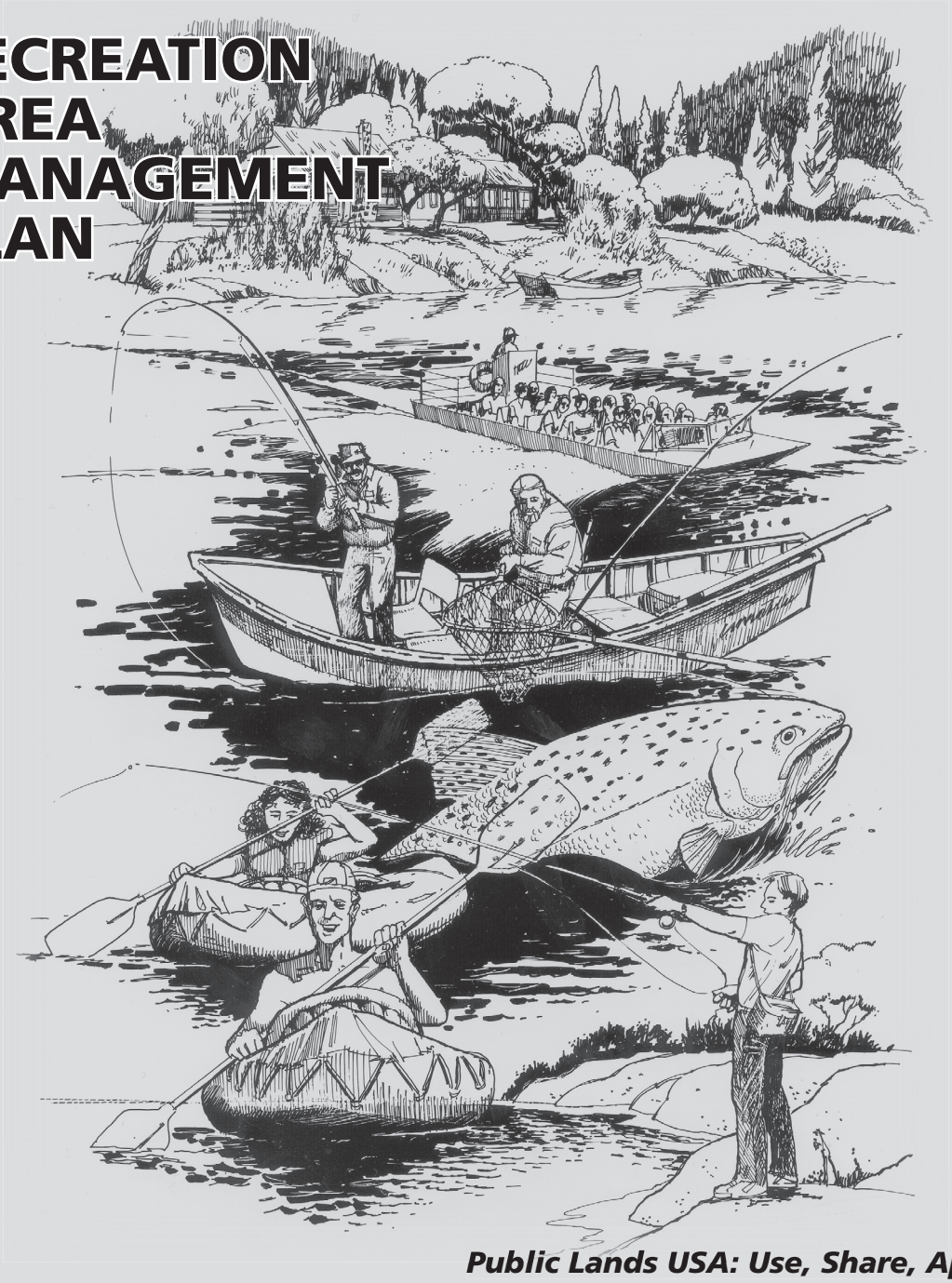
Recreation Area Management Plan

# ROGUE NATIONAL WILD and SCENIC RIVER:

## *Hellgate Recreation Area*

# RECREATION AREA MANAGEMENT PLAN



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**Medford District Office**

**July 2004**

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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# Hellgate Recreation Area

# Rogue National Wild and Scenic River

# Recreation Area Management Plan

**July 2004**

# United States Department of the Interior

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IN REPLY REFER TO:
8351(OR-117)

**July 16, 2004**

Dear Friend of the Rogue River:

We are pleased to release the Hellgate Recreation Area Management Plan (RAMP) for the Rogue National Wild and Scenic River, Hellgate Recreation Section. The plan covers recreation activities in the Hellgate Recreation Area, which is the 27-mile stretch from the confluence of the Applegate River to Grave Creek.

The Recreation Area Management Plan sets forth a program design to manage the mix of river recreation uses and users in a developed, recreational setting, while managing and protecting the environment and the outstandingly remarkable values: natural scenic qualities, fisheries resources, and recreational opportunities.

The Rogue River was one of eight rivers identified as part of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System when the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act was passed in 1968. The *Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968* established the wild and scenic rivers system (Public Laws 90-542, as amended, and 99-590). The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (WSRA) established a method for providing federal protection for certain remaining free-flowing rivers and preserving them and their immediate environments. The Hellgate section of the Rogue River is classified as a "recreational" river area. A recreational river is defined by Congress as a river that is readily accessible by road or railroad, may have some development on its shoreline, and may have been impounded or diverted in the past.

We want to thank the planning team for their hard work and thank the local government and interested friends of the Rogue National Wild and Scenic River for input in preparation and review of the plan.

Sincerely,

Abbie Jossie
Field Manager
Grants Pass Resource Area

Timothy B. Reuwsaat
District Manager
Medford District

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# Hellgate Recreation Area Management Plan

## The Planning Area

The Hellgate Recreation Area, also referred to as the planning area, is located within Josephine County, Oregon and covers approximately 8,000 acres in southwestern Oregon (see Map 1-1 in Appendix A). Approximately 70 percent (5,500 acres) is managed by the BLM Medford District Office Grants Pass Resource Area.

The Hellgate Recreation Area, the first 27 miles of the Rogue National Wild and Scenic River, is classified as a recreational river area (see Figure 1-1 in Appendix A). A recreational river is defined by Congress as a river that is readily accessible by road or railroad, may have some development on its shoreline, and may have been impounded or diverted in the past. Management of this recreational river area will give primary emphasis to protecting the values that make it outstandingly remarkable, while providing a diversity of river-related recreational opportunities in a developed setting.

This plan divides the Hellgate Recreation Area into two reaches: the Applegate Reach and the Dunn Reach (see Map 1-1 in Appendix A). The Applegate Reach begins at the confluence of the Applegate River and ends at Hog Creek. This reach is used primarily by motorized tour boaters and boat and bank anglers. In the Applegate Reach (12.8 miles), the river has a gradient of approximately 7 feet per mile and the channel averages approximately 400 feet wide. It is essentially flat to rolling terrain with the river meandering through an alluvial plane. At the riverbank, there are scattered groves of cottonwood trees, willow and alder trees. Riparian vegetation is lush green along the riverbanks and streams feeding into the Rogue, creating a soft visual texture of deciduous trees and smooth, flat water. The surrounded landscape consists primarily of even-textured, tan and green agricultural fields on the floodplain, with a backdrop of mixed conifer forests on rolling hills, creating partial enclosure of the view.

Further downriver, approaching the Dunn Reach, the terrain becomes steeper and more angular. Cottonwoods and alders transition into darker green conifer forests, creating a medium to coarse texture of vegetation and more turbulent waterforms, with river cobbles and boulders becoming more common.

The Dunn Reach begins at Hog Creek and ends at Grave Creek. The Dunn Reach is primarily used for white water rafting, though a small amount of power boat use occurs there. In the Dunn Reach (14.5 miles), the river has a gradient of approximately 10 feet per mile and averages approximately 200 feet in width, creating more white-water rapids. The Rogue flows through a dramatic rockform area called Hellgate Canyon, with near vertical, dark gray basalt bluffs almost completely devoid of vegetation. The river is constrained by bedrock and steep mountainsides, creating drastic vertical relief and complete enclosure of the view.

Below Hellgate Canyon, the landscape opens up to long vistas of forested mountains with steep, rugged slopes in the middleground and background. The vegetative character augments the terrain to provide a vertical edge at the river, which changes from a pattern with soft, even lines in hardwood forests, to a pattern that is vertical, angular, and in some areas rugged, in the conifer forests. The characteristic of occasional intrusions of serpentine rocks and soils and the lush forested landscape create a diverse, coarse and dense texture. Waterforms are a series of flat-water pools punctuated by whitewater rapids, with numerous large gray boulders protruding from the river and lining the banks.

# Management Direction

This plan outlines management goals, objectives, and direction, which create a framework for future planning and decision making. The Hellgate Recreation Area Management Plan contains the decision selected from Alternative E, as analyzed in the Final EIS, with minor decision changes resulting from public comments on the FEIS, as well as, guidance and direction from the *Rogue National Wild and Scenic River, Oregon: Notice of Revised Development and Management Plan* of 1972, the *Prohibited Acts in Rogue National Wild and Scenic River Area* of 1992 (Federal Register Vo. 57, No. 110, 24271-24274), and the *BLM Medford District Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan* of 1995. The degree to which these specific management decisions are carried out depends upon priorities, available personnel, funding levels, and completion of further environmental analysis and decision making, as appropriate.

# Management Guidance and Direction

## Management Goals

Emphasize the protection and enhancement of the outstandingly remarkable values, while providing quality river-related outdoor recreation opportunities.

Provide for diversified recreational opportunities while minimizing conflict between the desires of recreational user groups and their potential effects on other ecological components within or adjacent to the HRA.

Emphasize in the Applegate Reach a quality recreation experience for motorized boaters, float anglers, and bank anglers in a setting with higher densities of development on the shorelines due primarily to the amount of private land ownership.

Emphasize in the Dunn Reach a quality recreation experience for motorized floaters in a setting with lower densities of development on the shorelines due primarily to the amount of public land ownership.

Emphasize scenic easement objectives to protect scenic qualities.

Minimize impacts on state or federally listed threatened or endangered flora and fauna, cultural resources, Native American religious sites, or historical sites.

Cooperate with other landowners and regulatory agencies within the HRA.

## Management Direction

### *All Watercraft Use*

There are eight (8) angling enhancement zones designated. These areas are: Applegate Riffle, Whitehorse Riffle, Finley Bend, Brushy Chutes, Ferry Hole, Hellgate Canyon, Taylor Creek Gorge, and Morrison's Lodge Hole. See Map 3-1 in Appendix A.

There are fourteen (14) fall Chinook spawning areas designated. These areas are: Applegate Riffle, Whitehorse Riffle, Matson Riffle, Panther Chutes, Wharton Riffle, Brushy Chutes, Lower Banfield Chute, Robertson's Riffle, High Banks Riffle, Pickett Riffle, Peach Orchard Riffle, Weatherby Riffle, Two-Bit Riffle, and Jumpoff Joe Riffle. See Map 3-2 in Appendix A.

There is one (1) three-mile sound sensitive area designated from Flanagan Slough to Dory Eddy. No Thrill Power Maneuvers will be allowed between Flanagan Slough and Dory Eddy. See Map 3-3 in Appendix A.

### *Non-Motorized Floating*

The season of use is year-round in both reaches.

Use levels would be restricted in the future, if monitoring indicates safety concerns, increase in user conflicts, or adverse effects to visitor use satisfaction. Once use limits are reached, an amendment to this plan would occur.

### *Non-Motorized Boat Angling*

The season of use is year-round in both reaches.

Use levels would be restricted, if use limits are reached. Once use limits are reached, an amendment to this plan would occur. Angling is regulated by Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife.

### *Private Motorized Boating*

There are no limits on use levels. Use levels would be restricted in the future, if monitoring indicates safety concerns, increase in user conflicts, or visitor use satisfaction declines. Once use limits are reached, an amendment to this plan would occur.

The season of use is year-round in the Applegate and Dunn reaches. The season of use would be restricted in the future, if monitoring indicates safety concerns, increase in user conflicts, or visitor use satisfaction declines.

### *Commercial Motorized Angling*

The season of use in the Applegate Reach is December 1 - September 30, providing monitoring indicates that fall Chinook spawning is not occurring earlier.

The season of use in the Dunn Reach is September 1 - May 31, providing monitoring indicates that fall Chinook spawning is not occurring earlier.

The number of commercial motorized angling permits is three (3) permits. No additional permits will be allocated.

Each permittee is allowed to use one boat with two trips per day. No additional trips per day will be allocated.

Up to six (6) passengers are allowed per boat for commercially-operated power boats. This limit is set by Oregon State Marine Board.

### *Commercial Motorized Tour Boating*

The season of use is May 1 - September 30, providing monitoring indicates that fall Chinook spawning is not occurring earlier. If monitoring indicates fall Chinook are spawning earlier, the Administrative Official would notify the permittee with three days advance notice prior to shutdown. The concern is the effect on spawning and pairing behavior and on juvenile fish (BLM Manual 6840-Special Status Species Policy).

The number of permits is limited to two (2). Any proposal by the current permit holder to alter the permits or allocation would require additional NEPA analysis. Permit transfers

would follow the procedures as outlined in the Commercial Operating Plan for the Hellgate Recreation Section.

The permitted use level in the Applegate Reach is nineteen (19) trips per day. Additional limits on trips per day or other operating parameters may be required if monitoring indicates safety concerns, increase in user conflicts, or adverse effects on visitor use satisfaction or fish populations.

The permitted use level in the Dunn Reach is eight (8) trips per day, and further restricted to four (4) trips per day on weekends and holidays in July and August. The motorized tour boats would be required to be out of the Dunn Reach by 1:15 p.m. on weekends and holidays in July and August. Additional limits on trips per day or other operating parameters may be required if monitoring indicates safety concerns, increase in user conflicts, or adverse effects on visitor use satisfaction or fish populations.

The separation time must be less than two (2) minutes between boats in a group. The maximum of 19 trips per day must be organized into six (6) or fewer groups per day. The separation time is to reduce conflicts (encounters) with other users by compressing encounter time.

The size of one motorized tour boat is up to 43'x14', and all other motorized tour boats are up to 36'x12'6".

Boat sequence signing (notice of display) is required for all motorized tour boats in a group to alert other river users to the number of boats expected to be in a group.

Off-plane procedures are required in the Hellgate Canyon. (Also see No-Wake Zones below.)

A daily schedule is required; changes are only authorized by the Administrative Official.

The daily use window is May through August from 9:00 a.m. - 8:30 p.m. and in September from 9:30 a.m. - 8:30 p.m.

The use of two-way radio communications is required. The BLM and the motorized tour boat operators have mutual use of the motorized tour boat radio channel.

Safety sites of concern will be re-designated annually by the permittee and will be identified in the operating plan. Land or lead boat spotters could be required.

One (1) no-wake zone is designated at Bybee Hole. No-wake zones are also designated at boat ramps, near people working at water level, and at Josephine County designated swim areas. (Also see Off-Plane Procedures above.)

Thrill power maneuver areas will be identified on an annual basis, as appropriate. The areas are designed to minimize erosion, noise, and interference with anglers. Areas would be modified, if necessary, throughout the season. Maneuvers would not be allowed between Flanagan Slough and Dory Eddy.

The four (4) current erosion sensitive areas are: Wharton/Flanagan, Bybee Hole, Little Pickett, and Jumpoff Joe Creek. Management actions include monitoring and assessment to initiate mitigation measures as needed. See Map 2-1 in Appendix A.

### *Special Boating Events*

The existing events are: Memorial Day Boatnik (which includes the Marathon Jetboat Race) and Labor Day. New events would be considered on a case-by-case basis, pending NEPA analysis. Each permit will be issued for five years.

The season of use is year-round, providing monitoring indicates no fall Chinook spawning is occurring. Management has the option to stop possible adverse activities when fall Chinook salmon are spawning. The concern is the effect on spawning and pairing behavior and on juvenile fish (BLM Manual 6840-Special Status Species Policy).

The times of use are two hours per day for current permitted events. River closures for new events, if necessary, would be limited to two hours per day. River closure is due to safety concerns by Josephine County Marine Deputies and to allow other users access to the river. New events may or may not require river closures.

The permissible areas are the Applegate and Dunn reaches.

### *Boater Fees and Permits and User Fees*

Special Recreation Permit (SRP) fees and permits are required for commercial use as provided by regulation. The number of permits may be limited in the future, if monitoring indicates safety concerns, increase in user conflicts, or adverse effects to visitor satisfaction.

While fees and permits are not required for private users, an individual or combination of management actions (e.g., permit requirements, user fees, access control/fees) would be implemented when monitoring indicates that the protection and enhancement of the outstandingly remarkable values are being jeopardized and if there are safety concerns, increase in user conflicts, or adverse effects to visitor use satisfaction.

Fees and permits may be required for private use in the future, if monitoring indicates there are safety concerns, increase in user conflicts, or adverse effects to visitor use satisfaction.

Fees may be required for all watercraft users and for vehicle access, if monitoring indicates safety concerns, increase in user conflicts, or adverse effects to visitor use satisfaction.

### *Day-Use Only Areas*

In the Applegate Reach, all BLM-administered lands from the confluence of the Applegate River to Hog Creek are open to day-use only. See Map 2-2 in Appendix A.

The six (6) primitive day-use only areas are: Hussey Lane, Flanagan Slough, Brushy Chutes Island (see Map 2-2 in Appendix A), Hellgate Bridge Area, Bud Lewis, and Bailey Creek. See Map 2-3 in Appendix A.

There are six (6) developed day-use only areas designated. They are: Applegate Landing and Griffin Lane Complex (see Map 2-2 in Appendix A), Hellgate Canyon Viewpoint, Hellgate Bridge Viewpoint, Hellgate Recreation Site, and Rand Historic Site (see Map 2-3 in Appendix A).

There is one (1) back country byway previously designated: the Galice-Hellgate National Back Country Byway.

### *Watchable Wildlife Areas*

The three (3) existing watchable wildlife areas are: Whitehorse Park, Hog Creek Landing, and Hellgate Canyon Viewpoint.

### *Camping*

The river corridor is closed to camping in the Applegate Reach from the confluence of the Applegate River to Hog Creek on BLM-administered lands. See Map 2-2 in Appendix A.

The corridor area open to camping in the Dunn Reach is on BLM-administrated lands from Hog Creek to Grave Creek, except as noted under day-use only. See Map 2-3 in Appendix A.

The five (5) new primitive camp areas are: North Zigzag Creek, Zigzag Creek, Dunn, Lower Dunn, and Hellgate Beach. See Map 2-3 in Appendix A.

The fifteen (15) developed camp areas are: Whitehorse County Park and Griffin County Park (see Map 2-2 in Appendix A), Lower Hellgate, Indian Mary County Park, Indian Mary County Park Extension, Paint Creek (float-in), Stratton Creek (float-in), Upper Ennis (float-in), Ennis County Park, Rocky Bar, Robert Dean (float-in), Chair, Rand, Almeda County Park, and Argo ( see Map 2-3 in Appendix A).

Human waste pack out is required for all users.

Campfire requirements must meet State regulations. Fire pans are required.

The length of stay for camping is a maximum of fourteen (14) days per site, unless otherwise posted.

Camping group size limit is thirty (30) people per campsite.

### *Public Access*

The five (5) existing trails that will be improved and/or expanded are: Whitehorse Nature Trail (see Map 2-4 in Appendix A), Buckhorn Mountain, Hellgate, Umpqua Joe, and Robert Dean (Hellgate Bridge to Ash Gulch, Centennial Gulch to Argo) (see Map 2-5 in Appendix A).

The two (2) new trails that will be developed are: Robert Dean (Ash Gulch to Centennial, Argo to Grave Creek) and Rainbow. See Map 2-5 in Appendix A.

No off-highway vehicle trails will be developed. Public use of the trail system within the Hellgate Recreation Area, existing and proposed, will be restricted to hikers only (USDI 1972).

The ten (10) boat ramps that will be maintained and/or improved are: Whitehorse County Park, Ferry Hole County Park, Griffin County Park, Robertson Bridge County Park (see Map 2-2 in Appendix A), Hog Creek, Indian Mary County Park, Ennis Riffle County Park, Galice County Park, Almeda County Park, and Grave Creek (see Map 2-3 in Appendix A).

The two (2) undeveloped boat access sites that will be improved are: Rand and Argo. See Map 2-3 in Appendix A.

No new boat ramps will be developed.

The two (2) existing fishing access sites that will be maintained are: Rainbow and Carpenters Island (see Map 2-3 in Appendix A).

A Universally Accessible fishing access site will be considered.

Five (5) designated vehicle access areas on gravel bars will be maintained. They are: Griffin Lane Complex, Rocky Bar, Chair, Rand, and Argo. Vehicles are prohibited off existing roads within the Rogue National Wild and Scenic River corridor, except for parking at designated gravel bars (Federal Register Vol. 57, No. 110, 1992, 24271-24272).

### *Visitor Services*

The Smullin Visitor Center at Rand will be expanded to improve customer and administrative services.

# *Management Guidance and Direction from the Rogue National Wild and Scenic River, Oregon: Notice of Revised Development and Management Plan of 1972*

## Management Objectives

Special efforts will be made to: (1) maintain or improve the quality of water which empties in the river, (2) improve the fish and wildlife habitat, and (3) maintain its free-flowing condition.

The recreational river area will be managed to provide or restore a wide range of public outdoor recreation opportunities and water-oriented recreational facilities.

## Management Direction

Management direction statements explain how the management objectives for the river will be met.

### *Soil and Watershed*

Scenic easements on critical soil areas of privately-owned lands will be acquired to protect those areas exhibiting clear and present potential for deterioration if disturbed or where serious deterioration presently occurs.

Stabilize or re-vegetate all areas of exposed soils caused naturally or by human activities. Place special emphasis on preventing and controlling soil erosion near the water's edge.

Alteration of the stream bed will be limited to that necessary to maintain current levels of navigability. Permission must be obtained from the agency having jurisdiction before alteration is allowed. Modification of bedrock will not be permitted.

Allow no surface dumping of garbage or other potential pollutants. Waste material must be disposed of in a manner that does not contaminate ground or surface water.

Sewage disposal systems must meet or exceed the State of Oregon and local government sanitation requirements.

Cooperate with the Oregon State Department of Environmental Quality to achieve compliance with the Rogue River Water Quality and Waste Treatment standards.

Coordinate with the Army Corps of Engineers concerning releases from upstream reservoir facilities to benefit fishery resources and recreational use.

### *Fish and Wildlife*

Prepare habitat management plans for fish and wildlife: provide management guidelines that emphasize protection of species considered to be rare or endangered; direct management toward providing the maximum number of wildlife sightings along the river and trail consistent with good management practices.

Manage other resources along the river so that the fishery is enhanced, not diminished by siltation or an increase in water temperature.

Cooperate with Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife in all matters relating to fish and wildlife management.

### *Minerals*

Subject to future regulations, all prospecting, mining operation, or other activity relating to mineral exploration or production on valid mining claims will be administered under the criteria established by the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

Determine the validity of all mining claims.

Access routes to mining claims will be judged on the basis of minimum adverse affect on values of the river area.

Mining or associated operations contributing amounts of noise, smoke, dust, or other elements detrimental to the river environment may be required to limit operations during peak recreation use periods each year.

Removal of mineral materials known as “common varieties” for commercial purposes from the riverbed or adjacent bars will not be allowed subject to valid existing rights. Before any gravel is disturbed, precautions must be taken to eliminate siltation or maintain siltation at an acceptable level and approval obtained from the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife in cooperation with other State and Federal Agencies.

Where existing material removal operations are adversely affecting recreational values on the river, purchase of the mining rights on these sites will be sought as rapidly as possible. Early acquisition of scenic easement on remaining undeveloped deposits will also be pursued.

The agencies will cooperate with the Oregon State Land Board in meeting the objectives of the Act, where State-owned lands are involved.

The agencies will cooperate with the Oregon State Department of Environmental Quality to control water pollution caused by mining activities, including those beyond the river boundaries.

### *Protection*

Due to the roadless character along segments of the river and the need to maintain this character, special protection requirements are established. The unique and irreplaceable values involved demand the employment of all necessary means to insure prompt control of wildfires. Criteria for protection are as follows:

Plans will be developed for prevention, detection, and suppression of wildfire and disease or insect infestations. These plans should emphasize: (a) speed in which the above factors can be accomplished; and (b) methods of accomplishing the above factors which would create the least amount of impact to the environment.

Take restoration action to reduce the impact and return the damaged area to its original condition.

Cooperate with other governmental and private organizations in planning and implementing the protection program.

## *Recreation*

Consistent with the objectives of the individual river areas, sufficient recreation facilities, on both private and Federal land, will be developed to meet the needs of the recreationists. Care will be taken that use levels do not reach the point where the quality of recreation experience or quality of the stream environment deteriorates. Recreationists using the river in groups of larger than 10 people may be required to camp in developed campsites.

Since boating, fishing, and sightseeing are the main recreational uses on the river, top priority for recreation development would be given to improving the quality of these activities.

Although current levels of all types of boating activity create few problems, uncontrolled future use would probably result in safety hazards and a lowering of the quality of the recreation experience. When the need warrants, this will be prevented by establishment of regulations limiting size, number, type, speed, etc., to provide optimum boat use. These regulations will be developed in cooperation with the State and other agencies.

Future technological advances may result in new types of equipment that could be used on the river. Only such types of equipment compatible with management objectives would be permitted.

Recreation facilities may be developed to provide a wide range of opportunities for river-oriented recreation consistent with management objectives and protection of the river environment.

Private enterprise will be encouraged to develop recreational facilities on lands outside the river boundaries.

No action to regulate boat use will be initiated unless public safety or the recreation experience is threatened. Launching and mooring facilities may be provided within this area.

## *Acquisition*

On land that remains in private ownership, compliance with the management directions will be accomplished through acquisition of scenic easements. As used herein, the term scenic easement means purchase of the right to control the use land, including the air space above such land, for the purpose of protecting the scenic view from the river. Such control shall not affect, without the owner's consent, any regular use exercised prior to the acquisition of the easement.

Scenic easements will be sought to protect the natural environment or setting. Easements will consider protection of the view from the river or its environs as well as protection of critical resources.

Scenic easements will be written so that improvement or alteration of the property or change in land use that may impair the scenic quality or basic resource will require review and approval by the agency having jurisdiction before such activity may begin. Conforming and nonconforming uses of land are covered in this plan in a general way. Specific application of these guides will necessarily be determined on a case-by-case basis.

Where a scenic easement for a parcel of private land is needed, an attempt will be made to negotiate an easement for the parcel within the river boundary.

Acquisition of fee title will be considered on any parcel of land that becomes available if it is in the public interest to do so.

Where there is a need and the terrain is suitable, an easement for public access along the bank of the river will be acquired.

Fee acquisition will not be considered essential, but may be desirable in some instances.

Scenic easements will recognize the existence of more human-made modifications. Easements will be sought if there is a need to control uses that conflict with the basic resource.

### *Timber*

The most important value of the timber within the boundaries is in the makeup of the landscape. Timber management, therefore, will be directed toward maintaining or restoring an aesthetically pleasing timber stand.

Removal of timber is not precluded within the boundaries. When timber is to be removed, it will be done in a manner that has the least possible adverse effect on the landscape. Some cutting will be necessary in construction of approved improvements and recreation facilities or to remove hazards. Selective cutting may be allowed in some instances if the operation, including roads, is not visible from the river. There are few areas within the boundaries where this is feasible.

Timber may be removed in cases of natural catastrophe, such as fire or wind throw with its resultant buildup of insects or natural occurrences of insects or diseases, which could become epidemics. If failure to remove affected trees creates an unacceptable fire hazard or threatens to destroy large numbers of trees within the river area or adjacent land, a thorough study will be made to determine the impact of leaving the trees or removing them. The decision on whether to remove the timber will be made after considering all factors and will be based on what will be least destructive to the river area values.

Protection of timber visible from the river or its environs within the river boundaries will be accomplished through scenic easement purchase of the timber on privately-owned lands or on non-private lands through cooperative agreements. Such easements and agreements will not necessarily preclude all cutting of timber but will require prior approval of the agency having jurisdiction. This will be stipulated in the easements and agreements. Each situation will require individual analysis and judgement.

Selective harvest of timber stands within the boundaries may be permitted provided the effects are not apparent to river users and the cutting does not affect recreational or aesthetic qualities.

## *Improvements*

There are places along the river where new developments or resource improvements may be desirable to meet public needs.

Structures that can be seen from the river, trail, or developed recreation sites will:

- Be of attractive design.
- Have sufficient topography or vegetative screening to make them as inconspicuous as possible reduce visual impacts of improvements.
- Be designed so that little or no soil is left exposed when construction is complete.
- Contain no direct or indirect design features that are obtrusive or incompatible with the scenic qualities of the area. (A direct design feature is one which is a physical part of the development. Examples of incompatible direct design features are shiny metal siding or roofing, large areas of bright colors, large or lighted signs, etc.). An indirect design feature is one resulting from the development. Examples of incompatible indirect design features are noise, smoke, odor, etc.). Structures that cannot be seen from the river will contain no indirect design features obtrusive or incompatible with the scenic qualities of the area and will be designed so that little or no soil is left exposed when construction is complete.

Improvements on private land will be controlled through purchase of scenic easements. Additional recreation residences will not be permitted on public lands.

No new developments, except trails, boat ramps, mooring facilities, and service roads, below the high-water line of December 1964, except where land was covered with slack water and is not visible from the river.

No signs will be erected without written approval of the agency having jurisdiction.

Structures permitted within the recreational area of the river, provided they are in harmony with their surroundings are: residential buildings, farmsteads and appurtenant facilities, and lodges or public recreation facilities needed to serve the river user.

There may be instances where it is necessary to locate commercial public service facilities, such as gasoline stations, roadside restaurants, and motels, within the recreational river boundaries. With the exception of boat-servicing marina operations, developments adjacent to the river will be discouraged. Where other developments are necessary within the boundaries, they will be designed and placed so as to be as unobtrusive as possible. Vegetative screening and topography will be used to keep them from direct view of the river.

Developments will be limited so that no more than four structures on each side of the river will be readily visible in any one mile of river frontage, with no structure of one development closer than 200 feet to a structure of another development. Where developments cannot be seen from the river, they will be allowed on the basis of a minimum lot size of one acre each, provided sewage disposal can be adequately accomplished. Lots will have a minimum side dimension of 100 feet. Within these limitations, cluster-type developments may be permitted. Existing developments are part of the quota.

On lots of less than one acre which existed prior to October 2, 1968, the owner may construct a single-family dwelling on the same basis as if the lot was one acre or more.

Other structures will be permitted where necessary for the administration of the river or essential to accomplish other activities allowed in this area.

Construction and placement of salmon boards on private lands where thy have not been used before will be regulated through scenic easement purchase. To be permitted, they must be of attractive design and must not obstruct navigation. They should not become so numerous as to affect other recreational uses of the river. Their use on public lands may be allowed under permit from the administering agency. They will be removed each year by June 15 and stored out of sight.

### *Transportation*

Existing roads and bridges affect the quality of the landscape along the river.

Great care will be taken in the location and design of any future roads to assure they are not visible in a way that would detract from the river environment.

Construction of roads, trails, or tramways will be controlled on private land through scenic easements. Approval of construction will be determined on a case-by-case basis.

No additional airstrips or railroads will be permitted.

Helispots may be located only in locations out of view of the river, trail, or recreation sites and where they do not adversely affect the recreation experience.

There will be no additional bridges or cable crossing across the Rogue River with the possible exception of a foot bridge or ferry at Agness.

Public use of the trail system, existing and proposed, will be restricted to hikers only.

Roads and trails will be constructed to the minimum safe standard consistent with the intended use. Public roads will be treated to eliminate dust, when deemed necessary by the administering agency.

Transportation plans will be reviewed and updated periodically to reflect the management objectives for the Wild and Scenic River.

New roads needed for developments will be permitted providing the design, location, and standards are such that the least impact on the environment is assured. Additional through roads paralleling the river will not be permitted.

Parking areas will be located out of sight of the river or recreation sites. Screening will be provided if necessary. If there is any other suitable nearby place to park, parking will not be permitted on the gravel bars in view of the river. Where there is no suitable alternative, vehicles will be parked where they are least conspicuous.

### *Utilities*

With a few exceptions along the recreational river areas, existing utility development along the river has had little adverse affect on recreational and scenic values. However, construction of additional developments and expansion of existing ones will increase the need for additional utilities. Construction of new utilities will be done in such a way that the scenic and recreational values are not degraded.

Try to locate all new utility lines out of view of the river or its environs. Where this is not possible, the visual impact will be reduced by use of screening, color non-reflective

hardware and conductors, and treatment of the new utility corridor. Reduction of visual impact of existing lines should be encouraged.

Where feasible, utility lines will be buried.

Power-generating equipment will be located and designed so that it cannot be seen or heard from the river.

If possible, existing and proposed utility lines will be grouped and aerial crossings of the river are reduced. The possibility of attaching new utility lines to bridges should be investigated.

Where necessary for protection of the scenic quality of the river front, scenic easement purchase of the right to construct utilities visible or audible from the river will be undertaken. This includes power generating equipment.

### *Visitor Information*

Manned visitor information stations will be needed in the Hellgate Recreation area and at the confluence of the Illinois and Rogue River.

### *Grazing*

Presently, there is very little grazing land within the river boundaries. Private land now in pasture is compatible with the scenic qualities of the river and may continue to be used for that purpose.

### *Bordering Lands*

The area within view of the river extends beyond the river boundaries in many placaes. Preservation of the scenery within this area is an established management objective. The administering agencies will manage the resources to protect the aesthetic and recreational qualities of the area visible from the river or trail. There will be intensive coordination and analysis of resources before any activity is authorized within the bordering lands.

Although timber cutting is restricted, it is allowed if done in accordance with the management objective and does not pollute the Rogue or its tributaries.

## *Management Guidance and Direction from the Prohibited Acts in Rogue National Wild and Scenic River Area of 1992 (Federal Register Vo. 57, No. 110, 24271-24274)*

### Boating

Going onto or being upon the Rogue River between Grave Creek and the Siskiyou National Forest boundary at Marial using any type of floatable craft or object without: (1) A Rogue Wild and Scenic River management group permit (of which BLM is a signatory), or (2) a joint BLM/US Forest Service (USFS) permit, or (3) an individual BLM permit for such use. The provisions of this paragraph shall not be applicable to persons engaged in noncommercial boating trips on the river from September 16 to May 31.

## Boat Launching

Using any of the lands described in Exhibit A located between Grave Creek and the Siskiyou National Forest boundary at Marial for the purpose of entering or going upon the Rogue River with any type of floatable craft or object without: (1) A Rogue Wild and Scenic River management group permit (of which BLM is signatory), or (2) a joint BLM/ Forest Service permit, or (3) an individual BLM permit for such use. The provisions of this paragraph shall not be applicable to persons engaged in noncommercial boating trips on the river from September 16 to May 31.

## Operation of Motorized Boats

Operation of any motorized boat on the Rogue River between Grave Creek and the Siskiyou National Forest boundary at Marial between May 15 and November 15. The provisions of this paragraph shall not be applicable to persons having a valid BLM permit for such use.

## Camping

Camping for a period longer than 14 consecutive days (7 days in the Wild Section of the river), or as posted.

Camping in any area posted as closed to that use.

Occupying any portion of a developed or undeveloped recreation site for other than recreation purposes.

Occupying between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. a place designated for day-use only.

## Building, Maintaining, Attending, or Using a Fire

Carelessly or negligently throwing or placing any burning substance, or any other substance or thing which may cause a fire, or firework or explosive into any place where it might start a fire; causing timber, slash, brush, or grass to burn except as authorized by BLM permit; leaving a fire without completely extinguishing it; allowing a fire to escape from control; or building, attending, maintaining or using a campfire without adequately removing all flammable material from around the campfire, which could allow its escape.

Failing to observe State fire closure regulations or notices issued by the Oregon State Department of Forestry.

Building, maintaining, attending, or using an open fire in any configuration within 400 feet of the river's edge, except when the fire is in a firepan or similar device that will contain the fire and its residue.

## Improper Disposal of Trash or Human Waste

Placing in or near a river, a stream, or other water any substance which does or may contribute to polluting such river, stream or other water.

Failing to dispose of all trash or human waste either by removing it from the area or by depositing it into receptacles or at places provided for such purposes. Human waste may also be buried six to eight inches deep in the soil, away from campsites or water.

Leaving in a trash container or dump, any trash brought as such from private property.

## Disorderly Conduct

Engaging in fighting or in threatening, abusive, indecent or offensive behavior.

Making unreasonable noise.

Being nude where a person may be observed by the general public. No person under the age of 10 years shall be considered nude under this paragraph.

## Other Acts – USDI 1992

a. Violation of the terms of any written permission or permit issued by the BLM which authorizes an act omission otherwise prohibited by the order.
b. Operating motorized vehicles off roads within BLM Wild and Recreational Sections of the Rogue National Wild and Scenic River corridor, except for the following five areas which are open to day use vehicle parking on the gravel bar. These five limited access points are the gravel bar fishing areas at Rand Recreation site, Rocky Riffle Recreation site, Griffin Park Group Recreation site, Argo Recreation site, and Whitehorse Recreation site.
c. Discharging a firearm or any other implement capable of taking human life, causing injury, or damaging property (1) from June 1 to September 15 from the land or waters between Grave Creek and the Siskiyou National Forest boundary at Marial, or (2) at any time within 150 yards of a residence, building, developed or undeveloped recreation site, or occupied area, or (3) at any time across or on any public road, or across or on any trail or body of water whereby any person or property is exposed to injury or damages as a result of such discharge.
d. Constructing, placing, or maintaining any kind of road, trail, fence enclosure, communication equipment building or other structure or improvement without a BLM authorization.
e. Damaging, disturbing or removing any timber or other vegetation or forest product, except as authorized by a BLM permit or timber sale contract. The provisions of this paragraph shall not be applicable to the use by campers of reasonable amounts of dead and down timber for campfire.
f. Defacing, disturbing or removing any national feature or any property of the United States.
g. Entering any structure owned or controlled by the United States when such structure is not designated open to the public.
h. Digging in, disturbing, or removing any archaeological, paleontological or historical object, without a BLM permit.
i. Digging, scraping, disturbing, or removing natural land features for the purpose of mineral prospecting or mining. The provisions of this paragraph shall not be applicable to: (1) Valid existing mining rights, (2) recreational gold panning that does not require digging, dredging, or sluicing, or (3) the use in accordance with State law and regulations of up to a four inch diameter motorized suction dredge in the river channel between the mouth of the Applegate River and the mouth of Grave Creek. Suction dredges are restricted to operations below water level and within existing banks.
j. Using or possessing a bicycle, motorized vehicle, saddle, pack or draft animal on the Rogue River Trail from the trail head at Grave Creek to the Siskiyou National Forest boundary at Marial, or the Rainie Falls Trail from the trail head at Grave Creek to Rainie Falls.
k. Operation or use of any aircraft within 1,000 feet of the water surface from June 1 to September 15 between Grave Creek and the Siskiyou National Forest boundary at Marial. The provisions of this paragraph shall not be applicable to the operation and use of aircraft by persons forced to land due to circumstances beyond their control and by persons with a BLM permit for such use.

l. Failing to exhibit required permits and identification when requested by a BLM Authorized Officer or representative. Failure to properly display boat tag.
m. Conducting any kind of business enterprise without a BLM permit.
n. Threatening, resisting, intimidating or interfering with any BLM official or employee engaged in or on account of the performance of his official duties in the administration of the National Wild and Scenic Rogue River.
o. Jumping, falling, rappelling, dangling, throwing or causing or assisting any object, person or animal to jump, fall, rappel, dangle or be thrown from Grave Creek Bridge or Hellgate Bridge. Occupancy of any portion of the above bridges, other than the roadway or pedestrian footpaths located on these bridges.

The provisions of paragraphs 1, 2, 3, 4, and 8, b, c, j, k and o shall not be applicable to any federal, state or local officer member of any organized rescues of fire fighting force in the performance of an official duty.

Violation of these prohibitions is punishable by a fine of not more than $500 or imprisonment for not more than 6 months, or both. (Title 16 U.S.C. 3) [43 CFR 8351.2-1]

# *Management Guidance and Direction from the BLM Medford District Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan of 1995*

## Objective

Manage designated segments of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System to protect their outstandingly remarkable values and maintain and enhance the natural integrity of river-related values.

## Visual Resource Management

The Congressionally-designated Rogue Wild and Scenic River corridor is a Visual Resource Management Class I.

# Monitoring

Monitoring is the process of tracking the implementation and effectiveness of a land use plan. The purposes of monitoring are to: ensure protection and enhancement of the outstandingly remarkable values, provide a mechanism to address user capacities, ensure activities are occurring in conformance with the plan, determine if activities are producing the expected results, and determine if activities are causing the effects identified in the RAMP/FEIS.

Monitoring and evaluations will be utilized to ensure that decisions and priorities conveyed by the plan are being implemented, that progress toward identified resource objectives is occurring, and that mitigating measures and other management direction are effective in avoiding or reducing adverse environmental impacts.

Based on information from monitoring and specific analysis of proposed projects, specific mitigation measures will be addressed as projects are analyzed. Baseline data gathered during the planning process will be utilized as a comparison to monitor the river activities and resource conditions (see Table 1. Monitoring, p. 27).

## Botany

### *Goal*

- Maintain or enhance native vegetation and plant communities.

### *Objectives*

- Maintain native vegetation at current levels of coverage. A decrease of 20 percent cover at a specific site due to trampling, vehicle use, or noxious weed spread, for example, will initiate management actions.
- Utilize existing noxious weed and plan survey information to develop control strategies.
- Decrease the current coverage of specific noxious weed populations by 20 percent annually, when and where control efforts have a possibility of success.
- Treat newly discovered weed invasions annually given appropriate funding and resources.

### *Monitoring Plan*

**Purpose of Monitoring** - Determine if public activities will reduce the extent of native vegetation.

**Unit of Measure** - Percent of area disturbed and extent of noxious weeds.

**Threshold** – 20% decline in native vegetation cover.

**Frequency of Monitoring** - Photo monitoring annually. Transects or perimeter mapping every other year.

**Estimated Annual Cost** - $2,000 for monitoring. $2,000 for weed treatments.

**Management Responsibility** - Botanist, River Program, and possibly Oregon Department of Agriculture.

## Fisheries

### *Goals*

- To support the BLM's special status species policy regarding Fall chinook.
- To protect Fall chinook spawning, associated spawning behavior, and fry rearing.

### *Objectives*

- Annually conduct three monitoring trips to document adult spawning activity for apparent spawning behavior, actual spawning, and redds by floating and/or bank observations.
- Document location, time, and date of survey;
- Determine if adverse effects are present;
- Determine the level of unacceptable impacts to Fall chinook;
- Document unacceptable adverse effects; and
- Notify Field Manager and River Manager in writing of the type and location of adverse effects and recommendations for mitigation, if needed.

### *Assumptions*

- Fall chinook redds are found in riffles where boating activity occurs;
- Fall chinook salmon spawning, courtship displays, redd building, and fertilization are considered sensitive to disturbance from boats passing over or near these areas;
- Motorized boating and boat and bank angling have a high probability for disturbance to eggs and spawning behavior; and
- Float craft with kickers (outboard motors) may disturb chinook spawning or eggs in the gravel.

### *Monitoring Plan*

**Purpose** - To determine the extent of harm or harassment to spawners, redds, or eggs.

**Unit of Measure** - Presence of spawning behavior, or actual spawning pairs, or number of redds.

**Threshold** - Stop human activity when unacceptable impacts are identified.

**Frequency** - Annually conduct two monitoring trips in September and one in October.

**Estimated Annual Cost** - $2,000.

**Management Responsibility** - Fisheries and River Program.

## Landowners' Perceptions

### *Goal*

- Periodically sample landowners' perceptions to augment and update data gathered in the baseline study done in 1994 (York et al. 1994).

Objectives

- Evaluate the 1994 study for determination of any new parameters needed, including but not limited to, perceptions of special boating events.

- Determine what trends are developing in landowners' perceptions utilizing the same evaluation criteria from the baseline study.

Assumptions

- Landowners' perceptions to the parameters in the study will change over time, or may change over time.

### *Monitoring Plan*

**Purpose of Monitoring** - Determine if landowners' perceptions are changing.

**Unit of Measure** - Landowner survey results.

**Threshold** - Downward trend in landowner satisfaction.

**Frequency of Monitoring** - Every 5 years.

**Estimated Annual Cost** - $3,000.

**Management Responsibility** - River Program.

## Riparian Areas, Wetlands, and Flood Plains

### *Goal*

- Maintain or enhance existing desired natural conditions in riparian areas, wetlands, and flood plains. "Desired natural conditions" refers to existing conditions or conditions that are at less than excess disturbance.

### *Objectives*

- Establish a baseline of existing conditions for the purpose of future comparison. If existing ground disturbance is at excess levels (15 to 25 percent of any given site), actions would be initiated to reduce disturbance levels.

- Maintain desired natural conditions by monitoring the same sites annually to establish trends of disturbance. Where trends show net increases, implement actions that would reduce disturbed areas.

### *Assumptions*

- Most ground-based recreation activity takes place adjacent to the river. Some wetlands may be separate and isolated from riparian areas and flood plains.

- Recreation activity can cause ground disturbance that will affect soil productivity and may result in erosion.

- Ground disturbance consists of human- or domestic animal-caused changes in the soil surface including: deflection, mechanical soil or organic matter displacement, and artificial surfacing gravel or pavement. Monitoring of ground disturbances is limited to areas that are not affected by peak river flows.

- Excess disturbance is considered at high levels where areal extent of disturbance is roughly in the range of 15 to 25 percent of any given site. This quantity is subject to adjustment, depending on finding of existing condition.

### *Monitoring Plan*

**Purpose of Monitoring -** Determine if human-caused activities cause major impacts to these areas.

**Unit of Measure** - Percent of disturbed area.

**Threshold -** Increase in disturbance.

**Frequency of Monitoring** – Every 5 years.

**Estimated Annual Cost** - $2,000.

**Management Responsibility** - Soil Scientist and River Program.

## Soils

### *Goal*

- To assess human-caused erosion, bank loss, and sedimentation, and to identify potential future bank degradation and natural/property loss.

### *Objectives*

- To survey changes in stream bank conditions due to erosion utilizing Klingeman's study as baseline information. Surveys will be conducted at specified sites using photographic comparisons.

- To initiate mitigation measures, as needed.

### *Assumption*

- Bank erosion is primarily a natural process (Klingeman 1993).

### *Monitoring Plan*

**Purpose of Monitoring** - Determine if human activities are causing bank erosion and the extent.

**Unit of Measure** - Observation and photographic year-to-year comparison.

**Threshold -** Local river bank loss is substantial. "Substantial" is a relative term and will be determined upon establishment of monitoring trends for each site.

**Frequency of Monitoring -** Photo points and standard notes at each site annually.

**Estimated Annual Cost -** $2,000.

**Management Responsibility** - Soil Scientist and River Program.

## Transportation

### *Goal*

- To provide a safe and efficient transportation system for those participating in Hellgate Recreation Area activities.

### *Objectives*

- Measure traffic counts for vehicle traffic on the BLM-administered portion of the Merlin-Galice Road utilizing traffic studies (1991 and 2000).
- Compare actual traffic counts to projected traffic counts.

### *Assumptions*

- The majority of traffic occurs during a 10-hour period each day.

### *Monitoring Plan*

**Purpose of Monitoring** - Determine traffic counts and compare to maximum road capacity.

**Unit of Measure** - Vehicles per hour (vph).

**Threshold** - 2,094 vph.

**Frequency of Monitoring** – Every 5 years.

**Estimated Cost** - $2,000.

**Management Responsibility** - Engineering Staff and River Program.

## User Perceptions

### *Goal*

- To assess user perceptions on social and ecological impacts, environmental conditions, and user preferences on potential management actions as compared to data gathered in the baseline study done in 1993 (Shindler and Shelby 1993).

### *Objectives*

- Compile demographic data on the user population.
- Identify user perceptions of existing opportunities, conditions, and problems.
- Assess user support for a range of management actions for improving river conditions.

### *Monitoring Plan*

**Purpose of Monitoring** - Determine if user perceptions change over time while maintaining and enhancing the outstandingly remarkable values of natural scenery, recreation, and fish while providing quality recreation experiences through management actions.

**Unit of Measure** - User survey results.

**Threshold** - A 10 percent increase in any survey parameter that directly relates to a decline in providing a quality recreation experience (i.e., resource/ecological conditions, crowding, conflicts, safety, satisfaction, etc.).

**Frequency of Monitoring** - Every 5 years**.**

**Estimated Annual Cost** - $40,000.

**Management Responsibility** - River Program.

## Visitor Use

### *Goal*

- To estimate the number of recreational users within the Hellgate Recreation Area, utilizing different sampling methods, for the purpose of developing management actions to address concerns associated with the social and ecological impacts assessed in the User Perception surveys.

### *Objective*

- To assess recreation visitor use as compared with the data gathered in 1995. To count visitors participating in private and commercial float/boating activities and primary shoreline activities including day-use, camping, hiking, angling, etc.

### *Monitoring Plan*

**Purpose of Monitoring -** Record the total number of visitors to the Hellgate Recreation Area within any calendar year and determine activity trends based on an increase and/or decrease in visitors participating in any specific activity.

**Unit of Measure -** Visitor use day.

**Threshold** - An increase in any user activity that triggers unacceptable social and/or ecological impacts.

**Frequency of Monitoring -** Every 2 years.

**Estimated Annual Cost -** $10,000.

**Management Responsibility -** River Program.

## Visual Resources

### *Goal*

- To maintain and enhance the natural integrity of the river corridor as a VRM Class I (USDI 1995) through the BLM's Visual Resource Management (VRM) process (USDI 1986).

### *Objectives*

- To use the BLM's Visual Contrast Rating Worksheet to evaluate the degree of contrast between the proposed activity and the existing landscape to ensure VRM Class I consistency.

- To initiate mitigation measures, as needed.

### *Assumption*

- Recreation activities and ground-disturbing projects can cause alterations to the existing character of the landscape.

### *Monitoring Plan*

**Purpose of Monitoring –** Ensure that shoreline recreation activities and management projects are meeting the VRM Class I objective.

**Unit of Measure –** Level of change must not attract attention to the casual observer.

**Threshold –** Changes to the existing character of the landscape is not substantial.

**Frequency of Monitoring –** Photo points, visual contrast rating worksheet, and standard notes as needed.

**Estimated Annual Cost -** $2,000.

**Management Responsibility** - River Program.

## Water Quality

### *Goal*

- To be involved and active in the planning process for the Department of Environmental Quality's Water Quality Management Plan. The Water Quality Management Plan will identify water quality problems and result in problem mitigation. It will also establish if there are impacts from recreation on water quality.

### *Objective*

- Provide preliminary and supplemental data in the form of *E. coli* sampling and testing for DEQ's Water Quality Management Plan in order to assist in reducing disease-causing organisms in the Rogue River.

### *Monitoring Plan*

**Purpose of Monitoring** - Determine if recreation activities are negatively impacting water quality.

**Unit of Measure** - Number of *E. coli* per 100 milliliters. Sampling and testing for *E. coli* will be consistent with DEQ protocol. Samples will be taken at three locations relative to the Hellgate Recreation Area: above, below, and in the central part of the Hellgate Recreation Area. Testing will be coordinated with the DEQ's testing program.

**Threshold** - Monthly average of 126 *E. coli* per 100 milliliters or 406 per sample.

**Frequency of Monitoring** - Testing will begin the summer of 2005. Further testing will occur every three years, or as needed.

**Estimated Annual Cost** - $3,000.

**Management Responsibility** - Soil Scientist and River Program.

## Wildlife - Bald Eagles

### *Goal*

- To ensure recreation activities in the Hellgate Recreation Area do not impact the reproductive success of known bald eagle pairs.

### *Objectives*

- Annually record the number of young fledged in the Hellgate Recreation Area to determine reproductive success.
- Identify recreation impacts potentially affecting reproductive success of known bald eagle pairs.

### *Monitoring Plan*

**Purpose of Monitoring** - Determine reproductive success.

**Unit of Measure** - Number of young fledged.

**Threshold** - Annual average of 1 fledged per pair with average success of greater than 65 percent over a 5-year period.

**Frequency of Monitoring** - Annually.

**Estimated Annual Cost** - $2,000.

**Management Responsibility** - Wildlife Staff.

## Wildlife - Great Blue Herons

### *Goal*

- To ensure recreation activities in the Hellgate Recreation Area do not impact the number of active great blue heron nests.

### *Objectives*

- Document the location of rookeries and count the number of active great blue heron nests in the Hellgate Recreation Area and determine trends for number of active nests.

- Identify recreation impacts potentially affecting the nesting activity of great blue herons in the Hellgate Recreation Area.

### *Monitoring Plan*

**Purpose of Monitoring** - Document the location of rookeries and determine the number of active great blue heron nests.

**Unit of Measure** - Number of active nests.

**Threshold** - 20 percent reduction in the number of active great blue heron nests over a 10-year period.

**Frequency of Monitoring** - Every 3 years.

**Estimated Annual Cost** - $3,000.

**Management Responsibility** - Wildlife Staff.

## Wildlife - Osprey

### *Goal*

- To ensure recreation activities in the Hellgate Recreation Area do not impact the number of active osprey nests.

### *Objectives*

- Record the number of active osprey nests within the Hellgate Recreation Area and determine trends for number of active nests.

- Identify recreation impacts potentially affecting the nesting activity of osprey in the Hellgate Recreation Area.

### *Monitoring Plan*

**Purpose of Monitoring** - Document the number of active osprey nests.

**Unit of Measure** - Number of active nests.

**Threshold** - Greater than 20 percent reduction in the number of active nests over a 10-year period.

**Frequency of Monitoring** - Every 3 years.

**Estimated Annual Cost** - $3,000.

**Management Responsibility** - Wildlife Staff.

## Wildlife - Western Pond Turtles

### *Goal*

- To manage recreation activities in the Hellgate Recreation Area in a manner compatible with western pond turtles.

### *Objectives*

- Obtain an estimate of the western pond turtle population.

- Determine trends for the western pond turtle population within the Hellgate Recreation Area.

### *Monitoring Plan*

**Purpose of Monitoring** - Obtain an estimate of the western pond turtle population in the Hellgate Recreation Area.

**Unit of Measure** - Number of western pond turtles.

**Threshold** - 20 percent reduction in the number of western pond turtles over a 10-year period.

**Frequency of Monitoring** - Every 3 years.

**Estimated Annual Cost** - $20,000.

**Management Responsibility** - Wildlife Staff.

## Table 1. Monitoring

| Resource | Purpose | Unit of Measure | Baseline | Threshold | Management Actions |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Botany<br>Native Vegetation | Determine if public activities are reducing the extent of the native vegetation. | Percent of area disturbed. | Medford District Aerial Photos, July 2001. | 20 percent decrease in cover at a specific site. | User education, signing, access control. |
| Noxious Weeds | Decrease the current coverage of specific noxious weed populations where control efforts have a possibility of success. | Area and location of noxious weeds. | Noxious Weed Mapping, 2003. | 20 percent decrease annually. | Manual and biological treatments. |
| Fisheries<br>Fall Chinook | Determine the extent of harm or harassment to spawners, redds, or eggs. | Presence of spawning behavior, or actual spawning pairs, or number of redds. | Annual monitoring since 1992. | Unacceptable impacts are identified. | User education, signing, access control, motor or craft exclusions, use limits. |
| Landowner Perceptions | Determine if landowner perceptions are changing. | Landowner survey results. | Survey of the attitude of residents along the Hellgate Recreation Area of the Rogue River toward user groups and their impact (1994). | Downward trend in landowner satisfaction. | User education, signing, access control, motor or craft exclusions, use limits. |
| Riparian Areas, Wetlands, and Floodplains | Determine if human-caused activities are impacting these areas. | Percent of disturbed area. | Rogue Basin Riparian Condition Assessment ODEQ, January 2004. | 20 percent increase in disturbance. | User education, signing, access control. |
| Soils | Determine if human-caused activities are causing bank erosion and to what extent. | Annual observation with photo documentation for comparison. | FEIS Mapping. | Local river bank loss is substantial based on trends for each site. | User education, signing, access control. |
| Transportation | Determine traffic counts and compare to maximum road capacity. | Vehicles per hour (vph). | Transportation Research Board, 100 vph, 2000. | 2,094 vehicles per hour. | Access control, transportation upgrade. |
| User Perceptions | Determine if user perceptions change over time. | User survey results. | Rogue River Study: Assessments of Recreation Impacts and User perceptions on the Bureau of Land Management Recreation Section (1993). | 10 percent increase in survey parameter that relates to a decline in providing a quality recreation experience. | User education, signing, access control, motor or craft exclusions, use limits. |

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Visitor Use | Determine recreation visitor use to the Hellgate Recreation Area and determine activity trends. | Visitor use day. | Visitor Use Background Paper for revising the Hellgate Recreation Area Management Plan (1995). | Increase in use that triggers unacceptable social or ecological impacts. | User education, signing, access control, motor or craft exclusions, use limits. |
| Visual Resources | Ensure that shoreline recreation activities and management projects are meeting the VRM Class I objective. | Level of change must not attract attention to the casual observer. | RMP mapping (1995). | Change to the existing landscape is not substantial. | |
| Water Quality | Determine if recreation activities are negatively impacting water quality. | Number of *E. coli* per 100 milliliters. | Sampling per ODEQ protocol (2005). | 126 *E. coli* per sample. | |
| Wildlife<br>Bald Eagle | Determine reproductive success. | Number of young fledged. | Monitoring since 1995. | Annual average of one fledged per pair with average success greater than 65 percent over a 5-year period. | Access control, motor or craft exclusions, and use limits. |
| Great Blue Heron | Document the location of rookeries and determine the number of active nests. | Number of active nests. | Monitoring since 2002. | 20% reduction over 10-year period. | |
| Western Pond Turtle | Obtain an estimate of the western pond turtle population. | Number of Western Pond Turtles. | Monitoring since 2002. | 20% reduction over 10-year period. | |
| Osprey | Document the location of nests and determine the number of active nests. | Number of active nests. | Monitoring since 2002. | 20% reduction over 10-year period. | |

# Glossary

**Acquired lands** - Lands within the Rogue Wild and Scenic River corridor obtained by the BLM under the authority of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. Acquired lands are closed to mineral entry.

**Administrative rules -** Regulations established by State agency boards and commissions in accordance with Oregon Revised Statutes.

**Agricultural, forestry, commercial, or industrial sound generators** - Equipment, facilities, operations, or activities employed in the production, storage, handling, sale, purchase, exchange, or maintenance of a product, commodity, or service.

**Alevin -** Newly hatched salmon or trout, with exterior yolk sac, residing in the gravel prior to emergence to the stream.

**Allocation** - Apportionment of types and levels of use to individual users at specific times; usually necessary when levels of use exceed acceptable limits and established standards.

**Alluvium** - Any sediment deposited by flowing water, as in a river bed, flood plain, and delta.

**Alternatives** - Different management options.

**Ambient sound** - All-encompassing sound associated with a given environment, usually consisting of a composite of sounds from various sources near and far.

**Anadromous fish** - Fish, such as salmon and steelhead, that migrate as adults from the ocean into fresh water streams to produce young. The young return to the ocean to grow to maturity.

**Analysis file** - Records of the scoping and analysis process conducted in the preparation of a NEPA document; typically stored at the BLM office that issued the final decision.

**Anchoring prohibited zones** - A measure to promote the safe navigation of all watercraft by prohibiting boat anchoring within a specific area of the shoreline and within a specific time frame. These zones are established and managed by the Oregon State Marine Board.

**Angling enhancement zone** - Specific area designed to enhance the angling watercraft recreational experience by prohibiting boat anchoring within a specific area of the shoreline during the primary fishing seasons. Most angling enhancement zones are outside the motorized tour boat season of use. The objective is for the maximum number of anglers to have an opportunity to use prime fishing holes. These zones are similar to anchoring prohibited zones, however, these zones could be accomplished through special BLM stipulations or through user education.

**Annual daily schedule** - An element of some alternatives that establishes a permit stipulation requiring a schedule. The purpose is to inform other users of the approximate time motorized tour boats (MTBs) plan to pass certain points on the river. The MTB permittee would provide the schedule to BLM by April 1 prior to each use season.

**Applegate Reach** - The upper river stretch in the Hellgate Recreation Area from the confluence of the Applegate River to Hog Creek.

**Aquatic** - Living or growing in or on the water.

**Aquatic habitat** - Standing or flowing water that satisfies survival requirements for terrestrial or aquatic species during at least a portion of their life cycle.

**Archaeological site** - Geographic locale containing structures, artifacts, material remains, and/or other evidence of past human activity.

**Artificial structures** - Constructed cavities, such as bird houses, that provide shelter for wildlife.

**Back Country Byway** - Vehicle routes that traverse scenic corridors utilizing secondary or back country road systems. National back country byways are designated by the type of road and vehicle needed to travel the byway.

**Baseline** - Starting point for analysis of environmental consequences; may be the conditions at a point in time or the average of a set of data collected over a specified number of years.

**Basic site protection measures** - Engineering techniques designed to reduce or control recreation impacts. In campsites, basic site protection measures could include tent pads, toilets, footpaths, steps, and vegetative plantings (see Campsite Hardening).

**Big game** - Large mammals that are hunted, such as Roosevelt elk, black-tailed deer, and black bear.

**Biological corridor** - A more or less continuous connection between habitats that allows for movement from one region to another.

**BLM-administered lands** - Any land or interest (e.g., property with scenic easements) in land managed by the federal government and administered by the Secretary of the Interior through the BLM.

**Boat** - All floating watercraft.

**Boater** - Any person who utilizes floating watercraft for river transportation.

**Bureau assessment species** - Additional species designated by a BLM State Director besides Bureau Sensitive; this species category pertains only to the states of Oregon/Washington; they are species not currently eligible for official federal or state status but are of concern in these states; they, at a minimum, need protection or mitigation in BLM activities.

**Bureau sensitive species -** Those species designated by State Director, usually in cooperation with a State agency responsible for managing the species and State Natural heritage programs, as sensitive. They are those species that: (1) could become endangered in or extirpated from a state, or within a significant portion of its distribution; (2) are under status review by the FWS and/or NMFS; (3) are undergoing significant current or predicted downward trends in habitat capability that would reduce species' existing distribution; (4) are undergoing significant current or predicted downward trends in population or density such that federal listed, proposed, candidate, or state listed status may become necessary; (5) typically have small and widely dispersed populations; (6) inhabit ecological refugia or other specialized or unique habitats; or (7) are state listed but which may be better conserved through application of BLM sensitive species status.

**Bureau tracking species -** These species are not considered as special status species for management purposes. These species may become of concern in the future, so districts are encouraged to collect occurrence data for more information to determine if species will need status within the state.

**Camp areas, primitive** - An area without designated campsites and specified for both day and overnight use. It does not provide improvements for visitor comfort or sanitation.

**Campground, developed** - An area having designated campsites and specified for both day and overnight use. It contains improvements for visitor comfort and sanitary facilities, such as toilets, drinking water, tables, and trash receptacles.

**Camping** - Outdoor living for recreation.

**Campsite hardening** - Measures to reduce camper impact on the natural resources. Example: paving a footpath (see Basic Site Protection Measures).

**Campsite rehabilitation** - Measures to restore damaged campsites and to prevent further damage to natural resources, such as planting grass and shrubs.

**Campsite, suitable** - A site with soil, vegetation, and slope conditions capable of accommodating camping use without causing significant damage to the basic resources.

**Candidate species** - Those plants and animals included in Federal Register Notices of Review that are being considered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) or the National Marine Fisheries Services (NMFS) for listing as threatened or endangered.

**Casual use** - Activities ordinarily resulting in negligible disturbance of federal lands and resources.

**Cavity excavator** - A wildlife species that digs or chips out cavities in wood to provide a nesting, roosting, or foraging site.

**Cavity nester** - A wildlife species that nests in cavities.

**Chemical spills** - Accidental releases of chemical products that have the potential for damaging natural or human resources.

**Client** - A paying member of a guided or outfitted group.

**Commercial use** - The use of public lands and related waters for business or financial gain.

**Commodity resources** - Goods, products, or services of economic use or value.

**Community stability** - Capacity of a community (incorporated town or county) to absorb and cope with change without major hardship to institutions or groups within the community.

**Concern** - A management topic of public interest that is not well enough defined to become a planning issue and does not involve either controversy or dispute over resource management activities or allocations nor lend itself to designating management alternatives. A concern may be addressed in analysis, background documents, procedures, or a noncontroversial decision.

**Congressionally-designated areas** - Areas that require congressional enactment for their establishment, such as National Wilderness Areas, National Wild and Scenic Rivers, and National Recreation Areas.

**Conservation release season** - Time for releasing water either stored or held back during the conservation storage season. The release season is based upon stream flow and temperature objectives, primarily for fishery enhancement. Release for Applegate and Lost Creek reservoirs, as set by the United States Army Corps of Engineers, is May 1 through October 31.

**Conservation storage season** - Time when water is stored or held back for release at later time to meet water needs for fishery enhancement, irrigation, or municipal and domestic water uses. Storage season for Applegate and Lost Creek reservoirs, as set by the United States Army Corps of Engineers, is February 1 through April 30. Storage allocations during the conservation season total 180,000 acre feet (125,000 acre feet for fishery enhancement; 35,000 acre feet for future irrigation needs; and 20,000 acre feet for future municipal and domestic water needs).

**Consistency** - The adherence, under the Federal Land Policy and Management Act, of BLM resource management plans to the terms, conditions, and decisions of officially approved and adopted resource related plans or, in their absence, with policies and programs of other federal agencies, state and local governments, and Indian tribes, so long as the plans are also consistent with the purposes, policies, and programs of federal laws and regulations applicable to BLM-administered lands.

**Council of Environmental Quality (CEQ)** - An advisory council to the President established by the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. It reviews federal programs for their effect on the environment, conducts environmental studies, and advises the President on environmental matters.

**County lands** - Any land or interest in land managed by a specific county, such as Josephine County for this plan.

**Crucial habitat** - Habitat that is basic to maintaining viable populations of fish or wildlife during certain seasons of the year or specific reproduction periods.

**Cultural resources** - Remains of human activity, occupation, or endeavor reflected in archaeological or historic districts, sites, structures, buildings, objects, artifacts, ruins, works of art, and architecture; and natural features of importance in past human activities and cultural practices. Cultural resources consist of: (1) physical remains; (2) locations of significant human events in the past, or locations for traditional cultural practices, even though physical evidence of those events and practices may not exist; and (3) those elements of the natural setting that contribute to a site's historic cultural significance.

**Daily use** - Time of day when a permitted activity is prescribed to occur.

**Day-use area, developed** - An area designated as day-use only. It contains improvements for comfort and sanitation, such as toilets, drinking water, tables, and trash receptacles.

**Day-use area, primitive** - An area designated as day-use only, but without improvements for comfort or sanitation.

**Day-use parking pass** - An annual permit required by the BLM when parking in BLM-administered day-use areas, including camping areas, within the Hellgate Recreation Area.

**Dedicated fund -** A common pool of monies from fees collected by all the managing agencies and only expended for the benefit of the resources and users of the Hellgate Recreation Area. BLM's participation would require congressional legislation.

**Dispersed recreation** - Outdoor activities that occur over relatively large areas. Facilities or developments are provided primarily for access and protection of the environment rather than user comfort or convenience.

**Diversity** - The distribution and abundance of different plant and animal communities and species within an area.

**Dunn Reach** - The portion of the Rogue River within the Hellgate Recreation Area from Hog Creek to Grave Creek.

**Economic impact area** - For purposes of this plan, Jackson and Josephine counties.

**Economic impact coefficients** - Factors affecting the economy, such as dollars earned and/or spent and jobs created and/or abolished. Dollar and job coefficients were developed for every 10,000 visitors in several different recreational activity types and lodging types within the Hellgate Recreation Area. For example, the job coefficient for every 10,000 private floaters is 2.69; 10.76

jobs would be created in Jackson and Josephine counties for 40,000 private floaters using the recreation area in one year.

**Economic input-output model** - A model showing linkages between sectors of an economy, including exports from the economy. The model is useful in evaluating how changes in final demand affect the total economy activity within an impact area.

**Effects** - Impacts or consequences occurring directly, indirectly, or cumulatively in the following categories: aesthetic, historic, cultural, economic, social, health, or ecological (such as the effects on natural resources and on the components, structures, and functioning of affected ecosystems).

**Cumulative effects -** Environmental impact which results from the incremental impact of the identified actions when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions regardless of what agency (federal or non-federal) or person undertakes such other actions. Cumulative effects can result from individually minor, but collectively significant, actions occurring over a period of time.

**Direct effects** - Impacts caused by the action and occur at the same time and place.

**Indirect effects** - Impacts caused by the action and occur later in time and place, or farther removed in the distance, but are still reasonably foreseeable.

**Endangered species** - Any species in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range, and identified by the Secretary of the Interior as endangered in accordance with the 1973 Endangered Species Act.

**Environmental analysis** - An evaluation of alternative actions and their predictable short-term and long-term environmental effects, incorporating physical, biological, economic, and social considerations.

**Environmental assessment** - A concise public document that analyzes the environmental impacts of a proposed federal action and provides sufficient evidence to determine the level of significance of the impacts.

**Environmental impact** - The positive or negative effect of any action upon a given area or resource as measured relative to the existing condition.

**Environmental impact statement (EIS)** - A detailed written statement required by the National Environmental Policy Act when an agency proposes a major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment.

**Ephemeral streams** - Streams that contain running water only sporadically, such as during and following storm events.

**Erosion** - Detachment and movement of soil or rock fragments by water, wind, ice, gravity, people, watercraft, and vehicles.

**Erosion sensitive areas** - Areas of riverbank having limited or severe erosion potential.

**Extensive recreation management areas (ERMAs)** - All BLM-administered lands outside special recreation management areas, possibly including developed and primitive recreation sites with minimal facilities.

**Fall chinook spawning area** - An element of some alternatives to inventory and manage specific areas where fall chinook spawn.

**Fire hazard** - A fuel complex defined by kind, arrangement, volume, condition, and location that forms a threat of ignition, spread, and difficulty of suppression.

**Fire protection** - Prevention efforts to protect an area from wildfire, including public contact, patrol, sign posting, and regulated use closures.

**Fire risk** - The chance of potential ignition sources to cause a fire that threatens valuable resources, property, or life.

**First mate** - Additional person on a motorized tour boat to assist the boat operator.

**Fish-bearing streams** - Stream that has fish present for a portion of the year as part of their life cycle.

**Float-in campsite** - A campsite accessible only by watercraft. Minimum development is a toilet; maximum development may include toilets, fire pits, picnic tables, and trash cans.

**Flood plain** - The relatively flat area or lowlands adjoining a body of standing or flowing water which has been or might be covered by floodwater.

**Flood season** - Most likely time for an area to flood. For the Rogue River, usually from November 1 through January 31.

**Fry** - Tiny fish, measuring approximately 1-inch long, that emerge from the gravel after the alevins deplete their yolk sac. Fry stay in calm pools of water to search for food.

**Goal** - The purpose of directing an effort.

**Gravel recruitment** - Downstream movement of gravel caused by high volume of water flow.

**Ground cover** - Grasses or other plants that stabilize soil, preventing the soil from being blown or washed away.

**Group** - Motorized tour boats trips scheduled to travel together to limit the duration of encounters with other users.

**Group/party size** - The number of people in a boating or camping trip, including guides and any support personnel.

**Guide** - A person who, for a fee, provides services by leading one or more persons in outdoor recreation activities.

**Guide permit** - A license issued by the Oregon State Marine Board to provide guide services.

**Habitat** - A specific set of physical conditions that surround a species, group of species, or a large community.

**Haul-back-** The act of angling through a fishing hole, then utilizing a motor to haul the boat back to the beginning of the hole for multiple angling passes.

**Hellgate Recreation Area** - A 27-mile corridor of the Rogue River, from approximately its confluence with the Applegate River to Grave Creek, determined by Congress to meet the objectives for a recreational river in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. The area encompasses about 5,500 acres of BLM-administered land (see Wild and Scenic Rivers System).

**Historic site** - Areas or sites relating to European, American, and Asian immigrants in southwest Oregon.

**Impact** - Environmental consequences (the scientific and analytical basis for comparison of alternatives) as a result of a proposed action.

**Indicator species** - A prevalent species which can be used for the purpose of observing impacts to that one species and similar species.

**Instream water right** - A legal right to the use of water that remains in the stream, such as for fish, recreation, or pollution abatement.

**Interdisciplinary team** - A group of individuals, each knowledgeable in various disciplines, who are assembled to solve a problem or perform a task.

**Interim stipulation** - Temporary guidance to protect resource values until guidelines are established through the planning process.

**Intermittent stream** - A stream that flows most of the time, but occasionally is dry or reduced to pools.

**Interpretive services** - Methods of putting information into a form that visitors have the ability and desire to understand.

**Issue** - A subject or question of widespread public discussion or interest regarding management of a geographic area, usually identified during scoping and addressed in alternative design. Issues can be unresolved questions about management actions and/or a resource use that may have significant or unacceptable environmental impacts.

**Landing site** - Riverbank location where boats are taken from the river.

**Launch site** - Riverbank location where boats are placed on the river.

**Leave No Trace** - A national public education program that strives to teach outdoor recreationists how to minimize their impacts on the environment.

**Level of service (LOS) -** A qualitative measure describing operational conditions within a traffic stream, generally described in terms of such factors as speed and travel time, freedom to maneuver, traffic interruptions, comfort and convenience, and safety.

**Light scattering** - The sum of the scattering caused by gasses and the scattering caused by suspended particles in the atmosphere.

**Limited entry system** - A system that restricts the number of participants in an activity to meet certain management objectives.

**Listed species** - A species officially listed as threatened or endangered by the Secretary of the Interior under the provisions of the ESA.

**Locatable minerals** - Minerals (including valuable deposits of gold, silver, and other uncommon minerals) subject to exploration, development, and disposal by staking mining claims as authorized by the Mining Law of 1872 (as amended).

**Long-term** - The period starting 10 years beyond initial implementation of the revised Hellgate Recreation Area Management Plan.

**Management presence** - Means of conveying to visitors which agency manages an area. The most common form of management presence is onsite uniformed personnel.

**Mineral estate** - The ownership of minerals, including rights necessary for access, exploration, development, mining, ore dressing, and transportation operations.

**Mineral withdrawal** - A formal order that withholds federal lands and minerals from entry under the Mining Law of 1872 and closes the area to mineral location (staking mining claims) and development.

**Minimum streamflow** - Quantity of water needed to maintain existing and planned in-place uses of water in or along a stream channel or other water body and to maintain the natural character of the aquatic system and its dependent systems.

**Mining claims** - Portions of public lands claimed for possession of locatable mineral deposits by locating and recording under established rules and pursuant to the 1872 Mining Law.

**Mitigating measures** - Methods or procedures that reduce or lessen the impacts of an action.

**Monitoring/evaluation** - The periodic observation and orderly collection of data on: 1) changing conditions of public land related to management actions, and 2) the effects of implementing decisions.

**Motor vehicle** - Any self-propelled vehicle, including motorized boats and aircraft.

**Motorboat sound levels** - Levels of sound (measured in decibels by a stationary test) that are emitted during operation of motorboat engines. The maximum allowed is 90 dBA for engines manufactured prior to January 1, 1993 and 99 dBA for engines manufactured that date or later (see Sound level/loudness), with exemptions possible for special activities, such as regattas, boat races, or speed trials.

**Motorized boating** - Boating that involves motorized watercraft, regardless of the motor's horsepower rating. The "kicker" (a small horsepower motor) presently used by some drift boat anglers is considered motorized.

**Motorized fishing boat** - Motorized fishing craft for commercial use. The boat operator is usually an "operator of an uninspected passenger vessel" (OUPV). A "six pack" or an OUPV license is required of fishing guides or charter vessel operators to carry six or fewer paying passengers. The U.S. Coast Guard issues the licenses.

**Motorized tour boat (MTB)** - Any motorized boat carrying seven or more paying passengers. An MTB operator must have at least a "limited master's" license issued by the U.S. Coast Guard. All MTBs have been issued a certificate of inspection (COI) by the Coast Guard. The COI lists conditions that MTBs must satisfy to comply with applicable laws, rules, and regulations relating to safe construction, equipment, manning, and operation. The COI also requires MTBs be in a seaworthy condition for the services they are operated.

**Multiple use** - The use of land or water resources for more than one purpose, such as angling, floating, motorized boating, and homeowner activities.

**National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA)** - An act that encourages productive and enjoyable harmony between humankind and the environment, promotes efforts that prevent or eliminate damage to the environment and biosphere, stimulates the health and welfare of humanity, enriches the understanding of the ecological systems and natural resources important to the nation, and establishes a Council on Environmental Quality.

**National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)** - A register of districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects significant in American history, architecture, archaeology, and culture, established by the "Historic Preservation Act" of 1966 and maintained by the Secretary of the Interior.

**National Wild and Scenic Rivers System** - A system of nationally designated rivers and their immediate environments that have outstanding scenic, recreational, geologic, fish and wildlife, historic, cultural, and other similar values and are preserved in a free-flowing condition. The system consists of three types of streams: (1) recreation—rivers or sections of rivers that are readily accessible by road or railroad and that my have some development along their shorelines and may have undergone some impoundments or diversion in the past; (2) scenic—rivers or sections of rivers free of impoundments with shorelines or watersheds still largely undeveloped but accessible in places by roads; and (3) wild— rivers or sections of rivers free of impoundments and generally inaccessible except by trails, with watersheds or shorelines essentially primitive and waters unpolluted.

**Native species** - Plants or animals that are natural to an area.

**Noise** - Any sound that is unwanted by the listener, presumably because it is unpleasant or bothersome, interferes with the perception of the wanted sound, or is physiologically harmful.

**Noise standards** - Measurements of sound used to determine the point at which sound becomes unpleasant or bothersome to humans.

**Noncommercial** - Activity with bona fide cost sharing among all participants (see Private Use).

**Nongame wildlife** - All wild vertebrate and invertebrate animals not subject to sport hunting or trapping (furbearers).

**Nonmotorized boating** - Boating that involves use of a watercraft without any type of motor.

**No anchor zone** - See Anchoring Prohibited Zones.

**Notice of display** - A stipulation of motorized tour boats requiring them to inform other users of the number of boats in a group and their sequence. The notice must be legible from both riverbanks.

**No-wake zone** - An area where boat speed is reduced to 5 mph or less to minimize the wake. In these zones, boats are to proceed off plane and at such a speed so that a minimal wake is generated. No-wake zones are intended to minimize soil erosion in erosion sensitive areas and are in place near swimming areas, near people working at water level, and at boat ramps to prevent disturbance to others.

**Noxious plant** - A plant species designated by Federal or State law as generally possessing one or more of the following characteristics: aggressive and difficult to manage; parasitic; a carrier or host of serious insects or disease; or nonnative, new, or not common to the United States.

**Number of trips** - Part of alternative design that refers to watercraft trips; round trips for motorized tour boats, either one-way or round for other motorized watercraft, and one-way trips for non-motorized float craft.

**Number of visitors** - Estimated annual number of visitors resulting from the different alternatives, but not part of alternative design. The number of visitors is an environmental consequence.

**O & C lands** - Public lands granted to the Oregon and California Railroad Company and subsequently revested to the United States.

**Objectives** - A description of a desired condition for a resource. Objectives can be quantified and measured and, where possible, have established time frames for achievement.

**Off-highway vehicle (OHV)** - Off-highway vehicles, as addressed by Oregon Revised Statute, Chapter 821, is any unlicensed vehicle designed for cross-country travel or other natural terrain. These vehicles are classified into three different categories: Class I - vehicles less than 50 inches wide with three or more low pressure tire, commonly referred to as a "quad"; Class II - a vehicle that weighs between 800 and 8,000 pounds, commonly referred to as a "dune buggy"; and Class III - a vehicle weighing less than 600 pounds and travels on two tires, commonly referred to as a "dirt bike". Any motorized vehicle capable of, or designed for, travel on or immediately over land, water, or other natural terrain, excluding emergency vehicles and vehicles in official use.

**Off-highway vehicle designations** -

**Open** - Designated areas and trails where off-highway vehicles may be operated subject to operating regulations and vehicle standards set forth in BLM Manuals 8341 and 8343.

**Limited** - Designated areas and trails where off-highway vehicles are subject to restrictions limiting the number or types of vehicles, date and time of use; limited to existing or designated roads and trails.

**Closed** - Areas and trails where off-highway vehicles are permanently or temporarily prohibited, except for emergency use.

**Off-plane area** - An area where boats are required to slow down. Boats proceed off plane at a safe speed where wake is not a critical factor in areas of heavy traffic or where passage is narrow.

**Onsite management** - Regulations, restrictions, facilities, policies, services, or controls that limit or influence how people use an area or resource.

**Oregon scenic waterways** - Waterways selected, per the Oregon Scenic Waterways Act of 1970, for protection or enhancement of special river attributes. The act was initiated by a citizens' initiative and places primary emphasis on aesthetic, scenic, fish and wildlife, scientific, and recreational features. An 84-mile reach of the Rogue River, from the Applegate River downstream to Lobster Creek Bridge, was one of the original six scenic waterways. Administration of scenic waterways, including a distance of one-quarter mile from each riverbank, is mandated to maintain the existing character of the river environment.

**Outfitter** - A commercial dealer providing guides, equipment, or supplies for outdoor recreational activities, including angling, camping, fishing, and floating.

**Outstandingly remarkable values** - Section 10(a) of the WSRA states that: "Each component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System shall be administered in such a manner as to protect and enhance the values which caused it to be included in said system without, insofar as is consistent therewith, limiting other uses that do not substantially interfere with public use and enjoyment of these values. In such administration, primary emphasis shall be given to protecting its aesthetic, scenic, historic, archaeologic, and scientific features. Management plans for any such component may establish varying degrees of intensity for its protection and development, based on the special attributes of the area."

**Paleontological resource** - The physical remains of plants and animals preserved in soils and sedimentary rock formations. Paleontological resources are important for understanding past environments, environmental change, and the evolution of life.

**Partnerships** - Two or more individuals or groups in cooperation with one another because of a common interest in a river resource or some management facet. The cooperation may involve issue identification, inventories and studies, alternative design, ownership, funding, staffing, and management.

**Pass-through zone** - An area of streambank where boaters are prohibited from stopping as a means of enhancing the safe navigation of all watercraft in an area. In this defined length of the river, all floating watercraft are prohibited from anchoring, stopping, or holding from August 1 through September 30.

**Passerine birds** - Birds of the order Passeriformes, which includes perching birds and songbirds, such as black birds, jays, finches, warblers, and sparrows. More than half of all birds belong to this order.

**Peak flow** - The highest amount of stream or river flow occurring in a year or from a single storm event.

**Perennial stream** - A stream that typically has running water on a year-around basis.

**Performance evaluation** - An annual evaluation conducted by BLM on the professional performance of a permittee (outfitter) as a means of assuring compliance with permit stipulations and regulations concerning public safety.

**Permit system** - A method of regulating use of a public resource through issuance of permits.

**Permittee** - An outfitter who holds a permit issued by BLM to use BLM-administered land or water for financial gain.

**Personal income** - The sum of wage and salary disbursements, other labor income, proprietors' income, rental income of persons, personal dividend income, personal interest income, and transfer payments to persons, less personal contributions for social insurance.

**Personal watercraft** - A small class "A" motorboat that: 1) uses an outboard motor or an inboard motor powering a water ski pump as its primary source of power; and 2) is designed to be operated by a person sitting, standing, or kneeling on a vessel unlike the conventional manner of sitting or standing inside a vessel; includes jet skis. Personal watercraft is prohibited in the Hellgate Recreation Area and are regulated by OSMB.

**pH** - A measure of acidity or hydrogen ion activity. Neutral is pH 7.0. All values below 7.0 are acidic, and all values above 7.0 are alkaline.

**Plan** - A document that contains a set of comprehensive, long range decisions concerning the use and management of Bureau administered resources in a specific geographic area.

**Plan amendment** - A change in the terms, conditions, or decisions of a resource management plan.

**Plan maintenance** - Any documented minor change that interprets, clarifies, or refines a decision within a resource management plan, but does not change the scope or conditions of that decision.

**Planning area** - A geographical area for which plans are developed and maintained. BLM planning decisions apply only to BLM-administered lands and mineral estate.

**Planning issue** - See Issue.

**Prehistoric** - The period wherein Native American cultural activities took place which were not yet influenced by contact with historic nonnative culture(s).

**Prescribed fire** - The introduction of fire to an area under regulated conditions for specific management purposes.

**Presuppression** - All actions involved in the location or allocation of suppression resources in order to be prepared to suppress wildand fires.

**Private motorized boating** - Noncommercial motorized boating.

**Private use** - The use of public lands and related waters in which there is no business involvement or financial gain (see Noncommercial).

**Proposed species** - Plant, animal, or fish species that have been officially proposed for listing as threatened or endangered by the Secretary of the Interior. A proposed rule has been published in the *Federal Register*.

**Public contact person** - An individual assigned to provide information to the public in person.

**Public domain lands** - Original holdings of the United States that were never granted or conveyed to other jurisdictions or that were reacquired by exchange for other public domain lands.

**Public lands and related waters** - Lands and interest in lands administered by the BLM. Related waters are waters that lie directly over or adjacent to public lands and require some management control to protect federally-administered resources or to provide for enhanced visitor safety (see BLM-administered lands).

**Racing-motorboat testing areas** - Areas on the river where tests of racing motorboats are allowed.

**Raptor** - Birds of prey with sharp talons and strongly curved beaks, such as hawks, owls, vultures, and eagles.

**Rearing habitat** - Areas in rivers or streams where juvenile salmon and trout find food and shelter to live and grow.

**Recovery plan** - A management strategy for the conservation and survival of an endangered or threatened species listed under the Endangered Species Act, the purpose being to improve the status of the species to make continued listing unnecessary.

**Recreation** - Use of leisure time to provide personal satisfaction and enjoyment and contribute to the renewal and refreshment of one's body, mind, and spirit.

**Recreational river** - See National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

**Recreation opportunity spectrum (ROS)** - A framework for stratifying and defining classes of outdoor recreation environments, activities, and experience opportunities. The settings, activities, and opportunities for experiences are arranged along a continuum or spectrum divided into six classes: primitive, semiprimitive nonmotorized, semiprimitive motorized, roaded natural, rural, and urban. The resulting analysis defines specific geographic areas on the ground, each of which encompasses one of the six classes.

**Recreation site** - A setting that provides an opportunity for enjoying the outdoors.

**Redd** - The spawning ground or nest of various fishes.

**Resource management plan (RMP)** - A land use plan prepared by the BLM under current regulations in accordance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act.

**Right-of-way** - A permit or a easement which authorizes the use of public lands for certain specified purposes, commonly for pipelines, roads, telephone lines, electric lines, reservoirs, and communication sites; also, the lands covered by such an easement or permit.

**Riparian area** - A geographic area containing an aquatic ecosystem and adjacent upland areas that directly affect it. This includes floodplain, woodlands, and all areas within a horizontal distance of approximately 100 feet from the normal line of high water of a stream channel or from the shoreline of a standing body of water.

**Riparian reserve** - Designated riparian areas found outside the Late-Successional Reserves.

**River community areas** - Areas identified and managed by the Oregon State Parks and Recreation Department under the Oregon Scenic Waterways system. River community areas within the Hellgate Recreation Area include platted subdivisions and plotted tracts existing in 1970.

**River ranger** - A uniformed person with citation authority assigned to do law enforcement on BLM-administered land or water within the Hellgate Recreation Area.

**River reach** - An element that divides the Rogue River into the Applegate Reach and the Dunn Reach for the purpose of analysis and management in the Hellgate Recreation Area. The Applegate Reach is the upper river stretch, at the start of the Hellgate Recreation Area (a small distance upstream of the Applegate River) to Hog Creek. The Dunn Reach is the lower river stretch from Hog Creek to the Grave Creek Boat Landing.

**Rogue River studies program** - A comprehensive studies program, including contracted and agency inventories and studies, that represents the facts of the planning process used in revising the Hellgate Recreation Area Management Plan.

**Rural interface areas** - Areas where BLM-administered lands are adjacent to or intermingled with privately-owned lands that either already have residential development or are zoned for 1- to 20-acre lots.

**Safety sites of concern (SOC)** - An element of some alternatives that identifies areas on the Rogue River between Grants Pass and Grave Creek having boating safety concerns. Examples: channels that limit watercraft operational options; and bank conditions that limit line-of-sight.

**Salmonid** - Any fish of the Salmonidae family, including salmon and trout.

**Scenic quality** - Relative worth of a landscape from a visual perception.

**Scenic river** - See National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

**Scoping** - Process of identifying the range of issues, management concerns, preliminary alternatives, and other components of an environmental impact statement or land-use planning document. It involves both internal and public viewpoints.

**Season of use** - Part of the year when an activity may occur.

**Sediment** - Soil, rock particles, and organic or other debris carried from one place to another by wind, water, or gravity.

**Sensitive wildlife habitat** - Habitat, such as riparian areas, that are crucial to wildlife for nesting, rearing, feeding, or cover.

**Short-term -** Period of time during which the revised Hellgate Recreation Area Management Plan will be implemented; assumed to be 10 years.

**Shuttle driver** - A person who shuttles people or equipment (e.g., personal vehicles and watercraft) for a fee.

**Shuttle service** - Hauling of people, boats, vehicles, or other equipment for a fee.

**Smoke management** - Conducting a prescribed fire under suitable fuel moisture and meteorological conditions and with firing techniques to contain smoke impact on the environment within designated limits.

**Socioeconomic impacts** - Employment and income effects of different management options.

**Sound frequency/hertz** - Frequency is the rapidity or slowness of air vibrations (sound) that determines the sound's basic quality; the alternate push and relaxation against air is expressed as cycles per second (cps) or hertz (Hz).

**Sound level/loudness** - Weighted sound pressure level measured by use of a sound meter with an "A" frequency weighing scale, which most closely approximates what the human ear hears; reported as decibels.

**Sound sensitive area** - Area where sound is managed. Management could be through special BLM stipulations for commercial users and/or education for private users.

**Sound sensitive property** - Property that is sound sensitive, such as residential property or property used for schools, churches, hospitals, public libraries, or other property that meets these criteria in more than an incidental manner.

**Special recreation management area (SRMA)** - Areas which require explicit recreation management to achieve recreation objectives and provide specific recreation opportunities. The BLM-administered portion of the National Wild and Scenic Rogue River is a SRMA.

**Special status species** - Includes proposed species, listed species, and candidate species under the ESA; State-listed species; and BLM State Director-designated sensitive species.

**Species diversity** - The number, different kinds of, and relative abundances of species present in a given area.

**Stakeholders** - Individuals or groups with an interest in a river resource or in some aspect of river management (see Partnerships).

**Standard -** A description of the physical and biological conditions or degree of function required for healthy, sustainable lands.

**State Historic Preservation Officer** - The state official designated to coordinate state historic preservation programs, including identification and nomination of eligible properties to the National Register and cooperation with federal agencies to ensure implementation of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966.

**State lands** - Land or interest in land managed by a government agency for the State of Oregon.

**State listed species** - Species listed by a state in a category implying, but not limited to, potential endangerment or extinction. Listing is either by legislation or regulation.

**Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP)** - A plan prepared by the Oregon State Parks and Recreation Department that describes and analyzes the organization and function of the state's outdoor recreation system, including an analysis of the roles and responsibilities of major outdoor recreation suppliers; an analysis of demand, supply, and needs; issue discussions; an action program to address the issues; and a project selection process.

**Stewardship** - Responsible care of land, water, other natural resources, or recreational resources.

**Stream class** - A stream classification system established in the Oregon Forest Practices Act. Class I streams are significant for: domestic use; angling; water dependent recreation; and spawning, rearing, or migration of anadromous or game fish. All other streams are Class II.

**Streamflow levels and instream water rights** - Minimum streamflows and instream water rights can be set to minimize the effects of pollution and for maintaining recreational uses. Minimum streamflows were set for the Rogue River, including the Hellgate Recreation Area, for recreation, fish, and wildlife.

**Stream order** - A stream classification system based on the number of tributaries a stream has. The smallest unbranched tribuary in a watershed is designated an Order 1 stream. A stream formed by the confluence of two Order 1 streams is designated an Order 2 stream. A stream formed by the confluence of two Order 2 streams is designated an Order 3 stream, and so on.

**Threatened species** - Any plant or animal species defined under the Endangered Species Act as likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range; listings are published in the *Federal Register*.

**Threshold** - Factors that limit use over time or space, including ecological or resource, physical or space, facility, or social constraints—all of which can fluctuate as social and environmental factors change.

**Thrill power maneuver** - Powerboat movement that is not necessary for navigation, but is conducted to enhance the passenger's experience.

**Thrill power maneuver areas** - Areas where thrill power maneuvers are identified as appropriate. These areas would be outside of erosion sensitive areas, no-wake zones, sound sensitive areas, boat ramps, and designated swimming areas.

**Traditional uses** - Types of recreational activities occurring in 1968 when the National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act passed.

**Travel corridor** - A route that allows more or less uninhibited movement of animals from one region to another.

**Turbidity** - An interference to the passage of light through water due to insoluble particles of soil, organics, microorganisms, and other materials.

**Unique ecosystems** - Ecosystems that have special habitat features, such as talus slopes, meadows, and wetlands.

**Use limits** - The amount and type of recreational use an area can accommodate without altering either the environment or the user's experience beyond the degree of change deemed acceptable by management objectives for the area.

**User fee** - A fee assessed all visitors by watercraft or vehicle, both commercial and private, for the cost of managing the recreational river resources and providing facilities.

**Vehicles Per Hour (VPH) -** The number of vehicles that pass any given point in one hour.

**Viability** - Ability of a wildlife or plant population to maintain a specific population for a specified length of time.

**Viable population** - A wildlife or plant population that contains an adequate number of reproductive individuals appropriately distributed to ensure the long-term existence of the species.

**Visitor services** - Methods of providing information to the public on outdoor recreation opportunities, local natural and cultural history, regulations, use guidelines, and safety. Services emphasize protecting and maintaining resources, protecting visitors, promoting wise use, reducing conflicts between users or types of use, encouraging visitor cooperation and involvement in managing public lands, and increasing visitor understanding and support of multiple-use management.

**Visitor use** - Number and type of visitors, both commercial and private, classified as activity and lodging types:

**Activity types** - Motorized tour boats, private floats, guided floats, private bank anglers, private boat anglers, guided anglers, day-use, BLM and Josephine County campgrounds, lodging, and miscellaneous.

**Lodging types** - Hotel/motel, campsite, family/friends, and day-use only.

**Visitor use day** - Use of all or part of a day by a visitor.

**Visitor use, primary season** - Time of year when most visitor days or watercraft days occur; May 1-September 30 in the Hellgate Recreation Area.

**Visitor use, secondary season** - Time of year outside of the primary visitor use season; October 1-April 30 in the Hellgate Recreation Area.

**Visual management classes** - Four categories (I, II, III and IV) assigned to BLM lands based on scenic quality, sensitivity level, and distance zones—each having an objective that prescribes the amount of modification allowed in the landscape.

**Visual resources** - The visible physical features of a landscape (topography, water, vegetation, animals, structures, and other features) that constitute the scenery of an area.

**Visual resource management (VRM)** - Inventory and planning actions to identify visual values and to establish objectives and design management for protecting those values.

**Watercraft day** - One watercraft used for all or part of a day by one or more persons.

**Water quality** - Chemical, physical, and biological characteristics of water with respect to its suitability for a particular use.

**Wetlands** - Areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or ground water often and long enough to support and, under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions.

**Wildfire** - Any unwanted wildland fire.

**Wild river** - See National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

**Withdrawal** - An action that restricts the use of public lands by removing them from the operation of some or all of the public land or mining laws.

# Acronyms

**ACOE** Army Corps of Engineers
**ACS** Aquatic Conservation Strategy
**ADA** Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990
**ARPA** Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979
**BLM** Bureau of Land Management
**CEQ** Council on Environmental Quality
**CFR** Code of Federal Regulations
**COI** Certificate of Inspection
**DEIS** Draft Environmental Impact Statement
**EA** Environmental Assessment
**EFH** Essential Fish Habitat
**ESA** Endangered Species Act of 1973
**FEIS** Final Environmental Impact Statement
**FLPMA** Federal Land Policy and Management Act
**FR** Federal Register
**FSEIS** Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement
**HR** House Report
**HRA** Hellgate Recreation Area
**IB** Information Bulletin
**MTB** Motorized Tour Boat
**NEPA** National Environmental Policy Act of 1969
**NMFS** National Marine Fisheries Service
**OAR** Oregon Administrative Rules
**ODEQ** Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
**OPRD** Oregon Parks and Recreation Development
**ORS** Oregon Revised Statutes
**ORV** Outstandingly Remarkable Value
**RAMP** Recreation Area Management Plan
**RMP** Resource Management Plan
**ROD** Record of Decision
**SRP** Special Recreation Permit
**TMDL** Total Maximum Daily Load
**USDA** United States Department of Agriculture
**USDI** United States Department of the Interior
**USFWS** United States Fish and Wildlife Service
**VRM** Visual Resource Management
**WQMP** Water Quality Management Plan
**WSRA** Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968

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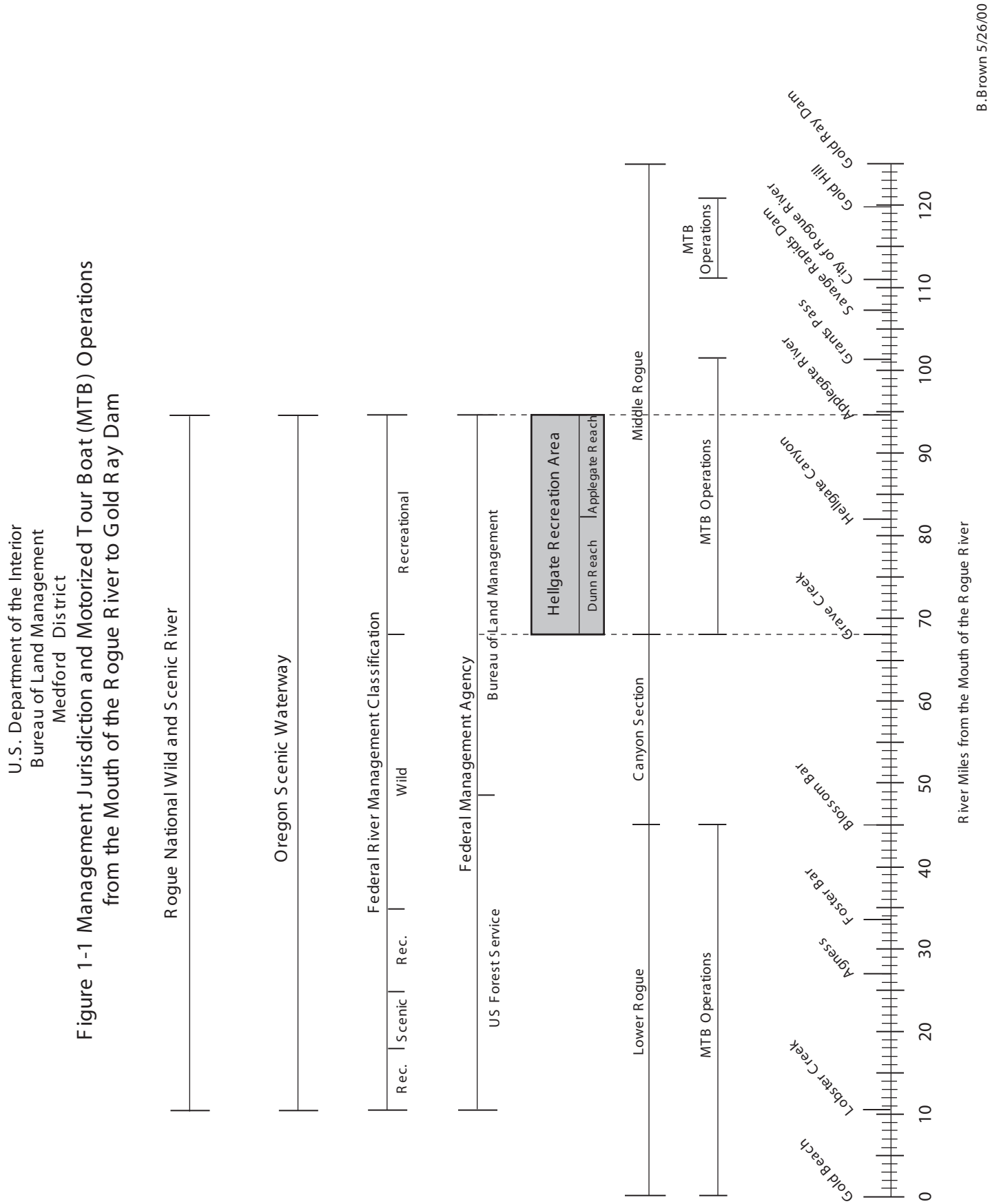
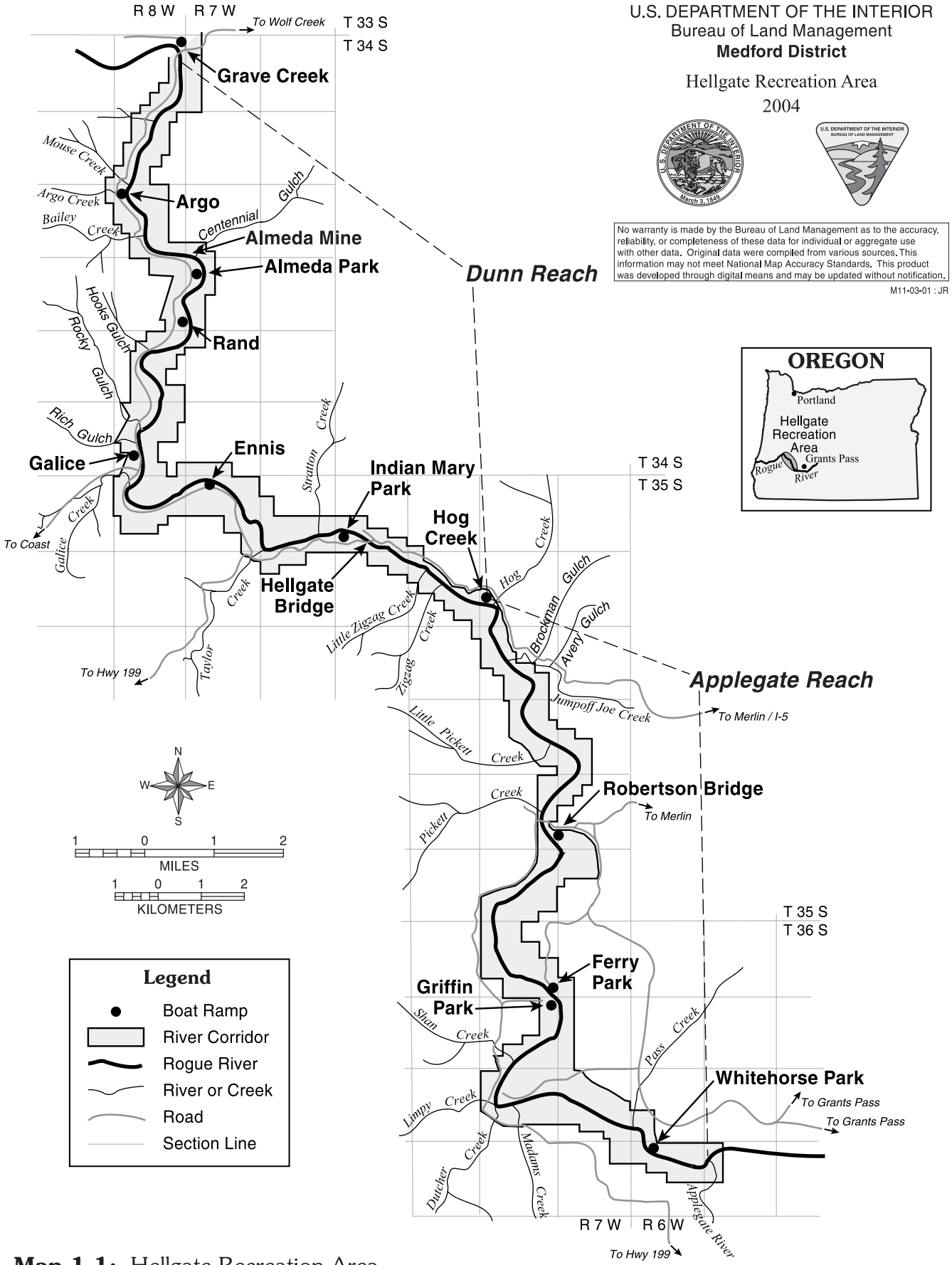
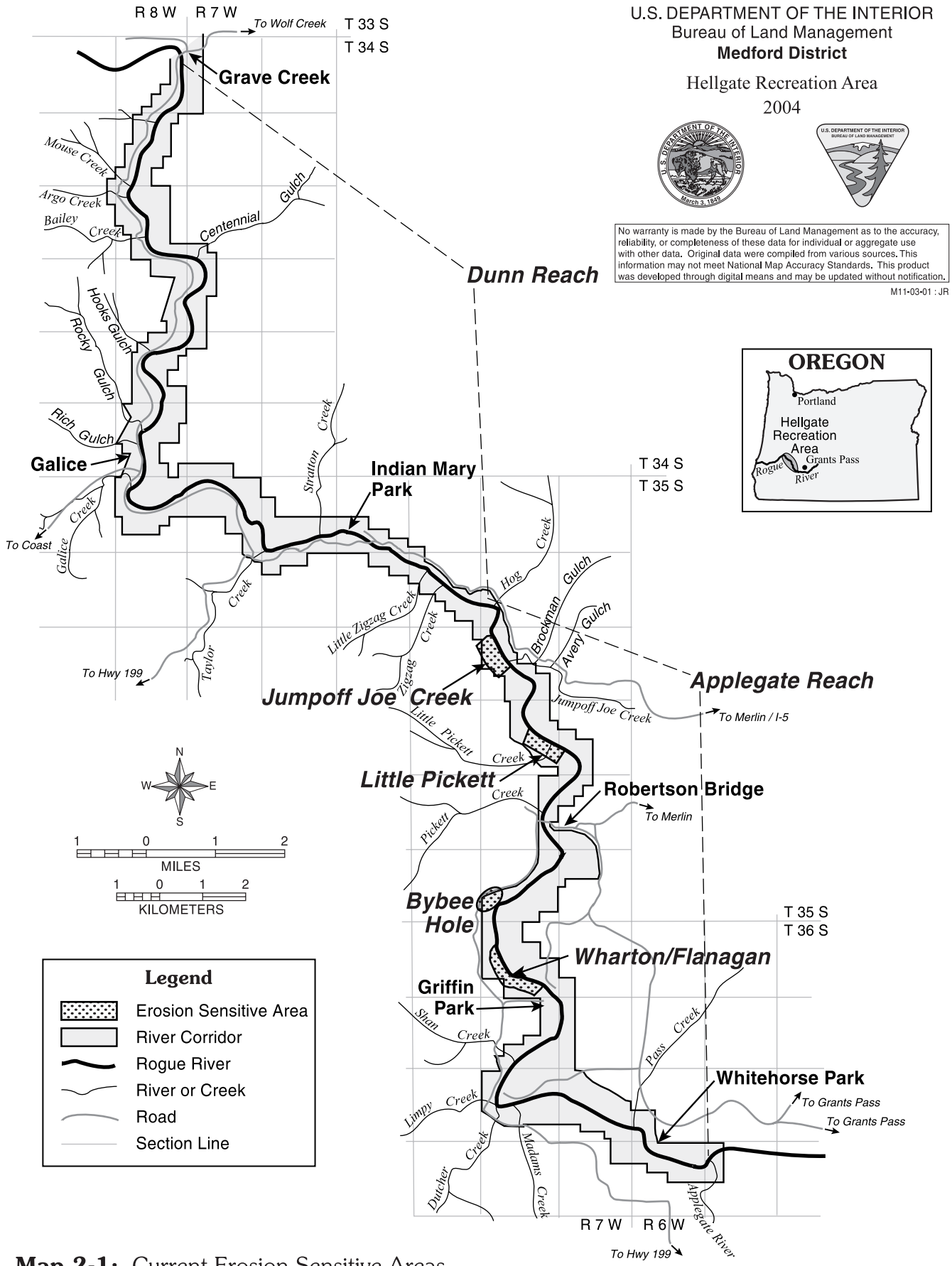
# Appendix A. Figure and Maps

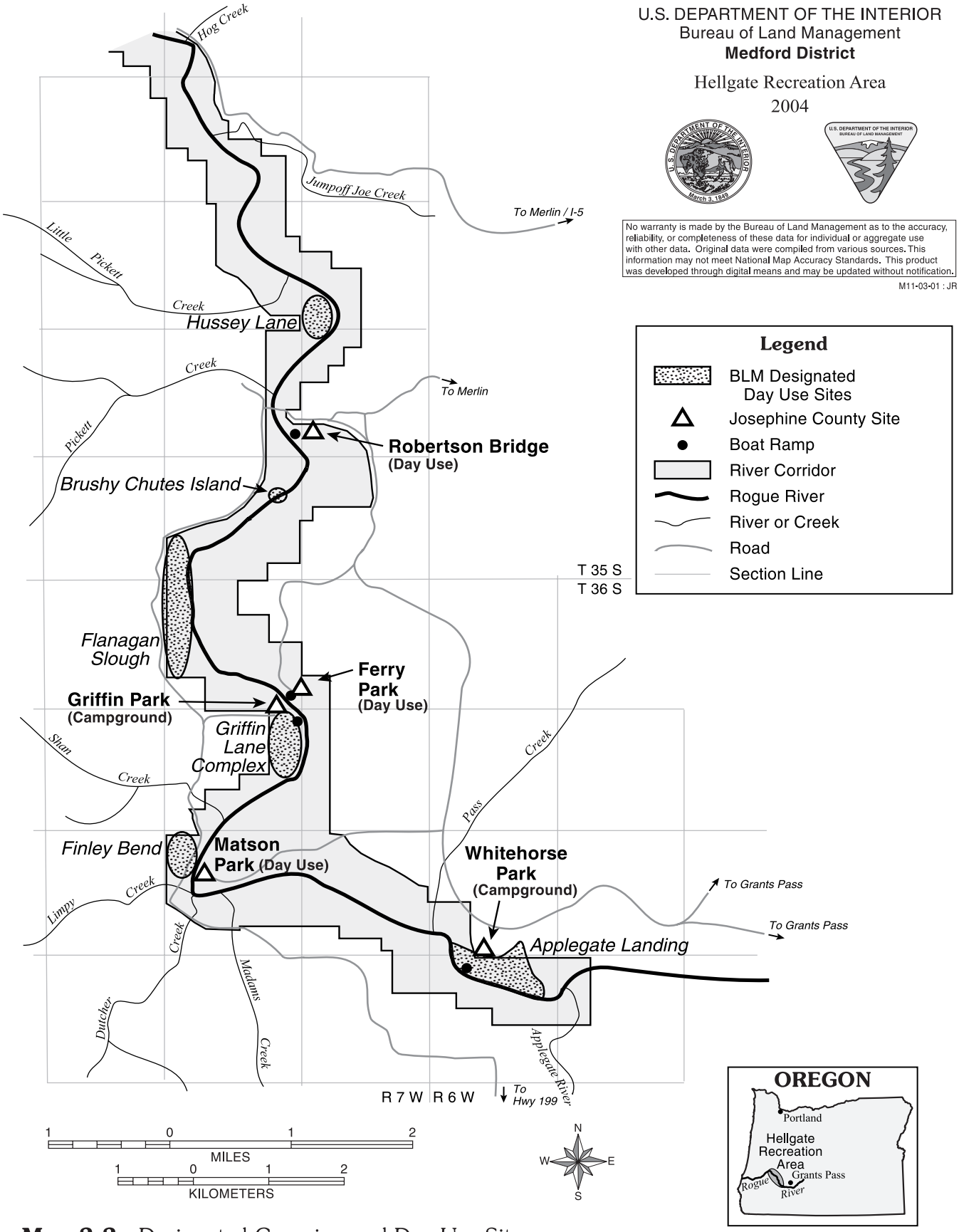

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Medford District
Figure 1-1 Management Jurisdiction and Motorized Tour Boat (MTB) Operations
from the Mouth of the Rogue River to Gold Ray Dam
Rogue National Wild and Scenic River
Oregon Scenic Waterway
Federal River Management Classification
Rec.
Scenic
Rec.
Wild
Recreational
Federal Management Agency
US Forest Service
Bureau of Land Management
Hellgate Recreation Area
Dunn Reach
Applegate Reach
Lower Rogue
Canyon Section
Middle Rogue
MTB Operations
MTB Operations
MTB Operations
Gold Beach
Lobster Creek
Agness
Foster Bar
Blossom Bar
Grave Creek
Hellgate Canyon
Applegate River
Grants Pass
Savage Rapids Dam
City of Rogue River
Gold Hill
Gold Ray Dam
0
10
20
30
40
50
60
70
80
90
100
110
120
River Miles from the Mouth of the Rogue River
B.Brown 5/26/00




**Map 1-1:** Hellgate Recreation Area
Rogue River: Applegate River to Grave Creek




**Map 2-1:** Current Erosion Sensitive Areas
Rogue River: Applegate River to Grave Creek




**Map 2-2:** Designated Camping and Day-Use Sites
Rogue River: Applegate River to Hog Creek

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Bureau of Land Management
**Medford District**

Hellgate Recreation Area
2004

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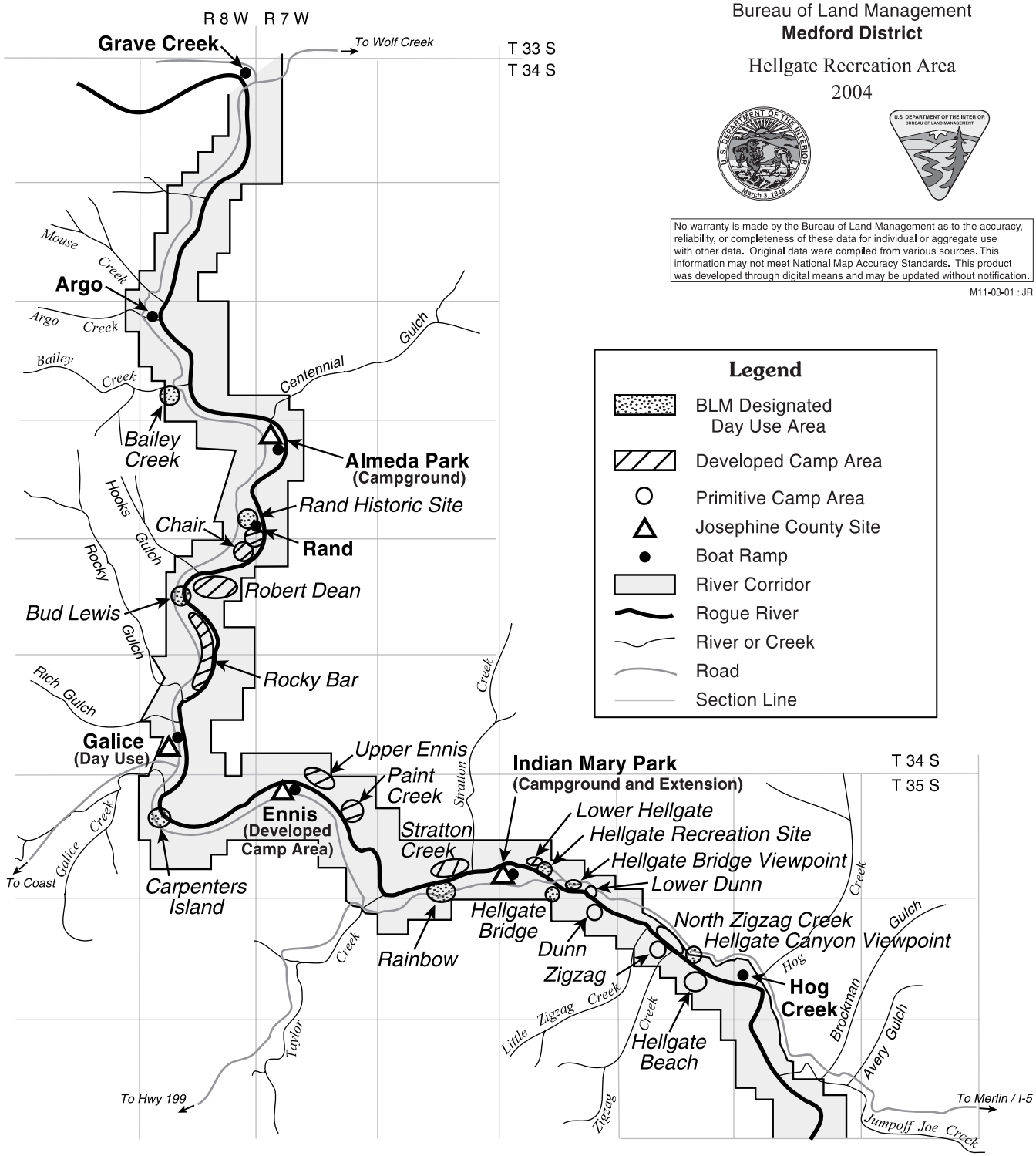
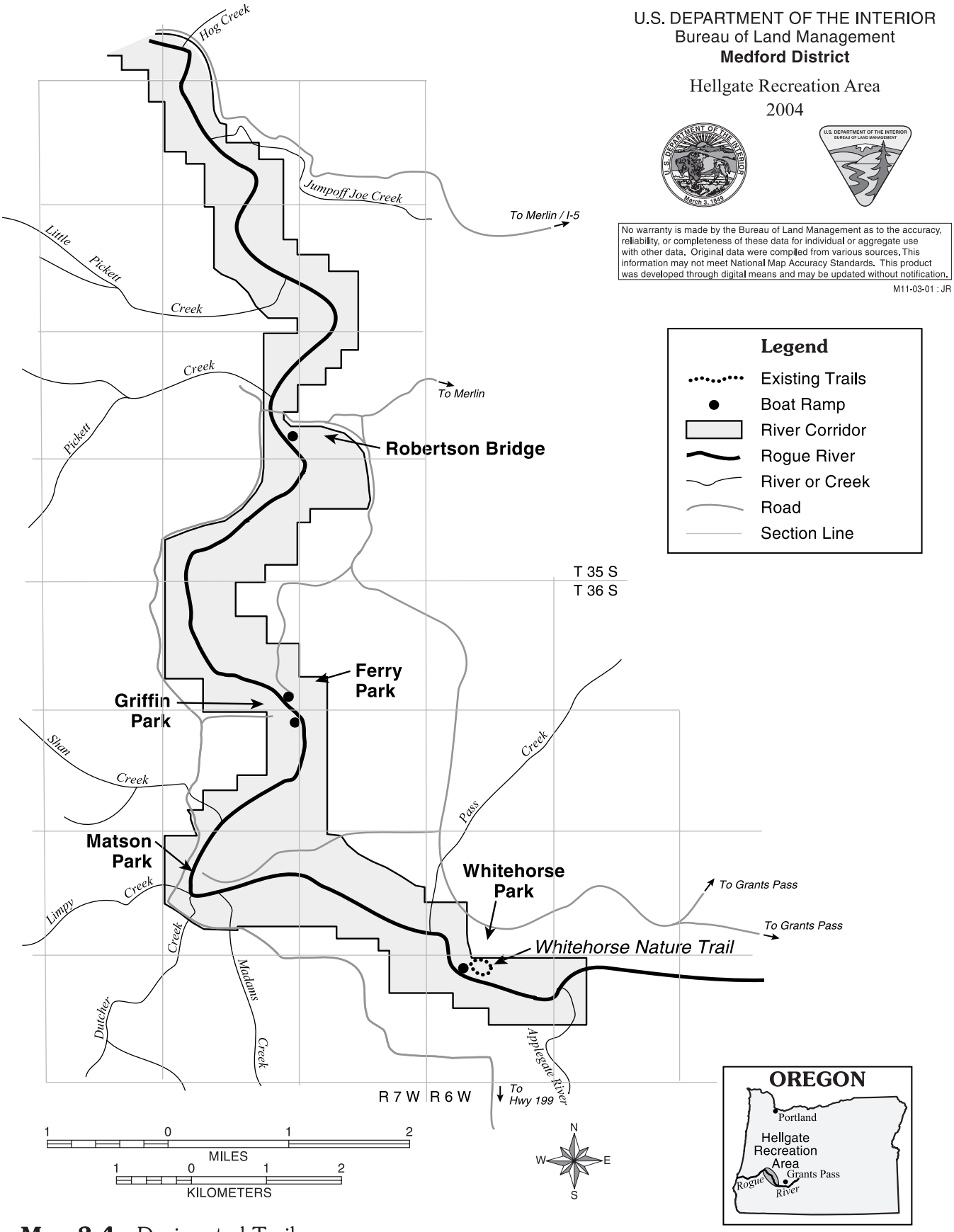



**Map 2-3:** Designated Camping and Day-Use sites
Rogue River: Hog Creek to Grave Creek




**Map 2-4:** Designated Trails
Rogue River: Applegate River to Hog Creek

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**Medford District**

Hellgate Recreation Area
2004

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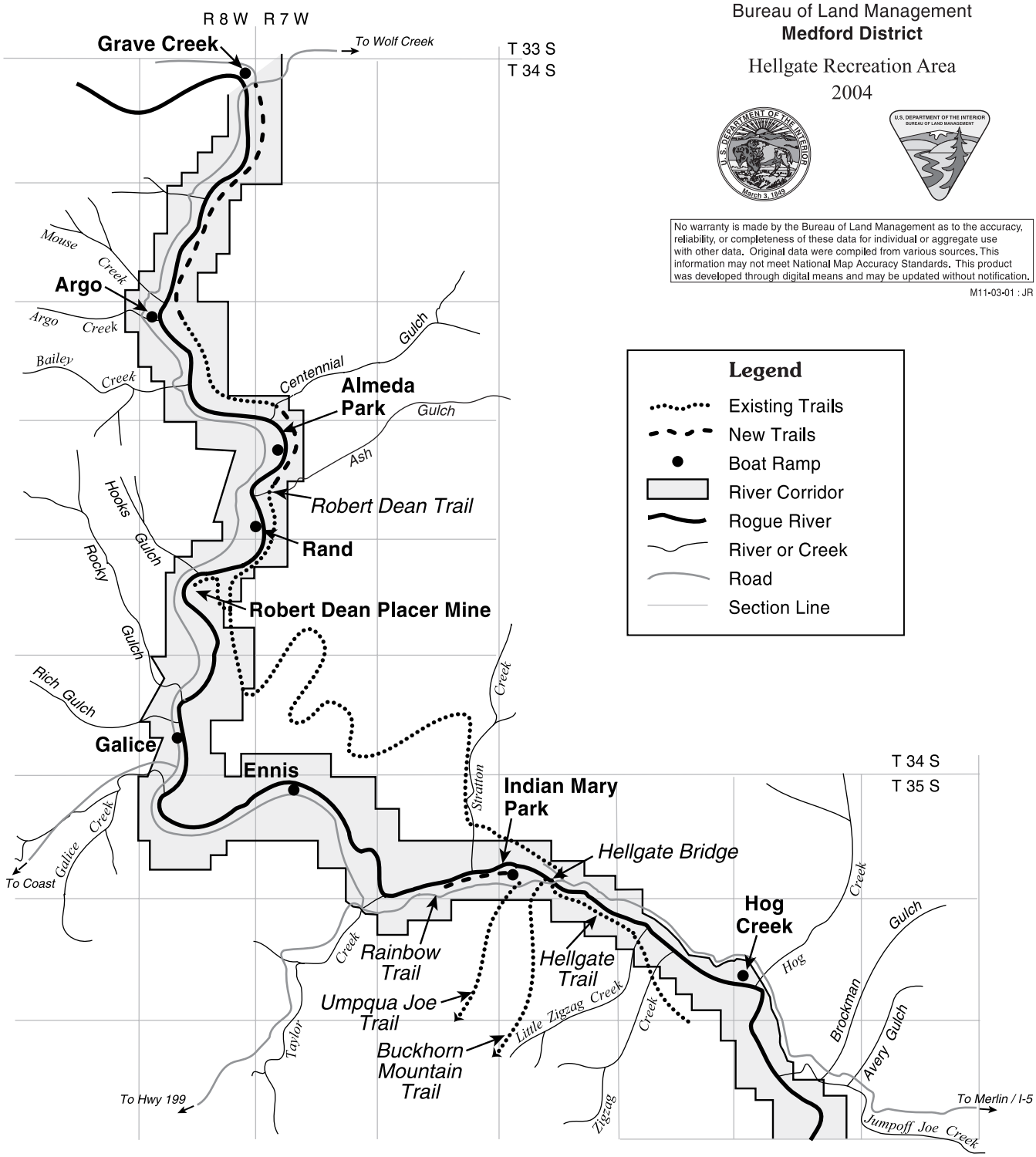
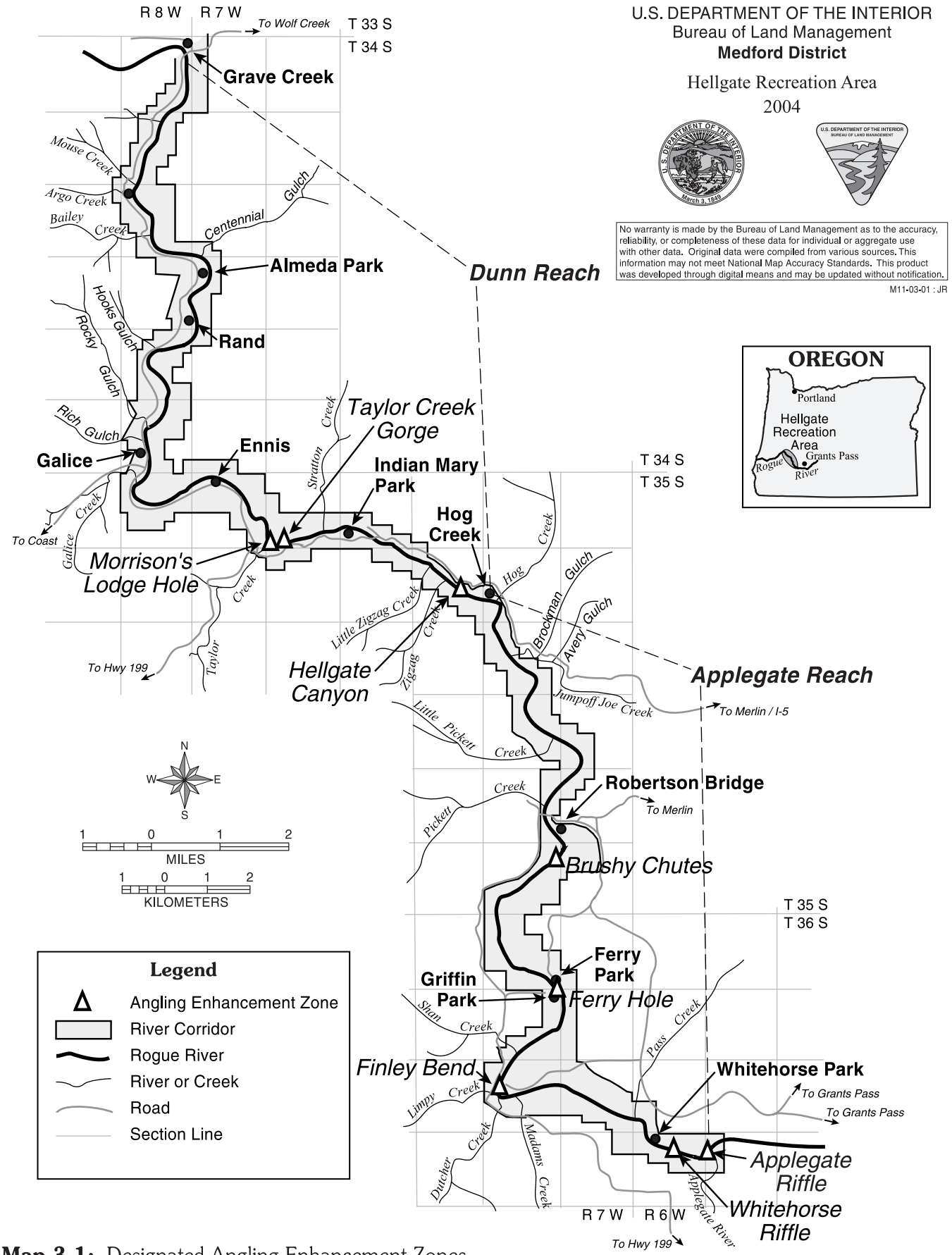
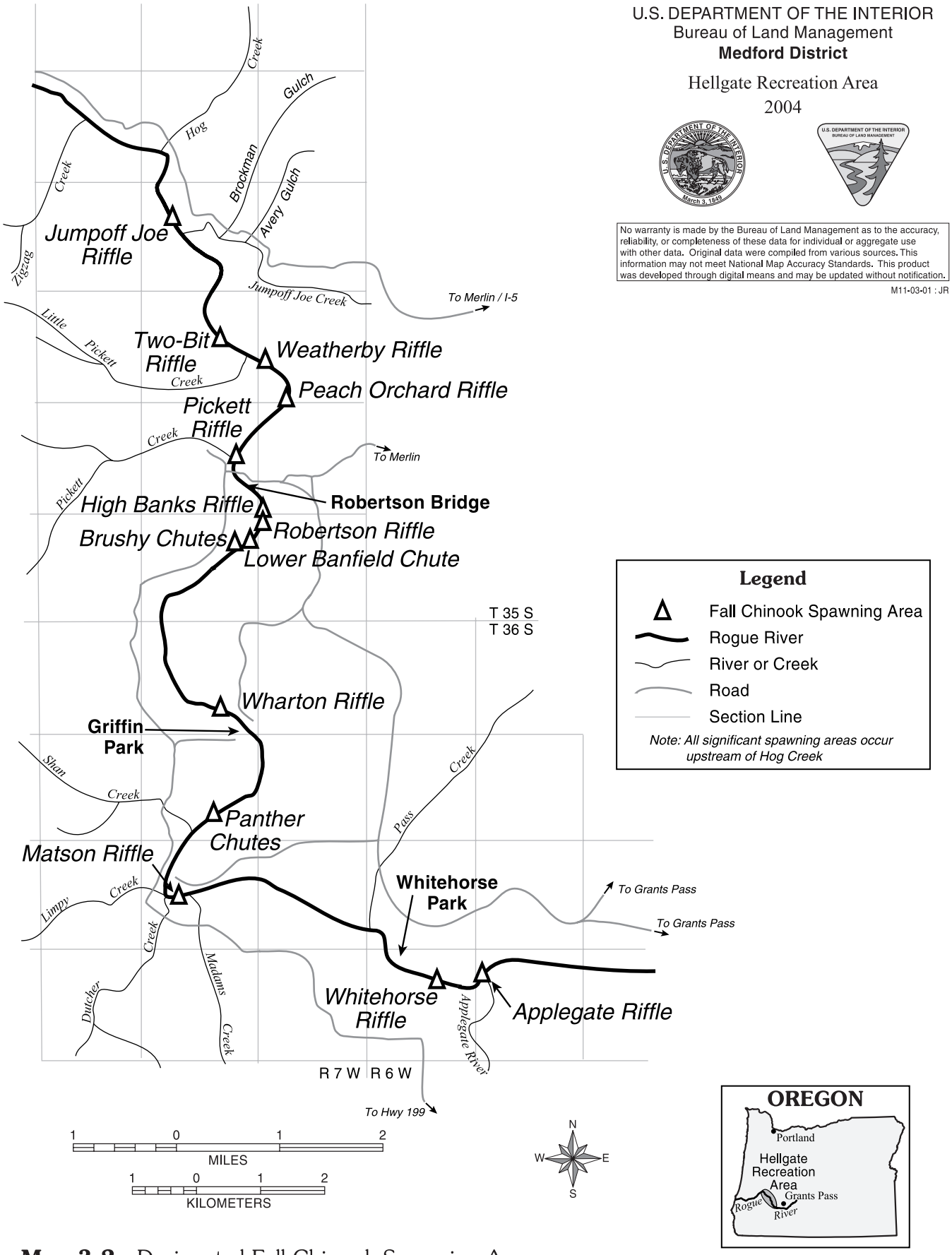


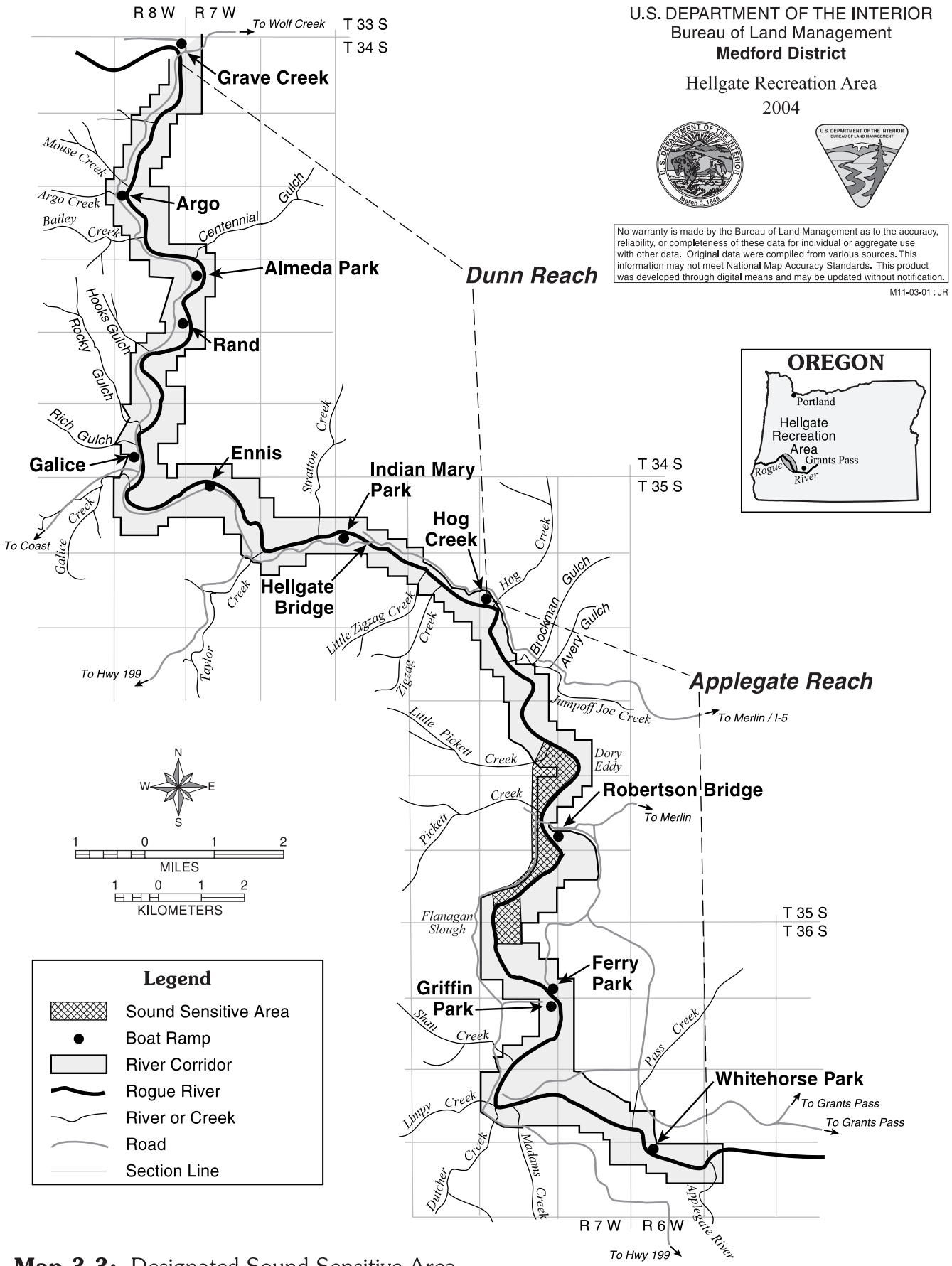

**Map 2-5:** Designated Trails
Rogue River: Hog Creek to Grave Creek



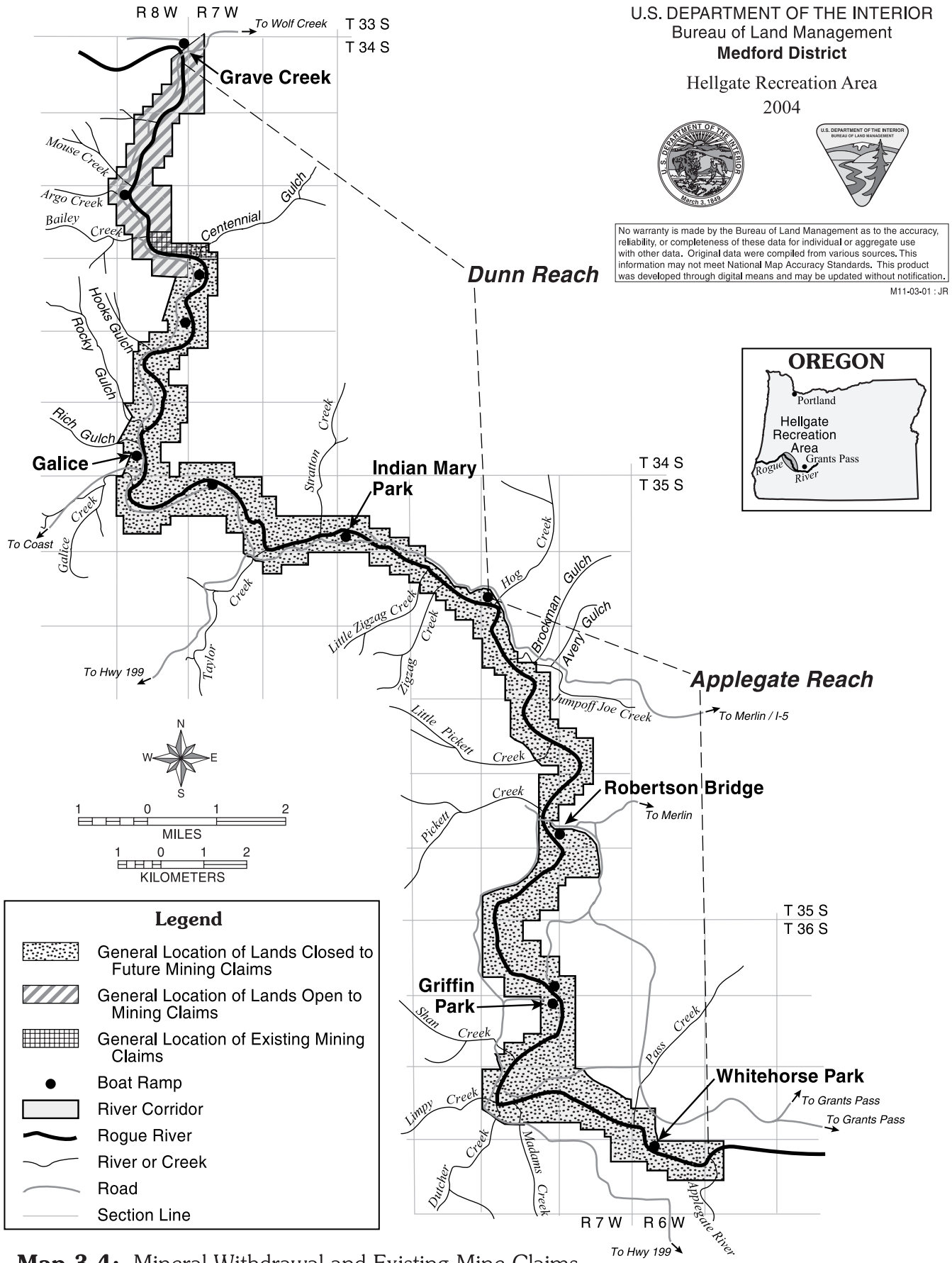

**Map 3-1:** Designated Angling Enhancement Zones
Rogue River: Applegate River to Grave Creek




**Map 3-2:** Designated Fall Chinook Spawning Areas
Rogue River: Applegate River to Hog Creek




**Map 3-3:** Designated Sound Sensitive Area
Rogue River: Applegate River to Grave Creek




**Map 3-4:** Mineral Withdrawal and Existing Mine Claims
Rogue River: Applegate River to Grave Creek

# Appendix B. Legislation, BLM Policies, Plans, and Agency Programs

## Legislated Requirements and Management Direction

The *Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976* and associated BLM planning regulations (43 CFR 1600, 8351.2) and manuals set forth the process for amending, and tiering to, a resource management plan.

The *National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969* and the *Council of Environmental Quality's National Environmental Policy Act* regulations (40 CFR 1500) provide the basic national charter for protection of the environment and analysis of major Federal actions. The NEPA process is the tool used to analyze the proposed actions of the Federal government.

The *Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990* (ADA) also provides direction for management of the river. This ensures a national mandate to eliminate discrimination against individuals with disabilities. The ADA essentially extends to the private sector the rights and protections already prohibiting discrimination on the basis of disability in federal government and federally-assisted programs, as mandated by the Architectural Barriers Act and Section 504.

The *Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979* (ARPA) provides for the protection of archaeological resources and sites on public lands.

Congress enacted the *Endangered Species Act of 1973* (ESA) to provide a means whereby the ecosystems, upon which endangered and threatened species depend, may be conserved, and to provide a program for the conservation of such species. Federal land managers and other federal agencies must ensure their activities do not jeopardize the continued existence of listed species or adversely modify habitat critical to those species.

## National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act

The *Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968* established the wild and scenic rivers system (Public Laws 90-542 and 99-590). The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (WSRA) established a method for providing federal protection for certain remaining free-flowing rivers and preserving them and their immediate environments. Rivers are included in the system so they may benefit from the protective management and control of development for which the WSRA provides (USDI 1992b, Appendix 2-WS-2). Listed below are portions of several sections of the WSRA that provide the overall framework for managing the river or provide the guidance for developing and implementing any proposed management action within the river corridor.

Section 1(b) of the WSRA states:

"It is hereby declared to be the policy of the United States that certain selected rivers of the Nation which, with their immediate environments, possess outstandingly remarkable scenic, recreational, geological, fish and wildlife, historic, cultural or other similar values, shall be preserved in a free-flowing condition, and that they and their immediate environments shall be protected for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations."

> The outstandingly remarkable values for the Rogue River, as identified by Congress (HR 1917 September 24, 1968 and HR 1623 July 3, 1968); as described in the *Master Plan for the Rogue River Component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System* (USDI 1969); and as described in the 1972 Plan, the *Rogue National Wild and Scenic River, Oregon: Notice of Revised Development and Management Plan* (Federal Register Vol. 37, No. 131, 13408-13416) include natural scenic qualities along the river, fish, and recreation. Other river-related values that are important, but were not considered outstandingly remarkable at the time include cultural and wildlife resources.
>
> Section 3(b) of the WSRA states:
>
> "Every wild, scenic, or recreational river in its free flowing condition...shall be classified, designated, and administered as one of the following: (1) Wild River Areas – Those rivers or sections of rivers that are free of impoundments and generally inaccessible except by trail; (2) Scenic River Areas – Those rivers or sections of rivers that are free of impoundments, with shorelines or watersheds still largely primitive and shorelines largely undeveloped, but accessible in places by roads; and (3) Recreational River Areas – Those rivers or sections of rivers that are readily accessible by road or railroad, that may have some development along their shorelines, and that may have undergone some impoundment or diversion in the past.

The Hellgate Recreation Area was classified as a recreational river.

> Section 7(a) of the WSRA states:
>
> "No department or agency of the United States shall recommend authorization of any water resources project that would have a direct and adverse effect on the values for which such river was established..."

Section 7 of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (16 USC 1278) requires a rigorous process to ensure that proposed water resources projects, implemented or assisted by federal agencies within the bed and banks of designated rivers, "do not have a direct and adverse effect" on the values for which the river was designated. Water resources projects include any dam, water conduit, reservoir, powerhouse, transmission line, or other project works under the Federal Power Act, or other construction of developments which would affect the free-flowing characteristics of a wild and scenic river. In addition to projects licensed by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, water resource projects may also include: dams, water diversions, fisheries habitat and watershed restoration/enhancement projects, bridges and other roadway construction/reconstruction projects, bank stabilization, channelization, levees, boat ramps, and fishing piers that occur within the bed and banks of a designated Wild and Scenic River (IWSRCC 1999) and that affect the river's free-flowing characteristics. These projects include the types of actions along the Rogue National Wild and Scenic River that could come up for decision, including those projects for which the purposes are to improve the free-flowing condition of the river.

The agency designated as river manager must complete a Section 7 determination to assess whether the project proposed, assisted, or permitted by a federal agency would directly and adversely affect the values for which the river was designated. Water resources projects that have a direct and adverse effect on the values of a designated river must either be redesigned and resubmitted for a subsequent Section 7 determination, abandoned, or reported to the Secretary of Interior and the United States Congress, in accordance with the act.

Emergency projects (such as repairing a broker sewer line in or near the river) may temporarily proceed without Section 7 determination. However, a Section 7

determination must be completed in a timely manner upon completion of the project. Emergency water resources projects that are later determined to have a direct and adverse effect on the river values shall be mitigated based on the findings of the Section 7 determination.

Section 10(a) of the WSRA states that:

"Each component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System shall be administered in such a manner as to protect and enhance the values which caused it to be included in said system without, insofar as is consistent therewith, limiting other uses that do not substantially interfere with public use and enjoyment of these values. In such administration, primary emphasis shall be given to protecting its aesthetic, scenic, historic, archeaeologic, and scientific features. Management plans for any such component may establish varying degrees of intensity for its protection and development, based on the special attributes of the area."

This section is interpreted by the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture as meaning that all designated river areas, regardless of classification, will be protected and/or enhanced and not degraded.

The WSRA requires that a comprehensive river management plan be prepared to provide for the protection of the river's outstandingly remarkable values. The plan is required to address resource protection, development of land and facilities, user capacities, and other management practices as needed.

# 1972 Comprehensive River Management Plan

In 1972, the U.S. Forest Service and the BLM revised and combined their *1969 Master Plans for the Rogue River Component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System*. The combined plan is the *Rogue National Wild and Scenic River, Oregon: Notice of Revised Development and Management Plan* (1972 Plan) (*Federal Register* Vol. 37, No. 131, 13408-13416). The 1972 Plan provides the basic framework of policies, objectives, and direction for managing the river. The 1972 Plan is not changed or amended by the RAMP.

# 1995 Medford District Resource Management Plan

The Hellgate RAMP will not amend the *BLM Medford District Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan* (RMP). The Hellgate RAMP is an activity plan in conformance with the BLM Medford District RMP. The following program activity components represent land use allocations or management direction contained in the RMP: (1) activity components not present in the Hellgate Recreation Area, and (2) present activity components with a prescription provided in the RMP.

An amendment determination for the BLM Medford District RMP is not necessary because:

1. These resources are not present in the Hellgate Recreation Area: coal, livestock grazing, wild horse and burro management, and wilderness study areas.

2. These resources have management direction for all land use or specific land use allocations and are managed according to the RMP: survey and manage species, protection buffer species, riparian reserves, late-successional reserves, managed late-successional areas, and matrix allocations.

3. These resources have program direction and are managed according to the RMP: air quality, water and soil, wildlife habitat, fisheries habitat, special status and special attention species habitat, special areas, forest health, recreation, visual resources, cultural resources (including Native American values), timber resources, special forest products, energy and minerals, socioeconomic conditions, lands, land tenure adjustments, rights-of-way, access, withdrawals, roads, rural interface areas, fire management, noxious weeds, and hazardous materials.

# Northwest Forest Plan

The Hellgate RAMP is designed to be compliant with the *Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (FSEIS) on Management of Habitat for Late-Successional and Old-Growth Forest Related Species Within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl* (USDA, USFS; USDI, BLM 1994).

It also meets the requirements of the Aquatic Conservation Strategy, a component of the Northwest Forest Plan designed to maintain and restore the productivity and resiliency of riparian and aquatic ecosystems.

# Noxious Weed Control and Management

The control and management of noxious weeds for all alternatives will be directed by and conform to the Medford District's *Integrated Weed Management Plan and Environmental Assessment* (EA) #OR-110-98-14, tiered to the *Northwest Area Noxious Weed Control Program Environmental Impact Statement* prepared December 1985 and amended March 1987.

# Agency Programs

The land and water resources within the wild and scenic corridor are managed by a host of local, regional, state, and other federal agencies.

## Josephine County

The comprehensive plan for Josephine County has been acknowledged by the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development as conforming with the statewide planning goals and objectives. Virtually all the private lands and all of the BLM-administered and state-managed lands within the planning area are in the following county-designated zones: Exclusive Farm and Farm Resource, Forest Commercial and Woodlot Resource, Rural Residential, Tourist Commercial, Wild and Scenic River, Goal 5 Resources (i.e., Open Spaces, Scenic and Historic Areas, and Natural Resources), and Utilities.

Josephine County Parks Department is a significant contributor of outdoor recreation opportunities within the Hellgate Recreation Area (HRA). The County manages major developed campgrounds and provides many other recreation opportunities, facilities, and services in the planning area.

## Oregon State Parks

In 1969, the State of Oregon passed the Oregon Scenic Waterways Act (the Oregon Act). This legislation established a program to protect state-designated rivers throughout Oregon. Its goals are to protect the free-flowing character of designated rivers for fish, wildlife, and recreation. Dams, reservoirs, impoundments, and placer mines are prohibited on state scenic waterways. The Oregon Act requires review of

new developments along designated rivers, but does not affect existing water rights, developments, or uses. In 1970, this same 84-mile segment was designated as a component of the Oregon State Scenic Waterways System.

Scenic waterways are administered by the Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission in accordance with Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS) 390.805 to 390.925. Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR) have been adopted to govern the program. General rules set forth generic standards that apply to all scenic waterways. Specific rules are also developed for each river during the management planning process. These rules are designed to manage development within the scenic waterway corridor to maintain the natural beauty of the river.

The Oregon Act and rules require evaluation of proposed land development, improvement, or alteration relative to the scenic and aesthetic beauty of the waterway as viewed from the river. This review and evaluation applies to all related adjacent lands, defined as lands within one-quarter mile of the banks of the scenic waterway. Landowners wishing to build houses or roads, cut timber, mine, or pursue other similar projects, must make written notification to the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD). The OPRD reviews the proposal in coordination with other jurisdictions and determines if the proposal will substantially impair the natural beauty of the scenic waterway. When a project is inconsistent with scenic waterway goals, OPRD works with the landowner to resolve conflicts. The commission has one year from the date of initial notification in which to reach accommodation with the landowner. This may include revising the project or compensating the landowner by purchasing the land or resource or negotiating a scenic easement. If satisfactory resolution is not reached within one year, the landowner may proceed with the initial development proposal.

Local and state agencies must comply with the scenic waterway law and rules. Federal land managing agencies are encouraged to coordinate with the OPRD to insure their own land management actions are compatible with scenic waterway management prescriptions.

## Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

State of Oregon hunting and fishing regulations, such as bag limits, season-of-use, catch and release, and barbless hooks are the responsibility of the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife.

## Oregon Department of Forestry

State of Oregon regulations for regulated-use closures on public land and any commercial forest activity on private lands, such as harvesting or salvaging trees, reforestation, chemical application and pre-commercial thinning are the responsibility of Oregon Department of Forestry.

## Oregon State Marine Board

State of Oregon regulations, such as requirements for personal flotation devices and their accessibility, no anchor zones, pass-through zones, slow no-wake areas, private watercraft noise standards, boat speed, and personal watercraft are the responsibility of the Oregon State Marine Board.

## Oregon State Historic Preservation Office

The Medford District Office will continue to consult with the Oregon State Historic Preservation Office, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, tribal governments,

and other local and federal agencies as appropriate, regarding the location, evaluation, mitigation, and interpretation of cultural and historic sites within the planning area.

## Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development

The Hellgate Recreation Area is outside the defined coastal zone management area, and a formal coastal zone management plan consistency determination is not required. The Hellgate RAMP is consistent with the Oregon Coastal Zone Program. Although the planning area is outside the zone, the river clearly involves fisheries which are a coastal resource due to the anadromous nature of the fisheries resource.

## Oregon Division of State Lands

The Division of State Lands, through its removal/fill permit process for state scenic waterways, regulates fill and removal within the river corridor. These regulations are most notably employed when requests for channel deepening are made (ORS 390.805 to ORS 390.925).

## Oregon Department of Environmental Quality

The BLM and Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ) have a Memorandum of Agreement that identifies the Medford BLM as a Designated Management Agency charged with implementing and enforcing natural resource management programs for the protection of water quality, as described in the Clean Water Act (P.L. 92-500), on federal lands under its jurisdiction. Under the Agreement, the ODEQ and the Medford BLM work together to bring water quality limited water bodies, as defined under Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act, on BLM-administered lands into compliance with State water quality standards. This is accomplished by producing and implementing Water Quality Management Plans (WQMP) and Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL) for 303(d) listed streams. The scheduled date for completion of the WQMP/TMDL for the Lower Rogue sub-basin is 2004. Regulations and implementation of the Clean Water Act are a responsibility of the DEQ and will not be addressed in this planning effort.

## United States Army Corps of Engineers

Section 404 of the Clean Water Act requires the Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) to regulate, through permit, the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States, including placement of riprap. The ACOE also regulates, through permits, any structures and work in navigable waters that may affect the river's free-flowing condition.

The United States Army Corps of Engineers manages two dams that affect the flow of water in the Hellgate Recreation Area: the William L. Jess Dam (on the Rogue River) and the Applegate Dam (on the Applegate River). Water releases from these reservoirs are the responsibility of the United States Army Corps of Engineers.

## United States Coast Guard

The U.S. Coast Guard safety regulations for motorized tour boats and their operations, such as inspection of boats, investigation of casualties and accidents, and licensing and certification of boat operators are the responsibility of the U.S. Coast Guard.

## National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

The Secretary of Commerce, acting through the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), has the authority to add to and delete from endangered and threatened marine

and anadromous species lists, based on whether a species faces extinction due to a variety of natural or human-caused factors. The Secretary must also establish recovery plans that set forth conservation goals and specify actions necessary to achieve them for each listed species. Listings will not be addressed as part of this planning effort, except to ensure that BLM-managed activities do not jeopardize the continued existence of listed species or adversely modify habitat critical to those species. Additionally, NMFS administers the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (1996). The Act requires identification of essential fish habitat (EFH) for salmon and to conserve and enhance habitat.

## United States Fish and Wildlife Service

The Secretary of the Interior, acting through the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, has the authority to add to and delete from endangered and threatened terrestrial species lists based on whether a species faces extinction due to a variety of natural or human-caused factors. The Secretary must also establish recovery plans that set forth conservation goals and specify actions necessary to achieve them for each listed species. Listings will not be addressed as part of this planning effort, except to ensure that BLM-managed activities do not jeopardize the continued existence of listed species or adversely modify habitat critical to those species.

## Endangered Species Act

Management of the Hellgate Recreation Area will comply with species that are ESA listed as threatened or endangered and subsequent recovery plans regardless of when they are adopted.

## Management Constraints on Private Lands

On the BLM-administered portion of the Rogue River, the BLM has acquired specific development rights, known as scenic easements, for the purpose of protecting the scenic qualities of the designated river area.

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