

**2003-2007 OREGON STATEWIDE COMPREHENSIVE  
OUTDOOR RECREATION PLAN**

**JANUARY 2003**

---

***APPENDIX H***  
***LIST OF REGIONAL ISSUE***  
***COMMENTS***



*Nature*

**HISTORY**

*Discovery*

Prepared by the  
Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

## APPENDIX H

### LIST OF REGIONAL ISSUE COMMENTS

---

#### SCORP PLANNING REGION 1

(Includes Clatsop, Tillamook, Lincoln and Coastal-Lane Counties)

#### Public Recreation Provider Session Other LWCF Issue Comments

- A. Need land acquisition for preservation of natural areas.
- B. Need for land acquisition to preserve open space and urban forests within urban areas.
- C. Lack of public restrooms on state highways (e.g. Highways 6 and 30).
- D. Lack of recreational facilities and opportunities within 25 miles of urban areas.
- E. Regarding comment D, I am a "soccer mom" and teach in Lincoln County. I want to express my concern about the need for more playing fields in our county. As you know, there is not a lot of flat ground that's not underwater around here. I have worked to help develop a soccer program for youth. As a teacher, I know our kids need more opportunities for success. Soccer is one avenue to success for a lot of kids, because it's such a team sport and our recreational league is so inclusive of all kids. Many at-risk students have found friends and acceptance in this sport. On the day of the Thurston shooting, I made a pledge to myself to do SOMETHING to make a difference with children. I believe a child that has felt acceptance and success would not be capable of such an act. Yet, the disenfranchised feeling is everywhere in our society. Where I don't see it in kids in a team sport that is "for fun." For this reason, I am proud to be a recreational soccer organizer. Our number one challenge is fields. We need more of them. The school district fields are booked to the point that practices and games are restricted. Lincoln City is in a particularly bad situation. Please consider helping the kids of Lincoln County by providing some playing fields for them.
- F. Need to retrofit existing facilities for disabled access.
- G. Need for separating bikes and pedestrians and separation of various conflicting trail uses.
- H. Need for safe highway crossings for bicycles and pedestrians.
- I. Lack of opportunities for multi-night backpacking.
- J. Lack of designated and maintained OHV trails/areas (ATV, motorcycle, and 4x4) other than those provided in the dunes areas. There is a need for staging facilities for OHV riding.
- K. Need for all-weather field sport facilities (soccer, softball) and support facilities (restrooms, shelters).
- L. Regarding comment K, understanding that open flat field availability is at a premium in the Lincoln County Area, specifically Lincoln City. I don't accept the notion that the valley youth are more deserving of sport fields than us who live on the coast. In my travels throughout the valley, I am amazed of the numerous parks and fields available for youth soccer programs in the valley. Soccer is a growing youth sport program, and the youth of Lincoln City definitely feel left out by the city, the county, and the state. Lincoln City Parks and Recreation has a youth soccer league in the summer, but is limited to the very young because the only field they have available for use is a very small field at the elementary school. This field is less than half the size of an official soccer field. Please give the youth in my community an opportunity to participate in this youth program. Soccer is fast becoming, if not already, the state/nation's #1 youth sport program. Lincoln City does not have the tax revenue that the valley communities have. But do we measure equal opportunity with tax revenues—I certainly hope not. Thanks for your time and hopefully understand and share my concern for our community's youth.
- M. Regarding comment K, there is a very strong need for a soccer field in Lincoln County and coastal areas. There is a continuous struggle with organizations over use of the field. Multi-use fields are a bit of a joke. There is an extreme need for a county soccer field. Soccer is a wonderful sport that has a strong nationwide following.

- N. Regarding comment K, I want to comment on the need for soccer fields on the coast. I have heard that you have listed this as a low priority. I wanted to mention something I'm not sure has been brought up in your meetings. The coast has a rapidly growing Hispanic population. This group is usually underrepresented because of language difficulties. There is a large base of Hispanic children in our area that would use and help maintain soccer fields. Without fields the only group playing soccer right now is the younger kids. As a parent of a non-minority child, I have been frustrated by the lack of playing time available for the older kids. This sport has far less injuries than most others my son could play, and he would rather play soccer than football. I would rather have him play soccer than football. I assure you if you build soccer fields—they will come.
- O. Lack of large group picnic shelters.
- P. Need for land acquisition and development of target shooting areas in close proximity to cities.
- Q. Lack of parasail launch sites.

### General Issue Comments

- R. Lack of law enforcement for recreational facilities and forested areas with unrestricted access. Considerable vandalism, illegal dumping and poaching is occurring in these areas. Recreation providers need to balance public access to resources and facilities with the added maintenance, enforcement, and other costs associated with unrestricted access.
- S. Need for interagency coordination in training, maintenance, and recreation planning (OPRD, USFS, and the Oregon State Marine Board).
- T. A funding source is needed for recreational planning in small communities. The Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) has planning monies available, but none are available for recreation planning. Federal grant dollars (e.g. LWCF) should be made available to Federal Agency planners (with necessary expertise) for development of collaborative recreational planning efforts with small communities lacking planning expertise (similar to Wyden Amendment).
- U. Need for upkeep and maintenance of existing recreational facilities.
- V. Need to better protect park funding. There is a loss of outdoor recreational funding to priorities uses in the region.
- W. Need for basic community-based recreation facilities with limited capital resources in the community.
- X. Native American Tribes need to develop rules to enact as ordinances for law enforcement on Tribal recreational lands. There is a need to address outdoor recreation liability issues.
- Y. There is a need to better access maintenance costs associated with different user groups on federal lands (e.g. recreationists, timber harvesters, users of public roads). The goal is to make each user group responsible for maintenance costs associated with their specific type of use.
- Z. There is a need for better coordination of day-use fees between recreation providers in the region (e.g. OPRD, USFS, BLM and Counties). The current system of individual provider collection is much too confusing for recreational users, particularly those coming from outside the region.
- AA. Outdoor recreation has moved from a general quality-of-life issue to a regional economic development strategy (tourism). State recreation plans should recognize that recreation is a major form of economic development.
- BB. The Land & Water Conservation Fund must become a more reliable source of recreation funding in the state of Oregon. The yearly appropriation of monies to the fund should be replaced with a long-term allocation to allow for a more stable funding source.
- CC. Small communities should be given more access to LWCF grant funds to develop basic recreation facilities. Currently, small communities lack a basic knowledge of potential grant sources or the expertise to write competitive grant proposals.
- DD. Need for safer/wider lanes on Highways 101 and 18 to accommodate safe bicycle riding.
- EE. Need for affordable after school/summer recreational programs for low-wage earners (e.g. service sector employees) and their families.

- FF. Regarding comment AE, the Girl Scouts of Santiam Council provides several week-long day camps during the summer in the Lincoln County area that are open to all girls ages 5-17 as well as a summer resident camp (located outside of Philomath). These opportunities are available to member and non-member girls. Scholarship funds are available for those with financial need. I know we are not the only organization that provides these types of services. Connecting with existing youth development/service organizations could help provide some of these needed services without adding additional costs or creating redundant programs.
- GG. The grant evaluation process should consider regional demographics and provide funds in proportion to the populations served. Relate funding to need, demand and intensity of uses. In some cases areas/agencies should be awarded more than one grant.

**General Public Session  
LWCF Issue Comments**

- HH. Need for acquisition of properties with educational and restoration values suitable for conservation (e.g. wetlands, riparian areas, spawning streams).
- II. Need for acquisition of natural areas (e.g. open space, wilderness, marine protected areas) limited to low impact recreational uses (e.g. interpretation) in both urban and rural areas.
- JJ. Need to acquire protected areas (pristine) with no public access in both urban and rural areas.
- KK. Need to acquire ocean front property for preservation as open space. Limit recreation use to low-impact activities. Use should be non-motorized, except as needed for disabled access.
- LL. Need for additional natural areas to the state park system (e.g. "D" River, Hedrick property). The areas should be limited to low-impact uses such as hiking.
- MM. Need for more areas/trails for equestrian use. The Ft. Stevens equestrian camp is a good example of a volunteer group donating planning and labor towards the establishment of an equestrian facility. More projects like this one need to be planned.
- NN. Need for more hiking trails and raised wetland trails. Also provide visitor orientation and interpretation information for regional trails. Acquisition and development should be in cooperation with local jurisdictions.
- OO. Need for trail connections (e.g. raised wetland trails), including connections to the beach around Devils Lake.
- PP. Need for bridges on existing trails to provide more opportunities for elderly and disabled populations.
- QQ. Set aside tide pool areas for public education and interpretation. Develop a nature center dedicated to tide pool education and interpretation.
- RR. Need for year-round field sports areas and support facilities for existing sport fields (e.g. lights, restrooms, parking, seating, etc.). Soccer is growing in popularity in the region.
- SS. Need for more campground facilities.
- TT. Need for a boat launch facility at Siletz Bay.
- UU. Acquire property at the north end of Devils Lake (Thompson Creek).
- VV. Oregon's conservation and recreation lands are disproportionately distributed across different vegetation types. They tend to be concentrated along the coast, in the Cascades Mountains, and generally at high elevations. Oregon needs more recreation opportunities in areas that tend to be almost exclusively in private ownership. These include oak woodlands, savannas, bottomland hardwood floodplain forests, prairies and grasslands.

**SCORP PLANNING REGION 2**

(Includes Columbia, Washington, Multnomah, Hood River, Yamhill, Clackamas, Polk and Marion Counties)

**Public Recreation Provider Session  
Other LWCF Issue Comments**

- A. Regarding LWCF issue #1 (funding for land acquisition), this is the Metro Parks and Greenspace (Metro) #1 funding priority for the LWCF program. Priority should be given to land acquisitions that fit into an existing, adopted regional or local open space or parks plan. There should be a mechanism in place to steer funds more towards established regional priorities and away from small ad hoc purchases which only bubble to the top because the neighbors next to them yell the loudest.
- Land acquisition projects that include one or more partners should be given funding priority. If a local partner can bring 50% or more of the funding to the table, they should be rewarded for bringing that leverage. State money has not been available to communities perceived to already have funding (i.e., Metro Portland region). This is unfair to urban taxpayers who have already agreed to tax themselves to purchase parks and open spaces. This policy is a disincentive for jurisdictions and voting citizens to plan responsibly for parks.
- B. Regarding LWCF issue #2 (funding for major rehabilitation), Metro believes that given that land acquisition is the #1 funding priority in the region, it follows logically that the #2 funding priority be planning and development of the new sites to keep pace with population growth, not rehabilitation of existing facilities. There is a strong need to designate and set aside some LWCF monies for site specific master planning and systems master planning for parks and open space. Development activities include site design and engineering and construction.
- C. Regarding LWCF issue #2, Metro does not agree that the grant application match should be reduced for major rehabilitation projects. The existing 50% match is a good policy. It rewards local jurisdictions who invest in the future of their parks. If the match is reduced, it sends the message to locals that the program is a "handout."
- D. Regarding LWCF issue #3 (funding for recreational trail connectivity), Metro believes the #3 funding priority should be recreational trails which would bump rehabilitation of existing facilities to funding priority #4. A part of the LWCF needs to be designated and set aside for non-motorized trails. The available funding for trails is so small, even with Recreational Trail Program (RTP) funding. The statement that "funding priorities should be given to projects linking local, regional and federal trail systems" assumes that the trail systems are already in place, which is not generally the case. This issue should be broadened to include funding to complete the planning, design and development of local, regional and federal trail systems, as well as funding the links between them. Springwater Corridor East (Boring to Estacada) trail is a good example of a link between a regional and state trail system that should have priority funding.
- In summary, Metro's top LWCF funding priorities are:
- 1) Land acquisition for parks and open space in high growth areas.
  - 2) Master plan and develop the lands that have been acquired in high growth areas.
  - 3) Recreational Trails System planning and development.
  - 4) Rehabilitation of existing outdoor recreation facilities.
- E. Regarding LWCF issue #3, Oregon Equestrian Trails donated thousands of hours and travels thousands of miles in the state just to work on non-motorized trails and help build equestrian camps. With this kind of commitment to volunteerism in these tax conscious times, recreational managers will realize a great savings. Examples of our type of work is helping build and maintain trails and camps in the Tillamook State Forest, Mt. Hood and Deschutes National Forests, not to mention other areas in the state.
- F. Need for additional indoor pools within the region. Indoor pools provide recreation and education opportunities for people in all age groups and help to satisfy fitness and health needs. Although

- indoor pool facilities are very costly, they are often the center of community recreation facilities with links to other dry land facilities.
- G. Regarding comment F, pools are most effective as a component of full service Community Centers. Building stand-alone pools is not cost effective for staffing, maintenance and operations. Pools should be part of a multi-use facility. Matching grants should consider the whole facility, not just the pool.
- H. Regarding comment F, as stated lately in the paper, the main aquatic facility in Milwaukie is currently not making it financially and looking to reduce the number of hours the pool is open. It seems that our public is not as excited about these facilities as they were at the time of development. We would strongly suggest the need for additional indoor pools be low on the priority list and be sited as an example in the plan.
- I. Regarding comment F, indoor pools provide recreation and education opportunities for people in all age groups and help to satisfy fitness and health needs. Although indoor pool facilities are very costly, they are often the center of community recreation facilities, with links to other dry land facilities.
- J. Need for additional picnic areas and facilities (e.g. shelters, toilets, picnic tables).
- K. Regarding comment J, we strongly agree with the need for picnic facilities.
- L. Need for additional children's playgrounds.
- M. Regarding comment L, in particular, there is a need for young children's playgrounds since schools provide playgrounds for school age children.
- N. Need for recreational facilities that satisfy the needs of people of all ages.
- O. Regarding comment N, particularly for the increasing elderly population.
- P. Respond to the need for new non-traditional extreme sports areas and facilities as they emerge. Look for ways to use existing spaces creatively (e.g. climbing walls on existing structures and areas suitable for adaptive re-use). Need to establish best practices and consider maintenance needs that will occur.
- Q. Regarding comment D, yes, I think certain sports such as rock climbing, snowshoeing and orienteering (cross-country map and compass racing) are especially easy to support, as the recreational community requires very little from the state. These activities require little infrastructure and oversight from the state in many cases. Simply keeping permit fees reasonable and granting access to organizing groups on a faster track for these lower impact, low resource sports is a good idea (as compared to, say, the financial investment in building a skateboarding bowl area at a state park).
- R. Need for additional sports and play fields including soccer and baseball/softball fields, and basketball courts. Such facilities are of particular importance for providing at-risk-youth with rewarding recreational experiences.
- S. Regarding comment R, sports fields, by nature of the amount of land required for sports activities, are particularly in short supply and high demand.
- T. Need for retrofitting of existing facilities for ADA accessibility. In addition, there is a need to consider/adopt consistent signing to provide information about accessibility on trails. Region should develop a comprehensive approach to establish accessibility consistency across the region.
- U. Regarding comment T, the approach should recognize a spectrum of accessibility based upon the recreation setting.
- V. Regarding comment T, many areas are not set up for the disabled. Many disabled people are horseback riders and, as a result, specialized loading ramps are needed. I highly encourage you to give this consideration.
- W. Need for continuous public greenway and pathway systems including all-weather pathways.
- X. Regarding comment W, there is a need for these types of trail systems to keep pace with population growth. Trails of this kind should always have the equestrian user in mind. The Oregon Equestrian Trails group current membership is approximately 1,300. That is just a thumb-nail count of the recreational horseback riders in the state.

- Y. Need for a water trail system, with water access locations and established paddling routes. This is one of our greatest needs from public lands and this item seems to get little attention. Paddlesports are growing by leaps and bounds every year, but enthusiasts are often surprised to find that access to the best waterways can be difficult or impossible.
- Z. Need for more motorized trails (ATV, motorcycle) and new motorized areas within the region.
- AA. Regarding comment Z, we do not recommend that motorized trails receive LWCF funds. Motorized trails are not a compatible use within urban areas in Region 2. This use is best accommodated on large blocks of state and federal land. Special designated funding sources exist for motorized trails. There is no justification for spending limited LWCF funds on motorized trails.
- BB. Regarding comment Z, no we don't. Motorized off-road vehicles have NO place in the parks system! They destroy the vegetation and make a terrible amount of noise and pollution and are simply dangerous. They ruin the area for other park users.
- CC. While there is a need for more motorized trails, our concern is that those areas be thoroughly separated from hikers, kayakers, campers, cyclists and other human-powered users of public lands and that the environmental damage that motorized vehicles cause be carefully managed.
- DD. Need to fund rehabilitation of existing motorized trails/ areas and support facilities. There is a need to bring existing trails up to a level of standard that minimizes user damage and provides year-round riding opportunities (especially in high rain areas in along the coast).
- EE. Need to identify, acquire, and protect potential rock climbing areas within the region. We need to recognize that rock climbing is a specialized use requiring training and unique resource acquisitions.
- FF. Need for additional interpretive and educational facilities such as kiosks, sign structures, and waysides.
- GG. Regarding comment FF, environmental education centers should be included in this list of educational facilities, especially in light of the recent elimination of the outdoor school program in the metropolitan Portland area.
- HH. Need to identify and acquire access for potential kite boarding areas within the Columbia River Gorge. Safety is a major concern between kite boarders and wind surfers. Kite boarders require separate sites.
- II. Need for facility development on undeveloped recreation land (banked sites) to satisfy recreational needs in areas with high population growth.
- JJ. Regarding comment II, this is Metro's #2 top funding priority for LWCF.
- KK. Need for basic water-based recreation support facilities in the region.
- LL. Need for added campground areas and facilities, especially in Washington County (including trails and equestrian camping facilities).
- MM. Regarding comment LL, Multnomah and Clackamas counties suffer similar deficiencies and this need should not be limited to Washington County.
- NN. Regarding issue #41, any campground facility built in Washington County needs to have access for the equestrian user. Oregon Equestrian Trails has donated many hours and traveled many miles to help maintain camps and trails in the Tillimook Forest and the Banks/ Vernonia Linear Park Trail. We are a great resource for helping plan and establish non-motorized trails and camps.
- OO. Need for additional group camps and day use areas.
- PP. Need for additional RV dump stations.
- QQ. Regarding comment PP, if possible, where ever there is a day use or campground there should be an RV dumpsite.
- RR. There is a growing need in the metropolitan Portland region to provide a full spectrum of parks and facilities to keep pace with increased density and to meet the needs of underserved urban areas. This need pertains especially to small neighborhood scale parks and squares within walking distance to homes and town centers.
- SS. Lack of funds to maintain and improve existing parks and facilities. We try to utilize volunteer groups as much as possible for maintenance and repair, but this method cannot keep up with daily needs. We also try to use volunteers to open and close facilities.

- TT. Shortage of basic recreational facilities and conflicts with use of existing facilities. We have a high demand for soccer fields and we do not have any official soccer fields. Therefore, soccer groups try to take over softball and baseball fields when they are in use or they use basketball fields during the off season and this damages the infields.
- UU. Water efficient irrigation systems. Cornelius currently buys water from the Joint Water Commission and therefore must pay for irrigation water. The City Parks Commission would like to drill wells in specific parks that require a high water demand. The older parks also need updated underground irrigation systems.

#### General Issue Comments

- VV. Recognition of the need for local planning and coordinated regional planning. There is a strong need to fund regional planning efforts. The provision of recreational opportunities across the region should be viewed as a seamless system which promotes interagency and public-sector recreation cooperation and coordination. State Parks and METRO Greenspaces do some coordination between agencies, however it seems additional coordination and partnership would bring mutual benefits.
- WW. Regarding comment VV, Metro strongly agrees with the need for coordinated regional planning.
- XX. There is a need for basic design standards for recreational facility design and rehabilitation to avoid inefficient and costly approaches. We need to better define the levels of quality/cost for various facilities.
- YY. There is a need for a set of outdoor recreation space standards within the region.
- ZZ. Regarding comment YY, while there is a need for standards, PLEASE do not restrict off-trail recreational use in non-sensitive areas.
- AAA. There is a need to share expertise and equipment among providers to increase the efficient use of existing resources within the region (through interagency agreements).
- BBB. There is a general lack of consistent funding to satisfy an increasing need for outdoor recreational resources and facilities within the region.
- CCC. A greater emphasis should be made within the region to strike a balance between protecting natural resources and providing outdoor recreational opportunities. There is an inherent conflict between providing adequate natural resource buffer areas and providing public access to these resource areas. A current technical sub-committee made up of local jurisdictions, Metro staff and a consultant are investigating and researching trail planning, construction and maintenance issues as they pertain to natural resource values. The work targets production of a "guide for trail planners, constructors and maintainer's" during 2002.
- DDD. Regarding comment CCC, this is a big concern in areas of large population. Suggest a statewide or regional task force to share information and successes/failures on this.
- EEE. There is a need to develop educational programming to encourage responsible recreation behavior in forested recreational areas.
- FFF. Regarding comment EEE, strongly agree but focus shouldn't be limited for forested recreational areas. The learning can apply to a variety of ecosystems.
- GGG. Regarding comment EEE, Oregon Equestrian Trails practices "Leave No Trace" methods. We carry our own tools to clean an area and haul out our manure and garbage when no facility is provided. We also, from time to time, send out trailhead informational groups to pass out "Leave No Trace" material to equestrian users.
- HHH. There is a need for better management planning for protection of existing recreational facilities (e.g. from target shooting).
- III. An effort should be made to increase recreational use in the region's outstanding natural areas. The goal is to increase dispersed recreational use, while making better use of existing recreational areas and facilities.
- JJJ. Regarding comment III, Metro strongly agrees. This issue is related to getting land banked open space available to the public in areas with high population growth.

- KKK. Regarding comment III, again, Oregon Equestrian Trails helps build and maintain non-motorized trails and camps. With this resource available, the recreational planner and manager would be very wise to take advantage of it. The savings in tax dollars would be significant.
- LLL. Regarding comment III, this issue seems contrary to the protection of natural resources. Dispersing use more widely would be counterproductive in many/most cases. Need to establish carrying capacities for resources and then establish and allow appropriate use. Better management is needed.
- MMM. There is a need for better interagency coordination in providing information regarding available outdoor recreation opportunities within the region (e.g. multi-provider brochures, maps and marketing efforts). This could be part of the discussion on regional coordination and planning and providing seamless service.
- NNN. There is a strong need for the state to update the Statewide Trails Plan. The plan should examine use of all types of trails (motorized and non-motorized) and include the participation of state, federal, county, and municipal providers and advocacy groups.
- OOO. Regarding comment NNN, Metro does not agree that motorized trails should receive LWCF funding. In addition, non-motorized commuting should be considered a legitimate use for local and regional non-motorized trails. Trails are rarely just one or the other, but are dual-purpose recreational and commuting.
- PPP. Regarding comment NNN, Oregon Equestrian Trails highly encourages recreational planners to include the equestrian user in any up-date of the Statewide Trails Plan. Oregon Equestrian Trails helps build and maintain non-motorized trails and camps. This equates to monetary savings to the recreational planner and manager.
- QQQ. There is a need to provide better guidance for recreation providers in the LWCF application process and to streamline the application process. There should be a pre-qualification process to make sure that applicants are meeting the basic requirements of the grant proposal process. In addition, final presentations should be made by a short list of superior grant proposals. This will reduce the amount of work that applicants put into the application process if their proposal has little or no chance of being funded. The state should store basic application information to allow for ease of reapplication in upcoming funding cycles. The state should also carry unfunded projects to the next year's application process (similar to the Marine Board).
- RRR. Support for LWCF applications including multiple projects, service areas, and jurisdictions. Funding priority should be given to joint projects involving the participation of multiple organizations/agencies. We want to encourage more partnerships (public/private and public/public) in recreational service provision. Such partnerships result in greater funding and maintenance and operation efficiency.
- SSS. Regarding comment RRR, we are concerned that the way this is worded appears to be a bias against projects that do not involve partners. It's ok to encourage partnership projects, as long as projects without partners are not discouraged. All partnership projects are not necessarily worthy of funding. The other side of the argument is that there are many great projects that do not involve partners.
- TTT. LWCF funding should be allocated in proportion to population density. Funding should be directed towards more densely populated areas within the region. The rule allowing only one application per city during a LWCF funding cycle negatively affects the distribution of grant dollars by population density.
- UUU. Regarding comment TTT, there are two sides to this issue. On the one hand, the more densely populated areas in the region often have the greatest demand for additional recreational facilities. On the other hand, this recommendation could exacerbate the urban/rural split that exists in this region. The larger populated jurisdictions often have the advantage of more staff and resources to apply for the grants.
- VVV. There is a need to establish a process for evaluating regional LWCF proposals not addressing either the top 3 regional LWCF issues or resource/facility needs identified in the SCORP needs assessment ("exceptions to the rule" grant proposals). Such proposals should not be automatically eliminated during the grant evaluation process.

- WWW. This region draws large numbers of visitors from outside the region who use existing outdoor recreational resources and facilities. There is a need for additional LWCF funding to compensate for the additional facility requirements associated with this additional visitation.
- XXX. There is a need to examine the allocation of LWCF dollars within the region. There is a bias towards communities who are committed to funding recreational facilities. This creates an imbalance of funding allocation within the region (haves vrs. have not). We need to invest in those areas deficient in or lacking recreation opportunities.
- YYY. Regarding comment XXX, LWCF funding is not an entitlement and local communities need to demonstrate commitment to parks. Local communities can show such commitment with a match, partners, adopted park plans, and so forth. Showing a commitment to parks is a good thing, and should be rewarded.
- ZZZ. There should be a stronger service emphasis on core community recreation sites and facilities. LWCF funding priority should be given to providing "basic services," such as playgrounds, organized sports facilities, skate parks, and general picnicking facilities at the local level.
- AAAA. Regarding comment ZZZ, believe there should be a balance between community recreation facilities and natural resource based recreation in the region. Would be surprised if the outdoor recreation survey didn't show the need for the balance as well.
- BBBB. A large portion of LWCF funds for Oregon are appropriated to Federal agencies. The non-Federal allocation is not proportional to the recreational facilities provided by non-Federal recreation providers in the state. The stateside portion of LWCF grant dollars allocated to the state of Oregon should be increased.
- CCCC. There is a growing trend toward increased loss of recreational use of private lands and public lands within the region (gated roads and trails). We need to figure out a way to address this growing problem. Part of the solution is to provide more law enforcement partnerships to reduce the levels of drug use, vandalism and illegal dumping (cars, appliances, garbage, etc.) in recreation areas, especially in urban interface areas.
- DDDD. The SCORP plan should address recreational needs associated with an increasingly diverse cultural community within the region.
- EEEE. City recreation departments provide additional "social services" which dilute recreation funding. We need to be able to reinforce the complementary nature of park and recreation and school partnerships. Parks and recreation are picking up after-school athletics, arts, etc., but often use school facilities. We need to strengthen the positions of both partners.
- FFFF. Recreation providers often encounter difficulties in finding adequate supplies of available, affordable and developable land for recreation facilities. In part, this problem exists as a result of state land use laws. In particular, the availability of land for urban recreation facilities is affected by statewide land use goals that effectively prohibit the development of such facilities outside of urban growth boundaries (UGB). As a result of these laws, developable land inside of the UGB's is in high demand, which tends to elevate land prices to the extent to which they are often too expensive for recreational use. The more affordable land, more cost effective for recreational purposes, can only be found outside of the UGB's. This more affordable land is often not located in close proximity to where the recreation demands exist, and cannot be used for urban recreation unless the state law restrictions can be overcome through the "goal exception" process. We need to be able to buy land outside of the UGB at current (lower) prices, and land bank them for the future.
- GGGG. There is a need for local zoning codes to acknowledge the presence and compatibility of parkland on agricultural and forest resource lands outside the UGB. Metro is currently unable to make basic park improvements to one of its natural area parks located outside the UGB on commercial forest use (CFU) and in Multnomah County. There are inherent conflicts between managing CFU land for commercial forestry and preserving natural resources and wilderness values at natural area parks. In an attempt to solve this untenable situation, Metro is currently working with Multnomah County to develop a park zone overlay to allow park uses on agricultural and forest resource lands outside the UGB.

- HHHH. There is a need to examine potential funding source opportunities among various outdoor recreation user groups in the state. In Minnesota, canoe and snowmobile permits revenues have been used to develop water and snowmobile trail opportunities in the state. Canoe permit revenues could be used to fund a water trail system and other water-based recreation facilities in the state of Oregon. In addition, some states have used taxes on specific sporting goods items to fund outdoor recreation facility development. The first step is to identify potential coalitions of supporters who would be advocates for a similar effort in Oregon. For such strategies to work, recreationists need to see a direct benefit to their particular user group.
- IIII. Regarding comment HHHH, this is an area to be approached very carefully. There is a real danger that a single-issue sponsor would have undue influence over other competing interests.
- JJJJ. An effort should be made to target user groups and non-profit organization members as volunteers to support recreational programs. To accomplish this, we need agency support in the form of staffing and services funding. In addition, "exceptions" in contracting regulations must be identified to allow participation by non-profit organizations and volunteers.
- KKKK. The SCORP plan needs to make a strong statement that local government is a part of the seamless system of outdoor recreation providers in Oregon, as well as the nation. Many Americans turn first to their local park system when seeking outdoor recreation experiences. For people whose limited income could restrict them from traveling to a state or federal park—a city or county park might be their only option for outdoor recreation.
- LLLL. The SCORP plan needs to define how local government fits into the state's recreation system. Past grant applications have asked how proposed projects meet SCORP goals and objectives. For many local projects, the SCORP has not adequately addressed local governments' role in Oregon's outdoor recreation facilities system. To be an effective planning tool, the SCORP needs to describe how local agencies fit into the big picture.
- MMMM. There is a need for better information/direction regarding the use of recreational use fees within the region. A plan should be developed to identify where fees are appropriate, the influence of fees on visitor behavior and the best methods of implementing a fee program.
- NNNN. Lack of adequate funding continues to make operating outdoor recreation facilities difficult. Unlike state and county agencies, placing charges on most of the outdoor recreation facilities local government operates is not feasible. Furthermore, local parks might provide the only opportunities for many to recreate. User fees could discourage visits to these parks. Most municipalities do not dedicate specific dollars for park operation. Parks compete with law enforcement, fire, library and a myriad of other demands for local general fund revenue.
- OOOO. Regarding comment NNNN, do not agree that operation and maintenance funding should be provided by LWCF funding. Federal funds are intended to supplement/complement local investments, not replace them. We do not believe that federal taxes are meant to support maintenance activities.
- PPPP. Oregon's conservation and recreation lands are disproportionately distributed across different vegetation types. They tend to be concentrated along the coast, in the Cascades Mountains, and generally at high elevations. Oregon needs more recreation opportunities in areas that tend to be almost exclusively in private ownership. These include oak woodlands, savannas, bottomland hardwood floodplain forests, prairies and grasslands.

### **SCORP PLANNING REGION 3**

(Includes Benton, Linn and non-coastal Lane Counties)

#### **Public Recreation Provider Session Other LWCF Issue Comments**

- A. Need for land acquisition for development of neighborhood parks and open spaces.
- B. Need for land acquisition in the urban/rural interface.
- C. Need for more natural areas in the regional park system. These areas should remain in a natural state, without any facility development.
- D. Regarding comment C, the Oregon Cascades Orienteering Klubb is in favor of this. Orienteering involves navigation with a compass and map. The more advanced courses require cross-country navigation, so trails aren't necessary and in fact make the navigation too easy. The type of terrain we are most interested in is open forest with not much brush underfoot. This is much more available on the east side of the Cascades.
- E. Regarding issue issue C, yes, as long as these natural areas do not become no-off-trail-travel wildlife areas! Sports like orienteering (cross country map and compass racing) require large areas of hikeable/runnable forest and fields, preferably undeveloped. While our parks systems need more natural space, the trend towards park and recreation agencies limiting public access to these natural areas is overly restrictive.
- F. Need for additional managed OHV areas.
- G. In the aftermath of September 11, there is a need to provide additional recreational areas and facilities for local and regional folks who will be traveling shorter distances to recreate.
- H. Need to provide activities for people of all ages.
- I. Need for additional RV and tent camping areas and facilities.
- J. Target funding outside of Eugene/Springfield metropolitan area.
- K. Need for additional facilities in densely populated urban areas such as park blocks, performance spaces and marketplace transit plazas.
- L. Need for special recreational facilities such as skateparks, disc golf, dog parks, BMX areas, extreme sports parks, and botanical parks.
- M. Need for additional team sports areas and facilities (field and court sports).
- N. Need to retrofit reservoir facilities for low water conditions.
- O. Need to develop additional hiking/walking and mountain biking/equestrian trails in urban areas.
- P. Need to develop additional riverfront parks.
- Q. Need to develop additional boating and angling opportunities near residential areas.
- R. Need for additional pools, water play parks, and recreation centers.
- S. Need for additional interpretive facilities.
- T. There is a need for integrative storm drainage management in parks and open spaces within the region (when possible integrated into park design). We should also consider making storm drainage areas into new park areas.
- U. There is a need for additional acquisition and development to satisfy the recreational needs of a growing regional population.
- V. Need for additional investment in historical preservation within the region. This effort should include preservation of historic resources, identification of resources and property acquisition.

### General Issue Comments

- W. There are dwindling resources within the region for maintenance and renovation of existing park facilities (lack of available labor and deteriorating maintenance equipment). Providers in the region often have maintenance and operation redundancies/overlap which are extremely costly. Providers must learn to work together and take a more regional approach to addressing park maintenance and operation. This effort should also provide for better coordination between community recreation providers and public schools with scheduling, maintenance, and safety issues.
- X. There is a need for better management of natural areas within the region. Expertise is needed to better protect rivers, water, wetlands, savannah, and forests (e.g. tree removal planning). Land acquisition is occurring, but the necessary expertise is not available to protect these natural areas.
- Y. There is a need for additional security for park host sites.
- Z. There is a need to address growing public safety concerns in all recreational areas within the region. Much of the recreating public has become fearful, as a result of an increase in larceny, assault, gang activities, vandalism, and drug use in recreational areas. There is a strong need to develop a regional strategy addressing this problem.
- AA. There is a concern that high user fees are affecting traditional recreational use patterns within the region. User fees at dispersed recreational areas tend to exclude short visits or local visitation.
- BB. We need to find ways to better manage for an increasingly diverse set of user groups. This includes a growing Hispanic population, those participating in new recreational activities, and those using a number of new recreational products. There are conflicts between hikers, equestrians and mountain bikers on multi-use trail systems. The challenge is to minimize user conflict, while satisfying the needs of the recreating public.
- CC. There is a strong need for comprehensive recreational planning within the region. This includes planning at the local, regional and state levels. There should be more integration of SCORP findings into local planning efforts. There is a need to address specific issues and the needs of recreational user groups through focused recreational planning. There is also a need for the development of management plans for recreation facilities.
- DD. It has become increasingly difficult to strike a balance between satisfying the recreational needs of the public while remaining in compliance with the Endangered Species Act (e.g. along streams and rivers and providing for ADA accessibility).
- EE. There is a need to make recreation a higher priority at reservoirs managed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.
- FF. There is a need for increased communication between area recreation providers involving acquisition and development of parks and open space. There needs to be more coordination of planning efforts between agencies to reduce duplication of efforts.
- GG. There is a need for more community events such as concerts, festivals, air shows and art shows.
- HH. There is a need for the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department to take a more coordinated approach to their grant programming efforts. Recreation providers would like access to a single information source, including a listing of all available grant programs and guidance on identifying the most appropriate funding source for their particular project.
- II. There is a need for additional state park sites within the region. This would require necessary capital funding and facility development to become a reality.
- JJ. There is a need to make recreation a higher land use priority in the Willamette River Corridor.
- KK. There is a loss of access to public and private recreation lands within the region. We need to find a way to reverse this trend.
- LL. Oregon's conservation and recreation lands are disproportionately distributed across different vegetation types. They tend to be concentrated along the coast, in the Cascades Mountains, and generally at high elevations. Oregon needs more recreation opportunities in areas that tend to be almost exclusively in private ownership. These include oak woodlands, savannas, bottomland hardwood floodplain forests, prairies and grasslands.

## **SCORP PLANNING REGION 4**

(Includes coastal Douglas, Coos and Curry Counties)

### **Public Recreation Provider Session Other LWCF Issue Comments**

- A. Need for land acquisition to compensate for loss of access to recreational lands due to the environmental compliance (e.g. Endangered Species Act).
- B. The land acquisition criteria should consider factors other than scenic, natural, cultural, and recreation values. We should also place a high priority on the acquisition of buffer lands to protect existing recreation lands and the overall recreation experience.
- C. Need for land acquisition for connecting trail segments such as the Coast Trail. There is an overall need for longer hiking trails especially near large and small communities.
- D. Need to acquire more water access/riparian corridors for public recreation, especially long reaches of stream/river front. Also, there is a need for additional boat ramps and river use support facilities.
- E. Need for semi-primitive campgrounds, especially for trail users (hikers and bikers) and river recreation (kayakers). There is also a need for other alternative camping facilities in the region.
- F. Need for more highway oriented campgrounds.
- G. Need for additional off-season recreation facilities.
- H. LWCF funds should be more accessible for high-quality projects (with less political obstacles/competition).

### **General Issue Comments**

- I. There is an urgent need for general maintenance funding within the region. There is not enough staff to maintain and manage current facilities (e.g. yurts and cabins). This situation is compounded as visitation continues to rise from year to year. Increasing use should automatically result in increased maintenance and operations finding. The lack of available funding results in the need for more costly major rehabilitation.
- J. Funding is needed for land management activities such as noxious weed control, view management and land rehabilitation to protect resources from over use.
- K. There is a need for a mechanism for non-motorized watercraft to contribute funding for the development of water access facilities. The same argument can be made for other forms of non-motorized recreation such as mountain biking.
- L. There is insufficient archeological oversight of recreational development projects to assure cultural resource protection. There is a lack of trained support staff and no funding for outside help. This situation results in inadequate project oversight and an overall lack of resource protection where mistakes occur. As a result, public relations problems have occurred—especially with Native American Tribes.
- M. There is a need to coordinate ocean shores rules and regulations with those of adjacent and overlapping recreation lands and providers. A number of coordination issues need to be addressed and the process simplified.

### **General Public Session LWCF Issue Comments**

- N. There is a need for an ADA accessible bow and rifle shooting range in the Brookings area. A petition was presented during the SCORP issues workshop (by the Committee for a Sportsmen's Park, Brookings, OR.) for a specific facility named the Chetco Sportsmen's Park. There is also a general need for shooting sites throughout the region.
- O. There is a need for a children's fishing pond in Brookings. The project would include appropriate land acquisition and support facilities.

### General Issue Comments

- P. There is a general need for more outdoor recreation programs and services and public transportation to provide access for low-income families within the region.
- Q. There is a shortage of adequate and convenient building space for recreational activities and programs in communities within the region. Such indoor space is particularly needed because of the high amount of rain that falls throughout the region. Buildings should be large enough to provide flexibility for a number of indoor recreation activities and programs. Such building space would provide for recreational use by all age groups, including the elderly and youth populations. Because of distance between communities, a regional facility would not satisfy the current needs within the region.
- R. Oregon's conservation and recreation lands are disproportionately distributed across different vegetation types. They tend to be concentrated along the coast, in the Cascades Mountains, and generally at high elevations. Oregon needs more recreation opportunities in areas that tend to be almost exclusively in private ownership. These include oak woodlands, savannas, bottomland hardwood floodplain forests, prairies and grasslands.

## SCORP PLANNING REGION 5

(Includes non-coastal Douglas, Josephine and Jackson Counties)

### Public Recreation Provider Session Other LWCF Issue Comments

- A. There is a need for additional Off-Road-Vehicle riding areas in the region. This includes designated trails and riding areas for ATV's and 4x4 pickups. There is also a need for additional law enforcement in OHV riding areas.
- B. There is a need for facilities for travelers to feed and water their horses along Interstate 5. These areas should be clearly identified, in close proximity to the freeway and have easy freeway access.
- C. There is a need for increased access to remote recreation areas (natural/primitive) within the region. Specific types of development include high mountain primitive camping sites (Adirondack, etc.), day-use access and trails/trailheads, interpretive/educational facilities, natural areas (including areas supporting biodiversity) and access roads.
- D. Increased access to winter recreation areas (roads and plowing) to provide snowmobile, cross-country skiing and snowshoeing opportunities.
- E. Increased access for water-based recreational activities (motorized and non-motorized) in both urban and remote settings. There is a need to keep an adequate amount of areas open to the public to satisfy a growing demand for such activities within the region.
- F. There is a loss of access to public recreation lands (e.g. BLM lands) within the region due to private property conflicts/disputes. This involves public recreation lands that are land locked by private landholdings. There is a need for land acquisition, purchase of easements, quit claims and partnerships with private landholders to proactively address this problem.
- G. Regarding comment F, The mission of the 4,100-member Pacific Crest Trail Association (PCTA) is to protect, preserve and promote one of our nations greatest treasures: the Pacific Crest Trail (PCT), a trail that takes hikers and equestrians from the Mexican border through the states of California, Oregon and Washington to a terminus at the Canadian border.

Unfortunately our trail is threatened—approximately 290 of the 2,650 miles along the PCT are on narrow non-restrictive right-of-way easements across private lands or along public highways. While passage is permitted, trail conditions, user experience and safety vary widely on these easements. There are dangerous road walks, clear-cut forests, operating and abandoned mines, commercial ski areas, off road vehicle use and a host of other activities that Congress never envisioned the users of a National Scenic Trail would encounter. Significant development pressure along portions of the trail near large metropolitan and rural areas is creating serious risk to the trails integrity.

The PCTA has completed an inventory of the private land easements along the trail. An assessment of threats to the trail from urban sprawl and commercial development is underway. Since 1999, when the PCTA took the preliminary findings of this project to Congress seeking funds for the U.S. Forest Service, appropriations totaling more than \$7 million have been obtained from the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF). Some progress has been made but much work needs to be done to stay ahead of the threats.

One of our areas of greatest concern is the section of PCT in southern Oregon between Mt. Ashland and Hyatt Lake (SCORP Region 5) where the PCT traverses an area of checkerboard ownership patterns. Several parcels either adjacent to or containing the PCT are feeling the effects of urban encroachment. Some of these parcels have been logged and sold to private owners with at least one new home built next to the trail. We need to act quickly to secure a buffer between our once remote National Scenic Trail and this encroachment of civilization in this area.

The Pacific Crest Association has identified this threatened area in southern Oregon as a top acquisition priority. We feel the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department should name it as one of

the state's top LWCF issues, thereby offering an opportunity to leverage funding for optimum acquisition effectiveness.

- H. There is a need for more "primitive setting" recreation areas in close proximity to population centers. Appropriate facility development would include interpretive and loop trails.
- I. A greater effort should be made to interpret the history of the region through interpretive signing. This includes the natural and cultural history in a range of settings (from urban to remote areas).
- J. There is a need for additional high-amenity camping facilities within the region. Facilities include deluxe RV sites, yurts and cabins. Such facilities would provide a greater opportunity for elderly and the disabled to enjoy a camping experience within the region.
- K. There is a need for additional parking facilities at community parks within the region.
- L. Priority should be given for the acquisition of key parcels of land with outstanding recreational values.

### General Issue Comments

- M. There is a strong need for master planning at all levels of recreational development to insure that existing and future recreational needs are being satisfied. Currently, there is a lack of funding for recreational planning within the region. In addition, there is a need for more interagency coordination in recreational planning efforts.
- N. There is a general lack of coordination between recreational providers and support agencies involving maintenance and development projects. A specific example involved a situation where Snow Park facilities were developed, but access roads were not plowed. Such situations create mistrust between agencies and recreational user groups.
- O. It would be nice to see more interaction between the state and other outdoor recreation providers and youth agencies that deal with environmental education and service projects. Our girls (Girl Scouts of Winema) would gain a great deal by this interaction—allowing staff to donate their time during working hours to such groups would be a very win-win situation.
- P. It is more cost effective to invest in regular preventative maintenance of existing recreational facilities than to wait until these facilities require major rehabilitation. Deferring maintenance is a very expensive maintenance strategy.
- Q. The Oregon Department of Transportation should allow pedestrian crossings on freeway ramps for access to recreational facilities.
- R. There is a need for investment in environmental education within the region. Lack of environmental education leads to degradation of precious natural resources.
- S. There is a direct correlation between increasing use of recreational user fees and lower use by low-income families and households. Many communities within the region suffer from difficult economic conditions. We must make sure that the region's low-income residents are not priced out of local recreational opportunities.
- T. Illegal trash dumping has become a major problem on public lands. To save dumping charges, people are using public lands to get rid of items such as tires, major electrical appliances and automobiles.
- U. There are a number of scenic railroad opportunities within the region that could be developed for tourism purposes (e.g. dinner trains).
- V. An effort should be made to make the land use application process for zoning and complying with requirements of the Division of State Lands and the Land Conservation and Development Commission simpler and quicker.
- W. Oregon's conservation and recreation lands are disproportionately distributed across different vegetation types. They tend to be concentrated along the coast, in the Cascades Mountains, and generally at high elevations. Oregon needs more recreation opportunities in areas that tend to be almost exclusively in private ownership. These include oak woodlands, savannas, bottomland hardwood floodplain forests, prairies and grasslands.

## **SCORP PLANNING REGION 6**

(Includes Wasco, Gilliam, Morrow and Umatilla Counties)

### **Public Recreation Provider Session Other LWCF Issue Comments**

- A. Additional funding is needed for in-stream restoration/rehabilitation (stream bank restoration, flow rate, water temperature) to maintain proper fish habitat.
- B. Conversion of a brown field to a new park facility (Memorial Park). The park would include an agricultural museum, stream path, amphitheater and memorial garden.
- C. There is a need for major rehabilitation of outdoor swimming pools within the region. The loss of swimming pools within the region creates health (childhood obesity) and safety concerns (youth not learning to swim).
- D. Need for additional outdoor recreation facilities close to home. Such facilities include golf courses, tennis courts, ball fields and soccer fields.
- E. Improved connectivity of recreation sites. Specific examples include the need for walking/biking trails and pedestrian paths.
- F. Need for acquisition of green areas with limited recreational development (picnicking and nature appreciation).

### **General Issue Comments**

- G. There is a need for up-front technical assistance for recreational facility planning within the region. Grant funding should be available for facility planning and the community involvement process. In addition, there is a need for funding of environmental engineering during the initial park design (major facility additions or rehabilitation work). We need to take a proactive approach to avoid negative environmental impacts.
- H. Regional recreation providers require better access to engineering support related to water conservation practices. This would allow for water conservation practices to be incorporated into park design. There is a need for a water conservation outreach program providing information such as current information sources, industry sources, consultants, irrigation auditors and recommended low-water vegetation.
- I. Funding for removal of aging swimming facilities including necessary demolition expertise. There are a number of aging outdoor pools within the region. These pools eventually become money drains. There needs to be a plan for demolition and building of new pool facilities. We also need to limit the time between when the old pool is removed and the new pool built (service gap).
- J. There is a need for consistency in the interpretation of Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) requirement rules for sewage treatment at outdoor recreation facilities within the region (e.g. drain fields close to wells and connection to storm water drains). Currently, park departments are spending a lot of time and money attempting to prove that their sewage treatment systems design is appropriate.
- K. There are insufficient funds available within the region for maintenance of existing recreational facilities. There is a need for additional maintenance personnel to handle deferred maintenance. Current maintenance staff are severely overworked.
- L. An effort is needed to simplify the Oregon Park and Recreation Department (OPRD) grant application forms (LWCF, Local, and Recreational Trails). OPRD should consider developing a short pre-application for screening of projects. Small communities lack the expertise and staff to effectively complete and compete in the grant application process. It is difficult for small communities to devote limited staff time to a lengthy application process only to fail. In addition, OPRD should provide a listing of past projects including engineering drawings and details.

- M. There is a need for communities within the region to share engineering and planning designs for facilities such as skate parks, pools and tennis courts. There is a need for a listing of recreation facilities by community, with associated plan designs including construction and engineering drawings. There was a suggestion that OPRD provide such information on a website.
- N. There is a need for current case study information showing the relationship between recreational facility development and economic benefits. Recreation providers need assistance in making the argument that recreational amenity development has the potential to draw new businesses to a community. In addition, there is a strong need for intergovernmental tourism planning within the region.
- O. Community outdoor recreation facilities are being overused in areas lacking a Special Recreation District. Such facilities were not built for regional use, but are becoming regional facilities by default.
- P. There is a need for more interagency cooperation and communication with Federal agencies in recreational development projects in the region. Federal agencies are often difficult to work with—too bureaucratic and lacking accountability.
- Q. Oregon's conservation and recreation lands are disproportionately distributed across different vegetation types. They tend to be concentrated along the coast, in the Cascades Mountains, and generally at high elevations. Oregon needs more recreation opportunities in areas that tend to be almost exclusively in private ownership. These include oak woodlands, savannas, bottomland hardwood floodplain forests, prairies and grasslands.

## **SCORP PLANNING REGION 7**

(Includes Jefferson, Wheeler, Crook and Deschutes Counties)

### **Public Recreation Provider Session Other LWCF Issue Comments**

- A. Regarding LWCF issue #1 (funding priority for recreational trail connectivity), Bend Metro Parks and Recreation District (BMPRD) are in the process of meeting with the Central Oregon Irrigation District and other irrigation districts over the easement and rights of way acquisitions necessary to complete the Bend Urban Area primary trail system. BMPRD will soon receive ownership of a portion of the Tumalo Canal ROW that will complete a link of the Deschutes River Trail.
- B. Regarding LWCF issue #1, BMPRD has been working with the Bend Ranger District to enhance the urban interface trail connection at the south end of Shevlin Park to the USFS lands and trails to the south and west. In addition, BMPRD has acquired approximately 7.5 miles of trail ROW and easement within the UGB in the past year.
- C. Regarding LWCF issue #1, the current effort at Sisters for planning trail connections from urban to USFS areas with planning facilitated by a National Park Service grant represents one good example for implementing these concepts. Can Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) play a facilitating role as well?
- D. Regarding LWCF issue #1, a specific need was mentioned for the purchase of canal lands for trail development. Examples of potential canal lands include the Central Oregon and Swalley Irrigation Districts and Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) irrigation projects. Before conversion to trail use, we will need to identify and address potential liability issues associated with public recreational use, how to pay for maintenance and monitoring and how to insure against trespass on neighboring private land parcels.
- E. Regard LWCF issue #1, connecting trail links that are isolated and legitimizing existing use by purchasing right-of-way is the key. People are using these canal roads now and don't care who owns it. This has been going on for a long time and many people don't think of it as trespassing because "everybody is doing it." We need to purchase the right of way!
- F. Regarding LWCF issue #2 (need for land acquisition), BMPRD and City of Bend staff have been working to get the urban open space issue on the community radar screen. The City Council recently identified the need for an open space plan as one of their annual goals. The BMPRD Board has set the acquisition of the 210-acre USFS Bend Pine Nursery property at the NE edge of the UGB as their highest priority. Friends of Bend, a local land use watchdog group, has also recognized the need for additional open space acquisition in and around the city. The City passed an Upland Areas of Special Interest (ASI) ordinance in the past year that will protect and preserve small examples of high desert geography within the Bend UGB and BMPRD just acquired 12 acres at one of these sites. But, with the high pressure on land values and availability resultant of growth, opportunities to protect remaining open space within the UGB are rapidly declining. Funding such acquisition is an equally difficult problem. Those of us who work with public land acquisition on a daily basis are more likely to be aware of this issue than the average citizen.
- G. Regarding LWCF issue #3 (need for additional camping and day-use areas/facilities), the large population of equestrians living and visiting this region represent a need for additional horse camps near long distance trails (2 to 5 twenty mile loops from camp are ideal). Equestrian groups readily volunteer to construct the horse camps so labor costs are lower for this type of camp construction than for other campgrounds.
- H. There is a need for additional aquatic center facilities and major renovation of existing aquatic facilities in the region (e.g. renovation for Juniper Swim and Fitness Center and a needed indoor swim and fitness center on Bend's west side).
- I. There is a need for dog parks (off-leash areas) in urban areas, state parks and dispersed recreational areas within the region. Dog parks would help alleviate problems such as dog fights, dog refuse,

- negative encounters with people and impacts on wildlife which are associated with an increasing dog population within the region. Providing such areas would help with the management of dogs in recreational areas within the region.
- J. The city of LaPine does not have sufficient funding (an adequate tax base) for adding needed recreational lands and facilities. The city cannot afford the 50% match associated with applying for LWCF funding.
- K. Regarding comment J, there is an opportunity to create paved bike/pedestrian trails with adjacent horse trails along major roads in LaPine (Burgess, Dorrence Meadow, 6th Street) since there are blocks of BLM lands along most of these streets. Many residents of LaPine own horses and would use the equestrian trails to access Federal lands and businesses in town. Are there other sources of funding that you could help us with?
- L. There is a need for developed sites for youth-oriented recreation. Specific facilities include skateboard and BMX parks.
- M. There is a need for additional sports facilities (soccer fields and volleyball courts) in existing recreational areas to serve the needs of a growing Hispanic population. If such facilities are not built, users will make their own.
- N. There is a need for acquisition of motorized trail easements to connect urban areas to Federal use areas. Separate trails are needed for Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) use and snowmobile use. All Terrain Vehicle/4x4 tracks are not compatible with snowmobile use. Combining motorized and non-motorized trails is also undesirable.
- O. Snowmobile and equestrian trail combinations illustrate a multiple use compatibility due to different seasons of use. Similar grades, terrain and support facilities provide use for year-round utilization and two supporting user groups. The Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) could help facilitate the establishment of more trails with these combined uses.
- P. There is a need for additional OHV areas within the region due to increasing demand. Existing areas are being loved to death. Adding additional OHV areas would take pressure off popular areas and better distribute use. Specific ATV facilities include trail systems, staging areas and play areas.
- Q. There is a need for designated motocross and challenge courses for motorcycles, ATVs, 4-wheel drive vehicles, mud bogging and truck pulling. Such areas could be located on public lands and managed by a concessionaire.
- R. There is a lack of designated trail opportunities for dry trail winter use (low elevation) within the region. Specific trail activities include equestrian, mountain biking and OHV riding.
- S. There is a need for additional equestrian facilities and trail access. Equestrian facilities should be designed for year-round use and provide access to larger trail systems. Specific facilities include restrooms, corrals, manure disposal sites, picnic tables, fire rings, Recreational Vehicle (RV) hook-ups and parking.
- T. There is a need for rehabilitation of existing water access facilities on regional rivers, lakes and reservoirs. Specific facilities include restrooms, parking areas, boat ramps and docks.
- U. There is a need for additional visitor centers providing interpretive and educational/ information programs.
- V. There is a need for additional non-motorized boat (canoes, kayaks, drift boats) facilities within the region. Specific facilities include launches, tie-ups, parking, restrooms and signing.
- W. There is a need to identify and develop water trails within the region (e.g. on the Upper and Urban sections of the Deschutes River).
- X. Regarding comment W, Bend Metro Parks and Recreation District and the city of Bend, with the assistance of J.T. Atkins Co., are currently working on a Deschutes River Trail Action Plan for the segment of the trail that is within the Bend Urban Growth Boundary (UGB). The plan recognizes the "river-as-trail" concept, the historic importance of waterways in the region's exploration and commerce and the growing demand for access to the river for recreational paddling. In keeping with this context, the river itself will be considered as important a part of the trail system as are the pathways along its bank. Provisions for put-ins, take-outs and portage access will be elements of the plan.

- Y. There is a need for additional shooting facilities dispersed throughout the region. Specific facilities include rifle/pistol, archery, and shotgun ranges and paintball areas.
- Z. There is a need for development of camp host sites on all public lands within the region to establish an enforcement presence. Facilities would include sewage, potable water and electricity in established and dispersed campsites.
- AA. There is a need for development of overflow camping areas for use during peak season visitation. Specific facilities include temporary restrooms, garbage disposal, parking lots and open space for tent camping.
- BB. Lack of play areas for non-motorized and motorized snow activities. There is a need for separate facilities for motorized and non-motorized users. Non-motorized activities are not compatible with snowmobiling.
- CC. There is a need for an indoor skating rink within the region.
- DD. There is a need for a safe winter tubing hill within the region. People are currently using undesignated areas with inherent safety problems.

### General Issue Comments

- EE. Existing recreational areas within the region are reaching carrying capacity limits. This is especially true in wilderness areas, dispersed recreational areas, and lakes, rivers, and reservoirs within the region. There is a need to redistribute demand through additional facilities or a unified regional reservation/information/use system (one stop, multi-agency). Rapid growth in the Bend area is leading to decreases in population service standards for neighborhood parks, community parks, sports fields and swim and fitness centers. In addition, increasing numbers of tourists are having an impact on local park and recreation infrastructure and maintenance budgets.
- FF. Recreation providers in the region have maintenance and operation redundancies/overlap in services. Providers must learn to work together and take a more regional approach to addressing park maintenance and operation. There is a need for sharing of operation and maintenance personnel and equipment through a unified regional management system. Such an effort would need a separate management structure to succeed.
- GG. Regarding comment FF, reducing redundancy and overlap of services is fine in concept (i.e., strictly cost accounting). However, each agency is mandated to serve a specific portion of the population for a specific purpose. If people can see an agency is able to leverage better service to their customers for less cost and in a manner consistent to the mission of the organization, then great. Missions often are not on the same or even parallel tracts.
- HH. There is a need for additional funding for park development and general maintenance of recreational resources and facilities within the region. In the Bend area, local SDC funding is inadequate to meet the demands of a growing population. Community funding tends to be directed towards other infrastructure needs such as schools and roads.
- II. There is a need for development of mountain bike trails that meet specific use standards. Mountain bikers are currently using trails that were not designed for this type of use.
- JJ. There is a need for safe, long-distance roadside bicycling opportunities within the region. Existing highway shoulders are too narrow for safe riding. Large groups of cyclists often block traffic and create conflicts with motorists and truckers. For safety purposes, it would be preferable to separate the trail from the roadway.
- KK. There is a need for regional trail planning in Region 7. Trail planning within the region is too localized, with locals who often side track efforts. Regional trail planning is needed to provide greater trail connectivity within the region.
- LL. There is an accelerating demand for convenient access to hiking/walking and bicycling trails from local neighborhoods associated with population growth and changes in leisure participation patterns (e.g. Baby Boomers).

- MM. There is a need for better management of ATV use within the region. Use should be confined to designated riding areas. In addition, better information should be available for ATV riders on where to ride.
- NN. How will the SCORP or LWCF program affect snowmobling now and in the future? Are we anticipating any changes in trails and their use?
- OO. There is a need to stop the fragmentation of recreational areas/open space areas associated with population growth within the region.
- PP. Regarding the above issue, the Columbia River Orienteering Club, and our sister club, ORCA, in Corvallis are receiving inquiries from Bend area residents interested in learning about and trying land navigation and orienteering (cross-country map and compass racing). We need larger contiguous parks in which to hold our events (for which we develop highly detailed maps, which we typically share with the parks agencies). Fragmenting parks means little chance of starting a serious orienteering club/interest/etc. in the Bend area. The terrain in Bend is perfect for our sport too!
- QQ. There is a growing problem with recreationists trespassing on private property within the urban interface areas. This problem is often associated with highly fragmented public lands in such interface areas. Recreationists often end up on private property, creating problems between homeowners and users. Potential solutions include establishing designated road routes, defined pathways/trails, improved road and trail signage, fencing, and the creation and distribution of recreational maps.
- RR. There is a lack of after hours (after 4:00 p.m.) law enforcement or management presence in recreation areas within the region. A typical recreation pattern is for users to arrive at 3:30 p.m. and stay until after dark.
- SS. There is a need for a designated law enforcement fund for Federal, State, and local agencies dedicated to law enforcement on recreational land. The fund should be used to acquire dedicated personnel or enforcement time (Sheriff's Departments need more help). Law enforcement personnel require specialized training for handling the range of violations occurring on recreational lands. In addition, more aerial patrols should be used to allow coverage of larger areas of land and direct land personnel to where problems exist.
- TT. There is a lack of adequate regulation and enforcement of recreational activities on U.S. Forest Service (USFS) land within the region. This situation creates additional user conflicts and resource impacts. Some people spend the entire summer camped on USFS land (Wickiup Reservoir and Crane Prairie Lake are the worst examples). Such problems are likely to increase with rising recreational demand. Potential solutions include eliminating some roads, providing more designated-use facilities and organized recreational areas and better law enforcement.
- UU. Safety and noise issues associated with shooting of firearms in the urban interface areas (e.g. Horse Butte and along the Deschutes River).
- VV. Increased user conflict in urban interface areas associated with Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) use, shooting, garbage dumping, bonfires and partying.
- WW. There are a growing number of user conflicts between hunters and OHV enthusiasts within the region. There is a need to develop management strategies to address this problem.
- XX. There is a need within the region for capital funding for purchasing land for public use parks.
- YY. The city of LaPine is in need of a recreation plan.
- ZZ. Communication and coordination with USFS personnel within the region is often difficult.
- AAA. Oregon's conservation and recreation lands are disproportionately distributed across different vegetation types. They tend to be concentrated along the coast, in the Cascades Mountains, and generally at high elevations. Oregon needs more recreation opportunities in areas that tend to be almost exclusively in private ownership. These include oak woodlands, savannas, bottomland hardwood floodplain forests, prairies and grasslands.

## **SCORP PLANNING REGION 8**

(Includes Klamath County)

### **Public Recreation Provider Session Other LWCF Issue Comments**

- A. There is a need for additional cross-country skiing trails and support facilities within the region. Specific facilities include trails, trailheads, parking areas, restrooms and trailside warming huts. These trails could also be used for hiking and mountain biking during the summer months. Ski trails and support facilities in the Bend area are a potential model for those needed in Klamath County.
- B. There is a need for additional non-motorized multiple-use (hiking, biking and equestrian) trails and trail facilities in Klamath County east of Klamath Lake. Trails should provide connection to U.S. Forest Service (USFS) and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) areas (e.g. Bly, Sprague River and Dairy).
- C. There is a need for additional snowmobiling trails and support facilities within the region. Specific facilities include trails, parking areas, restrooms and trailside warming huts. Currently, there are no snowmobile parks in the Klamath Falls area with a parking area, restroom and warming hut. Klamath County has a great natural resource base to develop quality snowmobiling opportunities.
- D. There is a need for additional designated Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) riding areas within the region. OHV areas should include a trail network with loop trails and other riding opportunities for use by ATVs, dirt bikes and 4-wheel drive vehicles. There is a need for a high impact or noise park within the region (providing an opportunity for special events such as play days). There should be more cooperation between agencies in providing OHV riding opportunities within the region.
- E. There is a lack of public campgrounds along the Highway 97/140 corridor. The corridor has a high volume of traffic. Specific facilities include tent camping and RV hookups, dump stations and restroom facilities. The undeveloped OPRD parcel on Bly Mountain has potential for campground and day-use development.
- F. There is a need for additional day use/rest area facilities along the Highway 140 corridor. Such rest stops need dumping facilities for RV's. To help cover costs, consider using coin or credit card activated access.
- G. There is a need for major rehabilitation of toilet facilities at campsites and trailheads within the region. Aging restroom facilities need an upgrade (e.g. to vault toilets) to better meet environmental standards. In addition, facilities should provide Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility.
- H. There is a need for additional snow parks in the eastern portion of Klamath County.
- I. There is a need for an interagency effort to provide additional interpretive facilities (signage and kiosks) within the region. The interpretive effort should be related to historical and environmental themes and provide directional information.

### **General Issue Comments**

- J. There is a need for an interagency effort to properly manage OHV trails and roads within the region. The first step is to develop a set of definitions for specific OHV trail and road facilities (e.g. trail classifications types and acceptable types of riding use permitted). Once this is accomplished, each organization/agency should identify specific trails and roads (within their management) that fall into each trail classification type (inventory of trail facilities). Next, trails and roads designated for specific types of OHV use should be properly signed (with consistent signing through multiple jurisdictions). In addition, environmental monitoring (e.g. soil erosion) of all existing trails and roads should be conducted to establish a baseline. Periodic trail/road monitoring should be conducted on a regular basis to identify changes in trail conditions.

- K. Recreational user groups within the region need to learn to better cooperate with other user groups. Individual groups can be extremely single minded, resulting in the appearance of making a land grab to satisfy their particular recreational needs.
- L. There needs to be greater interagency cooperation in maintenance and operation efforts within the region. We need to make better use of equipment and personnel (currently there are duplication of efforts). There is a need to make wiser use of limited recreational resources within the region (e.g. signs, planning and general organization).
- M. There is a need to better document available recreational opportunities within the region and make the information available to the public (e.g. providing a map of potential canoe routes with the region) through an internet website. The website should be a one-stop shopping area for recreational opportunities within the region/state. There is potential for the effort to be conducted statewide (with OPRD coordination), using standardized recording forms to gather consistent information across recreation providers throughout the state.
- N. The Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) needs to buy into the idea of supporting public tourism in the state of Oregon (e.g. roads designed for Recreational Vehicles and bicycles). The state needs to develop the infrastructure, if it is serious about developing tourism as a form of economic development.
- O. There is a need for increased interstate/interagency/small community involvement regarding the development of the Volcanic All American Road. The road has great potential as a tourism development strategy within the region.
- P. There is a need for better information on dispersed recreational usage on Federal lands within the region (especially on BLM lands). The BLM may want to consider the methodology being used in the USFS National Recreation Survey, developed by Don English at the Southern Research Station in Athens, Georgia.

**General Public Session  
LWCF Issue Comments**

- Q. Oregon metropolitan areas typically get a majority of state grant allocations. Grant allocations should not be done on a per capita basis. Increased funding should be allocated to less densely populated areas across the state.
- R. There is a need to acquire more water access on regional rivers and lakes (e.g. Williamson and Sprague Rivers). Acquisition must occur before private property excludes public access. Development would include bank and fishing access to take advantage of excellent fishing opportunities. There is also a need to maintain water quality (e.g. algae and nitrate levels) on recreational waters, especially on upper Klamath Lake and along the Lake Ewana Trail.
- S. We are losing access to public lands within the region and the state. There is a need to take a more proactive approach to the problem.
- T. Small communities within the region need additional community parks, trails and bike paths.
- U. The region has great cross-county skiing potential. There is a need for development of facilities such as snowparks, a designated cross-country skiing trail system and warming huts. For safety reasons, cross-country ski trails are not compatible with snowmobile use.
- V. There is a need for snowmobile trail warming huts within the region. The region includes over 400 miles of groomed snowmobile trails. These trails could support considerably more use. Local snowmobile clubs would provide volunteer labor for hut construction. Snowmobile huts should be located in good tourist locations close to area motels and facilities. It is difficult to overcome USFS red tape and barriers to get approval for hut construction.
- W. There is a need for additional trail facilities such as warming huts, potable water systems and restrooms on trails through USFS and state lands.
- X. There is a need for a connected bike trail system within the region. The system would include a complex of on and off road bike routes. The system would require an adequate number of trailheads and systemwide maps.

- Y. All roads shown on the Oregon Bicycling Guide (published by ODOT, 8/99) should have an adequate paved shoulder (2 to 3 feet) for bicyclists. The shoulder should be asphalt rather than chip seal. ODOT doesn't provide the same paved shoulders in this region as they do in urban areas in the Willamette Valley. Klamath County also needs to change their mindset regarding the need for paved shoulders and the need for bicycle route connectivity.
- Z. There is a need for added bicycle, hiking and cross-country ski trail directional and interpretive signage within the region. Currently, there is no sense of direction or connectivity on regional trails. Directional signage is also needed to provide public access to public lands (e.g. Sunriver).
- AA. There is a need to develop canoe and kayak routes (water trails) within the region. Existing water resources within the region provide a great opportunity to develop a water trail system. Needed facilities include water access sites (for put in and take out), overnight camping facilities and directional signage. Maps, brochures and other marketing tools would be needed to properly market water trail opportunities.
- BB. Klamath County has great potential to provide recreational opportunities to visitors from outside the region (in all seasons). Therefore, Klamath County sees recreation-based tourism as a potentially successful form of economic development. LWCF funding should not be based solely on current recreation usage of existing facilities, but also on a region's potential to satisfy need through new facility development.
- CC. More funds should be available for improvement of regional Scenic Byways.
- DD. There is a need for additional RV and primitive campgrounds east of Highway 97 and along the highway corridor.

#### General Issue Comments

- EE. There is a need for vector (mosquito) control in outlying areas of the region.
- FF. There is a need for maintenance of outdoor recreation facilities and trails within the region. There are insufficient maintenance funds available to recreation providers. Volunteers are providing assistance, but trash is becoming a greater problem in regional recreation areas. There is also a growing backlog of infrastructure maintenance in recreation facilities throughout the region. This backlog creates a barrier to the development of new recreational facilities within the region.
- GG. There is a need for improved use of media to promote recreational opportunities within the region. Local skills (e.g. Oregon Institute of Technology) could be tapped to develop promotional themes and programs. A specific example mentioned was showing an Oregon Field Guide segment on the Klamath County area at facilities where tourists gather. There is a need for a one-stop website clearinghouse for outdoor recreation information in Klamath County (e.g. klamathcounty.net). The site should have links to other recreation provider websites.
- HH. We need to reevaluate how recreational funds are being used in the region. Rather than building new facilities, it may be better to promote the use of existing facilities.
- II. There is a need for better information sharing among recreational user groups and agencies within the region.
- JJ. There is a need to promote regional group events such as bike tours (e.g. Cycle Oregon), snowmobile festivals and interpretive events. Regional events should provide recreational opportunities for people of all ages and skill levels. Such events can help to encourage the use of existing recreational resources and facilities within the region.
- KK. There is a lack of statewide recognition of Klamath County as a distinct and important recreation region or recreation destination area in the state.
- LL. There is a need for short walking loop tours within the region. There is also a need for longer 4 to 6 mile hiking tours. Brochures should be developed to market these loop trails.
- MM. There is an opportunity to promote gathering of forest products as a recreational activity within the region. A brochure should be developed to market this type of recreational activity.

- NN. There is a need for interagency coordination in development of multi-use facilities within the region. For example, restroom facilities funded by Marine Board grant dollars cannot be used to support other non-marine facilities.
- OO. Oregon's conservation and recreation lands are disproportionately distributed across different vegetation types. They tend to be concentrated along the coast, in the Cascades Mountains, and generally at high elevations. Oregon needs more recreation opportunities in areas that tend to be almost exclusively in private ownership. These include oak woodlands, savannas, bottomland hardwood floodplain forests, prairies and grasslands.

## **SCORP PLANNING REGION 9**

(Includes Lake County)

### **Public Recreation Provider Session Other LWCF Issue Comments**

- A. There is a need for ski area facility development and improvements within the region. Specific examples include connecting ski areas to surrounding recreational resources/opportunities, rest rooms, lodging and parking.
- B. There is a need for additional ball fields and skateboard parks within the region.
- C. There is a need for additional shooting range facilities within the region (e.g. pistol, rifle, shotgun and archery ranges). Shooting facilities would be available for local residents and tourists. The Paisley shooting range facility is a good model for potential facility development.
- D. There is a need for additional snowmobile trails and trailside warming huts within the region. The existing natural resource base provides an excellent opportunity for developing a "snowmobile destination area" within the region. The objective is to create a hut-to-hut snowmobile trail system.
- E. There is a need for increased trail connectivity within the region. The objective is to create an interconnected trail system for equestrian, hiking, mountain biking and motorized trails on BLM and USFS lands.
- F. There is a need for additional Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) riding areas within the region. Although OHV riding is a growing activity in the Western states, riding areas continue to be closed as a result of resource concerns. We need to take a proactive approach to development of riding areas within the region. Funding is needed to identify potential OHV riding areas and conduct necessary feasibility studies. We need to identify low-impact riding opportunities like the Backcountry Discovery Route.
- G. There is a need for skateboard parks within the region. There are not enough recreational opportunities for area youth.
- H. We are losing access to public lands (e.g. hunting access) within the region. Access roads through private property are being gated. An effort should be made to identify critical access problems and acquire necessary properties or recreational easements. In addition, we need to ensure that access roads receiving necessary road maintenance.

### **General Issue Comments**

- I. There is a need for better directional signing on highways providing access to recreational opportunities within the region (California is a example of a successful highway signing program). Such signing will help to promote the use of existing recreational facilities.
- J. Funding is needed for the development of an interpretive plan for existing trails and roads within the region.
- K. We need to bring back the Backcountry Discovery Route.
- L. There is a need for funding of minor rehabilitation projects at city parks within the region.
- M. Oregon's conservation and recreation lands are disproportionately distributed across different vegetation types. They tend to be concentrated along the coast, in the Cascades Mountains, and generally at high elevations. Oregon needs more recreation opportunities in areas that tend to be almost exclusively in private ownership. These include oak woodlands, savannas, bottomland hardwood floodplain forests, prairies and grasslands.

## **SCORP PLANNING REGION 10**

(Includes Grant, Baker, Union and Wallowa Counties)

### **Public Recreation Provider Session Other LWCF Issue Comments**

- A. There is a need for additional skate and skateboarding parks.
- B. There is a need for an ice skating rink facility at Wallowa Lake. The facility should be convertible to a roller skating rink during summer months.
- C. There is a need for additional river access and support facilities such as boat ramps and restroom facilities.
- D. There is a need for land acquisition to construct new facilities to serve growing communities (e.g. new sub-divisions within the city).
- E. There is a need for multi-use fields for growing activities such as soccer. Adult programs are being forced out because of a lack of space with first priority going to youth programs.
- F. There is a need for additional camping facilities within the region. Specific examples include the need for RV group camps and added camping facilities at Clyde Holliday.
- G. There is a need for a multi-agency interpretive center within the region. In addition, the region is in need of interpretive facilities such as kiosks, signs and outdoor classrooms.
- H. There is a need for additional community walking and biking trails. There is also a need to provide trails connecting communities within the region (e.g. Mt. Vernon/Clyde Holliday).
- I. There is a need to develop potential rails to trails projects within the region.
- J. There is a need for additional equestrian trails in the region.
- K. There is a need for additional ATV trails within the region.
- L. There is a need for minimal facility development (rather than large development projects) in dispersed recreation areas within the region. This includes the development of recreational staging areas (basic parking, information kiosks and restroom facilities) with access to existing trails.

### **General Issue Comments**

- M. There is a need for protection (e.g. fencing) of critical natural resource areas within the region.
- N. There is a need for more cooperation between public and private recreation providers within the region (e.g. need for updated cross-country ski, mountain bike and ATV trail maps).
- O. There is a need for general maintenance funding of new recreational facilities and parklands. Budget cuts in Oregon are becoming the "way of life."
- P. Oregon's conservation and recreation lands are disproportionately distributed across different vegetation types. They tend to be concentrated along the coast, in the Cascades Mountains, and generally at high elevations. Oregon needs more recreation opportunities in areas that tend to be almost exclusively in private ownership. These include oak woodlands, savannas, bottomland hardwood floodplain forests, prairies and grasslands.

## **SCORP PLANNING REGION 11**

(Includes Harney and Malheur Counties)

### **Public Recreation Provider Session Other LWCF Issue Comments**

- A. Regarding LWCF issue #3 (funding priority for major rehabilitation), vandalism is a major problem associated with the need for rehabilitation within the region. One way to address the problem is to construct camp host sites and hire camp hosts to help police camping facilities.
- B. A percentage of LWCF funds should be earmarked for acquiring high-value properties within the region. Properties should have high natural resource value such as wilderness areas and wild and scenic river segments. Such areas should have minimal recreation facilities and be managed for low visitation.
- C. There is a need for additional heritage recreation opportunities in the region. Specific examples include educational programs involving the regions tribal, ranching and mining history. There is also a need for funding for special events, interpretive signage and living history areas.
- D. There is a need for additional water-based recreation opportunities in the region. This would include land acquisition and facility development. Needed facilities include boat ramps, day camps, tent, RV and fishing facilities. There is also a specific need for water-based infrastructure on the Owyhee Reservoir and land acquisition of the Vine Hill Dam Site for flood protection and water-based recreation.
- E. There is a need for land acquisition of public rights-of-way across private property to reach public land (existing roads). Ranches are being bought up and closed to public access (e.g. the Pole Creek Road to Hanna Station). A suggestion was to use Federal Revised Statute 2477 (Historic Transportation Routes) to keep historic roads and trails in public road status. Some counties are avoiding their responsibility of maintaining public access to public lands. In addition, we need to maintain road access to public waterways for fishing, hunting and boating.
- F. There is a need for additional signage (roads and trails), information kiosks and maps to help identify access to dispersed public lands (multi-agency effort). People often get lost searching for dispersed recreation areas (safety issue). Similar information should be available on a website and at visitor information centers in surrounding communities.
- G. There is a need for additional facilities at remote undeveloped campsites within the region. Campsites need toilets and trash collection facilities.
- H. There is a lack of horseback riding facilities within the region. Some riders in the region have been displaced by ATV use. Specific needs include horse trails, horse camping facilities and facilities for organized activities (e.g. fairground arenas). Fair ground arenas are needed to provide a place for youth to practice. One example of needed fairground improvements is found at Paisley. A few dollars invested at the fairgrounds would make a big difference.
- I. Regarding comment H, there is fantastic equestrian trail potential within the region. Future riding areas need supporting overnight campgrounds and equestrian facilities.
- J. There is a need for additional designated OHV areas within the region. Specific facilities and services include trails, parking, restrooms, tow vehicles, camping facilities, communication links to emergency services and law enforcement. Cross-country OHV travel (ATV's, motorcycles, 4x4 trucks, SUV's and airplanes on gravel bars) is damaging the region's natural resource base. As existing Federal lands are closed to such use the problems will increase on adjacent private lands. We need to proactively address the problem by creating more designated OHV areas within the region.
- K. There is a need for an outdoor multi-use sports complex within the region. The complex would include soccer, football, baseball and softball fields.
- L. There is a need for remodeling and expansion of the Logan Valley Youth Ranch in Grant County (the ranch is used by residents of Grant, Harney and Malheur counties). The ranch provides year-round recreational opportunities.

- M. There is a need to purchase the Neumar Ranch (on Highway 26) for conversion to an RV park to attract snowbirds (retirees who spend the winter in the southern U.S.) during the summer months.
- N. There is a need to construct an all-season road into Birch Creek to allow seniors, and college, school, boy scouts and 4-H groups to access the area. The area is currently used as a rafting take-out site.
- O. There is a need to develop a county park in Harney County. The park would require RV camping facilities and group-use picnic shelters.
- P. There is an opportunity to acquire the Burns Butte Shooting Range.
- Q. Need for additional recreation facilities such as boat ramps, toilets and overnight facilities.
- R. Funding for road improvements and upgrades to provide better access to the recreation sites.
- S. Need for additional law enforcement.

### General Issue Comments

- T. Adequate funding for annual maintenance of facilities.
- U. The Bureau of Reclamation's lacks authority to improve recreation facilities above minimum basic levels without a non-federal cost sharing partner.
- V. Enormous amounts of Federal land within the region are being held in Wilderness Study Area status. Such areas are managed by Federal agencies as Wilderness Areas (closed to any motorized use). The Federal government needs to decide if such areas will be put into permanent wilderness status or be made available for other uses.
- W. State zoning laws written for the Willamette Valley are not applicable in this region. We need a more uniform classification of soils between eastern and western Oregon. In the western Oregon, class 1-3 agricultural lands are classified as non-developable. In eastern Oregon, class 1-7 agricultural lands are classified as non-developable. If the system were fair, class 4-8 (non-prime) agricultural lands in eastern Oregon should be developable, as they are in the Willamette Valley.
- X. A high percentage of the region's lands are in Federal ownership (74% of land in Malheur County). As a result, nonresident taxpayers are able to control how we use our lands (e.g. facility development and zoning regulations).
- Y. Less funding is available in Region 11 (and other rural areas) to meet existing recreational needs than in more developed areas of the state. Rural Oregon is the first to get hit when the state's economy goes bad and the last to recover during economic recovery. During difficult times, the provision of park and recreation services in rural areas is seen as a fringe benefit. This problem is magnified as the state's general fund dries up and rural areas begin to lose federal matching funds.
- Z. Recreation providers in the region have a difficult time coming up with the 50% match required for LWCF grant money (due to a lack of corporate charitable funds and small tax base). The match ratio should be reduced to allow rural areas to better access LWCF funds. In addition, communities often lack the capacity (time, money and planning experience) to participate with other agencies in capturing recreational funding. Providers must learn to work together on sub-regional planning to develop recreational strategies for improving local quality-of-life as well as economic development.
- AA. Vandalism is a problem in dispersed recreation areas and community parks within the region. There is a need for more law enforcement within such areas to deter vandalism.
- BB. An increased effort is needed to stop the spread of noxious weeds on recreational vehicles. There is a need to enforce regulations designed to keep recreational vehicles on established roads in campground areas. The public is prone to injury from weeds such as puncture vine, goats head, knapweed and star thistle. In addition, cattle and deer will not walk through areas overgrown with such weeds.
- CC. There is a need to improve the process of site-specific recreational planning within the region. Problems occur in identifying facility requirements in recreation areas with multi-agency ownership and management. Recreation planners must be aware of the changing demographic and use patterns of the visiting public (e.g. a growing Hispanic population requiring more group campsites, group picnic areas and multi-family outings).

- DD. The region has enormous potential for outdoor recreation/tourism development. There is a need for better interagency cooperation in identifying outdoor recreation development opportunities and in siting facilities. The region could be used to take use pressure off of other regions of the state (e.g. Bend area).
  - EE. Counties within the region are faced with high costs associated with providing search and rescue services on Federal lands. For example, Malheur County currently spends from \$10,000-\$25,000 per major rescue, with an average of 4 major rescues per year. Counties feel that there should be some form of compensation for search and rescue on Federal lands.
  - FF. There is a need for additional law enforcement (including interagency coordination across all organizations/agencies) on recreation lands throughout the region. There is a problem with illegal dumping, drug labs and dangerous confrontations on recreation lands.
  - GG. There is a need for a large indoor facility in the Burns/Hines area to accommodate sporting events, skating, talent shows, conventions and heritage events.
  - HH. There is a need to acquire the old Ontario National Guard Amory for use as a youth center.
  - II. There is a need for improved garbage collection in dispersed recreational areas within the region.
  - JJ. There is a need to better address potential liability problems associated with using volunteers in providing trash collection (injuries caused by needles and broken glass) on dispersed recreation sites.
  - KK. Funding is needed for tree removal and replacement as a result of city/county liability issues.
  - LL. Oregon's conservation and recreation lands are disproportionately distributed across different vegetation types. They tend to be concentrated along the coast, in the Cascades Mountains, and generally at high elevations. Oregon needs more recreation opportunities in areas that tend to be almost exclusively in private ownership. These include oak woodlands, savannas, bottomland hardwood floodplain forests, prairies and grasslands.
-