

## John Day River Study

*This study was completed by the Bureau of Land Management Prineville District with the help of the John Day Interagency Planning Team, including local Counties, Oregon Parks and Recreation Department, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Department of State Lands and the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs. The Study describes the desired physical, social and managerial conditions (DFC) for Segments 2 and 3 as well as identifies indicators to measure the DFCs and standards that define minimum acceptable conditions. The Study also formulates monitoring techniques to determine if and when management actions must be taken to keep conditions within standards. The Study also includes possible management actions to be taken if necessary. However, this Study does not analyze a range alternatives for managing boating encounters and campsite availability because that analysis will be done through an environmental assessment process and the public will be involved before decisions on boating encounters and campsite availability are made.*

### Introduction

This document covers approximately 118 miles of the John Day Wild and Scenic River from Cottonwood Bridge (River Mile 39.7) upstream to Service Creek (River Mile 157.5). For planning purposes, this section of river has been divided into two distinct river segments: Segment 2 (Cottonwood to Clarno), and Segment 3 (Clarno to Service Creek).

#### **The National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act**

The National Wild and Scenic Rivers System was created by Congress in 1968 with the passage of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (WSRA) (PL 90-542). Its purpose is to preserve certain rivers with outstanding natural, cultural or recreational features in a free-flowing condition for the enjoyment of present and future generations. (U.S. Department of Interior 2000, 1:13)

The Wild and Scenic River (WSR) values for the John Day Wild and Scenic River, which include Scenery, Recreational Opportunities, Fish, Wildlife, Geological, Archeological, Historical, Botanical, and Ecological will be protected and enhanced as required by the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. Recreation has been determined to be an outstandingly remarkable value on all designated WSR segments of the John Day River due to the diversity and quality of recreation opportunities potentially available. (U.S. Department of Interior 2000, 1:67)

The WSRA requires the administering agency, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), to prepare a comprehensive management plan to provide for the protection of river values. The management plan “shall address resource protection, development of lands and facilities, user capacities, and other management practices necessary or desirable to achieve the WSRA’s purposes.” § 1274(d)(1) Secretarial Guidelines for § 1274(d)(1) were jointly published by the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of Interior in 1982 to facilitate greater consistency in the agencies interpretation of the WSRA. The Secretarial Guidelines interpret the WSRA to require the preparation of river management plans that state the kinds and amounts of public use the river area can sustain without impact to the

values for which it was designated, and mandate ongoing studies to determine the quantity and mixture of recreation and other public use which can be permitted without adverse impact on the resource values of the river area. (47 Fed.Reg.at 39,458-59)

The 2001 John Day River Management Plan, Two Rivers, John Day, and Baker Resource Management Plan Amendments (The River Plan) directed BLM to use a Limits of Acceptable Change (LAC) study to determine the appropriate levels for boating use for Segments 2 and 3 and make other recreation management decisions.

### **What is LAC?**

Limits of Acceptable Change (LAC) is a process for identifying the desired resource, social, and managerial conditions for an area, and maintaining these desired conditions over time. First, the desired future conditions for the area are carefully developed and described. Indicators are selected that measure, singly or in combination, the state of the desired future condition of the ecological, social, and managerial conditions. For each indicator, a standard or threshold is set, which determines in advance, the amount of change that will be allowed. The standards then serve as “triggers” which alert managing agencies to an unacceptable change in conditions. A monitoring plan is developed to ensure that indicators are regularly and consistently monitored over the long-term. A range of management actions designed to reverse or prevent unacceptable trends, would be developed in advance, ready for implementation if and when continued monitoring of conditions indicate they are needed.

This LAC Plan:

- 1) Describes the desired physical, social and managerial conditions (DFC) for Segments 2 and 3
- 2) Identifies indicators to measure the DFC
- 3) Establishes standards that define minimum acceptable conditions
- 4) Formulates monitoring techniques to determine if and when management actions must be taken to keep conditions within standards
- 5) Develops possible management actions to be taken to ensure that indicators are maintained within specified standards

### **What does the John Day River Plan say about how LAC will be used?** (U.S. Department of Interior 2001, 17-18, 30, Appendix H)

The River Plan directed BLM to use an LAC study to determine the appropriate levels for boating use for Segments 2 and 3 and make other recreation management decisions, and to initiate LAC for other river segments if and when needed to address recreation management issues. The LAC process was selected because it is a basis for making informed, defensible recreation management decisions that are based on physical and social monitoring data. The River Plan said that management decisions would be based on resource conditions, social preferences, and maintaining the desired future condition of these river segments. Resource indicators, standards, and management actions would be developed through an environmental assessment process.

Existing BLM policy directs the BLM to establish an appropriate carrying capacity in all areas where visitor use has potential to adversely impact significant resource values and/or the quality of visitor experience. If the LAC study determines that boating use is above acceptable levels, mandatory limits on boat launching for overnight trips or day use may be imposed for the days during which

acceptable levels are exceeded. If and when LAC monitoring indicates that a limited entry permit system is necessary, requiring advance permits on peak use days only will ensure that permitted days are kept to the minimum necessary to meet LAC standards.

LAC monitoring will continue in future years to track resource changes over time, provide feedback on the effectiveness of the management actions employed, as well as alert managers to the need to consider further management actions to meet standards identified in the LAC study.

### **What This Plan Does Not Cover**

This plan does not change decisions already made in the John Day River Plan. Therefore, this plan does not address Motorized Boating, Commercial Uses, Boating Use Allocation, or other decisions previously addressed in the John Day River Plan.

## **2005 John Day River Desired Future Conditions for Segments 2 and 3**

### **Existing Management Direction for DFC**

The desired future condition (DFC) for the John Day Wild and Scenic River (Segments 2 and 3) is a description of physical, social, and managerial attributes which together define the desired character of this portion of the river corridor. Many components of the DFC have been previously established by the direction of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act; BLM Recreation, Wilderness, and Visual Resource Management policies; Oregon Administrative Rules for the John Day Scenic Waterway; and the Record of Decision for the John Day River Plan. Existing DFC direction has been incorporated into this document and augmented with additional DFC components developed within this document.

### **Development of Additional DFC**

In developing additional DFC components, the BLM considered data collected through the following monitoring efforts:

In 1999, the BLM began extensive data collection on the physical condition of campsites in Segments 2 and 3 to determine how recreation use relates to resource conditions. Campsite monitoring has continued each year, including intensive monitoring of certain sites labeled “indexed sites” (See John Day LAC Monitoring Plan). Usable data from earlier studies has been incorporated into the data base for comparison purposes.

In 2001-2002 BLM conducted a social study of John Day River boaters on Segments 2 and 3 to assess existing social conditions and quantify boater preferences and opinions about potential management actions as part of this LAC study (See 2001/2002 Preliminary John Day River Boater Survey Results).

Beginning in 1998, boating use data has been collected from users through self-registration at boater registration stations located at launch points along the river. Popular launch points are staffed during the high use season to assist with boater registration compliance

and user education. River rangers check compliance and register unregistered parties they encounter on float patrols. Automated car counters are used to supplement recreation use data at Service Creek, Clarno, and Cottonwood.

**DFC in the Future**

The DFC is a description of the desired character of the river that is intended to apply both today and well into the future. For some components of the DFC, monitoring may indicate that current conditions are the same as DFC or better, while for other components current conditions may not meet DFC. While it is not possible to anticipate and address every future factor that may have the potential to change the character of the river corridor, future decision makers should be able to clearly determine the intent of the management direction contained in this document.

**DFC Outline**

The BLM has identified differences between Segment 2 and Segment 3 including differences in land use, ownership, access, Wilderness Study Areas, motorized boating regulations, social preferences, and other factors. These differences have led BLM to further refine the DFC by river segment. In addition, the DFC differs by location within the river corridor (see outline below).

Components of the DFC have been organized according to the following outline:

**I. Existing DFC Direction**

- A. General Direction provided by the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act
- B. General Direction provided by the River Plan, BLM Policy, State Scenic Waterway Rules, etc.
- C. Specific Direction for River Segments provided by the John Day River Plan

**II. Specific DFC, Including Existing Direction and Additional Direction**

- A. Within the River Corridor - Physical
  - 1. In General
  - 2. Segment 2
  - 3. Segment 3
- B. Within the River Corridor – Social
  - 1. In General
  - 2. Segment 2
  - 3. Segment 3
- C. Within the River Corridor – Managerial
  - 1. In General
  - 2. Segment 2
  - 3. Segment 3
- D. On the Water - Social
  - 1. In General
  - 2. Segment 2
  - 3. Segment 3
- E. On the Water – Managerial
  - 1. In General
  - 2. Segment 2
  - 3. Segment 3
- F. At Boat-in Campsites - Physical
  - 1. In General
  - 2. Segment 2

- 3. Segment 3
- G. At Boat-in Campsites - Social
  - 1. In General
  - 2. Segment 2
  - 3. Segment 3
- H. At Boat-in Campsites - Managerial
  - 1. In General
  - 2. Segment 2
  - 3. Segment 3
- I. In Developed Recreation Sites - Physical/Social/Managerial
  - 1. In General

### **Existing Management Direction**

#### **I. A. General DFC Direction provided by the National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act**

The Congressional Record for the 1988 Omnibus Wild and Scenic Rivers Act provided the following description of the character of the John Day River canyon:

“The majority of the land adjacent to the John Day River is primitive and undeveloped. The river and the unconfined primitive recreation opportunities of the John Day Canyon in these areas are a major attraction of whitewater boaters and other recreationists. Besides the outstanding scenery, the area also offers outstanding bass and steelhead fishing, as well as excellent hunting, archaeological, paleontological, geological, and historic values. The river offers 1 to 5 day whitewater boating opportunities during the spring months of April, May, and June.”

## **1. B. General DFC Direction provided by John Day River Plan, BLM Policies, etc.**

### Air Quality

Appropriate air quality standards are met; however, periodic smoke may occur from fire. Visibility is generally unimpaired. (U.S. Department of Interior 2000, 336)

### Aircraft

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has no designated airstrips located on BLM land within the John Day Wild and Scenic River corridor. (FAA 2006)

### Cultural and Paleontological Resources

The integrity of paleontological resources and cultural resources (both historic and prehistoric) is preserved and protected. These resources are made available for cultural, educational and/or research purposes, as appropriate. (U.S. Department of Interior 2000, 1:136)

Energy and Mineral Development – Recreation sites will be withdrawn from all mineral entry; BLM will require no surface occupancy within the river corridor for exploration and extraction of leasable minerals; areas not specifically withdrawn from locatable mineral entry will be subject to stipulations that protect water quality and native vegetation, including screening and road building restrictions in State Scenic Waterways; and new sites for production of salable minerals on public lands within the river corridor will not be permitted, nor existing permits renewed upon expiration. (U.S. Department of Interior 2001, 22)

Fish - Provide diverse aquatic habitat, including sufficient water quantity and adequate water quality, to sustain wild populations of native and desirable non-native (smallmouth bass) fish species. Population goals for summer steelhead and spring Chinook salmon are sustained or exceeded to provide for species integrity, and sport and tribal harvest. Maintain a “quality fishery” for smallmouth bass. (U.S. Department of Interior 2000, 1:134)

Fire and Fuels – Fire control actions will minimize visual and ecological impacts and, when needed, aggressively suppress wildfire. (U.S. Department of Interior 2001, 11)

Grazing – In the lower John Day mainstem, most livestock use on public land riparian areas will end prior to the start of the high use boating season. Ten popular campsites known to have conflicts with livestock are identified for exclusion fencing. At campsites where livestock use creates a conflict as documented in LAC monitoring, grazing will be excluded. Any campsite closed to recreation use for recovery will also be closed to grazing. (U.S. Department of Interior 2001, 10-11)

Recreation - A variety of boat-in, drive-in, and walk-in recreation experiences are provided, including motorized and non-motorized

boating on specific segments, and wheelchair accessible opportunities in developed sites. Commercial outfitters provide public service based on assessed need. Future development of recreational facilities is limited to existing developed areas (recreation nodes) and new areas that replace sites closed for resource protection. (U.S. Department of Interior 2000, 1:37)

Scenery - Visual design considerations shall be incorporated into all surface disturbing projects [proposed for BLM lands] regardless of size or potential impact. Every effort should be made to inform potential non-Bureau applicants of the visual management objectives so they can adequately incorporate visual design considerations into their initial planning and design efforts. (U.S. Department of Interior 1984, Section .06A.5)

Natural landscapes are preserved and maintained. Further development of modified landscapes is avoided or minimized. Modified landscapes are restored to natural character where opportunities allow. (U.S. Department of Interior 2000, 1:153)

#### Vegetation

Plant communities, biological soil crusts and special status plant species are providing aspects of habitats, visuals, and communities that support watershed function, healthy ecosystems, other river values, and human uses. (U.S. Department of Interior 2000, 1:136)

Water quantity and quality – Instream flows meet interim minimum flow goals (Oregon Water Resources Department, Diak flows) or a level (determined through further analysis) sufficient to support (protect and enhance) outstandingly remarkable values and accommodate beneficial uses. Water quality meets state standards or is in balance with basin capabilities, satisfies obligations of the Clean Water Act, and is adequate to protect and enhance ORVs, especially anadromous salmonids. (U.S. Department of Interior 2000, 1:135)

Weeds - New infestations of noxious weeds are not common across the landscape, and existing large infestations are declining. (U.S. Department of Interior 2000, 1:136) Use of existing trails/access routes or roads for emergency weed control activities will be allowed by vehicles even in WSAs, but use off existing routes for prescribed fire, herbicide application, or seeding practices will only be by ATV type vehicles. All seeding in WSAs will be by broadcast methods. (U.S. Department of Interior 2000, 1:157)

#### Wildlife

The diversity of wildlife habitat and the resulting wildlife species diversity, which includes special status species, are protected and enhanced. (U.S. Department of Interior 2000, 1:134) Hunting opportunities for big game, waterfowl and upland game birds are available. (U.S. Department of Interior 2000, 1:138)

The John Day Wildlife Refuge (Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife) extends from the Columbia River upstream to Thirtymile Creek. The refuge area is open to hunting of deer and upland game birds during authorized seasons only between August 30 and October 31, but is closed to all waterfowl hunting. (U.S. Department of Interior 2000, 1:15)

## 1. C. Specific DFC Direction for River Segments provided by the John Day River Plan

The River Plan provided the following specific DFC direction for recreation opportunities in Segments 2 and 3:

“Within the river corridor, low-density dispersed recreation occurs in *semi-primitive* sections (Segment 2 and a portion of Segment 3), with medium-density developed recreation concentrated in *roaded natural* and *rural* areas. Naturalness and the opportunity for solitude and a *primitive*, unconfined recreation experience is maintained within Wilderness Study Areas (WSAs).” (U.S. Department of Interior 2000, 1:138)

Thus, the DFC for Segment 2 was described as including both *primitive* and *semi-primitive* reaches, and Segment 3 was described as including both *roaded natural* and *rural* reaches. BLM borrowed these terms from the USFS Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS), a system used to define the existing setting in which recreation occurs. ROS as refined for use in a river setting is called ROS for River Management. ROS for River Management is divided into six major opportunity classes including: primitive river, semi-primitive non-motorized river, semi-primitive motorized river, roaded natural river, rural river, and urban river. (U.S. Department of Agriculture 2003)

The character of a river segment may change by reach or river mile, leading to several different opportunity classes within one single reach. However, when describing the DFC, it is preferable to define one management direction for a logical reach of river, and apply management objectives to the entire reach. BLM proposes that the character of Segment 2 is best described as *semi-primitive non-motorized river*, and the character of Segment 3 is best described as *roaded natural river*.

The Recreation Opportunity Spectrum for River Management defines these terms as:

*Semi-primitive non-motorized river:*

- a. Primitive roads to access points on edge of river corridor.
- b. Traditional non-motorized watercraft, motorized use prohibited.
- c. Fairly high expectation of experiencing isolation from the sights and sounds of humans; fairly high sense of remoteness.
- d. Self-reliance through application of outdoor skills in an environment that offers a high to moderate degree of challenge and risk.
- e. Largely undisturbed natural environment.
- f. Little evidence of human development.
- g. No impoundments, diversion, or channel modification.
- h. Minimal facility development, primarily for resource protection.
- i. Parties on river responsible for human waste disposal and leave no trace camping practices.
- j. Few contact with other users primarily at rapids and access points.
- k. Little but some evidence of other users.
- l. Small party size.
- m. Natural ecosystems operate freely.

- n. Human impacts are generally limited to campsites of small to moderate size.
- o. Only a few subtle on-site visitor management controls or regulations are apparent.
- p. Contact with management personnel is occasional.
- q. On guided trips visitors perceive a high to moderate degree of challenge and risk.

*Roaded natural river:*

- a. Moderate number of access sites provided; roads parallel some sections of the river.
- b. Traditional non-motorized and motorized watercraft.
- c. Moderate evidence of the sights and sounds of humans.
- d. Opportunities for challenge in a natural environment but less expectation of risk.
- e. Alterations to the landscape are subtle. Natural characteristics remain dominant.
- f. Moderate evidence of human development.
- g. Impoundments, diversions or channel modifications may be evident.
- h. Rustic facilities, developed for resource protection and to accommodate visitor use.
- i. Parties on river responsible for human waste disposal and leave no trace camping practices.
- j. Moderate use occurs – contact with other is expected and occasionally continual, some chance for isolation.
- k. Some evidence of other users.
- l. Party size may vary.
- m. Natural ecosystems may be modified by human use.
- n. Human impacts obvious but subordinate.
- o. A few on-site visitor management controls or regulation may be expected.
- p. Contact with management personnel is frequent.
- q. On guided trips visitors perceive a moderate to low degree of challenge and risk.

<b><u>II. A</u></b>	<b><u>1. In General</u></b>	<b><u>2. Segment 2</u></b>	<b><u>3. Segment 3</u></b>
<b><u>Within the River Corridor</u></b>			
<b>Physical Human Development</b>	The majority of the land adjacent to the John Day River is primitive and undeveloped. (Congressional Record for WSRA)	Development, human activity and natural resource modifications are infrequent. (LAC)	Agricultural activities are intermittently encountered, but where found, they are concentrated. (LAC)
		Roadlessness and naturalness is maintained within WSAs; human impacts are temporary, create no surface disturbance, and are substantially unnoticeable. (USDI 2000, 1:138; USDI 1995, 9,19)	
	Future utility and transportation rights-of-way use existing corridors and river crossings. (USDI 2000, 1:188)		
<b>Scenery</b>	For public lands within the river corridor (except WSAs, and at developed recreation sites), Visual Resource Management (VRM) Class II objectives apply: The existing character of the landscape is retained. Changes in any of the basic elements caused by a management activity should not be evident in the characteristic landscape. The level of change should be low and must repeat the basic elements of form, line, color, and texture found in the predominant natural features existing within the landscape. Changes are seen, but do not attract the attention of the casual observer. (USDI 2000, 2:285)	For WSAs, VRM Class I objectives apply: The existing character of the landscape is preserved. Natural ecological changes and very limited management activities are allowed. Any change created within the characteristic landscape does not attract attention. (USDI 2000, 2:285) If Congress releases WSAs from Wilderness consideration, future VRM decisions continue to protect the outstandingly remarkable visual qualities found in this portion of the river canyon. (LAC)	

<b><u>II. A.</u></b>	<b><u>1. In General</u></b>	<b><u>2. Segment 2</u></b>	<b><u>3. Segment 3</u></b>
<b><u>Within the River Corridor</u></b>			
<b>Physical Scenery</b>	State Scenic Waterway Rules apply to specific river segments.	<p>The majority of Segment 2 is designated a “Natural River Area” under the Oregon State Scenic Waterway system. The management goal for this segment is to preserve and protect the primitive, undeveloped character of the river corridor. The remainder of Segment 2 is designated a “Scenic River Area” under the Oregon State Scenic Waterway system. The management goal for this segment is to allow the continuation of existing farm, rural residential and recreation uses while protecting the scenic character of the river. (USDI 2000, 1:200)</p> <p>Powerlines, antennas, cell towers, wind generators and similar man-made facilities and their associated infrastructure (roads, substations, transmission lines, test facilities) will not attract attention, nor will they impact the opportunity for solitude (noise). (LAC)</p>	All of Segment 3 is designated a “Scenic River Area” under the Oregon State Scenic Waterway system. The management goal for this segment is to allow the continuation of existing farm, rural residential and recreation uses while protecting the scenic character of the river. (USDI 2000, 1:200)

<b><u>II. B.</u></b>	<b><u>1. In General</u></b>	<b><u>2. Segment 2</u></b>	<b><u>3. Segment 3</u></b>
<b><u>Within the River Corridor</u></b>			
<b>Social Recreation Opportunity</b>	The river and the unconfined primitive recreation opportunities of the John Day Canyon are a major attraction of whitewater boaters and other recreationists. (Congressional Record for WSRA)	Naturalness and the opportunity for solitude and a primitive, unconfined recreation experience is maintained within WSAs. (USDI 2000, 1:138; USDI 1995, 10)	
	A variety of boat-in, drive-in, and walk-in recreation experiences are provided, including motorized and non-motorized boating on specific segments, and wheelchair accessible opportunities in developed sites. (USDI 2000, 1:137)	Within the river corridor, low-density dispersed recreation occurs in semi-primitive sections (Segment 2 and a portion of Segment 3). (USDI 2000, 1:137)	Within the river corridor, medium-density developed recreation is concentrated in roaded natural and rural areas (Segment 3). (USDI 2000, 1:137)
		Opportunity for a non-motorized boating experience year-round. (USDI 2001, 32)	Opportunity for a seasonal non-motorized boating experience (May 1 through October 1) and a seasonal motorized boating experience (October 2 through April 30). Electric motors up to 40 lbs. thrust permitted year-round. (USDI 2001, 32)
			A variety of recreational opportunities are available at multiple river access points. Overnight and day use activities occur at both developed and undeveloped sites. (LAC)

<b><u>II. B.</u></b>	<b><u>1. In General</u></b>	<b><u>2. Segment 2</u></b>	<b><u>3. Segment 3</u></b>
<b><u>Within the River Corridor</u></b>			
<b>Social Recreation Opportunity</b>	Opportunity to boat unhindered by man-made structures (dams, weirs, etc.). (WSRA)		
	The river offers 1 to 5 day whitewater boating opportunities. (Congressional Record for WSRA)	Opportunity to experience a continuous float trip for 5 or more days. (LAC)	Opportunity to experience a single day boating trip or an overnight trip up to four days in length. (LAC)
<b>Challenge</b>	Experience emphasizes self-reliance, where the boater must plan ahead, carry proper equipment, be prepared and possess the knowledge to safely carry out their trip and deal with their own emergencies. At least one member of the group is able to meet the above requirements and qualifications. (LAC)	The opportunity exists for a high level of risk and challenge. A sense of adventure is important. Users recognize and accept that contact with emergency services may be difficult and self reliance is emphasized. (LAC)	The opportunity exists for a moderate level of risk and challenge. Visitors desire an escape from their daily routine. (LAC)
<b>Encounters</b>	Encounters along the river may include other boaters, landowners, agency staff, or recreation users near access points. (LAC)	Boaters experience few encounters with other humans not in their group. (LAC)	Boaters experience a moderate number of encounters with other humans not in their group, however opportunities for solitude remain. (LAC)
<b>Aircraft</b>		The opportunity for solitude and a primitive, unconfined recreation experience within WSAs will not be negatively impacted by the sight, sound or smell of aircraft. (LAC)	

<b><u>II. C.</u></b>	<b><u>1. In General</u></b>	<b><u>2. Segment 2</u></b>	<b><u>3. Segment 3</u></b>
<b><u>Within the River Corridor</u></b>			
Managerial Facility development	Except at developed recreation sites, visitors camp in settings with no conveniences or facilities (such as outhouses or picnic tables). (LAC)		
Use Levels	BLM will not seek out advertising opportunities or media coverage that is intended to bring more users to the John Day River. (USDI 2000, 1:146)		
User Education and Responsibilities	Recreation users, permittees and BLM employees are knowledgeable of and responsible for: practicing Leave No Trace outdoor skills; respecting private property rights; controlling the spread and transport of noxious weed seed, and complying with current fire regulations. (USDI 2000, 1-146)		
	Owners of riding and pack stock brought in from outside the John Day Basin are encouraged to feed weed free feed or pellets when traveling within the river corridor, and at least four days prior to entering the river corridor. (LAC)		
Finances	BLM will be financially capable of administering a recreation management program for the river and if necessary will require the user to share in the cost of management. Fees collected from users shall be expended in compliance with the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act or the current fee bill. (LAC)		

<b>II. C.</b>	<b><u>1. In General</u></b>	<b><u>2. Segment 2</u></b>	<b><u>3. Segment 3</u></b>
<b><u>Within the River Corridor</u></b>			
Managerial Access		Downstream boaters put-in at Clarno and take-out at Cottonwood, and commit to the entire 70-mile trip. <sup>1</sup> (LAC)	Boaters put-in at multiple put-in and take-out points, with many options for single and multi-day trips, including upstream travel by electric motor year-round and by gas motor seasonally. (USDI 2001, 32; LAC)
Motorized & mechanized Use		Motorized or mechanized use is limited to designated routes; the creation of new motorized or mechanized routes and off-road use does not occur. (USDI 1986, 24; LAC)	Motorized or mechanized use is limited to designated routes; the creation of new motorized or mechanized routes and off-road use does not occur. (LAC)
Roads		Existing roads and primitive access routes are rarely visible from the river or from campsites; new roads will not be visible from the river or from campsites. (LAC)	Existing roads are occasionally visible from the river. New roads visible from the river or from campsites are strongly discouraged, however if allowed, will be totally screened by natural topography. (Oregon Scenic Waterway Rules; LAC)
Livestock Grazing		Livestock normally will not be encountered within river riparian areas on public land after May 1 <sup>st</sup> of each calendar year. (ROD, Appendix L)	Livestock normally will not be encountered within river riparian areas on public land after May 15 <sup>th</sup> of each calendar year. (ROD, Appendix L)

<sup>1</sup> We are managing to preserve the rare opportunity for a 70 mile float trip, and want to discourage chopping the trip into shorter segments. Many options for shorter trips occur in Segment 3.

<b><u>II. D.</u></b>	<b><u>1. In General</u></b>	<b><u>2. Segment 2</u></b>	<b><u>3. Segment 3</u></b>
<b><u>On the Water</u></b>			
<b>For Physical - See "In the River Corridor" above</b>			
Social Recreation Opportunity		Area provides widespread and very prevalent opportunities to see, hear, or smell the natural resources; the presence of other groups is expected infrequently. (LAC)	Area provides frequent opportunities to see, hear or smell the natural resources; contact with other groups is expected and occasionally continual, but some opportunities for solitude remain. (LAC)
Motorized & mechanized Use		The lack of motorized and mechanized uses is evident. The opportunity to experience solitude on the water will not be degraded by motorized or mechanized intrusions. (LAC)	Motorized vehicles are occasionally seen or heard. (LAC)
Roads		Primitive access routes are rarely visible from the river; new roads will not be visible from the river. (State Scenic Waterway Rules, USDI 2000, 1:201-204; LAC)	Existing roads are occasionally visible from the river. New roads visible from the river are strongly discouraged, however if allowed, will be totally screened by natural topography. (State Scenic Waterway Rules, USDI 2000, 1:201-204; LAC)
Encounters		Encounters with others is infrequent; crowding is minimal. (LAC)	During peak season, encounters with others is expected on the river and at fishing holes. (LAC)

<u>II. E.</u>	<u>1. In General</u>	<u>2. Segment 2</u>	<u>3. Segment 3</u>
<u>On the water</u>			
Managerial Intrusions		Man-made intrusions (including but not limited to roads, vehicles, fences, utilities, agricultural amenities, guzzlers, constructed trails, administrative study plots and enclosures, plant nurseries) are <b>seldom</b> encountered except in the vicinity of Clarno, Juniper Island, Butte Creek, and Thirtymile Creek. (LAC)	Man-made intrusions (including but not limited to roads, vehicles, fences, utilities, agricultural amenities, guzzlers, constructed trails, administrative study plots and enclosures, plant nurseries) are <b>occasionally</b> encountered, except in the vicinity of Service Creek, Twickenham, Priest Hole, Burnt Ranch, Black Rock, and Clarno, where they are <b>common</b> . (LAC)
River Fords	Historical river fords on BLM land are available for historical uses, provided vehicle access to each side of the ford is via designated routes. The total number of river fords will not exceed historical levels. (LAC)		
Signs	Use of signing is minimized, and may include resource protection, regulatory and warning signs on the river or in camp; natural-colored campsite markers will be frequently encountered. (LAC)		
Rapids	At Homestead, Russo, Burnt Ranch, Clarno, and Basalt Rapids, space is available to pull watercraft to shore and scout rapid. (LAC)		

<b><u>II. F.</u></b>	<b><u>1. In General</u></b>	<b><u>2. Segment 2</u></b>	<b><u>3. Segment 3</u></b>
<b><u>At Boat-in Campsites</u></b>			
<b>Physical Campsite Location</b>	The location of campsites is expected to change over time as influenced by natural conditions including floods, wildfire, river morphology and human influences such as camper preference and rehabilitation projects. (LAC)		
Campsite Condition	Campsites are primarily in a natural condition (as existed in the late 20 <sup>th</sup> century) where signs of recent human use are minimal, where evidence of litter and human waste is not encountered. (LAC)		
Basic elements	A visible central gathering area, social trails to established tent sites, a single access trail from river to camp are desirable. (LAC)		
Level of development	Boat-in campsites are largely natural and undeveloped with an absence of developed facilities, firerings, trenching, campcraft furniture, rock-lined trails and other made-made intrusions. Braided access trails from river to camp do not occur. (LAC)		
Trees	In existing campsites and potential campsites that naturally support the growth of trees, multiple, healthy, multi-aged trees provide shade, windbreaks, privacy screening, visual quality and a focal point for campsites. Existing trees are preserved and protected, new tree damage does not occur, and new tree growth is encouraged where damage or loss has occurred. Prescribed fire and weed treatments do not contribute to tree mortality in designated campsites. (LAC)		

<b><u>II.G.</u></b>	<b><u>1. In General</u></b>	<b><u>2. Segment 2</u></b>	<b><u>3. Segment 3</u></b>
<b><u>At Boat-in Campsites</u></b>			
<b>Social Recreation Opportunity</b>	Nature is the dominate experience. The area provides opportunities to see, hear or smell the natural resources. (LAC)	Area provides widespread and very prevalent opportunities to see, hear, or smell the natural resources. (LAC)	Area provides frequent opportunities to see, hear or smell the natural resources. (LAC)
Campsite Quality	Human sights and sounds from adjacent campsites are not distracting and do not detract from the sights and sounds of nature. (LAC)	Campsites are dispersed; visitors at adjacent campsites may be seen, but are usually not heard. Adjacent camps may be visible, but are far enough away to maintain a feeling of privacy; activities carried out by individuals in other camps cannot be identified and do not interfere with the user's experience. (LAC)	Campsites are dispersed; visitors at adjacent campsites may be seen or heard. (LAC)
Motorized & mechanized Use		The opportunity to experience solitude in camp will not be degraded by motorized or mechanized intrusions. (LAC)	Motorized vehicles are seldom seen or heard from camp. (LAC)

<b><u>II. H.</u></b>	<b><u>1. In General</u></b>	<b><u>2. Segment 2</u></b>	<b><u>3. Segment 3</u></b>
<b><u>At Boat-in Campsites</u></b>			
<b>Managerial Availability of campsites</b>	Boat-in campsites on BLM land are sufficient to accommodate the number of overnight boating groups. Boating groups are not expected to camp at developed recreation sites. It is not necessary to rush ahead to claim a campsite, nor share a campsite with another group. Camping on private land does not occur without permission of the landowner. <sup>2</sup> (LAC)		
<b>Number of campsites</b>	The number of designated campsites remains fairly constant, except that the number may increase with acquisition of property or easements through purchase or exchange which contain areas with campsite potential. (LAC) <sup>3</sup>		
<b>Campsite elements</b>	A designated campsite will offer: clean surroundings, a safe landing area, easy access from the river, flat ground measuring at least 500 square feet, a campsite free of human waste, firerings, or man-made alterations. (LAC)		

<sup>2</sup> To achieve a quality camping experience boaters will not be expected to share campsites, rush ahead to claim a camp, boat for many miles or hours longer than desired in search of a camp, share camping areas with vehicles, or trespass.

<sup>3</sup> In an emergency situation (flood, fire, insect infestations, health and safety concerns, etc.) the number of available designated campsites may be reduced.

<u>II. H.</u>	<u>1. In General</u>	<u>2. Segment 2</u>	<u>3. Segment 3</u>
<u>At Boat-in Campsites</u>			
Managerial Intrusions	New intrusions to designated campsites from private land will be discouraged. (LAC)	Man-made intrusions (including but not limited to roads, vehicles, fences, utilities, agricultural amenities, guzzlers, constructed trails, administrative study plots and enclosures, plant nurseries) are <b>seldom</b> encountered. (LAC)	Man-made intrusions (including but not limited to roads, vehicles, fences, utilities, agricultural amenities, guzzlers, constructed trails, administrative study plots and enclosures, plant nurseries) are <b>occasionally</b> encountered. (LAC)
Signing	Use of signing will be minimized, and may include resource protection, regulatory and warning signs on the river or in camp; natural-colored campsite markers will be frequently encountered. (LAC)		
Campsite Rehabilitation	Site hardening conducted by BLM will blend with the natural landscape, using native materials where visible, and blend with the native vegetation. (LAC)		
Livestock Grazing	In areas where livestock have been excluded by management, campsites will be free of cattle and cow manure. In areas without livestock exclusions, signs of cattle grazing may be present but will not create an excessive conflict. (LAC)		

<b><u>II. I.</u></b>	<b><u>1. In General</u></b>		
<b><u>At Developed Recreation Sites</u></b>		Shaded areas intentionally left blank	
<b>Physical</b>	<p>Future development of recreational facilities is limited to existing developed areas (recreation nodes) and new areas that replace sites closed for resource protection. (USDI 2000, 1:137)</p> <p>In developed recreation sites, VRM Class III objectives apply: The existing character of the landscape is partially retained. Changes in any of the basic elements caused by a management activity are evident, but should remain subordinate to the existing landscape and should not dominate the view of the casual observer. Changes should be moderate and repeat the basic elements found in the predominant natural features of the landscape. (USDI 2000, 2:285)</p> <p>At Service Creek, Clarno, and Cottonwood Recreation Sites and Twickenham Bridge, development will be prevalent and common, yet the setting has a pastoral sense.<sup>4</sup></p> <p>At Priest hole, Burnt Ranch, and Lower Burnt Ranch Recreation Sites and Clarno Travel Management Area, natural features are predominant on the landscape, and the presence of development is occasional or infrequent.<sup>5</sup></p>		

<sup>4</sup> Surrounding area will include some development and natural resource modifications (paved roads, bridges, traffic, residences, commercial businesses, high visitation), however the setting will have a pastoral sense because of an interspersing of water resources, hills, valleys, canyons, wetlands, open spaces, and agricultural land uses.

<sup>5</sup> The lands surrounding these Rec Sites is less developed (dirt roads, fences, agricultural amenities) than Group One and the intention is to continue this distinction.

<b><u>II. I.</u></b>	<b><u>1. In General</u></b>		
<b><u>At Developed Recreation Sites</u></b>		Shaded areas intentionally left blank	
<b>Social</b>	<p>Service Creek, Clarno, and Cottonwood Recreation Sites and Twickenham Bridge, provide occasional or periodic opportunities to see, hear, or smell the natural resources.<sup>6</sup> Encounters with others (recreationists, local residents, highway users) is expected and tolerated, as is some crowding. Moderate wait times at boat ramps are expected during the peak season. Priest hole, Burnt Ranch, and Lower Burnt Ranch Recreation Sites and Clarno Travel Management Area provide frequent opportunities to see, hear, or smell the natural resources; moments of solitude, tranquility, and nature appreciation are important.<sup>7</sup></p>		
<b>Managerial</b>	<p>Recreation management is prevalent and common (e.g., personnel, rules, facilities, signs). User conflicts are minimized. Parking occurs in designated parking areas only. Boat ramp workings are organized, efficient, predictable and operate smoothly. During the primary boating season, boat ramps will be used for watercraft launching and landing only. Boat staging may be confined to designated areas.</p>		

<sup>6</sup> because development, human activity, and natural resource modifications are present (paved roads, bridges, traffic, residences, commercial businesses, high visitation).

<sup>7</sup> Due to the remote setting of the Group 2 sites, highway users and local residents are rarely present, hence visitors are primarily recreationists and visitation is lower. The more natural physical setting results in a more natural social experience.

## Definitions

**Camp Structures:** Camp structures within the campsite perimeter including but not limited to pits, corrals, fences, furniture, toilets, user-improved trails, and trenching.

### **Campsites:**

#### **Inventoried Campsite:**

An area indicating evidence of camping use between 1998 and 2004, as documented in BLM campsite inventories.

#### **Restored Campsite:**

A historical campsite temporarily made unusable by weed infestation, tree damage, soil erosion, or other factors, but later restored to a usable condition.

#### **Legal Campsite:**

An area used for camping that is: 1a) located on BLM land, b) located on State land below the ordinary high water mark or on State-owned uplands, or c) located on private land where public use has been secured by BLM through a formal agreement with the landowner; and 2) where the site or area is not specifically closed to overnight use.

#### **Designated Campsite:**

A designated boat-in campsite is a *legal* campsite, which has been either *inventoried* or *restored* where:

- 1) physical campsite conditions accommodate camping use without deterioration from one year to the next (as measured through LAC monitoring in indexed sites of human impacts to: riparian vegetation, tree condition, and camp area. See LAC Monitoring Plan for specifics);
- 2) campsite use does not detract from the opportunity for solitude of adjacent campsite users (meets Camp to Camp Solitude standards for minimum distance between camps, p.37);
- 3) usable flat ground within the campsite perimeter measures at least 500 square feet;
- 4) vehicle use is not the primary form of campsite access.

#### **Indexed Campsite:**

A campsite in which intensive monitoring is conducted by BLM at least annually.

**Designated Route:** A road or trail signed as open for motor vehicle travel as defined in the Two Rivers RMP, John Day River Plan, or subsequent management plans or Federal Register Notices. (Commonly found in WSAs and Clarno Travel Management Area)

**Desired Future Condition (DFC):** A description of physical, social, and managerial attributes which together define the desired character of the river corridor.

**Developed Recreation Site:** A site specifically managed for recreation use which contains at least one or more of the following facilities: a boat ramp, boater registration station, fee station, picnic tables, parking area, toilet, campfire grates, or interpretive signs.

**Encounter:** An encounter occurs when a member(s) of one boating group sees a member(s) of another boating group of any size.

**Encounters Per Day:** Equals the number of boating groups seen per day; each group is counted only once. Multiple encounters with the same boating group on the same day equals one encounter.

**Man-Made Intrusions:** From a campsite, man-made intrusions visible outside the campsite perimeter (at any distance) including but not limited to roads, vehicles, structures, ranches, farms, irrigation equipment, administrative study plots, plant nurseries, power lines, utilities, fences, guzzlers, constructed trails, presence of livestock, and evidence of aircraft landings.

**Managerial Attributes:** Characteristics of a recreational setting which are controlled by managers including campgrounds, rules and regulations, signing, educational programs, special use permits, and fees and charges.

**Monitoring Cycle:** Monitoring each designated campsite in Segment 2 and 3 one time. A monitoring cycle will be completed every two years, and annually if budgets allow.

**Physical Attributes:** Characteristics of a recreational setting including natural features such as water quality and vegetation, and built structures of a permanent nature such as transmission lines.

**Primitive and Unconfined Recreation:** Non-motorized, non-mechanized and undeveloped types of outdoor recreation activities.

**Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS):** A system developed by the USFS to define the existing setting in which recreation occurs.

**Recreation Opportunity Spectrum for Rivers:** A system developed by the USFS to define the existing setting in which recreation occurs, refined for use in a river setting

**Social Attributes:** Characteristics of a recreational setting including the type and number of recreation users, visitor expectations, vehicles, aircraft, and adjacent private land uses.

**Solitude:** Minimal contact with people outside one's own group (CRMP, pg.181); the state of being alone or remote from habitation; a lonely, unfrequented or secluded place. (BLM IMP)

## References

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- 2006 Airport Facilities Data Report 5010. Online:  
[http://www.faa.gov/airports\\_airtraffic/airports/airport\\_safety/airportdata\\_5010/](http://www.faa.gov/airports_airtraffic/airports/airport_safety/airportdata_5010/)

### USDA, Forest Service

- 2003 "Recreation Opportunity Spectrum for River Management." Diedrich. Portland, OR.

### USDI, Bureau of Land Management

- 1984 BLM Manual H-8400, Visual Resource Management Manual.
- 1986 Two Rivers Resource Management Plan, Record of Decision, Rangeland Program Summary (RPS). Prineville District, BLM. Prineville, OR.
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- 2000 John Day River Proposed Management Plan, Two Rivers and John Day Resource Management Plan Amendments and Final Environmental Impact Statement. Prineville District, BLM. Prineville, OR.
- 2001 Record of Decision, John Day River Management Plan, Two Rivers, John Day, and Baker Resource Management Plan Amendments. Prineville District, BLM. Prineville, OR.

### USDI, National Park Service

- 2005 Colorado River Management Plan Final Environmental Impact Statement. Grand Canyon National Park. Grand Canyon, Arizona.

## **Indicators, Standards, Monitoring Methods, and Possible Management Actions**

The desired future condition (DFC) for the John Day River corridor from Service Creek to Cottonwood Bridge has been carefully documented in the preceding pages of this document (pp.1-26). The remaining pages (pp.28-39) describe the monitoring system that will be used to measure the condition of the river corridor at any point in time, so that current conditions may be compared with desired conditions.

Eleven physical, social, and managerial indicators have been selected for field monitoring into the future. These indicators were selected based on their relevance in measuring the identified DFC, their repeatability and consistency in a field monitoring setting, and their cost effectiveness. Each indicator will be measured individually, as each correlates with a portion of the identified DFC, each has a minimum standard, and each has possible management actions to be implemented should actual conditions not meet the desired minimum standard. Some management actions may require further NEPA analysis prior to implementation.

In addition, the measure of all eleven indicators may be considered collectively to provide “the pulse” of the desired future condition of the river at any time. BLM believes that when considered collectively, these indicators will provide a barometer to measure whether desired future conditions are being met.

## **Physical Indicators, Standards, Monitoring Methods and Possible Management Actions**

*Note: In an emergency situation, managers may take actions which have not been addressed in this LAC Plan or may implement actions in a different order than that established within this Plan.*

### **Trees**

**DFC:** In existing campsites and potential campsites that naturally support the growth of trees, multiple, healthy, multi-aged trees will provide shade, windbreaks, privacy screening, visual quality and a focal point for campsites. Existing trees will be preserved and protected, new tree damage will not occur, and new tree growth will be encouraged where damage or loss has occurred.

**Indicator:** Annual incidents of tree removal and tree damage in designated campsites

**Standard:** A) In designated campsites, no new trees removed by woodcutting devices.

B) 80% of indexed campsites show no deterioration in tree damage impact indices over the initial two monitoring cycles (compared with an average of 2003-5 data). Each subsequent monitoring cycle, the percent of indexed campsites showing no deterioration in tree damage impact indices from the previous monitoring cycle increases by at least 1% per until it reaches 90% or more.

**Monitoring Method:** A) Count incidents of new trees removed by woodcutting devices within the perimeter of the designated campsites.  
B) Count incidents of new trees removed by woodcutting devices within the perimeter of indexed campsites

**Monitoring Frequency:** Annually in indexed campsites. Every other year in designated campsites, minimum, and annually if budget allows.

### **Possible Management Actions** (implementation may require further NEPA analysis):

- 1 – Inform users on importance of trees; post educational material at launch points
- 1 - Increase law enforcement patrols
- 1 - Review proposed actions to make sure trees in existing and potential campsites are protected, including fuel and weed treatments
- 1 - Monitor existing and potential campsites for existence of naturally occurring tree regeneration
- 1 - Encourage natural sprouts in campsites where damage has occurred by fencing, signing and watering
- 1 - Encourage natural sprouts in potential campsites by fencing, signing and watering
- 1 - Recruit volunteers (individuals and groups) to assist with tree restoration
- 1 - Memorialize at-risk trees
- 2 - Require all firewood be brought from outside sources when fires are allowed
- 2 – Permit firewood concessions at launch points
- 2 - Ban woodcutting and splitting devices
- 2 - Extend the season of the fire closure
- 3 - Implement a year-round fire closure

**Livestock Grazing:**

**DFC:** In areas where livestock have been excluded by management, campsites will be free of cattle and cow manure. In areas without livestock exclusions, signs of cattle grazing may be present but will not create a conflict with recreation use. At designated campsites where livestock use creates a conflict as documented in LAC monitoring, grazing will be excluded. Any campsite closed to recreation use for recovery will also be closed to grazing. (USDI 2001, 11)

**Indicator:** A) Evidence of cattle in designated campsites (dried manure, grazing, entrenched cattle trails, established bedding grounds, highlined trees, evidence of grazed vegetation, and exposed roots).

B) Presence of fresh cow manure in designated campsites.

**Standard Inside of Enclosures:** A) Inside of enclosures – Each designated campsite will not exceed a resource impact score of 1.0 for evidence of cattle or fresh manure.

B) No fresh cow manure present

**Standard Outside of Enclosures:** Each designated campsite will not exceed a resource impact score of 2.0 for evidence of cattle or fresh manure for more than two consecutive monitoring cycles (2 to 4 years).

**Monitoring method:** Score cattle impacts.

**Monitoring Frequency:** Annually in indexed campsites. Every other year in designated campsites, minimum, and annually if budget allows.

**Possible Management Actions** (implementation may require further NEPA analysis):

- 1 – Review grazing lease with range specialist to ensure that lease stipulations are met; re-check compliance with lease stipulations following one grazing cycle
- 1 – Review campsite conditions on site with interdisciplinary team and make recommendations to Field Office Manager
- 2 - Alter season of livestock use, area of use, number of animals, method of controlling livestock, duration of use, or some combination of the above
- 3 – Exclude livestock grazing in that portion of the pasture

## **Cleanliness**

### **Firerings**

**DFC:** Campsites are largely undeveloped and free of firerings. Campfires, when permitted, are completely contained in a metal firepan and all ashes are carried out of the canyon and disposed of properly.

**Indicator:** Presence of firerings or ashes in designated campsites

**Standard:** A) 80% of designated campsites show no new firerings or ashes, per monitoring cycle.

B) Each subsequent monitoring cycle, the percent of designated campsites showing no new firerings or ashes will increase by at least 3% until it reaches 90% or more.

**Monitoring Method:** Count of firerings or ashes within a designated campsite.

**Monitoring Frequency:** Annually in indexed campsites. Every other year in designated campsites, minimum, and annually if budget allows.

**Possible Management Actions** (implementation may require further NEPA analysis):

- 1 - Expand education program to target off-season users
- 1 - Increase law enforcement patrols
- 1 - Permit a firepan concession at launch points
- 2 - Require all firewood be brought from outside sources when fires are allowed
- 2 - Require mandatory on-line Leave No Trace training for trip leader
- 2 - Ban woodcutting and splitting devices
- 2 - Extend the season of the fire closure
- 3 - Implement a year-round fire closure

## **Litter**

**DFC:** River corridor is free of litter.

**Indicator:** Volume of litter present within the perimeter of designated campsites, excluding the contents of a firering which is measured under Firerings.

**Standard:** A) 80% of designated campsites contain no more than 1 liter of trash per campsite, per monitoring cycle.

B) Each subsequent monitoring cycle, the number of designated campsites showing no more than 1 liter of trash will increase by at least 3% until it reaches 90% or more.

C) After two monitoring cycles (2 to 4 years), the 5% of designated campsites showing the greatest volume of litter will be evaluated for methods to correct the problem and bring them into compliance with the standard. (See possible management actions labeled “B” below.)

**Monitoring Method:** Measure volume of litter in designated campsites.

**Monitoring Frequency:** Annually in indexed campsites. Every other year in designated campsites, minimum, and annually if budget allows.

**Possible Management Actions:** (implementation may require further NEPA analysis):

1 - Hand out trash bags to boaters at launch points

1 - Hand out trash bags to boaters in camp

1 - Increase law enforcement patrols

2 - Require mandatory on-line Leave No Trace training for trip leader

2 - Increased law enforcement presence

1B - If possible, identify the offending user(s) and attempt to change their behavior

1B - Where motorized access originates on or passes through private land, contact the associated landowner and outline steps to correct the litter problem

2B - Where motorized access originates on or passes through private land, install a gate to help the landowner control access to the high-litter site

3B - Where motorized access originates on or passes through private land, limit access to administrative use only

4B - Where motorized access originates on or passes through private land, obliterate the BLM portion of the road

## **Human Waste**

**DFC:** Evidence of human waste is not encountered within the river corridor.

**Indicator:** Evidence of human waste or associated toilet paper at designated campsites.

**Standard:** A) 80% of designated campsites show no human waste or associated toilet paper, per monitoring cycle.

B) Each subsequent monitoring cycle, the number of designated campsites showing no evidence of human waste or associated toilet paper will increase by at least 4-5% per monitoring cycle until it reaches 95% or better.

**Monitoring Method:** Observe presence of human waste or associated toilet paper in designated campsites.

**Monitoring Frequency:** Annually in indexed campsites. Every other year in designated campsites, minimum, and annually if budget allows.

**Possible Management Actions** (implementation may require further NEPA analysis): :

- 1 - Expand education program and target off-season users
- 1 - Increase law enforcement patrols
- 1 - Permit a river toilet concession at launch points
- 2 - Require mandatory on-line Leave No Trace training for trip leader
- 2 - Require day users to carry and use a portable toilet

## **Camp Structures**

***Camp Structures:*** *Camp structures within the campsite perimeter that are of obvious human construction, including but not limited to barbeque pits (for underground cooking purposes), corrals, fences, semi-permanent toilets, and user-improved trails (lined with rocks or limbs). Also included is furniture constructed of materials that have been imported to the site, such as benches or tables constructed of milled lumber.*

*Not included are logs, rocks, or flotsam that has been arranged for seating. While undesirable, these items will not be counted as camp structures, but will be removed from camp by river rangers.*

**DFC:** Designated campsites are undeveloped, and free of camp structures.

**Indicator:** Number of camp structures within the perimeter of designated campsites.

**Standard:** 90% of designated campsites show no camp structures per monitoring cycle.

**Monitoring Method:** Observe number and type of camp structures in designated campsites.

**Monitoring Frequency:** Annually in indexed campsites. Every other year in designated campsites, minimum, and annually if budget allows.

**Possible Management Actions:** (implementation may require further NEPA analysis):

- 1 - Expand education program and target off-season users
- 1 - Increase law enforcement patrols
- 2 - Require mandatory on-line Leave No Trace training for trip leader

## **Man-Made Intrusions Outside of Camp**

***Man-Made Intrusions:*** *Man-made intrusions outside the campsite perimeter including but not limited to roads, vehicles, structures, ranches, farms, irrigation equipment, administrative study plots, plant nurseries, power lines, utilities, fences, guzzlers, constructed trails, presence of livestock, and evidence of aircraft landings.*

**DFC for Segment 2:** Man-made intrusions are seldom encountered except in the vicinity of Clarno, Butte Creek, Thirtymile Creek, and Cottonwood.

**DFC for Segment 3:** Man-made intrusions are seldom encountered except on public lands at developed recreation sites, and on private lands in the vicinity of Service Creek, Keys Ranch, Twickenham, Burnt Ranch, Cherry Creek and River Mile 109 to 119 near Clarno, where they may be common.

**Indicator:** Number and type of man-made intrusions within sight, sound or smell of a quality campsite perimeter.

**Standard:** For designated campsites, no new intrusions will be permitted on BLM land, except where a NEPA analysis has determined that an intrusion would result in a net improvement in the camping experience. No new unauthorized intrusions will be permitted on private land.

**Monitoring Method:** Observe number of intrusions within sight, sound, or smell of quality campsites.

**Monitoring Frequency:** Annually in indexed campsites. Every other year in designated campsites, minimum, and annually if budget allows.

### **Possible Management Actions** (implementation may require further NEPA analysis):

- 1 - On BLM land, projects proposed in the vicinity of campsites will consider how to best protect the campsite DFC from the sights, sounds and smells of man-made intrusions.
- 1 - Work within the Oregon Scenic Waterway Program to protect the scenic quality of the river corridor; remain actively involved with the state to visit, review and comment on project proposals
- 1- Encourage local counties to protect the scenic qualities of the river corridor
- 1- To protect the river corridor from further development, pursue acquisition of private land from a willing seller

## Social Indicators and Standards

### Boating Encounters

**Encounter:** *An encounter occurs when a member(s) of one boating group sees a member(s) of another boating group of any size.*

**Encounters Per Day:** *Equals the number of boating groups seen per day; each group is counted only once. Multiple encounters with the same boating group on the same day equals one encounter.*

**Segment 2 DFC:** Boaters experience few encounters with other boaters not in their group. Encounters with others is infrequent; crowding is minimal.

**Segment 3 DFC:** Boaters experience a moderate number of encounters with other boaters not in their group. Contact with other groups is expected and occasionally continual, however opportunities for solitude remain. During peak season, encounters with others is expected on the river and at fishing holes.

**Indicator:** Encounters per day with other boating groups outside of developed recreation sites. Includes encounters on the river, river to bank, bank to river.

**Segment 2 Standard:** Boaters experience no more than 5 encounters per day with other boating groups. In Segment 2, it is estimated that boaters will encounter approximately 50% of the boating groups that share their launch segment and launch date.

**Segment 3 Standard:** Boaters experience no more than 10 encounters per day with other boating groups. In Segment 3, it is estimated that boaters will encounter approximately 35% of the boating groups that share their launch segment and launch date.

Segment	Launch Point	Proposed total launches per day (includes overnight launches and day-use launches)	Proposed maximum overnight launches per day	Proposed minimum launches per day reserved for day-use	Estimated rate at which boaters encounter other boating groups sharing their launch segment and launch date	Estimated encounters per day with other boating groups
2	Clarno	7	7	0	50%	3.5
3	Muleshoe or Service Creek	28	5	10	35%	9.8
3	Twickenham, Priest Hole, or Lower Burnt Ranch		13			

**Monitoring Method:** River rangers and other BLM employees floating the river keep a count of their encounters per day. At take-outs, BLM staff conduct a survey of boating groups, asking boaters to report the number of

boating groups they encountered on the first day of their trip. The responses are recorded and compared with daily launch data to verify the rate at which boaters encounter other boating groups sharing their launch segment and launch date.

**Monitoring Frequency:** Staff record their encounters whenever float trips occur. At a minimum, 20 days per season, emphasizing both peak and shoulder boating seasons.

**Possible Management Actions** (implementation may require further NEPA analysis):

- 1 – Implement Special Recreation Permit fee for individual use of Wild & Scenic River special area (as per 43 CFR, Ch. II, §2932, 10-1-05 Edition)
- 1 – Implement limited entry permit system for time period in which standard is exceeded

## **Camp to Camp Solitude**

***Solitude:** Minimal contact with people outside one's own group; the state of being alone or remote from habitation; a lonely, unfrequented or secluded place.*

**Segment 2 DFC:** Human sights and sounds from adjacent campsites are not distracting and do not detract from the sights and sounds of nature. Campsites are dispersed; visitors at adjacent campsites may be seen, but are usually not heard. Adjacent camps may be visible, but are far enough away to maintain a feeling of privacy; activities carried out by individuals in other camps cannot be identified and do not interfere with the user's experience.

**Segment 3 DFC:** Human sights and sounds from adjacent campsites are not distracting and do not detract from the sights and sounds of nature. Campsites are dispersed; visitors at adjacent campsites may be seen or heard.

**Indicator:** The opportunity for solitude in a designated campsite.

**Segment 2 Standard:** The minimum distance between designated campsites is 300 feet.

**Segment 3 Standard:** The minimum distance between designated campsites is 175 feet.

**Monitoring Method:** Use GIS to measure the linear distance between camps, measuring from the core of each camp.

**Monitoring Frequency:** Measure all designated campsites to establish baseline data. Measure any new campsites being considered for possible inclusion as designated campsites.

**Possible Management Actions** (implementation may require further NEPA analysis):

- 1- Encourage boaters to select a camp outside of the sight and sound of another occupied campsite
- 1- Review the list of designated campsites and remove those not meeting the standard
- 1- Discourage use of campsites not meeting the standard
- 1- Plant trees to provide additional screening between campsites
- 1- Review legal campsites (at least every 3 years) meeting the standard for possible inclusion as designated campsites. Add to the list of designated campsites new legal campsites that meet the standard.

*Note: When new lands or recreational easements are acquired along the river, potential campsites will be reviewed for compliance with available campsite criteria.*

## Managerial Indicators and Standards

### Campsite Access

**Segment 2 DFC:** Downstream boaters put-in at Clarno and take-out at Cottonwood, and commit to the entire 70-mile trip. Motorized or mechanized use is limited to designated routes; the creation of new motorized or mechanized routes and off-road use does not occur. The opportunity to experience solitude in camp is not degraded by motorized or mechanized intrusions.

**Segment 3 DFC:** Motorized or mechanized use is limited to designated routes; the creation of new motorized or mechanized routes and off-road use does not occur. The opportunity to experience solitude in camp is not degraded by motorized or mechanized intrusions.

**Indicator:** From a designated campsite, evidence of non-river access into the river canyon showing repeated use, including roads, fords, trails, aircraft landings or other access.

**Standard:** In designated campsites, no increase in the number of access routes seen or heard, and a decrease in the evidence of aircraft landings.

**Monitoring Method:** Observe and record the residual evidence from repeated non-river access.

**Monitoring Frequency:** Annually in indexed campsites. Every other year in quality campsites, minimum, and annually if budget allows.

**Possible Management Actions:** (implementation may require further NEPA analysis):

- 1 - Work proactively within the Oregon Scenic Waterway Program to protect the scenery of the river corridor; remain actively involved with the state to visit, review and comment on project proposals.
- 1 - Where access is unauthorized, identify the offending user(s) and attempt to change their behavior.
- 1 - Where unauthorized motorized access originates on or passes through private land, contact the associated landowner and outline steps to correct the problem.
- 2 - Where unauthorized motorized access originates on or passes through private land, install a gate to help the landowner control access to the river canyon.
- 3 - Where unauthorized motorized access originates on or passes through private land, limit access to administrative use only.
- 4 - Where unauthorized motorized access originates on or passes through private land, obliterate the BLM portion of the road.

### **Campsite Availability**

**DFC:** Designated boat-in campsites on BLM land are sufficient to accommodate the number of overnight boating groups. Boating groups are not expected to camp at developed recreation sites. It is not necessary to rush ahead to claim a campsite, nor share a campsite with another group. Camping on private land does not occur without permission of the landowner.

**Indicator:** Number of overnight boating groups launching per day from a given launch point.

**Standard:** The number of overnight boating groups launching per day from a given launch point does not exceed 70% of the designated campsites within the first 15 miles of Segment 3 launch points, and the first 15 miles of Segment 2 launch points.

Segment	Launch Point	Public Land campsites available within 15 miles	Public Land campsites available based on 70% occupancy rate	Average number of groups coming from upstream launch points	Proposed overnight launches per day
2	Clarno	10	7	<1	7
3	Muleshoe or Service Creek	7	5	<1	5
3	Twickenham, Priest Hole, or Lower Burnt Ranch	23	16	3	13

**Monitoring Method:** Boater registration data is compared to designated campsite numbers and locations; river ranger field observations.

**Monitoring Frequency:** Boater registration data is tabulated annually; river ranger field observations occur whenever float trips occur.

**Possible Management Actions** (implementation may require further NEPA analysis):

- 1 – Implement Special Recreation Permit fee for individual use of Wild & Scenic River special area (as per 43 CFR, Ch. II, §2932, 10-1-05 Edition)
- 1 – Implement limited entry permit system for time period in which standard is exceeded
- 1- Attempt to acquire recreational easements in strategic locations where a shortage of public land campsites exists

*Note: In emergency situations (flood, fire, insect infestations, health and safety concerns, etc.) the number of available designated campsites may decrease, which may result in a reduction in permitted launches in a limited entry permit system. Conversely, the number of designated campsites may increase as a result of land acquisition, recreational easement, or campsite rehabilitation, which may result in an increase in launches in a limited entry permit system.*