

Exhibit R

Scenic and Aesthetic Values

**Yellow Rosebush Energy Center
September 2025**

**Prepared for
Yellow Rosebush Energy Center, LLC**

Prepared by



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Table of Contents

1.0	Introduction	1
2.0	Analysis Area – OAR 345-021-0010(1)(r)(A)(B)	1
2.1	Sherman County.....	2
2.2	Wasco County.....	2
3.0	Methods – OAR 345-021-0010(1)(r)(C)	5
4.0	Impacts – OAR 345-021-0010(1)(r)(D)	6
5.0	Significance of Visual Impacts – OAR 345-021-0010(1)(r)(E)	6
6.0	Mitigation Measures – OAR 345-021-0010(1)(r)(F)	7
7.0	Monitoring – OAR 345-021-0010(1)(r)(G).....	7
8.0	Submittal Requirements	7
8.1	Submittal Requirements.....	7
8.2	Approval Standards.....	8
9.0	References.....	8

List of Tables

Table R-1. Important Scenic Resources Inventory within the Analysis Area.....	3
Table R-2. Submittal Requirements Matrix	7
Table R-3. Approval Standards	8

List of Figures

Figure R-1. Scenic Resources

Figure R-2. Solar Array Viewshed Analysis

Figure R-3. Gen-Tie Line Viewshed Analysis

List of Attachments

Attachment R-1. Land Management Plan Excerpts

Attachment R-2. Photolog

Attachment R-3. List of Land Management Plans Reviewed

Acronyms and Abbreviations

Applicant	Yellow Rosebush Energy Center, LLC
ASC	Application for Site Certificate
Facility	Yellow Rosebush Energy Center
gen-tie	generation-tie
KOPs	Key Observation Points
kV	kilovolt
OAR	Oregon Administrative Rules
ODOT	Oregon Department of Transportation
ZVI	zone of visual influence

1.0 Introduction

Yellow Rosebush Energy Center, LLC (Applicant) seeks to develop the Yellow Rosebush Energy Center (Facility), a solar energy generation facility, battery energy storage system, and related or supporting facilities in Wasco and Sherman counties, Oregon. This Exhibit R was prepared to meet the submittal requirements in Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR) 345-021-0010(1)(r) and the approval standard in OAR 345-022-0080.

2.0 Analysis Area – OAR 345-021-0010(1)(r)(A)(B)

OAR 345-021-0010(1)(r) An analysis of potential visual impacts of the proposed facility, if any, on significant or important scenic resources within the analysis area, providing evidence to support a finding by the Council under OAR 345-022-0080, including:

OAR 345-021-0010(1)(r)(A) An inventory of scenic resources identified as significant or important in a land use management plan adopted by one or more local, tribal, state, regional, or federal government or agency applicable to lands within the analysis area for scenic resources. The applicant must provide a list of the land management plans reviewed in developing the inventory and a copy of the relevant portion of the plans;

OAR 345-021-0010(1)(r)(B) A map or maps showing the location of the scenic resources described under paragraph (A), in relation to the site of the proposed facility;

In accordance with Project Order¹, the analysis area for Exhibit R is the Facility site boundary plus 2 miles from the site boundary (Figure R-1). The site boundary is defined in detail in Exhibits B and C and is shown on Figure R-1; the analysis area for scenic resources is shown on Figure R-1, Figure R-2, and Figure R-3.

The site boundary is defined as “the perimeter of the site of a proposed energy facility, its related or supporting facilities, all temporary laydown and staging areas and all corridors and micro-siting corridors proposed by the applicant” (OAR 345-001-0010[31]).

The site boundary encompasses the following components:

- Solar Panels
- Battery Energy Storage System
- Collector Substation
- Operations and Maintenance Building
- Site Access and Service Roads
- Fencing

¹ Oregon Department of Energy, Project Order for Yellow Rosebush Energy Center (January 2024)

Two options are under consideration for the 500-kV gen-tie line: 1) connecting to the existing BPA 500-kV transmission line located directly adjacent to the westernmost edge of the Facility; or 2) a 500-kV gen-tie line of 4.5 miles connecting to BPA's existing Buckley Substation located in Sherman County north of the Facility. For the purposes of this analysis, the analysis area for the gen-tie line is based on the longer second option, the 4.5 miles connecting to BPA's existing Buckley Substation.

The Facility features are fully described in Exhibit B and the site boundary is described in Exhibit C. The location of the Facility features and the site boundary is outlined in Exhibit C. Sections 2.1 and 2.2 summarize language pertinent to scenic resources or values contained in land use planning documents (Attachment R-1) for the analysis area. Attachment R-3 provides a list of management plans that were reviewed for this analysis.

2.1 Sherman County

The Sherman County Comprehensive Land Use Plan (Sherman County 2007) addresses statewide planning goals, including those relating to open spaces, scenic sites/areas and natural resources (Goal 5). Section XI, Physical Characteristics, includes Finding XI, which states that the John Day River Canyon and the Deschutes River Canyon are all-important features of the County's landscape and that the Oregon State Department of Transportation (ODOT) has designated certain segments of I-84, US-97, OR-206 and OR-216 as Scenic Highways. None of these resources are located in the analysis area (Table R-1). Goal VI and Policy VII address the Sherman County Comprehensive Land Use Plan's management criteria for scenic resources (see Attachment R-1).

2.2 Wasco County

The Wasco County 2040 Comprehensive Plan (Wasco County 2020) Goal 5 chapter contains inventories, policies, and implementation strategies for Federal Wild and Scenic Rivers (Policy 5.4.1), Oregon Scenic Waterways (Policy 5.5.1), Scenic Views and Sites (Policy 5.13.1) (see Attachment R-1). None of the features identified in the Wasco County Comprehensive Plan are located in the analysis area (Table R-1).

The Wasco County 2040 Comprehensive Plan Goal 5 contains policies to protect and conserve scenic areas. Implementation measures listed include evaluating impact of development on scenic resources during permitting processes and working with public and private organizations, landowners, and the general public to identify, record, and protect valued scenic and open space resources.

Table R-1. Important Scenic Resources Inventory within the Analysis Area

Jurisdiction	Plan	Scenic Resources Specified in Plan	Important or Significant Scenic Resources Identified in Analysis Area	Plan Management Criteria	Scenic Resource Description	Distance from Gen-tie (miles)	Direction from Gen-tie	Distance from Solar Arrays (miles)	Direction from Solar Arrays
Counties									
Sherman County	Comprehensive Land Use Plan Sherman County Oregon (Sherman County 2007)	John Day River Canyon Deschutes River Canyon Segments of: I-84 US-97 OR-206 OR-216	None	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Wasco County	Wasco County 2040 Comprehensive Plan (Wasco County 2020).	Columbia River Gorge Deschutes River Scenic Waterway John Day River Rock Creek Reservoir Pine Hollow Lake White River Canyon Segments of: I-84 N US-97 US-197 OR-216 US-26 OR-218 US-30	None	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

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3.0 Methods – OAR 345-021-0010(1)(r)(C)

OAR 345-021-0010(1)(r)(C) A description of the methodology the applicant used to identify and assess potential visual impacts to the scenic resources identified in paragraph (A);

Visual impacts of the Facility are primarily related to views of the solar arrays, aboveground gen-tie, and, to a lesser degree (due to being collocated or dispersed amongst taller Facility infrastructure), other facilities such as the access roads, substation, battery energy storage systems, fencing and gates, and temporary construction areas. Views from OR-216 are represented as Key Observation Points (KOPs) (Figures R-2 and R-3) in the analysis of visual impacts; these are noted below as applicable. KOPs were identified based on locations from which the Facility would potentially be visible and noticeable to the casual observer. The “casual observer” is considered an observer who is not actively looking or searching for the Facility, but who is engaged in activities at locations with potential views of the Facility, such as hiking or driving along a scenic road. If the Facility infrastructure is not noticeable to the casual observer, visual impacts can be considered minor to negligible.

The Facility will not generate any emissions plumes, so it will not cause any visual impacts from air emissions. Potential visual impacts due to dust created during construction will be largely prevented by following best management practices for dust control as detailed in Exhibit I and Exhibit O. Visual impacts of the Facility are primarily related to potential views of the solar panels.

In evaluating the visual impacts, the Applicant first determined whether the Facility would potentially be visible from any KOPs using digital bare-earth terrain modeling. The analysis began with a zone of visual influence (ZVI) analysis (also known as a viewshed or visibility analysis), using Esri ArcGIS software, to identify the areas from which the Facility solar arrays and gen-tie line might be visible.

To assess the potential visibility of the structures, the ZVI analysis was performed for the solar arrays (Figure R-2) and the gen-tie line (Figure R-3). The analysis assumed a maximum height of 12 feet for the solar arrays. A maximum height of 180 feet was assumed for the 500-kV gen-tie line. All other Facility infrastructure was deemed less visually impactful (due to height, being dispersed throughout the site boundary, or adjacent to taller infrastructure, etc.) and addressed by the assessment of the solar arrays and gen-tie infrastructure. A viewing height of 1.8 meters (6 feet) was assumed. Visibility of Facility infrastructure was defined by visible or not visible, indicated by color coding (see Figures R-2 and R-3), and by proximity, i.e., foreground (less than 0.5 mile), middleground (0.5 to 5 miles), or background distances (more than 5 miles).

It should be noted that this “bare-earth” modeling approach, based only on the effects of terrain on visibility, results in a highly conservative assessment of potential visibility. The model does not account for distance, lighting, weather, and atmospheric attenuation factors that diminish visibility under actual field conditions. A bare-earth analysis also does not account for the effects of vegetation or buildings, which will in practice block or screen views in some places.

The solar array components are described in further detail in Exhibit B. The solar panels will be the most visible components of the solar arrays and will consist of solar module strings, mounted on single-axis tracker systems. The visibility of the solar arrays will depend primarily on topographic or other view obstructions and the distance from the viewer to the solar arrays. With a maximum height of 12 feet, the arrays will not be visible from sites lower in elevation than the area on which the array is constructed. From sites that are similar in elevation to the arrays, viewers will see only a line on the horizon, and not individual solar panels. Depending on the viewing distance, viewers at sites higher in elevation may have views of the panels, especially if the view direction is toward the angle at which the panel is tilted toward the sun. To the extent practicable, reflectivity of the solar arrays will be minimized. Anti-reflective coating will be used to reduce glare, and the surface of the panels will have high transmittance to increase the amount of light reaching the photovoltaic cells. With these methods, the panels will be less reflective than a natural water body or a coated glass surface that is not antireflective.

A field review was conducted to confirm the preliminary viewshed results from the ZVI analysis and to document existing visual conditions. Photos from the KOPs shown in Figures R-2 and R-3 are included in Attachment R-2.

4.0 Impacts – OAR 345-021-0010(1)(r)(D)

OAR 345-021-0010(1)(r)(D) Identification of potential visual impacts to the scenic resources identified in paragraph (A), including, but not limited to:(i) Loss of vegetation or alteration of the landscape as a result of construction or operation;

(ii) Visual impacts of facility structures or plumes, including but not limited to, changes in landscape character or quality; and

(iii) Loss of visibility due to air emissions or other pollution resulting from the construction or operation of the proposed facility;

Based on the results of the ZVI analysis, there are no designated scenic areas in the analysis area (see Figures R-2 and R-3). Therefore, no visual impacts to scenic areas from the Facility within the analysis area are anticipated to occur.

5.0 Significance of Visual Impacts – OAR 345-021-0010(1)(r)(E)

OAR 345-021-0010(1)(r)(E) An assessment of the significance of the visual impacts described under paragraph (D);

The Facility gen-tie line will not be visible from any scenic areas because none are located in the analysis area. Therefore, the Facility will not have a significant visual impact on any scenic area.

6.0 Mitigation Measures – OAR 345-021-0010(1)(r)(F)

OAR 345-021-0010(1)(r)(F) A description of the measures the applicant proposes to avoid, reduce or otherwise mitigate any potential significant adverse visual impacts; and

Because the Facility would have no significant adverse impacts on scenic resources, no additional measures would be necessary to avoid or minimize impacts.

7.0 Monitoring – OAR 345-021-0010(1)(r)(G)

OAR 345-021-0010(1)(r)(G) The applicant's proposed monitoring program, if any, for impacts to scenic resources.

No significant adverse impacts would occur on scenic resources; therefore, the Applicant does not propose a monitoring program.

8.0 Submittal Requirements

8.1 Submittal Requirements

Table R-2. Submittal Requirements Matrix

Requirement	Location
OAR 345-021-0010(1)(r) An analysis of potential visual impacts of the proposed facility, if any, on significant or important scenic resources within the analysis area, providing evidence to support a finding by the Council under OAR 345-022-0080, including:	–
(A) An inventory of scenic resources identified as significant or important in a land use management plan adopted by one or more local, tribal, state, regional, or federal government or agency applicable to lands within the analysis area for scenic resources. The applicant must provide a list of the land management plans reviewed in developing the inventory and a copy of the relevant portion of the plans;	Section 2.0; Attachment R-1, Attachment R-3
(B) A map or maps showing the location of the scenic resources described under paragraph (A), in relation to the site of the proposed facility;	Section 2.0; Figure R-1
(C) A description of the methodology the applicant used to identify and assess potential visual impacts to the scenic resources identified in paragraph (A);	Section 3.0
(D) Identification of potential visual impacts to the scenic resources identified in paragraph (A), including, but not limited to:	
(i) Loss of vegetation or alteration of the landscape as a result of construction or operation;	Section 4.0
(ii) Visual impacts of facility structures or plumes, including but not limited to, changes in landscape character or quality; and	Section 4.0
(iii) Loss of visibility due to air emissions or other pollution resulting from the construction or operation of the proposed facility;	Section 4.0

Requirement	Location
(E) An assessment of the significance of the visual impacts described under paragraph (D);	Section 5.0
(F) A description of the measures the applicant proposes to avoid, reduce or otherwise mitigate any potential significant adverse visual impacts; and	Section 6.0
(G) The applicant's proposed monitoring program, if any, for impacts to scenic resources.	Section 7.0

8.2 Approval Standards

Table R-3. Approval Standards

Requirement	Location
OAR 345-022-0080 Scenic Resources	–
(1) To issue a site certificate, the Council must find that the design, construction and operation of the facility, taking into account mitigation, are not likely to result in significant adverse visual impacts to significant or important scenic resources.	Sections 3.0 through 6.0
(2) The Council may issue a site certificate for a special criteria facility under OAR 345-015-0310 without making the findings described in section (1). In issuing such a site certificate, the Council may impose conditions of approval to minimize the potential significant adverse visual impacts from the design, construction, and operation of the facility on significant or important scenic resources.	N/A
(3) A scenic resource is considered to be significant or important if it is identified as significant or important in a current land use management plan adopted by one or more local, tribal, state, regional, or federal government or agency.	Section 2.0
(4) The Council shall apply the version of this rule adopted under Administrative Order EFSC 1-2007, filed and effective May 15, 2007, to the review of any Application for Site Certificate or Request for Amendment that was determined to be complete under OAR 345-015-0190 or 345-027-0363 before the effective date of this rule. Nothing in this section waives the obligations of the certificate holder and Council to abide by local ordinances, state law, and other rules of the Council for the construction and operation of energy facilities in effect on the date the site certificate or amended site certificate is executed.	N/A

9.0 References

Sherman County. 2007. 1994 Comprehensive Land Use Plan, Updated 2007.

<https://www.co.sherman.or.us/departments/planning-department/>.

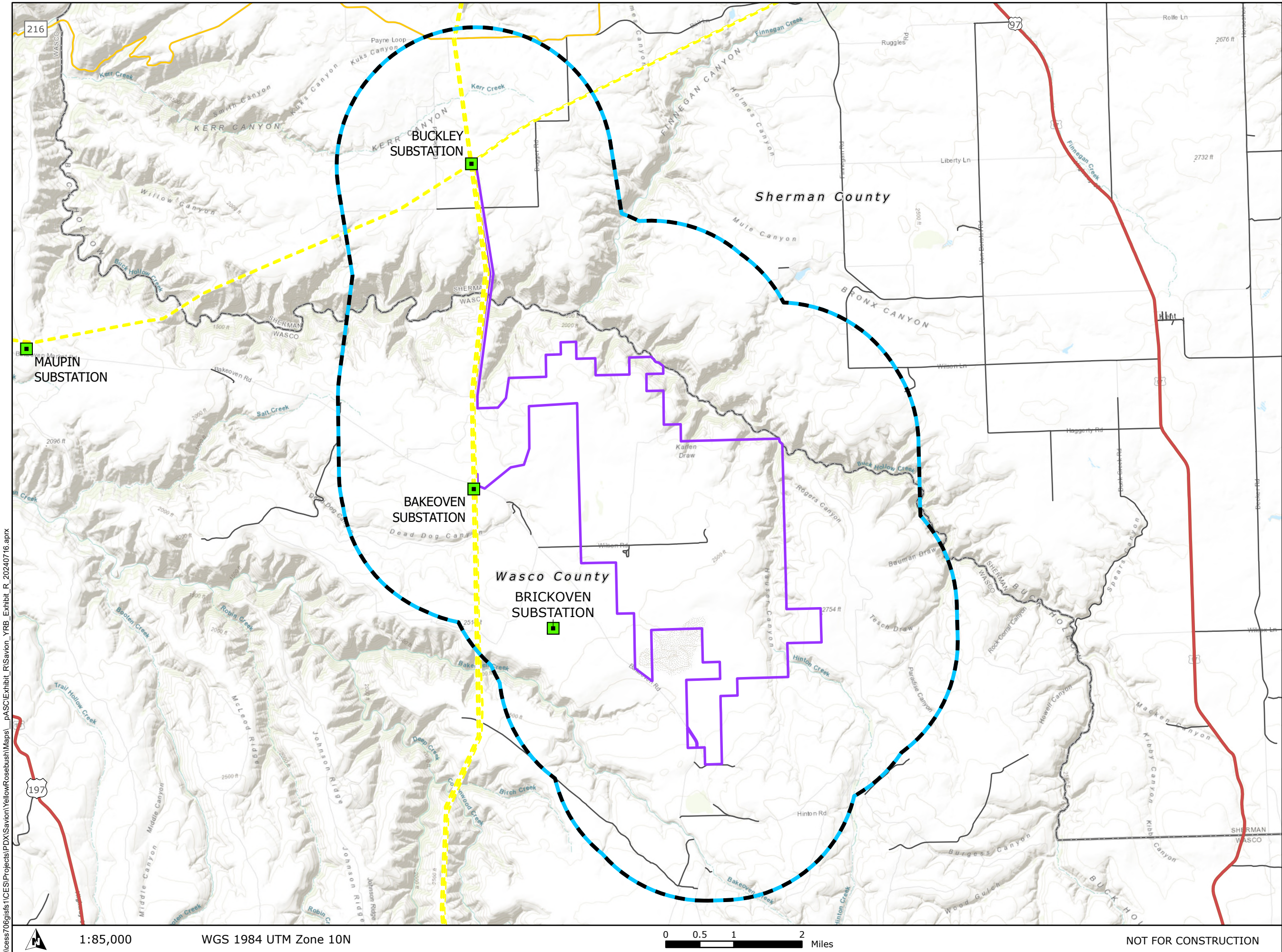
Wasco County. 2020. Wasco County 2040 Comprehensive Plan.

https://cms5.revize.com/revize/wascocounty/document_center/Planning/WC%202040/WascoCounty2040_2022Update.pdf.

Figures

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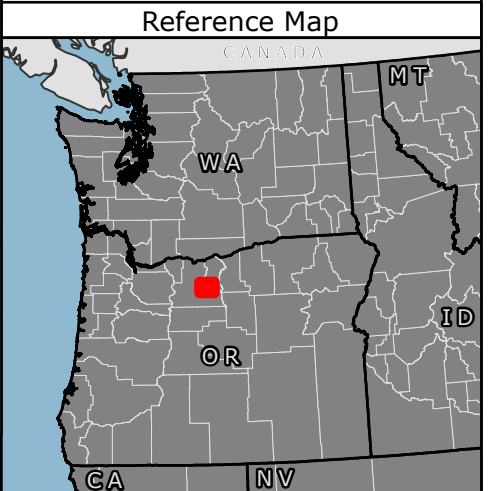


Yellow Rosebush Energy Center

Figure R-1 Scenic Resources

SHERMAN AND WASCO COUNTIES, OR

- Facility Site Boundary
 - Scenic Resources
 - Analysis Area (2-mile Buffer)
 - County Boundary
 - US Highway
 - State Highway
 - Local Roads
 - Existing Transmission Line (500-kV)
 - Existing Substation
- TETRA TECH SAVION
A RENEWABLE ENERGY COMPANY



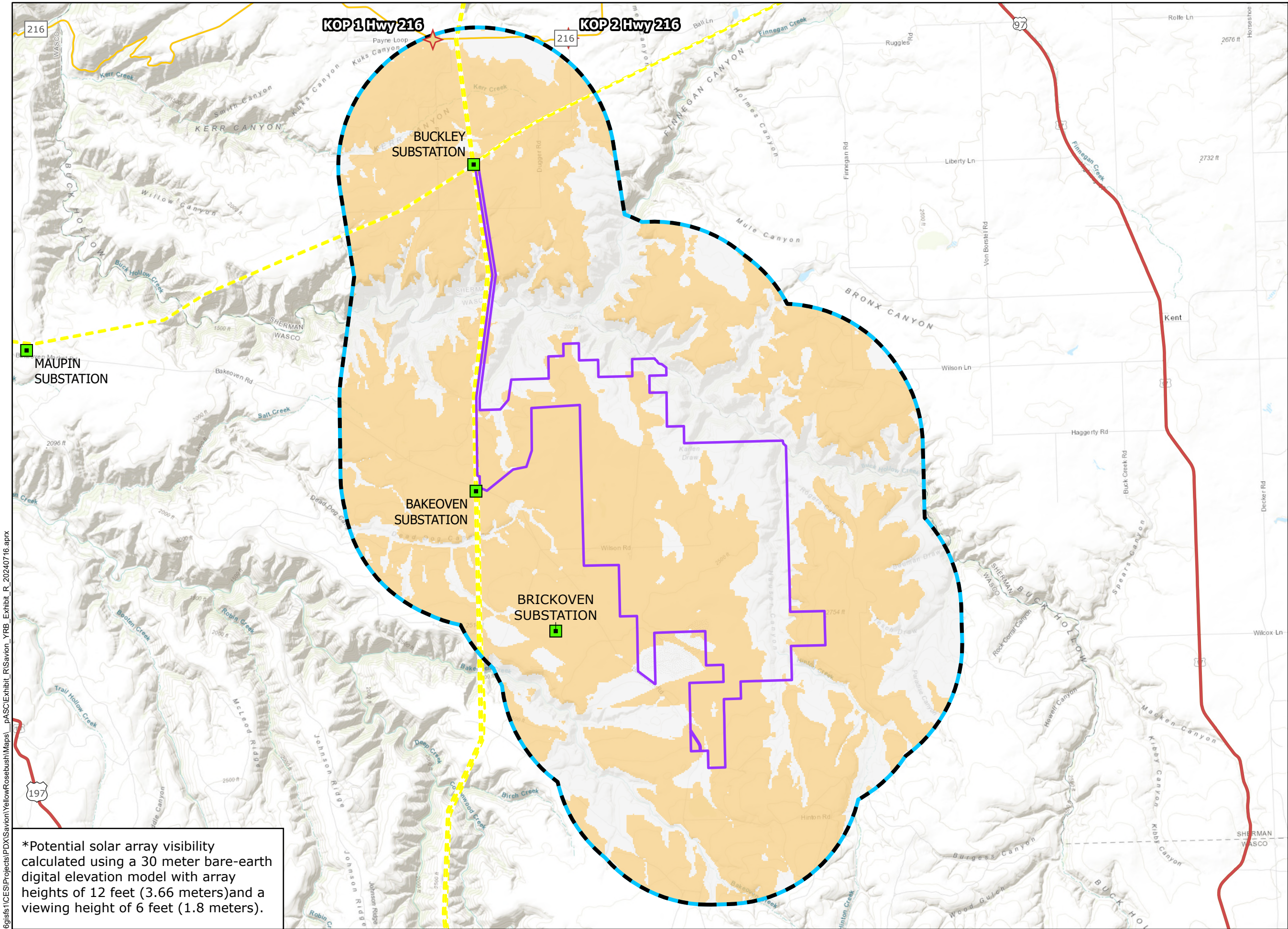
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WGS 1984 UTM Zone 10N

0 0.5 1 2 Miles

NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

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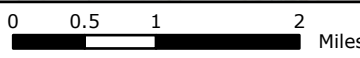


*Potential solar array visibility calculated using a 30 meter bare-earth digital elevation model with array heights of 12 feet (3.66 meters) and a viewing height of 6 feet (1.8 meters).



1:85,000

WGS 1984 UTM Zone 10N



NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

Yellow Rosebush Energy Center

Figure R-2 Solar Array Viewshed Analysis

SHERMAN AND WASCO COUNTIES, OR

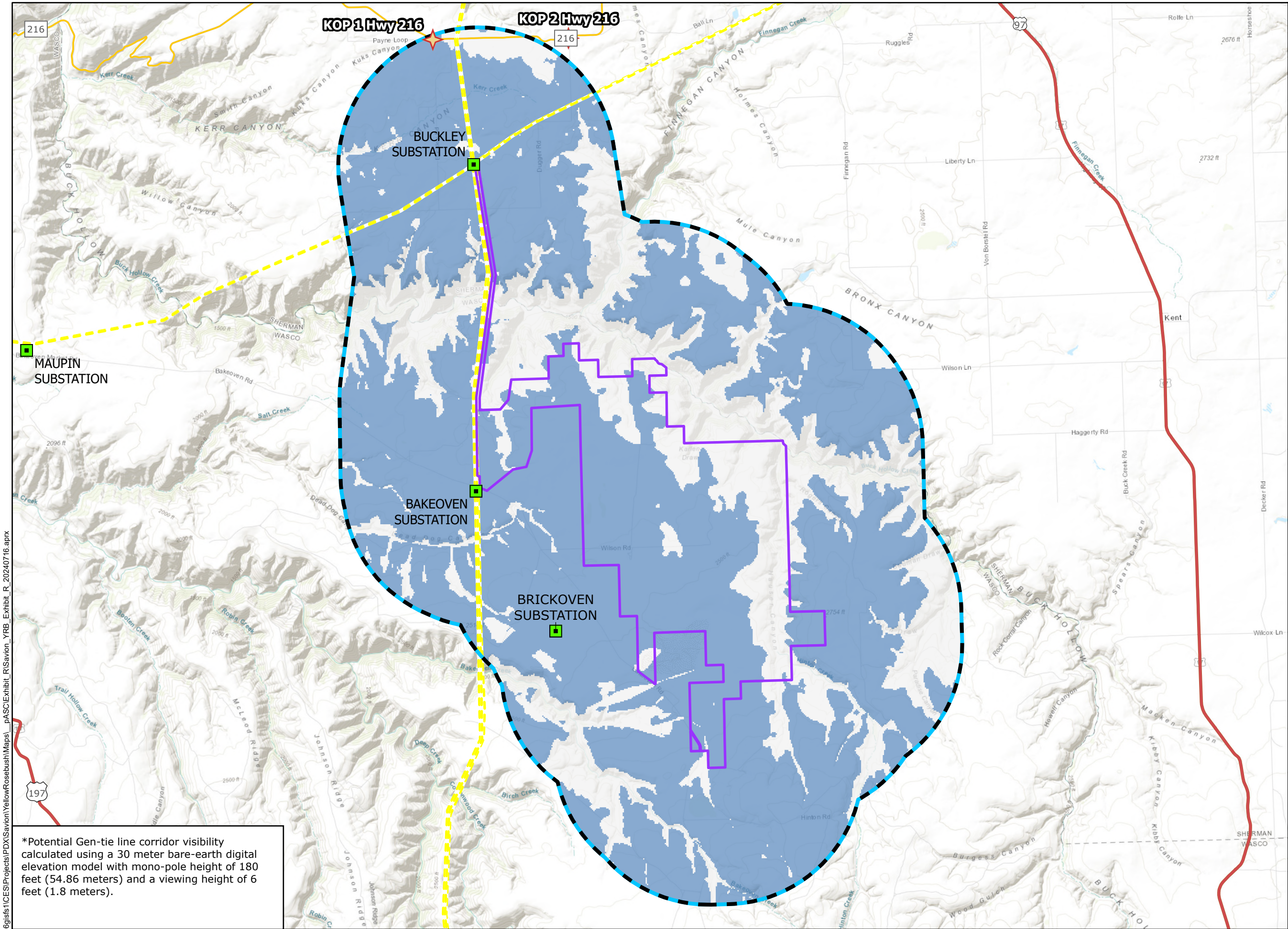
- Facility Site Boundary
- Scenic Resources
- Analysis Area (2-mile Buffer)
- County Boundary
- US Highway
- State Highway
- Existing Transmission Line (500-kV)
- Existing Substation
- KOPs
- Viewshed Results*
 - Not Visible
 - Potentially Visible



Reference Map



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*Potential Gen-tie line corridor visibility calculated using a 30 meter bare-earth digital elevation model with mono-pole height of 180 feet (54.86 meters) and a viewing height of 6 feet (1.8 meters).

Yellow Rosebush Energy Center

Figure R-3 Gen-Tie Line Viewshed Analysis

SHERMAN AND WASCO
COUNTIES, OR

- Facility Site Boundary
- Scenic Resources
- Analysis Area (2-mile Buffer)
- County Boundary
- US Highway
- State Highway
- Existing Transmission Line (500-kV)
- Existing Substation
- KOPs
- Viewshed Results*
 - Not Visible
 - Potentially Visible



Attachment R-1. Land Management Plan Excerpts

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COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN
SHERMAN COUNTY OREGON

1994

UPDATED 2007

PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS -Section XI

- Finding I.** This Plan was drafted to conform with the State-wide planning goals relating to agricultural lands (goal 3); air, water and land resource quality (goal 6); areas subject to natural hazards (goal 7); and open spaces, scenic sites/areas and natural resources (goal 5).
- Finding II.** Sherman County's land resources are extensively used for agricultural purposes. 57% of all lands with the County are used for crop production. Approximately 42% of the County is rangeland with 37% of it producing useable forage.
- Finding III.** Soil capability classes II, IV, VI, VII and VIII exist within the County.
- Finding IV.** The County, historically and currently, enjoys a high quality physical environment. Its rivers, streams and air are relatively free from pollutants, with the exception of the waters of the John Day River which are frequently highly turbid, wind erosion reduces the quality of the land and air, whereas, water erosion can result in reduced land and water quality. The State of Oregon has enacted laws relating to land, water and air quality (ORS 450 and 468), as has the Federal government.
- Finding V.** To conform to the Federal requirements of The Clean Water Act, Public Law 95-217, the County Water Quality Committee has developed the Sediment Reduction Project Report. This report is an appraisal of the existing water quality problems, current efforts to reduce or control the problems and methods to achieve the

requirements of the law. The Sediment Reduction Project Report does reflect the existing sediment problems and efforts to control them. The method of program implementation provides for locally monitored compliance and, if necessary, ordinance enforcement.

Finding VI. Limited information is available relating to groundwater resources within the County.

Finding VII. Groundwater resources will continue to be the source of most of the domestic water supplies within the County.

Finding VIII. There are lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management within Sherman County, which may meet the review wilderness procedures and thus qualify for wilderness designation.

Finding IX. Natural hazards are primarily limited to those areas with cross-slopes greater than 40% and along waterways. The County is currently participating in the National Flood Insurance Program. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development has identified specific flood zones within the County. However, there is danger of “flash flooding” in all streambeds and gullies.

Finding X. An adequate number of aggregate extraction sites exist within the County to satisfy future demands through the year 2027. A haul distance of greater than five miles for a major construction project is not practical.

Finding XI. Rock outcroppings, trees, the John Day River Canyon and the Deschutes River Canyon are all-important features of the County's landscape. In addition, the Oregon State Department of Transportation has designated certain segments of I-84, U.S. 97, ORE 206 and ORE 216 as Scenic Highways.

Listed below are the segments so designated.

Route #	Hwy #	Milepost to Milepost	
I-84	2	99.85 (Sherman/Wasco)	106.46
		110.10	114.23 (Sherman/Gilliam)
OR 216	290	8.30 (Sherman/Wasco)	11.00
OR 206	300	5.00	14.91 (Sherman/Gilliam)
US 97	42	0.50	5.00
		10.00	16.00
		22.00	27.00
		30.00	48.81 (Sherman/Wasco)

Finding XII. A diversity of fish and wildlife habitat types are available within the County and are utilized by an even greater number of fish and wildlife species. Grain production and cattle grazing when properly managed are consistent with wildlife and fisheries habitat preservation. The riparian vegetation adjacent to seeps, springs, streams and rivers within the County constitute a particularly valuable resource. Riparian vegetation also conserves soil resources and improves water quality and quantity. At the present time, 118 wildlife vegetative planting and 147 guzzler sites are in varying degrees of repair. The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife has established wildlife refuges: one-quarter mile wide along the entire eastern boundary of the County; north of the Union Pacific right-of-way along the Columbia River to the State-line along the entire northern boundary of the County; and any sandbar or island within or along the Deschutes River

from the Columbia River to a point one-half mile south of the US 30 Highway bridge.

Finding XIII. The citizens of the State passed a ballot measure, which was later, enacted into law (ORS 390.805 through 390.925), which designated the lands within one-quarter mile of the Deschutes and John Day Rivers bordering Sherman County to be within the Oregon State Scenic Waterway System. That portion of the John Day River has not been included.

Former Governor McCall officially nominated the Deschutes River for inclusion in the National system under Section 2 (a) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (P.L.94-486). Numerous citizen and/or stock ranchers of the County have expressed opposition to the inclusion of the Deschutes and/or John Day Rivers to the National Wild and Scenic River System. Some of the stock ranchers believe such designation might limit their stock operations in the future.

Finding XIV. There are significant steelhead and trout species spawning areas within the Lower Deschutes. One laboratory study, A. J. Sutherland and D. G. Ogle - Effects of Jet Boats on Salmon, concluded that under certain specific circumstances the passage of jet boats over salmon eggs could result in fatality rates up to 40%. The operation of jet boats on the Deschutes does coincide with the steelhead and trout spawning, as well as, their egg incubation period. The operation of power boats on the Deschutes and John Day Rivers of those sections currently within the State Scenic Waterway System may negatively impact the natural resources which designation of the river to the system was intended to protect.

- Policy V.** The County shall support and assist reasonable efforts to investigate the groundwater resources. When such information becomes available it shall be incorporated into the Resource Document. If appropriate, goals and policies will be developed, adopted and integrated into the Comprehensive Plan.
- Goal V.** To maintain the multiple use management concept on Bureau of Land Management Lands within Sherman County.
- Policy VI.** Encourage the Bureau of Land Management District Manager to not recommend lands within Sherman County for wilderness preservation.
- Goal VI.** Encourage preservation of the rural nature the Sherman County landscape.
- Policy VII.** Trees should be considered an important feature of the landscape and therefore the County Court shall encourage the retention of this resource when practical.
- Goal VII.** Encourage preservation of fish and wildlife habitat in the County.
- Policy IX.** Range management programs and conservation plans shall consider wildlife as an important resource. Fencing of springs and seeps with provisions for stock watering, fencing of river areas with stock waterways, construction of stock dams, the drilling of wells and cross fencing should all be given consideration in the development of range management plans and programs.

Flood Prone Area

Land identified by the Department of Housing and Urban Development as being subject to flooding. For specific locations, please refer to HUD flood hazard boundary map (a copy of these is on file at the Planning Office).

Oregon State Scenic Waterway

Lands within ¼ mile of the Deschutes and John Day Rivers designated in accordance with ORS 390.805 to 390.925 except that land that, in the Department of Transportation's judgement, does no affect the view from the waters within the scenic waterways.

Gravel

Surface mines utilized primarily for an aggregate extraction source.

Jasper

Surface mines utilized primarily for the extraction of lapidary stone.

Other

Miscellaneous types of surface mines including sand and/or any combination of other materials.

Urban Growth Boundary

The urbanizing limit for each of the incorporated cities. The boundary separates urban or urbanizable land from rural land. Urban type public facilities will be available within but will not be extended outside such boundaries.



2040

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

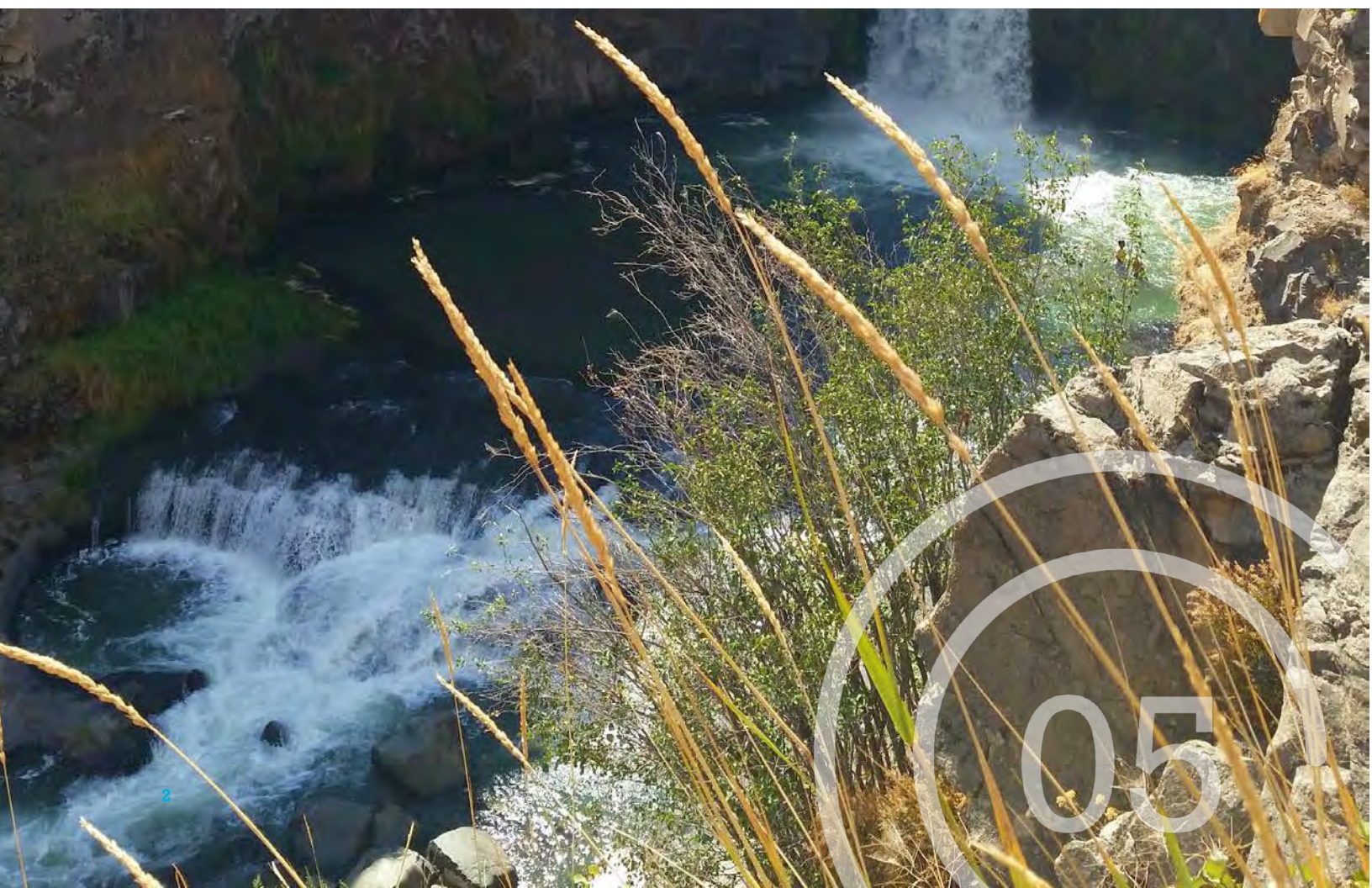
Pioneering pathways to prosperity.



2040 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Goal 5:

**Open Spaces, Scenic
and Historic Areas and
Natural Resources**



Goal 5:

Open Spaces, Scenic and Historic Areas and Natural Resources

Overview

Goal 5 offers a framework for Wasco County's role in protecting its natural resources, open spaces, groundwater resources, rivers, waterways, historic and mineral/aggregate resources.

Protection of these diverse resources requires a variety of approaches. The role of land use planning in this protection involves a threefold approach:

- Collecting and maintaining data and other inventories of assets;
- Coordinating with local, regional, state and federal programs; and
- Administering local and state regulations that protect the sustainability and quality of the resources.

Using this approach, this Chapter contains inventories, policies and implementation strategies for the following resources:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| • Riparian Corridors | • Natural Areas |
| • Wetlands | • Mineral Resources |
| • Wildlife Habitat | • Energy Resources |
| • Federal Wild and Scenic Rivers | • Historic, Cultural, and Archeological Resources |
| • Oregon Scenic Waterways | • Open Space |
| • Groundwater Resources | • Scenic Views and Sites |
| • Approved Oregon Recreation Trails | |

Goal 5 Inventories:

Goal 5 requires inventories be developed for each resource to help protect and plan for development and conflicting uses. Inventoried resources are assessed to identify significant sites that warrant formal protection.

Six Goal 5 resources rely on state or federal inventories: wild and scenic rivers, state scenic water ways, ground water resources, Oregon recreation trails, Sage Grouse habitat, and wilderness areas.

Wasco County has maintained local inventories for several other Goal 5 resources since 1983 including: aggregate and mining resources, historic resources, scenic views, natural areas and open spaces. The National Wetland Inventory and State Wetland Inventory have traditionally been used to identify riparian and wetland resources.

Statewide Planning Goal 5:

“To protect natural resources and conserve scenic and historic areas and open spaces.”

Local governments shall adopt programs that will protect natural resources and conserve scenic, historic, and open space resources for present and future generations. These resources promote a healthy environment and natural landscape that contributes to Oregon’s livability.

Excerpt from OAR 660-015-0000(5)

Cross Reference

Additional policies related to this goal: Goal 2, Goal 13,

Wasco County Goal

Open Spaces, Scenic and Historic Areas
and Natural Resources

To conserve open space and protect scenic,
historic and natural resources.



Federal Wild and Scenic Rivers

5.4.1 The White River will be protected consistent with the White River Management Plan and OAR 660-023-0120.

Implementation for Policy 5.4.1:

- a. The White River was designated an Outstanding Scenic and Recreation Area by the 1983 Comprehensive Planiv.
- b. Rules and criteria pertaining to the Federal Wild and Scenic Rivers program are administered through the Comprehensive Plan Map designation Overlay Zone (OZ) 7 and related overlay zone chapter in the Wasco County Land Use and Development Ordinance.
- c. In accordance with the Federal White River Management Plan, applicants for development along the White River shall be given educational materials to support mitigating development impacts such as erosion, run off, and scenic impacts.

Oregon Scenic Waterways^v

5.5.1 The Deschutes and John Day Scenic Waterways shall be maintained and protected consistent with respective management plans and OAR 660-023-0130.

Implementation for Policy 5.5.1:

- a. Coordinate all land use planning activities with the Bureau of Land Management, Oregon State Department of Transportation and the Warm Springs Indian Reservation. These three parties shall be notified of all proposed land actions within the Deschutes River and John Day River Scenic Waterways for their review and comment.
- b. Allow agricultural operations within the Deschutes and John Day Scenic Waterways.
- c. Allow only buildings customarily provided in conjunction with farm use within the visual corridors of the Deschutes and John Day Scenic Waterways.
- d. Encourage the preservation of landscape features of the Deschutes and John Day rivers.
- e. Consistent with the Scenic Waterways Act, Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) must be notified of certain changes that landowners may want to make to their property, and those changes may be subject to review. The landowner is obligated to make this notification on OPRD forms and submit directly to OPRDvi.
- f. Rules and criteria pertaining to the Oregon Scenic Waterways program are administered through the Comprehensive Plan Map designation Overlay Zone (OZ) 7 and related overlay zone chapter in the Wasco County Land Use and Development

Ordinance^{vii}.



- j. Provide outreach and information to maintain public awareness of state and federal laws protecting historic and prehistoric resources, including deposit of prehistoric artifacts and records with appropriate institutions.
- k. The Planning Director, or designee, shall have authority of review of applications related to historical, cultural and archaeological landmarks and sites including development review and demolition or modification.

Open Space

5.12.1 Protect existing open space as defined by OAR 660-023-0220 and ensure for the maintenance of new open spaces^{xii}.

Implementation for Policy 5.12.1:

- a. Continue to preserve A-1, F-1, F-2, FF zones for open space, in addition to primary permitted uses.
- b. Ensure ongoing maintenance of open space and road systems through deed restrictions and HOA requirements when approving new subdivisions.

5.12.2 Consider impacts of new open space to public facilities and services as part of development review^{xiii}.

Implementation for Policy 5.12.2:

- a. Mitigate impact to public facilities and services, including emergency services and infrastructure, by requiring contracts with a rural fire protection district when outside a service area.
- b. Limit tax deferral for open space or land trusts.

Scenic Views and Sites

5.13.1 Protect scenic views and areas identified in the 1983 Comprehensive Plan inventory.

Implementation for Policy 5.13.1:

- a. Evaluate impact of development on scenic resources during permitting processes.
- b. Work with public and private organizations, landowners, and the general public to identify, record, and protect valued scenic and open space resources.
- c. Newly identified scenic views and sites are required to go through an inventory and ESEE Analysis consistent with OAR 660-023xiv.

i OAR 660-023-0090 (5) allows jurisdictions to apply safe harbor to riparian areas to address Goal 5 requirements. Wasco County has adopted these rules into the property development standards setbacks.

ii ORS 215.418 outlines the noticing requirements for developments on wetlands.

iii Protections shall be consistent with ODFW's Mitigation Policy (OAR 635-415), which they use to review development and develop mitigation measures.

iv The White River was designated a Federal Wild and Scenic River on October 28, 1988. Portions are classified as either scenic or recreational. According to the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, each river in the National System, regardless of classification, is administered with the goal of protecting and enhancing the values that caused it to be designated.

v The Oregon Scenic Waterways Act was established in 1970. It designated the Deschutes and John Day rivers as Oregon State Scenic Waterways.

vi Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) publishes A Landowner's Guide to The Oregon Scenic Waterways Program which outlines the notification and other requirements. OPRD is statutorily mandated (ORS 390.805-390.940) to review development and determine if scenic and recreational values can be maintained within the one quarter mile boundary.

vii OZ-7 was developed, in part, to protect the Wild and Scenic and Oregon Scenic Waterways. This Overlay Zone also includes protections for natural areas sites identified by the Oregon Heritage Program.

viii Water Resources Commission is designated by statute to control the use of ground water to achieve policy goals. The Legislature created the critical ground water area (CGWA) designation as a tool to mitigate or prevent excessive groundwater level declines, overdraft, interference between users, and contamination. Statutory authorization for CGWA are in ORS 537.620, 537.730, 537.735 and 537.740. ROS 537.730 has the criteria necessary for a declarant of CWGA.

ix Significant groundwater resources are defined in OAR 660-23-0140 (2)(a) and (b).

x There are currently no approved Oregon Recreation Trails in Wasco County.

xi OAR 660-023-0160 requires new natural areas meet requirements of OAR 660-023-0040 through OAR 660-023-0050.

xii Open space is defined by Goal 5 as parks, forests, wildlife preservers, nature reservations or sanctuaries and public or private golf courses. The inventoried open spaces are included in the Appendix.

xiii According to Goal 5, the main goal of protecting open space is to reduce impact as a result of converting open space lands to inconsistent uses.

xiv OAR 660-023-0230 requires amendments or additions to scenic resources must meet requirements of OAR 660-023-0030 through OAR 660-023-0050.

References

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- Oregon Administrative Rules. 660-023.
- Oregon Biodiversity Information Center. Register of Natural Heritage Resources.
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Oregon Water Resources Department. (2017) Integrated Water Resources Strategy

US Fish and Wildlife. National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

US Fish and Wildlife Service. National Wetlands Inventory.

Scenic Views and Sites

Table 5.14-Wasco County Designated Scenic Areas

Route No	Hwy	From MP & Location	To MP & Location	Remarks
US I-84 N	2	67.72 – Hood River/Wasco County Line 70.63 – E City Limits of Mosier 87.85 - .06 E of E City Limits of The Dalles 96.70 - .25 W of Jct Celilo-Wasco Hwy	69.62 – W City Limits of Mosier 79.70 – 1.08 W of Tayler Frantz Rd O-Xing 96.70 - .25 W of Jct Celilo-Wascy Hwy 99.85 – Wasco/Sherman County Line	660' Both Sides 660' Both Sides 660' Both Sides Within View
US 97	4	2.00 - .16 S of O-Xing, Equipment Pass 22.42 - .06 N of Tygh Ridge Summit 47.00 - .14 N of City Limits of Maupin	11.00 - .14 S of Starveout Road 43.83 - .13 N of W City Limits of Maupin 50.00 – 2.58 S of S City Limits of Maupin	Within View Within View Within View
US 197/US 97	4	59.00 – 1.07 S of Criterion	74.26 – Wasco/Jefferson County Line	660' Both Sides
US 97	42	48.81 – Sherman/Wasco County Line 56.72 – W City Limits of Shaniko	56.04 – N City Limits of Shaniko 68.66 – Jct The Dalles-California Hwy	Within View Within View
ORE 216	44	0.00 – Jct Warm Springs Highway	26.17 – Jct The Dalles-California Hwy	Within View
US 26	53	62.15 – Clackamas/Wasco County Line	77.99 - .11 W of Willow Creek	660' Both Sides
ORE 216	290	6.00 - .45 W of Winter Water Creek	8.30 – Wasco/Sherman County Line	660' Both Sides
ORE 218	291	0.56 – S City Limits of Shaniko 8.24 – E City Limits of Antelope	7.31 – N City Limits of Antelope 23.07 – Wasco/Wheeler County Line	660' Both Sides 660' Both Sides
US 30	292	2.00 - .91 E of City Limits of Mosier	13.00 - .73 W of Taylor – Frantz Road	660' Both Sides

Figure 5.14a - Wasco County Outstanding Scenic and Recreational Area

Columbia River Gorge: Includes area defined by the Columbia River Gorge Commission and O.R.S. 390.460.

Deschutes River: Areas within the river canyon that can be seen from the Deschutes River or lands designated under the State Scenic Rivers Act. This is a potential Federal Wild and Scenic River.

John Day River: Land seen from the river within the river canyon, or lands designated under the State Scenic Rivers Act. This river is under study for inclusion as a Federal Wild and Scenic River.

Rock Creek Reservoir: Includes land adjacent to the reservoir.

Pine Hollow Lake: Includes land adjacent to the lake.

White River: Lands within the River Canyon, or lands within approximately 4 mile of the river

Attachment R-2. Photolog

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Photo 1. KOP 1, OR 216, at intersection with Payne Loop. Looking south.



Photo 2. KOP 2, OR 216, at intersection with Dugger Road. Looking south.

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Attachment R-3. List of Land Management Plans Reviewed

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Determined Applicable:

Sherman County. 2007. 1994 Comprehensive Land Use Plan, Updated 2007.
<https://www.co.sherman.or.us/departments/planning-department/>.

Wasco County. 2020. Wasco County 2040 Comprehensive Plan.
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BLM. 1994. White River National Wild and Scenic River Management Plan, Decision Notice and Finding of No Significant Impact.
<https://www.rivers.gov/rivers/sites/rivers/files/documents/plans/white-plan.pdf>

BLM. 1997. Lower Deschutes River Management Plan Record of Decision
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City of Maupin. 2005. City of Maupin Comprehensive Land Use Plan Update.
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<https://ctuir.org/departments/natural-resources/>

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<https://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/Programs/Pages/Scenic-Byways.aspx>.

Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT). 1996. Journey Through Time Scenic Byway Tour Route Management Plan.

<https://www.oregon.gov/odot/Programs/TDD%20Documents/Journey-Through-Time-Management-Plan.pdf>