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Lostine River

Wild and Scenic River Management Plan



MANAGEMENT PLAN

LOSTINE WILD AND SCENIC RIVER

Wallowa-Whitman National Forest
U.S.D.A. Forest Service
Wallowa County, Oregon

MANAGEMENT PLAN
Lostine Wild and Scenic River

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I. INTRODUCTION

A. Introduction

The Oregon Omnibus Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1988 placed the Lostine River into the National Wild and Scenic Rivers system to be managed according to the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968. This law required the Forest Service to develop a management plan within three years of designation.

This River Management Plan is accompanied by an Environmental Assessment. The Environmental Assessment gives the public information about the planning process used and documents the environmental analysis completed by the river planning team. The alternative chosen by the Forest Supervisor from the Environmental Assessment is the basis for the River Management Plan. The Forest Supervisor's decision is in the Decision Notice, which accompanies the Environmental Assessment.

The Lostine River Management Plan will be incorporated into the Forest Plan through an amendment to the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (Forest Plan). Any changes to this river plan will be through the Forest planning process or through environmental analyses and amendments to the Forest Plan.

Many terms used in the Act can be confusing. The terms Wild, Scenic and Recreational apply to river sections. These terms do not define the river. For example the Recreational section does not mean that it is for recreation. Congress has used these terms to define the amount of development along the river. The following are the development levels associated with each term (Sec. 2(b) of the Act):

Wild river - Those rivers or sections of rivers that are free of impoundments and generally inaccessible except by trail, with watersheds and shorelines essentially primitive and waters unpolluted. These represent vestiges of primitive America.

Scenic river - Those rivers or sections of rivers that are free of impoundments, with shorelines or watersheds still largely primitive and shorelines largely undeveloped, but accessible in places by roads.

Recreational river - Those rivers or sections of rivers that are readily accessible by road or railroad, that may have some development along their shorelines, and that may have undergone some impoundment or diversion in the past.

B. Relationship With Other Plans

Within the river corridor, there is one other special management area with its own specific management objectives. This is the Eagle Cap Wilderness.

In most cases, the management of these different designations are compatible. The goal is to manage for the intent of each area while protecting the other. However, there are times that this may not be possible. In this case, according to Section 10(b) and (c) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, the more restrictive provision shall apply. This has been incorporated into the management plan. If conflicts arise between the other management plans and this plan, the more restrictive shall apply.

Within the river corridor, there are threatened and endangered plants and animals. These species fall under the Endangered Species Act. The intent is to manage according to both Acts, with

neither one taking priority over the other. If conflicts arise that cannot be resolved, then they should be resolved by the more restrictive provisions or more restrictive management plan, if possible. If the conflict is resolved in favor of the Endangered Species Act because of the wording of that Act, then the activity should be modified to best meet the needs of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

Private property is contained in this river corridor. The Forest Service has no regulatory authority over private lands. Private property rights need to be address in any planned activity.

C. Outstandingly Remarkable Values

The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act requires that a river be free flowing and possess one or more "outstandingly remarkable values." When the Lostine River was designated Wild and Scenic in 1988, the Congressional Records indicated that recreation, scenic, fisheries, and wildlife values qualified as outstandingly remarkable. Through the resource assessment process (a site-specific assessment of the resource values of the river and part of the Pacific Northwest Region river planning process), one additional outstandingly remarkable (OR) value was identified. This additional OR value is vegetation/botanic. All of the OR values are identified in detail in the Resource Assessment, completed in January of 1992 (Appendix C).

The following is a summary of the outstandingly remarkable values:

Scenic - Dominated by a diverse landscape creating high quality natural scenery. Manmade developments have a primitive, historic, or rustic setting.

Recreation - Provides a combination of recreational activities including hunting, fishing, sightseeing, horseback riding, hiking, snowmobiling, and camping.

Dispersed camping as well as developed camping are the dominant use along the river. Other recreation activities include picnicking, mushroom picking, photography, skiing, and other uses.

Some recreational activities, although they may exist in the river corridor, were not determined to be part of the OR value. These include boating, rafting, recreational gold dredging, and recreational experiences associated with modern camping facilities.

A small portion of the river is on private property including the bed and banks. In most cases, the recreational opportunities on private land are limited to sightseeing and photography from the Forest Road. The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act does not change private land rights.

Fisheries - Includes the population and habitat of the threatened spring and fall Snake River chinook salmon, sensitive steelhead, and bull trout.

Wildlife - Comprises the wildlife population and habitat in the Lostine River corridor which includes Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep. It also includes a variety of other species such as, but not limited to, mule deer, elk, and black bear.

Proposed, endangered, threatened, and sensitive (PETS) species of animals within the corridor are an important part of the OR value. These include, but are not limited to, peregrine falcon and bald eagle.

Vegetation/Botanic - Includes numerous proposed, endangered, threatened, and sensitive (PETS) species of plants. These include, but are not limited to, eleven species of moon wart and the northern twayblade.

D. How To Use This Plan

This plan is divided into three sections: Standards and Guidelines, Implementation, and Appendix.

The chapter on standards and guidelines addresses the management practices that will be used on Federal lands. It also includes actions that will or will not be taken by the Forest Service in the management of the river corridor.

The chapter on implementation describes specific action that the Forest Service will take as a result of this management plan, describes the monitoring process, and describes the budget process.

The Appendix contains the Glossary of Term and Acronyms, the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, Resource Assessment, Free-Flow Analysis Format, and Boundary Maps. This information is provided to help in the management of the river corridor.

II. STANDARD AND GUIDELINES

A. Introduction

Because this area is managed to meet the intent of two Congressional Acts as well as other Forest Plan direction, the standards and guidelines developed for the river corridor must be considered in conjunction with the standards and guidelines of other Management Areas (MA) involved. These standards and guidelines should be consulted before going to the general Forest Plan standards and guidelines.

The following is a guide to other Management Areas (MA) that should be consulted before implementing any projects.

Wild Section	Inside Wilderness	See also MA 4	(Wilderness)
Recreation Section		See also MA 4	(Wilderness)
		See also MA 6	(Backcountry)
		See also MA 16	(Admin. Sites)

In case of conflict between the standards and guidelines of these Management Areas or conflicts between the provisions of the Congressional Acts (Wilderness Act or Wild and Scenic Rivers Act), the more restrictive standard and guideline or provision shall apply.

Because there are threatened and endangered species within the river corridor, the Endangered Species Act is also applicable. This Act is to be coordinated with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to achieve the objectives of both Acts. In any case, any activity that must take place under the Endangered Species Act should be modified, if needed, to best meet the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

The following are the standards and guidelines for the management of the Lostine Wild and Scenic River. These apply to Federal lands or identify actions that need to take place off of Federal lands to facilitate the management of the river corridor. The intent or objectives of these standards and guidelines apply to private land. Those more specific to private lands are under the heading "Private Lands." The Desired Future Conditions are applicable for the river corridor.

These standards and guidelines follow the same order as shown in Chapter 4 of the Forest Plan. For each resource that is also an outstandingly remarkable value, a description of the desired future condition (DFC) is given.

The following river segments were designated by the Omnibus Oregon Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1988 and are managed under this management area:

1. Lostine River: Approximately 16 river miles.

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| Segment 1 | From its headwaters in the Eagle Cap Wilderness at Minam Lake to the Eagle Cap Wilderness boundary. Approximately 5.0 miles. Designation – Wild |
| Segment 2 | From the Eagle Cap Wilderness boundary to the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest boundary at approximately Silver Creek. Approximately 11.0 miles. Designation – Recreational |

Desired Future Condition - Each component of the Wild and Scenic River system will be administered to protect and enhance the values for which the rivers were classified and to provide public use and enjoyment of those values. Emphasis will be given to protecting the outstandingly remarkable values for which the river was designated. Fisheries, wildlife, aesthetic, scenic, historic, archeologic, scientific and other features will be protected.

WILD RIVERS

Wild rivers or sections of rivers will be free of impoundments and continue to be accessible by trail and/or water, and inaccessible by road. The viewing area and shorelines will be essentially natural appearing. Signs of human activity, including structures or evidence of resource use, will be kept to a minimum or will be inconspicuous. Sectors within the Wilderness will be managed as wilderness. The opportunity to interact with a natural environment, with challenges and minimal sights and sounds of other people will be available. There will generally be no use of motorized vehicles. Where a need to regulate use exists, indirect methods will predominate. Outfitters will provide services to people to help them enjoy and interpret the environment.

RECREATIONAL RIVERS

The recreational sections will be free of impoundments and be readily accessible from roads. Some major public use facilities such as developed campgrounds, administrative buildings, bridges, or private residences will remain within the corridor. Although developments, timber harvest, and other activities may occur and be evident near the river, management shall protect and enhance outstandingly remarkable values, free flow and other river-related values. A range of recreational opportunities will be available in settings in which interactions are relatively high and visitors are likely to share their recreational experience with other individuals or groups.

The west side of the Recreational river segment will remain as described in the Wild River segment listed above. This side of river is also in the Eagle Cap Wilderness.

B. Direction

Goal - MANAGE CLASSIFIED WILD AND SCENIC RIVER SEGMENTS TO APPROPRIATE STANDARDS AS WILD, SCENIC, OR RECREATIONAL RIVER AREAS, AS DEFINED BY THE WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS ACT, PUBLIC LAW 90-542, OCTOBER 2, 1968 (U.S. LAWS, STATUTES, ETC. 1968), AND EXPANDED BY THE OMNIBUS OREGON WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS ACT OF 1988 (PUBLIC LAWS 100-557).

1. **Conflict Resolution.** If conflicts arise between OR values which cannot be resolved within the direction of the Act or management plan, then they shall be resolved according to the following priorities: 1) Fisheries, 2) Vegetation/Botanic 3) Wildlife, 4) Scenic, and 5) Recreation.
2. **Watershed.** Construction of new water impoundments, diversions, straightening, rip-rapping, and other modifications of the Lostine River will generally not be allowed. Under Section 7(a) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, the agency must determine whether the proposed water resources project has a "direct and adverse effect on the values for which such river was established." **Following the Regional guidelines, a Section 7(a) analysis will be completed for any project affecting the flow, bed, or banks of the river.** The outcome of the analysis should clearly demonstrate a compelling need for the project and consistency with achieving the DFC's, if it is to continue.

Examples of projects that would likely be subject to Section 7(a) analysis include, but are not limited to:

1. Log removal for recreation user safety;
 2. Fisheries habitat and watershed enhancement projects;
 3. Bridge and other roadway construction/reconstruction projects;
 4. Bank stabilization projects;
 5. Recreation facilities such as boat ramps, fishing piers, etc.;
 6. Activities that require a 404 permit from the Corps of Engineers.
3. For any proposed activity affecting free flow in which there will be another Federal agency "assisting by loan, grant, license, or otherwise ...," the responsible official will be the Regional Forester (reference 2354.04e).
 4. The water quality of the Lostine River is above State standards. The standard for which water quality will be measured is the water quality at the time of the Act (1988) or best estimate. See "Management Activities" in Chapter IV for additional information.
 5. No human-caused action may be undertaken which will result in a reduction of existing water quality or in not meeting State of Oregon water quality standards.

Toilet facilities shall be provided where people are concentrated. Where toilets are not provided, the "cat hole" or other appropriate methods for all human waste disposal will be encouraged at least 200 feet from the river. In any case, human body waste shall not be deposited within the high water lines of the river.

6. **Wildlife. (Outstandingly Remarkable Value)**

Desired Future Condition - The desired future condition for this resource will consist of quality wildlife habitat within the river corridor, and specifically the riparian areas. Over time, quality habitat will be maintained or increased for all wildlife species with no reduction in PETS wildlife species habitat or population.

7. Utilize current direction for maintaining and enhancing wildlife habitat and populations.

Current direction for habitat management is defined in the Forest Plan and FSM 2354. Conflicts between these documents will be resolved by deferring to the most restrictive unless stated otherwise.
8. Manage existing and proposed populations of wild bighorn sheep within the river corridor according to the Forest Plan.
9. Manage both dead and down material and snags at the 100 percent level.
10. Utilize fire as a tool to manage wildlife habitat.
11. **Timber Management.** Within the Wild section of the river, there will be no timber harvest. The entire Wild section of the river is within the Eagle Cap Wilderness.
12. Within the Recreational section of the river, timber will be harvested to protect and enhance OR values, for public safety, and for emergency conditions such as insect infestations, disease control, fire and other natural catastrophe. This will be a non-scheduled timber harvest activity.

In any case, harvest shall be accomplished in a manner that best protects and enhances OR values. No timber harvest will be allowed in that portion of the Recreational section that overlaps the Eagle Cap Wilderness.

13. **Range.** Eliminate the existing vacant grazing allotment within the river corridor.
14. Utilize the Wallowa-Whitman's Integrated Noxious Weed Management Plan to control and prevent the spread of noxious weeds.
15. **Landownership.** Retain Federal ownership except under rare circumstance where the overall benefit to resources would be better served.
16. Consider acquisition of easements upon, or fee title to, those lands critical to maintaining the characteristics of the river segments. Fee title can only be acquired from a willing seller.
17. Nothing in this management plan will preclude the Forest Service from actively pursuing easements when an OR value is about to or is being threatened or damaged.
18. Consider acquisition of easements upon those lands where private land practices threaten the river's free flow, water quality, or OR values.
19. **Minerals.** The Lostine Wild and Scenic River corridor is withdrawn from mineral entry. There are no existing valid claims within the river corridor.
20. Prohibit the use of a suction dredge with a 4 inch or less hose (recreational dredging) or slues boxes within the river corridor until a salmon recovery plan is completed. At that time, this activity may be evaluated against the recovery plan to determine its suitability. Mitigation may be used, including time or area restrictions, if necessary.
21. **Insects and Diseases.** Control forest pests in a manner compatible with the intent of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act and the Wilderness Act while protecting and enhancing the outstandingly remarkable values.
22. **Fire.** In order to preserve water quality, fire retardant and heavy equipment will not normally be used in the proximity of the Wild river. Fire suppression activities along Wild and Scenic river segments shall protect the primitive nature of the area when possible.
23. Prescribed fire from planned and unplanned ignitions may be used, consistent with the management direction for adjacent management areas. This includes the Eagle Cap Wilderness Fire Plan.
24. Fire suppression will follow the Eagle Cap Wilderness Fire Plan within the Wilderness portion of the river corridor. Outside of the Wilderness, all fires will be suppressed.
25. Complete a fire hazard analysis for the Recreational river segment by January 30, 1994. Implement those recommendations that are in line with the management plan and protect and enhance OR values.
26. Consider a specific fire closure order for the river corridor or sections of the river corridor during the peak fire season.
27. Implement an educational program which may include posters, bulletin boards, prevention personnel, or other effective means to inform the public.

28. Use cooperative agreements with private landowners for fire prevention, detection, and suppression coordination. Encourage private landowners to reduce fuel hazards on private lands.
29. **Transportation.** Develop and maintain the transportation system consistent with Wild and Recreational river objectives. Roads crossing or readily visible from Wild river segments will not be constructed. Road construction and maintenance within the Recreational section will recognize the OR values, water quality, and free-flow associated with the river.

Current direction for transportation management is defined in the Forest Plan, the Road Management Objectives, and FSM 2354. Conflicts between any of these documents will be resolved by deferring to the most restrictive unless stated otherwise. Forest Road 8210 will be maintained at level 3.

30. Forest Road 8210 and roads to recreation facilities and approved dispersed sites campsites are the only roads to be open to the public, unless approved through a NEPA document. All other roads shall be used under the terms of a permit.
31. Those roads not listed above will be appropriately blocked or rehabilitated to a productive soil. In some cases, creative means may be needed to block or hide the road from view so it will have time to revegetate.
32. Issue an Area Closure Order for the Recreational river section to prohibit the use of motorized vehicles off of open roads. This will not apply to snowmobiles during winter use.
33. **Recreation. (Outstandingly Remarkable Value)**

Desired Future Condition: The Wild section of the river is a Primitive Wilderness Recreation Spectrum (WRS) setting. The Recreational section is a Roaded Natural Recreational Opportunity Spectrum (ROS) setting on the east side of the river and Primitive WRS setting on the west side of the river. Recreation facilities will be rustic in nature and will be managed towards the less developed end of Roaded Natural. Recreation capacities will not increase much over current levels. Emphasis will be on improving the quality of the present recreation facilities rather than on expanding facilities to accommodate an increase in recreational use. Because of the proximity of the Recreational section of the river to the Wilderness, additional increases in recreation users within the corridor would have negative impacts on the wilderness values.

The Region has developed an ROS guide for river management. This guide should be used in conjunction with the Forest Service ROS direction.

34. Maintain the existing Recreational Opportunity Spectrum (ROS) for the river corridor. This is Primitive (WRS Scale FSM 2322) for the Wild section of the river and Primitive (WRS Scale FSM 2322) and Roaded Natural for the Recreational section of the river.

The existing condition management direction will be defined by the Forest Plan (MA-7) and FSM 2300, including FSM 2354. If conflicts arise between the different documents that cannot be resolved, the more restrictive guidelines will apply unless stated otherwise. The current recreation opportunities provided in the corridor will be maintained with the following changes.

35. Eliminate dispersed camping between Forest Road 8210 and the Lostine River, other than those approved and designated as overnight campsites. Approved sites would be designat-

ed, on the ground, as open for camping. Approved overnight campsites would be those not adversely impacting fish habitat, PETS plants, riparian areas, or other OR values. A campsites may be approved by mitigating the impacts to fish habitat, water quality or other OR values. Any campsite that cannot mitigate adverse impacts to OR values, will be closed.

Overnight camping east of Forest Road 8210 would be allowed in approved, designated sites.

To implement, a CFR closure order would be issued to restrict camping to approved sites.

This direction would be monitored to determine if it meets the objective of reducing impacts to OR values, ability to administer, and other impacts. If adequate protection is not achieved, then other systems to control use may be considered such as a permit system.

36. Develop additional campsites within or adjacent to Williamson and Shady Campgrounds. Develop French Camp and Pole Bridge to provide better information and better facilities. Dispersed camps that receive heavy use may be developed to provide better resource protection. Develop a picnic shelter at French Camp with the intention of utilizing the existing structure. Improve Two Pan Trailhead to better accommodate use and protect resources. Improve and redesign Bowman Trailhead, with emphasis on locating most of the facilities on the east side of the Road 8210, to better accommodate use and protect resource.

Overnight camping in developed sites would be allowed only in approved, designated campsites.

37. Develop recreational stock facilities at Shady Campground and at all trailheads. Develop administrative stock facilities at Lostine Guard Station and Bowman Trailhead.
38. Permit recreational livestock grazing in Forest Service designated areas only. In the Recreational section of the river, no designated areas will be within 100 feet of riparian areas. Encourage the use of pellets and grain within the river corridor.
39. To effectively implement the recreation direction and to protect and enhance OR values will require an increased level of administration. This level of administration will be appropriate for implementation of this plan. The Forest Service would enter into an agreement with the local law enforcement office to provide occasional patrols through the area or would provide for occasional Forest Service law enforcement patrols through the area (This agreement applies to the Recreational river segment only).
40. Prohibit motorized vehicles use off open roads (except snowmobiles) within the river corridor.
41. Develop an interpretive/educational program including training for Forest Service personnel, the development of brochures, and establishment of additional signing. Develop interpretive sites at French Camp and Lapover.
42. Utilize commercial operations that do not require on-site facilities except those primitive improvements associated with existing packing operations.
43. Develop an educational program to inform the public of the proper use of firearms within the river corridor. This may include the use of bulletin boards, posters, working with the local law enforcement agencies, and a Forest Service presence in the area.

44. Emphasize the existing Federal regulations concerning firearms. They prohibit "discharging a firearm or any other implement capable of taking human life, causing injury, or damaging property (1) in or within 150 yards of a residence, building, campsite, developed recreation site, or occupied area, or (2) across or on a Forest Development road or a body of water adjacent thereto, or in any manner or place whereby any person or property is exposed to injury or damage as a result in such discharge." State laws will also be applicable in providing for safety in the area.

45. **Landscape Management. (Scenic Outstandingly Remarkable Value)**

Desired Future Condition: There are two Visual Quality Objectives (VQO) within the river corridor. The Wild section is Preservation and the Recreational sections is Retention. Where the Eagle Cap Wilderness overlaps the Recreational section of the river the VQO is Preservation. The desired future condition will be a natural appearing landscape with a minimum amount of non-conforming visual impacts. As riparian vegetation and vegetative screening of altered areas increase, the scenic condition of the corridor should improve. New developments will be designed to blend with the natural character of the landscape and will conform to the rustic nature of the area. The Wild section should remain unchanged, with native and natural vegetation.

46. Maintain the existing visual quality objective of Retention and Preservation within the Recreational sections of the river.
47. Maintain the existing visual quality objective of Preservation in the Wild section of the river.
48. Visual management will be according to the Forest Plan, National Forest Landscape Management Handbook Vol. 2 Chapter 1, The Visual Management System USDA #462, The Timber Chapter USDA Handbook 559 and Forest Service Manual 2354 (FSM 2354). Conflicts between any of these documents will be resolved by deferring to the most restrictive unless stated otherwise.
49. Adopt the "Lostine River Viewshed Corridor Plan" by Walker and Macy, April 1992, as additional guidelines for managing the visual resource within the river corridor.
50. Locate utility corridors so that they will not be visible from river segments.

51. **Fisherles. (Outstandingly Remarkable Value)**

Desired Future Condition: Stable streambanks, excellent water quality, habitat complexity, natural levels of woody debris delivery, and increased woody debris amounts will be present around campgrounds. The population of anadromous fish, bull trout, and other native fish will be at or near the carrying capacity of the habitat potential.

Many constituents of the desired future condition are present in the Lostine River today. Maintaining these conditions will be the major task required to achieve the desired future condition and to allow the river to continue as the valuable resource it currently is.

52. Utilize current direction for maintaining and improving water quality (the water quality at the time of river designation or closest estimate) as it relates to fish habitat, including but not limited to sediment, stream temperature, shading, and large woody debris.

53. Current direction for habitat management is defined in the Forest Plan and FSM 2354. Conflicts between these documents will be resolved by deferring to the most restrictive unless stated otherwise.
54. Close all campsites within 75 feet of the Lostine River. Existing campsites may be allowed within this area if it is determined to have no effect on fisheries habitat or water quality . This includes campsites in campgrounds, other developed sites, or dispersed sites. Campsites may be altered, move, or redesigned to meet this direction.
55. Dispersed campsites between Forest Road 8210 and the Lostine River which adversely impact fish habitat or riparian areas will be eliminated or developed to mitigate the impact. No dispersed camping within 75 feet of any Class I, II, or III streams, or wetlands which adversely impact water quality or riparian areas will be allowed.
56. Recommend to the State that it reduce the fish stocking or pursue a native fish stocking program only.
57. Gather baseline information through monitoring. This baseline information should include such items as water temperature, sediments, and other water quality factors that affect fish habitat. This will quantify the water quality and fish habitat at the time of the Act or best estimate. Utilize the Lostine Stream Survey, Soil Conservation Service data, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife data, or other sources to achieve this objective.

Activities will be measured against this baseline to determine if water quality and the fisheries OR value are being protected.

58. Use an educational strategy (particularly at the campgrounds) to protect the salmon and steelhead spawning beds during the spawning season.
59. Implement restoration projects where camping or other management activities have impacted the riparian areas.
60. Develop an educational letter, pamphlets, or other material to educate the public on the importance of protecting riparian vegetation.
61. Provide toilet facilities where people are concentrated.
62. Create a fish management zone of 200 feet from Class I and II stream, 100 feet from Class III streams and other wetlands, and 50 feet from Class VI streams. Within this management zone, all ground disturbing activities will be analyzed and designed to have no adverse impact on fish habitat, including riparian areas. In most cases, no activity will be able to take place that has an adverse impact on fish habitat. This will not apply to the existing situation; however, any redesigning, reconstructing, or modifying of existing conditions will utilize this standard.
63. **Cultural Resources.** Forest wide standards and guidelines will apply.
64. **Vegetation. (Vegetation/Botanic Outstandingly Remarkable Value)**

Desired Future Condition: The desired future condition of the botanical resource will emphasize the maintenance and enhancement of the numerous plant species and communities which are found in the river corridor. All species which currently exist will continue to thrive and the occurrence of non-native plants which compete with and displace native

species will be reduced or eliminated. Special attention will be placed on those plant species or communities considered to be endangered, threatened, sensitive or otherwise unique. In some instances, management activities which are not compatible with these goals may be modified or curtailed.

65. See Forest Wide Standards and Guidelines for Diversity and Threatened and Endangered species.
66. Utilize current direction for maintaining and improving vegetation and forest health within and adjacent to the river corridor.
67. Utilize current vegetation/botanical and PETS direction for managing the vegetation and PETS species within the river corridor.
68. Current direction for habitat management is defined in the Forest Plan and FSM 2354. The "Blue Mountain Forest Health Report" and "Restoring Ecosystems in the Blue Mountains" will also be used to guide managers in dealing with forest health concerns. Conflicts between any of these documents will be resolved by deferring to the most restrictive unless stated otherwise.
69. Utilize a full range of silvicultural techniques for improving forest health with an emphasis towards uneven-age management. Utilize thinning from below, underburns, and other methods to improve forest health that do not rely on the use of heavy equipment on site. Emphasis shall be on long-term forest health rather than short-term.
70. Fuelwood cutting (excluding onsite campfire use) would be limited to achieving OR value objective or safety. Fuelwood cutting for onsite camping use will be monitored to determine impacts to OR values. Based on the monitoring results, management actions may be required to protect OR values.
71. Implement an educational/interpretive program that may include signing, bulletin boards, or other effective means to inform the public of PETS species.
72. Restrict use and access in critical PETS species habitat areas. Require permits for those interested in studying PETS species in critical habitat areas. This permit is to allow the Forest Service to monitor this type of use.

Monitor existing campgrounds and dispersed campsites to determine impacts to PETS plants. Mitigate adverse impacts found during monitoring.
73. Rehabilitate sites with native species.
74. Recognize, promote, and enhance the qualities which will preserve the ecological corridor.
75. Encourage fire as a tool to manage vegetation, improve forest health, and reduce fire hazards.
76. **Wild and Scenic River** - Management direction for the river corridors will provide protection in the following ways:

77. Outstandingly remarkable values of the river must be protected and enhanced.
78. Management and development of the river and its corridor cannot be modified to the degree that classification would be affected (i.e., classification cannot be changed from Wild to Scenic or Scenic to Recreational).
79. Because this is a Congressionally designated area, an environmental assessment will normally be the minimum NEPA documentation for any ground or vegetative disturbing activities.
80. **Monitoring** - Incorporate into the Forest's monitoring plan, the implementation of the Wild and Scenic River Management Plan.
81. **Adjacency** - For Federal land management, the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, Sec. 12(a) addresses adjacency. The Eagle Cap Ranger District must address impact to the river corridor during project planning if the project is adjacent to the river corridor. The management of the river corridor must also consider one other area with adjacency concerns. This is at or in the vicinity of Two Pan, between the Recreational River section and Wild river section.

Example include, but are not limited to, the viewshed outside the river corridor when considering the Scenic OR value or the tributaries when considering water quality or Fisheries OR values.

82. **Management Processes Concerning Private Lands** - Essential to river management is the Forest Service's understanding that it does not have regulatory authority over private lands. The Act clearly states that the Forest Service is to assist, advise, and cooperate with landowners to plan, protect, and manage river resources (Sec. 11 (b)(1) of the Act). Forest Service policy, in accordance with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, established a process for managing the private lands within the river corridor. This process includes:
 - a. Cooperatively working with landowners to meet the objectives of the Wild and Scenic River as well as to meet the objectives of the landowner.
 - b. Work towards agreed upon solution acceptable to both parties (See Sec. 11 of the Act).
 - c. Identifying opportunities and incentives that landowners may employ which would protect and enhance the OR values.
 - d. Working through Federal, State, and county laws, regulations, or zoning to protect OR values.
 - e. Discuss the alternative of buying/selling an easement to protect the OR values.
 - f. Only as a last resort will the Forest Service identifying the need to condemn in order to acquire an easement to protect the OR values.
83. Private land guides were not developed for private lands. The Lapover Covenants were reviewed and found adequate for river protection. The overall objectives and DFC for the river apply to river corridor as a whole.

III. IMPLEMENTATION

A. Management Actions

The following are management actions identified during the environmental analysis.

1. District Responsibilities

- a. The District, in conjunction with other agencies, will oversee the management of the river, implementation of the management plan, and coordination with the private landowners.
- b. The District, in conjunction with other agencies, will be responsible for maintaining the monitoring file for the visual resource, identifying non-conforming impacts, and developing rehabilitation plans for each site.
- c. The District, in conjunction with other agencies, will be responsible for maintaining the monitoring file for the fisheries resource, identifying impacts, and developing rehabilitation plans for each site.
- d. The District, in conjunction with other agencies, will be responsible for maintaining the monitoring file for the wildlife resource, identifying impacts, and developing rehabilitation plans for each site.
- e. The District, in conjunction with other agencies, will be responsible for maintaining the monitoring file for the botanical resource, identifying impacts, and developing rehabilitation plans for each site.
- f. Responsibility: District Ranger.
Time: The day of the published Decision Notice for all above items.

2. Recreation Projects

- a. Eliminate dispersed camping between Forest Road 8210 and the Lostine River, other than those approved and designated as overnight campsites. Approved sites would be designated, on the ground, as open for camping. Approved overnight campsites would be those not adversely impacting fish habitat, PETS plants, riparian areas, or other OR values. A campsites may be approved by mitigating the impacts to fish habitat, water quality or other OR values. Any campsites that cannot mitigate adverse impacts to OR values, will be closed.

Overnight camping east of Forest Road 8210 would be allowed in approved, designated sites.

To implement, a CFR closure order would be issued to restrict camping to approved sites.

This direction would be monitored to determine if it meets the objective of reducing impacts to OR values, ability to administer, and other impacts. If adequate protection is not achieved, then other systems to control use may be considered such as a permit system.

Overnight camping in developed sites would be allowed only in approved, designated campsites.

- b. Close all campsites within 75 feet of the Lostine River. This include campsite in campgrounds, other developed sites, or dispersed sites. Campsites may be altered, move, or redesigned to meet this direction.
- c. Develop additional campsites within or adjacent to Williamson and Shady Campgrounds.
- d. Develop French Camp and Pole Bridge to provide better information and better facilities.
- e. Develop a picnic shelter at French Camp with the intention of utilizing the existing structure.
- f. Improve Two Pan Trailhead to better accommodate use and protect resources.
- g. Improver and redesign Bowman Trailhead, with emphasis on location most most of the facilities on the east side of the Road 8210, to better accommodate use and protect resource.
- h. Develop recreational stock facilities at Shady Campground and at all trailheads. Develop administrative stock facilities at Lostine Guard Station and Bowman Trailhead.
- i. Identify recreational livestock grazing designated areas. In the Recreational section of the river, no designated areas will be within 100 feet of riparian areas. Encourage the use of pellets and grain within the river corridor.
- j. Develop an interpretive/educational program including training for Forest Service personnel, the development of brochures, and establishment of additional signing. Develop interpretive sites at French Camp and Lapover.
- k. Develop an educational program to inform the public of the proper use of firearms within the river corridor. This may include the use of bulletin boards, posters, working with the local law enforcement agencies, and a Forest Service presence in the area.

Emphasize the existing Federal regulations concerning firearms. They prohibit "discharging a firearm or any other implement capable of taking human life, causing injury, or damaging property (1) in or within 150 yards of a residence, building, campsite, developed recreation site, or occupied area, or (2) across or on a Forest Development road or a body of water adjacent thereto, or in any manner or place whereby any person or property is exposed to injury or damage as a result in such discharge." State laws will also be applicable in providing for safety in the area.

3. Fisheries Projects

- a. The "Lostine Stream Survey Report" identified the Lostine River as in good to excellent condition. Because of this, the Interdisciplinary Team (ID) Team determined that the best action is to let the natural processes work. However, the report listed several management recommendations. These recommendations would improve fish habitat at specific location. Any of the recommendations that are consistent with the river management plan may be implemented after further analysis.

- b. Coordinate with Oregon State Department of Fish and Wildlife to pursue a native fish stocking program.
- c. Gather baseline information through monitoring. This baseline information should include such items as water temperature, sediments, and other water quality factors that affect fish habitat. This will quantify the water quality and fish habitat at the time of the Act or best estimate. Utilize the Lostine Stream Survey, Soil Conservation Service data, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife data, or other sources to achieve this objective.

Activities will be measured against this baseline to determine if water quality and the fisheries OR value are being protected.

- d. Use an educational strategy (particularly at the campgrounds) to protect the salmon and steelhead spawning beds during the spawning season.
- e.. Implement restoration projects where camping or other management activities have impacted the riparian areas.
- f. Develop an educational letter, pamphlets, or other material to educate the public on the importance of protecting riparian vegetation.

4. Fire Management Projects

- a. Complete a fire hazard analysis for the Recreational river segment by January 30, 1994.
- b. Use cooperative agreement with private landowners for fire detection, prevention, and detection coordination.
- c. Implement an educational program which may include posters, bulletin boards, prevention personnel, or other effective means.

5. Vegetation/Botanic Projects

- a. Implement an educational/interpretive program that may include signing, bulletin boards, or other effective means to inform the public of PETS species.
- b. Improve PETS species habitat within one mile of the Lostine Guard Station. Restrict access to critical habitat areas within this one mile area.
- c. Restrict use and access in critical PETS species habitat areas. Require permits for those interested in studying PETS species.

6. Minerals

- a. Issue a CFR closure to the use of suction dredging with suction hoses four inches or less and sluice boxes (Recreational mining).

7. Transportation

- a. Issue a CFR for the recreational river corridor prohibiting the use of any off-road motorized vehicles other than on Forest Road 8210, roads to campgrounds, or approved dispersed campsites.
- b. Rehabilitate those roads not open to the public.

B. Monitoring

1. Forest Level

Monitoring of this plan will be incorporated into the Forest's monitoring process. The standard and guides will be incorporated into the Forest monitoring checklist.

2. District Level

The District, in conjunction with other agencies, will be responsible for evaluating each project within the river corridor or adjacent to the river corridor for compliance with the standards and guidelines.

The District is also responsible for an annual report concerning the Wild and Scenic River, as directed by the Forest monitoring plan. This report will include a discussion on the condition and changes, if any, for each of the OR values. The following are threshold limits for each OR value:

- a. Scenic: No additional adverse impacts. All activities meet Retention and Preservation VQO.
- b. Recreation: An even mix of dispersed and developed camping is available. Each of the ROS classes identified in the management plan for the river sections are maintained.
- c. Wildlife: No reduction of PETS species habitat or populations. No reduction of big game species habitat related to management activities.
- d. Fisheries: No reduction of fish habitat or no reduction in PETS fish species related to management activities.
- e. Vegetation/Botanical: No reduction of PETS species habitat or populations. The diversity of ecosystems is maintained throughout the river corridor.
- f. Historic/Prehistoric: No damage to cultural sites.

3. Water Quality Monitoring

Monitoring water quality is an important element in managing the National Wild and Scenic River system. Three monitoring points are recommended along the Lostine River. Only through cooperative agreements, use of volunteers, and other creative means can this part of the monitoring program be accomplished. The following are the preferred locations for the monitoring points and possible cooperative parties or organization:

- 1. Two Pan -- Snowmobile Club, campground host, a resident along the Lostine River, or outfitter/guides.

2. Lostine Guard Station -- Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Nez Perce Tribe, Snowmobile Club, or a resident along the Lostine River.
3. Pole Bridge -- Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Nez Perce Tribe, Snowmobile Club, or a resident along the Lostine River.

Monitoring will be of simple parameters that will give an indication of whether more intense monitoring is needed. This will include, but is not limited to, temperature, dissolved oxygen, sediments, PH, and nitrates. Simple kits exist that are capable of monitoring this information.

The District Ranger will be responsible for establishing this monitoring program. Although this monitoring is dependent on funding and assistance, a target time for having all monitoring stations in place is two years.

C. Budget

1. Budget Process

Each year the District and Forest will provide out year budget request. The following outlines the budget process for all resources. Those dollars identified here are estimates at the time of development of this management plan. Each year the District's and Forest's will submit a more detailed budget.

1. Recreation Facilities Operation and Maintenance

Include the funds necessary to operate and maintain all *existing* recreation facilities.

\$14,800 per year

As a separate line item, indicate funding needs associated with *planned* recreation construction as identified in the River Management Plan. The dollars for plan, feasibility, survey/design, and construction should be identified in the Regional capital investment or challenge cost share program.

\$18,000 Total (Interpretive program)
\$87,300 Total (Improving Bowman Trailhead)
\$44,500 Total (Improving French Camp)
\$46,000 Total (Improving Two Pan Trailhead)
\$168,000 Total (Improving Williamson Campground)
\$180,000 Total (Improving Shady Campground)
\$28,000 Total (Close and rehab existing campsites)

2. Roads

Include the funds necessary to maintain *existing* single-purpose recreation roads such as access to campgrounds, picnic sites, boat ramps, etc.

\$1,000 per year

Include as a separate line item, the funds necessary to maintain multi-purpose roads open to the public.

\$18,000 per year

As a separate line item, indicate funding needs associated with *planned* recreation road construction/reconstruction as identified in River Management Plan. The dollars for plan, survey/design, and construction/reconstruction should be identified in the Regional capital investment program.

No dollars planned at this time.

3. Trails

Include the funds necessary to maintain *existing* trail systems.

\$2,500 per year

As a separate line item, indicate funding needs associated with *planned* trail construction/reconstruction as identified in River Management Plan. The dollars for plan, survey/design, and construction/reconstruction should be identified in the Regional capital investment program.

No dollars planned at this time.

4. Forest Service Administration

Recreation

This section would include all recreation funds needed to administer the river corridor including :

- a. river-related outfitter guide permit administration
- b. river-related special use administration (e.g. river events)
- c. river-patrol (salary, equipment, supplies excluding vehicles)
- d. river-related information/education programs
- e. easement administration
- f. interpretive activities
- g. vehicular support (cost for vehicles and boat operation and maintenance). Identify acquisition or replacement cost as separate line item.

\$18,200.00 per year

Resource Managemet

This section should include funds needed from other resource programs to administer the river corridor. For example, indicate resource areas such as range, fish, wildlife, vegetation, etc. as separate line items.

Fisheries	\$9,000 per year
Wildlife	No dollars identified at this time.
Botanical	\$10,000

5. Cooperative Agreements

Include costs to maintain river-related cooperative agreements such as for law enforcement (with local sheriff, recue agency, etc.), support to county and/or other public and private entities. Identify each cooperator by name and indicate funding needs as a separate line item.

\$1,800 per year (Law enforcement)
 \$1,000 per year (Other)

6. Management Plan Revision

Include costs associated with revisions of river management plans including amendment to the Forest Plan.

None identified at this time.

7. Special Studies as Scheduled in Management Plan

Include special studies s identified in the river management plan. Special studies might include user survey, water quality/quantity survey/analysis, etc.

\$4,000 Total (Fire hazard analysis)

8. Acquisition

Indicate as a separate line items the funds estimated for easement acquisition and fee title purchase. This information should be coincident with general direction from the river management plan and for purchases likely to be completed; i.e., not speculative proposals. (Note easement administration is included in Forest Service administration, item 4.

None identified at this time.

9. Monitoring

Include costs of monitoring program as detailed in the river management plan. Separate monitoring elements by reource area such as water, recreation, fisheries, ect. Provide viq separate line or footnote one time costs for acquisition of equipment.

Water Quality \$6,000 per year
 \$10,000 for equipment