

Appendix D

Alternative C Conceptual Plan

Prineville Reservoir Resource Management Plan and Master Plan: Final EA

State Park North- Proposed

Proposed Camp Loops
(80 Sites Max.)

Proposed RV Dumpstation

Proposed Group Camp
(20 Sites Max.)

Proposed Cabin Cluster
(10 Max.)

Proposed Group Meeting Hall

Fishing Pier

Swimming Area

Proposed Day Use Area
(50 Parking Spaces Max.)

Proposed Overflow Parking Area
(20 Parking Spaces Max.)

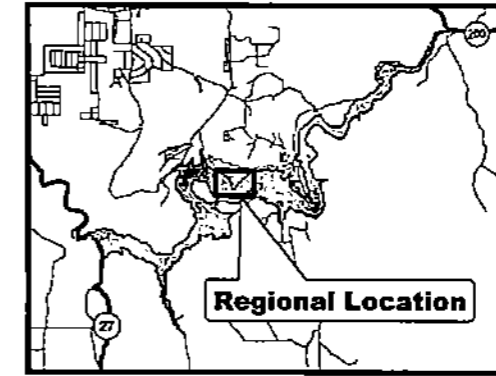
Proposed Group Day Use Area

Antelope Creek Day Use Area - Proposed

Proposed Employee Housing

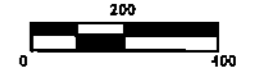
Expand Existing Maintenance Yard

Proposed Concession Bldg.



Appendix D

Alternative C
State Park



Juniper Canyon Road

Proposed
Trail

Proposed
Trail

Existing Trail to Jasper Point

Cabin Area Expansion
(3 Units Max.)

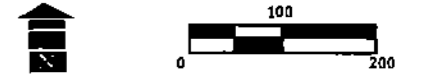
Moorage Expansion
(20 Slips Max.)

Prineville State Park

PRINEVILLE RESERVOIR

Fishing Pier

**Alternative C
Powder House
Cove**



PRINEVILLE RESERVOIR

Proposed Parking Area
(120 maximum parking spaces)

Proposed Boat Ramp

Remove Existing Boat Ramp

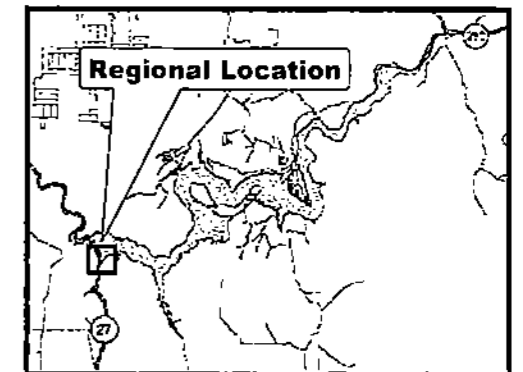
Realign Entrance

Proposed Trail to Taylor Butte

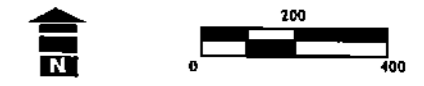
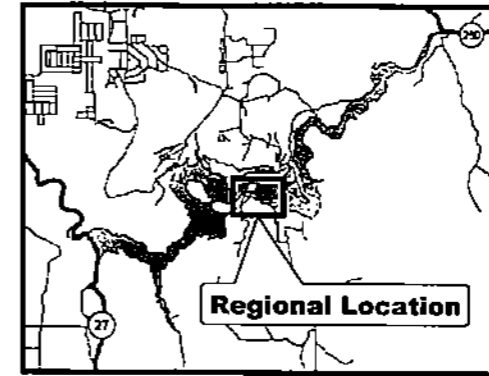
Existing Historic
Powder House

Proposed Day Use Area/Trailhead
(20 spaces)

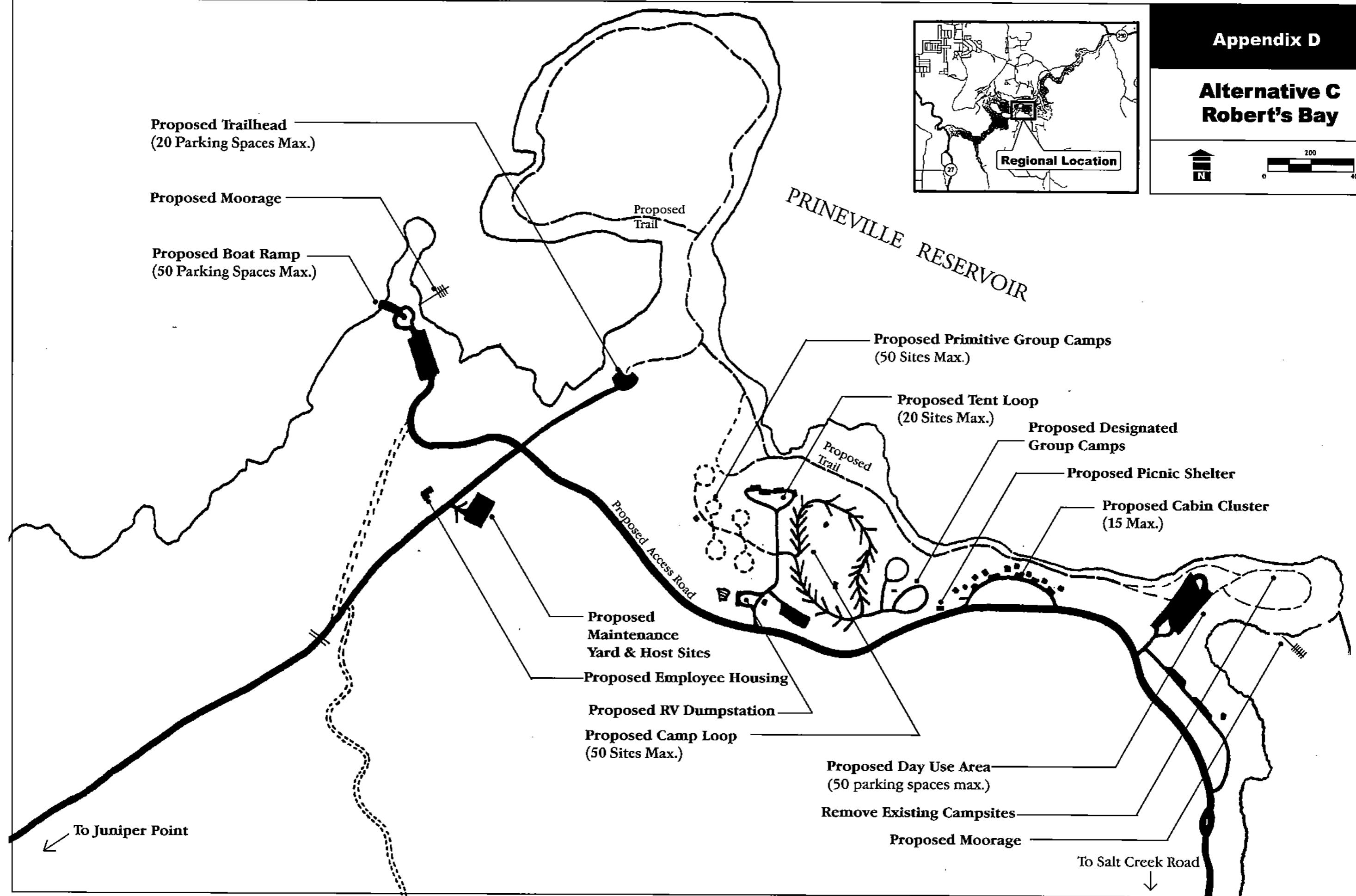
Proposed Trail



**Alternative C
Robert's Bay**



PRINEVILLE RESERVOIR



Proposed Trailhead
(20 Parking Spaces Max.)

Proposed Moorage

Proposed Boat Ramp
(50 Parking Spaces Max.)

Proposed Trail

Proposed Primitive Group Camps
(50 Sites Max.)

Proposed Tent Loop
(20 Sites Max.)

Proposed Designated
Group Camps

Proposed Picnic Shelter

Proposed Cabin Cluster
(15 Max.)

Proposed
Maintenance
Yard & Host Sites

Proposed Employee Housing

Proposed RV Dumpstation

Proposed Camp Loop
(50 Sites Max.)

Proposed Day Use Area
(50 parking spaces max.)

Remove Existing Campsites

Proposed Moorage

To Salt Creek Road

To Juniper Point

Appendix E
Management Objectives for the
Habitat and Wildlife Management Plan

Appendix E

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES FOR THE PRINEVILLE RESERVOIR HABITAT AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT PLAN

- Protect and maintain mule deer winter range
- Protect and enhance riparian vegetation for wildlife
- Improve waterfowl nesting habitat
- Protect and enhance nesting and winter habitat for sensitive and Threatened and Endangered Species
- Improve quality and quantity of wetland habitat
- Protect and enhance non-game wildlife habitat
- Maintain and enhance native vegetation
- Promote opportunities for Wildlife viewing/enjoyment
- Promote wildlife ethic and stewardship values

A. HABITAT DEVELOPMENT ACTIONS

1. Plantings: riparian and upland; native and non-native seeding, trees, and shrubs.
2. Water Developments
 - a. Spring development: on BLM land for livestock control, mitigation for fencing water gaps.
 - b. Guzzler development: Opportunities in SWA/North Shore, Enhancement of Roberts Bay riparian areas.
3. Noxious Weed Control
 - a. Controlled burns – continues ongoing program
 - b. Herbicide application
 - c. Re-seeding
4. Nesting structures – placement dependant on level of recreation development
 - a. Wood duck boxes
 - b. Bluebird boxes
 - c. Quail “piles” for roosting, benefits for neo-tropical migrant birds and mammals
 - d. Remove goose nesting structures: Populations doing well, monitor.
5. Perennial food plot development
6. Grazing management
 - a. Continue fencing SWA
 - b. Upgrade fencing material
 - c. Employ as a tool to meet vegetation objects at the discretion of ODFW and Reclamation

- 7. Upland habitat
 - a. Western juniper controls: mechanical and burns.
 - b. Plantings/seedings
 - c. Bald eagle management plan in partnership with adjoining public land owners.

- 8. Fisheries management – in cooperation with other agencies
 - a. Aquatic habitat enhancement projects
 - b. Monitoring

- B. ACCESS MANAGEMENT** – predicated on road restrictions and designating travel routes
 - 1. Reservoir-wide sign program.
 - 2. Road rehabilitation and revegetation in SWA/north shore.
 - 3. Road maintenance and improvement on designated routes.

- C. RECREATION MANAGEMENT**
 - 1. Hunting – continue per State rules
 - 2. Fishing - continue per State rules
 - 3. Camping – designate sites to contain dispersed use on North Shore.
 - 4. Viewing

- D. EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT**
 - 1. Interpretative sites
 - 2. Outdoor classroom programs

Appendix F
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Coordination and Consultation

Prineville Reservoir Resource Management Plan and Master Plan: Final EA

minimize impacts on bald eagles. We concur with the Bureau of Reclamation that the Preferred Alternative, as described in the DEA and in your April 15, 2003 letter, may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect, bald eagles. This concurrence is based on the project description that includes the following measures which should reduce potential human conflicts with bald eagles in the project area:

1. Vehicle access around the reservoir will be controlled by seasonal road closures, barriers, signs, and increased enforcement. In addition, an annual review of current eagle activities at known nests will be used to determine the opening dates for some winter road closures.
2. A bald eagle management plan will be developed in cooperation with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.
3. A comprehensive monitoring plan will be developed for bald eagle nest and roost sites.
4. Dispersed camping at most of the popular camping areas around the reservoir will be limited to defined, designated campsites.

Canada lynx, listed threatened under the ESA, is not likely to occur in the 3300-foot elevation juniper/sagebrush habitat of the project area. We therefore do not disagree with your finding that the RMP would have no affect on this species.

Consultation is not required for the Oregon spotted frog since it is a candidate species, however, we would not disagree with your determination that the proposed project would have no affect on the frog.

The requirements established under section 7(a)(2) and 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 USC 1531 et. seq.), have been met, thereby concluding the consultation process. If you have any questions or need more information, please contact Larry Rasmussen or Joe Zisa at (503) 231-6179.

cc: OFWO Section 7 files



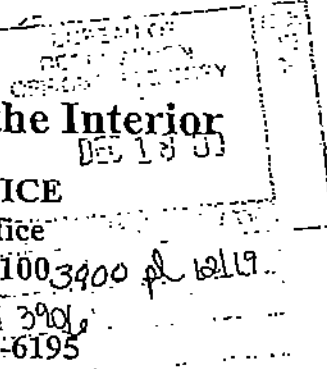
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ENV-7.00
CRP

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Oregon Fish and Wildlife Office
2600 S.E. 98th Avenue, Suite 100, 3400 pl 1219
Portland, Oregon 97266 3901
(503) 231-6179 FAX: (503) 231-6195



Reply To: 8330.0781(01)
File Name: Sp078.wpd
OALS: 01-0178

December 11, 2000

Patti Llewellyn
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
1150 North Curtis Road, Suite 100
Boise, ID 83706-1234

Subject: Prineville Reservoir, Crooked River Project (1-7-01-SP-078).

Dear Ms. Llewellyn:

This is in response to your letter, dated November 14, 2000, requesting information on listed and proposed endangered and threatened species that may be present within the area of the Prineville Reservoir, Crooked River Project in Crook County. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) received your letter on November 17, 2000.

We have attached a list (Attachment A) of threatened and endangered species that may occur within the area of the Prineville Reservoir, Crooked River Project. The list fulfills the requirement of the Service under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*). U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (BR) requirements under the Act are outlined in Attachment B.

The purpose of the Act is to provide a means whereby threatened and endangered species and the ecosystems on which they depend may be conserved. Under section 7(a)(1) and 7(a)(2) of the Act and pursuant to 50 CFR 402 *et seq.*, BR is required to utilize their authorities to carry out programs which further species conservation and to determine whether projects may affect threatened and endangered species, and/or critical habitat. A Biological Assessment is required for construction projects (or other undertakings having similar physical impacts) which are major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment as defined in NEPA (42 U.S.C. 4332 (2)(c)). For projects other than major construction activities, the Service suggests that a biological evaluation similar to the Biological Assessment be prepared to determine whether they may affect listed and proposed species. Recommended contents of a Biological Assessment are described in Attachment B, as well as 50 CFR 401.12.

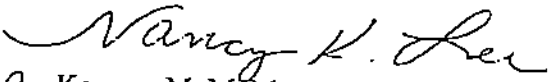
If BR determines, based on the Biological Assessment or evaluation, that threatened and endangered species and/or critical habitat may be affected by the project, BR is required to consult with the Service following the requirements of 50 CFR 402 which implement the Act.

Attachment A includes a list of candidate species under review for listing. The list reflects changes to the candidate species list published October 25, 1999, in the Federal Register (Vol. 64, No. 205, 57534) and the addition of "species of concern." Candidate species have no protection under the Act but are included for consideration as it is possible candidates could be listed prior to project completion. Species of concern are those taxa whose conservation status is of concern to the Service (many previously known as Category 2 candidates), but for which further information is still needed.

If a proposed project may affect candidate species or species of concern, BR is not required to perform a Biological Assessment or evaluation or consult with the Service. However, the Service recommends addressing potential impacts to these species in order to prevent future conflicts. Therefore, if early evaluation of the project indicates that it is likely to adversely impact a candidate species or species of concern, BR may wish to request technical assistance from this office.

Your interest in endangered species is appreciated. The Service encourages BR to investigate opportunities for incorporating conservation of threatened and endangered species into project planning processes as a means of complying with the Act. If you have questions regarding your responsibilities under the Act, please contact Cindy Bright or Jeff Dillon at (503) 231-6179. For questions regarding anadromous fish, please contact National Marine Fisheries Service, 525 NE Oregon Street, Suite 500, Portland, Oregon 97232, (503) 230-5400. All correspondence should include the above referenced file number.

Sincerely,


for Kemper M. McMaster
State Supervisor

Attachments
SP 078
cc: OFWO-ES
ODFW (nongame)
cc: Bureau of Reclamation

ATTACHMENT A

FEDERALLY LISTED AND PROPOSED ENDANGERED AND THREATENED SPECIES,
 CANDIDATE SPECIES AND SPECIES OF CONCERN THAT MAY OCCUR WITHIN
 THE AREA OF THE PRINEVILLE RESERVOIR, CROOKED RIVER PROJECT
 1-7-01-SP-078

LISTED SPECIES^{1/}Birds

Bald eagle
 Canada lynx

Haliaeetus leucocephalus
Felis lynx canadensis

T
 T

PROPOSED SPECIES

None

CANDIDATE SPECIES

Oregon spotted frog

Rana pretiosa

SPECIES OF CONCERNMammals

Pygmy rabbit
 Pale western big-eared bat
 Small-footed myotis (bat)
 Long-eared myotis (bat)
 Fringed myotis (bat)
 Long-legged myotis (bat)
 Yuma myotis (bat)

Brachylagus idahoensis
Corynorhinus (=Plecotus) townsendii pallescens
Myotis ciliolabrum
Myotis evotis
Myotis thysanodes
Myotis volans
Myotis yumanensis

Birds

Tricolored blackbird
 Western burrowing owl
 Ferruginous hawk
 Greater sage-grouse
 Willow flycatcher
 Lewis woodpecker
 Mountain quail

Agelaius tricolor
Athene cunicularia hypugea
Buteo regalis
Centrocercus urophasianus
Empidonax traillii adastus
Melanerpes lewis
Oreortyx pictus

Amphibians and Reptiles

Northern sagebrush lizard

Sceloporus graciosus graciosus

Fish

Interior redband trout

Oncorhynchus mykiss gibbsi

Plants

Estes' artemisia
 Peck's long-bearded marioposa-lily
 Columbia cress

Artemisia ludoviciana ssp. *estesii*
Calochortus longebarbatus var. *peckii*
Rorippa columbiae

(E) - Listed Endangered

(T) - Listed Threatened

(CH) - Critical Habitat has been designated for this species

(PE) - Proposed Endangered

(PT) - Proposed Threatened

(PCH) - Critical Habitat has been proposed for this species

Attachment A, Page 4

Species of Concern - Taxa whose conservation status is of concern to the Service (many previously known as Category 2 candidates), but for which further information is still needed.

(CF) - Candidate: National Marine Fisheries Service designation for any species being considered by the Secretary for listing for endangered or threatened species, but not yet the subject of a proposed rule.

*** Consultation with National Marine Fisheries Service required.*

" U. S. Department of Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service, December 31, 1999. Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants, 50 CFR 17.11 and 17.12

ATTACHMENT B

FEDERAL AGENCIES RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER SECTION 7(a) and (c)
OF THE ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT

SECTION 7(a)-Consultation/Conference

Requires:

- 1) Federal agencies to utilize their authorities to carry out programs to conserve endangered and threatened species;
- 2) Consultation with FWS when a Federal action may affect a listed endangered or threatened species to insure that any action authorized, funded or carried out by a Federal agency is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of listed species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of Critical Habitat. The process is initiated by the Federal agency after they have determined if their action may affect (adversely or beneficially) a listed species; and
- 3) Conference with FWS when a Federal action is likely to jeopardize the continued existence of a proposed species or result in destruction or adverse modification of proposed Critical Habitat.

SECTION 7(c)-Biological Assessment for Major Construction Projects¹

Requires Federal agencies or their designees to prepare a Biological Assessment (BA) for construction projects only. The purpose of the BA is to identify proposed and/or listed species which are/is likely to be affected by a construction project. The process is initiated by a Federal agency in requesting a list of proposed and listed threatened and endangered species (list attached). The BA should be completed within 180 days after its initiation (or within such a time period as is mutually agreeable). If the BA is not initiated within 90 days of receipt of the species list, the accuracy of the species list should be informally verified with our Service. No irreversible commitment of resources is to be made during the BA process which would foreclose reasonable and prudent alternatives to protect endangered species. Planning, design, and administrative actions may be taken; however, no construction may begin.

To complete the BA, your agency or its designee should: (1) conduct an on-site inspection of the area to be affected by the proposal which may include a detailed survey of the area to determine if the species is present and whether suitable habitat exists for either expanding the existing population or for potential reintroduction of the species; (2) review literature and scientific data to determine species distribution, habitat needs, and other biological requirements; (3) interview experts including those within FWS, National Marine Fisheries Service, State conservation departments, universities, and others who may have data not yet published in scientific literature; (4) review and analyze the effects of the proposal on the species in terms of individuals and populations, including consideration of cumulative effects of the proposal on the species and its habitat; (5) analyze alternative actions that may provide conservation measures and (6) prepare a report documenting the results, including a discussion of study methods used, any problems encountered, and other relevant information. The BA should conclude whether or not a listed species will be affected. Upon completion, the report should be forwarded to our Portland Office.

¹A construction project (or other undertaking having similar physical impacts) which is a major Federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment as referred to in NEPA (42 U.S.C. 4332. (2)c). On projects other than construction, it is suggested that a biological evaluation similar to the biological assessment be undertaken to conserve species influenced by the Endangered Species Act.

Appendix G
County Ordinance 101

Prineville Reservoir Resource Management Plan and Master Plan: Final EA

C. 1-2724
E. 18057


IN THE COUNTY COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON
FOR THE COUNTY OF CROOK

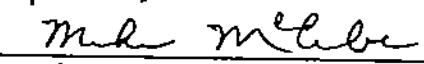
IN THE MATTER OF PROTECTING)	
THE PRINEVILLE RESERVOIR)	ORDINANCE NO. 101
AND SURROUNDING AREA)	AMENDING
AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY)	ORDINANCE NO. 34

WHEREAS; Crook County is interested in updating Ordinance 34 and revising it to more closely fit the management of the Prineville reservoir;

THE COUNTY OF CROOK ORDAINS that Ordinance No. 34 is amended and shall be in the form shown as Exhibit A.

Dated this 12th day of April, 1995.


Fred Rodgers, County Judge


Mike McCabe, County Commissioner


Frank Porfily, County Commissioner

REVIEW AND APPROVED BY U.S. BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
Dated this 7th day of April 1995.


U.S. BUREAU OF RECLAMATION, By

Exhibit "A"
Ordinance 34 Amended by Ordinance 101

I. Purpose and Location:

The following regulations apply to and shall be enforced in the area now and hereafter referred to as the Prineville Reservoir Recreation Area to preserve the reservoir and the surrounding natural areas. This Ordinance shall apply to the Prineville Reservoir Recreation Area Crook County, Oregon, as set forth on the plat attached hereto, marked Exhibit "B" and by this reference made part hereof.

II. Prohibitions:

A. VEHICLES, VEHICLE USE AND PARKING

- (1) Motor vehicles shall not be operated on any trail or in any part of the reservoir area not constructed or designated for motor vehicle use, or on any road, trail or area specifically posted as closed to the public or closed to motor vehicle use. Motor vehicles include:
 - (a) motorcycles
 - (b) motor driven bicycles
 - (c) off road vehicles
 - (d) all terrain vehicles
 - (e) passenger cars
 - (f) pick up trucks
 - (g) any other type of motor driven conveyance
- (2) Motor vehicles, trailers or other vehicles shall not be parked in any area designated or posted as "no parking". Vehicles also shall not be parked on roadsides in such a manner as to obstruct the normal traffic flow or in such a manner as to create a traffic safety hazard, or as to restrict the free movement of two way traffic or the passage of emergency vehicles.

B. NOISE AND QUIET HOURS

- (1) The hours of 10pm to 6am are designated as quiet hours and visitors shall not disturb others by producing loud noise of any kind during these hours.
- (2) Visitors shall not operate or allow the use any noise-producing machine, vehicle, device or instrument in such a manner that it is disturbing to other reservoir area visitors during regular hours. Including, but not limited to:

- (a) motorcycles
- (b) chain saws
- (c) music or other noise producing devices

C. FIREARMS, WEAPONS AND HUNTING

- (1) Visitors shall not possess any loaded firearm in the State Park areas or the Prineville Resort area, except for recognized law enforcement officials and authorized employees of the State Park or Prineville Reservoir resort.
- (2) Visitors shall not, except during recognized game seasons authorized by the appropriate county, state or federal agency:
 - (a) Hunt, pursue, trap, kill, injure or molest any birds or animals or disturb their habitat;
 - (b) Discharge any firearm, pellet gun, bow and arrow, sling shot or any other weapon or device capable of injuring any person, bird or animal unless it is discharged in the lawful hunting of a game animal.

D. FIRES, LOCATIONS AND RESTRICTIONS

- (1) Fires shall not be left unattended. Fires shall only be made in appropriate fire rings or pits. Every fire shall be extinguished and the ashes covered by soil before the user leaves the reservoir area.
- (2) Fires shall not be allowed during times of declared fire restriction or closure periods. Fire closures and restrictions for the Prineville Reservoir Area are the same as those declared by the Oregon State Forestry Department for state and private lands.

E. DOGS AND OTHER ANIMALS

- (1) Dogs, cats or other animals of any kind shall not be allowed to run free. Dogs shall be maintained on a leash at all times and other animals shall be attended and under the control of the owner at all times.
- (2) Dogs and other animals are to subject to noise restrictions in section B. (1) and (2).

F. WOOD AND OTHER PLANT LIFE

- (1) Visitors shall not pick, cut, mutilate or remove any flowers, shrubs, foliage, trees, plant life or products of any kind whether dead or living from any of the reservoir area. (This includes gathering wood for fires. Fire wood must be brought in with the visitor).

G. BUILDINGS, SIGNS AND RECREATION AREA EQUIPMENT

- (1) Visitors shall not mutilate, deface, damage, or remove any bench, table, sign, marker, fence, monument, building or other structure or facility of any kind located within the reservoir area.
- (2) Visitors shall not post private signs on recreation area buildings, fences, sign posts, trees or other objects.

H. DUMPING TRASH, WASTE WATER AND SEWAGE

- (1) Visitors shall not dump or leave behind bottles, cans, waste, paper, garbage, gray water, sewage or refuse except in receptacles designated for that purpose.
- (2) Residential garbage, from local residences, shall not be dumped in recreation area dumpsters and trash receptacles by visitors or surrounding residents.

I. CLEANING FISH, DISHES

- (1) Visitors shall not use the public water supply hydrants/faucets to clean fish, dishes or other articles.

J. CAMPSITES, CAMPING AND CONDITIONS

- (1) Visitors shall not camp in areas posted or designated as "no camping areas".
- (2) Visitors shall not camp in fee camping areas without paying the appropriate fee.
- (3) Visitors are not permitted to camp in a camping location, either fee use or non-fee use, longer than 14 days, with the exception of the camp host designated by the BOR recreation area ranger.
- (4) Visitors shall not leave a campsite unattended for more than 24 hours.
- (5) Visitors in a group camp of greater than 25 persons shall designate a camp leader as a contact person for the recreation area ranger and law enforcement personnel.

III. Severability:

The provisions of this Ordinance are severable. If any section, sentence, clause, or phrase of this Ordinance is adjudged to be invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, that decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance.

IV. Enforcement:

- A. Violations of this Ordinance may result in the eviction of the violator(s) from the Prineville Reservoir Recreation Area Park and/or;
- B. This Ordinance may be enforced as provided by other County Ordinances. Violation of the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby declared nuisances and may be abated as provided by law.

V. Emergency:

The Prineville Reservoir Recreation Area and surrounding area require the immediate protection of Crook County. The Crook County Court hereby declares an emergency and this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect upon signing by the Crook County Court.

Appendix H Tribal Correspondence

Prineville Reservoir Resource Management Plan and Master Plan: Final EA

Letters and Meetings with Tribes

2000

December 14, 2000 Letter to General Manager, Department of Natural Resources, Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs explaining the Prineville Reservoir Resource Management Plan Process and requesting the Tribe to designate a contact person for the process.

2001

January 25, 2001 Meeting at Warm Springs Reservation with Warm Springs Tribes natural resource specialists and BIA representative to introduce the Prineville Reservoir RMP process.

August 9, 2001 Meeting with members of the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs at Prineville Reservoir to discuss cultural resources in relation to the RMP process.

August 23, 2001 Letter to Wanda Johnson, Burns Paiute Tribe, explaining the Prineville Reservoir Resource Management Plan Process and requesting input and coordination on the RMP process.

August 23, 2001 Letter to Allen Foreman, the Klamath Tribes, explaining the Prineville Reservoir Resource Management Plan Process and requesting input and coordination on the RMP process.

September 24, 2001 Memorandum from Acting Director of Reclamation's Pacific Northwest Regional Office to the Area Director of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Portland Area Office requesting information on any ITAs on or adjacent to Reclamation land at Prineville Reservoir.



IN REPLY
REFER TO:

PN-3906
LND-8.00

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
Pacific Northwest Region
Lower Columbia Area Office
825 NE Multnomah Street, Suite 1110
Portland, Oregon 97232-2155

AUG 23 2001

Mr. Allen Foreman
Tribal Council Chairman
The Klamath Tribes
PO Box 436
Chiloquin OR 97624

Subject: Resource Management Plan Update for Prineville Reservoir, Crook County,
Crooked River Project, Oregon

Dear Mr. Foreman:

The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) is preparing to update the Resource Management Plan (RMP) for Prineville Reservoir. Prineville Reservoir is located on the Crooked River in central Oregon about 15 miles southeast of the city of Prineville. The current RMP was completed in 1992 and was prepared as a 10 year management plan for the Reclamation-administered lands at Prineville Reservoir (reference enclosed maps). The RMP update process began this year, and we hope to have a completed plan by April of 2003. The update will include gathering data that has become available since the 1992 RMP and exploring alternatives to assist Reclamation in planning for the next 10 years of managing the resources under Reclamation's control.

Reclamation's goal in the original and updated RMP is to manage, protect, and enhance fish and wildlife habitat, natural, cultural, and recreational resources; to preserve the aesthetic quality and natural environment; and to promote the safe and healthful use of the reservoir area lands and water. We have enclosed a copy of our last news brief to help introduce you to this project.

An integral part of the RMP update process is working with Indian tribes that have treaty or other interests in the study area, coordinating with other agencies, and involving the public. Prineville Reservoir is situated on lands ceded by The Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation (Warm Springs Tribes), who retain treaty rights on those lands. We were recently advised by the Warm Springs Tribes that the Klamath Tribes represent the Northern Paiute people who make their home on the Klamath Reservation but may have retained interests in the Prineville area. To aid in planning the RMP update, we are requesting your assistance to determine if there are resources of interest to your Northern Paiute members on lands around Prineville Reservoir. In particular, we would like to determine if you have knowledge of Indian sacred sites (per Executive Order 13007), archeological sites, or traditional cultural properties

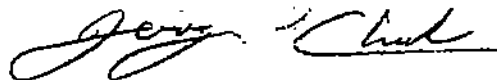
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important to the Northern Paiute. If you have knowledge of such sites or resources or have reason to believe they are present, please inform us so that we can begin more detailed discussions and further involve you and your staff in the RMP update study process. We can do this by phone, letter, or meeting, whichever you prefer.

Ms. Vicki Kellerman is Reclamation's lead for the study. I encourage you or your staff to call Ms. Kellerman at (208) 378-5326 on any matters regarding the RMP planning process. You may also address any correspondence concerning our request for information to Ms. Kellerman. We are also available to meet with you and your staff at Prineville Reservoir if you believe a visit will aid you in understanding the project and responding to our request for information.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,



Jerry D. Cheek
Acting Area Manager

Enclosures - 4

cc: Mr. Elwood Miller, Jr.
Director of Natural Resources
The Klamath Tribes
PO Box 436
Chiloquin OR 97624
(w/encls)

Mr. Gerald Skelton
Tribal Culture Department
The Klamath Tribes
PO Box 436
Chiloquin OR 97624
(w/encls)

bc: PN-6511, PN-3906, PN-3902, BFO-6100
(w/o encls)



IN REPLY
REFER TO:

PN-3906
LND-8.00

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
Pacific Northwest Region
Lower Columbia Area Office
825 NE Multnomah Street, Suite 1110
Portland, Oregon 97232-2135

AUG 23 2001

Mrs. Wanda Johnson
Tribal Council Chairman
Burns Paiute Tribes
HC 71 100 Pasigo Street
Burns OR 97720

Subject: Resource Management Plan Update for Prineville Reservoir, Crook County,
Crooked River Project, Oregon

Dear Mrs. Johnson:

The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) is preparing to update the Resource Management Plan (RMP) for Prineville Reservoir. Prineville Reservoir is located on the Crooked River in central Oregon about 15 miles southeast of the city of Prineville. The current RMP was completed in 1992 and was prepared as a 10 year management plan for the Reclamation-administered lands at Prineville Reservoir (reference enclosed maps). The RMP update process began this year, and we hope to have a completed plan by April of 2003. The update will include gathering data that has become available since the 1992 RMP and exploring alternatives to assist Reclamation in planning for the next 10 years of managing the resources under Reclamation's control.

Reclamation's goal in the original and updated RMP is to manage, protect, and enhance fish and wildlife habitat, natural, cultural, and recreational resources; to preserve the aesthetic quality and natural environment; and to promote the safe and healthful use of the reservoir area lands and water. We have enclosed a copy of our last news brief to help introduce you to this project.

An integral part of the RMP update process is working with Indian tribes that have interests in the study area, coordinating with other agencies, and involving the public. Prineville Reservoir is situated on lands ceded by The Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation (Warm Springs Tribes), who retain treaty rights on those lands. We were recently advised by the Warm Springs Tribes that it is appropriate to invite the comment and participation of the Burns Paiute Tribe in the RMP update study process. Therefore, we are requesting your assistance to determine if there are resources of interest to the Burns Paiute tribal members on lands around Prineville Reservoir. In particular, we would like to determine if you have knowledge of Indian sacred sites (per Executive Order 13007), archeological sites, or traditional cultural properties

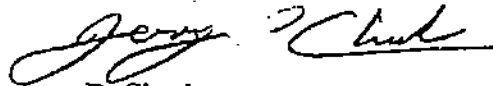
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important to the Northern Paiute. If you have knowledge of such sites or resources or have reason to believe they are present, please inform us so that we can begin more detailed discussions and further involve you and your staff in the RMP update study process.

Ms. Vicki Kellerman is Reclamation's lead for the study. I encourage you or your staff to call Ms. Kellerman at (208) 378-5326 on any matters regarding the RMP planning process. You may also address any correspondence concerning our request for information to Ms. Kellerman. We are also available to meet with you and your staff at Prineville Reservoir if you believe a visit will aid you in understanding the project and responding to our request for information.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,



Jerry D. Cheek
Acting Area Manager

Enclosures - 4

cc: Mrs. Linda Reed-Jerofke
Tribal Anthropologist
Burns Paiute Tribe
HC 71 100 Pasigo Street
Burns OR 97720
(w/encls)

bc: PN-6511, PN-3906, PN-3902, BFO-6100
(w/o encls)



IN REPLY
REFER TO:

PN-3906
LND-8.00

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
Pacific Northwest Region
Lower Columbia Area Office
825 NE Multnomah Street, Suite 1110
Portland, Oregon 97232-2195

DEC 14 2003

Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs
Attn: Robert Brunoe, General Manager
Department of Natural Resources
PO Box 1299
Warm Springs Oregon 97761

Subject: Request for Government-to-Government Meeting about the Prineville Reservoir
Resource Management Plan Update

Dear Mr. Brunoe:

The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) is preparing an update of the Prineville Reservoir Resource Management Plan (RMP). Prineville Reservoir is located on the Crooked River in central Oregon about 15 miles southeast of the city of Prineville. The current RMP was completed in 1992 and was prepared as a 10-year management plan for the Reclamation-administered lands at Prineville Reservoir. The RMP update process will begin soon, and we hope to have a completed plan by April of 2003. The update will include gathering data that has become available since the 1992 RMP and exploring alternatives to assist Reclamation in planning for the next ten years of managing the resources under Reclamation's control. Reclamation's goal in the original and updated RMP is to manage, protect, and enhance fish and wildlife habitat, natural, cultural, and recreational resources; to preserve the aesthetic quality and natural environment; and to promote the safe and healthful use of the reservoir area lands and water.

An integral part of the update process is working with Indian tribes that have treaty or other interests in the study area, coordinating with other agencies, and involving the public. My staff and I would like to meet with you and your staff to discuss the interests of the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs in the RMP study area and its involvement in the study process. Particular topics we would like to discuss are knowledge of or concerns about treaty rights, Indian sacred sites, and traditional cultural properties in the study area. We will also form an ad hoc work group to help with the planning process. You are invited to designate someone to represent tribal interests on this group that will include agency representatives and other parties with particular interests in the Prineville Reservoir area. We anticipate a total of seven ad hoc work group meetings in Prineville, Oregon over the 2½ year planning process.

2

Anticipated Reclamation attendees would be myself; Vicki Kellerman, Project Leader and contact for the RMP; Carolyn Burpee Stone, RMP Coordinator; Chuck Korson, Indian Trust Asset Coordinator; and Lynne MacDonald, Regional Archeologist. We would travel to Warm Springs to meet with you at the tribal headquarters on a date that is mutually agreeable. I understand that you are available the week of January 22, and I will have Ms. Kellerman work with your secretary to find a mutually agreeable date that week. I encourage you or your staff to call Ms. Kellerman at (208) 378-5326 on any matters regarding this meeting or the RMP planning process. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,



J. Eric Glover
Area Manager

Enclosures 1

Map with highlighted boundary

bc: Regional Director, Boise ID, Attention: PN-6511, PN 3906, PN-3902
(w/o encl to each)


BFO-6100
(w/o encl)

BFO-6100
LND-8.00

SEP 24 2001

MEMORANDUM

To: Area Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs
Portland Area Office
911 NE 11th Avenue, Portland, OR 97232-4169
Attention: Stanley Speaks

From: Dave R. Nelson
Acting Area Manager 

Subject: Request for Confirmation of Indian Trust Assets (ITA) - Prineville Reservoir
Resource Management Plan, Crooked River Project, Oregon

The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) is currently in the process of updating the Resource Management Plan (RMP) for Prineville Reservoir. Prineville Reservoir is located on the Crooked River in central Oregon about 15 miles southeast of the city of Prineville. The current RMP was completed in 1992 and was prepared as a 10-year management plan for the Reclamation-administered lands at Prineville Reservoir. The RMP update process began this year, and will be exploring alternatives to assist Reclamation in managing the natural, cultural, and aesthetic resources under its control for the next 10 years.

Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Reclamation will be preparing an Environmental Assessment for public review in 2002, and hopes to have a completed RMP by April 2003. As part of our NEPA compliance process and ITA policy issued on July 2, 1993, we are requesting information on whether there are any ITAs in the area of the proposed Federal action (see attached map).

We would appreciate you verifying whether the United States holds for any tribe in the area trust assets, including land, minerals, hunting and fishing, and/or water rights. If you have questions about this inquiry, please contact Mr. Chuck Korson at (541) 389-6541.

Attachment - 1

bc: PN-3906, PN-6511, PN-6519
(w/o att)



IN REPLY REFER TO:

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
Northwest Region
911 N.E. 11th Avenue
Portland, Oregon 97232-4169



MEMORANDUM

TO: Area Manager
Bureau of Reclamation
Lower Columbia Area Office
825 NE Multnomah Street, Suite 1110
Portland, OR 97232-2135

FROM: Northwest Regional Director

SUBJECT: Indian Trust Assets Prineville Reservoir Area

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION OFFICIAL FILE COPY			ACTION MADE BY
OCT 20 2001			
TO	INIT	DATE	
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We recently received a Memorandum from your office concerning the identification of Indian Trust Assets in the Prineville Reservoir Resources Management Area. This Area was depicted on a map attached to the memorandum.

We have consulted the Northwest Regional Land Titles and Records Section and they have informed us that there is currently no Indian Trust Lands in the area.

The Prineville Reservoir lies in the area covered by the Treaty of June 23, 1855. In this Treaty of June 23, 1855 the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation reserved certain rights on the open and unclaimed lands of the United States. We understand that the Tribe is currently involved in the Prineville Reservoir Resources Management Area planning.

If you have any further questions on this issue, please contact Mr. Robert Fenton at (503)-231-6744.

Appendix I
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Planning Aid Memorandum

Prineville Reservoir Resource Management Plan and Master Plan: Final EA



LND-8.00-
CRP

United States Department of the Interior

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

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
OFFICIAL FILE COPY

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TO	INIT	GATE
1000	MKD	1/8
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3900	VK	1/9

CONTROL #: 3-131
December 31, 2002
FOLDER #: 19546

cy to LCA-1000
3902

Reply To: 7265.006
File Name: FinalRMP.wpd
TS No. 02-3287

Memorandum

To: Regional Director, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Pacific Northwest Region, Boise, Idaho

From: *[Signature]* State Supervisor/Deputy State Supervisor, Oregon State Office, Portland, Oregon

Subject: *[Signature]* Prineville Reservoir, Resource Management Plan, Planning Aid Memorandum

This is our Planning Aid Memorandum (PAM) describing the impacts on fish and wildlife resources from the draft Resource Management Plan for Prineville Reservoir located in Crook County near Prineville, Oregon. Our comments are provided under the authority of the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act but do not constitute our formal comments under Section 2(b) of the Act (48 Stat. 401, as amended; 16 U.S.C., 661 et seq.), and are consistent with the intent of the National Environmental Policy Act. This memo is based upon information provided by the Bureau of Reclamation (Bureau) in the Prineville Reservoir Resource Management Plan- Draft EA Alternatives matrix dated February 21, 2002. Some minor modifications were also provided by Vicki Kellerman, the Bureau team leader.

This report has been coordinated with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) and includes their input.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT AREA

Prineville Reservoir is located on the Crooked River in Crook County, approximately 15 miles southeast of Prineville, Oregon (Figure 1). The 150,216 acre-foot reservoir was created in 1961 when the Bureau constructed Arthur R. Bowman Dam. The project was authorized for the purposes of irrigation, flood control, and fish and wildlife. Currently, 68,273 acre-feet are allocated exclusively for irrigation and 60,000 acre-feet are allocated for the joint use of irrigation and flood control. However, 80,360 acre-feet are not yet contracted to any specific use. There are 8,490 acres of land at Prineville Reservoir that are under the jurisdiction of the Bureau. Of this total, 3,030 acres are covered by the reservoir at full pool, 5,460 acres are lands surrounding the reservoir. In addition to these lands, there are also 280 acres along the Crooked River downstream from Bowman Dam and 340 acres of flow easement lands along Crooked River immediately above the reservoir. At full pool (elevation 3,235 feet) the reservoir is about 14 miles long.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT

Intensive recreational use is creating serious problems in the Prineville Reservoir area. Habitat degradation in and around the reservoir is a significant problem. High levels of uncontrolled dispersed recreation and off-road vehicle (ORV) use are causing serious adverse impacts to wildlife and wildlife habitat. Such impacts include soil erosion, soil compaction, gullying, and rutting. Removal of vegetation has also reduced available habitat. Vehicle use and intensive unregulated camping pressure along the reservoir shoreline have heavily damaged some areas. Some of the more seriously damaged areas are the steeper slopes leading down to the reservoir. Here, destruction of vegetation and badly disturbed soils create sedimentation problems in the reservoir during water runoff periods. Vehicles and other recreational activities also result in harassment of wildlife including big game, nesting raptors, and nesting waterfowl. Cattle grazing adversely affects some habitats outside the Prineville Reservoir State Wildlife Area (SWA) and in some of the designated recreational areas.

The Bureau is responsible for the management of the land and water resources associated with the Prineville Reservoir project. It is now in the process of preparing a Resource Management Plan (RMP) which, when implemented, will provide for public recreational uses of project lands and waters while protecting and improving natural resource values. The RMP will provide a 10-year framework to achieve this objective. Flow releases by the project are outside the scope of the RMP and therefore are assumed to remain unchanged. Currently the minimum releases occur during the winter storage period and are 75 cfs unless extreme conditions warrant otherwise. The Bureau has begun a study of the unallocated space in the reservoir and any possible changes in project operations would be evaluated in that study.

The Bureau has developed three RMP Alternatives. These include the No Action Alternative (Alternative A), the Natural Resource/Dispersed Recreation Alternative (Alternative B), and the Natural Resource Protection/Formal Recreation Emphasis Alternative (Alternative C). A description of each of these alternatives follows.

ALTERNATIVE A (No Action)

The No Action Alternative would not necessarily result in a "status quo" situation but would rather result in the continued management of the RMP study area as directed by the 1992 RMP.

Roads/Vehicle Access. Under this alternative a travel management plan using the "green dot" system would be implemented. A green dot on a sign would indicate a road is open to vehicle travel. All roads throughout the project area without the green dot would be closed to motorized travel. Many of the existing unauthorized roads around the reservoir would be physically closed with barriers and revegetated. Any vehicles found off designated open roads would be subject to citation. A seasonal closure from November 15 through April 15 would apply to the North Side Road in the SWA between Jasper Point and Old Field. The road between Old Field and Combs Flat Road would be closed between December 15 and March 15.

People driving vehicles on the exposed shoreline below the high water line would be subject to citations and fines. One exception to this policy is the area near boat ramps. ORV travel would be permitted within 500 feet of developed boat launch areas or areas specifically designated for boat launching or angling access.

Cattle Grazing/Fencing. Fencing would be constructed or improved to eliminate livestock from developed recreation areas, shorelines, riparian zones, and wetlands. Grazing within the SWA on non-Bureau of Land Management (BLM) administered areas would be determined annually by ODFW and the Bureau.

Campsites/Recreational Areas. The reservoir's southern shoreline from Roberts Bay to Long Hollow Creek would be managed as a "boat-in" day-use area only. To optimize wildlife management, no overnight use would be permitted. Designated primitive campsites within the SWA would include 15 at Juniper Bass, 8 at Cattle Guard, and 25 at Old Field. Owl Creek would have up to 12 primitive walk-in sites and a dock. Existing conditions would be maintained at the State Park Campground. However, the Park's proposed North Expansion Area would be developed into a high density campground with up to 100 sites. Roberts Bay-East would have 35 primitive campsites.

Fish and Wildlife Management. A Fish Management Plan for the project area would be developed and implemented cooperatively between the Bureau, ODFW, and the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS). In addition, efforts would be carried out to improve winter flows for fish in Crooked River below Bowman Dam through the Prineville Reservoir Reallocation Study. Currently, summer minimum flows released into Crooked River from Prineville Reservoir during the irrigation season are around 200 cubic feet per second (cfs). However, during the water storage period, project authorization requires a minimum release of only 10 cfs. Until final decisions are made concerning reallocation of reservoir space and minimum flows, the Bureau plans to release a minimum flow during the winter of 75 cfs (65 cfs greater than the authorized 10 cfs) unless extreme circumstances require a different minimum flow release. Flows in the Crooked River downstream from the reservoir will be the same for all alternatives.

The Bureau, ODFW, BLM, and the Service would also cooperatively develop a Wildlife Management Plan. Overall wildlife objectives would include an emphasis on habitat improvement, diversity, and abundance. Livestock would be restricted from shoreline, riparian, and wetland areas. There would be a focus on natural resource management in the SWA.

Threatened and Endangered Species. The Bureau would comply with the Endangered Species Act regarding all RMP actions.

Boat Ramps. The existing County and Powder House Cove boat ramps would be improved. A new low water boat ramp east of the existing ramp at Prineville Resort would also be constructed if funding permitted. A two-lane concrete boat ramp and a parking area would be constructed at Roberts Bay-East.

ALTERNATIVE B

Alternative B represents an effort to create a balance between an increased level of natural resource protection and increased recreational development.

Roads/Vehicle Access. Enforcement of ORV regulations would be increased. Many of the existing unauthorized roads around the reservoir would be physically closed with barriers and revegetated. Any vehicles found off designated open roads would be subject to citation. This would apply to all areas not designated as roads including reservoir drawdown zones. The closure of the North Side Road would remain the same as in Alternative A.

Cattle grazing/Fencing. Grazing would be eliminated from designated recreation areas by fencing. There would be an emphasis on keeping livestock away from shoreline, riparian, and wetland areas. Boundary fences would be constructed where it was determined that there were conflicts with adjacent land use and recreation or resource protection needs. Examples of such potential areas would be Roberts Bay, the County boat ramp, and Bear Creek. In addition, existing fencing would be maintained and, if funds were available, new fencing would be installed to allow wildlife passage.

Campsites/Recreational Areas. The reservoir's southern shoreline from Roberts Bay to Long Hollow Creek would be managed as a "boat-in" day-use area only. To optimize wildlife management, no overnight use would be permitted. Owl Creek, Juniper Bass, Cattleguard, Old Field, and Combs Flat camping areas would remain as they are presently, unregulated without designated campsites. The State Park north expansion area would be developed with up to 10 cabins and a group camp of up to 20 sites. In addition, hiking and biking trails would be established. The existing State Park would expand the maintenance yard, improve the trail to Jasper Point, expand the overnight moorage facility to 20, construct a dump station, and provide housing for seasonal employees. At Jasper Point, a small maintenance yard would be constructed. A group day-use area with swimming, picnicking, and a shelter would be constructed at Antelope Creek. At Prineville Resort, additional cabins, developed campsites, and moorage space could be provided. Roberts Bay-East would have 50 designated campsites, a group camp, and a campground host.

Fish and Wildlife Management. The Bureau would cooperate with ODFW and other partners on aquatic habitat enhancement projects and periodic monitoring of fish populations. Efforts would continue in the Prineville Reservoir Reallocation Study to improve flows in Crooked River downstream from Bowman Dam. Currently, summer minimum flows released into Crooked River from Prineville Reservoir during the irrigation season are around 200 cubic feet per second (cfs). However, during the water storage period, project authorization requires a minimum release of only 10 cfs. Until final decisions are made concerning reallocation of reservoir space and minimum flows, the Bureau plans to release a minimum flow during the winter of 75 cfs (65 cfs greater than the authorized 10 cfs) unless extreme circumstances require a different minimum flow release.

There would be no Wildlife Management Plan; however, habitat enhancement and specific related projects would be initiated. Funding for natural resource management activities would be focused on the SWA in areas such as Old Field and Owl Creek. Illegal ORV use would be regulated through increased enforcement, signs, and physical barriers. The Prineville Reservoir Integrated Pest Management Plan, which includes noxious weed control, would be finalized and implemented.

Threatened and Endangered Species. The Bureau would comply with the Endangered Species Act regarding all RMP actions. In addition, *Artemisia ludoviciana* (a state-listed species) would be protected on all Bureau lands.

Boat Ramps. A new boat ramp would be constructed at Roberts Bay-West and the existing boat ramps at the County site and Powder House Cove would be improved. The boat ramp at Prineville Resort would be improved if funds were provided.

ALTERNATIVE C (Preferred Alternative)

Alternative C would provide the highest level of protection and enhancement measures for natural resources. It would also allow for the most focused and formalized development scenario for recreation.

Roads/Vehicle Access. The North Side Road between Jasper Point and Combs Flat Road would be closed from November 15 to April 15 to accommodate management needs for wildlife. This would be an additional four weeks of road closure between Old Field and Combs Flat Road. Enforcement of ORV regulations would be increased. This would apply to all areas not designated as roads, including reservoir drawdown zones.

A travel management plan using the "green dot" or a similar system would be implemented. This system would utilize signs to indicate which roads are open and which are closed to vehicle travel. In addition, many of the existing unauthorized roads around the reservoir would be physically closed with barriers and revegetated. Brochures that identify open roads and trails would be provided to visitors in the project area.

No new private access roads would be permitted in the SWA. New private access roads across Bureau lands would be limited to maintain the existing character and visual quality of the area.

Cattle grazing/Fencing. Boundary fences would be constructed where there are conflicts with adjacent land use, recreation, or resource protection needs. Examples of these conflicts can be observed at Roberts Bay, County Boat Ramp, and Bear Creek. Grazing would be eliminated in areas with sensitive resources such as Roberts Bay and the SWA. Other sensitive resource areas include wetlands, riparian zones, areas with a high occurrence of crytobiotic soils, recreation areas, cultural resource sites, and areas with threatened or endangered species. Resolution of these problems could also occur through coordinated improvement in management or termination of existing leases. Existing fences would be maintained and any new fences would be designed to allow wildlife passage as funding permitted. The installation of new fencing would be based on a prioritized plan of resource and conflict management needs. Fence crossings would be added as appropriate and boundary markers would be installed where fencing is not essential. The Bureau would work with BLM to revise allotment management plans affecting Bureau lands.

Campsites/Recreational Areas. The reservoir southern shoreline from Roberts Bay to Long Hollow Creek would be managed as a "boat-in" day-use area only. To optimize wildlife management, no overnight use would be permitted. However, at Roberts Bay-East there would be up to 120 new campsites and 15 cabins constructed. In addition, there would be 4 campground hosts, electricity, an RV dump station, flush toilets, and showers. At the adjacent Roberts Bay-West, an additional 20 primitive campsites would be developed. Day-use only would be allowed in the SWA outside of the designated campsites. Designated camps within the SWA would be at Owl Creek, Juniper Bass, Cattleguard, Old Field, and Combs Flat. Combs Flat would be a day-use area with a trail head and trail for non-motorized vehicles with connections to Primitive Road and BLM property. Owl Creek camp would have 12 primitive walk-in sites, a dock, and trail connections to Primitive Road and BLM land. Juniper Bass would have 15 primitive sites, a dock, and possibly trail connections. Cattle Guard camp would have 8 primitive sites, a dock, and possibly trail connections. Old Field camp would have 25 primitive sites, a dock, and potential trail connections. Camper registration would be required at all of the overnight campsites. Camp perimeters would be defined for all overnight and day-use camping areas in the SWA.

The State Park campground would expand the maintenance yard, improve the trail to Jasper Point, expand the overnight moorage facility to 20, construct a dump station, and provide housing for seasonal employees. A concession store, fishing pier, and 3 cabins would also be constructed. Intensive recreation development would occur at the State Park north expansion area with 80 campsites, 10 cabins, a group camp with 20 sites, and a dump station. Hiking and biking trails would also be provided.

At Jasper Point a small maintenance yard would be constructed. A group day-use area with swimming and picnicking areas, a shelter, a pier, and parking facilities would be provided at Antelope Creek.

At Prineville Resort additional cabins, developed campsites, and moorage space would be provided. In addition, group campsites, a day-use area, a trail, and improved maintenance facilities would be constructed.

Fish and Wildlife Management. A Fish Management Plan for the project area would be developed and implemented cooperatively between the Bureau, ODFW, and the Service. The Bureau would cooperate with ODFW and other partners on aquatic habitat enhancement projects and periodic monitoring of fish populations. Efforts would continue in the Prineville Reservoir Reallocation Study to improve flows in Crooked River downstream from Bowman Dam. Currently, summer minimum flows released into Crooked River from Prineville Reservoir during the irrigation season are around 200 cfs. However, during the water storage period, project authorization requires a minimum release of only 10 cfs. Until final decisions are made concerning reallocation of reservoir space and minimum flows, the Bureau plans to release a minimum flow during the winter of 75 cfs (65 cfs greater than the authorized 10 cfs) unless extreme circumstances require a different minimum flow release.

The Bureau, ODFW, BLM, and the Service would also cooperatively develop a Wildlife Management Plan. Overall wildlife objectives would include an emphasis on habitat improvement, diversity, and abundance. Specific vegetation management recommendations would be addressed as part of the management plan. The Prineville Reservoir Integrated Pest Management Plan, which includes noxious weed control, would be finalized and implemented. Efforts toward habitat restoration would be a part of this alternative. Restoration would include coordinating with BLM to control juniper densities. Livestock would be restricted from shoreline, riparian, and wetland areas. There would be a focus on natural resource management in the SWA. Unauthorized ORV use would be prevented by increased enforcement, signs, and physical barriers. Efforts would also be directed toward restoration of areas damaged by recreational and vehicle use.

Threatened and Endangered Species. The Bureau would comply with the Endangered Species Act regarding all RMP actions. In addition they would participate in the annual monitoring of bald eagle nests and winter roost areas, golden eagle nests, prairie falcon nests, and *Artemisia ludoviciana* sites.

Boat Ramps. Improvements would be made to the County Boat Ramp and the boat ramp at the Prineville Resort. New ramps would be constructed at Powder House Cove and Roberts Bay-West.

FISH AND WILDLIFE RESOURCES

WITHOUT THE PROJECT

The following discussion describes existing conditions in the project area.

FISH

Prineville Reservoir provides a year-round reservoir fishery. Game species include rainbow trout, largemouth and smallmouth bass, black crappie, and brown bullhead. Historically, both rainbow and cutthroat trout fingerlings were annually released into the reservoir. However, in 1987, the ODFW discontinued stocking cutthroat trout and now only releases about 150,000 rainbow trout fingerlings annually. Some natural production of rainbow trout occurs upstream in Crooked River.

Largemouth and smallmouth bass were planted in the reservoir in the 1960s. No further plantings have taken place and the population has sustained itself through natural reproduction. Brown bullhead and black crappie have been illegally introduced into the reservoir. Although they once provided a popular fishery during the late spring and summer, their overpopulation has resulted in a poor quality fishery.

Poor water quality, low nutrient levels, and substantial annual drawdowns limit fish production in the reservoir. Runoff water into Prineville Reservoir contains high amounts of sediment. Disturbance of highly erodible soils around the reservoir contribute heavily to the turbidity problem. Poor land use practices, primarily logging and grazing, and profuse ORV traffic, cause the soils to be easily washed away. Most of the silt and sediment is montmorillonite clay, much of which remains in suspension year-round. In suspension, the silts create high turbidity which reduces aquatic plant production. This limits the production of invertebrates which are a major food source for fish. The sediment that precipitates out smothers benthic lifeforms, further diminishing fish food supplies. Annual reservoir drawdowns dewater shallow food production zones, thereby further reducing available fish forage. Drawdowns early in the season can dewater bass spawning areas causing a reduced production level for that year. Bass populations are also limited by the lack of submerged vegetation or other structures which provides juvenile habitat in the shallow areas.

One of Oregon's finest rainbow trout fisheries occurs in Crooked River downstream from Bowman Dam. Flow releases from Prineville Reservoir during the irrigation season provide excellent habitat conditions for these fish. However, serious flow depletions can occur during water storage periods when the minimum flow drops to the authorized 10 cfs level. Streamflow studies have been conducted to determine more precisely the flows necessary to maximize aquatic life in this reach. Concurrently, the Bureau has been conducting a study of the unallocated storage space in Prineville Reservoir. Efforts are underway to utilize a portion of the unallocated space to improve streamflows for aquatic resources below the Reservoir. In the interim, the Bureau is releasing a minimum of 75 cfs, unless extreme conditions warrant otherwise.

WILDLIFE

The dry semi-arid climate in the project area produces 10 to 12 inches of precipitation annually. The dominant vegetative habitat in the Prineville Reservoir area is western juniper mixed with an understory of sagebrush, bitterbrush, and rabbitbrush. Where present, ground cover consists primarily of grasses such as Idaho fescue, wildrye, cheatgrass, and bluebunch wheatgrass. Perennial forbs are represented by western yarrow, milkvetch, and lupine. One small wetland area is located at the upper end of the reservoir and another even smaller one is located in the Roberts Bay area. The wetland area in the upper-reservoir supports emergent vegetation at full pool; however, as the water level drops, the wetland becomes dried out. The wetland in Roberts Bay is higher in elevation, flooded for an even shorter period of time, and of lower value as wildlife habitat.

Habitat conditions around the project area vary. Juniper cutting on BLM lands have resulted in improvements to understory vegetation. Modifications to livestock grazing practices have also

resulted in improved range and riparian conditions, although some problems remain. Over the last few years the Bureau, in cooperation with the ODFW, BLM, Ochoco National Forest, Crooked River Watershed Council, and others has implemented a noxious weed control program on the SWA. This program has resulted in improved habitat conditions by controlling large concentrations of noxious weeds such as perennial pepperweed, spotted knapweed, puncturevine, and Canada thistle.

Development of adjoining private lands, including housing, roads, fencing, etc., adversely impacts wintering deer and elk, and poses a threat to sensitive bird nesting sites. Recreational use on project lands has increased significantly, particularly activities associated with ORV's. ORV activities directly affect wildlife (harassment) as well as cause significant soil erosion and habitat degradation. Dispersed camping and other recreational activities around the shoreline have resulted in further impacts to wildlife habitat.

Mule deer are the most common big game species on and around the project area. Most of the project lands provide critical deer winter range. Use by Rocky Mountain elk has increased during the last decade. Most use occurs in the eastern portions of the project area, including the SWA, during the winter and early spring. The ODFW believes elk use this portion of the project lands as a travel corridor between the Maury and Ochoco wildlife management units. Some deer hunting occurs but there is not a major effort. Cougar use of the project lands has also increased, particularly along the south side of Prineville Reservoir. Cougar evidence and sightings are most prevalent during the winter when deer and elk numbers are highest. Pronghorn antelope are occasionally seen in the area but are not common.

Upland game includes primarily valley quail, mountain quail, and occasionally mourning dove. While some hunting for upland game species occurs in the reservoir area, it is not a significant activity.

Wintering waterfowl are commonly observed on the reservoir. Several hundred Canada geese as well as mallards, canvasbacks, goldeneyes, and other ducks utilize the reservoir as a wintering area. Some waterfowl hunting occurs during the winter but pressure is light. Canada geese, mallards, cinnamon teals, and other ducks use the shoreline habitat for nesting. The upper portion of the reservoir down to Roberts Bay is the area most utilized by waterfowl for nesting.

Furbearers include bobcat, beaver, muskrat, mink, and otter. Coyote are also common to the area. A small amount of trapping occurs on project lands, primarily for bobcat.

Bald eagles and golden eagles are often seen around the reservoir area. The bald eagle is listed as a threatened species in Oregon and is protected under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.). Bald eagles utilize the area for wintering and both bald and golden eagles nest in the area. A bald eagle roost site is located in the eastern portion of the project lands. Recently, a new bald eagle nest has been located in the reservoir area on the north shore. Potential human disturbance of the nest is likely because of nearby public access. Peregrine falcons are occasionally seen but are uncommon. Other nongame species include

osprey, caspian terns, and shorebirds. In a normal water year shorebirds have good access to the mudflats from late summer through March.

The ODFW manages the upper reservoir area for fish and wildlife purposes under a 50-year license agreement issued by the Bureau. This area, known as the Prineville Reservoir State Wildlife Area (SWA), includes about 3,160 acres, 930 acres of which are water. Mule deer winter habitat protection and development is the primary objective for big game management. Among the important items in the diet of this deer wintering population is an excellent stand of four-wing saltbush located in the Old Field area. Improved habitat conditions could be achieved by restricting both recreational use and livestock grazing activities. Currently, dispersed unregulated camping occurs around 5 locations: Owl Creek, Juniper Bass, Cattle Guard, Old Field, and Combs Flat. General wildlife habitat development through fencing and vegetative plantings is also pursued in the wildlife area. Whether or not cattle grazing will be allowed within the SWA is determined annually by the ODFW and the Bureau. No authorized cattle grazing has occurred within the SWA since 1996.

The development of private land inholdings adjacent to Bureau lands, located at the eastern end of the SWA on the north and south sides of the reservoir, poses a threat to wildlife. Increased access and subdividing of these private lands can adversely affect wildlife. Control of human activity on and around these areas is necessary for successful wildlife management in the adjacent SWA.

WITH THE PROJECT

The following discussion describes impacts on fish and wildlife expected with each of the three alternatives.

FISH

ALTERNATIVE A

Under this alternative, aquatic habitat conditions in the reservoir area should improve to some degree. Drawdown level and sedimentation from soil erosion would continue to be the primary factors affecting the quality of fish habitat in the reservoir. A Fish Management Plan would be cooperatively developed by the ODFW, the Service, and the Bureau.

The existing reservoir operation would continue unchanged with this alternative. Annual reservoir drawdowns would dewater shallow food production zones and reduce available fish forage. Drawdowns early in the season would continue to dewater some bass spawning areas causing a reduced juvenile production level for that year. Reservoir level increases in some years in the spring can cool the warmer shallow water areas and negate any bass spawning that may have begun.

The control of ORV use, one of the primary sources of soil erosion, should result in reservoir water quality improving somewhat under this alternative. Implementation of the "green dot" road management system, closure of unauthorized roads with barriers, and the rehabilitation of closed roads would reduce soil erosion. The seasonal closure of the North Side Road would also

aid in reducing soil disturbances and turbidity. Controlled camping at Juniper Bass, Cattle Guard, Old Field, Owl Creek, and Roberts Bay-East would reduce the amount of soil disturbance now occurring with dispersed camping. As soils begin to revegetate and stabilize, less erosion would occur and sedimentation in adjacent aquatic habitat would be reduced. Some erosion problems would still occur, however, in the sensitive areas where cattle grazing continued.

Boat ramp construction activities at the County Boat Ramp, Prineville Resort, Powder House Cove, and Roberts Bay-East would create temporary increases in turbidity levels. Benthic organisms, a major fish food item, would likely be smothered if construction sediment volume in the water column was high. High turbidities would also be expected to temporarily decrease angling success in the vicinity of the construction areas. These impacts, however, would be only in the isolated areas by the ramps and benthic fauna would be restored from adjacent populations within a few months. Consequently, fish populations are not expected to be significantly impacted by actual ramp construction. In fact, the overall long-term impacts on fish habitat is expected to be beneficial. This is because improvement of existing ramps and construction of new ramps would provide the public better boat access to the reservoir. This improved access would reduce the number of random launchings scattered throughout the reservoir shoreline area that add to soil disturbance and turbidity problems. Although ramp construction at Roberts Bay would eliminate some bass spawning habitat, the possibility of random launching activities impacting spawning beds around the reservoir would be reduced with the improved designated boat ramps. If periodic dredging is necessary to maintain an open channel to the County boat ramp, some temporary adverse impacts to aquatic life would result from increased levels of turbidity.

ALTERNATIVE B

Aquatic habitat, overall, would remain the same or be somewhat degraded under Alternative B. Drawdown level and sedimentation from soil erosion would be the primary factors affecting the quality of fish habitat in the reservoir. A Fish Management Plan would not be included in this alternative.

The existing reservoir operation would continue unchanged with this alternative. Annual reservoir drawdowns would dewater shallow food production zones and reduce available fish forage. Drawdowns early in the season would continue to dewater some bass spawning areas causing a reduced juvenile production level for that year. Reservoir level increases in some years in the spring could cool the warmer shallow water areas and negate any bass spawning that may have begun.

Reservoir water quality would be expected to gradually deteriorate under this alternative. Without implementation of a road management system, unauthorized vehicle travel on closed roads and off of roads would continue to increase and contribute to soil erosion. In addition, unregulated camping at Juniper Bass, Cattle Guard, Old Field, Owl Creek, and Combs Flat would disturb highly erodible soils and create erosion problems. As runoff water carries the silt and sediment into the reservoir, it would contribute to the already high turbidity and sedimentation levels. In suspension, the silts create high turbidity which reduces potential aquatic plant production. This limits the production of invertebrates which are a major food

source for fish. The sediment that precipitates out smothers benthic lifeforms, further diminishing fish food organisms.

Some fish benefits would be anticipated with Alternative B. The Bureau would cooperate with ODFW and other partners on aquatic habitat enhancement projects. The delineation of campsites at Roberts Bay would help reduce soil erosion in that immediate area and the installation of barriers on some of the closed roads would reduce ORV travel which would also help stabilize soils.

Boat ramp construction and improvements at Roberts Bay-West, Powder House Cove, Prineville Resort, and the County boat ramp would create temporary increases in turbidity levels. Benthic organisms, a major fish food item, would be smothered if construction sediment volume in the water column was high. High turbidities would also be expected to temporarily decrease angling success in the vicinity of the ramps. These impacts, however, would likely be only in the isolated areas by the boat launch and benthic fauna would likely be restored from adjacent populations within a few months. Consequently, fish populations are not expected to be significantly impacted by actual ramp construction. In fact, the overall long-term impacts on fish habitat are expected to be beneficial. This is because the boat ramps would provide the public better boat access to the reservoir which would reduce the number of random launchings scattered along the reservoir shoreline.

ALTERNATIVE C

RMP actions under this alternative should result in an improvement of aquatic habitat in the project area. Drawdown level and sedimentation from soil erosion would be the primary factors affecting the quality of fish habitat in the reservoir.

The existing reservoir operation would continue unchanged with this alternative. Annual reservoir drawdowns would dewater shallow food production zones and reduce available fish forage. Drawdowns early in the season would continue to dewater some bass spawning areas causing a reduced juvenile production level for that year. Reservoir level increases in some years in the spring could cool the warmer shallow water areas and negate any bass spawning that, may have begun.

Reservoir water quality should improve under this alternative. Implementation of a road management system, closure of unauthorized roads with barriers, and the rehabilitation of closed roads would reduce soil erosion. Increased enforcement of ORV regulations and the seasonal closure of the North Side Road would also aid in reducing soil disturbances and turbidity. Controlled camping and designated campsites at Juniper Bass, Cattle Guard, Old Field, Owl Creek, and Combs Flat would reduce the amount of soil disturbance now occurring with dispersed camping. Providing 80 additional campsites at the State Park north expansion area should also reduce some of the dispersed camping now occurring around the reservoir. As soils begin to revegetate and stabilize, less erosion would occur and sedimentation in adjacent aquatic habitat would be reduced.

New boat ramp construction at Powder House Cove and Roberts Bay-West, and ramp improvements at the County Boat Ramp and potentially Prineville Resort, would create temporary increases in turbidity levels. Benthic organisms, a major fish food item, would be smothered if construction sediment volume in the water column was high. High turbidities would also be expected to temporarily decrease angling success in the vicinity of the construction areas. These impacts, however, would be only in the isolated areas by the boat launch and benthic fauna would likely be restored from adjacent populations within a few months. Consequently, fish populations are not expected to be significantly impacted by actual ramp construction. In fact, the overall long-term impacts on fish habitat are expected to be beneficial. This is because improvement of existing ramps and construction of new ramps would provide the public better boat access to the reservoir which reduces the number of random launchings scattered along the reservoir shoreline that add to soil disturbance and turbidity problems. Temporary adverse impacts to aquatic life could also occur in the future from increased levels of turbidity if periodic dredging is necessary to maintain an open channel to the County boat ramp.

Some bass spawning habitat would also be eliminated as a result of boat ramp construction at Roberts Bay-West. However, boater use of newly designated boat ramps would reduce the possibility of impact on spawning beds from random launching activities around the reservoir.

WILDLIFE

ALTERNATIVE A

Wildlife habitat conditions throughout the project area would remain the same or improve somewhat with this alternative. Implementation of a yet undeveloped travel management plan (Green Dot System) would reduce vehicle travel in sensitive areas. This would result in less wildlife harassment as well as soil and habitat damage. Placement of barriers on some of the closed roads and habitat restoration would help restore damaged habitat. In the remaining areas, unauthorized motor vehicle use would continue to degrade wildlife habitat and increase soil erosion. This process removes ground cover and increases the potential for further losses until soil stability is reestablished. The closure on the North Side Road would further reduce the human disturbance problem for wildlife, especially deer, during winter conditions. This would also reduce vehicle damage to the unimproved road that occurs during the winter period. Restricting motorized travel from below the high water line to boat launch areas only would protect much of the fragile shoreline zone and allow shorebird and waterfowl use of the area without human disturbance.

Gradual habitat recovery would occur in the areas where dispersed camping was controlled. These areas include Roberts Bay-East, Owl Creek, Juniper Bass, Cattle Guard, and Old Field where camping would be restricted to designated camp sites only.

The construction and improvement of fences to exclude livestock from riparian zones, shorelines, wetlands, and developed recreation areas would allow the restoration of natural habitat for wildlife. The management of cattle grazing within the SWA by the ODFW and Bureau should minimize grazing impacts on wildlife habitat in that area. Wildlife conditions throughout the

general project area should benefit from the implementation of a jointly prepared Wildlife Management Plan.

ALTERNATIVE B

Conditions for wildlife and wildlife habitat around the reservoir area would worsen with this alternative. Without implementation of a travel management plan to identify open and closed roads, motor vehicle use would increase in sensitive areas. This would result in wildlife harassment as well as soil erosion and habitat damage. This process removes ground cover and increases the potential for further losses until soil stability is reestablished. The exposed shoreline area below the high water line would continue to be adversely impacted by motor vehicles. Of particular concern are the fragile wetland areas near Old Field and Roberts Bay. The absence of a Wildlife Management Plan would also contribute to the overall decline in habitat conditions and increase in wildlife concerns under this alternative.

Dispersed unregulated camping at Owl Creek, Juniper Bass, Cattleguard, and Old Field would further reduce the value of remaining wildlife habitat. Destruction of vegetation and more soil erosion would result from uncontrolled camping and recreational uses.

Excluding livestock from designated recreation areas would allow the restoration of some natural habitat for wildlife. However, habitat in unfenced riparian, shoreline, and riparian areas would continue to be impacted by cattle grazing. Wildlife travel would be enhanced as new fences would be constructed to allow wildlife passage as funding permitted.

ALTERNATIVE C

Actions under this alternative would result in the greatest opportunity for improvements to wildlife habitat around the reservoir area. Implementation of a sign system to identify open and closed roads and construction of physical barriers to prevent vehicle traffic in closed areas would significantly aid in the protection of wildlife habitat. This would also reduce soil erosion and promote restoration of previously damaged vegetation. Habitat restoration would occur much sooner where rehabilitation measures are implemented in addition to physical barriers. The distribution of brochures describing road restrictions and increased enforcement of ORV regulations should also help reduce adverse impacts to habitat. Closing the North Side Road from Old Field to Combs Flat from March 15 to April 15 (four more weeks) and preventing new private access roads within the SWA would provide additional habitat and wildlife protection. Restricting motorized travel below the high water line to boat launch areas only would protect much of the fragile shoreline zone and allow wildlife, such as shorebirds and waterfowl, to use the area without human disturbance.

Development and implementation of a Wildlife Management Plan would address wildlife issues and concerns and provide direction for the protection, restoration, and improvement of habitat and its associated wildlife resources. The elimination of cattle grazing in sensitive habitat areas, such as wetlands, riparian zones, and the SWA, would allow those areas to recover and achieve their potential habitat value.

The designation of specific campsites at Owl Creek, Juniper Bass, Cattle Guard, and Old Field would benefit wildlife by allowing the recovery of habitat damaged by the currently unregulated dispersed camping practices. Allowing "boat-in" day-use only along the reservoir's south shore from Roberts Bay to Long Hollow Creek would also help protect wildlife habitat in that area.

Intensive recreational development at Roberts Bay-East would have both beneficial and adverse effects on wildlife resources. Development of up to 120 new campsites and 15 cabins, along with amenities such as flush toilets, showers, and electricity would concentrate large numbers of people in one small part of the reservoir area. A full campground would likely have over 400 people. Designated camping areas would reduce habitat impacts caused by campsite sprawl which currently takes place. However, activities of this number of people could cause adverse impacts to other habitats in the area. Nearby adjacent wetlands, which have already been damaged by recreationists, would be susceptible to further degradation. In addition, the presence of nesting bald eagles in the area raises the question about how much they may be affected by reservoir recreational activities such as power boats and gliders.

DISCUSSION

Implementation of any of the three alternatives described above would change conditions for fish and wildlife.

Alternative C would be the most beneficial plan for both fish and wildlife resources. Major efforts under this alternative to control ORV traffic should improve habitat and reduce soil erosion. Sign systems and physical barriers would significantly reduce motor vehicle damage to wildlife habitat. The one month extension of the North Side Road closure between Old Field and Combs Flat would help protect wildlife resources in that area. Grazing restrictions in sensitive habitat areas would promote revegetation, enhance soil stability, and improve the quality of wildlife habitat. The control of dispersed camping by developing designated campsites would also result in reduced erosion and restoration of some habitat. However, the proposed development of the Roberts Bay-East campground raises some wildlife concerns. Development of 120 campsites and 15 cabins could place 400 or more people in that area. Designating campsite spaces will reduce habitat impacts from uncontrolled dispersed camping; however, other nearby important habitats, such as wetlands, could be adversely affected. Protection of these habitats should be included in the development plans for the Roberts Bay campgrounds.

Development of the Roberts Bay area also causes concerns about potential impacts on bald eagles which presently utilize the area. Limited information is currently available to present definitive conclusions regarding eagle tolerance levels of various types of recreational uses. However, it is certain that some recreational activities affect bald eagles. Therefore, it would be beneficial to develop a comprehensive bald eagle management plan for Prineville Reservoir. This plan could be jointly developed by the ODFW, FWS, BLM, and the Bureau. The plan would provide a basis for policy controlling recreational activities that could affect bald eagles in certain areas of Prineville Reservoir.

Alternative A ("No Action") would more or less be a continuation of existing plans and practices. Actions such as implementing a travel management plan, fencing key habitat areas, and designating campsites, would somewhat improve conditions for fish and wildlife. Development of both Fish and Wildlife Management Plans would provide guidance for all activities affecting fish or wildlife in the reservoir area.

Alternative B would be the least desirable plan as it would result in the most severe impacts to wildlife and some adverse impacts on fish. Activities around the reservoir which now adversely affect fish and wildlife would persist or become worse. Dispersed recreational use and unregulated camping would continue and expand with very few controls. Without a travel management system, unauthorized vehicle travel on closed roads, off roads, and on the exposed shoreline below the high water line, would continue to increase causing more soil erosion and degradation to fish and wildlife habitat throughout the project area. Unregulated camping and ORV use would continue to degrade habitat in the SWA.

Alternative B would offer the least protection of habitat from cattle grazing activities. While there would be an emphasis on keeping livestock out of wetland, riparian, and shoreline areas, no fencing is planned except at designated recreation areas. Grazing would continue elsewhere unless it was determined there were conflicts with land use or resource protection needs. If such conflicts were identified, boundary fences would be constructed in those areas. In the absence of additional fences, cattle grazing would continue to adversely affect wildlife habitat in some areas. Impacts on wildlife habitat from authorized grazing in the SWA would not be a concern as it would only be permitted as agreed to by ODFW and the Bureau.

The above described adverse impacts to wildlife under Alternative B would be exacerbated by the fact that there would be no Wildlife Management Plan. In addition, there would be no Fish Management Plan to address fish concerns when planning and developing reservoir area activities.

Each of the three alternatives involve construction activities for features such as boat ramps, campsites, and road barriers, that would alter aquatic and terrestrial habitats. However, these impacts would be short term and the long term net effect would be beneficial. To minimize impacts on aquatic resources during boat ramp development activities, it is important that construction occurs during reservoir drawdown periods. When in-water work is necessary, it should be scheduled at a time which would cause the least impact. Normally, the best time for construction would be between July 1 and March 1. However, construction dates and plans should be coordinated in advance with ODFW.

Cattle grazing in the project area is an important factor affecting fish and wildlife habitat. To protect fish and wildlife resources, grazing activities within the SWA is now coordinated with the ODFW. Because grazing also affects fish and wildlife throughout the remaining reservoir area, the grazing management plans for the areas outside the SWA should be cooperatively developed by the Bureau, BLM, and ODFW.

Prior to the project, most of the area inundated by the reservoir provided deer winter range. Some of that area is exposed during the reservoir drawdown period, however, it now consists of barren shoreline with little or no vegetation. During the brief period after drawdown, before the substrate dries, the drawdown zone provides some shorebird habitat. However, except for that brief period, this area provides little or no other habitat value. While it may be difficult to successfully establish vegetation in the drawdown zone, there are upland habitats on Bureau lands near the reservoir that could be enhanced for wildlife. For example, several old fields on Bureau lands that had once provided good wildlife habitat have now declined in habitat value as they are encroached upon by juniper trees and other invading plant species. Management actions coordinated jointly between the Bureau, ODFW, and FWS could be implemented to restore habitat in these fields so they could provide some big game winter range and increased use by waterfowl. Habitat management actions could include burning, mowing, fertilizing, and reseeding with forage species.

Riparian vegetation is extremely limited in the reservoir area. The potential exists to establish riparian habitat in the Antelope Creek and Roberts Bay areas. Another possible area exists at Smallmouth Bay (located south of Juniper point). Construction of fences would exclude people, cattle, and vehicles from isolated areas and allow riparian vegetation to develop. This new habitat would provide significant wildlife benefits. Although wintering deer would utilize these areas to some extent, primary benefits would be for waterfowl and nongame animals. Fencing should include most of the Antelope Creek area. Further investigation of the Smallmouth Bay area would be necessary to determine the probability of success in establishing vegetative cover and to determine the best fence location. The Roberts Bay area would only be fenced outside the designated recreational areas. Locations and plans for all sites should be coordinated with the ODFW.

The effectiveness of wildlife management programs on the SWA may be threatened by the development of adjacent private lands which are surrounded by Bureau and BLM lands. The success of wildlife management in the SWA partly depends on activities and influences associated with these private lands. We suggest the Bureau, in cooperation with other agencies and groups, consider acquisition or conservation easements in these areas in an effort to control adverse factors affecting wildlife. These proposed actions could be further developed and evaluated in the Wildlife Management Plan.

The Crooked River downstream from Bowman Dam supports an excellent trout population and provides a top quality sport fishery for thousands of anglers. Adequate streamflows are necessary to maintain these values. Flow studies have been conducted to determine what flows are necessary to maintain aquatic life in this reach of Crooked River. This information is being incorporated into the Bureau's ongoing Prineville Reservoir Reallocation Study. In the interim, we recommend that the project operation provide a minimum of 75 cfs during water storage periods.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Following are seven recommendations which, when implemented, would protect or improve fish and wildlife resources in the Prineville Reservoir Area. These recommendations are applicable to any alternative selected as the Resource Management Plan. The intent of the first recommendation is to reduce potential losses from boat ramp construction. The remaining recommendations are listed to improve existing conditions for fish and wildlife. However, these improvements over existing conditions are not considered enhancement because compensation for habitat losses associated with the original project impact has not been provided. Until existing habitat values are brought up to that level present before construction of Bowman Dam, fish and wildlife improvements cannot be considered enhancement.

To protect and improve fish and wildlife resources in the Prineville Reservoir area, the Fish and Wildlife Service recommends that:

1. A comprehensive bald eagle management plan be developed for Prineville Reservoir. The plan would be jointly developed by the Bureau of Reclamation, Bureau of Land Management, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, and Fish and Wildlife Service. The plan would include recommendations concerning levels or types of recreational activities that should be controlled in certain areas of the reservoir.
2. Boat ramp construction be performed during reservoir drawdown, probably between July 1 and March 1. The timing and design of boat ramp construction plans should be coordinated with ODFW.
3. ODFW be identified as one of the parties involved in developing grazing plans for all Bureau lands outside of the SWA.
4. Wildlife habitat improvement measures be implemented at several upland sites around Prineville Reservoir on Bureau of Reclamation lands. These habitat enhancement efforts, as generally described in this report, would be planned and accomplished through coordinated efforts by the Bureau of Reclamation, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, and Fish and Wildlife Service.
5. Fences be constructed to protect and enhance riparian habitat around the non-recreational portions of Antelope Creek, Roberts Bay, and Smallmouth Bay. Details of this effort should be coordinated with the ODFW.
6. The Bureau of Reclamation, in cooperation with other agencies, evaluate measures to protect wildlife and habitat around private lands located within Bureau of Reclamation and Bureau of Land Management lands. Possible measures could include conservation easements and acquisitions.

7. A temporary minimum flow of 75 cfs be released from Bowman Dam during water storage periods. Upon completion of the Prineville Reservoir Reallocation Study, this minimum flow would be adjusted as necessary.

We appreciate the opportunity to work with you and provide input to your planning process. If you have any questions regarding this Planning Aid Memorandum, please contact Larry Rasmussen at (503) 231-6179.

