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I. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- A. Designation of the North Umpqua River** - The North Umpqua River was designated a recreational river in the National Wild and Scenic River System in the Omnibus Oregon Wild and Scenic River Act of 1988 (Omnibus Act).
- B. North Umpqua River Management Plan** - In 1992, The U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, and Oregon Parks and Recreation Department cooperated with numerous local, state, and federal agencies to complete the North Umpqua River Management Plan. The plan details specific management direction and resource monitoring for each section of the river. The plan notes *fish, water, recreation, scenery, and cultural resources* as Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORV's).
- C. Boating Management Area** - The boundaries of the River Use Report include all segments of the North Umpqua River between Soda Springs Dam and Swiftwater Recreation Area. Management of the lower section of the North Umpqua River (between mile markers 22 and 30 of Highway 138, approximately 8.4 river miles) is the responsibility of the Roseburg BLM and management of the upper section (area between mile marker 30 and Soda Springs Dam, approximately 25.4 river miles) is the responsibility of the USFS, North Umpqua Ranger District (NURD). The two agencies work closely to jointly manage the North Umpqua Wild and Scenic River; the USFS administers all special use permits for commercial fishing and whitewater guides for the entire 33.8 miles.
- D. Management Guidelines** - Commercial rafters, fishermen, BLM, and USFS personnel have discussed user conflicts that occur on the North Umpqua River. The various user groups agreed that they could reduce the conflicts by using the river at different times. Fishermen noted that they used the Steamboat area more extensively than any other Wild and Scenic section of the river. Boaters noted that they did not generally use the river during the early morning hours and late evening hours. As a result, sections of the river have been placed under voluntary boater restrictions for noncommercial boaters and mandatory restrictions for commercial boaters during certain hours of the day and certain seasons of the year (North Umpqua River Management Plan, 1992). Since the implementation of these guidelines, the number of conflicts between boaters and fishermen has been reduced. The guidelines for each segment are as follows:

Soda Springs to Gravel Bin

Open to boating year-round

Boating closure - 6 p.m. to 10 a.m. from 7/1 through 10/31

Gravel Bin to Bogus Creek

Boating closure - 6 p.m. to 10 a.m. from 7/1 through 7/14

Boating closure - 7/15 through 10/31

Bogus Creek to Susan Creek

Open to boating year-around

Boating closure - 6 p.m. to 10 a.m. from 7/1 through 10/31

Susan Creek to Rock Creek

Open to boating year-round

Boating closure - 6 p.m. to 10 a.m. from 7/1 through 10/31

Ten commercial outfitters were permitted to float the river between May 20 and September 15 during the 2008 boating season. Noncommercial users (not for profit) are not required to obtain permits, while commercial users must obtain a Special Use Permit to operate as an outfitter guide to float the North Umpqua River. Commercial users are not allowed to use Apple Creek campground as a lunch stop to ensure protection of the fish spawning bar near the campground. Commercial users are also restricted from launching from the undeveloped campsites at Eagle Rock campground prior to July 15th to ensure protection of steelhead spawning beds.

E. Methods of collecting information - In the winter of 1991, the Roseburg District BLM funded a river manager position to manage and document use of the North Umpqua River. This position was lost for the 2003 season with the resignation of the full-time river manager. In 2004, the position was filled with a seasonal employee along with a four year term position in July of 2006. During the summers of 1993-2006, the BLM also funded a seasonal employee with the USFS to assist in collecting river use information. In 2008, one FS and one BLM employee were in charge of the river monitoring.

F. Objectives of river monitoring

1. Identify types of recreation use occurring on the river.
2. Document visitor use statistics on the river, including commercial and noncommercial use.
3. Provide a BLM/USFS presence on the river to contact, inform, and educate the public.
4. Coordinate river management issues between the BLM and the USFS.
5. Identify and mitigate safety hazards and minimize user conflicts.
6. Promote preservation of the five ORVs identified in the river management plan.
7. Provide recreational users a quality recreation experience.

II. METHODOLOGY AND RIVER-USE STATISTICS

A. Observed Boating Use in 2008

The use recorded by the USFS and BLM monitors is referred to as the “observed use”. The documented observed use indicates that non-commercial use exceeded commercial use in 2008 (Table 1 & Graph 1). Commercial use accounted for 36% of the use observed and non-commercial use accounted for 64% of the use observed.

1. Non-commercial Observed Use – In 2008, river monitors observed 2,458 non-commercial boaters including the commercial guides. This includes figures that the USFS and BLM monitors observed.

Non-commercial boaters observed by USFS and BLM monitors.....2,136
 Guides observed by USFS and BLM monitors.....322

2. Commercial Observed Use - This also includes data collected by the USFS and BLM monitors.

Commercial boaters observed by monitors.....1,367

Note: River monitors were present on the river 73 days during the 2008 season.

Table 1 ANNUAL COMPARISON OF OBSERVED BOATING USE

Year	Noncommercial Observed	Commercial Observed	Total Observed Use
1998	3,250	1,404	4,654
1999	3,617	1,646	5,263
2000	3,716	1,748	5,464
2001	3,071	1,532	4,603
2002	2,372	1,679	4,051
2003	3,103	2,047	5,150
2004	2,976	1,402	4,378
2005	2,823	1,422	4,245
2006	3,009	1,873	4,882
2007	2,208	1,256	3,464
2008	2,458	1,367	3,825

Graph 1

Annual Comparison of Observed Boating Use

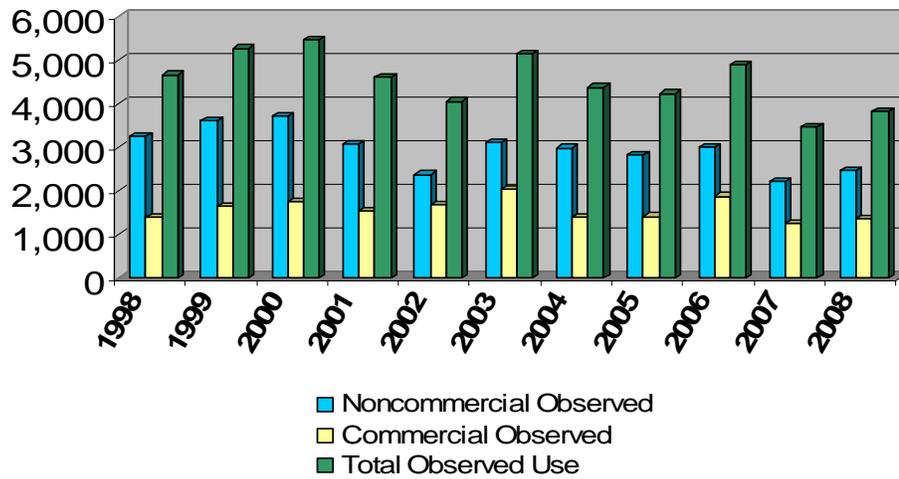


Table 2 shows the breakdown of observed noncommercial and commercial use by day of the week during the monitoring season (May 20 – September 15). More people were observed on Saturday’s than any other day. Observed commercial use exceeded non-commercial use on only Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. This is partially due to the fact that Sun Country only runs large trips on Tuesday and Thursday.

Table 2 2008 DAILY COMPARISON OF BOATERS OBSERVED

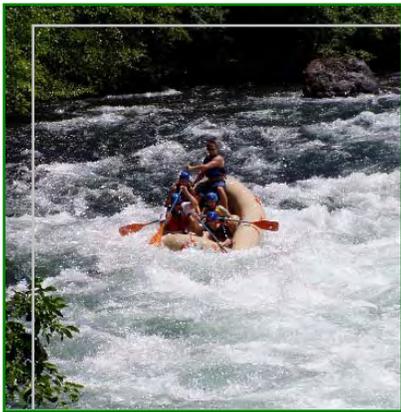
Day	Commercial	Noncommercial	Total
Monday	58	67	125
Tuesday	111	39	150
Wednesday	54	12	66
Thursday	246	121	367
Friday	186	229	415
Saturday	464	1,068	1,532
Sunday	248	600	848
Total	1,367	2,136	3,503

Figures exclude the observed guides (322) that used the river

B. Reported Boating Use

Reported use is the use that commercial outfitters reported to the Forest Service at the end of the use season. There is a difference between the number of visitors reported by commercial outfitters and the number observed in the field by the USFS and BLM monitors. Reasons for this discrepancy are:

- Trees and shrubs along the river reduced the opportunity for observing boaters; therefore, a few commercial boaters were never seen and a few commercial boaters may have been mistaken for noncommercial boaters.
- Saturday continues to be the busiest day of the week on the river as the most commercial trips were reported for this day. Saturday was followed by Sunday and Thursday as the busiest days of the week as reported by commercial outfitters.
- River monitors were more likely to be working the Friday - Sunday timeframe and less likely during the middle of the week, thereby creating a discrepancy between reported and observed use.



*Eiffel Tower / African Queen
Class III rapid*

Table 3 is a breakdown of observed use for each outfitter by month compared to the actual use reported by each commercial outfitter.

Table 3 OBSERVED AND REPORTED COMMERCIAL USE
Data is from May 20th to September 15th

OUTFITTERS	People Observed by BLM/USFS ¹						People Reported by Commercial Outfitters
	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Total	
Adventure Center	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
*Destination Wilderness / Adventure River Center	0	21	46	28	0	95	152
North Umpqua Outfitters	22	78	167	112	0	379	608
Orange Torpedo Tours	0	7	99	21	0	127	132
Oregon River Experiences	0	0	14	11	0	25	58
Oregon River Sports	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Oregon Whitewater Adventures	0	52	82	168	0	302	527
Ouzel Outfitters	0	31	147	19	0	197	248
Sun Country Tours	0	21	151	70	0	242	379
Total	22	210	706	429	0	1,367	2,104

¹Figures exclude the observed guides (322) that used the river.

*There is one owner for both Adventure River Center and Destination Wilderness. The numbers for both outfitters are reported under Destination Wilderness.

C. Adjusted Boating Use

Adjusted boating use is a method used to estimate total boating use based on what is seen and reported. To determine adjusted boating use, observed commercial use is first compared to reported commercial use. Once this ratio is determined, the same ratio is used to determine the non-commercial adjusted use based on observation. The following equation illustrates this relationship.

$$\frac{\text{Commercial observed}}{\text{Commercial reported}} = \frac{\text{Non-commercial observed}}{\text{Non-commercial adjusted}}$$

$$\frac{1,367}{2,104} = \frac{2,136}{x}$$

$$x = 3,288$$

Therefore, the noncommercial adjusted use is 3,288 people. The difference between commercial observed and commercial reported is 35%.

Total Adjusted Use is now calculated by summing the non-commercial adjusted use with the commercial reported use as follows:

$$\text{Non-commercial adjusted use} + \text{commercial reported use} = \text{total use}$$

$$3,288 + 2,104 = 5,392$$

Table 4 and Graph 2 summarize these figures and compare them with historical levels.

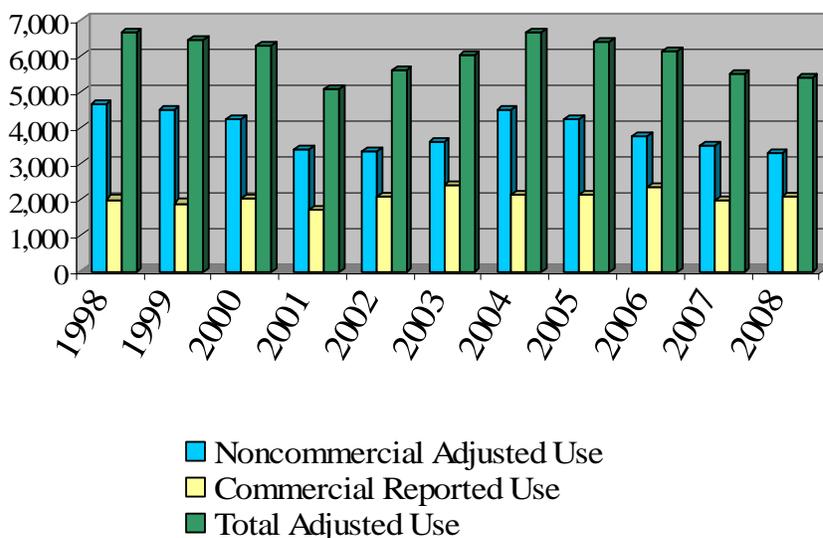
Table 4

ANNUAL COMPARISON OF REPORTED COMMERCIAL AND ADJUSTED USE

	Noncommercial Adjusted Use	Commercial Reported Use	Total Adjusted Use
1998	4,647	2,008	6,655
1999	4,502	1,905	6,407
2000	4,236	2,019	6,255
2001	3,378	1,704	5,082
2002	3,354	2,102	5,601
2003	3,614	2,384	5,998
2004	4,511	2,125	6,636
2005	4,229	2,130	6,359
2006	3,766	2,344	6,110
2007	3,484	1,982	5,466
2008	3,288	2,104	5,392

Graph 2

Annual Comparison of Reported Commercial and Adjusted Use



D. Craft and Boat Launch Use

1. Data was queried to show the types of watercrafts used to float the river. During the 2008 boating season, rafts outnumbered other crafts on the river (tables 5 & 6).
1. The data was queried to show a breakdown of the put-in areas and take-out areas (table 7). Boulder Flat was the most heavily used put-in area (1,766 user days). The most frequent take-out area was Gravel Bin (2,294 user days). Normally, on July 15th, use between Gravel Bin and Bogus Creek is restricted for commercial outfitters and voluntary for non-commercial users to help prevent conflict between boaters and anglers (for more information, see the Wild and Scenic River Management Plan, pg. 3 under Management Guidelines). However, this year, due to the closure of the Boulder Flat boat launch (tree down at MP 48), the boating restriction for that stretch of the river was not put into effect until July 20th.
3. The 2008 season saw several factors which affected river use. In late June, a large tree came down in a windstorm which blocked the river at milepost 48. This forced the closure of the Boulder Flat boat launch from June 29 to July 19, which in turn, closed approximately 3 miles on the upper stretch of the river. Boat launching was shifted to the Horseshoe Bend boat launch, 6 miles downriver. This shortened the normal day trip for commercial outfitters causing them to extend their trips down down to Bogus Creek, which is normally off limits to commercial use at this time of year. To accommodate commercial use, the US Forest Service permitted boating down to Bogus Creek until July 20, when the tree was removed.

In September, the Rattle Fire, which had been burning on the north side of the river, jumped the river and caused the closure of Highway 138. As a result, the Boulder Flat boat launch and two area campgrounds were closed from September 9 to September 21. Poor air quality and the aforementioned closures precipitated an early end to the boating season.

Table 5 COMPARISON OF WATERCRAFTS OBSERVED PER MONTH

Month	Rafts	Hard Kayaks	Inflatable Kayaks	Canoes
May	53	26	5	0
June	184	73	68	3
July	262	175	316	2
August	155	82	155	2
September	5	4	5	0
Total	659	360	549	7

Table 6 ANNUAL COMPARISON OF OBSERVED WATERCRAFT USE

Year	Rafts	Hard Kayaks	Inflatable Kayaks	Canoes	Total Crafts
1998	748	729	571	87	2,135
1999	862	628	681	73	2,244
2000	719	670	692	107	2,188
2001	552	569	806	34	1,961
2002	631	475	600	77	1,783
2003	880	517	940	93	2,430
2004	657	525	846	36	2,064
2005	661	357	693	56	1,767
2006	901	364	608	32	1,905
2007	593	307	417	19	1,336
2008	659	360	549	7	1,575

E. 2008 BOATING SUMMARY

A. Non-Commercial Use – 61 % of all use

- 1. Visual counts observed by BLM/USFS employees.....2,136
- 2. Number of guides seen by BLM/USFS.....322
- 3. Number missed (factored using 35% of users missed).....830
- 4. Adjusted noncommercial use3,288

B. Commercial Use – 39 % of all use (10 permitted rafting guides)

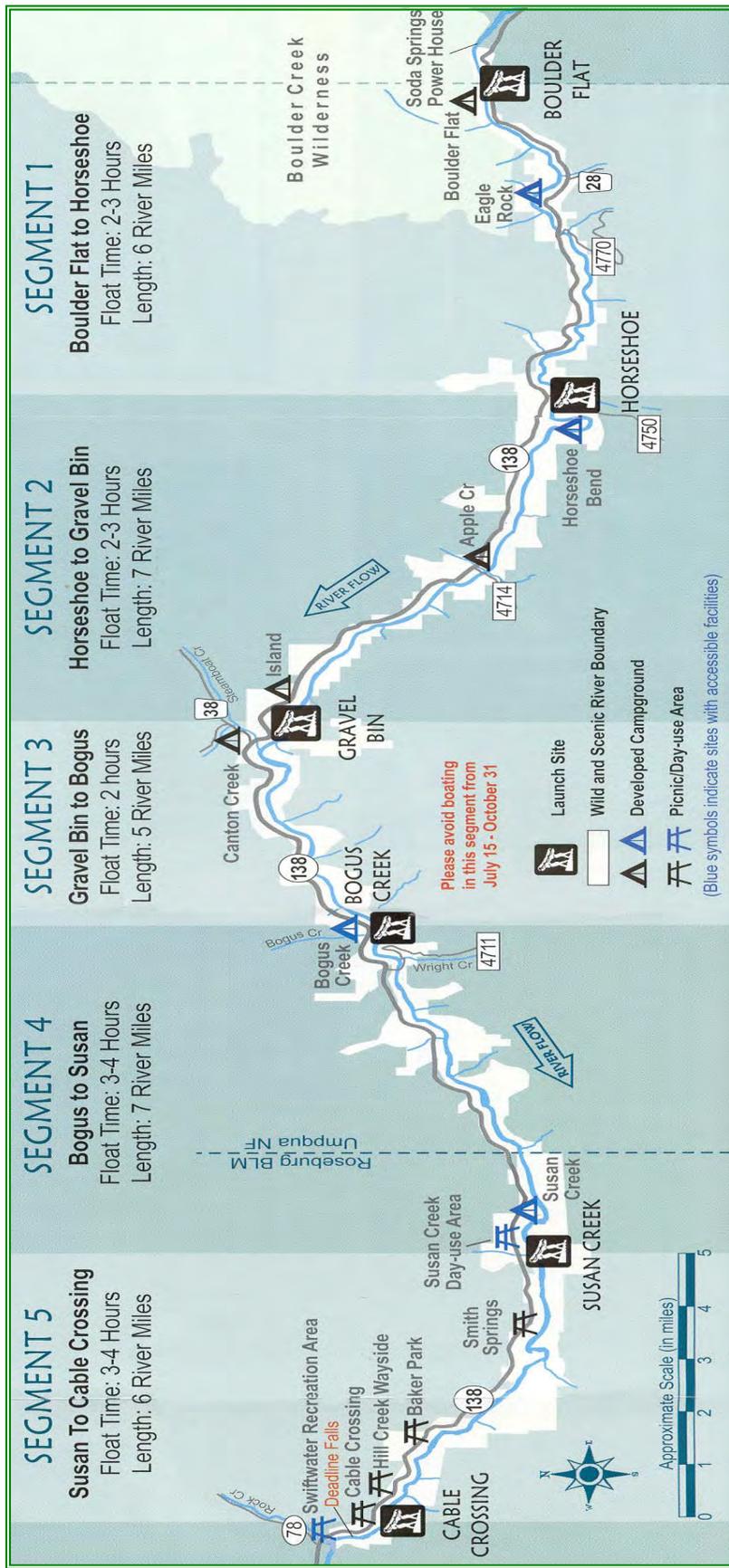
- 1. Visual counts observed by BLM/USFS employees.....1,367
- 2. Reported counts by outfitter guides.....2,104

C. Total Adjusted Use- Commercial and Non-Commercial.....5,392

D. Observed Watercrafts

- 1. Rafts.....659
- 2. Inflatable Kayaks.....549
- 3. Hard Kayaks.....360
- 4. Canoes.....7

Map 2 NORTH UMPQUA WILD AND SCENIC RIVER RAFTING SEGMENTS



Map from: North Umpqua Wild and Scenic River Users Guide

Table 7

LAUNCH SITE UTILIZATION
Observed, Commercial and Non-Commercial

Site	Put-In		Take-Out	
	Recreation Users	Crafts	Recreation Users	Crafts
Soda Springs	2	1	0	0
Boulder Flat Boat Launch	1766	721	0	0
Eagle Rock Campground	13	5	0	0
Marsters Bridge	123	62	4	2
Dry Creek	14	9	0	0
Horseshoe Bend	1114	501	228	122
Apple - Panther Trailhead	2	2	14	10
Island	2	2	9	9
Gravel Bin	205	100	2,294	984
Wright Creek	0	0	4	4
Bogus Creek	202	129	487	189
Susan Creek	60	43	384	209
Baker Wayside	0	0	0	0
Cable Crossing	0	0	79	46
Total	3,503	1,575	3,503	1,575

Figures exclude the observed guides (322) that used the river.

F. Observed Fishing Use

Fishermen information was not gathered during the 2008 season.

III. CONGESTION/CROWDING AT PARKING AREAS/LAUNCH SITES

When parking capacity was exceeded, vehicles parked in the grass, campsites or blocked a portion of the roadway.

Table 8 NUMBER OF OCCASIONS PARKING CAPACITY EXCEEDED

Horseshoe Bend - Max. 5 Cars		Gravel Bin- Max. 30 Cars		*Boulder Flat - Max. 6 Cars	
Date	Vehicles Exceeding Capacity	Date	Vehicles Exceeding Capacity	Date	Vehicles Exceeding Capacity
7/20	1			6/21	3
7/27	3			7/26	1
8/16	2				
8/17	1				

*Due to the closure of the Boulder Flat boat launch from 6/29 to 7/19, the Horseshoe Bend boat launch became the main put in point and the parking lot consistently exceeded capacity.

*2 parking spaces at Boulder Flat were designated as short term staging which reduced the number of parking spaces from 8 to 6.



Downriver view from Elevation Rock

Table 9

COMMENTS, HAZARDS AND VIOLATIONS

	Issue	Violation	Immediate Action
<i>Compliments</i>	- Compliments on the Boulder Flat raft launch improvements.	N/A	N/A
	- Many compliments throughout the summer in regards to the raft launch info boards and the river user guides. Very helpful to the boating public.	N/A	N/A
	- Compliments on the help of the river monitors in the posting of weather & water flows and distribution of river guides.	N/A	N/A
	- Compliments on the monitors for assistance at Boulder Flat with traffic and expediting launching procedures.	N/A	N/A
<i>Logs in the River</i>	- A large log completely blocked the river at MP 48. Boulder Flat boat launch was closed 6/29- 7/19. Many complaints on length of time it took to resolve the problem.	N/A	No immediate action. Log was removed on 7/20 by a contractor from the USFS.
	- Early June; log blocking river channel at MP 44.	N/A	USFS cut log and it moved out of main channel.
<i>Debris in River</i>	- Complaint from commercial outfitter that there were old car parts in river.	N/A	USFS notified.
<i>Parking Conflicts</i>	- Congestion at Boulder Flat boat launch. Not enough boater parking spaces outside of staging area. Boaters staging in center island interfere with traffic.	N/A	Recommendation for 2009 to brush out & enlarge center island staging area and to mark parking spot "staging parking only".
<i>Over 20 persons in a group</i>	- When group size exceeded twenty persons, commercial boaters either checked with the USFS prior to the trip or were advised to space out at the put-in sites by the monitor.	N/A	Group size approved by Forest Service or river monitor. If not, group was advised to spread themselves out.
<i>Put-in/Take-out</i>	- Complaints from boaters that Horseshoe Bend & Bogus Creek take-outs were not well marked.	N/A	No action taken
	- Complaints that Bogus launch is too steep, has too many large boulders and is not safe.	N/A	No action taken
	- Some commercial outfitters & some private boaters putting in at Masters on the gravel spawning beds on Twin Lakes Road.	N/A	Informed boaters that the put-in site on the highway was safer and did not disturb the spawning beds.

IV. OUTSTANDING REMARKABLE VALUES

The North Umpqua River Management Plan notes that there are several components that make the North Umpqua Wild and Scenic River the wonder that it is. These components are Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORV's). The plan recognizes fish, water quality, recreation, scenery and cultural resources as the ORV's within the North Umpqua Wild and Scenic Corridor. The plan also emphasizes the importance of protecting these resources through monitoring programs.

The monitoring being done for recreation is addressed in the first section of this report. The following information documents monitoring for fisheries, water quality, scenic value, and cultural resources.



Fly Fishing the Mott Section of the North Umpqua

A. Fisheries

Table 10 shows annual fish counts taken at the Winchester Dam Counting Station by Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW).

Table 10 ANNUAL FISH COUNTS

Year	Fall Chinook	Spring Chinook	Coho Salmon	Sea Run Cutthroat	**Winter Steelhead	Summer Steelhead
1992	133	5,006	6,404	10	5,263	3,776
1993	87	5,928	6,829	0	4,366	5,414
1994	119	5,305	3,427	29	4,088	4,710
1995	223	9,816	3,491	1	5,719	6,402
1996	217	6,536	4,777	79	4,895	7,333
1997	118	*5,769	7,346	81	5,775	*8,009
1998	52	6,959	*3,606	*91	5,107	9,139
1999	31	7,375	7,367	159	6,336	5,390
2000	202	12,635	5,643	96	9,563	10,087
2001	247	20,694	15,861	93	11,086	11,331
2002	154	24,202	20,468	110	9,325	9,175
2003	174	20,156	13,809	34	14,507	7,997
2004	129	15,433	16,160	62	7,547	9,157
2005	108	9,013	13,398	62	7,419	6,987
2006	76	*6,081	*11,250	*81	9,891	*6,989
2007	163	6,634	4,680	93	9,511	4,552
2008	171	10,328	4,274	178		6,674

* Data is missing due to closure of fish counting station.

**Winter Steelhead counts are taken from December 1st – April 30th the following year

Spring Chinook counts are through October 31th.

Sea Run Cutthroat, Coho Salmon, Summer Steelhead and Fall Chinook counts are through December 31st.



Deadline Falls



Fly Fisherman at Susan Creek

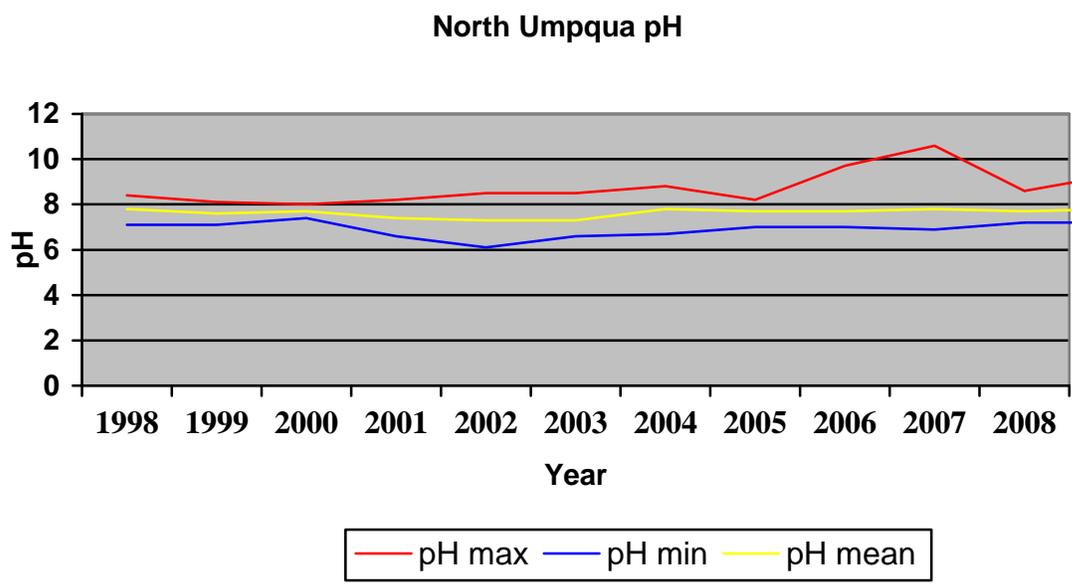
B. Water Quality

Water quality affects most of the other ORV's. Table 10 shows some of the water quality parameters that have been consistently monitored over the past several years. The water samples were taken between Idleld Park and Rock Creek at a USGS station. Data is taken from the water year (October 1 – September 30).

Table 11 ANNUAL WATER QUALITY STATISTICS

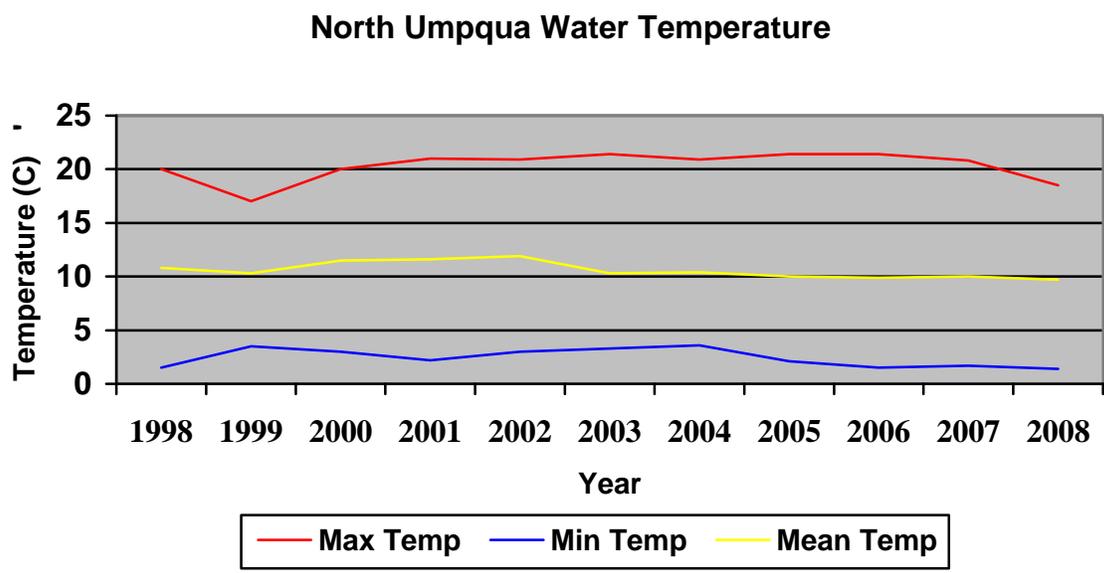
Year	Measurement	pH (units)	Temperature (°C)	Dissolved Oxygen (mg/L)	Specific Conductance (us/cm)
Desired Conditions		6.5-8.5	< 17.8 (7 day avg.)	> 6.0	maintain
1999	Maximum	8.2	17.0	14.5	70
	Minimum	6.6	3.5	8.5	26
	Mean	7.4	10.3	11.5	48
2000	Maximum	8.5	20.0	13.6	71
	Minimum	6.1	3.0	7.3	29
	Mean	7.3	11.5	10.5	50
2001	Maximum	8.5	21.0	13.6	76
	Minimum	6.6	2.2	6.4	41
	Mean	7.3	11.6	10.0	59
2002	Maximum	8.8	20.9	13.3	73
	Minimum	6.7	3.0	7.3	30
	Mean	7.8	11.9	10.3	52
2003	Maximum	8.2	21.4	15.4	74
	Minimum	7.0	3.3	9.0	37
	Mean	7.7	10.3	11.6	56
2003	Maximum	8.2	21.4	15.4	74
	Minimum	7.0	3.3	9.0	37
	Mean	7.7	10.3	11.6	56
2004	Maximum	9.8	20.9	14.0	69
	Minimum	7.0	3.6	7.5	31
	Mean	7.7	10.4	11.6	54
2005	Maximum	10.6	21.4	15.7	70
	Minimum	6.9	2.1	8.2	31
	Mean	7.8	10.0	11.7	59
2006	Maximum	8.6	21.4	14.2	70
	Minimum	7.2	1.5	8.7	26
	Mean	7.7	9.9	11.5	52
2007	Maximum	9.3	20.8	14.0	71
	Minimum	7.2	1.7	8.9	32
	Mean	7.8	10.0	11.5	54
2008	Maximum	8.9	18.5	14.3	72
	Minimum	7.2	1.4	9.4	31
	Mean	7.6	9.7	11.9	51

Graph 3

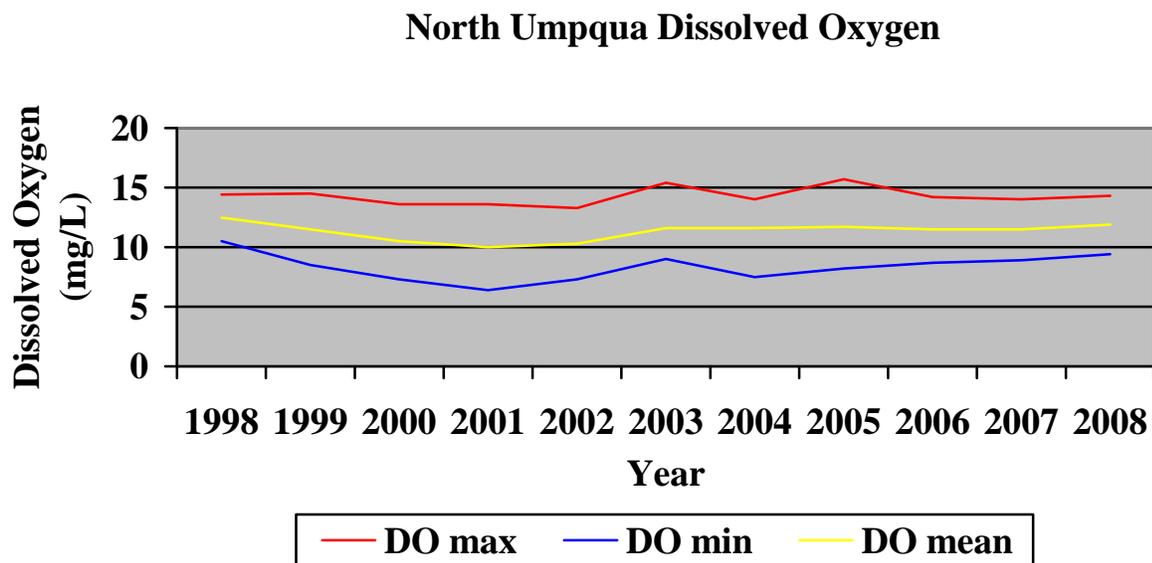


Maximum temperature standard reflects a 7 day average maximum. Data shown is based on a daily average only and 7 day average maximums have not been calculated for this table. An acceptable pH range for the Umpqua Basin is between 6.5 - 8.5. It would be considered water quality limited if greater than 10% of the samples exceed this standard (fall outside the acceptable range), and a minimum of at least two samples exceed the standard during a season of interest. The 7 day maximum average temperature of the river should not exceed 17.8°C between June 1 and September 14. The 7 day maximum average temperature should not exceed 12.8°C at other times of the year; this helps with spawning conditions.

Graph 4

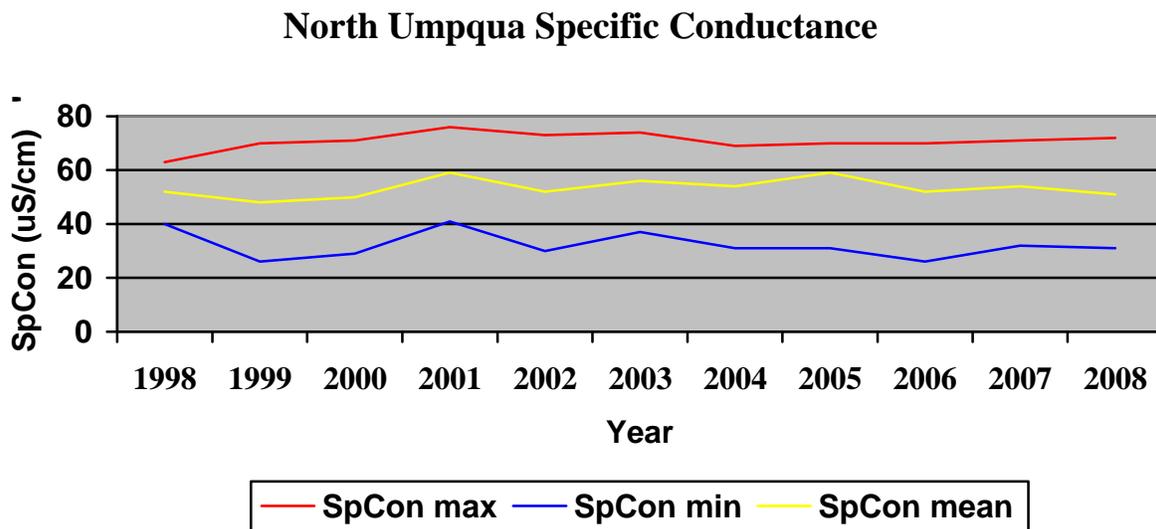


Graph 5



Dissolved oxygen (DO) should have no less than 6.5mg/l or 90% saturation. If the 7 day minimum average for DO is less than this standard, water quality is considered limited.

Graph 6



Although specific conductance has no standard, it is noted because specific conductance for the North Umpqua River is uniquely low.

C. Cultural Resources

The North Umpqua River has attracted people for thousands of years. Because of this long-standing attraction, cultural resources are considered an outstandingly remarkable value of the river. No new archaeological sites were discovered within the corridor in 2008. No archaeological site evaluations were conducted. Four archaeological sites were monitored during the year, all of them in unchanged condition. No Archaeological Resource Protection Act violations were documented during the year.



Old Man & Old Woman Rock Formation

D. Scenery

The lands within the Wild and Scenic River Corridor will be managed to retain the visual quality objectives as defined in the North Umpqua Management Plan. Retention is defined as “management activities that should not be evident to the casual visitor.” The exception to this rule as written in the North Umpqua River Management Plan (pages 31-32) includes:

- a. The vegetation poses a safety hazard along the highway, the river, a trail, a power-line, or in a developed recreation area.
- b. The vegetation is located within an easement or right-of-way area, and a suitable alternate route cannot be found.
- c. The vegetation is in the way of a planned facility development or improvement project.
- d. The vegetation needs to be cut to enhance a significant or outstandingly remarkable value.
- e. A catastrophic natural event (such as wildfire, insect infestation, or blow down from a wind event) has left large numbers of dead, salvageable trees in the corridor.
- f. An insect infestation threatens adjacent timberlands outside the corridor.

In September of 2008, the Rattle Fire broke out in the Boulder Creek Wilderness, in the vicinity of the Boulder Flat boat launch. The fire was allowed to burn in the wilderness, but high temperatures and winds caused the fire to jump the road, forcing the closure of the Boulder Flat boat launch and campground, and the Eagle Rock and Horseshoe Bend campgrounds. Highway 138, the main artery in the North Umpqua River corridor was closed from September 5th to September 21st. The closure of the road, the boat launch, the campgrounds and the smoke which filled the river corridor put an early end to the 2008 boating season.





Damage from the Rattle Fire as seen on Hwy 138 across from Boulder Flat

V. 2008 STAFF

- BLM monitors – Erik Taylor, 3rd year Outdoor Rec. Planner; Carol Scafe, 1st year seasonal recreation technician
- USFS monitor – Amy Croll, 3rd year, seasonal
- USFS North Umpqua District Ranger – Carol Cushing
- USFS Recreation Staff – Larci Miller
- BLM Swiftwater Field Manager – Marci Todd
- Report Preparers – Erik Taylor and Carol Scafe