limits of acceptable change.
- Continue commercial permit programs for river outfitters that require one permit for all administrative jurisdictions.
- Continue existing uses of private land within the corridor as directed by Union and Wallowa county zoning and the Oregon State Scenic Waterway administrative rules.
- Open river corridor to both motorized and non-motorized watercraft.
- Develop intensive visitor awareness programs for river resources and user interrelationships, along with river resource policies (ie...carry in/carry out).
- Develop and implement awareness programs (ie...posters/signs/published articles) to accommodate residents and non-residents on types of river resource experiences in both seasonal periods and transportational methods.
- Develop intensive awareness programs between private landowners, users, and the general public in rights and responsibilities of all involved parties.

- Develop monitoring programs to assess effects to river corridor and surrounding area. Implement any policies needed to adjust for negative sociological implications.
- Management actions may adversely affect the existing rural life-styles of corridor residents.
- Maintain physical resources to insure the continuation and expansion of recreation based industries.
- Assist Union and Wallowa counties in broadening the economic base of various communities through recreation cost share and grant programs.
- Mandatory use of fire pans and pack out of human waste.

## *BIOLOGICAL*

- Maintain and enhance resource activities to improve wildlife and fish populations by utilizing instream and riparian improvement projects.
- Maintain or improve habitat requirements for species that fall under the Federal Threatened and Endangered Species Act.
- Monitor and assess fish and wildlife ecological requirements to maintain or enhance existing populations of corridor species.
- Maintain cooperative agreements between Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and private landowners.
- Develop monitoring activities of corridor fish and wildlife populations to insure long term biodiversity and productivity.
- Management activities within the corridor will enhance flora, fauna and physical elements most similar to baseline conditions.



- Mineral extraction is allowed within the recreation classification segments and closed to mineral extraction in the wild classification segment.
- Mineral extraction on public land will require a plan of operation, demonstrating protection of Wild and Scenic river values.
- Optimize wood fiber outputs on all available moderate or highly capable land.
- Utilize harvest prescriptions which have low visual impact, yet favor fire tolerant species, by emulation the mosaic character of the natural landscape.
- Attempt to always keep some large old trees in the stands.
- Reduce current stand densities as needed to maintain stand vigor.
- Limit forestry activities to those which are necessary to maintain forest health and/or are out of view of the river.
- Develop contingency plans for proper action during emergency situations (catastrophic events).
- Continue existing water rights of landowners, while maintaining minimum flow requirements according to Oregon Water Resources Department (OWRD).
- Implement cooperative inter-agency agreements to develop adequate law enforcement policies and patrol criteria and responsibilities of each agency.
- Implement developmental procedures for the recreational use from Minam, Oregon to Heller Bar, Washington, in regards to maximum public use.
- Develop intensive public awareness programs and signing plans to clearly identify boundary lines between public and private lands.
- Develop studies to determine if acquisition of private lands is necessary to meet the enhancement criteria of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. Agencies will actively pursue acquisition.
- Determine maximum private land acquisition needs to meet the minimum criteria of a Wild and Scenic designation.
- Develop maintenance and improvement programs to increase public use facilities and utilities.
- Implement new road development programs to maximize the recreational use possibilities.

#### *ADMINISTRATIVE*

- Develop and implement monitoring methods to determine maximum visitor use of the corridor. Continue monitoring process to insure appropriate changes in visitor use possibilities.
- Develop cooperative agreements between all involved agencies and groups.
- Management actions within the corridor and basin will alter the existing life-styles of corridor residents, while maximizing corridor conditions and public use.
- Implement monitoring and management practices within the guidelines of federal and state regulations.
- Assess cost estimate in regards to possible catastrophic events, legislation and economic efficiency.

#### *ALTERNATIVE D:*

Protect and Enhance Outstanding Resource Values (ORV) with emphasis on naturalness (Wildlife/Fisheries/Vegetation).



- Assess and develop short term management possibilities with regards to long term diversity and productivity.

**WATER**

- Water quality monitoring on public lands will be conducted within the corridor as need to determine cause, extent, and location of point and non-point source pollution.
- Resource management actions within the corridor will exceed minimum water quality standards as set by Oregon Department of Environmental Quality.
- Identify sources of pollution within the corridor and correct where economically and physically feasible.
- Develop a water monitoring program to assist agencies and private landowner in water quality and quantity requirements for riparian community enhancement.
- Eliminate resource activities on public land within the corridor watershed that would have the potential to degrade water quality or quantity of the river.
- Existing water rights will not be affected by management actions in this plan.
- Livestock watering and irrigation uses of the river will continue.

**CULTURAL**

- Implement a systematic program of inventory and evaluation for cultural resources on public lands, including traditional use areas and cultural values.
- Conduct weekly patrols of all cultural resources sites, and install protection signs.

- Complete baseline condition documentation of sensitive archaeological and historical sites.

- Develop an information and education program for the general public on protection of cultural resources and aesthetic properties in the river corridor.

- Develop agreements between state and federal agencies, tribes and private landowners for protection of cultural resources.

- Conduct annual monitoring of all cultural resources.

**LAND**

- Eliminate domestic livestock grazing within the river corridor on public land.

- Initiate trespass actions on unauthorized use of public land by livestock within the corridor. Fence public land from livestock grazing.

- Continue present fire suppression agreements between BLM, Forest Service and Oregon Department of Forestry.

- Agricultural practices on public land administered by Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife will utilize ground manipulation applications for producing desired forage.

- Mineral extraction on public land will not be allowed.

- Eliminated all harvest and thinning of timber in the corridor which is visible from the river.

**ADMINISTRATIVE**

- Develop and implement monitoring methods to determine visitor use of the corridor without causing habitat resource damage.



- Voluntary use of fire pans and pack out of human waste.

### **BIOLOGICAL**

- Maintain cooperative agreements with ODFW.
- Minimize human impacts to wildlife habitats and populations through public awareness programs.
- Stipulate road development on public land with the river corridor to meet Wild and Scenic River objectives.
- Maintain habitats for all species that fall under the Federal Threatened and Endangered Species Act.

### **WATER**

- Resource management actions will maintain the current water quality of the river corridor.
- Existing water rights will not be affected by management actions in this plan.
- Livestock watering and irrigation uses of the river will continue.

### **CULTURAL**

- Inventory and evaluate cultural resources in response to project specific proposals or actions.
- Conduct periodic patrols of known sites and install protection signs to discourage vandalism; complete documentation of important archaeological sites.
- Employ standard project inventory and review procedures to protect cultural resources.

### **LAND**

- Spring and fall cattle grazing of the corridor will be allowed on public land through permit licensing by the appropriate agency.
- Seasons of use and rotation systems to disperse livestock and achieve desired utilization levels will be established through the development of grazing plans.
- Initiate trespass actions on unauthorized use of corridor by livestock.
- Continue present fire suppression agreements between BLM, Forest Service and Oregon Department of Forestry.
- Agricultural practices on public land administered by Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife will utilize current ground manipulation, herbicide, and pesticide applications for producing desired forage.
- Mineral extraction is allowed within the recreation classification segments and closed to mineral extraction in the wild classification segment.
- Mineral extraction on public land will require a plan of operation, demonstrating protection of Wild and Scenic river values.
- Optimize wood fiber outputs on all available moderate or highly capable land.
- Utilize harvest prescriptions which have low visual impact, yet favor fire tolerant species, by emulation the mosaic character of the natural landscape.
- Attempt to always keep some large old trees in the stands.
- Reduce current stand densities as needed to maintain stand vigor.
- Salvage of dead and dying timber may be used as a means of maintaining or enhancing ORV's.





Alternative B (Preferred Alternative): The sociological impacts on private landowners under this alternative would result from the management of intensive awareness programs between landowners, users and the general public.

The development of visitor awareness programs to improve the interrelationships between users and landowners would be beneficial to both parties. By improving the knowledge of the public and landowners on rights, responsibilities of corridor use, and location of private land along the corridor, altercations and misunderstanding between those parties would be reduced.

The impacts to existing life-styles, forest/agricultural utilization would be the same as alternative A.

Alternative C: The impacts from this alternative would similar to alternative A. The only differences would occur in the actions dealing with obtaining access easements, adverse affects on rural life-styles, the mandatory use of fire pans and packing out of human waste, and the implementation of party size limitations.

Obtaining access easements from private landowners would help the recreational use of the corridor by increasing the availability of specific areas. Increasing the number of staging areas would increase the total number of possible water entries by the public and more evenly distribute them along the river. In accompaniment with the access easements would be road development. New and better road development would aid those users who are unequipped with off-road vehicles to access those areas.

One of the negative sides to this alternative would be the adverse affect that it would have on the life-styles of the corridor residents. By actively pursuing land acquisition, the current rural life-styles of the residents could not be maintained.

The mandatory use of fire pans and the packing out of human waste would not only increase the health and physical appearance of the corridor, but would also increase the ability of the corridor to maintain a higher level of use.

Determination of carrying capacities and possible party size limitations could affect the recreational use of the corridor. Limiting party size would affect the recreation experience of both motorized and non-motorized boaters, resulting in a net loss of recreation opportunities for those having boats capable of carrying more people. However, limiting party size for motorized and non-motorized users would control or prohibit the use of larger boats and tour groups. This would have a slightly beneficial impact on the overall recreation experience of other users

Alternative D: Banning motorized watercraft on a year-round basis would cause a significant decrease in adverse impacts to resulting from recreation experience of non-motorized users. By eliminating motorized use, the disturbance of animals (bald eagles) along the corridor would be greatly reduced.

Maintaining existing staging and camping areas would cause more trampling, bank erosion and vegetation loss, also resulting in further degradation of fish and wildlife habitat. No limit on boat numbers or group size would result in continued escalation in numbers of river users. This increased use would result in more disturbances to wildlife and further degradation of wildlife habitat. In addition, allowing camping at all existing sites would result in a continuation of significant, adverse impacts on riparian soil and vegetation, in turn resulting in degradation of fish and wildlife habitat.

The impacts resulting from the establishment of mandatory registration, fire pan use, and packing out of human waste/garbage will be the same as alternative C.

By maintaining all management, agricultural, and forest activities to enhance the natural values of the corridor will help improve those characteristics and qualities.

The development of visitor awareness programs to improve the interrelationships between users and landowners would increase the knowledge of natural value preservation to both parties. By improving this knowledge of the public and landowners on rights, responsibilities of corridor use, and importance of natural value preservation will greatly improve the understanding of management practices that occur within the boundaries of the corridor.



Maintaining current livestock watering and irrigation practices could have a detrimental impact on the water quality. With cattle being allowed to use the corridor water supply, the damage done through trampling, soil compaction, and the resulting loss of riparian habitat and soil erosion will decrease the visual aesthetics of the corridors viewshed. Monitoring programs would aid to suppress the extent of grazing damage, nevertheless the damage will occur.

Alternative B (Preferred Alternative): The impacts to the corridor's water quality and pollution suppression/control would be the same as alternative A.

By maintaining the existing water rights, livestock watering, and irrigation practices within the corridor will insure that the corridor residents economic livelihood will continue.

Alternative C: The impacts on water quality under this alternative would be the same as alternative A, except for two actions. This alternative would make those standards as set by the ODEQ to be mandatorily exceeded, and any resource activities that would degrade water quality or quantity would be eliminated.

The impacts from maintaining livestock watering within the corridor would be the same as alternative A.

Alternative D: The impacts under this alternative will be the same as alternative A with the exception that and resource activities that have the potential to degrade said quality or quantity will be eliminated.

Alternative E: By implementing this alternative, the continued degradation of the water quality from grazing and irrigation will continue.

### *CULTURAL*

Alternative A: Development associated with maximization of resource uses and increased visitor use and access in the river corridor would result in increased incidents of vandalism to cultural resources. Developing cooperative landowner and law enforcement agreements, signing public lands, information and education programs, systematic inventories and gathering of baseline

documentation, patrols and regular monitoring of cultural resources would be beneficial to the protection of cultural resources.

Alternative B (Preferred Alternative): Limitations on motorized river access and minimizing new road developments, in conjunction with programs for cooperative law enforcement, education, patrol and signing would increase cultural resource protection.

Alternative C: Allowing motorized access and new road development on the river would lead to increased incidents of vandalism. Weekly patrols and regular monitoring would result in more protection for cultural resources than would periodic or bi-monthly patrols.

Alternative D: Limitations on motorized river access and exclusion of new road developments; coupled with resource use restrictions, law enforcement and landowner agreements, education and inventory/monitoring programs, and weekly patrols would provide the maximum protection for cultural resources among all alternatives.

Alternative E: Periodic patrols, limited project monitoring, and project-initiated inventories will provide some protection to sensitive resources located in highest use zones, but will lead to gradual loss of cultural values and archaeological/historical site integrity to both natural forces and unauthorized human-caused action.

### *LAND*

Alternative A: Land conditions under this alternative would benefit only slightly. Livestock operators would benefit by increased allotment numbers and community stability would be enhanced. Over grazing could damage the resource under this alternative. Through continued use, unprotected springs and seep areas would continue to be damaged by soil compaction and erosion.

The impacts from establishing control systems for weed, insects, and disease through the use of herbicides, pesticides, fire, plowing/seeding and biological controls in combination with agricultural practices administered by ODFW will benefit the corridor by improving desired vegetation, forage quality and increase the riparian health.



Timber harvest would drop to marginally sustainable levels under this alternative.

The impacts from fire reintroduction in the form of prescribed burns will be the same as alternative A.

Alternative D: The impacts resulting from the removal of livestock grazing within the corridor would be the same as alternative C.

The continuation of fire suppression agreements with appropriate agencies will not be enough to prevent the occurrence of catastrophic fires over time.

The agricultural practices administered by ODFW will create an increase in quality and quantity of desired forage species. This increase will improve the visual condition and health of the corridor riparian areas and aid wildlife populations as well.

Timber harvest under this alternative would be virtually nonexistent. This will result in disease and fire, both prescribed and wild, being the forces that shape forest composition. The risk of catastrophic fire will be significantly increased.

Eliminating mineral extraction within the corridor would remove the possibility of damage from mining and exploration on the viewshed.

Alternative E: The impacts from continued grazing will be the same as alternative A.

The initiation of trespass actions on unauthorized use of the public land by livestock within the corridor would aid in insuring the protection of public land.

The continuation of present fire suppression agreements between appropriate agencies will help protect the corridor as catastrophic events occur.

The impacts from agricultural practices will be the same as alternative D.

The continuation of mineral extraction within the recreational areas of the corridor will maintain the threat of land damage if large mineral deposits are discovered.

#### *ADMINISTRATIVE*

Alternative A: Under this alternative, administrative actions for the management of the corridor would result in maintaining visual requirements, rural lifestyles, agency cooperative agreements, and water rights. Current management strategies involving private land will continue unaffected.

Expanding public use facilities, including road improvement and/or construction, and recreation facilities from Minam, Oregon to Heller Bar, Washington will greatly increase recreation opportunities and use visitation along the corridor. These improvements will provide for increased user awareness of corridor resource opportunities.

Through the use of intensive visitor awareness programs, emergency contingency plans and informal problem solving work groups, the public involvement and awareness can be significantly increased. These awareness programs will be aimed at informing the public on corridor opportunities, responsibilities, and restrictions. The development of informal problem solving work groups and emergency contingency plans will insure the health of the corridor and corridor users in the case of catastrophic events.

Implementation of cooperative agreements between agencies to develop adequate law enforcement policies and patrol criteria in relation to federal and state regulations will insure that the regulations involved with river use are being observed.

By developing studies to determine land acquisition and easement needs to meet the minimum legislative intent of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, private land acquisition will be held to a minimum, while protecting those values for which Congress designated the river.



## *Range of Alternatives for the Grande Ronde River, Washington Segment*

### **ALTERNATIVE A:**

Promote maximum resource utilization within the parameters of local, state, and federal law, regulations and/or policy within the river corridor.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL**

- Maintenance activities will meet visual and cultural resource requirements.
- New transportation requirements on private land will meet Asotin county Shoreline standards within the corridor.
- Voluntary use of fire pans and pack out of human waste.
- Management activities within the corridor will maintain flora, fauna and physical elements most similar to baseline conditions.
- Maintain habitat requirements for species that fall under the Federal Threatened and Endangered Species Act.
- Implement resource activities to maintain wildlife and fish populations.
- Develop control systems for weeds, insects and disease to include herbicides, pesticides, fire, plowing seeding and biological controls.
- Agricultural practices on public land administered by Washington Department of Wildlife will utilize current ground manipulation, herbicide, and pesticide applications for producing desired forage.
- Water quality monitoring on public lands will be conducted within the corridor as needed to determine cause, extent, and location of point and non-point source pollution.

- Resource management actions within the corridor will meet minimum water quality standards as set by Washington Department of Ecology.
- Develop a water monitoring program to assist agencies and private land owners in water quality and quantity requirements for domestic water uses.
- Stipulate resource activities on public land within the corridor watershed that would have the potential to degrade water quality or quantity of the Grande Ronde River.

### **RECREATIONAL**

- Develop maintenance and improvement programs to increase public use facilities and utilities.
- Increase new road development on public lands to increase user opportunities.
- Continue maintenance of transportation systems including state, county, and private roads.
- Implement developmental procedures for the recreational use from Minam, Oregon to Heller Bar, Washington in regards to maximum public use.
- Develop and implement monitoring methods to determine maximum visitor use of the corridor. Continue monitoring process to insure appropriate changes in visitor use possibilities.
- Open river corridor to both motorized and non-motorized watercraft.
- Voluntary river registration for all recreational users of the Grande Ronde corridor.
- Improve river staging and camping areas to include handicap and family opportunity requirements, additional vehicle parking, boat access, and restroom facilities.



- Assist Asotin county in broadening the economic base of various communities through recreation cost share and grant programs.
- Develop cooperative agreements between Washington Department of Wildlife and private landowners for protection and maintenance of riparian habitats.
- Minimize human impacts through the use of intensive public awareness programs.
- Agricultural practices on public land administered by Washington Department of Wildlife will utilize current ground manipulation, herbicide, and pesticide applications for producing desired forage.
- Mineral extraction is allowed within the river corridor under existing BLM policy requirements.
- Mineral extraction on public land will require a plan of operation, demonstrating protection of river values.
- Continue present fire suppression agreements between respective agencies.
- Livestock grazing of the corridor will be allowed on public land through permit licensing by the respective agency.
- Seasons of use and rotation systems to disperse livestock and achieve desired utilization levels will be established through the development of grazing plans.
- Fencing, water developments and holding facilities will be developed at critical locations to assist livestock management.
- Reintroduce fire as an effective vegetative management tool through the use of prescribed burns.
- Eliminate or reduce to acceptable levels of fuel build-up and hazards that are a result of past management and/or natural catastrophic events.
- Implement monitoring and management practices in conformance with federal and state regulations.
- Develop an acquisition/easement program to maximize resource potential under this alternative. Agencies will not actively pursue land acquisitions or easements.
- Develop contingency plans for proper action during emergency situations.
- Develop a list of possible members for an informal problem solving work group.
- Implement cooperative inter-agency agreements to develop adequate law enforcement policies and patrol criteria and responsibilities of each agency.
- Develop intensive public awareness programs and signing plans to clearly identify boundary lines between public and private lands.
- Existing water rights will not be affected by management actions in this plan.
- Increase new road development on public lands to increase user opportunities.
- Continue maintenance of transportation systems including state, county, and private roads.

#### *PRIVATE LAND*

- Continue existing water rights of landowners, while maintaining minimum flow requirements according to Washington Department of Wildlife.
- Develop management actions within the corridor and basin to insure the existing life-styles of corridor residents, while maximizing corridor conditions and public use.



- Develop monitoring activities of corridor fish and wildlife populations to insure long term biodiversity and productivity.
- Management activities within the corridor will enhance existing flora, fauna and physical elements.
- Maintenance activities will meet visual and cultural resource requirements.

### *RECREATIONAL*

- Develop and utilize a work group to assist in the implementation of the plan and the formulation of recreation monitoring indicators and standards utilizing the limits of acceptable change process.
- Improve river staging and camping areas to include disabled and family opportunity requirements.
- Develop volunteer programs to assist agencies in corridor management in all resource fields.
- A special use authorization will be required for all commercial recreation services. A single outfitter-guide permit will be issued which authorizes use on all administrative jurisdictions.
- Outfitter-guide permits will remain open to applicants who have basic technical and financial capability, providing they follow the prescribed administrative process. Permits will not be reissued to permit holders who receive an “unacceptable” performance rating by the land manager.
- Retain the existing character of the landscape with only a low level of change. Activities may be seen but should not attract attention. Manage public land as a visual resource management class II.
- Continue corridor use for both motorized and non-motorized watercraft.
- Maintain physical resources to insure the continuation of recreation based industries.

- Trail construction, reconstruction and maintenance will be encouraged along the slopes above the river. Trails and trail use will be discouraged as access to the river. Recreation trails will not be constructed within 500 vertical feet of the river, unless the horizontal distance is a minimum of one mile.
- Signing should enable floaters to orient themselves on maps. Public land and facilities should be clearly marked. Geographic features identified as a convenience to users and to instill confidence in orienteering skills.

### *CULTURAL*

- Implement a systematic program of inventory and evaluation for cultural resources on public lands, including traditional use areas and cultural values.
- Conduct weekly patrols of all cultural resource sites and install protection signs to discourage vandalism; conduct periodic aerial and remote surveillance of highly vulnerable sites.
- Develop a public awareness program for the general public on the protection of the cultural resources of the corridor.
- Complete baseline documentation of sensitive archaeological and historical sites.
- Develop cooperative agreements with the Nez Perce tribe to maintain the preservation of their traditions and treaty rights as well as cultural sites.
- Develop interagency and tribal agreements for the protection of cultural sites.
- Conduct annual monitoring of cultural resources on public lands in high use areas.
- Annually monitor sites in the Snake River National Register District.



- Develop maintenance and improvement programs to enhance public use facilities.
- Continue maintenance of transportation systems including state, county, and private roads.
- Agricultural practices on public land administered by Washington Department of Wildlife will utilize current ground manipulation, herbicide, and pesticide applications for producing desired forage.
- Authorize existing unauthorized Agricultural, occupancy and other uses under a 302 permit as long as they are compatible with Asotin County Shoreline Management Plan and consistent with BLM Resource Management Plan objectives.
- Continue maintenance of existing utility systems.
- New utility systems will be compatible with Asotin County Shoreline Management Plan and consistent with BLM Resource Management Plan objectives.
- Review all withdrawals within river corridor as to whether they are being used and/or meet current objectives. Withdrawal continued use will be justified by the withdrawal agency.

#### *PRIVATE LAND*

- Valid holders of water rights on private and municipal lands would be unaffected. Management plans will be implemented to maintain instream flows, based on Washington Divisions of Wildlife and Fisheries recommendations and the Asotin County Shoreline program.
- Agricultural uses of the river will continue.
- Continue existing uses of private land within the corridor as directed by Asotin County Shoreline Regulations.

- Assess impacts of chemical application to plant and animal populations prior to use. Integrated pest management should be encouraged as an alternative to chemical application where appropriate.
- Develop agreements with County Weed Control District and Asotin County Shoreline Commission, and those agencies responsible for Threatened and Endangered plants and animals.
- Develop management actions within the corridor and basin that maintain the existing life-styles of corridor residents, while protecting corridor values and public use.
- Within 200 feet of the mean high water mark each side of the river mineral extraction is prohibited as directed by Asotin County Shorelines Management Plan.
- New transportation requirements on private land will meet Asotin county Shoreline Standards within the corridor.

#### *ALTERNATIVE C:*

Protect and enhance natural values. Emphasize recreation opportunities compatible with resource protection.

#### *ENVIRONMENTAL*

- Agricultural practices on public land administered by Washington Department of Wildlife will utilize current ground manipulation, herbicide, and pesticide applications for producing desired forage.
- Maintain current maintenance of transportation systems including state, county and private roads with the stipulation that maintenance activities will meet the visual and cultural resource requirements.
- No new roads will be built on public land.



- Develop an intensive information and education program for the general public on the protection of the aesthetic properties of the corridor.
- Stipulate development projects, including resource commodity uses, to insure that management activities are subordinate to the characteristic landscape and do not dominate the immediate viewshed.
- During recreation construction projects, incorporate visual design criteria that are compatible with the corridor's characteristic landscape.
- Implement mandatory recreational permit registration, fire pans, and pack out of human waste.
- Close river corridor to motorized watercraft.

#### *CULTURAL*

- Implement a systematic program of inventory and evaluation for cultural resources on public lands, including traditional use areas and cultural values.
- Conduct weekly patrols of all cultural resource sites and install protection signs to discourage vandalism; conduct periodic aerial and remote surveillance of highly vulnerable sites.
- Develop an intensive information and education program for the general public on the protection of the cultural and aesthetic properties of the corridor.
- Complete baseline documentation of sensitive archaeological and historical sites.
- Develop cooperative agreements with the Nez Perce tribe to maintain the preservation of their traditions and treaty rights as well as cultural sites.
- Develop interagency, tribal, and private landowner agreements for the protection of cultural resources.

- Conduct annual monitoring of cultural resources on public lands in high use areas.
- Annually monitor sites in the Snake River National Register District.
- Restrict or exclude camping as necessary to protect cultural resource sites.
- Complete administrative or legal property surveys to protect cultural resources on public lands from trespass and illegal actions.

#### *PUBLIC LAND*

- Actively pursue private land acquisitions (including condemnation actions) to reserve the naturalness of the corridor.
- Initiate trespass actions on unauthorized use of public land by livestock within the corridor.
- Monitor and assess current management activities with regards to possible external sources of influence as well as within the river corridor.
- Existing water rights will not be affected by management actions in this plan.
- Continue present fire suppression agreements between appropriate agencies.
- Develop intensive visitor awareness programs for river corridor resources to promote natural value preservation.
- Mineral extraction on public lands will not be allowed.
- Eliminate domestic livestock grazing within the river corridor on public land.





- Maintain habitats for all species that fall under the Federal Threatened and Endangered Species Act.
- Implement management practices in conformance with federal and state regulations.

### **RECREATIONAL**

- Maintain the existing river facilities at Boggan's and Heller Bar to serve as a visitor contact station.
- Voluntary river registration for all recreation users of the river corridor.
- Inventory aesthetic values along the river corridor.
- Stipulate maintenance and construction activities to protect aesthetic values.
- Continue the commercial permit program for river outfitters that requires one permit for all administrative jurisdictions.
- Voluntary use of fire pans and pack out of human waste.

### **CULTURAL**

- Implement a systematic program of inventory and evaluation for cultural resources on public lands, including traditional use areas and cultural values.
- Conduct periodic patrols of all cultural resource sites and install protection signs to discourage vandalism.
- Complete baseline documentation of sensitive archaeological and historical sites.
- Develop cooperative agreements with the Nez Perce tribe to maintain the preservation of their traditions and treaty rights as well as cultural sites.

• Conduct annual monitoring of sensitive cultural resources on public lands in high use areas. Annually monitor sites in the Snake River National Register District.

- Complete administrative or legal property surveys to protect cultural resources on public lands from trespass and illegal actions.

### **PUBLIC LAND**

- Agencies will not actively pursue land acquisitions or easements.
- Cattle grazing of the corridor will be allowed on public land through permit licensing by the appropriate agency.
- Continue maintenance of transportation systems, including state, county and private roads.
- Implement management practices in conformance with to federal and state regulations.
- Minimize human impacts to wildlife habitats and populations through public awareness programs.
- Minimize road development on public land within the river corridor.
- Maintain cooperative agreements between WDW and WDF.
- Seasons of use and rotation systems to disperse livestock and achieve desired utilization levels will be established through the development of grazing plans.
- Agricultural practices on public land administered by Washington Department of Wildlife will utilize current ground manipulation, herbicide, and pesticide applications for producing desired forage.
- Maintain management activities that will not adversely affect the existing rural life-styles of the corridor residents.



Under this alternative, the quality of the water located in the corridor would be greatly improved. Through water quality monitoring programs designed to meet minimum standards of the WDF, resource activity stipulations, and pollution suppression/control projects, the quality of the water resource of the corridor will be significantly enhanced.

Stipulating the development of new transportation systems on private land will help to decrease the adverse effects that such construction would have on the corridor vegetation and viewshed.

Alternative B (Preferred Alternative): The impacts from establishing control systems for weed, insects, and disease through the use of herbicides, pesticides, fire, plowing/seeding and biological controls in combination with agricultural practices administered by WDW will benefit the corridor by improving desired vegetation, forage quality and increase the riparian health. This improvement will also benefit the private landowner who has legal authority to let cattle graze the corridor.

The agricultural practices administered by WDW will create an increase in quality and quantity of desired forage species. This increase will improve the visual condition and health of the corridor riparian areas, wildlife, and domestic grazing populations as well.

The impacts from establishing water quality monitoring programs will be the same as alternative A.

The impacts from pollution identification and correction programs will be the same as alternative A.

The impacts from management actions to enhance flora, fauna and physical elements will be the same as alternative A.

The impacts from maintenance activities on cultural and visual requirements will be the same as alternative A.

The impacts from establishing new transportation on private land will be the same as alternative A.

The development of mandatory pack out of human waste and garbage will significantly decrease the indiscriminate waste accumulation within the river corridor. This action will improve corridor health.

Assessing the implications of chemical applications to plant and animal species will ensure that no accidental damage to either values could occur from this application. By careful chemical applications or integrated pest management processes, the environmental health of the corridor can be improved for both wildlife and domestic populations.

Monitoring and implementing programs that least affect the corridors ecosystems will insure that no catastrophic accidents will occur to threatened and endangered species located within the corridor. Agreements with the County Weed District will aid in this action.

By maximizing resource activities, such as riparian and instream improvement projects, to meet the requirements of fish and wildlife populations will increase or enhance the visual aesthetics of those values. With the development of cooperative agreements between agencies and landowners for the protection and improvement of these values using current and updated management practices as determined by WDW & WDF, will continue to stabilize resources within the corridor.

Implementing the improvement of habitat requirements for species that fall under the Threatened and Endangered Species Act will help to ensure the survival of those species found within the river corridor. By establishing monitoring programs to update the habitat requirements for these and other species within the corridor will help ensure the long term biodiversity and productivity of sensitive and non-sensitive species.

The establishment of management actions to enhance flora, fauna, and physical elements will improve the overall condition of the corridor for both wildlife and plant populations.

Stipulating new transportation developments on private land to meet Asotin county Shoreline Standards will slightly hinder private landowners if need arises for new road construction.



possible for recreational users to reach specific points within the corridor (ie...The Narrows, Line Falls, etc.).

Developing recreation facilities and improving access from Minam, Oregon to Heller Bar, Washington will greatly increase the user visitation along the corridor. This implementation will provide a more complete program in the form of use, information, law enforcement, and recreational opportunities. Developing more complete and uniform corridor management programs will increase the user awareness of management practices.

Increasing developmental procedures from Minam, Oregon, to Heller Bar, Washington, will improve the recreational opportunity of river users. Continuation of commercial permit programs for river outfitters that require one permit for all administrative jurisdictions along with voluntary river registration for all recreational users will help with the visitor awareness programs and implementation of river policies (ie...pack in/pack out).

Maintenance of physical resources will ensure the visual aesthetics and appeal of the corridor to recreational users.

Monitoring of visitor use levels will enable management activities to adjust for negative and positive impacts to the corridor in relation to visitor numbers.

Under this alternative the current commercial permit and voluntary recreational registration programs will continue. The information gathered from these programs will aid management agencies with the amount of visitor use and corridor health in comparison to that use.

Alternative B (Preferred Alternative): The impacts from visitor use monitoring would enable management agencies to adjust activities if a negative impact should begin to affect the natural values or private landowners found within the corridor.

Determination of carrying capacities and possible party size limitations would affect the recreational use of the corridor. Limiting party size would affect the recreation experience of both motorized and non-motorized boaters, resulting in a net loss of recreation opportunities for those having boats capable of

carrying more people. However, limiting party size for motorized and non-motorized users would control or prohibit the use of larger boats and tour groups. This would have a slightly beneficial impact on the overall recreation experience of other users

The establishment of river staging areas, camping, and information improvements will be of a negative impact. These improvements will increase the amount of visitor use and therefore increase the amount of conflict between private landowner interests and recreational interests. Improving the information and education program will help to reduce this conflict through visitor awareness, nevertheless the conflicts will continue.

The impacts from continuation of the commercial permit programs for the river outfitters will be the same as alternative A.

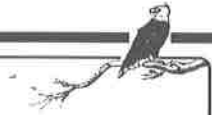
The impacts from motorized and non-motorized watercraft will be the same as alternative A.

The impacts from the maintenance of physical resources on recreation based industries will be the same as alternative A.

The development of volunteer programs will be an important asset to the management of the corridor. By performing routine patrols, these volunteers will be able to ensure that all management policies are being observed and maintained.

Continuing current transportational and utility maintenance will keep access to the river corridor in its present state, and not disturb the currently existing natural values of the corridor. Stipulating new road construction on private land to meet Asotin county Shoreline Regulations will also keep the visual aesthetics of the corridor undamaged. This continuation/maintenance will ensure that private landowners will retain the ability of corridor access.

Alternative C: The establishment of monitoring methods to determine maximum visitor use or carrying capacity and implementation of party size limitations will help to maintain the maximum possible use of the corridor without damage to the natural aspects of the corridor.



Periodic patrols, limited project monitoring, and project-initiated inventories will provide some protection to sensitive resources located in high use zones, but will lead to gradual loss of cultural values and archaeological/historical site integrity to both natural forces and unauthorized human-caused action. Lack of public land signing, law enforcement, and cooperative agreement programs would encourage illegal activities adversely affecting cultural resources on federal lands.

**PUBLIC LAND**

Alternative A: Through a rotational system of grazing, some of the effects of grazing would be reduced. However, by maintaining corridor grazing, the condition of the riparian areas, campsite and shoreline cleanliness and soil compaction due to use would be damaging. Through continued use, unprotected springs and seep areas would continue to be damaged by soil compaction and erosion. The development of holding facilities for water at critical locations would concentrate cattle activity to a specific area and therefore magnify the damage done in that location.

The reintroduction of fire as a vegetative management tool would have only temporary effects to the corridor viewshed. Although the visual aesthetics would be reduced for a short period of time, the reduction of fuel buildup along with new growth would significantly increase the corridor's riparian and forest health. In addition, by continuing current fire suppression agreements between BLM and appropriate agencies, catastrophic fire occurrences can be controlled or eliminated.

Mineral extraction along the corridor will have a minimal impact on the viewshed. By requiring a Plan of Operation for the protection of the corridor's river values, the current resource conditions will continue.

The development of intensive visitor awareness, and signing programs will improve interrelationships between users, private landowners, and all other involved agencies. This improvement will help minimize human impacts to the corridor and increase recreational opportunity awareness for both local and non-local residents. By assisting Asotin county in the form of cost share and grant programs will also improve relationships with the involved communities.

Agricultural practices administered by WDW will stabilize resource values of the corridor through the use of ground manipulation, herbicide, and pesticide applications. These efforts implemented by WDW will increase the amount and quality of desired forage for both domestic and wildlife grazing, therefore improving desired aesthetics for the public entity.

Cooperative agreements between all involved parties will also be implemented for the protection of the riparian habitats located within the corridor. These agreements will help maintain current Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) and Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA). All of these management practices must follow local, county, state, and federal regulations. The protection of these areas will ensure the health of the corridor.

By developing studies to determine if private land acquisition is required within the corridor, agencies will be able to develop acquisition and easement programs commensurate with resource values. This will keep land acquisitions by public agencies at a minimum level.

The implementation of cooperative inter-agency agreements for the development of adequate law enforcement programs, through the use of emergency contingency plans, informal problem solving work groups, and river patrols, protection of the corridor resources as well as those who use the corridor will be enhanced.

Maintaining the current transportation systems including state, county, and private roads as well as the development of new roads will increase the opportunities and access for recreational use.

Alternative B (Preferred Alternative): Development of rotational grazing plans, fencing, and water holding facilities at critical locations will assist livestock management. Implementing these management techniques will improve the quantity and quality of forage vegetation and the availability of water on land that is appropriately licensed.

The reintroduction of fire as an effective vegetative management tool, and to eliminate or reduce to acceptable levels of fuel build-up will also aid the



By eliminating new road development, the public's ability to reach the different recreational opportunities will remain as it presently exists. This action would hamper the recreational potential of the corridor.

The continuation of present fire suppression agreements will attempt to ensure that catastrophic damage from corridor located fires will be kept to a minimum.

The implementation of cooperative agreements to develop adequate law enforcement will be the same as alternative B.

Eliminating mineral extraction action within the corridor would remove the possibility of damage from mining and exploration on the viewshed.

Valid holders of water rights on private lands would be unaffected. Current management will be based on the Baker RMP and Recreation Area Management Plans, and the Washington Department of Ecology and Asotin County Shoreline Program. This should have little or no negative effects on the natural values of the corridor.

The establishment of cooperative agreements between all involved agencies in conformance with federal and state regulations will be the same as alternative B.

The development of contingency plans and informal problem solving work groups will have the same impact as alternative B.

By developing and implementing studies to determine private land acquisition and easements within the corridor, acquisitions and/or easements could have a detrimental effect on corridor residents if private landowners do not wish to participate.

The establishment of monitoring programs to assess the impact of management practices both inside and outside the corridor will ensure that positive as well as negative effects of management activities are adjusted.

The assessment of plan implementation estimates in regards to possible catastrophic events, legislation and economic efficiency will ensure that the management plans and actions have the potential to be effective.

All management actions will enhance the naturalness of the corridor and will alter the life-styles of corridor residents. By an active pursuit of land acquisition, current life-styles of the corridor residents cannot be maintained.

Alternative D: By continuing current fire suppression agreements between BLM and appropriate agencies, the present ability to control catastrophic fire occurrences will be maintained.

The minimization of road construction would decrease the access required by increased visitor use.

The impacts from cattle grazing and rotation systems of grazing will be the same as alternative A, except that under this alternative the initiating of aggressive trespass actions will be implemented on unauthorized use of the corridor.

Under this alternative the land acquisition/ easement program would not change from the current management. Agencies will only pursue acquisition from private parties who initiate the land transactions.

The continuation of mineral extraction within the recreational areas of the corridor will maintain the threat of land damage if large mineral deposits are discovered. Although all mining will require a plan of operation demonstrating protection of river values, the damage to natural values and primitiveness of the river corridor will be seriously affected.

The continuation of use of private land within the corridor, as directed by Asotin county zoning and the Asotin County Shoreline administrative rules, in the form of agricultural utilization will help to maintain the current life-styles of the corridor residents. Managing those activities with regards to maintaining the physical resources will also ensure the increase of recreational based industries.



The management of this alternative will affect the life-styles of the corridor residents. Through grazing restrictions, river value enhancement, and active land acquisition, it will be difficult for current residents to continue with the livelihoods that they now maintain (ie...agricultural & ranching industries).

The assessment of plan implementation estimates in regards to possible catastrophic events, legislation and economic efficiency will ensure that the management plans and actions have the potential to be affective.

By developing management monitoring programs to assess negative impacts to the corridors surrounding communities, alternate policies can be incorporated to decrease these negative effects. This action will increase the positive relationship between the managing agencies and the public.

The implementation of management practices of agricultural resource utilization to enhance natural values will limit the adverse affects to the corridor. Although the damage to the natural state of the corridor will occur to some extent, stipulating the practices to maintain the naturalness should minimize the impacts.

Alternative D: The impacts to existing life-styles, corridor based agricultural industries, livestock watering and irrigation will be the same as alternative B.

The minimization of new road construction within the corridor along with continued maintenance of transportation systems will maintain the current level of access for private landowners and recreational users to reach necessary areas.

Maintenance of current transportational systems including county, state, and private roads will ensure the current utilization levels by corridor residents and landowners along with recreational users.

# *CHAPTER 8 - APPENDICES*





# *APPENDIX A - BOUNDARY DESCRIPTIONS*

## *WALLOWA RIVER (Study River Boundary)*

The Wallowa River administrative boundary adopted by the Forest Service during the National Wild and Scenic River Eligibility/Suitability Study is ¼ mile mean high water mark, each side of river and is in conformance with the Oregon State Scenic Waterway designation.

## *GRANDE RONDE WILD AND SCENIC RIVER BOUNDARY - Legal Descriptions*

43.8 miles = 14,005.25 acres

Begin at Rondowa, Oregon proceed downstream

<u>TOWNSHIP</u>	<u>RANGE</u>	<u>SECTION</u>	<u>SUBDIVISION</u>	<u>ACRES</u>
3N	40E	23	All that port. of the NW¼ lying NW of BCC logging Rd. (known as freeway)	130.00
		14	N½N½; SW¼NE¼; S½NW¼; SW¼;	160.00 40.00 80.00 160.00
		11	S½NE¼; S½;	80.00 320.00
		12	W½; W½E½;	320.00 160.00





<u>TOWNSHIP</u>	<u>RANGE</u>	<u>SECTION</u>	<u>SUBDIVISION</u>	<u>ACRES</u>
4N	40E	12	E $\frac{1}{2}$ E $\frac{1}{2}$ ; W $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ ;	160.00 80.00
4N	41E	7	Lot 1; Lot 2; Lot 3; Lot 4; NE $\frac{1}{4}$ ; E $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ ; NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ ; N $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ ; SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ ;	40.14 40.39 40.63 40.86 160.00 80.00 40.00 20.00 10.00
		6	NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ ; S $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ ;	40.00 80.00
		5	Lot 1; Lot 2; E $\frac{1}{2}$ of Lot 3; SW $\frac{1}{4}$ ; NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ ;	34.75 34.65 17.28 160.00 40.00
5N	41E	32	Lot 3; Lot 4; Lot 5;	44.11 30.28 8.05
		33	Lot 1; Lot 2; Lot 3; Lot 4; Lot 5; Lot 6; Lot 7; Lot 8; Lot 9; N $\frac{1}{2}$ of Lot 10; E $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ ; SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ ;	23.75 39.83 12.42 48.09 56.06 19.81 14.77 41.33 35.15 22.10 80.00 40.00





<u>TOWNSHIP</u>	<u>RANGE</u>	<u>SECTION</u>	<u>SUBDIVISION</u>	<u>ACRES</u>
5N	42E	33	N $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ ;	80.00
			27	Lot 1;
			Lot 2;	13.77
			Lot 3;	37.19
			Lot 4;	8.15
			Lot 5;	19.73
			Lot 6;	20.14
			Lot 7;	19.50
			Lot 8;	38.09
			N $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ ;	20.00
			NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ ;	10.00
			N $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ ;	20.00
			SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ ;	10.00
			NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ ;	40.00
5N	42E	22	Lot 1;	38.69
			Lot 2;	13.90
			Lot 3;	15.44
			SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ ;	40.00
			S $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ ;	80.00
		23	Lot 1;	27.81
			Lot 2;	26.24
			Lot 3;	43.90
			Lot 4;	40.52
			Lot 5;	29.25
			Lot 6;	26.72
			Lot 7;	42.00
			Lot 8;	42.76
		26	NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ ;	40.00
			N $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ ;	20.00

<u>TOWNSHIP</u>	<u>RANGE</u>	<u>SECTION</u>	<u>SUBDIVISION</u>	<u>ACRES</u>
5N	43E	8	SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ ;	10.00
			SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ ;	40.00
			NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ ;	40.00
		9	N $\frac{1}{2}$ ;	320.00
			N $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ ;	80.00
			SE $\frac{1}{4}$ ;	160.00
		4	Lot 1;	40.32
			Lot 2;	40.39
			Lot 3;	40.46
			SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ ;	40.00
			NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ ;	40.00
			S $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ ;	80.00
That part of the N $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ and the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ lying S & W of the Courtney Creek Road;	40.00			
That part of S $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ lying N of Wallow County Road #737.	30.00			
3	Lot 3;	40.40		
	Lot 4;	40.32		
	N $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ ;	20.00		
6N	43E	34	NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ ;	40.00
			W $\frac{1}{2}$ E $\frac{1}{2}$ ;	160.00
			W $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ ;	20.00
			E $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ ;	80.00
			SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ ;	10.00
			W $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ ;	20.00
6N	43E	27	SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ ;	40.00
			S $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ ;	20.00
6N	43E	35	NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ ;	40.00
			N $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ ;	80.00



# APPENDIX B - RECREATION OPPORTUNITY SPECTRUM

## ROS EXPERIENCE CHARACTERIZATION (PHYSICAL ATTRIBUTES)

Primitive River	Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized River	Semi-Primitive Motorized River	Roaded Natural River	Rural River	Urban River
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>-Unmodified landscape-natural environment no evidence of human development.</li><li>-No developed access sites along the river.</li><li>-No roads.</li><li>-No impoundments, diversions, or channel modifications.</li><li>-Largely undisturbed natural environments.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>-Little evidence of human development.</li><li>-Very few trailed access sites developed along the river.</li><li>-Primitive roads to access points on edge of corridor.</li><li>-No impoundments, diversions, or channel modifications.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>-Largely undisturbed natural environment.</li><li>-Little evidence of human development.</li><li>-Very few access sites developed along the river.</li><li>-Roads to access points only-do not parallel river.</li><li>-No impoundments, diversions or channel modifications.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>-Alteration to the landscape are subtle. Natural characteristics remain dominant.</li><li>-Moderate evidence of human development.</li><li>-Developed access sites provided.</li><li>-Roads parallel some portions of the river.</li><li>-Few impoundments, diversions or channel modifications.</li></ul> <p>There may be small nodes of rural and urban development (typically 1/4-mile or less in length).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>-Substantially modified landscape having both manmade and natural features.</li><li>-Evidence of human development prevalent.</li><li>-Facilities developed to manage/aid greater numbers of visitors.</li><li>-Specific sites developed to provide health/sanitation facilities and recreation convenience.</li><li>-Easy access to river by roads - some parallel river, bridges, and powerlines evident.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>-Impoundments, diversions or channel modifications occur.</li><li>-Landscape may be dominated by roads, towns, small cities or by recreation facilities. Highly developed for more intensive and specialized recreation activities.</li><li>-Specific sites are developed to provide health and sanitation facilities as well as recreation convenience.</li><li>-Roads and road access are frequent.</li><li>-Impoundments, diversions or channel modifications are common.</li></ul>



# APPENDIX C - PLANNING PARTICIPANTS

## *- Land Managers*

James E. May, Bureau of Land Management - Vale District  
Bob Richmond, Forest Service - Wallowa/Whitman National Forest  
Jeff Blackwood, Forest Service - Umatilla National Forest  
Jim Lauman, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Bruce Smith, Washington Department of Wildlife  
Owen Lucus, Oregon Department of Parks and Recreation  
Pat Combes, Wallowa County Oregon  
Lawrence "Doc" Savage, Union County Oregon  
Mark Krammer, Asotin County Washington

## *- Citizens Ad Hoc Team Members (Oregon - Wallowa River)*

Woody Fine, Forest Service  
Steve Davis, Forest Service  
Robin Rose, Forest Service  
Dorothy Mason, Bureau of Land Management  
Cindy Vergari, Oregon Department of Parks and Recreation  
Gary Miniszewski, Oregon Department of Parks and Recreation  
Jacque Greenleaf, Oregon Department of Parks and Recreation  
Willie Knoll, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Si Whitman, Nez Perce, Lapwai Indian Reservation  
Don Bryson, Nez Perce, Lapwai Indian Reservation  
Louie Dick, Confederated Tribes Umatilla Indian Reservation  
Rick George, Confederated Tribes Umatilla Indian Reservation  
Trish Quaempts, Confederated Tribes Umatilla Indian Reservation  
Larry Cribbs, Union County Oregon  
Less Carlson, Wallowa County Oregon

Pat Wortman, Wallowa County Oregon  
Paul Morehead, Organized Labor  
Carmen Dawson, Livestock Producer  
George Altenburg, Union Pacific Railroad  
Duncan Lagoe, Environmental Interests  
Bob Weinberger, Private Forest Lands  
Melva Horn, Community of Minam, Oregon  
Steve Stanhope, Commercial Recreation  
Al Ainsworth, Non Commercial Recreation

## *- Citizens Ad Hoc Team Members (Oregon - Grande Ronde River)*

Gerry Meyer, Bureau of Land Management  
Dorothy Mason, Bureau of Land Management  
Steve Bush, Forest Service  
Marty Gardner, Forest Service  
Cindy Vergari, Oregon Department of Parks and Recreation  
Jacque Greenleaf, Oregon Department of Parks and Recreation  
Gary Miniszewski, Oregon Department of Parks and Recreation  
Larry Cribbs, Union County Oregon  
Pat Combes, Wallowa County Oregon  
Larry Marks, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Wayne Shuylar, Oregon State Marine Board  
Louie Dick, Confederated Tribes Umatilla Indian Reservation  
Rick George, Confederated Tribes Umatilla Indian Reservation  
Trish Quaempts, Confederated Tribe Umatilla Indian Reservation  
Don Bryson, Nez Perce, Lapwai Indian Reservation  
Mike Gibbs, Community of Troy, Oregon  
Bob Weinberger, Private Forest Lands



- Umatilla Forest Plan, Forest Service
- Wallowa/Whitman Forest Plan, Forest Service
- Oregon State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan.
- Congressional hearings prior to Public Law 100-557, establishing the Grande Ronde River as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.
- Designation of the Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers as a component of the Oregon State Scenic Waterway system.
- Sixteen public scoping meetings were held in 1989 to gain public input and direction for the development of this plan.
- Public comments received on the draft river plan from the comment period: May 1, 1992 through May 31, 1992.



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United States Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management, Baker Resource Management Plan, Baker City, Oregon, July, 1989.

United States Forest Service, Wallowa-Whitman National Forest, Land and Resource Management Plan, Baker City, Oregon, 1990.

University of Idaho, River Recreation Spectrum, Department of Wildland Recreation Management, Ed Krump and Lynn McCoy.

Wallowa County Comprehensive Land Use Plan, 1988.

Washington State Department of Ecology, Asotin County Shoreline Plan, Draft.



# *APPENDIX E - LAWS AND REGULATIONS*

1. Wild and Scenic Rivers Act 90-542, October 1968 as amended by Public Law 100-557, October 1988.
2. Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA), Sec. 603 Public Law 94-579, October 1976.
3. National Forest Management Act (NFMA) 1976.
4. Endangered Species Act, 1973, as amended.
5. Pacific Northwest Electric Power Planning and Conservation Act, Public Law 96-501.
6. Archaeological Resources Protection Act, 1979, as amended.
7. Historic Preservation Act, 1966.
8. Clean Water Act, Public Law 92-500.
9. The Federal Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, 1958.
10. The National Environmental Protection Act, 1969.
11. Oregon State Scenic Waterways Act, ORS 390.805 to 390.925.
12. Oregon Administrative Rules, Chapter 736. Div. 40 - State Department of Parks and Recreation.



# *APPENDIX F - PUBLIC COMMENTS*

The following is a summary of actions relating to public comments received during public scoping meetings prior to the development of the draft management plan and environmental assessment.

Sixteen public scoping meetings were held from September 1989 through Decemer, 1989, in Baker City, Troy, Enterprise, LaGrande, Richland, Ukiah, Pendleton and Imnaha, Oregon and also in Clarkston, Washington. Over 593 comments were received during these meetings. These comments provide the basis for the 23 issue categories identified in the three planning sections within the corridor. Detailed copies, by meeting, are available for review at the BLM's Baker Resource Area office.

Pages 204 through 222 are public comments received on the draft management plan and environmental assessment and were incorporated into this final EA and Plan were applicable.

GRANDE RONDE RESOURCE COUNCIL, INC Baker RA.

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Public Aff.			
Director's Office			
Return To Do			

June 12, 1992

Jack Albright  
Baker Resource Area  
Bureau of Land Management  
P.O. Box 987  
Baker City, OR 97814

Dear Mr. Albright,

After careful review of the Wallowa and Grande Ronde Rivers Draft Management Plan and Environmental Assessment, the Grande Ronde Resource Council would like to submit the following comments for consideration in the development of the final Plan.

First, let us preface our comments by acknowledging that this Plan involved many highly controversial issues affecting many different players. It seems that the Bureau made every effort to minimize controversy and create a Plan that those opposed to the Wild and Scenic designation could live with. Although this is a commendable goal, the fact is the river was designated, and somewhere along the way, the purpose and intent of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act seems to have been lost. Upon first reading of the Plan, the casual observer would not guess that the management directives discussed were intended for a protected river! Therein lies the major complaint that the Grande Ronde Resource Council has with the Draft. We have to wonder if the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act and other existing statutes were consulted by the authors during the process, as there seem to be many inconsistencies with the Act. Upon development of our comments, the Grande Ronde Resource Council kept in focus the requirements that "Each component of the national wild and scenic rivers system shall be administered in such a manner as to protect and enhance the values which caused it to be included in said system . . .", and "In such administration primary emphasis shall be given to protecting its esthetic, scenic, historic, archeologic, and scientific features." (Sec. 10a, Wild and Scenic Rivers Act) As determined by the Resource Assessment for the Grande Ronde, the outstandingly remarkable values to be protected are; Scenic, Recreation, Fisheries, Wildlife and probably Cultural.

A quick note about organization of the Plan. We understand that time was a factor, but the Plan seems disjointed and poorly organized. The Grande Ronde Resource Council would like to see the following elements in the final plan; 1) an evaluation of current conditions or a methodology for determining these if unknown; 2) proposed management

Post Office Box 2968, La Grande, Oregon 97850

objectives; 3) a description of the impacts of management objectives on the current conditions; and 4) a description

of the desired future condition of the resource. We believe this is not only crucial to the appropriateness of the final plan, but that it would also aid the agencies in its implementation further down the road.

With these remarks in mind, the Grande Ronde Resource Council will now submit comments on specific elements of the Draft Plan. For each item, we will reference the section commented on by p(page), c(column), and P(paragraph). A partial paragraph at the top of a column will be counted as a paragraph. On occasion, a suggested rewording will include some words in upper case letters. This is only for the purpose of emphasis, we do not suggest this upper case form in the final draft.

AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT:

p45, c1, P4:  
"Mere absence of grazing can be detrimental to some ranges..." and "Properly managed grazing systems can be used to protect and enhance some of the ORV's".

The Grande Ronde Resource Council is unclear which ORV's could be protected by grazing practices. At any rate, these arguments are one-sided in their scope. It must also be stated that the ABSENCE of grazing may be a possible way to protect or enhance some of the ORV's such as riparian potential for fish.

p47, c1, P2:  
"Harvest may only occur for salvage or to accomplish some non-timber goal..."

It should be stated clearly here that in order for salvage to occur, it must be PROVEN to benefit (i.e., protect or enhance) the ORV's.

WALLOWA RIVER:

It is the position of The Grande Ronde Resource Council that the Wallowa River from Minam to Rondowa possesses the qualities of a Wild and Scenic River, meets and exceed the statutory requirements, and should be added to the System.

p52, c1, P1:  
"Protect and enhance those values on the Wallowa River that are being considered under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act with emphasis on private land owner interests".

If the river is to be added to the system, emphasis cannot be on private land owner interests and activities. In order to be consistent with the Act, PRIMARY management emphasis must be on the resource, specifically, the Outstandingly Remarkable Values on both public and private lands.

GRANDE RONDE RIVER:

p70, c1, P2:  
"Protect and Enhance Outstanding Resource Values (ORV's) with emphasis on private landowner interest."

ORV as relates to the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act is an Outstandingly Remarkable Value, not an Outstanding Resource Value. And again, primary emphasis can not be on private landowner interests. This terminology may have been useful as a tool in arriving at the different alternatives, but does not belong in the final draft.

Land:

p70, c1, P3:  
"Livestock grazing of the corridor will be allowed on public land though permit licensing by the appropriate agency."

This blanket allowance is inconsistent with the directive to protect and enhance ORV's. Terminology in the Wallowa section was better to get this idea across. As in the Wallowa section, perhaps this section should read, "Continue livestock grazing on public land within the canyon under authorized permits". "And", it should be added, "continued grazing will only be allowed after AMP revision to better protect and enhance habitat necessary for ESA listed chinook salmon." Again, the agency must revise AMP's, perhaps retiring some permits where possible, and issuing no new permits. The items from the Wallowa section referring to section 15 permit holders and trespass actions on unauthorized use, as well as encouraging cooperative projects that divert livestock from the riparian zone belong in the Grande Ronde section as well. The Grande Ronde Resource Council would like to see this language incorporated into the final draft.

p70, c2, P1:  
"Develop control systems for weeds, insects, and disease to include herbicides, pesticides, fire, plowing, seeding, and biological controls."

Insects and diseases are inherent components of the ecosystem. Do some native plants fall under the category of "weeds"? This item as written implies that all of the above control systems be used. The Grande Ronde Resource Council recommends fire, plowing, seeding and biological controls be considered management tools with herbicides and pesticides listed as de-emphasized tools generally not consistent with Wild and Scenic Act objectives. ANY such management action, if used at all, would have to be proven to be necessary to achieve the purposes of the Act. The Management Plan should clearly state this.

p70, c2, P1:  
"Mineral extraction is allowed within the recreation classification..".

Again, inconsistent with protection and enhancement of ORV's. As far as we know, there is no established mineral extraction useage in the corridor. We see no reason to open the door for possible degradation of values caused by any future useage.

p71, c1, P1:  
"Salvage of dead and dying timber may be used as a means of maintaining or enhancing ORV's."

ORV's must be PROTECTED or enhanced, not merely MAINTAINED or enhanced. There is a difference and this should be changed to read, "Salvage of dead and dying timber may be used ONLY as a means of PROTECTING or enhancing ORV's."

p71, c1, P1:  
"Utilize timber harvest as a tool to restore forest health and improve wildlife habitat whenever it is the most effective method."

And, it should be added, ONLY if it is proven to be the MOST EFFECTIVE METHOD to protect and enhance ORV's. The Blue Moutnains Forest Health Report has indicated that timber harvest and fire exclusion are the root causes of current forest health problems. The agencies should be very cautious about future harvest activities.

Water:

p71, c2, P1:  
"Livestock watering and irrigation uses of the river will continue."

It should be added that only "CURRENTLY AUTHORIZED Livestock watering and irrigation uses of the river will continue." The Plan should state that irrigation use will be closely monitored to insure compliance with water right rate and duty.

Biological:

p72, c1, P1:  
"Implement limitation on recreation use when monitoring studies determine that use exceeds acceptable biological impacts on wintering wildlife species and nesting activities of bald eagles within the corridor."



**THE OREGON RIVERS COUNCIL**  
 P.O. Box 309 • Eugene, Oregon 97410 • 503-345-0119

Received  
 JUN 05 '92

Route	
Area Mgr	
Acting A.M.	
Adm.	
Invst	
APR	
Bureau Mgr	
Regional Assessment	

June 3, 1992

Jack D. Albright, Manager  
 Baker Resource Area  
 Bureau of Land Management  
 PO 987  
 Baker City, OR 97814

Re: Wallowa and Grande Ronde Rivers  
 and Draft Management Plan

Dear Mr. Albright:

On behalf of the Oregon Rivers Council I would like to thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Wallowa and Grande Ronde Rivers Environmental Assessment and Draft Management Plan. I also wish to acknowledge the assistance of your staff in clarifying the procedures surrounding the Draft.

The Oregon Rivers Council (ORC) submits the following comments on the Wallowa and Grande Ronde Rivers Environmental Assessment and Draft Management Plan (Plan).

As described in more detail below, ORC believes that the Plan, if implemented as written, will not conform to the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (Act) and its implementing regulations for the following reasons:

- (A) The Plan substitutes a lower standard for management (maintain and enhance) than that required by the Act (protect and enhance).
- (B) The Plan has shifted the management emphasis from the outstandingly remarkable values (ORV's) to other river related issues and resources.
- (C) The Plan does not sufficiently address the effects activities will have on the ORV's.
- (D) The Plan does not provide a methodology for measuring changes in the outstandingly remarkable values.

(A) The Plan substitutes a lower standard for management (maintain and enhance) than that required by the Act (protect and enhance).

The Wild And Scenic Rivers Act, Section 10(a), requires "protection and enhancement" of the outstandingly remarkable values. The National Wild and Scenic Rivers System Revised Guidelines for Eligibility, Classification and Management of River Areas, Federal Register, Vol. 47 No. 173, Section III, requires that management strategies "always be designed to protect and enhance the values of the river areas."

However, throughout the Plan the management objective "maintain and enhance" is substituted for "protect and enhance." Specifically, the "Management Objectives and Constraints" section on page 18 states that for the Wallowa River segment "the management objective is to maintain and enhance current quality..."and for the Grande Ronde segment "maintain and/or enhance..." Paragraph 2, page 50, states "management activities in riparian areas will be designed to maintain or improve riparian values."

In paragraph 3 of page 50, the Plan states that "major construction efforts will be scheduled to avoid or minimize disturbance to wildlife." Wildlife is one of the ORV's identified in the Resource Assessment and all management activities must be planned to protect and enhance the value. "Minimizing" the degradation of an ORV does not conform with the Act.

Congress has directed the agency to protect and enhance values and the Bureau of Land Management must not substitute a different objective. The Plan should say "protect and enhance" in all places where it currently says "maintain and enhance." More importantly, all management activities must be designed to protect and enhance the ORV's.

This distinction is important. The protection standard is the manager's first goal, and any proposed activity must conform to full scale protection. The language from the Federal Register is that "this section [10(a) of the Act] is interpreted as stating a non-degradation and enhancement policy, regardless of classification" (p. 39458).

It is therefore inconsistent with the goal of non-degradation to conclude, as the draft does (p. 2), that concerning scenery "...management activities may not attract the attention of the casual observer."

The correct standard for scenery is that "management activities shall protect (or shall not degrade) the scenic qualities." Similarly, the section on Fisheries (p.4) should conclude that "management activities (shall not degrade) shall protect habitat for wild stocks and/or federal or state listed threatened, endangered and sensitive species."

We do wish to commend the Baker Resource Area staff on the sections of the Plan that do uphold the standards of the Act. For example, on page 70 the Plan states "mineral

Executive Director  
 Bob Doppelt

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RECEIVED  
JUN 01 1992

1710 7th St.  
Anacortes, WA 98221  
29 May 1992

Gerald A. Meyer  
Rivers Planning Team  
P.O. Box 987  
Baker Oregon 97814  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
BAKER CITY, OR

Dear Gerald Meyer:

In 1989 I floated the Wallowa and Grande Ronde from Minam to Heller Bar with Oregon River Experiences. I hope that the river will remain open to public use.

I've three major concerns: sanitation, motor boats, and relations with land owners.

On sanitation, if it were enforce able, I'd say to require all boaters to pack out their feces. In the real world, I'd suggest coming up with easy ways to do this, provide this information at put-ins and to those who inquire about floating the river. Double zip-lock freezer bags might work for individuals, or slip a plastic sack over the hand to pick up the excrement and use the bag as part of the packaging (for small amounts ~~it~~ can be picked up and the bag pulled inside out over it)

Jet boats remind me of the problems hikers have with motor bikes. Also, there was not much room to manuver in the river. We saw all manner of craft going "with the flow" with out conflict, and could imagine many more fitting on the river. But, how to keep traffic civil and safe when one who is a young man at heart has a powerful motor on his boat with which to proclaim his masculinity and play king of the river? I hope motors will be restricted, and prefer their exclusion, ~~especial~~ especial from Sheep Creek Rapids to Troy, as there is little room to manouver and access for enforcement is lacking.

For continued public use of the river we need better relations. Users need to be reminded to respect private land and the rights of the owners. Providing the maps showing land ownership that are in the Draft Management Plan (reproduced with the same high readability) at Put-ins is a possibility. ~~Existing~~ Existing. Matching ones position on the river with a location on the map would be easier if some signs were allowed ~~other than in addition to~~ "no trespassing" signs.

The fear of government interference with with private property rights is high. Please do not use condemnation actions to acquire private lands.

I like "Encourage cooperative projects that divert livestock from riparian zone." p.54. Hope you can do it while still providing water to the livestock.

My best wishes in the difficult balancing act.

Sincerely,  
*Randona H. ...*

Bald Eagles. Two, this section refers to a "Vision Statement" which is not included in the draft. The Final Plan should include the Vision Statement as part of the record (although the Vision Statement in no way lessens the managers responsibilities under the Act).

-Please cite the authorizing language that authorizes managers to claim that "...management may accommodate the concept of a viable economic unit that results in resource production..." (page 23).

-The Wild and Scenic Act explicitly refers to water rights; therefore the federal reserve water right must be discussed in the Plan.

-On page 50, the Plan states: "there are standard design procedures and management directions common to all public land activities." Congress set out purposes in the Wild and Scenic Act that are not common to all public lands. Saying that common public land standards are sufficient, or even applicable, to wild and scenic rivers does not conform with the Act.

-All timber harvests within the corridor on public land, whether programmed, salvage, for silviculture or other objectives must conform to the standard of protection for the ORV's. Please refer to section 12(a) of the Act.

Again, I thank you for the opportunity to work with the Baker Resource Area on this document. ORC looks forward to seeing the next draft of the Plan.

Sincerely,

*for Megan Smith*  
Bob Doppelt  
Executive Director

Enc.

cc: Lynn George  
Bob Freemark, Wilderness Society



Water Resources Department comments on  
Grande Ronde and Wallowa River Management Plan  
Page 3 of 6

For example, while the discussion of range on page 45 is interesting, without some baseline information it is difficult to make any judgments on the range issues or alternatives. Information on the amount, condition and pressure on the range by location in the river corridor would be very helpful. If this information is not available, perhaps this monitoring activity should be built into the alternatives. The same can be said of forest harvest units. Although the narrative on page 46 is very good, a map and or some other way to have an idea of the general make up and condition of the forest would be helpful.

Process issues:

There are several state and federal planning processes going on at once in this same area. An expanded discussion of these concurrent processes would be helpful. The document should include an explanation of the difference between the River Management Plan (Environmental Assessment) and the Wallowa River Eligibility and Suitability Study being done under section 5 (a) of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. It would be helpful to make the discussion of the Wallowa section consistent with the rest of the report. For example, the table describing the alternatives lists impacts on social/economic values. However, the rest of the tables in the document, the impacts are listed elsewhere. There are other inconsistencies that are format and content specific listed later by page number.

It would also help to expand the discussion the process for establishing the proposed scenic waterway classifications through administrative rule.

A description of Scenic Waterway restrictions is in order for mining. Although placer mining is not allowed by state law, the definition of placer mining allows use of devices that have less than a four inch intake.

All maps should clearly define the state scenic waterway. It would be helpful to display the same type of information for both designations, i.e. scenic waterway classifications.

The following are some suggestions for specific areas in the River Management Plan:

Page 1 table 1:

Suggest you include the Wallowa section in this table. You may need to change the label of this table to reflect this study area.

Page 2 first paragraph:

It may be helpful to label this paragraph boundaries and have some discussion of the resource issues that led to the determination of the fixed boundary.

Page 6 scenic waterway resource analysis:

Water Resources Department comments on  
Grande Ronde and Wallowa River Management Plan  
Page 4 of 6

Page 6 scenic waterway resource analysis:

What criteria were used to make the "Special Attributes" the same as Outstandingly Remarkable Values?

Page 8 Pacific Northwest Electric Power Planning and Conservation Act:

This would be a very good place to discuss the Power Planning Council protected area status. You may wish to contact Dwayne Anderson of the Power Planning Council office in Portland to clarify this status.

Page 9:

Department of Fish and Wildlife add:

*ODFW is one of the three agencies that can apply for instream water rights. The Department has applied for instream water rights on the Wallow/Grande Ronde River. (Instream rights and applications for entire Wallow/Grande Ronde drainage are attached)*

Page 11 Oregon Department of Environmental Quality and Washington Department of Ecology:  
Department of Environmental Quality add:

*DEQ is one of the three agencies that can apply for instream water rights. DEQ also has administrative rules ability to nominate the Wallow/Grande Ronde for an Outstanding Waters classification.*

Since one of the goals for a Wild or Natural classification should be the protection of water quality, this kind of anti-degradation classification from DEQ may be appropriate. We also suggest you contact these respective agencies to get an expanded dialogue on their respective responsibilities (especially TMDL areas). I believe that the Washington Department of Ecology has a coordinating role in all county shoreline plans.

Page 12 Oregon Water Resources Department Replace with: WRD is responsible for the management and allocation of the state's water resources. A citizen body, the Water Resources Commission develops policy and has authority on various water related issues. These policies are applied through basin programs. Sixteen of Oregon's 18 river basins have a basin program that is periodically updated. Basin programs are administrative rules which generally classify the streams and lakes for allowable future water uses. The classifications may include domestic, livestock, municipal, irrigation, power, industrial, mining, recreation, wildlife and fish life uses. The State Water Resources Board (predecessor to current Water Resources Commission) adopted a basin program for the Wallow/Grande Ronde River in 1958.

The Scenic Waterway Act prohibits new dams, impoundments, and placer mining in scenic waterways and on tributary streams within scenic waterway boundaries. The Scenic Waterways Act requires Water Resources Commission concurrence on proposed land condemnations, new scenic waterway management plans and scenic waterway additions proposed by State Parks and





THE OREGON RIVERS COUNCIL  
P.O. Box 309 • Eugene, Oregon 97440 • 503-345-0119

STATE PARKS  
SALEM OFFICE

MAY 26 1992



Oregon State Parks

*Executive Director*  
Bob Doppelt

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May 22, 1992

Gary Miniszewski, River Planner  
State Parks and Recreation Department  
525 Trade St. SE  
Salem, OR 97310

RE: Wallowa and Grande Ronde Rivers Scenic Waterway  
Management Plan

Dear Gary:

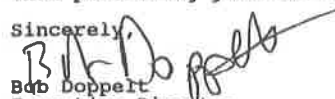
We are in receipt of the proposed rules for the Wallowa and Grande Ronde Scenic Waterways. These rules were sent out as part of the Draft Management Plan, Environmental Assessment dated May 1992. We offer the following comments:

1. The EA identifies a wide range of resource values within the Wallowa and Grande Ronde State Scenic Waterways.

2. The proposed rules lack the policies necessary to protect the resource values identified. Once again we have a "screen from the view from the river" set of rules which allow a whole host of development activities to occur with little regard for true protection of the resource values. This is not the intent of the State Scenic Waterway Act. In fact both the Act and State Parks rules both provide for the protection of a whole range of resource values within State Scenic Waterways. We urge the Department to develop plans which in fact will protect these resources.

It is our hope that as a result of the State Scenic Waterway Program review which State Parks is currently undergoing that all management plans will be reviewed for their effectiveness in protecting resource values within the state's Scenic Waterways. With all the signs of river degradation in Oregon, State Parks must become a leader in protecting State Scenic Waterway resource values rather than protecting just the "scenic" view.

Sincerely,

  
Bob Doppelt  
Executive Director

Jack Albright  
May 20, 1992  
Page 3

STATE PARKS  
SALEM OFFICE

MAY 26 1992



Oregon State Parks

1710 7th St.  
Anacortes, WA 98221  
May 21, 1992

Gary Miniszewski, Rivers Planner  
Oregon Parks and Reck. Dept.  
525 Trade Street SE

Dear Mr. Miniszewski:

Here are some comments on Oregon's proposals for the Wallowa and Grande Ronde Rivers.

I applaud the goal of protecting private property rights. Reading appendix G, I see a one year advance notice requirement. That seems a bit much, although the exclusions help. An exclusion (or faster procedure) is needed for clean-up and restoration/reconstruction after disasters. Prompt salvage logging, replacement of structures, etc. is needed to minimize losses to property owners and possibly mitigate environmental damage. If this is allowed as "emergency measures" which may be taken immediately, clarification might help.

Re: Screening requirement. Administrative rules repeat screening regulations all the way down the river system as if it were a river on the west side where trees grow rapidly and are a natural part of the scene. I rode a raft from Minam to Hellers Bar in '89, and remember the forest as rather sparse and, apparently, slow growing at best, with the lower portion (above Troy on down) having only scattered shrub like "trees." For example: there is a road which descends a steep, open hillside to the south side of the river. It is steep enough that improvements are likely to be necessary. If the required vegetative screen were established, the greenery would be the most outstandingly remarkable feature of the river for as far as it could be seen, and would require pumping water from the river for irrigation. Surely this is an oversight. Guide lines for exterior appearance (natural wood or stone, earth tone paints...) are a possibility for structures. I don't know what to suggest beyond acceptance for road grades.

Re Signs: I feel that private recreational developments in the river corridor could add to its recreational potential and cut down on the degradation of the river associated with camping and random defecation. Some signage visible from the river should be allowed for services. (at least as visible as the "No Trespassing" signs)

My best wishes in your work with private landowners and other agencies in the management of the Wallowa/Grande Ronde. Hope you will keep the red tape, delays, and regulations to a minimum so landowners will see this as a tolerable bureaucratic addition, and the public can continue to use the rivers.

Sincerely,

PAGE 72

Biological

- Monitoring populations does little to insure long term biodiversity and productivity, maintaining habitat does.
- Items 3 and 4 - left column; intent of these statements is not clear.
- Exclude domestic sheep grazing from the corridor in order to protect bighorn sheep from disease introduction.
- Last two items contain good thoughts but could be reworded.
- Timber harvest should be by selective cutting utilizing low impact methods with exceptions for efforts to restore bunchgrass winter range or catastrophic events.
- Increased road density should be discouraged on both public and private land.
- Any new road constructed should be seeded and closed after use.

PAGE 73

Social

- Again, the use of motorized craft in the corridor is not a historic use and should be looked at closely for social and biological impacts in the confined canyon.

PAGE 74

Administrative

- Most flows associated with the wild and scenic area are recreational rather than fish and wildlife flows.
- Areas of unique character or high value as wildlife habitat or camp sites should be prioritized and agencies encouraged to seek acquisition.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide our comments on the Draft EA. If we can help with the process in the future please give us a call.

Sincerely,

Vic Coggins  
District Wildlife Biologist

Bradley J. Smith  
District Fish Biologist

bsp  
46

c Williams  
Ely  
Marks  
McEwen



**NORS-National Organization for River Sports**

May 1, 1992

Bureau of Land Management  
P.O. Box 987  
Baker City, Oregon 97814

**RECEIVED**

MAY 04 1992

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
BAKER CITY, OR

Dear Sirs:

The National Organization for River Sports (NORS) appreciates the opportunity to comment on the Draft Management Plan and Environmental Assessment for the Powder, Wallowa and Grande Ronde rivers. We would like to request receiving the final plan, EIS and Decision of Record for comment when they become available.

NORS has gone on record frequently as to our concerns on river management plans. Limitations, allocation, power vehicles (including boats) and concessionaires are major concerns of NORS in addition to being national river issues.

We note that these draft plans do not adequately address the issues. These major concerns are of such importance, that a finding of no significant impact is not warranted. The plans are written in such broad general terms, that it is difficult to determine what specifically will be done on these issues. This would make it almost impossible to evaluate whether the final management complies with the plan. A management plan is deficient if it defers decisions and relies on future monitoring studies, and evaluation for issues that should be decided today. To say that there will be restrictions on numbers of trips or unacceptable resource impacts, without defining the terms is meaningless. The entire documents are couched in these ambiguous terms.

We do support eliminating all power vehicles within the river corridor, including the Wallowa and Powder Rivers. The plan should specifically give reference to no power, even when it may presently be impractical, on the Powder River for example. Since power vehicles are a major issue, the plan should address management of power vehicles on all sections of these rivers.

**NORS-National Organization for River Sports**

The issues we express concern for have already been addressed in appeals of other river plans or actions such as those on the White, Klickitat, McKenzie and Clackamas rivers. Our appeals are available from the agencies and should give some indication of the specific NORS views on limitations, allocation and concessionaires in addition to power vehicles.

In a letter to you on April 10, 1992 NORS requested certain information that is essential in review of these plans. We hope this data will be sent us before the final comment period.

Sincerely,

John H. Garren, Regional Representative  
National Organization for River Sports  
01008 S.W. Comus St.  
Portland, OR 97219  
(503)636-3506



RECEIVED  
APR 29 1992  
STATE PARKS AND  
RECREATION DEPARTMENT

27 April 1992

I am opposed to any scenic waterway designations with their added restrictions which cause further problems for economic activity.

The State of Oregon is causing the loss of millions of dollars of tax revenue by strangling those who work and produce by counterproductive laws and regulations.

Leave the rivers alone !

Sincerely,

*Jack A. Walker*

Jack A. Walker

Vale, Oregon 97918

RECEIVED  
JUN 15 1992  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
BAKER CITY, OR



# *APPENDIX G - OREGON STATE SCENIC WATERWAY RULES OF LAND MANAGEMENT*

## OAR 736-40-035

These rules and regulations governing the use of related adjacent lands and improvements made on or to these lands apply to all designated scenic waterways. Land management on scenic waterways includes, but is not limited to the following examples:

(1) Timber Harvest: The forest cover on related adjacent land is a part of the scenic beauty of the scenic waterway and notification of planned timber harvest operations must be given to the Commission one year prior to commencement. The notification must include a plan specifying timber to be cut, road locations, logging methods, slash cleanup, soil stabilization, revegetation measures and any other details as the commission may require.

(2) Tree Cutting: No person shall cut any living tree within a scenic waterway without prior written notice except as provided in these rules.

(3) Grazing and Farming: Existing use in the form of grazing or farming of the related adjacent land is a part of the scenic beauty of the waterway. Notification is not required for:

- (a) Construction of fences;
- (b) Maintenance of farm buildings, fences or appurtenances necessary to existing use;
- (c) Laying of irrigation lines;
- (d) Pumphouse construction, if not in violation of OAR 736-40-030(5);
- (f) Crop rotation;
- (g) Variations in grazing land management;
- (h) Placing of grazing land under cultivation, except within classified natural river areas named in OAR 736-40-045 through 736-40-075;
- (i) Construction of silos and grain storage facilities, and other structures or buildings as are needed in connection with the existing use of the related adjacent land, if not in violation of OAR 736-40-030(5), except within classified natural river areas named in OAR 736-40-045 through 736-40-075;



(4) No structures shall exceed 30 feet in height from natural grade on a side facing the river;

(5) All structures shall be so designed and constructed that little or no soil is left exposed when construction is completed.

(b) Be located in such a way that topography and natural vegetation make them as inconspicuous as reasonably practicable, and in no case obtruding on the view from the river. The Commission may require that additional vegetative screening be established and maintained. In such event, it shall be evergreen, wherever practicable, and compatible with natural growth in the area.

(8) Mobile homes, modular residential structures, house trailers, campers and similar structures, and vehicles: Mobile homes, modular residential structures, house trailers, campers, motor homes and the like shall not be established as dwellings, either permanent, (or) seasonal or temporary, within related adjacent lands unless they are entirely concealed from view from the waters within a scenic waterway by topography, except, that those mobile homes, modular residential structures and house trailers that are at least 20 feet wide, with exterior dimensions, less hitch, of 800 square feet, may be permitted under these rules subject to the same requirements and standards set forth in the previous section relating to criteria for review for structures and improvements that are visible from the waters within a scenic waterway. Additionally, except when a mobile home, modular residential structure, house trailer or the like is not set on a ground-level foundation, full skirting shall be installed which in design, color and texture appears to be an integral part of the exterior of the structure.

(a) For purposes of these rules, a structure is a mobile home, modular residential structure, house trailer, camper or motor home if it is used, designed or intended to house persons, and is transported to the site in a state of substantial prefabrication. Once a structure fulfills this test, it shall remain subject to the rule regardless of whether the wheels or other temporary assembly have been removed or detached, and regardless of whether the structure is subsequently relocated;

(b) Within public recreation sites and transient public trailer parks where travel trailers, campers, motor homes and similar vehicles are permitted by the public agency, firm or individual maintaining the facility, their transient, short-term use by travelers is allowed, but they shall not be left on the site during their user's absence of more than three (3) day's duration.

(9) Maintenance of Structures and Improvements; Owners and users of existing structures and other improvements shall maintain them and their surroundings in a manner and condition in harmony with the environment, compatible with the objectives set forth in these rules and regulations for the classified river area in which they be, and without impairing substantially the natural beauty of the scenic waterway. The existing color of such structures may be maintained.

(10) Replacement of Existing Structures and Improvements: Replacement of existing structures and improvements, including those lost by fire, flood or other casualty, will be permitted, provided the new structure or improvement is in compliance with provisions of the Act and these rules and regulations. Notification procedures set forth in OAR 736-40-040 and Commission approval are required.

(11) Advertising: No signs or other forms of outdoor advertising that are visible from waters within a scenic waterway shall be constructed or maintained. Property protection signs (No Hunting, No Trespassing, et cetera) are exempted.

(12) Erosion Protection: The Commission recognizes that erosion protection work and maintenance may be necessary on riverbanks and related adjacent lands along the scenic waterways. Notification, which shall include plans to protect the natural beauty of the scenic waterway, and Commission approval are required.

(13) Submerged and Submersible Lands:

(a) No dam or reservoir or other water impoundment facility shall be constructed or placer mining permitted on waters within scenic



(2) Scenic Areas will be administered to maintain or enhance their high scenic quality, recreational value, fishery and wildlife habitat, while preserving their largely undeveloped character and allowing continuing agricultural uses.

(c) Recreational River Areas:

(1) Those designated scenic waterways or segments thereof that are readily accessible by road or railroad, that may have some development along their shorelines and related adjacent lands, and that may have undergone some impoundment or diversion in the past.

(2) Recreational River Areas will be administered to allow continuance of compatible existing uses, while allowing a wide range of compatible river-oriented public outdoor recreation opportunities, to the extent that these do not impair substantially the natural beauty of the scenic waterway or diminish its aesthetic, fish and wildlife, scientific and recreational values.

(d) Natural Scenic View Areas:

(1) Those designated shorelines and related adjacent lands, lying along only one bank of a river within a scenic waterway, which possess the qualities of a Natural or Scenic River Area except that the opposite shoreline and related adjacent land, by reason of accessibility, or development, qualifies only for a less restrictive classification.

(2) Natural Scenic View Areas will be administered to preserve or enhance their essentially primitive scenic character, while allowing compatible public outdoor recreational use.

(e) Accessible Natural River Areas:

(A) Those designated scenic waterways or segments thereof that are readily accessible by road or railroad but otherwise possess the qualities of a Natural or Scenic river Area.

(B) Accessible Natural River Areas will be administered to protect or enhance their essentially primitive scenic character, while allowing compatible public outdoor recreation use.

(f) River Community Areas - Those designated areas of a scenic waterway, perhaps on only one bank of the river, where density of structures or other developments already existing or provided for precludes application of a more restrictive classification.

(2) (a) Within the general framework of these classifications, the Commission will further consider the nature and extent of existing land uses and developments, the scenic qualities and the aesthetic, fish and wildlife, scientific and recreational values of each classified area within the scenic waterways in determining whether, in its judgment, proposals for changes of land use or improvements are compatible with the Act.

(b) Because of the individual character of each scenic waterway, administrative criteria within each of the six classifications may vary from one scenic waterway to another.



# ***APPENDIX H - MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING***

This agreement is between the United States, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) acting by and through the Oregon State Director; the USDA Forest Service (FS), acting by and through the Regional Forester, Region 6; and the State of Oregon, by and through the Parks and Recreation Department (Parks).

## **WITNESSETH:**

**WHEREAS**, on various rivers throughout Oregon, the State of Oregon, the BLM and the FS administer, manage or regulate the use of lands within certain river corridors and have various programs and responsibilities in regard to these programs and lands under their respective jurisdiction; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Oregon, under the state Scenic Waterways Act and the BLM and FS under the federal Wild and Scenic Rivers Act are charged with parallel duties of identification, planning, and administration of rivers with special qualities as set out in those acts; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Oregon, BLM, and FS have differing authorities, jurisdictions, and administrative capabilities as to the lands and waters within the river corridors; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Oregon and the United States have common objectives as to the planning and management of these lands and water resources making it desirable for the State of Oregon and the United States to cooperate in the planning and management of these resources; and

**WHEREAS**, the Regional Forester, FS, has the authority to enter into this agreement by virtue of the authority granted to the Secretary of Agriculture by Sec. 11, P.L. 90-542 as amended thereto; and

**WHEREAS**, the State Director, BLM has the authority to enter into this agreement by virtue of the authority granted to the Secretary of the Interior by the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (42 U.S.C. 1737) and for components of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers Systems by virtue of P.L. 90-542 as amended; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Oregon, by and through Parks enters into this agreement by virtue of the authority granted by ORS 390.140(2)(b) and





I. Nothing in this Agreement shall commit the parties or their agencies or representatives to the expenditure of funds not authorized by law.

J. Any party may withdraw from this Agreement upon written notice to the other parties. The withdrawal of one or more parties shall not affect the validity of this Agreement as to the remaining parties.

K. Amendments to this Agreement may be proposed by any party and shall become effective on approval by all parties.

L. No member or delegate to Congress or resident Commissioner shall be admitted to any share or part of this Agreement, or to any benefit that may arise therefrom; but this provision shall not be construed to extend to this agreement if made with a corporation for its general benefit.

M. Attachment A (of master document) is a list of existing state scenic waterways.

N. Attachment B (of master document) is a list of existing Federally - designated rivers.

The Parks and Recreation Commission, by a duly-adopted delegation order number 1, authorized the State Parks Director to execute this agreement on behalf of the Commission. Approval for this delegation order was given at its January 26, 1990, meeting.

State of Oregon, by and through  
its State Parks and Recreation  
Department

Director

United States of America, by and  
through its USDA Forest Service,  
Region 6

John F. Butruille - Regional Forester

United States of America, by and  
through its USDI Bureau of Land  
Management, Oregon State Office

State Director



# *APPENDIX I - MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING*

## *Oregon State Parks and Recreation Department State Agency Coordination Program*

### *RIVERS PROGRAM*

#### *SCENIC WATERWAYS PROGRAM*

The two actions that affect land use in this program are: 1. Adoption or amendment of a State Scenic Waterway Management Plan; and 2. Approval of development proposals within the boundaries of a State Scenic Waterway.

**Action 1:** Management Plan Adoption or Amendment by the Commission in Concurrence with the Water Resources Department Commission

**Authorities:** ORS 390.845 provides that with few exceptions (ORS 390.835) scenic waterways shall be administered by the department, each in such a manner as to protect and enhance the values which caused such scenic waterway to be included in the system. In such administration primary emphasis shall be given to protecting the aesthetic, scenic, fish and wildlife, scientific and recreation features, based on the special attributes of each area. Management plans for each scenic waterway designation are developed to assist in that administration. ORS 390.934 provides the guidelines for management and development of the Deschutes River Scenic Waterway Recreation Area.

**Analysis:** General Rules of Land Management for all Scenic Waterways are described in OAR 736-40-035. In addition to these rules and regulations governing the use of related adjacent lands and improvements made on or to the adjacent lands, classifications by each river and segment and general administrative criteria are developed for each river and segment. The general rules and the adopted criteria for the management of the waterway are used in the review and recommendation of action for the notification to the Department of development proposals and other activities within the Scenic Waterway boundary.

Designated State Scenic Waterways are a State Goal 5 resource. Adoption or amendment of a scenic waterway management plan may reasonably be expected to have a significant effect on this resource identified in the statewide planning goals and/or present or future land uses identified in acknowledged comprehensive plans.



modify a proposal and again seek approval. The Scenic Waterways Act allows the Park and Recreation Commission to purchase land if impairment of a river's scenic qualities cannot be prevented by any other means.

Management responsibilities are also assigned under the Act to other state agencies. These particular regulatory functions are established by the responsible agency's administrative rules. Filling in rivers, removing soil and gravel from rivers, or changing riverbanks in any way, regardless of the amount of soil and rock involved, requires special approval of the Division of State Lands. The Water Resources Department is required to insure that new instream water rights issued within a scenic waterway will be used only for fish, wildlife and recreation. Other uses may be permitted if flow is found sufficient to satisfy the fish, wildlife and recreation needs along with existing uses.

The Act is administered by the Park and Recreation Commission in such a manner as to protect and enhance the values which caused a scenic waterway to be included in the system. This action could be reasonably expected to have an impact on this Statewide Goal 5 resource, State Scenic Waterways.

### *COMPATIBILITY*

**Process:** OAR 736-40-020 states: Agreements entered into and approvals given by the Commission in no way relieve persons or entities affected thereby of requirements established by other governmental agencies, local, state or federal. Notification forms and supplementary forms for timber harvest and salvage activities must be completed. When a complete notification form is received, a request for response is mailed to all applicable agencies and local governments. See appendix J (of master document) for the Form. The local government, at that time, has the opportunity to explain the local regulations and what permits are needed. Local regulations vary from jurisdiction to jurisdiction and can be more stringent than scenic waterways requirements. The local government also informs the applicant for any development proposals within the State Scenic Waterway boundaries that the applicant must meet State Parks Scenic Waterway notification requirements. Obtaining a local land use or building permit is not the same as getting scenic waterway approval for improvements or changes. This action uses the Type 3 compatibility procedure as outlined on OAR 736-70-040.

Additional review procedures are currently being developed and will be adopted by the Commission.



# APPENDIX J - GLOSSARY

Affected environment	The biological, physical, and social environment that will or may be changed by proposed actions.
Allocation system	See <u>River use allocation system</u> .
Alternative	A comprehensive management strategy; when a federal agency is considering an action, NEPA requires the agency to develop and analyze a range of reasonable alternatives, including a “no action” or “no change” alternative. The alternatives must respond to the issues, and must show a reasonable range of actions.
Anadromous fish	Those species of fish that mature in the ocean and migrate into freshwater rivers and streams to spawn; and example is salmon.
Background	In visual management terminology, refers to the visible terrain beyond the foreground and middleground where individual trees are not visible, but are blended into the total fabric of the stand. Also a portion of a view beyond 3 to 5 miles from the observer, and as far as the eye can detect objects.
Best Management Practices	A practice or combination of practices that is determined by a State (or designated area wide planning agency) after problem assessment, examination of alternative practices, and appropriate public participation, to be the most effective, practicable (including technological, economic, and institutional considerations) means of preventing or reducing the amount of pollution generated by nonpoint sources to a level compatible with water quality goals (Federal Register, Volume 40, No. 230 dated 11/28/75).
Big game	Large mammals hunted for sport. On public lands these include animals such as deer, elk, antelope and bear.
Big game summer range	An area of land, usually at higher elevations, used by deer and elk during the summer. Summer ranges are usually more extensive than winter ranges.
Big game winter range	An area of land, usually at lower elevations, used by migratory deer and elk during the winter months; usually more clearly defined and smaller than summer.



Designated corridor	Both the wild and scenic corridor and the scenic waterway, including all areas that are part of either designation.
Desired future condition	A vision of the desired future state of a specific area. Desired future condition gives managers goals for the area, but recognizes the dynamic state of the ecosystem, instead of listing future numerical outputs as goals.
Developed recreation	Recreation that requires facilities that, in turn, result in concentrated use of an area. An example of a developed recreation area is a campground facility that might include roads, parking lots, picnic tables, toilets, drinking water, and buildings.
Dispersed recreation	A general term referring to recreation use outside developed recreation sites; this includes activities such as scenic driving, hiking, backpacking, hunting, fishing, snowmobiling, horseback riding, cross-country skiing, and recreation in primitive environments.
Diversity	The distribution and abundance of different plant and animal communities and species within the area covered by a land and resource management plan.
Dominant	Trees with crowns extending above the general level of the crown cover and receiving full light from above and partly from the side; larger than the average trees in the stand, with crowns well developed but possibly somewhat crowded on the sides.
Ecosystem	A complete system of organisms considered together with their environment (for example; a marsh, a forest, or a lake).
Effects	Environmental changes resulting from a proposed action. Effects and impacts are synonymous. Effects include ecological (such as the effects on natural resources and on the components, structures, and functioning of affected ecosystems), aesthetic quality, historic, cultural, economic, social, or healthy effects, whether direct, indirect, or cumulative. Effects may also include those resulting from actions that may have both beneficial and detrimental effects, even if on balance the agency believes that the effects will be beneficial.
Endangered species	Any species of animal or plant that is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range. Plant or animal species identified by the Secretary of the Interior as endangered in accordance with the 1973 Endangered Species Act.
Environmental Assessment	The concise public document required by the regulations for implementing the procedural requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act.
Fecal coliform	A bacteria found in the human colon; a fecal coliform count is used as an indicator of fecal contamination, if any, in water.



Interdisciplinary Team (IDT)	A group of individuals with different professional resource backgrounds assembled to solve a problem or perform a task. The team is assembled out of recognition that no one scientific discipline is sufficiently broad to adequately solve the problem.
Intermediate	Trees shorter than those in the dominant and codominant classes but have crowns extending into the crown cover formed by dominant and codominant trees; receiving a little direct sunlight from above but none from the sides; usually with small crowns considerably crowded on the sides.
Intermittent stream	A stream that runs water in most months, but does not run water during the dry season during most years.
Issue	A point, matter, or question of public discussion or interest to be addressed or decided through the planning process.
Landscape management	The art and science of planning and administering the use of Public lands in such ways that the visual effects maintain or upgrade human psychological welfare. The planning and design of the visual aspects of multiple-use land management.
Large woody material	Material greater than 20 inches in diameter and 33 feet in length.
Limits of Acceptable Change (LAC)	A concept for managing change in a natural area, based on the premise that ecological and social change will occur as a result of natural and human factors. With the LAC concept, management's goal is to keep the character and amount of change that results from human factors within acceptable levels that are consistent with objectives for the area.
Management area	An area with similar management objectives and common management prescription.
Management plan	A plan guiding overall management of an area administered by a federal or state agency; plan usually includes objectives, goals, standards and guidelines management actions, and monitoring plans.
Mature timber	Trees that have attained full development, particularly height, and are in full seed production.
Middleground	A term used in visual management to describe the portions of a view extending from the foreground zone out to 3 to 5 miles from the observer.
Mitigation	Mitigation includes: avoiding the impact altogether by not taking a certain action or parts of an action; minimizing impacts by limiting the degree or magnitude of the action and its implementation; rectifying the impacts by repairing, rehabilitating, or restoring the affected environment; reducing or eliminating the impact over time by preservation and maintenance operations during the life of the action; and compensating for the impact by replacing or providing substitute resources or environments.



Placer mining	The extraction of valuable heavy minerals from a mass of sand, gravel, or other similar alluvial material by concentration in running water.
Prehistoric site	An area which contains important evidence and remains of the life and activities of early societies which did not record their history.
Public involvement	A Forest Service and BLM process designed to broaden the information base upon which agency decisions are made by informing the public about agency activities, plans, and decisions, and encouraging public understanding about and participation in the planning processes which lead to final decision making.
Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS)	<p>A framework for stratifying and defining classes of outdoor recreation environments, activities, and experience opportunities. The settings activities, and opportunities for obtaining experiences have been arranged along a continuum of spectrum divided into seven classes; Primitive, Semiprimitive Nonmotorized, Semiprimitive Motorized, Roaded Modified, Roaded Natural, Rural, and Urban.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. <b>Primitive</b> - Area is characterized by an essentially unmodified natural environment of fairly large size. Interaction between users is very low and evidence of other users is minimal. The area is managed to be essentially free from evidence of human-induced restrictions and controls. Motorized use within the area is not permitted.</li><li>2. <b>Semiprimitive Nonmotorized</b> - Area is characterized by a predominately natural or natural-appearing environment of moderate to large size. Interaction between users is low, but there is often evidence of other users. The area is managed in such a way that minimum on-site controls and restrictions may be present, but would be subtle. Motorized recreation use is not permitted, but local roads used for other resource management activities may be present on a limited basis. Use of such roads is restricted to minimize impacts on recreational experience opportunities.</li><li>3. <b>Semiprimitive Motorized</b> - Area is characterized by a predominately natural or natural-appearing environment of moderate to large size. Concentration of users is low, but there is often evidence of other users. The area is managed in such a way with minimum on-site controls and restrictions. Use of local primitive or collector roads with predominately natural surfaces and trails suitable for motor bikes is permitted.</li><li>4. <b>Roaded Natural</b> - Area is characterized by predominately natural-appearing environments with moderate evidence of the sights and sounds of human activity. Such evidence usually harmonizes with the natural environment. Interaction between users may be moderate to high, with evidence of other users prevalent. Resource modification and utilization practices are evident. Conventional motorized use is allowed and incorporated into construction standards and design of facilities.</li></ol>



Scheduled Timber Harvest	Any planned timber harvest which would contribute to the district or Forest cut commitment, and would be a part of the long term timber harvest planning base.
Second Growth	Forest growth that has become established following some interference, such as cutting, serious fire, or insect attack, with the previous forest crop.
Sedimentation	A process where material carried in suspension by water flows into streams and rivers, increasing turbidity and eventually settling to the bottom.
Selection cutting	The annual or periodic removal of trees (particularly mature trees), individually or in small groups, from an uneven-aged forest.
Sensitive species	Plant or animal species which are susceptible or vulnerable to activity impacts or habitat alterations. Those species that have appeared in the Federal Register as proposed for classification or are under consideration for official listing as endangered or threatened species, that are on an official State list, or that are recognized by the Regional Forester as needing special management to prevent placement on Federal or State lists.
Snag	A standing dead tree.
Social carrying	The level of use that exceeds acceptable levels by the norm of river capacity recreationists. The level of use that impairs or alters human experience.
Socio-economic	Of, or relating to, social or economic factors, or a combination of both social and economic factors.
Spawning gravel	Sorted, clean gravel patches of a size appropriate for the needs of resident or anadromous fish.
Special attributes	Term used in planning for State Scenic Waterways; to qualify as a special attribute, a resource value must be a unique, rare, or exemplary feature that is significant at a regional or national level.
Special Interest Areas	Areas managed to make recreation opportunities available for the understanding of the earth and its geological, historical, archaeological, and botanical features.
Special Wildlife Habitat	A habitat which is unique and has a special function not provided by plant communities or successional stages; includes riparian zones, wetlands, cliffs, talus, and meadows.
Standards and Guidelines	Principles specifying conditions or levels of environmental quality to be achieved.





Thermal cover	Cover used by animals to ameliorate effects of weather.
Threatened and Endangered (T&E) Species	See Threatened species; see Endangered species.
Threatened species	Those plant or animal species likely to become endangered species throughout all or a significant portion of their range within the foreseeable future, (See also Endangered species).
Travel corridor	A route followed by animals along a belt or band of suitable cover or habitat.
Turbidity	The degree of opaqueness, or cloudiness, produced in water by suspended particulate matter, either organic or inorganic. Measured by light filtration or transmission and expressed in Nephelometric Turbidity Units (NTU's).
Understory	The trees and other woody species growing under a more or less continuous cover of branches and foliage formed collectively by the upper portion of adjacent trees and other woody growth; comprised mainly of intermediate and suppressed trees.
Viewshed	Portion of the forest that is seen from a major travel route or high use location.
Visual resource	The composite of basic terrain, geologic features, water features, vegetative patterns, and land use effects that typify a land unit and influence the visual appeal the unit may have for visitors.  <b>Class I Objective</b> - The objective of this class is to preserve the existing character of the landscape. This class provides for natural ecological changes; however, it does not preclude very limited management activity. The level of change to the characteristic landscape should be very low and must not attract attention.  <b>Class II Objective</b> - The objective of this class is to retain the existing character of the landscape. The level of change to the characteristic landscape should be low. Management activities may be seen, but should not attract the attention of the casual observer. Any changes must repeat the basic elements of form, line, color, and texture found in the predominant natural features of the characteristic landscape.
Watershed	The entire land area that contributes water to a drainage system or stream.
Wetlands	Areas that are inundated by surface or ground water often enough to support, and usually do support, primarily plants and animals that require saturated or seasonally saturated soil conditions for growth and reproduction.



# *APPENDIX K - OREGON, COUNTY LAND USE ADMINISTRATION*

This section describes, in a general way, county land use classifications and allowed uses within the Grande Ronde and Willowa scenic waterway corridors. Both corridors are primarily within Willowa County, but small portions of each are within Union County.

Most of the land (both corridors, both counties) is zoned for either Exclusive Farm Use or Timber-Grazing. The Exclusive Farm Use zone is intended "...to provide areas for the continuation of existing commercial agricultural activities and permit the establishment of only those new uses which are compatible with agricultural activities...to guarantee the preservation of the areas so classified for farm use free from conflicting non-farm uses." Similarly, the Timber-Grazing zone is intended "...to provide areas for commercial farm and forest activities and permit the establishment of only those new uses which are compatible with agricultural activities...to guarantee the preservation of the areas so classified for farm use free from conflicting non-farm, non-forest use."

In both zones, uses permitted outright are:

- (1) Farm uses.
- (2) Management and harvest of forest products.
- (3) A single-family dwelling for the operator (if the homesite is on a lot or parcel managed as part of the operation not smaller than the minimum lot size).
- (4) Another single-family dwelling on the same lot or parcel where assistance is necessary for management of the operation.
- (5) Nonresidential buildings customarily provided in conjunction with the farm or forest uses.

In addition, public or private schools and solid waste disposal facilities are allowed within the Exclusive Farm Use zone. Some of these outright uses are subject to county review to ensure that they fall within the provisions and definitions set forth in state statutes and county ordinances.

Both zones allow the creation of new lots greater than 160 acres, following county review. New lots smaller than 160 acres may also be approved, if the county finds that certain conditions are met and following a public hearing.



# *APPENDIX L - BIOLOGICAL EVALUATION, LOWER GRANDE RONDE RIVER AND LETTER OF RESPONSE*

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## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

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BIOLOGICAL EVALUATION  
SECTION 7 CONSULTATION FOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT LANDS  
IN 5 HYDROLOGIC UNITS IN  
BAKER RESOURCE AREA, VALE DISTRICT  
JANUARY 1993

With the official listing by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) of Snake River Chinook salmon stocks as threatened and sockeye salmon stocks as endangered on April 22, 1992, and November 20, 1992 respectively, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is required to comply with the Endangered Species Act (ESA) Section 7(a) 2 - to insure that any BLM action is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of the species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of critical habitat of such species. Within the scope of this Biological Evaluation the BLM will ensure compliance with the Endangered Species Act for the discretionary actions of authorizing livestock grazing on BLM administered lands.

The Vale District, has evaluated the impact of issuing livestock grazing leases to the listed salmonid species on 719 tracts in 5 Hydrologic Units of northeastern Oregon and southeastern Washington. The BLM has prepared separate Biological Evaluations - one for each Hydrologic Unit. Much of the background data for these Units is the same because they are in the same region, however site specific analyses are provided by Hydrologic Unit. The tracts evaluated range in size from 5 acres to 640 acres and are scattered throughout the region. The major concentration of BLM land is along the lower Grande Ronde River.

# Letter of Response

RECEIVED  
JUL 22 1993  
VALE DISTRICT



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE  
Northwest Region  
7600 Sand Point Way, N.E.

Received CI5700, Bldg. 1  
USDI/NOAA  
Seattle, Washington 98115-0070

JUL 20 1993

Baker R.A.

F/NW

JUL 28 '93

Mr. James E. May, District  
Bureau of Land Management  
Vale District Office  
100 Oregon Street  
Vale, Oregon 97918

Re: 1993 Grazing Program  
Grande Ronde, Imnaha  
Hydrologic Units

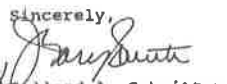
Area	Act	Int.	Mit.
Area Mgr.			
Acting A.M.			
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Dear Mr. May:

This is in response to your letter of June 16, 1993, regarding informal consultation for the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) 1993 livestock grazing program for the subject hydrologic units on the Baker Resource Area. Your June 16 letter indicated that the Vale District intends to meet the salmon protection and enhancement objectives outlined in the biological evaluations and previous correspondence from National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) (May 13, 1993), letter from Rolland Schmitt, Regional Director, NMFS, to James May, District Manager, BLM). Further explanation of how the District intends to comply with specific protection and monitoring requirements was also provided in the June 16 letter.

Based on BLM's acceptance and implementation of the mitigation and monitoring measures referenced above, NMFS concurs with the BLM that the subject grazing program is not likely to adversely affect listed Snake River salmon species. Therefore, informal consultation with NMFS under 50 CFR 402.13 is hereby completed for the subject action. BLM must reinstate this ESA consultation with NMFS if there is an occurrence at the project, or new information becomes available, revealing effects of the action that may affect the listed species or critical habitat in a manner, or to an extent not previously considered.

If you have any questions, please contact Mike Tehan at (503) 231-2338.

Sincerely,  
  
Rolland A. Schmitt  
Regional Director

cc: Baker

cc: Ron Wiley, BLM, Portland

