

# CHAPTER 4 EXISTING MANAGEMENT DIRECTION



*When BLM specialists identify problems that require management action they turn to Resource Management Plans (RMPs) and a few other key documents for guidance. The following Resource Management Plans provide specific direction for management of public lands within the John Day Basin:*

*John Day Resource Management Plan, published by the Burns District BLM in 1985.  
Two Rivers Resource Management Plan, published by the Prineville District BLM in 1986.  
Baker Resource Management Plan, published by the Vale District BLM in 1989.*

*Each of these plans has been amended by the John Day River Management Plan, 2001 developed by the Prineville District BLM. This plan provided updated direction for land management within river corridors in the John Day basin and serves as the congressionally required Wild and Scenic River Plan for the designated Wild and Scenic Rivers within the basin.*

*The John Day Resource Management Plan was also amended by Land Tenure Adjustment: Proposed Plan Amendment and Finding of No Significant Impact for the John Day Resource Management Plan (USDI-BLM, 1995). This document implemented a three zone land tenure classification for lands within the John Day Planning area. This plan also proposed land exchanges that did not take place but were the precursor for the Oregon Land Exchange Act of 2000. This document also addressed paleontological resources by considering those resources when considering whether a parcel was suitable for either disposal or acquisition.*

## RESOURCE MANAGEMENT GUIDANCE FROM EXISTING PLANS AND OTHER SOURCES

The John Day, Two Rivers, and Baker Resource Management Plans set objectives and guidance for managing resources within the planning area. While the language of each plan is somewhat different it is remarkable that three plans, created by different staff from different districts created virtually identical guidance. The following summary of guidance in these plans will focus on the resource categories contained within each.

### SOILS

Each plan has the objective to manage soils to maintain productivity and minimize erosion. Most direction for soils is provided through forestland and range management.

### AIR

The John Day and Two Rivers plans focus on monitoring air quality. The Baker RMP does the same but also places emphasis on maintaining the Class II air classification assigned BLM managed lands under the Clean Air act, as amended (1977).

The Clean Air Act requires each state to develop, adopt and implement a State Implementation Plan to ensure that National Ambient Air Quality Standards are attained and maintained for the criteria pollutants. Federal agencies are required to ensure

that their actions conform to applicable State Implementation Plans. None of the BLM lands within the John Day Basin RMP Planning Area lie within Non-Attainment Areas. All federal land management activities currently comply with the Oregon State Implementation Plan.

## VEGETATION

The primary focus of the John Day, Two Rivers, and Baker Resource Management Plans is on grazing management. However important vegetation communities and habitats are also addressed.

Each plan acknowledges sites/situations where natural resource objectives would take precedence over livestock/commodity production. One example of this in the Two Rivers RMP is the Horn Butte Area a few miles south of the Columbia River where allotments are managed to “enhance habitat of the long billed curlew.” Similarly the Oregon Land Exchange Act of 2000 mandates the BLM to manage lands acquired within the North Fork of the John Day subwatershed . . . “primarily for the protection of native fish and wildlife habitat, and for public recreation.”

## LIVESTOCK GRAZING MANAGEMENT

The Standards for Rangeland Health and Guidelines for Livestock Management (BLM 1997) provides direction for assessing the condition of rangelands and adjusting the management of grazing when standards are not met. Because of the detailed work required and number of allotments about one half of the allotments in the John Day Basin remain to be assessed. See Appendix C and Map14 for additional information.

The assessments, used in Oregon, rate the functionality of the ecosystem based on five standards as described in the Standards for Rangeland Health and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management in Oregon and Washington:

When a standard is not met and significant progress towards meeting the standard is not occurring, an effort is made to identify if the causal factor is livestock grazing or another cause (Rangeland Health Standards Handbook H-4180-1, 2001).

If failure of a standard is due to current grazing practices and progress toward meeting the standard is not occurring, the BLM is required to take actions which will stop further damage and begin to improve conditions. This may require additional assessments or monitoring to determine a corrective solution along with NEPA analysis and a subsequent decision. The BLM is presently required to take action within 12 months after a determination is made (Grazing Regulations 4180.2.c.1.i).

The Northwest Power Planning Council completed the Strategy for Salmon (Collette and Harrison, 1992 a, b) to outline and guide salmon recovery efforts in the Northwest. In response to this strategy, BLM placed emphasis on completing allotment evaluations and adjusting grazing management for all grazing allotments in the John Day basin that would affect anadromous fisheries habitat. Priority was placed on grazing allotments containing substantial public land riparian areas, either on the John Day River or on important tributaries.

Twenty-one allotments have either an allotment management plan (AMP) or a coordinated resource management plan (CRMP) on them. This is a written management plan which directs how grazing will occur on an allotment and includes the timing of

livestock use, grazing intensity, grazing frequency, and grazing duration. These plans are fully coordinated with other resources such as wildlife so their needs have been considered. Allotments under a written management plan and those pastures under the John Day River Management Plan have adequate monitoring in place. All allotments and pastures which have habitat used by the Mid Columbia Steelhead and have a manageable amount of accessible public land will have riparian and channel studies in place. To date, about 60% of those pastures have existing studies. In addition, the John Day River Management Plan instituted grazing restrictions on portions of 52 allotments within the mainstem John Day WSR corridor, and 12 grazing allotments within the South Fork John Day WSR corridor.

Prior to the Oregon Land Exchange Act of 2000 grazing was authorized on the public lands in nine allotments along the North Fork of the John Day River. As a result of interim guidance most grazing has been eliminated on BLM managed lands adjacent to the North Fork John Day River.

## RANGELAND ASSESSMENTS

The BLM is required to conduct monitoring of all land-use plans. Plans shall establish intervals and standards for monitoring and evaluation of the plan to determine how well land use objectives are being met. Such intervals and standards shall be based on the sensitivity of the resource decisions involved (43 CFR 1610.4-9). To help comply with these monitoring requirements, the BLM in Oregon and Washington developed the Rangeland Monitoring in Oregon and Washington, August 1985; which the Prineville District adopted into the Districts Range Monitoring Plan. This document establishes minimum standards for monitoring grazing allotments in the three different selective management categories – Maintain, Improve, and Custodial (M, I, C).

The various techniques used for monitoring are described in a series of Interagency Technical References developed by the BLM, Forest Service, Natural Resource Conservation Service, and Cooperative Extension Service. Monitoring results show variations, depending on site potential and climate, but generally vegetation trends appear to be improving. This generalization has been validated through the Standards and Guides Assessments.

## INTERIOR COLUMBIA BASIN ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT (ICBEMP)

ICBEMP contains some strategic guidance related to grazing management. The first item provides criteria for classifying allotments into one of three selective management categories. The BLM categorizes allotments as Maintain (M), Improve (I), or Custodial (C) (See Appendix D). ICBEMP provided following criteria for the three categories.

### Maintain Category Criteria

1. Present range condition is satisfactory
2. There is moderate or high resource production potential and production is near potential or moving in that direction
3. No serious resource-use conflicts or controversy exist
4. Present management appears satisfactory
5. Other criteria appropriate to EIS area

Improve Category Criteria

1. Present range condition is unsatisfactory
2. There is moderate to high resource production potential, but currently producing at a low to moderate level
3. Serious resource-use conflicts or controversy exist
4. Present management appears unsatisfactory
5. Other criteria appropriate to EIS area

Custodial Category Criteria

1. Present range condition is not a factor
2. There is low resource production potential and current production is at or near potential
3. Limited resource-use conflicts or controversy may exist
4. Present management appears satisfactory or is the only logical practice under existing resource conditions
5. Other criteria appropriate to EIS area

## FOREST MANAGEMENT

The BLM is mandated by the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) to manage public lands under the principles of multiple use and sustained yield and without permanent impairment to the productivity of the land and the quality of the environment. Each of the three plans views forestland from a multiple use perspective. That is to provide for commodity production while protecting or even enhancing wildlife, fisheries, water quantity and quality, and recreation. As with rangeland where unique qualities exist, such as riparian areas, special status species concerns, or wilderness or other special designations management may be directed toward preserving those qualities. For example forest management may be an absence of management in the case of wilderness or management may be limited to enhancing forest health or other values in the case of Wild and Scenic Rivers.

Each plan identifies areas suitable for commercial forest use and provides similar standard operating procedures for forest practices.

*The John Day River Plan* amended the John Day and Baker RMPs for lands within Segments 10 and 11 (within South Fork John Day Wild and Scenic River boundary and within ¼ mile of the North Fork John Day River) by restricting timber removal to “when necessary to reduce the risk of catastrophic timber loss due to insect infestation, disease, wildfire, or when public safety is of concern).

For the newly acquired lands along the North Fork John Day River the Oregon Land Exchange Act of 2000 limited any forest management to actions that would protect native fish and wildlife habitat, and support public recreation.

## WOODLANDS

Each plan permits fuelwood and other minor forest product harvest.

## RIPARIAN VEGETATION

Each plan makes improvement of riparian vegetation a priority with a range of tools available to implement changes but primarily through grazing management. Key guidance is also provided by PACFISH. This guidance includes goals, objectives, standards and guidelines, and creates Riparian Habitat Conservation Areas. This plan covers the majority of the John Day Basin Planning area. Several watersheds in the Upper South Fork area are excluded due to natural barriers (Izee falls). The Riparian Management Objectives (RMOs) include criteria for pool frequency, water temperature, large wood, width/depth ratios, bank stability, and bank angle. Standards and guidelines are spelled out for proposed projects and activities including timber, roads, grazing, recreation, minerals, fire/fuels, lands, restoration activities and general riparian area management. Where Properly Functioning Conditions (BLM Technical Reference 1737-9) are present, PACFISH goals relative to grazing guidelines are being met (PACFISH Enclosure B, 1995).

PACFISH guidance is supplemented by A Framework for Incorporating The Aquatic and Riparian Habitat Component of the Interior Columbia Basin Strategy into BLM and Forest Service Plan Revisions (2004) (the Framework). The Framework directs the development of aquatic and riparian resource components for land management revision plans, including the John Day Basin Plan. Guidance from the Framework directs the major components required to replace the interim PACFISH RCAs, RMOs, and Standards and Guides.

The “Standards for Rangeland Health and Guidelines for Livestock Management” (BLM 1997) provides another source of guidance for managing riparian areas. Standard #2 requires that riparian-wetland areas are in properly functioning physical condition appropriate to soil, climate, and landform. Within the planning area, PFC assessments (BLM 1991) have been used as the indicator for this standard.

## SPECIAL STATUS PLANTS

The three RMPs do not address management of special status plants. Each, however includes a list of special status plants that could possibly be present in the planning area. An updated list is provided in Appendix A. BLM policy is to monitor and maintain or improve habitat for Threatened or Endangered Species during project planning and implementation. Proposed project areas are subject to botanical inventory for special status species prior to project initiation. Federally listed Threatened and Endangered plant species are not known to occur or suspected to occur within the planning area.

BLM policy (BLM Manual 6840) is to conserve the species and the ecosystems upon which they depend, ensure that all actions authorized, funded or carried out by BLM are in compliance with the ESA, cooperate with the USFWS in planning and providing for the recovery of listed species, retain in Federal ownership all habitat essential for the survival or recovery of any T&E species, and consult/confer with USFWS during development and implementation of management plans to conserve species and their habitats. The types of actions and level of interaction with USFWS are dependent on the status of the species in question.

For state listed species, BLM policy is to carry out management for the conservation of such species. State laws protecting these species apply to all BLM programs and actions to the extent they are consistent with FLPMA. The Oregon/Washington Special Status Species Policy, IM No. OR-91-57 (11/5/90, as amended by IM No. OR-91-57 change 1, issued 8/5/91) categorizes these species as either Bureau Sensitive or Assessment. Bureau Sensitive Species are protected, managed and conserved in the same manner as Candidate Species. Assessment species must be addressed in any planning or NEPA documentation and are protected when possible. For Bureau Sensitive Species, BLM is to work with the Oregon Department of Agriculture and the State Natural Heritage Program to determine which species should be designated as such. The minimal level of protection will be the level of protection provided to candidate species, which includes the following actions: considering these species in land use plans; developing plans, strategies and assessments to conserve these species and their habitats; ensuring BLM actions are consistent with objectives for managing these species; and monitoring to determine if objectives are being met.

## NOXIOUS WEED CONTROL

The John Day RMP is silent on the issue of weed control. The Two Rivers and Baker RMP recognize the need to address weed control but for the most part defer to regional and national guidance. Currently the BLM Prineville District operates under the noxious weed management protocols set forth in the District Environmental Assessment (EA) titled Prineville District *Integrated Weed Management* (EA# OR-053-3-062), which was based on and tiered to the following documents: *Vegetation Treatment on BLM Lands in Thirteen Western States FEIS and ROD* (1991); *Supplement to the Northwest Area Noxious Weed Control Program FEIS and ROD* (1987); and the *Integrated Noxious Weed Control; and the Northwest Noxious Weed Control FEIS* (1985) and *ROD* (1986). Weed prevention and control practices prescribed in the Prineville District EA includes a full spectrum of tools using integrated weed management concepts. The District weed management program contains four key components: detection, prevention, control, and rehabilitation. Detection is normally done using ground or remote sensing techniques. Prevention activities focus on public education and awareness as well as project design guidelines and mitigation measures. Control measures include manual, mechanical, chemical and biological methods. A more detailed description of the District's weed management program may be found in EA# OR-053-3-062, available at the Prineville District Office.

## FIRE MANAGEMENT

The three RMPs emphasize prevention and suppression of wildfire to protect public values. Prescribed fire may be used to achieve multiple use objectives. Use of Prescribed fire must be carried out in accordance with approved fire management plans and smoke management goals and objectives. The Baker RMP provides additional standard design features for fire management activity. In 2004 the Central Oregon Fire Management Service (COFMS) Fire Management Plan was developed to guide the coordination of fire management by the Prineville BLM, the Deschutes and Ochoco National Forests, and the Crooked River National Grassland.

Direction in the Central Oregon Fire Plan provides more specific guidance than provided by RMPs. The basic premise of the COFMP is to base suppression action on values of at risk classes. Classes 4 through 6 call for aggressive and immediate suppression. Classes 1 through 3 allow for more suppression options based on fire potential and availability of suppression resources to manage the values at risk in the wildland fire environment. WSAs require conditional fire suppression action. Wildland urban interface (WUI) areas are the top priority for fire suppression.

## FIRE AND FUELS

The Central Oregon Fire Plan (2002) identified Fire Management Units throughout Central Oregon that include BLM managed lands within the planning areas. These Fire Management units and associated information are used to determine fire risk and severity and in turn establish priorities for fuel treatments. Target fuel loads are determined on a case by case basis by the fuels specialist designing the fuel or vegetation treatment. Treatments are subject to interdisciplinary team review.

## FIRE SUPPRESSION

The actual suppression approach is to suppress all unplanned ignitions while allowing for the safety of the public and fire personnel, regardless of the risk class. This approach is a response to growing concern over sage grouse viability and habitat in the high desert, which generally is assigned lower risk class than forested areas. Cooperation with other state and federal agencies, as well as local fire protection organizations, is a key to fire suppression in the planning area and throughout Central Oregon. The Central Oregon Fire Plan identified Fire Management Units in order to prioritize fuels treatments and suppression response.

Each Fire Management Unit (Described in chapter 3) described in the Central Oregon Fire Management Plan identifies a set of variables that must be considered when managing fire and fuels. These variables include:

- Location
- Characteristics
- Strategic and Measurable Management Objectives Specific to the FMU
- Management Constraints or Criteria Affecting Operational Implementation
- Historical Fire Occurrence
- The Fire Management Situation
- Weather patterns influencing fire behavior and historical weather analysis
- Fire Season determination
- Fuels conditions in the FMU likely to influence fire behavior
- Fire regime alteration
- Control problems and dominant topographic features
- Other elements of the fire environment affecting management

There are no existing Wildland Fire Use (WFU) Plans within the Planning Area.

In addition to direction provided by the RMPs and the Central Oregon Fire Plan, all fire suppression activities are to be conducted under the guideline of the Interagency Standards for Fire and Fire Aviation Operations (“The Red Book”). (5.) These standards require safe fire suppression operations and provide the local line officer and incident commander the discretion of use the most appropriate suppression response.

## FIRE CLOSURES

The BLM has authority to impose temporary restrictions on public access to public lands in times of extreme fire danger. This authority is not frequently invoked, but when dry, volatile conditions exist, restricted access to public lands can prevent ignitions. The industrial fire precaution levels are designed to limit certain activities that can spark a fire. This applies only to industrial equipment use. Complete closure during periods of extreme burning conditions, at level III, allows no mechanized equipment at any time. Partial closure, level II, restricts the use of chainsaws, cable logging operations, or blasting during the active burning period in the afternoons.

The BLM currently closes BLM managed lands within ¼ mile of the mainstem, North Fork, and South Fork John Day Rivers to campfires from June 1 to October 1<sup>st</sup>.

## WATER QUALITY AND QUANTITY

Each plan seeks to improve water quality and quantity. *The John Day River Plan* amended the three RMPs by establishing interim instream flow goals for the federal water reserve right and specific actions for achieving the goals. Key guidance is provided under Clean Water Act and associated direction described in Chapter 2, Legal Mandates. Management of Water Quality and Quantity is largely indirect, by managing riparian and terrestrial vegetation, primarily through management direction for grazing, forest resources, travel management, and recreation.

## FISH

Each plan provides for the maintenance and restoration of aquatic habitat. The Northwest Power Planning Council's Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program generated the Columbia Basin System Planning Salmon and Steelhead Production Plan-John Day River Sub-basin (ODFW 1990). The John Day River Subbasin Plan and the Columbia River Anadromous Fish Restoration Plan (CRITFC 1996) established spring Chinook salmon and summer steelhead production goals and objectives for the John Day subbasin. Under the Wild Fish Management Policy (OAR 635-07-525), spring Chinook salmon and summer steelhead are managed exclusively for wild production (ODFW 1990). An amendment to the Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program, known as the Strategy for Salmon (Collette and Harrison, 1992 a, b), called on resource management entities to implement measures designed to rebuild Columbia Basin anadromous fish populations. Subsequent to the Strategy for Salmon, the BLM adopted "PACFISH" (USDA-FS and USDI-BLM 1995), which was designed to halt the degradation and promote restoration of riparian areas on federal lands.

PACFISH establishes an expectation of the characteristics of healthy, functioning watersheds, riparian areas, and associated fish habitats. The goals are to maintain or restore.

- 1) Water quality to a degree that provides for stable and productive riparian and aquatic ecosystems.
- 2) Stream channel integrity, channel processes, and the sediment regime (including the elements of timing, volume, and character of sediment input and transport) under which the riparian and aquatic ecosystem developed.
- 3) Instream flows to support healthy riparian and aquatic habitats, the stability and effective function of stream channels, and the ability to route flood discharges.
- 4) Natural timing and variability of the water table elevation in meadows and wetlands.
- 5) Diversity and productivity of native and desired non-native plant communities in riparian zones.
- 6) Riparian areas to:
  - A) Provide and amount and distribution of large woody debris characteristic of natural aquatic and riparian ecosystems.
  - B) Provide adequate summer and winter thermal regulation within the riparian and aquatic zones.
  - C) Help achieve rates of surface erosion, bank erosion, and channel migration characteristics of those under which the communities developed.
- 7) Riparian and aquatic habitats necessary to foster the unique genetic fish stocks that evolved within the specific geo-climatic region; and

- 8) Habitat to support populations of well-distributed native and desired non-native plant vertebrate, and invertebrate populations that contribute to the viability of riparian-dependent communities.

In February of 1998, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) proposed listing the Middle Columbia River (MCR) steelhead ESU population as Threatened, under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). In April of 1997, USFWS decided to propose listing bull trout under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). MCR steelhead were listed as threatened under the ESA on March 25, 1999 (64 FR 14517), and NMFS reaffirmed its threatened status on January 5, 2006 (71 FR 834). MCR steelhead critical habitat was designated on September 2, 2005 (70 FR 52630) and the designation became effective January 2, 2006. Two populations were included in the proposal, bull trout in the Columbia River Basin, and the Klamath River Basin. On June 10, 1997 the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service proposed listing the bull trout as Threatened. As a result of these proposals the BLM may not take any management actions that adversely affect or may contribute to the need to formally list these species.

## WILDLIFE

Existing management for wildlife habitat is described in the three RMPs, other supplemental coordinated RMPs, habitat management plans, environmental assessments, and the ESA. Benefiting wildlife is an important objective in the management of rangeland, forest and woodlands, and riparian areas in each of the management plans. Each contains list of actions to restore wildlife habitat. Habitat for Special status species and other locally important species are also addressed by each plan. *The John Day River Plan* amended each of the plans by phasing out irrigated, commercial agriculture from BLM lands adjacent to the river and its main branches and to use such lands to provide wildlife habitat, food and cover for wildlife, or to provide cottonwood stock for use in the restoration of riparian areas.

Within the river corridor and adjacent grazing pastures partially within the corridor *The John Day River Plan* also prohibits public land use by non-native and/or feral sheep, goats, and pigs and supports the removal of these species by the use of BLM regulations and/or cooperation and coordination with the Oregon Department of Agriculture, ODFW, and private landowners. *The John Day River Plan* also requires BLM lands within the river corridor to be managed to provide for wildlife species and habitat diversity. Crucial habitats are to be monitored for forage production, habitat condition changes, and overall effectiveness of improvements. Existing improvements that relate to wildlife habitat are to be maintained. Habitat management plans are to be written for selected areas of wildlife habitat and specific wildlife objectives would be included in all activity plans. Existing seasonal restrictions are to be applied to mitigate impacts of human activities on important seasonal wildlife habitat.

The RMPs provide the following guidance:

- 1) Improve and maintain vegetative condition to benefit wildlife.
- 2) Maintain all existing improvements and continue existing activity plans.
- 3) Manage upland habitat for diversity to provide for a variety of wildlife species.
- 4) Manage upland vegetation through grazing management and range/wildlife habitat development to achieve maximum wildlife habitat diversity.
- 5) Intensively manage commercial forestlands suitable for timber production while recognizing harvest restrictions or exclusions to protect wildlife and wildlife habitats.
- 6) Monitor, maintain, or improve habitat for threatened and endangered species.
- 7) Monitor, maintain, or improve winter range for deer and elk.

- 8) Utilize existing road systems and limit new permanent road entries to protect wildlife habitat.

Forage would be provided to meet ODFW management objective numbers for deer and elk. Additional forage may be allocated to livestock whenever present big game population objectives are exceeded.

Each of the plans provide for the development of Habitat Management Plans to protect selected species and areas.

Cooperative Mgmt Areas (CMAs) will continue to be developed with ODFW, WDW and/or other affected individuals and organizations.

## SPECIAL STATUS WILDLIFE

Each RMP recognizes the need to protect habitat inhabited by or potentially inhabited by any listed or considered for listing species. Each plan recognized the need to consult with the appropriate federal agency before taking an action that may affect any federally listed or candidate threatened or endangered species. See Appendix B for the list of Special Status Wildlife. Threatened and endangered and special status species habitat will continue to be monitored, maintained, and/or improved.

In order to protect California Bighorn Sheep *The John Day River Plan* modified the Two Rivers RMP by prohibiting grazing by domestic sheep.

## SAGE GROUSE MANAGEMENT

BLM developed a National Sage-grouse Habitat Conservation Strategy (National Sage-grouse Strategy) to guide future actions for conserving sage-grouse and associated sagebrush habitats and to enhance BLM's ongoing conservation efforts. BLM designed this National Sage-grouse Strategy around four main goals. Associated with each goal are specific strategies and actions that BLM will undertake to meet the goal. The four goals are:

- 1) Improve the effectiveness of the management framework for addressing conservation needs of sage-grouse on lands administered by the BLM.
- 2) Increase understanding of resource conditions in order to prioritize habitat maintenance and restoration.
- 3) Expand partnerships, available research and information that support effective management of sage-grouse habitat.
- 4) Ensure leadership and resources are adequate to continue ongoing conservation efforts and implement national and state-level sage-grouse habitat conservation strategies and/or plans.

## WILD HORSE AND BURRO MANAGEMENT

Wild horse and burro management occurs within designated herd management areas. There is one herd management area within the John Day Basin, the Murderer's Creek Herd Management Area and is identified in the John Day RMP. The 108,568 acre Herd Management Area is located adjacent to the South Fork John Day River on Forest Service, state, and private lands and 34,639 acres of BLM managed land. The herd size is managed to range from 50 to 140 animals and is administered by the Forest Service in cooperation with the BLM. Any horses and burros found on BLM managed lands in other locations within the planning area are considered to be trespass animals and removed.

## VISUAL RESOURCES

The BLM uses the Visual Resource Management (VRM) system to classify scenery and provide a framework for managing visual impacts of activities occurring on BLM-administered lands... Visual Resource Management (VRM) Classes specify desired objectives for retaining or enhancing visual quality.

VRM Class I is the most sensitive and is applied to areas having high scenic quality, or to Congressionally designated areas such as Wilderness areas and Wild and Scenic Rivers. A recent change in BLM policy also classifies all lands within Wilderness and Wilderness Study Areas (WSAs) as VRM Class I, which requires that natural processes dominate the landscape, allowing limited management activity, provided it does not attract attention. According to the BLM VRM Program Manual, VRM Class I management allows natural ecological changes and limited management activity. Any contrast created within the characteristic landscape must not attract attention. Wilderness Study Areas on the Lower John Day River are examples of VRM Class I public land.

VRM Class II management regarding changes in any of the basic landscape elements (form, line, color and texture) caused by a management activity should not be evident in the characteristic landscape. Contrasts are seen, but must not attract attention. Public lands along the Lower John Day River outside Wilderness Study Areas are examples of VRM Class II. All WSR segments, most non-designated segments, and portions of some tributaries are also classified as VRM Class II.

VRM Class III management allows contrasts to the basic elements caused by a management activity to be evident, but should remain subordinate to the existing landscape. Public lands in Rudio Creek and Miller Flat are examples of VRM Class III. These public lands are located on the north slopes of Rudio Mountain and can be seen from the Kimberly-Monument highway.

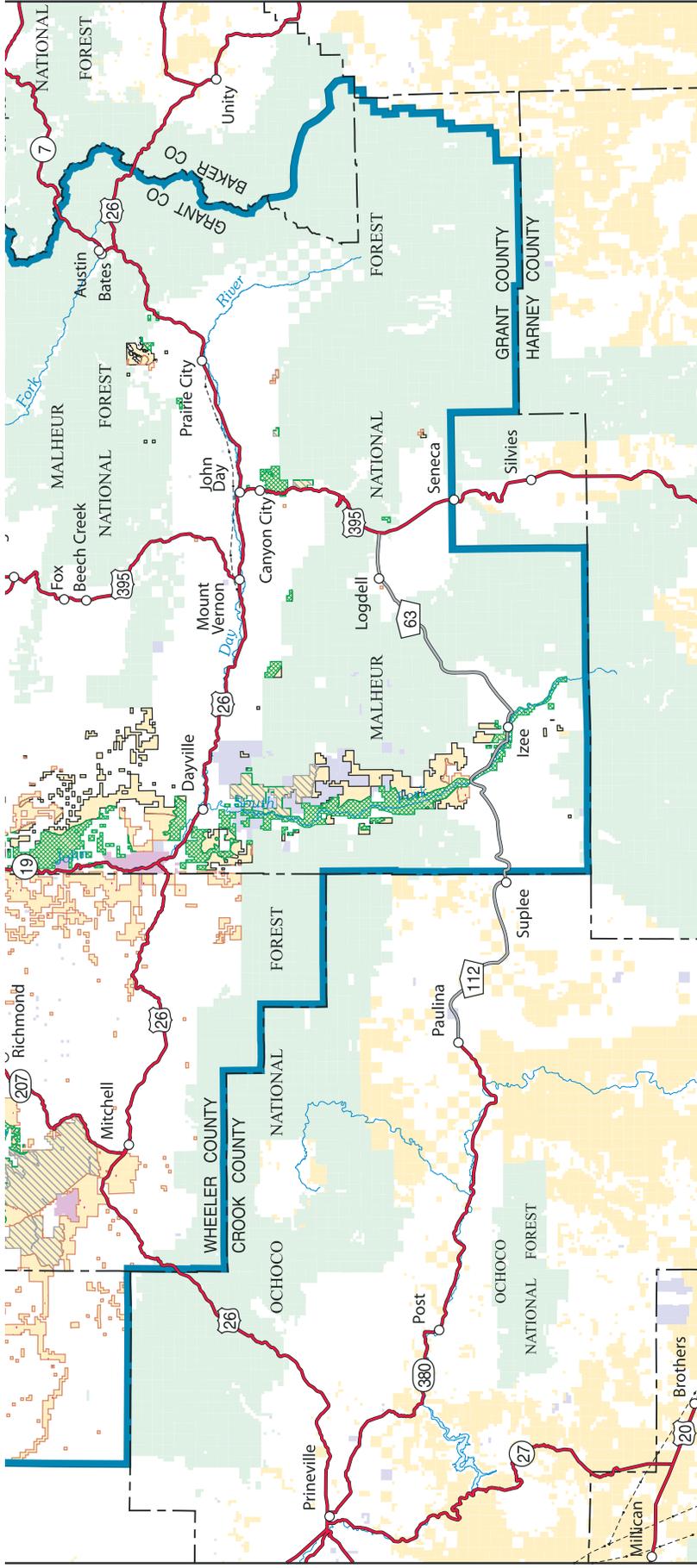
VRM Class IV is the least sensitive class and includes areas of low scenic quality and are not frequently seen by many public land users. Contrasts in the landscape attract attention and is a dominant feature in the landscape in terms of scale, but it should repeat the form, line, color and texture of the characteristic landscape. Public lands in the high plateaus of Rudio Mountain in the vicinity of Sunflower Flats and Timber Basin are examples of VRM Class IV and are seldom seen.

Each of the RMPs for the John Day Basin identified the VRM classifications are shown on Map 18. The acreage for each VRM class is listed in Table 17.

Visual Resource Management Class:	Approximate BLM Acreage Within Planning Area
VRM Class I (Highest Scenic Value)	97,00
VRM Class II	90,085
VRM Class III	217,926
VRM Class IV (Lowest Scenic Value)	49,572
Total:	454,429

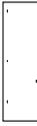
\* VRM classifications from Record of Decisions for the Two Rivers, John Day, and Baker RMP/EISs; interim BLM VRM classification for private lands acquired through the 2000 Oregon Land Exchange Act; and the 2001 BLM Record of Decision for the John Day River River Management Plan.





### LEGEND

#### Visual Resource Management on BLM Administered Land

-  Class 1: Highest Scenic Value
-  Class 2
-  Class 3
-  Class 4: Lowest Scenic Value

Utility Corridors

 Planning Area Boundary

#### Administered Land

-  Bureau of Land Management
-  Forest Service
-  John Day Fossil Beds National Monument
-  Other Federal
-  State
-  Private or Other

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
Bureau of Land Management



## PRINEVILLE DISTRICT

### John Day Basin Resource Management Plan

2006

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**Map 18: Visual Resource Management**

The Two Rivers, John Day, and Baker Resource Management Plans provide VRM management direction for projects on BLM public land. (Pg. 32, Two Rivers ROD, Pg. 49, Baker ROD, and page 54 of the John Day Final EIS).

“Before the BLM initiates or permits any major surface disturbing activities on public land, an analysis will be completed to determine adverse effects on visual qualities. Activities that will result in significant, long term adverse effects on the visual resources of the John Day or Deschutes River canyons in areas normally seen from these rivers will not be permitted.”

“Activities within other areas of high visual quality that may be seen might be permitted if they do not attract attention or leave long term visual changes on the land. Activities in other areas may change the landscape but will be designed to minimize any adverse effect on visual quality” (Pg. 32, June, 1986 Two Rivers ROD).

The North Fork of the John Day river canyon area contains approximately 42,183 acres of private land that was acquired in 2002 by the Prineville District BLM, as part of the Oregon Land Exchange Act of 2000. This acreage, in addition to approximately 10,520 acres of existing BLM public lands were tentatively classified by BLM as VRM Class III, until a final VRM classification is determined through the John Day Basin RMP/EIS.

## SPECIAL MANAGEMENT DESIGNATIONS

### WILD & SCENIC RIVERS

Management direction for BLM managed Wild and Scenic Rivers within the Planning Area is provided by the *John Day River Management Plan, Two Rivers, John Day, and Baker Resource Management Plan Amendments* (2001). This document provided for management of a full range of resources and activities within the boundaries of the following Wild and Scenic Rivers:

**Lower John Day River** (Tumwater Falls upstream to Service Creek)

**South Fork John Day River** (Smokey Creek upstream to the Malheur National Forest boundary)

Guidance for all resources focused on protecting and enhancing the Outstandingly Remarkable values for which the Wild and Scenic River Designation was applied to these rivers. This guidance is referred to in the resource and use discussions throughout this chapter.

### WILDERNESS

The “Interim Management Policy and Guidelines (IMP) for Lands Under Wilderness Review” (BLM 1995) provides guidance for managing lands under review by congress to determine wilderness suitability. This policy requires all lands within WSA boundaries be managed so as not to impair their suitability for wilderness designation. Certain activities conducted in WSAs before the passage of FLMPA are called “Grandfathered Uses”. These activities, which include grazing, mining and mineral leasing may continue in the same manner and degree as they occurred in 1976. Most non-motorized recreation activities are allowed, and users are encouraged to follow “Leave No Trace” principles. Motorized and mechanized travel, including trail and mountain bikes, is limited to either existing or designated roads and trails, and cross-county travel is prohibited. Standing trees may not be cut for either personal or commercial use. Any unauthorized activity which results in surface disturbance must be reclaimed as close to its natural condition as possible.

The Sutton Mountain Coordinated Resource Management Plan (USDI-BLM, 1996) provides management direction for the Bridge Creek area roughly between Highway 26 and the John Day River. Contained within this plan is direction for the management of the Sutton Mountain and Pat's Cabin Wilderness Study areas.

## CAVES

The RMPs are silent on management of caves. However, the Federal Cave Resources Protection Act of 1988 (FCRPA) requires federal agencies to identify and manage, to the extent practical, cave resources determined to be significant. Procedures for determining the significance of caves are found in 43 CFR Part 37. Significance is determined based on criteria for biotic, cultural, geologic, mineralogic, hydrologic, recreational, educational, or scientific values, features, or characteristics as defined in 36 CFR, Part 290.3 (c) and (d).

## CULTURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Each plan is consistent with national guidance by requiring cultural resource clearances on all projects requiring BLM approval or initiated by the BLM that include surface disturbance. Areas or sites eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places will be considered for nomination.

The Spanish Gulch Historic Mining District was designated as an ACEC's in the Two Rivers RMP (1986). In addition, the Fourmile Canyon and the John Day Crossing (McDonald Crossing) segments of the Oregon Trail were considered "special management areas" in the Two Rivers RMP. Both, the Fourmile Canyon segment of the Oregon Trail and Spanish Gulch Historic Mining District have been formally nominated to the National Register of Historic Places.

The Two Rivers and Baker RMPs specify that avoidance and mitigation are alternatives for enabling clearances when cultural resources are found at project locations. *The John Day River Plan* amended each of the RMPs by providing more detailed direction for the River corridors. This direction includes:

- Re-record known sites.
- Evaluate sites for appropriate BLM Use Categories/National Register eligibility.
- Conduct Class III inventory in areas of high probability and/or potential high use not previously inventoried and which are not necessarily associated with specific projects.
- Conduct limited site testing/salvage excavation, where appropriate.
- Apply appropriate rehabilitation/stabilization techniques to sites as needed.
- Develop and implement appropriate interpretive/public outreach/educational techniques.
- Pursue development of a more active role for tribal involvement (beyond that required by law) in any or all of the above (participating in the rehabilitation of a damaged site).
- Pursue development of partnerships with various internal and external entities to accomplish any or all of the above.

BLM activities must also be consistent with the laws, directives, and policies listed in Chapter 2.

## NATIVE AMERICAN USES

The John Day, Two Rivers, and Baker RMPs provide no specific direction for providing opportunities for traditional Native American Uses. The authorization for such uses may be found in treaties, laws, regulations, and Memoranda of Understanding between the BLM and tribal governments. The BLM 8120 Manual and Handbook H-8120-1 identify opportunities for consulting Tribes on traditional cultural uses of public lands and resources. Provisions for consultation prior to taking management actions are to ensure that opportunities to continue to practice traditional cultural activities are maintained.

## PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Management of Paleontological resources is a relatively new activity for the BLM. The John Day and Two Rivers RMPs are silent about paleontological resources. The 1995 John Day Land Tenure adjustment considered paleontological resources and excluded parcels with known resources from the Z-3 designation. *The John Day River Plan* ROD (2001), however, provides specific guidance for the management of paleontological resources within the river corridor which is consistent with recently published BLM 8270/H-8270-1 Manuals. The BLM manages significant fossil resources in the John Day region and beyond with technical assistance from the National Park Service, through an interagency agreement. This assistance is limited to the NPS scope of collection which covers fossils that are between 40 and 5 million years ago (mya).

The Baker Resource Management Plan and *The John Day River Plan* provide similar guidance for managing paleontological resources. The primary elements of paleontology resource management are identification, evaluation, protection and use. The BLM's main "objectives are to manage them for their scientific, educational and recreational values, and to mitigate adverse impacts to them". In addition, *The John Day River Plan* ROD specifically outlines additional actions for management purposes. These actions include conducting inventory and cyclic prospecting at all potential fossil-bearing localities, coordinate with the National Park Service and other outside entities to conduct appropriate scientific research, implement appropriate interpretive/public outreach/ educational techniques, and the development of partnerships with external entities to accomplish any or all of the above.

## RECREATION MANAGEMENT

Each RMP has an objective that opportunities for recreation should be maintained and protected. The Baker RMP designated public lands adjacent to the North Fork John Day as an Extensive Recreation Management Area that is regionally and locally significant. The Two Rivers RMP provides recreation guidance for off road vehicle use and provides for the collection mineral resources by rockhounds. One objective of the John Day Plan is to "keep public lands and roads open for a variety of recreational uses ..."

### DEVELOPED AND DISPERSED RECREATION

The Baker RMP provides the following specific guidance:

- Limit camping to a 14-day stay.
- Inventory recreation resources.
- Develop recreation facilities on identified key parcels of public land.

The John Day RMP provided the following guidance, “The Recreational ... resources will be evaluated as a part of activity and project planning. Dispersed recreational activities will continue commensurate with demand. Developed recreation sites where low public use levels and/or deteriorated facility conditions do not justify the expenditure of additional maintenance funds will be closed or maintenance transferred to other entities.

*The John Day River Plan* Amended all three RMPs by allowing the improvement or upgrading of developed sites within river corridors but limiting new sites to a single campground near the Ellingson Mill site on the South Fork John Day River.

*The John Day River Plan* amended each RMP by allowing for the rehabilitation or closure of dispersed sites if necessary. This plan also amended the Two Rivers RMP by converting a small portion of an agricultural field near river mile 101 to perennial vegetation in order to open sites for dispersed camping.

*The John Day River Plan* Amended the Two Rivers RMP by initiating monitoring for a Limits of Acceptable Change (LAC) study on the Lower John Day River to determine acceptable levels of camping and boating downstream from Service Creek. *The John Day River Plan* also amended each of the RMPs by proposing the utilization of an LAC study for other segments of the river when needed to address recreation management issues.

## BOATING USE ALLOCATION

*The John Day River Plan* amended the Two Rivers RMP by proposing interim daily launch targets until the LAC study determines appropriate boating use levels. Until the LAC study is completed individuals and groups would be requested to utilize off peak periods to float the river and mandatory no impact camping, equipment restrictions, party size limits, and use fees would be imposed. Under the River plan if it is determined that launch limits are necessary to keep boating levels under the limits of acceptable change then a Common Pool system of boating permit allocation would be utilized. This system would require commercial users to apply for permits to boat the river in the same manner as private, non-commercial users. The system is based upon a system developed for the Deschutes River and if it is determined that the system on the Deschutes does not work then a different, split allocations system (in which commercial and noncommercial boater have separate pools of permits to draw from) would be implemented.

## MOTORIZED BOATING

*The John Day River Plan* amended the Two Rivers RMP by prohibiting use of personal watercraft upstream of Tumwater Falls, permitting seasonal motorized boating between Tumwater Falls and Cottonwood Bridge, and closing the river between Service Creek and Clarno to motorized boating between May 1 and October 1 except use of one 40 pound thrust electric motor per boat may be used during this period. The River Plan also amended the John Day RMP by closing the South Fork John Day to motorized boating.

## MOTORIZED RECREATION

BLM-managed lands are designated as either “Open,” “Limited,” or “Closed” to motorized use through all BLM Resource Management Planning efforts. These designations are defined by the BLM’s National OHV Strategy (2000) as:

Open: The BLM designates areas as “open” for intensive Off-Road Vehicle (ORV) use where there are no compelling resource protection needs, user conflicts, or public safety issues to warrant limiting cross-country travel.

Limited: The agency designates areas as “limited” where it must restrict ORV use in order to meet specific resource management objectives. These limitations may include: restricting the number or types of vehicles; limiting the time or season of use; permitted or licensed use only; limiting use to existing roads and trails; and limiting use to designated roads and trails. The BLM may place other limitations, as necessary, to protect resources, particularly in areas that motorized OHV enthusiasts use intensely or where they participate in competitive events.

It is important to note that many acres of public lands designated open, limited to designated roads and trails, or limited to designated roads may not be available to the general public because access is dependent upon permission granted by an adjacent landowner.

Closed: The BLM designates areas as “closed” if closure to all vehicular use is necessary to protect resources, ensure visitor safety, or reduce use conflicts. These designations are incorporated in the BLM’s 8340 Manual (issued May 25, 1982) which provides land managers with general guidance in managing ORVs on public lands.

Due to identification of WSAs and consequent changes in guidance for motorized use since the RMPs were completed RMP guidance concerning open, closed and limited no longer reflects on the ground management.

## SPECIAL RECREATION PERMITS

The three RMPs are silent on Special Recreation Permits (SRPs) except as amended by the John Day River Plan. Existing BLM policy includes the following criteria for issuing Special Recreation Permits:

- Type of public service to be provided by the permittee or applicant and consistency with management goals and objectives.
- Ability of that person to provide the service and make a business profit
- Safety of commercial customers.
- BLM workload in administering and monitoring permits.
- Other ramifications of that decision.

Generals decisions to issue SRPs are on a case by case basis. However in 2002, the Prineville District limited the availability of new SRPs for commercial, competitive, and organized group use on public lands within the district boundary. New SRP proposals will be considered for authorization for activities or events not exceeding seven consecutive days in length annually which do not require preparation of an environmental assessment.

In addition to this change the John Day River Plan amended the three RMPs by including specific requirements John Day River commercial permits and requiring a needs assessment prior to the authorization of a concession permit.

## TRANSPORTATION

The *John Day*, *Two Rivers*, and *Baker RMPs* are virtually silent on the concept of transportation. The *John Day RMP* does acknowledge that keeping roads open “for

a variety of recreational purposes” is an objective. Each of the plans contains best management practices for roads created to facilitate timber harvest. The John Day River Plan identifies both roads to remain open and roads to be closed to protect and enhance Outstandingly Remarkable values associated with the Wild and Scenic River Designation. It also identifies some roads for maintenance.

## REALTY

Within the planning area BLM's Realty and Ownership program consists of two major components.

The first is land tenure adjustments, such as acquisition of fee title or interests in private lands (through purchase or exchange) and the disposal of fee title or interests in public lands (through sale, grant, or exchange).

The second component provides various public and private entities with permission to use public lands for: 1) Right-of-Way (ROW) authorizations for pipelines, electric transmission lines, roads, communications sites, etc; and 2) use and development of public lands through easements, permits, and leases. See Map 19 for display of land tenure zones and major utility rights-of-way.

## LAND TENURE

Each plan provides for managing lands for public benefit and each reflects guidance provided by the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976. The John Day and Two Rivers RMPs have a 3 zone system for determining whether and how to retain or dispose public lands (The John Day Plan was amended in February 1995 to adopt a 3 zone system.) The first zone, Z-1, are those lands that should be retained because they are high value either due to special qualities or because they are an integral part of a block of public land that as a whole provides a public benefit. The second zone, Z-2, identifies lands that provide public benefit but may be exchanged for lands that provide equal or greater public benefits. The final zone, Z-3, identifies lands that do not provide substantial benefit and therefore are suitable for disposal via sale, exchange, or other mandated means of disposal. Typically these lands are relatively small, isolated parcels, frequently without public or administrative access.

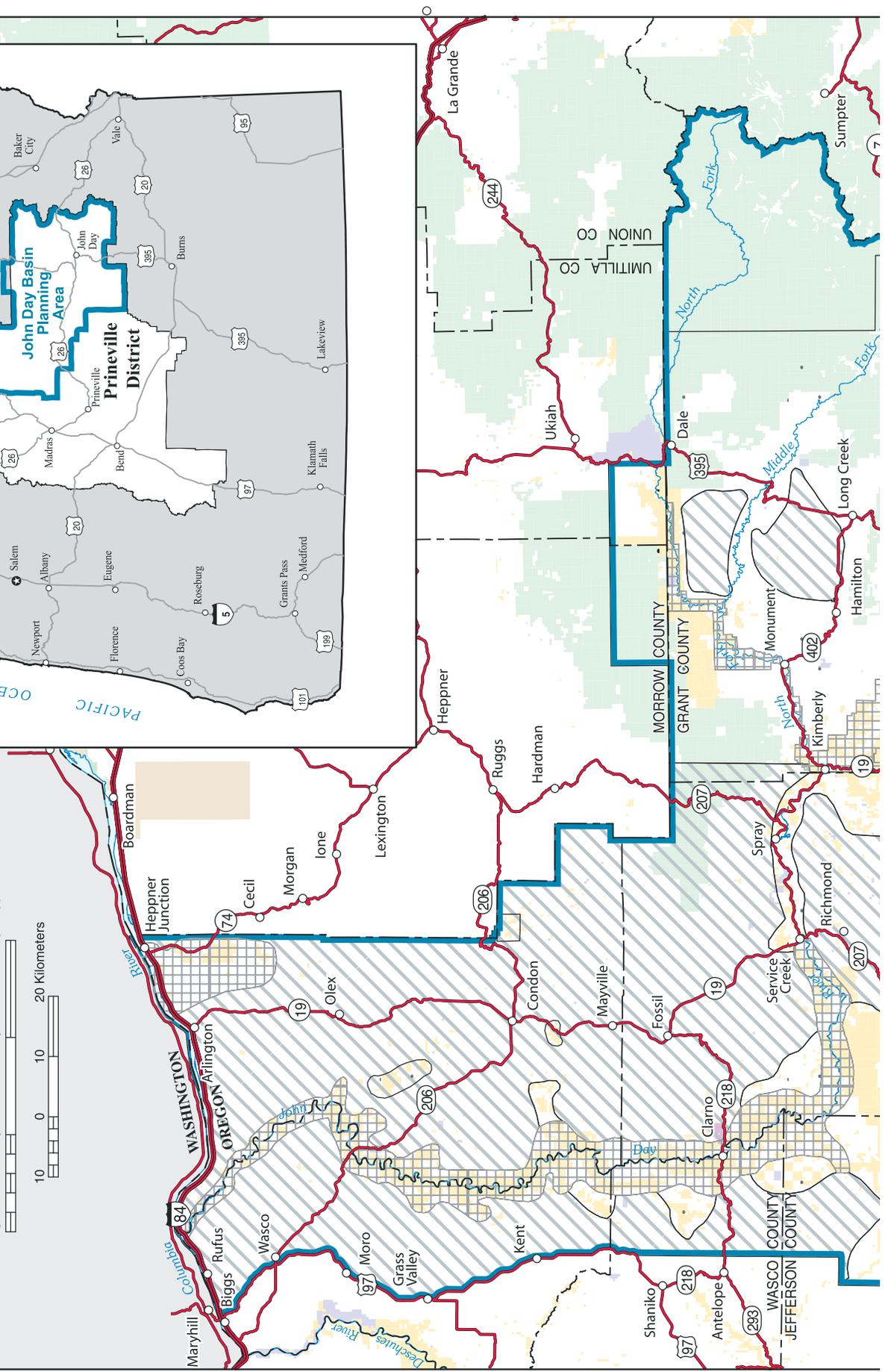
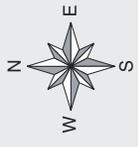
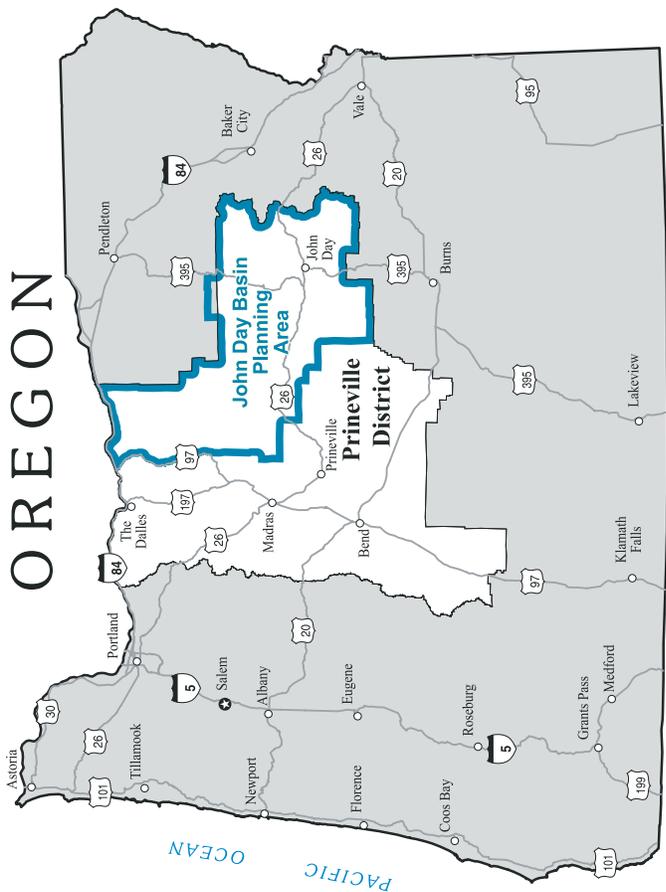
The Baker RMP accomplishes the same ability to make land tenure adjustments through a two zone system by combining the elements of Z-1 and Z-2 into a single, Z-1, category. This category recognizes that lands with higher public values, including special management areas, will be retained while other lands within this category are be retained except under specific conditions that serve an important public objective.

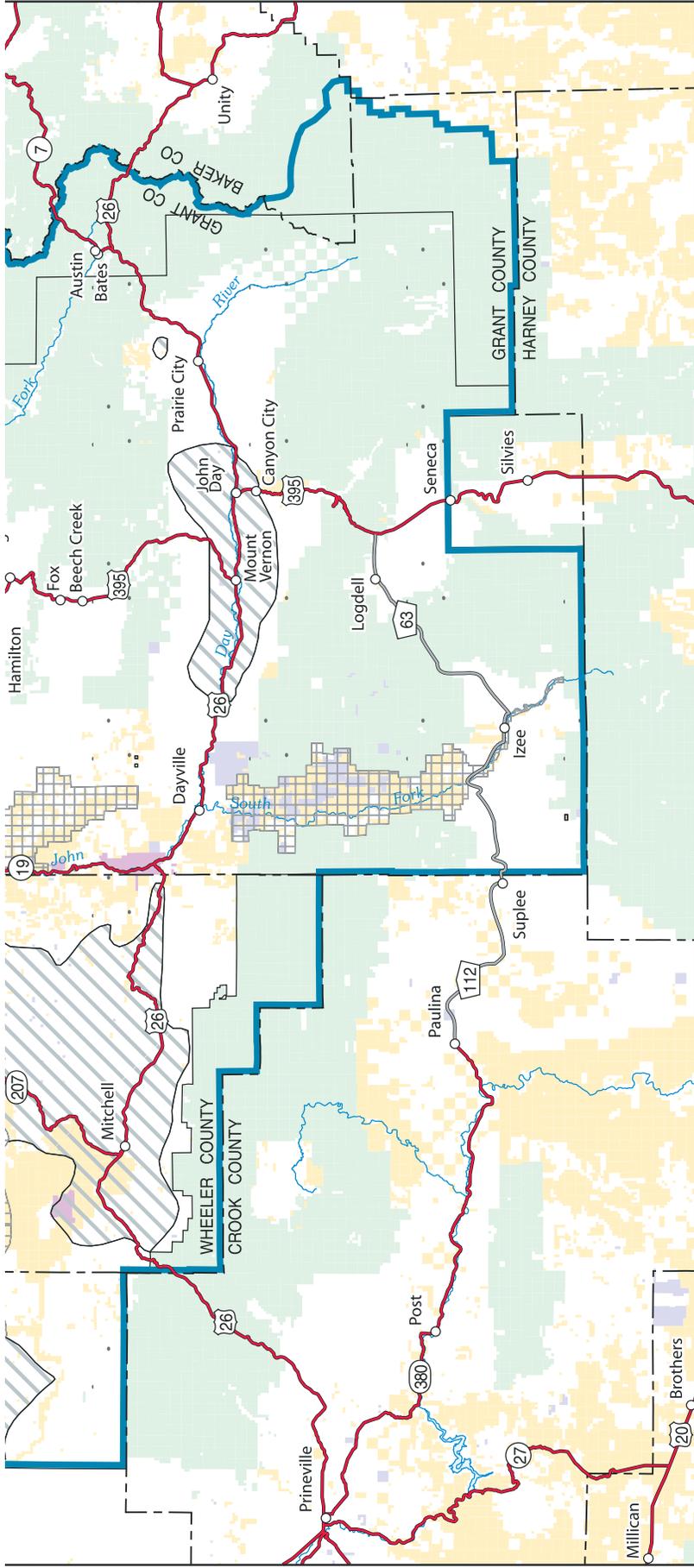
Z-2 category in the Baker RMP provides essentially the same guidance as the Z-3 category under the John Day and Two Rivers RMP. The Baker Plan provides more specific criteria for acquisition of lands than either the John Day or Two rivers plans.

## EASEMENTS AND RIGHTS-OF-WAY

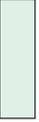
Each RMP has designated all utility/transportation corridors identified by the Western Utility Group in May 1980. ACECs and WSAs are considered exclusion areas for new rights-of-way. Baker RMP lists steps and information required for application and consideration of new rights-of-way while the John Day and Two Rivers plans do not. BLM regulations however, do require a process and certain information so the omission from

# OREGON





### LEGEND

- Past Resource Management Plan Zone Coding**
-  Zone 1: Classified for Retention
  -  Zone 2: Classified for Retention with Option to Exchange
  -  Zone 2 (Baker District): May be Retained, Exchanged, or Sold
  -  Zone 3: Classified for Disposal
- Administered Land**
-  Bureau of Land Management
  -  Forest Service
  -  John Day Fossil Beds National Monument
  -  Other Federal
  -  State
  -  Private or Other
- Past Resource Management Plan Zone Coding**
-  Planning Area Boundary

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## PRINEVILLE DISTRICT John Day Basin Resource Management Plan

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**Map 19: Land Tenure Classification**

these plans does not mean a lesser standard for consideration of rights-of-way than the Baker RMP. Both the Baker and Two Rivers RMPs require that existing developed routes be the first consideration for new rights-of-way. The John Day plan provides more general direction that new rights-of-way be “consistent with the plan.”

Revised Statute (RS) 2477, included in the 1866 Mining Law, was intended to assist settlement of the West by granting rights-of-ways on public lands. While RS 2477 was repealed in 1976, existing claims were grandfathered. RS 2477 right-of-way claims are not subject to BLM determinations of validity per the January 22<sup>nd</sup> 1997 court decision of Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance vs. Bureau of Land Management. However this decision emphasized that the ruling “does not mean that the BLM is forbidden from determining the validity of RS 2477 rights of way for its own purposes.” In addition, the state or county bears the initial burden of providing appropriate evidence that the claimed right-of-way was properly accepted in accordance with governing state law principles prior to 1976. Basically, any state or county road improvements on roads with legal RS 2477 rights of ways are acceptable. Any proposed road improvements, beyond maintenance, on disputed RS 2477 claims must be validated, and the proof must be presented by the claimant.

In 1976, the State of Oregon, acting through its Fish and Wildlife Commission, acquired a public access easement through private lands owned by the Louisiana-Pacific Corporation on the North Fork of the John Day River. This easement covered a logging road which parallels the north side of the North Fork of the John Day River, from its junction with State Highway 395, downriver to its junction with the Grant County Wrightman Canyon Road (County Road 15) (Easement of Way, State of Oregon and Louisiana-Pacific Corporation, 1976). Private landowners have provided easements for 2.5 miles of road to the state of Oregon between Camas creek and Wrightman Canyon Road.” BLM maintains approximately 15.35 miles of BLM road and one mile of ODFW road along this stretch of the North Fork John Day River (See 13: North Fork John Day Transportation). Maintenance of roads crossing private property is based on informal agreements with landowners. As a new land manager in the North Fork area the BLM agreed to accept the land it received with the easement as an encumbrance over that land.

## LEASES AND PERMITS AND THE RECREATION AND PUBLIC PURPOSES ACT

Leases and permits are issued for purposes such as a commercial filming, advertising displays, croplands, apiaries, livestock holding or feeding areas not related to grazing permits and leases, harvesting of native or introduced species, temporary or permanent facilities for commercial purposes (does not include mining claims), residential occupancy, ski resorts, construction equipment storage sites, assembly yards, oil rig stacking sites, mining claim occupancy if the residential structures are not incidental to the mining operation, and water pipelines and well pumps related to irrigation and non-irrigation facilities. Temporary authorizations under leases and permits differ from withdrawals in that the permitted use is short term, the BLM Retains administrative responsibility for the lands, and few or no permanent facilities are permitted.

Congress enacted the Recreation and Public Purposes (R&PP) Act (1954) to authorize the sale or lease of public lands for recreational or public purposes to State and local governments and to qualified nonprofit organizations. Examples of typical uses under the act are historic monument sites, campgrounds, schools, fire houses, law enforcement

facilities, municipal facilities, landfills, hospitals, parks, and fairgrounds. The BLM may sell or lease only the amount of land required for efficient operation of the projects described in an applicant's development plan.

The John Day and Two Rivers RMPs provided for permits and leases to develop public lands for uses that are consistent with the objectives of the RMP and do not conflict with other resources and uses. (Note that permits and leases involving grazing, minerals, recreation, and other resources are administered under those programs and are discussed elsewhere.)

The Baker RMP provided for permits under the following conditions:

- (1) The use does not conflict with riparian area management, important wildlife habitat, recreational use of public lands, or other significant resource values.
- (2) The use is compatible with historical use on adjacent private lands.
- (3) The use would maintain or enhance other resource values, such as providing habitat requirements for game and non-game wildlife species.

*The John Day River Plan* amended the Two Rivers RMP by eliminating agricultural use of BLM administered lands along the lower John Day River. It also amended all three RMPs by requiring that if unauthorized agricultural use is found on BLM administered lands adjacent to the river that such use will be converted to perennial vegetation, tree and shrub propagation, wildlife food and cover plots, or the land be disposed (the Baker RMP already had a similar provision).

Both the Two Rivers and Baker RMPs sought to obtain access to public lands through purchase or easement when access was not available. The John Day RMP focused on maintaining existing public access.

## MINING AND MINERALS

Each plan provides for keeping public lands open for exploration/development of mineral resources except when restrictions are needed to protect resource or other values.

The Oregon Land Exchange Act of 2000 effectively eliminates mineral development on acquired lands along the North Fork John Day until an RMP is completed and environmental analysis finds that mineral extraction can occur without adversely affecting fish and wildlife habitat and recreational values. In other areas adjacent to the river, *The John Day River Plan* requires that mineral entry be subject to stipulations including no surface occupancy for leaseable minerals; requirements to protect water quality, scenic quality and vegetation plus adopting State Scenic Waterway requirements for screening mining operations and road construction for locatable mineral mining; and not permitting new sites and not renewing or renegotiating existing sites when they expire for salable minerals.

## PUBLIC INFORMATION AND EDUCATION

The Baker RMP provided the following guidance: Develop area-wide recreation maps and brochures for information and education.

The Two Rivers and John Day RMPs do not address Public Information and Education. *The John Day River Plan* amended each RMP by including the following direction for the

John Day River: “The BLM will continue these actions, as well as continue the current policy of discouraging media coverage and public outreach that is intended to bring more users to the John Day River. ... In addition, the BLM will install information boards at more public access points; increase personnel contacts with visitors; and create new user brochures, detailed land ownership maps, and interpretive signs. An information kiosk will be constructed on the South Fork John Day Backcountry Byway to educate the public about wildlife, riparian, wilderness, and weed management programs. Where trespass is a problem, ownership identification markers will be installed between BLM, state, and private lands to clearly identify land ownership and reduce trespass potential. ... The BLM will also increase cooperative efforts with counties, local businesses, state agencies, and others to provide river users with consistent information.”

## LAW ENFORCEMENT AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

Each of the three RMPs were silent about Law Enforcement and Emergency Services until amended by *The John Day River Plan*. This plan added the following direction for the river corridor: ... commit the BLM to improve management of law enforcement and emergency services by increasing levels of cooperation and support for BLM and local agencies.

## MONITORING

Each plan provides for monitoring to determine:

1. if management actions are resulting in satisfactory progress toward achieving objectives,
2. if actions are consistent with current policy,
3. if original assumptions were correctly applied and impacts correctly predicted,
4. if mitigation measures are satisfactory,
5. if it is still consistent with the plans and policies of state and local government, other federal agencies, and Indian tribes, and
6. if new data are available that would require alteration of the plan.