

**Appendix E**  
**Agency and Public Comments on the Draft EA and**  
**Reclamation's Responses**



## **Appendix E – Public Comments and Reclamation’s Responses**

Letters of comment received as a result of the review of the Draft EA and Reclamation’s responses to specific comments are included in this appendix. All of the letters received are listed below. Comment letters (and Reclamation’s responses, when necessary), are presented in the following order (each designated with a unique alphanumeric code for organizational purposes):

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Federal Agency – State Supervisor pg 1 of 3  
FA1



**United States Department of the Interior**

**FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE**  
**Oregon Fish & Wildlife Office**  
2600 S.E. 98th Avenue, Suite 100  
Portland, Oregon 97266  
(503) 231-6179 FAX: (503) 231-6195

Reply To: 7273.0021  
File Name: Hagg Lake RMP EA, Washington County, OR  
TS Number: 03-3491

June 19, 2003

**Memorandum**

To: Regional Director, Bureau of Reclamation, Pacific NW Region, Boise, Idaho  
ATTN: Carolyn Burpee-Stone  
From: State Supervisor/Deputy State Supervisor, Oregon Fish & Wildlife Office,  
Portland, Oregon  
Subject: Review of Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Henry Hagg Lake  
Resource Management Plan

The Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has reviewed the draft EA for the Henry Hagg Lake Resource Management Plan (RMP) as requested in your letter of May 5, 2003. The Service has served as a member of the Ad Hoc Working Group (AHWG) for the Hagg Lake RMP and has met several times over the past 2 years to help develop the draft goals and objectives for the RMP. This group has also reviewed and provided input on the preliminary draft alternatives matrix and the impacts matrix describing the environmental effects of each of the alternatives.

**General Comments:**

The draft EA has done a good job addressing the concerns of the AHWG and has, in particular, incorporated the Service's input on elk meadow maintenance and management, overnight camping, recreational use of the Sain Creek elk meadow, planting of buffers using native vegetation, and protection of threatened and endangered species as well as federal species of concern.

The Service does have some preferences with regard to implementation priorities for development at the Lake. The Service's number one priority is initiation of the long-term elk meadow management plan developed by the Bureau of Reclamation (Bureau) with input from several agencies including the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Service. The elk meadows would need to be properly maintained as called for in the management plan. It would also be very important to monitor the effectiveness (use) of the newly-created and restored meadows.

**Response to Comment FA1-1** – Comment noted.

FA1-1

**Response to Comment FA1-2**–The Elk Mitigation Meadows Maintenance and Monitoring Plan, included as an appendix to the Draft EA, includes an implementation and maintenance schedule and provisions for annual monitoring of elk use of the meadows. Reclamation and WACO will continue to coordinate with ODFW staff regarding meadow establishment, maintenance, and monitoring.

FA1-2

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The Service's next priority would be to implement the overall wildlife and vegetation management scenarios with emphasis on Tanner Creek and Nelson Coves wetland enhancements. These proposed wetland enhancements, if properly managed, could provide habitat for northwestern pond turtles and northern red-legged frogs. Implementation of water quality and erosion and sedimentation controls should be considered the next priority since work on sediment and erosion control projects upstream of Bureau lands could be especially beneficial to Hagg Lake. From the Service's viewpoint, the next priorities have to do with development at Recreation Area A East and the Environmental Education and Research Center. The Service would prefer day-use only at Area A East but does support phased introduction of overnight camping facilities that are constructed and operated with minimal impacts to habitat and fish and wildlife resources. Monitoring of camping activities will be very important. We would also suggest installing/constructing the proposed 40-slip boat dock and any other shoreline developments last. The Service would prefer that the Education and Research Center be one of the last sites developed at Hagg Lake and suggests that the Bureau consider a phased construction/development with monitoring of effects on fish and wildlife resources, particularly elk. Mitigation for lost elk habitat may be necessary.

Specific Comments:

Page 3-33, second paragraph, last sentence. It may be necessary, after looking at the use of the new elk meadows between Recreation Area A East and Area A West, to initiate a correction prior to year 10, perhaps as soon as year 5 of the monitoring period. Planning for this scenario would help to insure establishment of productive elk meadow habitat.

Page 3-35, first paragraph. This paragraph should discuss the possibility of clearing vegetation to provide access from the camp sites to the Lake and the proposed new dock. Impacts of such clearing activities on vegetative and shoreline deterioration should be discussed in this section.

Page 3-37, second paragraph, last sentence. Additional elk meadow habitat should be acquired and suitably developed for elk use prior to or at least concurrently with development of the education center.

Page 3-42, Table 3.6-5. The species list provided by the Service included the tailed frog, northwestern pond turtle, and northern red-legged frog, neither of which is shown in the table. These species should be designated as Species of Concern.

Page 3-52, first paragraph. It is confusing to lump all species listed under the Federal Endangered Species Act (ESA) and the Oregon State ESA as "threatened and endangered" (TES). These species should be differentiated since they are designated as threatened or endangered under different laws and authorities. It becomes even more confusing when Federal candidate species and species of concern, which have no protection under the ESA, are

FA1-3

FA1-4

FA1-5

FA1-6

FA1-7

FA1-8

FA1-9

FA1-10

FA1-11

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FA1

**Response to Comment FA1-3** – Implementation of the wetland enhancements at Tanner Creek and Nelson cove are dependent on further feasibility studies. In addition, the Nelson Cove wetland enhancement would be funded and constructed by the environmental education and research center if deemed feasible.

**Response to Comment FA1-4** – Reclamation will concentrate its efforts on implementing effective sedimentation and erosion control plans on Reclamation lands during construction and renovation of facilities. New facilities or major renovations will include stormwater control systems that adhere to WACO standards. While Reclamation would cooperate with programs outside the park boundaries, the agency is not likely to spend resources for programs outside of Reclamation lands.

**Response to Comment FA1-5** – Camping and the 40-slip boat dock are not included under the Preferred Alternative for the Final EA. These elements were removed following comments received on the Draft EA and for a number of practical reasons documented in the Final EA.

**Response to Comment FA1-6** – Development of the environmental education and research center is dependent on organization and funding by outside entities. This is a long-term vision and unlikely to be implemented early in the 10-year RMP planning period. As noted in the Preferred Alternative, implementation of the environmental education and research center would require mitigation for loss of elk meadow habitat.

**Response to Comment FA1-7** – The Elk Mitigation Meadows Maintenance and Monitoring Plan outlines a schedule to rehabilitate and maintain the meadows over the course of the 10-year RMP period.

Monitoring will be conducted beginning in year 1, but it will take about 5 years before all the meadows have been rehabilitated. Thus, data collected in the early stages of the monitoring plan will reflect the use of the elk meadows at various stages of completion. While Reclamation, WACO, and ODFW will cooperate throughout the life of the RMP, several years of monitoring the rehabilitated meadows will be needed before any meaningful results can be determined.

**Response to Comment FA1-8** – Camping has been removed as an element of the Preferred Alternative. Recreation Area A East will be a day use area, and access trails to the reservoir currently exist here. Clearing of vegetation would be limited to what is needed for trail and facilities maintenance and completed in accordance with Environmental Commitments listed in the Draft and Final EA.

**Response to Comment FA1-9** – Comment noted. The Preferred Alternative includes provisions for mitigation of any loss of elk meadows from facility development.

**Response to Comment FA1-10** – Section 3.7, Threatened, Endangered, and Sensitive (TES) Species includes a table and narrative of those species as identified by USFWS, Oregon Department of Agriculture, and Oregon Natural Heritage Program. Table 3.7-1 lists the species and their classification by each of these agencies. The northwestern pond turtle and the red-legged frog are listed in the table and discussed in the narrative.

There is no suitable habitat for tailed frogs at Henry Hagg Lake or in the general vicinity of the park; thus, this species was not discussed in the document. Only those species that may occur in the general vicinity of the park are discussed.

**Response to Comment FA1-11** – In Section 3.6.1.3, Rare Species are identified as “those species listed as Federal Species of Concern SoC that also have an ONHP rank of 3 or 4.” Table 3.6-5 lists each species and its Federal status, ODFW status, and ONHP status. TES species are identified in Section 3.7 as “those species with a Federal designation (threatened, endangered, candidate or SoC) and an ONHP rank of 1 or 2, as well as those species with an Oregon State listing of Endangered or Threatened.” Table 3.7-1 identifies each species and provides the State and Federal designations. Footnotes explain the Federal and State classifications. Though Federal and State designations can be confusing, we feel we have organized the information in an efficient manner and presented it as clearly and concisely as possible.

categorized as listed threatened or endangered species. It would be less confusing to the public if this section distinguished between and separately discussed each state/Federal category.

Page 3-56, second paragraph. The draft EA addresses the American peregrine falcon, which is no longer a listed species and was not included on the May 17, 2002 species list provided by the Service, but does not address the listed northern spotted owl which was included on the species list. This discrepancy should be corrected. The peregrine falcon is mentioned in several other places under the threatened and endangered species section (pages 3-59, 3-60, 3-62, etc.). While we acknowledge that the peregrine falcon is still listed as an Oregon State endangered species, it should not be included in a section on federally listed threatened and endangered species. The same is true for the categorization of candidate species and species of concern as threatened and endangered species listed under the ESA. Again, it would be clearer to the reader to concentrate on federally listed threatened and endangered species in this section with an explanation that the RMP would also protect state-listed species.

Page 3-62, first paragraph, last sentence. While the ESA does provide opportunity to “mitigate” for adverse impacts to listed species, the section 7 consultation component of the ESA focuses on minimization and avoidance of “take” of a listed species through implementation of reasonable and prudent alternatives or approved conservation measures.

Page 3-62, second paragraph. It should be made clear that reduced habitat degradation would increase the probability of the establishment of threatened and endangered plant species only if the proper habitat conditions for these species are available.

Page 3-64, first paragraph. This paragraph states that “creation of a healthy wetland/riparian complex in Nelson Cove . . . would benefit Pacific lamprey and winter-run steelhead.” It should be clarified that this water quality improvement benefit would occur to Pacific lamprey and winter steelhead downstream of Scoggins Dam since lamprey and steelhead populations are not located in Nelson Cove.

We appreciate the opportunity to review and comment on the Hagg Lake RMP draft EA. If you have any questions regarding our comments, please contact Kathi Larson at 503-231-6179.

FA1-12

**Response to Comment FA1-12** – The peregrine falcon is a potential visitor to Henry Hagg Lake and is discussed under TES species because of its State designation. A narrative that discusses the northern spotted owl has been added to the EA. There is no suitable habitat for this species at the park or in the immediate vicinity of the park. Also see the response to FA1-11.

FA1-13

**Response to Comment FA1-13** – Reclamation understands the ESA consultation process and always seeks to avoid adverse effects to listed species. The paragraph in questions simply notes the procedures that Reclamation would follow if any adverse effects were determined. Reclamation has determined that the RMP would have no effect to listed plant species or the northern spotted owl. The RMP may affect but is not likely to affect steelhead, bald eagle, streaked horned lark, and Oregon spotted frog.

FA1-14

**Response to Comment FA1-14** – Reclamation agrees. Improvements in condition of rare plant species can only occur if suitable habitat is present. The text has been clarified to reflect this concern.

FA1-15

**Response to Comment FA1-15** – The distinction of benefits to downstream lamprey and steelhead has been added to the text. Steelhead are listed under the ESA, lamprey are not. Because of the beneficial effects of the Preferred Alternative, Reclamation has determined that the RMP may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect steelhead.



**COMMENT FORM**  
**Henry Hagg Lake RMP -- Draft EA**

Henry Hagg RMP AHWG Meeting No.4  
6/12/03

Please use this form to provide us with your comments on the Draft EA

Thank you for participating in the review process for the Henry Hagg Lake Resource Management Plan (RMP) Draft Environmental Assessment (EA). We invite you to use this form to provide review comments on the recently released Draft EA for the Henry Hagg Lake RMP. Specifically, Reclamation is very interested in your thoughts and impressions of the various alternatives presented for the future management of Henry Hagg Lake and adjacent lands.

When providing your comments, please be as specific as possible, and please write clearly so we can understand your concerns. If possible, please return the comment form at the close of our meeting. This form is also designed as a self-mailer. If you prefer to take the form home and fill it out, make sure it is postmarked no later than June 20, 2003. Reclamation appreciates your interest and participation in the future management of the area.

The Marine Board supports the enhancements to boating facilities proposed in the Management Plan/Draft EA and, in particular, Alternative C - Preferred Alternative.

SA1-1

**Response to Comment SA1-1** - Comment noted.

Within the set of proposed boating facility enhancements our priorities would be:

#1 Floating restroom - the Board anticipates having Federal Clean Vessel Act funds available in our Round 2 grant cycle (apply late '03; Board consideration March '04). We would encourage Washington County Parks to apply for funding for this project - and a cost share with BuRec would be welcomed.

SA1-2

**Response to Comment SA1-2** - Thank you for your comments regarding priorities and the potential funding for the floating restroom. Reclamation and WACO will set priorities of RMP implementation with this in mind.

#2 Ramp C Improvements - Restroom, Parking, Floats  
We would suggest including a port-a-potty dump station in association with the proposed restroom (this would also utilize federal CVA funds). Parking improvements are considered a high priority in our 6-year Plan. Replacing existing floats with self-adjusting type is also recommended. This project may also be eligible for Round 2 grants.

SA1-3

**Response to Comment SA1-3** - Reclamation appreciates input on the Marine Board's choice of priorities within the Preferred Alternative and the information provided regarding potential funding. Because of the issue of the potential dam raise, Reclamation and WACO will avoid major capital expenditures for facilities that are not mobile until after a decision has been made on the dam raise. A port-a-potty dump is already located at Ramp C (one is also located at Ramp A).

note: we are not interested in providing funds for non-motorized boat launch but support the concept to help separate these two users.

SA1-4

**Response to Comment SA1-4** - Comment noted.



State Agency – Oregon State Marine Board page 2 of 2  
SA1

Boat Ramp/  
#3 Recreation Area A West - Restroom/dump facility,  
replace existing floats with self-adjusters, expand  
parking for boat trailers. These are possible  
candidates for Round 2 funding.

SA1-5

**Response to Comment SA1-5** – See response to Comment SA1-3.

#4 Recreation Area A-East - 40-slip boat dock. Though  
we would support this concept, it is considered  
a lower priority at this time. This may be  
a suitable opportunity for a private concession  
marina operation.

SA1-6

**Response to Comment SA1-6** – In the Final EA, the 40-slip boat dock has  
been removed from the Preferred Alternative.

Misc.: The Marine Board would be concerned about  
the placement and design of fish enhancement habitat  
structures and coffer dams installed in the  
lake - from a boating safety standpoint.  
We would appreciate the opportunity to  
review design and placement of proposed  
structures.

SA1-7

**Response to Comment SA1-7** – Reclamation and WACO would  
implement the cofferdam wetland enhancement at Tanner Creek only if it  
were technically feasible, provided suitable resource enhancement, and  
maintained recreation user safety. Similar guidelines would need to be  
followed by the environmental education and research center for the  
Nelson Cove enhancements. Reclamation and WACO will coordinate with  
the Marine Board regarding boater safety if these projects are  
implemented.

Fold in thirds with address below shown, tape closed, and affix 37 cent stamp.

Thank You!

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation  
PN Regional Office  
Attn: Carolyn Burpee Stone PN-3902  
1150 North Curtis Road, Suite 100  
Boise, ID 83706-1234

June 19, 2003

Carolyn Burpee-Stone  
United States Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Reclamation  
1150 North Curtis Road, Suite 100  
Boise, Idaho 83706-1234

Subject: Henry Hagg Lake Resource Management Plan (RMP), Washington  
County, Oregon

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on the Henry Hagg Lake Resource Management Plan (RMP) alternatives proposed in the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA).

**Overall Wildlife and Vegetation Management:**

- ODFW supports the development and utilization of native vegetation buffers at developed areas as proposed in Alternative A and would request that this concept be utilized in both Alternative B and C. In addition, native vegetation buffers should be utilized with any new construction. All efforts should be utilized to protect existing native vegetation with particular emphasis place on the protection of naturally occurring oak trees in the area.
- The concept of installing bird/bat boxes where appropriate as indicated in Alternative B is not strongly supported by ODFW without the implementation of maintenance and monitoring programs.

**Elk Meadows:**

- The development of a long-term management plan for the rehabilitation and maintenance of elk meadows (140 acres) as identified in Alternatives A, B, and C, should be a high priority. Alternatives B and C provide a more comprehensive and flexible approach.
- It is the understanding of ODFW, that the elk meadows were identified as mitigation for loss of Big Game habitat when Henry Hagg Lake was constructed and upper Scoggins Valley was flooded. ODFW would not support the utilization of elk meadow monitoring data as a tool to determine the need for, or to justify the elimination of, elk meadows as stated in

SA2-1

**Response to Comment SA2-1** – The Preferred Alternative and BMPs include provisions for minimizing vegetation clearing during construction and maintenance and using native vegetation where feasible for post-construction rehabilitation.

SA2-2

**Response to Comment SA2-2** – Provisions for regular monitoring and maintenance of bird and bat boxes has been added for the Final EA.

SA2-3

**Response to Comment SA2-3** – Reclamation agrees that implementation of the elk meadows management plan is a high priority. Reclamation and WACO will implement the plan according to the schedule agreed to by Reclamation, WACO, and ODFW.

SA2-4

**Response to Comment SA2-4** – Reclamation and WACO will continue to coordinate with ODFW as stipulated in the Elk Mitigation Meadows Maintenance and Monitoring Plan. There were no suitable lands available in the upper (northwest) portions of the park to develop elk meadows; therefore, the plan identifies two parcels to be developed for new elk meadows as shown on Figure 3.5-2. At this time, there are no plans to develop new elk meadows in the upper (northwest) portions of the park.

Alternatives B and C. The elk meadow monitoring program should be utilized exclusively for the modification and/or improvement of the elk meadow rehabilitation and maintenance plan. ODFW would recommend that future elk meadows be developed in the upper portions of Henry Hagg Lake in order to provide damage relief for agricultural producers and landowners, assist in moving resident elk herds away from heavily utilized recreational developments and to reduce the elk activities along the dam face.

SA2-4  
(cont.)

- ODFW believes that the development and utilization of the Sain Creek elk meadow as a frisbee golf course during the summer months would not significantly impact the utilization of the meadow by large ungulates if seasonal closures of the area where in place and enforced.
- ODFW would recommend the use of camping fees (if allowed) as a source of revenue to maintain elk meadows.

SA2-5

**Response to Comment SA2-5** – The disc course at the Sain Creek elk meadow will include seasonal closures and will be monitored as part of the Elk Mitigation Meadows Maintenance and Monitoring Plan.

SA2-6

**Response to Comment SA2-6** – Camping has been removed from the Preferred Alternative in the Final EA; however, Reclamation has committed to the elk meadow rehabilitation and monitoring program as mitigation for construction of the dam.

**Noxious Weeds:**

- ODFW supports the development and implementation of an Integrated Program to control and/or eliminate noxious weeds and would recommend that this program be applied to non-native plant species that have or could have detrimental affect on wildlife populations.

SA2-7

**Response to Comment SA2-7** Reclamation will develop an Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPMP) in coordination with WACO and ODFW. The plan will include provisions to include plants listed by the WACO Weed Control Board and other species that are detrimental to habitats at the parks.

**Rare, Threatened and Endangered Species:**

- ODFW supports the implementation of programs that would protect and enhance the habitats of both Federal and State listed rare, threatened, endangered and sensitive wildlife species.
- The protection of bald eagle perch sites around the reservoir identified in Alternative A should be expanded to include protection of future perch trees.
- ODFW would recommend that additional inventories are conducted to determine the presence and utilization of BOR lands at Henry Hagg Lake by Federal and State listed species. Current information obtained by ODFW indicates a breeding population of Western Pond turtles in the reservoir (pers. comm. Sue Bielke – see attached document). This would be a significant issue to be included in any RMP.

SA2-8

**Response to Comment SA2-8** – Comment noted.

SA2-9

**Response to Comment SA2-9** – Potential eagle perch trees could be any tree in the park that is about 30 feet or higher. Environmental Commitments listed in the EA include provisions to minimize vegetation clearing for facilities development, which includes large trees.

SA2-10

**Response to Comment SA2-10** – Information provided by the Northwest Turtle Project on western pond turtles has been added to the Final EA. Environmental Commitments in the EA include provisions for Threatened, Endangered, and Sensitive (TES) species surveys prior to construction if any suitable habitat may be affected. In addition, provisions for public information regarding human-wildlife interactions has been added to the Final EA.

SA2-11

**Public Information:**

- ODFW is concerned that there is no alternative that developments an interpretive programs to highlight fish and wildlife resources in the area. Fish and wildlife resources are considered to be important by many Oregonians. The public should be informed about the unique fish and wildlife resources in

**Response to Comment SA2-11** – Interpretive programs regarding the park’s natural resources have been added to the Preferred Alternative in the Final EA.

State Agency – ODFW, VandeBergh, page 3 of 3  
SA2

the area, how to interact in a positive way with wildlife resources and the importance of maintaining or improving their habitats.

**Recreation Area A East:**

- ODFW would recommend that a wildlife management program be developed to address wildlife issues that could arise if camping were allowed in Area A East as identified in Alternative C or in any other area of Henry Hagg Lake. Some issues that should be addressed in the wildlife management plan include:
  - educating the public about the dangers of feeding wildlife,
  - adoption of rules and regulations to prohibit feeding of wildlife,
  - installation and requirement of campers to utilize wildlife-proof garbage containers and possibly wildlife-proof food containers,
  - prohibit dogs to run at-large or be off leash to avoid harassment to wildlife,
  - prohibit the use of elk meadows or other sensitive wildlife sites/habitats by the public after dark, during the "off season", or during critical nesting or young rearing time periods,
  - develop a program/plan to address human-wildlife interactions that pose a threat to public safety (black bears in garbage containers).

SA2-12

**Response to Comment SA2-12** – Camping has been removed from the Preferred Alternative in the Final EA. However, provisions for education of park visitors on human-wildlife interactions and appropriate behavior of visitors has been added to the Preferred Alternative.

As a final comment, I would recommend that BOR develop methodology to assess the public "carrying capacity" of the area. The increasing demands for outdoor recreation opportunities in Washington County cannot be fully met at this site. There is considerable concern that by attempting to meet this demand at Henry Hagg Lake, wildlife resources could be jeopardized. Significant increases in recreational use will increase detrimental human-wildlife interactions, motor vehicle (and to a lesser extent non-motorized traffic) traffic and noise will disturb wildlife during important nesting and rearing time periods, and the loss of wildlife habitat by developments and soil compaction could result in changes of wildlife distribution and possible elimination of wildlife species in and around the lake.

SA2-13

**Response to Comment SA2-13** – Reclamation will continue to monitor the use of the park and the recreation user capacity as facilities are developed. Development of facilities may be modified to address park capacity as needed.

Thank you for allowing ODFW the opportunity to provide comments on the Henry Hagg Lake RMP. If you should have any questions or require clarification to the comments submitted, please feel free to contact me at (503) 621-3488.

Sincerely,

Donald J. VandeBergh  
District Wildlife Biologist  
North Willamette Watershed District

State Agency – ODFW, Caldwell, page 1 of 1  
SA3



**Oregon**  
Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor

**Department of Fish and Wildlife**  
Northwest Region  
17330 SE Evelyn Street  
Clackamas, OR 97015-9514  
(503) 657-2000  
(503) 657-2050



June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2003

Bureau of Reclamation  
C/o Carolyn Burpee Stone  
1150 North Curtis Road, suite 100  
Boise, Idaho 83706-1234

Dear Carolyn:

The Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife (ODFW) appreciated the opportunity to provide comment on the Henry Hagg Lake Resource Management Plan (RMP).

- ODFW is concerned about the construction of the coffer dam in Tanner Creek as described in Alternatives B & C. Because of fish passage concerns and potential fish entrapment issues, ODFW would recommend that a coffer dam not be constructed.
- ODFW is also concerned about the construction of a shoreline boardwalk and floating restroom planned at the Scoggins Creek picnic Area as described in Alternative C. Floating structures such as these act as staging areas for predatory fish. ODFW annually stocks approximately 60,000 fingerling rainbow trout into Henry Hagg Lake and these fish could be at risk.
- There is no mention of enhancement opportunities planned in Sain Creek. Plus structural enhancement in the lake itself was not discussed. Is there an opportunity to include enhancement in Sain Creek and the lake proper in the final RMP?

Also I'd like to add a unrelated comment to the draft report chapter 3 page 3-55 dealing with Pacific Lamprey. ODFW does not consider Pacific Lamprey detrimental to viable commercial fisheries. Plus there was a commercial fishery for Pacific Lamprey at Willamette Falls up until the year 2000. And finally, there is currently a recreational and tribal fishery targeting Pacific Lamprey at Willamette Falls.

Thanks again for allowing ODFW the opportunity to provide comment on the Henry Hagg Lake Resource Management Plan (RMP). If you have any questions or clarification, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Dick Caldwell  
Fish Biologist  
North Willamette Fish District  
(503) 657-2000 ext.235

SA3-1

**Response to Comment SA3-1** – Any cofferdam constructed at Tanner Creek would be proceeded by a technical feasibility study that would include research on biological, hydrological, and physical elements of the design. Provisions for fish passage would be included in any such design, as specifically noted in the Preferred Alternative.

SA3-2

**Response to Comment SA3-2** – Because of the potential dam raise, a shoreline boardwalk is not a high priority capital investment for Reclamation or WACO. In addition, it is unlikely that fingerling trout would be affected by a shoreline boardwalk or floating restroom. Rather than provide a haven for predatory fish, near shore overwater structures often provide shallow water cover for smaller fish. Reclamation and WACO would continue to coordinate with ODFW regarding the design of any shoreline boardwalk when and if this feature is developed.

SA3-3

SA3-4

**Response to Comment SA3-3** – Enhancement at Tanner and Scoggins Creek appear to be the most feasible locations for enhancement of wetland and riparian zones. Because of the large reservoir level fluctuations, planting of woody vegetation is practical only in those areas that exhibit a relatively stable water groundwater regime. Reclamation and WACO will continue to explore other restoration opportunities as they arise.

**Response to Comment SA3-4** – Comment noted.



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# 7

Local Agency, Joint Water Commission, Erwert,  
page 2 of 2  
**LA1**

Ms. Carolyn Burpee Stone  
PN-3902, Bureau of Reclamation  
June 20, 2003  
Page 2 of 2

remain in the reservoir and in the drainage capture area of the reservoir. We are concerned that adequate measures have not been included to prevent, limit, or offset by mitigation these specific types of contamination, and that concentrations within the reservoir will be increasing as crowds grow, use increases, and concentrations in areas near the lake increase and impact runoff into the reservoir.

The draft Environmental Assessment recognizes that "Alternative C" has the largest proportion of these deleterious effects to water quality and as such the greatest potential to adversely impact the ability of the JWC to continue to provide high quality drinking water for the communities served by this resource. In short, we would request if "Alternative C" is selected, that selection be accompanied by additional measures to protect water quality.

Sincerely,

JOINT WATER COMMISSION

  
Tim Erwert,  
General Manager

LA1-3  
(cont.)

LA1-4

**Response to Comment LA1-4** – Provisions of the Preferred Alternative and BMPs of the Final EA are sufficient to adequately protect water quality at Henry Hagg Lake. See response to comments to LA-1, -2, and -3 also.

6-25-03: 8:24AM:USBR THREE B COPY RM

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TO	INITIALS	DATE
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CONTROL#:	3-3203	
FOLDER#:	17852	

June 18, 2003

Charles Kingston  
2729 Ballard Pl.  
Forest Grove, OR 97116

Ms. Carolyn Burpee Stone  
PN-3902, Bureau of Reclamation  
1150 N. Curtis Road, Suite 100  
Boise, Idaho 83706-1234

RE: Henry Hagg Lake Recreation Management Plan

Dear Carolyn,

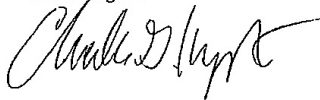
I appreciate the opportunity I had to participate on the ad hoc work group (AHWG) for the Hagg Lake RMP. At the June 12<sup>th</sup> meeting I was somewhat confused by the process. Though I feel I have a better understanding of it now, my understanding leaves me dissatisfied.

In the meeting last autumn it was apparent to me that a majority of the AHWG opposed any RMP alternative that included increased recreation opportunities that would be detrimental to water quality. The preferred alternative seems to ignore those concerns and proposes increased recreation in the form of camping facilities (both tent and RV), horse trails, and paved surfaces that the Environmental Assessment states as being deleterious to water quality and wildlife including threatened environmental species.

Henry Hagg Lake is a supplemental drinking water source for the cities of Forest Grove, Hillsboro, and Beaverton. As a water quality professional and a resident of Forest Grove, I am in opposition to any increase in recreation that may adversely affect the quality of water in Hagg Lake, its tributary streams, and the Tualatin River.

Sincerely,

Chuck Kingston



Local Agency, Joint Water Commission, Kingston,  
page 1 of 1  
LA2

- LA2-1 **Response to Comment LA2-1** – Comment noted.
- LA2-2 **Response to Comment LA2-2** – See responses to comments LA1 -1 and LA1-3. Also note that camping has been removed from the Preferred Alternative in the Final EA. While there is an association of greater effects to water quality from increased recreation use, these effects are minor and incremental. Recreation has not been identified as the source of any water quality problem at Henry Hagg Lake, and proper design and implementation of stormwater and sewage facilities would ensure the continuing protection of water quality.
- LA2-3 **Response to Comment LA2-3** – Comment noted.



6-19-03; 8:57AM:USBR THREE B COPY RM

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3-3189  
 20234



**COMMENT FORM**

Henry Hagg Lake RMP -- Draft EA

Henry Hagg RMP AHWG Meeting No. 4

JUN 18 2003

OFFICIAL FILE COPY

Please use this form to provide us with your comments on the Draft EA.

Thank you for participating in the review process for the Henry Hagg Lake Resource Management Plan (RMP) Draft Environmental Assessment (EA). We invite you to use this form to provide review comments on the recently released Draft EA for the Henry Hagg Lake RMP. Specifically, Reclamation is very interested in your thoughts and impressions of the various alternatives presented for the future management of Henry Hagg Lake and adjacent lands.

When providing your comments, please be as specific as possible, and please write clearly so we can understand your concerns. If possible, please return the comment form at the close of our meeting. This form is designed as a self-mailer. If you prefer to take the form home and fill it out, make sure it is postmarked no later than June 20, 2003. Reclamation appreciates your interest and participation in the future management of the area.

AS THE REPRESENTATIVE FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD I WOULD LIKE TO SAY THAT OUR PREFERENCES WOULD BE ALTERNATIVE C

① OUR HIGHEST IMPLEMENTATION PRIORITIES WOULD BE IMPROVEMENT OF THE RECREATION AREA, BOAT RAMPS, RAMPAGE AREA AND TRAILS. OVERNIGHT CAMPS WOULD ALSO BE HIGH ON OUR LIST OF PRIORITIES. ② WATER QUALITY & GRASS CONTROL. ③ FISHWAYS MANAGEMENT. ④ OVERALL USE/PRICE AND VEGETATION MANAGEMENT. ⑤ SLIC WIGGINS

THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO HAVE SOME INPUT ON THE FUTURE OF HENRY HAGG LAKE AS IT IS A MAJOR PART OF OUR PARK AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT FOCUS.

STEVEN SEELEY

WACO PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

Local Agency, WACO Parks, Seeley, page 1 of 1  
**LA3**

LA3-1

Response to Comment LA3-1 – Comment noted.

LA3-2

Response to Comment LA3-2 – Thank you for your list of priorities. Reclamation and WACO will avoid making large capital investments in facilities until a decision has been made regarding the dam raise. In the meantime, improvements to facilities will concentrate on those items that are mobile or low cost.



scoggins@teleport.com Wally Otto

**COMMENT FORM**  
**Henry Hagg Lake RMP -- Draft EA**

Henry Hagg RMP AHWG Meeting No.4  
6/12/03

Local Agency, Tualatin Valley Irrigation District,  
Otto, page 1 of 1  
LA4

Note: for clarity, this hand-written letter was typed; the typed version is presented on the next page.

Please use this form to provide us with your comments on the Draft EA

Thank you for participating in the review process for the Henry Hagg Lake Resource Management Plan (RMP) Draft Environmental Assessment (EA). We invite you to use this form to provide review comments on the recently released Draft EA for the Henry Hagg Lake RMP. Specifically, Reclamation is very interested in your thoughts and impressions of the various alternatives presented for the future management of Henry Hagg Lake and adjacent lands.

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As stressed previously, the concerns I bring to this forum relate to several issues including:

1. Security - This involves everything from site litter including noise pollution to vandalism to general police protection & going all the way to safety of the Dam & appurtenant structures.
2. Water Quality - Increased use will further degraded the quality of our water. This dam was not built to generate power - rather to provide a raw water supply during the dry season. The Tualatin basin yields less than 2% of its total annual discharge between the months of June & Sept (MWH-Aug 2001). Remember why this dam was built - to supply good water - not to meet every conceivable recreational whim that could come up.
3. Protection of the Dam & users for safe O&M (Reclamation Zone)

Concluding Remark - I am troubled at how the preferred Alternative was chosen. Rec 1.7 specifically states that "Most group members present appear to strongly oppose camping etc." It goes on to say that if we needed. Our comments at the meeting we did not get heard after that. I am puzzled was the Act Dec Council really specified. Hope this

- LA4-1 **Response to Comment LA4-1** - Reclamation and WACO will continue to work with TVID regarding the safety and security of the dam and Reclamation Zone. A provision for the development of an Emergency and Evacuation Plan by Reclamation, WACO, and TVID has been added to the Preferred Alternative.
- LA4-2 **Response to Comment LA4-2** - See responses to comments LA1-1 and LA1-3.
- LA4-3 **Response to Comment LA4-3** - See response to comment LA4-1.
- LA4-4 **Response to Comment LA4-4** - Camping has been removed from the Preferred Alternative in the Final EA.

As stressed previously, the concerns I bring to this forum relate to several issues including:

Local Agency, Tualatin Valley Irrigation District,  
Otto, page 1 of 1 (reproduced as typed text)  
**LA4**

1. Security – This involves everything from site litter including noise pollution to vandalism to general police protection and going all the way to safety of the dam and appurtenant structure.
2. Water Quality – Increased use will further degrade the quality of our water. This dam was not built to generate power – rather to provide a raw water supply during the dry season. The Tualatin basin yields less than 2% of its total annual discharge between the months of June and September (MWH – Aug. 2001). Remember why this dam was built – to supply good water – not to meet every conceivable recreational whim that could come up!
3. Protection of the Dam and Users – for safe O&M (Reclamation Zone)

Concluding Remark – I am troubled at how the Preferred Alternative was chosen. Rec 1.7 specifically states that “Most group members present appear to strongly oppose camping...” It goes on to say that money is needed. Hopefully, money doesn’t drive all aspects of the plan.

6 19-03: 8:57AM:USDR THREE B COPY RM

:2003705017

**WASHINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

"Conservators of the Peace" UNO-800  
TUA

Sheriff Rob Gordon



Undersheriff David Hepp

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION		
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JUN 16 '03		
TO	INIT	DATE
3902	CBS	6/10/02
CONTROL #:	3-3082	
FOLDER #:	9135	

Local Agency, WACO Sheriff's Office, Hepp,  
page 1 of 1  
LA5

June 10, 2003

Ms. Carolyn Burpee Stone  
PN-3902  
Bureau of Reclamation  
1150 N Curtis Road, Suite 100  
Boise ID 83706-1234

Dear Ms Burpee Stone,

This letter is in response to your letter dated May 5, 2003 requesting additional comments regarding the Research Management Plan for Henry Hagg Lake. The draft proposal has comments from our organization that were submitted to your office in 2002. The comments in the draft plan are much the same today as they were in the last year.

The one area that is not addressed in the draft plan, and should be in the final version has to do with the monies that Washington County Sheriff's Office receives from the Oregon State Marine Board. This contract specifically reimburses the Sheriff's Office for activities that are conducted on the water and have a direct result in boater safety.

I would ask that you include this information as well as the information provided to you in the past as it relates to the Resource Management Plan for Henry Hagg Lake.

Sincerely,  
*David Hepp*  
David Hepp  
Undersheriff

DH/des

215 SW Adams Avenue, MS #32 • Hillsboro, OR 97123-3874  
phone 503-846-2700 • fax 503-846-2604 • www.co.washington.or.us/sheriff

LA5-1

**Response to Comment LA5-1** – The information regarding the funding mechanism of the State Marine Board and the WACO Sheriff's Department has been added to the Final EA.



**COMMENT FORM**  
**Henry Hagg Lake RMP -- Draft EA**

Henry Hagg RMP AHWG Meeting No.4  
6/12/03

Please use this form to provide us with your comments on the Draft EA

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• GENERALLY PREFER TO SEE LESS DEVELOPMENT AROUND TIDE LAKE. PREFER NOT TO INCREASE PARKING AREAS OR TO BUILD ADDITIONAL RECREATIONAL FACILITIES AT AREA A WEST + C.

01-1

**Response to Comment O1-1** – Development at Area C is less than what is proposed under Alternative A, the No Action plan. Reclamation and WACO spent many hours discussing the appropriate level of recreation development needed at the park. We think that Alternative C strikes a good balance between accommodating growing recreation needs and resource protection and enhancement.

• DO NOT SUPPORT CAMPING

01-2

**Response to Comment O1-2** – Camping has been removed from the Preferred Alternative in the Final EA.

• SUPPORT REHABILITATING ELK MEADOWS & MITIGATING FOR LOSS DUE TO EDUCATION CENTER

01-3

**Response to Comment O1-3** – Comment noted.

• STRONGLY SUPPORT DEVELOPMENT OF TUALATIN WATERSHED EDUCATION + RESEARCH CENTER,

01-4

**Response to Comment O1-4** – Comment noted.

• EDUCATION CENTER CAN SERVE AS EDUCATION, & MONITORING & INTERPRETIVE SERVICE FOR WHOLE PARK.

01-5

**Response to Comment O1-5** – Comment noted.

• AREA BETWEEN A EAST + WEST SHOULD BE MITIGATION SITE FOR NELSON COVE ELK MEADOW.

01-6

**Response to Comment O1-6** – Comment noted.

• EDUCATION CENTER IS DESIGNED ABOVE ANY POTENTIAL RAISE OF THE DAM AND THUS COULD BEGIN DEVELOPMENT BEFORE DAM CONSTRUCTION TAKES PLACE.

Organization, NW Regional Outdoor Science School, Myers, page 2 of 2  
01

• EDUCATION CENTER WILL ALLOW SIGNIFICANT NUMBERS OF USERS TO LEARN ABOUT & APPRECIATE THE NATURAL RESOURCE OF SCOGGINS PARK, WHILE BEING "SOFT" ON THE RESOURCE.

01-7

**Response to Comment O1-7** – Reclamation and WACO will continue to cooperate with the proponents of the environmental education and research center in developing education programs regarding the park's natural resources.

• PRIORITIES

HIGH – MINIMIZE DEVELOPMENT

- ELK MGMT PLAN

- EAGLE MGMT PLAN

- FULLY DEVELOP TRAIL TO MAINTAIN WATER QUALITY (MINIMIZE RUN-OFF)

- ALLOW DEVELOPMENT OF EDUCATION CENTER

- DETERMINE CARRYING CAPACITY

01-8

**Response to Comment O1-8** – Comment noted.

LOW – ANY ADDITION TO COMPACTED SURFACES (PARKING)

- ADDITIONAL FACILITIES (BATHROOMS/CONCESSIONS/PLAY STRUCT)

- CAMPING

01-9

**Response to Comment O1-9** – Comment noted.

Fold in thirds with address below shown, tape closed, and affix 37 cent stamp.

Thank You

GARY MYERS, NW REGIONAL ESD  
AHWG MEMBER

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation  
PN Regional Office  
Attn: Carolyn Burpee Stone PN-3902  
1150 North Curtis Road, Suite 100  
Boise, ID 83706-1234

Organization, Oregon Bass & Panfish Club, Doumitt,  
page 1 of 2  
O2



**COMMENT FORM**  
**Henry Hagg Lake RMP -- Draft EA**

Henry Hagg RMP AHWG Meeting No.4  
6/12/03

Please use this form to provide us with your comments on the Draft EA

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When providing your comments, please be as specific as possible, and please write clearly so we can understand your concerns. If possible, please return the comment form at the close of our meeting. This form is also designed as a self-mailer. If you prefer to take the form home and fill it out, make sure it is postmarked no later than June 20, 2003. Reclamation appreciates your interest and participation in the future management of the area.

The Oregon Bass & Panfish Club and warmwater anglers throughout the state are opposed to the Simpson Creek coffer dam.  
Tanner

O2-1

**Response to Comment O2-1** – Any cofferdam wetland enhancement project would include provisions for fish passage, water quality, sediment control, and boater safety. In addition, a feasibility study would be conducted to assess the potential of the site to accomplish the wetland enhancement goals.

We are also opposed to having an overnight campsite at A. H. East.

O2-2

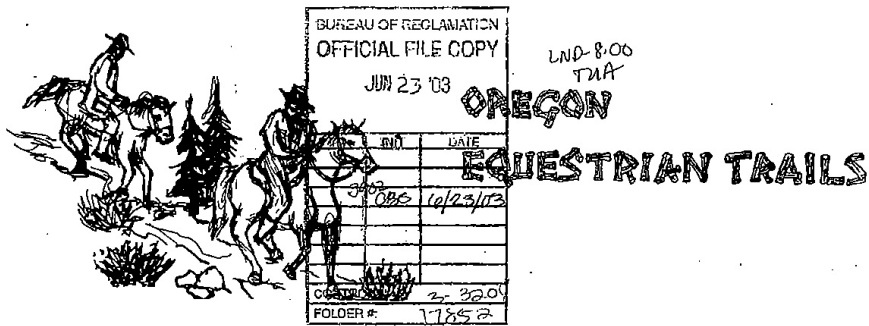
**Response to Comment O2-2** – Camping has been removed from the Preferred Alternative in the Final EA.

Hub Doumitt  
O.B.P.C. President  
6/12/03

And thanks for listening!!

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12083785017



Organization, Oregon Equestrian Trails, Wold,  
page 1 of 2  
03

6-19-03

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation  
PN Regional Office  
Attn. Carolyn Burpee Stone-Pn 3902  
1150 North Curtis Road, Suite 100  
Boise, Id. 83706-1234

Thank you for letting me serve on the Hagg Lake Committee and your support for the equestrian use in the park, I hope I contributed to the preliminary master plan.

I sent the attached letter to Stimpson Lumber Co. John McGhehey Vice President P.O.Box 68  
Forest Grove Or. 971160  
I hope your support of the request will influence their decision in our favor.

Sincerely *Ray*  
Ray Wold Ph 503-647-2161  
18500 NW Keller Rd.  
North Plains Or 97133

O3-1

**Response to Comment O3-1** – The Preferred Alternative includes a provision to allow equestrian clubs to investigate the potential to develop a trail outside the loop road within the park boundary. Reclamation and WACO will not provide funds for the design, implementation, or maintenance of the trail but will coordinate with project proponents regarding the appropriate location and design elements of any trail.



6-25-03; 8:24AM:USBR THREE B COPY RM

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# 3/

Organization, Oregon Equestrian Trails, Wold,  
page 2 of 2  
O3



OREGON  
EQUESTRIAN TRAILS

Stimson Lumber Co  
John McGhehey Vice President

P.O, Box 68  
Forest Grove Or. 971160

I am a member of the Henry Hagg Lake Resource Management Advisory Committee representing Oregon Equestrian Trails, we are a state wide non profit organization founded in 1970, we build and maintain horse camps and trails throughout Oregon.

Hagg Lake Park is one of the few parks that do not allow Equestrians at this time, the proposed new management plan will allow Equestrians but there is minimal area for trails so we are asking for your consideration to allow us to use some of the logging roads on your vast properties, we would park the trailers on the park property and there would be no over night use of the trails as the park gates are closed at night, there would be no smoking on the trails and we could watch out for any vandalism, would be glad to meet with you at your convenience.

sincerely  
Ray Wold Ph. 503-647-2161  
18500 NW Keller Rd  
North Plains Or. 97133

For response to comment, see previous page

O3-1

Organization, Portland State University, Center for Lakes & Reservoirs,  
Petersen, page 1 of 1  
O4

**From:** "Carolyn Burpee Stone" <CSTONE@pn.usbr.gov>  
**To:** <petersenr@pdx.edu>  
**Date:** 5/29/03 7:16AM  
**Subject:** Re: Hagg Lake Plan

Richard,  
Thank you for attending the meeting last week and your comment on the Draft EA. It was good to meet you and hear your input on the Hagg Lake plan. We will add this information to the comments we receive on the Draft EA that will be addressed in the Final Environmental Assessment.

Carolyn Burpee Stone  
USBR PN-Region RMP Coordinator  
Boise, Idaho  
cstone@pn.usbr.gov  
208 378-5395

>>> "Richard Petersen" <petersenr@pdx.edu> 05/28/03 04:16PM >>>  
Carolyn Burpee Stone

Dear Carolyn

I attended the presentation on the Hagg Lake Resource Management Plan presented last week in Hillsboro. The presentation was very well done and quite clear. We continue to hope that funding will emerge for the education facility that is envisioned as part of the plan.

My only concern with the Plan is the long term effect of using septic systems for sewage disposal. Although it is unlikely that well designed septic systems will cause any direct contamination problems to the reservoir in the short run (i.e. first few years), it is inevitable that the nutrients that accumulate in the basin will eventually find their way to the lake. The result will be cultural eutrophication of the reservoir with consequent increased cost for water treatment of drinking water supplies that depend on the reservoir. A better alternative would be vault toilets or a sewer system to divert the sewage from the basin. No doubt these alternatives would be more expensive, but in the long term they would be cost effective. Perhaps in the next round of planning for the reservoir this issue could be addressed.

Again, congratulations to all of you for a job well done.

Regards,  
Richard Petersen  
Center for Lakes and Reservoirs  
Portland State University

CC: <ButterbaughK.SE\_PO.SE\_Domain@edaw.com>, <jaepea@mindspring.com>, <sytsmam@pdx.edu>, "zz1CFILES" <CFILES@pn.usbr.gov>

O4-1 **Response to Comment O4-1** – Comment noted.

O4-2 **Response to Comment O4-2** – Septic systems in the park are regularly maintained and inspected by WACO staff. There have been no problems identified with sewage or wastewater facilities at the park contributing to water quality problems at the reservoir. WACO will continue their program of inspection and maintenance to ensure protection of water quality at the reservoir. Also see responses to comments. LA1 -1 and LA 1-3.

## NORTHWESTERN POND TURTLES AT HAGG LAKE AREA

### Range and Habitat Requirements

The western pond turtle (*Emmys marmorata marmorata*) is one of only two native species of freshwater turtles occurring in Oregon. Historically, the western pond turtle's range was from the Puget Sound area in Washington to the Sierra San Pedro Martirs in Baja California Norte, chiefly west of the Sierra Nevada-Cascade crest. In Oregon, the western pond turtle range includes the Lower Columbia River, the Willamette Valley and the Upper Klamath provinces.

There is evidence that this species has been experiencing serious declines in both numbers and distribution in all of its historic range due to habitat loss, habitat fragmentation, loss of wetlands, introduction of non-native species (i.e., bullfrogs), and other factors. The western pond turtle is listed as by the State of Oregon as Sensitive-critical, indicating that continued declining numbers may warrant listing as threatened or endangered in the near future. In Washington, the numbers of pond turtles have declined so drastically that the species is listed by the state as endangered, due to only two known small populations remaining.

Western pond turtles require both aquatic and terrestrial habitat to carry out their life functions. While spending a large amount of time in the water for resting, basking, feeding, etc., this species also requires upland sunny habitats for nesting and forested areas for overwintering. Females come up to nest in the summer months, looking for open, sunny, sparsely vegetated (i.e., gravel areas, or grassy fields where vegetation is less than two feet in height) sites in which to lay their eggs. Both males and females aestivate, or rest in forested habitats in the summer and fall months, going back and forth to the water periodically. Some, but not all of the members of a population may overwinter in the water, while others may overwinter on land, choosing warm, quiet areas in the duff to spend the winter.

### Sightings in the Hagg Lake Area

Turtles are secretive and quiet, and thus can be relatively difficult to observe even under the most favorable of conditions. In recent years, several significant observations of western pond turtles have occurred in the Hagg Lake area, indicating they are using both the aquatic and terrestrial habitats in and around this site.

In June of 1999, a female western pond turtle that was in the process of nesting was picked up by children on the west side of the lake, in a gravelly area near Sain Creek. A local turtle rehabilitator received a call about the turtle and picked it up at the lake, and the turtle subsequently dropped her eggs, all of which were destroyed. Had the children left the turtle alone, she may have nested in the area or come up another time in another area. Instead, all of her eggs were lost and as a result no potential offspring were hatched for that year.

In the spring of 2003, a male western pond turtle was picked up southeast of Hagg Lake, moving in upland habitat near one of the small streams in the area. This turtle was probably moving from an overwintering site to aquatic habitat, to either the stream and/or eventually the lake area.

Organization, The Pacific Northwest Turtle Project, Susan G. Beilke,  
Director, page 1 of 3  
O5

Note: This is not a comment letter on the contents of the Draft EA; rather, it is a report that provides data on the status of western pond turtles in the vicinity of Henry Hagg Lake. The Planning Team used this information to update the Final EA.

These observations confirm that there is a breeding population of western pond turtles at Hagg Lake, a very significant finding. There is currently no other known breeding population of pond turtles in the entire valley.

Organization, The Pacific Northwest Turtle Project, Susan G. Beilke,  
Director, page 2 of 3  
**O5**

Recommendations for the protection and conservation of turtles at Hagg Lake

Habitat protection and enhancement: Since habitat loss is considered to be the most significant factor in the decline of the western pond turtle, we recommend protecting as much area as possible of both aquatic and terrestrial habitats. Nesting habitat can be protected by keeping some banks and adjacent grassy slopes closed to recreational use, especially during the nesting season in the summer months. Females that nest are highly sensitive to any kind of disturbance, including people just walking through an area. Females have been known to abandon nest sites when encountering humans. Dogs are especially disturbing to turtles and will often try to pick up a turtle, causing damage to the shell and possible even puncture wounds that may cause infection and ultimately death to the turtle.

Protecting aquatic habitat should include quiet, backwaters such as coves and sloughs that offer refugia (downed logs) for turtles to bask on and native aquatic vegetation for food and cover. Hatchlings and juvenile turtles need shallow waters that offer abundant aquatic vegetation for hiding cover and aquatic invertebrates for prey items. Adult turtles are omnivores and eat a variety of fish, snails, and aquatic vegetation.

Overwintering terrestrial habitat can be protected by maintaining forested, riparian areas that are closed to recreational use, either all year or at the minimum seasonally. Forested areas that have a well developed canopy layer, with native shrubs and herbaceous species and large amounts of downed logs and duff on the forest floor provide high quality overwintering habitat. Some studies in the Willamette Valley have shown that turtles may often prefer south facing slopes for overwintering, since they may provide extra warmth during the winter months

Recreational use of an area has been documented in many areas to cause both direct and indirect negative impacts to turtles. High recreational use can cause turtles to bask less often and/or further from shore. If turtles do not spend a sufficient amount of time basking, they cannot survive, since they will be unable to digest their food properly, develop eggs, etc. One study found that turtles were investing a large amount of time evading humans to the point that less time was spent foraging, etc. and their numbers plummeted. Recreational use in an area can also increase the numbers of nests preyed on by predators (i.e., raccoons) since numbers of predators may increase due to an increase in garbage and human food waste.

Education as an important tool for conservation of turtles:

Using education as one tool to help protect and conserve turtles can be very effective and should be part of any conservation strategy. Since the Hagg Lake area already has a high recreational useage of both the aquatic and upland areas, it is important to educate the public about the values of preserving habitat, especially for sensitive and rare species such as the western pond turtle. This can be done in several ways.

O5-1

**Response to Comment O5-1** – It appears that there is a remnant population of turtles in the Henry Hagg Lake vicinity. Turtles have been identified using an area of Sain Creek, but they may also inhabit Scoggins and Tanner Creek. The Preferred Alternative in the Final EA provides a balance between meeting the needs of recreation users by improving existing facilities and developing new recreation sites and providing open space for the park’s wildlife. There is significant open space at the park that will not be developed. Many areas including the elk meadows, maintained grass fields, and upland shrub/grasslands provide potential nesting sites for turtles. In addition, a number of wetland and riparian enhancement projects under the Preferred Alternative could provide some benefit to turtles and other aquatic species. Information provided in your report regarding recent sightings of western pond turtles has been added to the narrative.

- Interpretive signage: Signs that talk about preserving habitat for species and the role species play in their habitat can be educational and informative. Most people visiting an area often do not know that they may be in “wildlife habitat”, but when informed are appreciative of the fact that they can learn about wildlife and often feel good about the fact that they can play an important role in the conservation of a species(s).  
This role can be simple, such as taking care to stay on trails, not leaving garbage or food out for wildlife, staying a safe distance when observing wildlife, etc.

It is also important for signage to inform the public of the laws that protect wildlife, including the fact that wildlife cannot be taken home as pets. Turtles and frogs especially are often picked up and taken home since they are small enough for people to handle, and in most cases die soon thereafter in captivity. Since turtles carry parasites and diseases such as salmonella that can be transmitted to humans and that can be fatal in children, it is especially important for visitors to an area not to handle wildlife.

People who fish at the lake should also be informed about what to do if a turtle is caught on a fishing line. This happens frequently at some sights such as Smith and Bybee Lakes in Portland when people are bass fishing, and each year several adults are found either dead or with fish hooks caught in their stomach or esophagus, which can cause a long and painful death for the turtle. If a turtle is caught, fish hooks should be carefully removed from the turtle’s jaws, or if necessary the turtle can be captured and taken to a vet. Portland Audubon will take injured turtles also. Under no circumstances should the fishing line be cut with the fish hook still in the turtle. This will most certainly cause the death of the turtle.

- Wildlife talks: Another important tool for wildlife conservation is to do frequent talks for the public, focusing on habitat use, the sensitivity of a species, its status, etc. Informing the public about what they can do is one of the most important ways in which to help preserve habitat and wildlife, since most people want to do the right thing and are proud to help conserve our natural resources.

Prepared by Susan G. Beilke, Director,  
The Pacific Northwest Turtle Project

**Please note:** A correction to the above information (page 1, the fifth paragraph) was made in June, 2003, after I was able to contact the rehabilitator who originally received the nesting pond turtle. She informed me that the turtle was in the Sain Creek area on the west side of the lake and not on the east side as I had remembered from our conversation two years ago.

On another note, I highly recommend that before any further development occurs in the Hagg Lake area, surveys for turtles and other state and federal listed species be conducted in order to determine where they occur and what habitats they are using. This will provide managers more information so that these species are properly protected and habitat is conserved and enhanced where possible.

Organization, The Pacific Northwest Turtle Project, Susan G. Beilke,  
Director, page 3 of 3  
**O5**

O5-2

**Response to Comment O5-2** – The Preferred Alternative in the Final EA includes provisions for education of park visitors to avoid disturbing turtles and to notify park personnel if one is sighted. Education materials also will include instructions for anglers on how to properly handle caught turtles.

Kevin Butterbaugh - My final comments re: Hagg Lake RMP Page 1

From: "Carolyn Burpee Stone" <CSTONE@pn.usbr.gov>  
To: <george.dallas@intel.com>  
Date: 6/23/03 7:43AM  
Subject: My final comments re: Hagg Lake RMP

George,  
Thank you for your comments and your participation in the AHWG. Your involvement was greatly appreciated. Your comments will be included in the Final EA.

Carolyn Burpee Stone  
USBR PN-Region RMP Coordinator  
Boise, Idaho  
cstone@pn.usbr.gov  
208 378-5395

>>> "Dallas, George" <george.dallas@intel.com> 06/20/03 04:58PM >>>

Hi, Carolyn...

Here are my final comments re: Hagg Lake RMP – just before the deadline! FYI: I'm not a habitual procrastinator, but the project I'm working on at Intel lately had some horrendous deadlines, so I've put my personal life on hold as much as possible.

(1) In general, I consider "Alternative C" to be the WORST alternative (even though it has been labeled the "Preferred Alternative" by the Planning Team).

(2) In general, I am opposed to further development of recreation facilities or other development that would increase the number of park users. The only development I support is related to wildlife habitat improvement and mitigation of impact by recreational users.

(3) In particular, I AM STRONGLY OPPOSED TO OVERNIGHT CAMPING: It was tried before with disastrous results, area landowners are strongly opposed to it, and most of the AHWG members were opposed to it (as documented in Attachment 1 of the 9-12-2002 AHWG Meeting Summary). The likelihood of theft, vandalism, violent crime, degraded lake water quality and increased fire risk (both to campers and area residents) should be reasons enough to decide against overnight camping. Apparently, the main motivation behind the push for overnight camping is to generate revenue: However, I predict that any revenue generated will be offset by increased costs of (a) building, maintaining and managing the campground, (b) providing adequate law enforcement, and (c) defending against lawsuits that are sure to be filed by campers or area residents who are victims of the campground-related problems mentioned above.

(4) Another particular proposal I am opposed to is the equestrian trail. It would place riders and horses much closer to area landowners'

- P1-1 **Response to Comment P1-1** – The Preferred Alternative has been modified in the Final EA and does not include camping at Recreation Area A East.
- P1-2 **Response to Comment P1-2** – Comment noted.
- P1-3 **Response to Comment P1-3** – Camping has been removed from the Preferred Alternative in the Final EA.
- P1-4 **Response to Comment P1-4** – Reclamation and WACO will coordinate with equestrian groups that would be investigating the feasibility of a trail system. In addition, any equestrian trail must adhere to the fire prevention and management plan that will be developed by Reclamation and WACO.

General Public, Dallas, page 2 of 2  
**P1**

private property, and is sure to result in conflicts regarding littering, trespassing, local dogs harassing the horses, etc. Also, it would impact native wildlife habitat, raise the likelihood of diseases being passed between wild and domestic species, and significantly expand the envelope of human presence surrounding the lake. Worst of all, it would also greatly increase fire risk by concentrating park users in areas that are hard to see and access -- i.e., less likely to spot the fire early and harder to control after it is spotted. FYI: This is not an imaginary worry: There was a wildfire only ~ 1/2 mile from my home on 6-13-1999, and was barely contained. The local newspaper reported that "it took 80 firefighters and 70,000 gallons of water to contain the blaze." If a wildfire destroys an area home and the source of the fire is attributed to someone on the equestrian trail, I'd say the chances of WACO and USBR being sued are extremely high -- especially since people like myself have gone on public record cautioning WACO and USBR against this ill-advised proposal for the specific reasons outlined above.

P1-4  
(cont.)

(5) Here are the plan elements I SUPPORT most strongly (i.e., re: the Alternatives on pages 2-4 to 2-13 of the Draft EA):

- \* Protection, p. 2-7
- \* Safety and Emergency Services, p. 2-8
- \* Water Quality and Erosion Control (Alternatives A & B only: i.e., Floating restroom is a bad idea), p 2-5
- \* Elk Meadows (except that I'd prefer not to add disc golf), p 2-4
- \* Rare, Threatened and Endangered Species, p. 2-5
- \* RMP Implementation (except "seek joint funding..."), p. 2-10
- \* Scenic Values, p. 2-8

P1-5

**Response to Comment P1-5** – Comment noted.

(6) Here are the plan elements I OPPOSE most strongly (i.e., re: the Alternatives on pages 2-4 to 2-13 of the Draft EA):

- \* Overnight camping in Rec Area A East (especially the RV sites, per Alternative C), p. 2-11
- \* Equestrian trail, p2-12
- \* Nelson Cove... Development of education & research center, p. 2-12
- \* Development (of any sort) at Scoggins Creek Picnic Area, p. 2-12
- \* Fee Station and Entry Road that adds gated access for "local traffic", p2-10

P1-6

**Response to Comment P1-6** – Comment noted.

Thanks again for doing your part to preserve and protect this valuable public resource! Best regards,

-- George

George Dallas  
 54079 SW Scoggins Valley Rd.  
 Gaston, OR 97119

(503) 359-4455 george.dallas@starband.net

CC: <ButterbaughK.SE\_PO.SE\_Domain@edaw.com>, <jaepea@mindspring.com>, "Jeff

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**COMMENT FORM**  
**Henry Hagg Lake RMP -- Draft EA**

OFFICIAL FILE COPY  
Henry Hagg RMP Public Meeting  
May 22, 2003 -- Hillsboro, OR

JUN 19 '03

Please use this form to provide us with your comments on the Draft EA

Thank you for participating in the review process for the Henry Hagg Lake Resource Management Plan (RMP) Draft Environmental Assessment (EA). Reclamation invites you to use this form to provide review comments on the recently released Draft EA for the Henry Hagg Lake RMP. Specifically, Reclamation is very interested in your thoughts and impressions of the various alternatives presented for the future management of Prineville Reservoir and adjacent lands.

When providing your comments, please be as specific as possible, and please write clearly so we can understand your concerns. If possible, please return the comment form by the close of tonight's public meeting. This form is also designed as a self-mailer. If you prefer to take the form home and fill it out, make sure it is postmarked no later than June 21, 2003. Reclamation appreciates your interest and participation in the future management of the area.

TO: BOB BEMAN  
DATE: 6/19/03  
FROM: BOB BEMAN  
DATE: 6/19/03

Page we have many serious concerns about having a campground in area A. As we understand it clean pure water is a top priority. It seems to us that establishing a campground so close to the reservoir intake for the new pipeline is adverse to the pure water priority. We assume that with a campground more drain fields would be needed. Also, a campground near the dam would be a magnet for people in that area, enhancing the possibility of direct pollution through litter, etc. With the concerns these days for security, we feel that a campground close to the actual dam could enhance security risks. It takes a long time for the sheriff to get here. Also, from what we heard at the meeting, it is thought that a campground would be a source for revenue. With the expense of camp development, 24-hr supervision, and additional park maintenance and personnel, we seriously doubt it would be much of a revenue source. It seems more likely to us, that it could be a revenue drain.  
Our concern is also heightened by the fact that we

P2-1

**Response to Comment P2-1:** The Preferred Alternative no longer includes a campground at Area A East.



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line above the proposed site. Safety, security, fire, and noise are serious concerns. It is already noisy, particularly on hot days with roaring cars, blowing radios, and shouting. Around the time of the last speed, a noise monitor was placed in our front yard during relatively low usage of the park, not during peak usage. Regarding fire, we have already had two fires at the park headquarters, either one could have burned us out. There is also a traffic safety concern with heavy cars, logging trucks, and bicycle traffic on a road not adequate for this kind of use. The addition of camping right would increase traffic danger. Traffic comes roaring around the blind curve close to where campers would be. Slowsly maneuvering this right into the camp with limited distance to maneuver, we feel it would be a dangerous area.

We question that the county is willing to assume the added responsibility and liability a camp ground would have.

Many of the above concerns also apply to outdoor education facilities.

Fold in thirds with address below shown, tape closed, and affix 37 cent stamp.

Thank You!

P2-2

**Response to Comment P2-2** – See response to comment P2-1.

P2-3

**Response to Comment P2-3** – See response to comment P2-1.

P2-4

**Response to Comment P2-4** – The location of the proposed environmental education and research center was determined after an extensive feasibility study to minimize its effects. Users of this facility will be supervised and largely limited to the vicinity of this facility. The project would also be developed using the latest in sustainable use technology to minimize any potential effects to the park's resources or adjacent property owners.

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation  
PN Regional Office  
Attn: Carolyn Burpee Stone PN-3902  
1150 North Curtis Road, Suite 100  
Boise, ID 83706-1234

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**COMMENT FORM**  
**Henry Hagg Lake RMP -- Draft EA**

**Henry Hagg RMP Public Meeting**  
**May 22, 2003 -- Hillsboro, OR**

Please use this form to provide us with your comments on the Draft EA

Thank you for participating in the review process for the Henry Hagg Lake Resource Management Plan (RMP) Draft Environmental Assessment (EA). Reclamation invites you to use this form to provide review comments on the recently released Draft EA for the Henry Hagg Lake RMP. Specifically, Reclamation is very interested in your thoughts and impressions of the various alternatives presented for the future management of Prineville Reservoir and adjacent lands.

When providing your comments, please be as specific as possible, and please write clearly so we can understand your concerns. If possible, please return the comment form at the close of tonight's public meeting. This form is also designed as a self-mailer. If you prefer to take the form home and fill it out, make sure it is postmarked no later than June 21, 2003. Reclamation appreciates your interest and participation in the future management of the area.

Page  
2

*we question any development of park  
facilities with the possibility of a dam raise.  
As tax payers we strongly object to this expense.  
Many of our neighbors have shared with  
us the concerns discussed here, but many  
of them feel that if they express their concerns  
it will be to no avail, that the county and  
Bureau of Reclamation will do what they  
want to anyway.*

*If you would like to question us  
further we would be happy to oblige.*  
*Sincerely,*  
*Doris Ann Beman*  
*Larry Beman*

Larry and Doris Beman  
50519 SW Soggin's Vly. Rd.  
Gaston, OR 97119

Telephone: 503-357-6632

P2-5

**Response to Comment P2-5** – See response to comment O1-1.

P2-6

**Response to Comment P2-6** – Reclamation has held two public meetings and 4 Ad Hoc Work Group Meetings to solicit public comments on the plan. The Draft EA was sent to over 75 individuals and organizations for comment. In reaction to the public comments, camping was removed from the Preferred Alternative. Reclamation and WACO think that this plan strikes a reasonable balance between meeting recreation demands and protecting and enhancing natural resources.

General Public, Edwards, page 1 of 2  
P3

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**COMMENT FORM**  
**Henry Hagg Lake RMP -- Draft EA**

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION  
Henry Hagg RMP Public Meeting  
OFFICIAL FILE COPY  
May 22, 2003 - Hillsboro, OR  
JUN 23 03

Please use this form to provide us with your comments on the Draft EA

Thank you for participating in the review process for the Henry Hagg Lake Resource Management Plan (RMP) Draft Environmental Assessment (EA). Reclamation invites you to use this form to provide review comments on the recently released Draft EA for the Henry Hagg Lake RMP. Specifically, Reclamation is very interested in your thoughts and impressions of the various alternatives presented for the future management of Pineville Reservoir and adjacent lands.

When providing your comments, please be as specific as possible, and please write clearly so we can understand your concerns. If possible, please return the comment form at the close of tonight's public meeting. This form is also designed as a self-mailer. If you prefer to take the form home and fill it out, make sure it is postmarked no later than June 21, 2003. Reclamation appreciates your interest and participation in the future management of the area.

*IF you were truly interested in our participation part of the sub hearings should be "effected Private Property owners" it seldom is in print and I suspect not well thought about. The NOTION OF Big Brother Knows best is usually in the Fore Front.*

*I would choose not to expand the Park area because of more Trespass and Litter and danger to the loss of our timber that exceeds 1 million. I find excess of Litter and the remnants of cigarettes & McDonalds in our property every year through out the summer Does BOR reimburse for our loss in the event of fire? I would think not.*

*The additional noise that travels across the water will not be welcomed by any of the local residents. We have our petition of the over whelming support of the local residents not support any thing the BOR or county wants to install except a 20 foot Dam Raise. Any thing else is irresponsible to the local residents.*

P3-1 **Response to Comment P3-1** – Comment noted.

P3-2 **Response to Comment P3-2** – See response to comment O1-1. In addition, park enforcement will increase commensurate with development of the facilities. It is unfortunate that some park users do not dispose of their garbage in the containers provided by park staff. WACO staff will continue in their efforts to enforce park rules and improve sanitation.

P3-3 **Response to Comment P3-3** – Reclamation and WACO will be coordinating efforts to develop a fire prevention and management plan to reduce the potential of fires related to use of the park. In addition, under the RMP, WACO will continue agreements with the Gaston Rural Fire Department and the Oregon Department of Forestry regarding fire fighting efforts.

P3-4 **Response to Comment P3-4** – See response to O1-1. In addition, Reclamation and WACO are not the proponents of the potential dam raise. Clean Water Services is the lead agency investigating the need for the dam raise.

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General Public, Edwards, page 2 of 2  
P3

[A large area of the page is filled with horizontal lines, representing a redacted or blank section of the document.]

*Fold in thirds with address below shown, tape closed, and affix 37 cent stamp.*

*Thank You!*

*Greg & Karlen Edwards  
53575 SW Seegins Hwy. Rd.  
Gaston, OR 97119*

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation  
PN Regional Office  
Attn: Carolyn Burpee Stone PN-3902  
1150 North Curtis Road, Suite 100  
Boise, ID 83706-1234