

## **Exhibit B**

### **Public Correspondence**

**Public correspondence received  
as of March 13, 2009**

Wildlife Areas

**Michelle Tate**

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**From:** ODFW Comments  
**Sent:** Monday, February 02, 2009 1:28 PM  
**To:** Daniel Gonzalez; Nancy Breuner; Michelle Tate  
**Subject:** FW: comment on Draft Riverside Wildlife Area Management Plan

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**From:** Mark & Peggy Armstrong [mailto:armstrong@highdesertair.com]  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 31, 2009 8:17 PM  
**To:** ODFW Comments  
**Subject:** comment on Draft Riverside Wildlife Area Management Plan

I first want to thank you for making it possible for me to comment on your draft plan for the Riverside Wildlife Area (RWA). I am interested in the plan as I often fish the segment of the Plan area that includes the Malheur River above Warm Springs Reservoir (Malheur River Tract). I have enjoyed this stretch of river and very much appreciate the fact that it is accessible to the public. I also am fully aware of the improvement in management of the area in the past 20 plus years. I remember seeing the area as a BLM employee on a tour with the Harney County Grazing Advisory Board in the early 1980s. There has been dramatic improvement made since that time. I also appreciate the fencing projects being undertaken as this will finally enable even more careful management to continue improving the riparian and aquatic systems along that stretch.

My primary comment relates to the need for informational signing in the vicinity to interpret the management efforts, inform the public that this is public access land, and that certain uses are allowed while certain other uses are not allowed at this time. Perhaps a small kiosk or other simple, easy to maintain/update information board would be appropriate. I realize in today's world and in these isolated areas, vandalism is an unfortunate fact of life for public agencies, however, good will and a better informed public is worth giving it a try. Perhaps some detail in the ODFW Fishing synopsis might be considered.

I am interested in finding a place where one might be able to camp overnight with no amenities other than a tent space, a parking space, and posted fire closure information as necessary.

Note: I was absolutely unaware no camping is allowed there currently...I am thankful I read your draft plan recently as I had determined to make it a point to camp overnight at the end of the Shurtz Field access road during 2009. I guess I will find a suitable spot on the BLM land near by. I might also note that the description of the Upton Mountain Access Road as "good" appears to be rather "optimistic" unless some major improvement has occurred on that route in the past year or so. A couple of years ago, I traveled over that road to the river and would have turned around if we could have found a handy place. We had 4 WD but were uncertain if that would be sufficient. Maybe ATV access is the way to go on the last few miles of that route if maintenance opportunity isn't available.

I commend you for your stated goals and objectives and management strategies for this area and look forward to following your progress in this effort.

Thanks again for allowing this public comment opportunity.

Sincerely,

Mark L. Armstrong, Retired BLM Public Affairs Specialist

2/2/2009

-----Original Message-----

From: Anthony Scherr [mailto:a\_scherr@yahoo.com]

Sent: Monday, February 23, 2009 11:15 AM

To: ODFW Comments

Subject: Riverside wildlife Area

My only comment is please keep the cows out!

JAN 27 2009

## WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT WILDLIFE AREA MANAGEMENT?



The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife is seeking your comments regarding management of the Riverside Wildlife Area. You can add your comments to the record by completing this form and turning it in tonight, faxing it to ODFW at 503-947-6009, or by sending an e-mail to [ODFW.comments@state.or.us](mailto:ODFW.comments@state.or.us). All comments will be summarized and posted to the ODFW Web site.

1/25/09

- KEEP RIVERSIDE WA AS IT IS NOW BUT WITH THE FOLLOWING:
  - ODFW CAN CUT OUT A LOT OF EXPENSES BY CALLING FOR (ABLE) VOLUNTEERS
  - VOLUNTEERS CAN ASSIST TECHNICIAN, TO AVOID A VOLUNTEER PULLING OUT RV TO DUMP SEPTIC AND REPLENISH WATER, A HOOKUP AT RIVERSIDE HQ OF WATER, SEPTIC, POWER SHOULD BE PROVIDED, BEYOND THAT, NO "STIPEND" SHOULD BE PROVIDED. THIS IS VOLUNTEERING - NOT A PAID POSITION.
  - CHOOSE ABLE-BODIED VOLUNTEERS AT RIVERSIDE (ABLE TO GET OUT OF R.V., INSTALL AND MOVE SPRINKLER IRRIGATION PIPES AT REGULAR INTERVALS ON 16 ACRES, ABLE TO DRIVE TRACTOR AND ATV, WORK WITH OTHER MECHANICAL EQUIPMENT (e.g. PUMPS), DIPLOMATICALLY ABLY TO INTERVIEW FISHERMEN/HUNTERS FOR SURVEYS
  - VOLUNTEERS SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO STAY MORE THAN 3 MONTHS THIS IS TO AVOID "ENTRENCHMENT" (TYING UP OPPORTUNITY FOR OTHER VOLUNTEERS
  - VOLUNTEER WILL SERVE AS A PHYSICAL PRESENCE TO PREVENT ILLEGAL BEHAVIOR
  - VOLUNTEER CAN CHECK AND REPAIR FENCE WHILE MONITORING
  - ODFW TO CONTINUE OBTAINING RANCHER COOPERATION TO MINIMIZE NUMBER OF CATTLE ON RWA IN EARLY SPRING AND LATE FALL

RECEIVED

WILDLIFE DIVISION RIVERSIDE 1994 + 1997

JAN 27 2009

Doug Foster  
4029 N. W. Tamarack  
Covallis, Or 97330

O.D.F.W.

3/13/09

Wildlife Area Management (Bridge Creek Wildlife Area)

The O.D.F.W. management of B.C.W.A. through the years has been very good. To help continue this management, livestock will be utilized to reach these goals.

Cattle will be managed and moved to best enhance the winter range for the Rocky Mountain Elk.

Fences will be maintained and kept in good condition so as to properly maintain the proper distribution of livestock and ensure adequate water for both livestock and other wildlife species.

Settling will be done so as to properly maintain livestock distribution.

Livestock will also be managed so as not to interfere with wildlife oriented recreational activities for the general public.

(partnership at work on BCWA)

Butter Creek Cattle Co.

60732 Little Buttercreek Rd.

Heppner, OR 97836

541-980-8314 cell

541-676-9421 Home

Steve Carrin

## Comments to Draft Lower Deschutes Wildlife Area Management Plan

I would preface the below comments with the observation that the staff who prepared the WMA Plan did a very good job. It is written well and easy to read and understand.

- Page 1-typo on second bullet (Tern(m))
- Page 10-paragraph 1, inconsistent use of Latin for plants.
- Unless I messed it, I found no reference to sensitive plants and/or need to conduct surveys for or protect same.
- Page 14, 15, 16 (and other locations)-rather than range technicians, would suggest using range staff as the work may be done by technicians or professional staff.
- Page 15—paragraph 3—each nested frequency study also includes a series of photos taken from each end of the transect.
- Page 16-Grazing—while grazing in the wildlife area requires authorization from ODFW; it also requires authorization from BLM where Federal public lands are involved. In recent years, involving BLM in any grazing authorizations on the east side of the river has been more of an afterthought. Grazing on federal public lands must be applied for, approved and paid for prior to said grazing occurring. The two agencies need to work a little more closely together on this to prevent unauthorized use (trespass) from occurring on the federal lands. Does the 80 AUMs noted in the paragraph include the 82 that are on public land in the Sharp allotment?
- Page 16-water use-should this paragraph mention that the water source is on BLM and ODFW is using through an agency agreement?
- Page 16-Public use-I realize this is an ODFW plan for state lands, but there are a lot of public contacts conducted by OSP, BLM and ORPD on a regular basis during boat patrols of Segment 4, particularly during the higher use periods. There is absolutely no reason that information collected by other than ODFW staff could not be shared; and if there are particular areas of interest that BLM staff could enquire about that would be of benefit to ODFW I believe we would be happy to help.
- Page 21-Public Access-There is public access from Macks Canyon along the river trail.
- Page 22-Same as Public use above. BLM/ORPD staff is already providing education and interpretation on that segment of the river during patrols. The agencies should work together to provide consistent messages. ODFW also participates in Education/interp/outreach through the BLM interpretive program that occurs in Maupin during the summer.
- Page 23—Fencing was used on the lower river to preclude livestock access and accelerate riparian recovery. I believe that much of that fencing, particularly where occasional livestock grazing still occurs on the east bank, was removed. So, I would submit that riparian areas in some locations are still improving by adjusting livestock use times and levels to comply with the Lower Deschutes River Management Plan requirements.
- Page 23-I want to emphasize that any weed treatments that might occur on BLM lands within the WMA need to be conducted under agreement and documented. Unfortunately, our federal restrictions are quite a bit more difficult than the state's, but we would like to work closely with

you on this resource issue where possible, so the treatments you apply on the state lands will not be ineffective because of similar populations of noxious plants on adjacent BLM lands.

- Page 24-Some of the potential treatments described will be difficult to limit to state lands. Federal regulations require us to go through many more steps than I think the state has to, so I would encourage you to involve the BLM very early (2 years ahead of time) in planning if any projects are proposed for the WMA that might involve federal lands. Implementing a project on public land first, and begging forgiveness after someone finds out later (which has happened in the past), is not acceptable.
- Page 26-I do not understand how limiting motorized access will protect sites like the water tower. There are volunteer groups out there that are willing to conduct vegetative control work to reduce the threat of wildfire damage to these structures that the state could tap into. There may also be a way to facilitate BLM fire crew assistance in doing the same.
- Page 28-I think the BLM role was pretty minimized here. Over the last 20 years, we have worked quite closely on projects, grazing management, vegetative monitoring. I acknowledge that level of cooperation has fallen over the last few years due to retirements, but also believe the two agencies should work a little harder to re-establish those working relationships.
- Page 32-Not sure why composites and legumes, which are forbs, are separated out from the forbs listing. Sand dropseed (*Sporobolus cryptandrus*) is a native grass also found in this area.
- Finally-I don't remember reading any reference to the Lower Deschutes Wild and Scenic River Plan (LDRMP) in the WMA Plan (it may be there). Since the LDRMP is an EIS that was signed by all the river management agencies, and the WMA partially falls within the boundaries of the federally and State designated river, it seems that any work proposed within the WMA within those boundaries would need to comply with the plan.



THE CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF THE WARM SPRINGS RESERVATION OF OREGON

Natural Resources Department  
P.O. Box C, Warm Springs, Oregon 97761  
Phone (541) 553-2002/2003  
Fax (541) 553-1994

February 24, 2009

To Whom It May Concern:

After reviewing the Lower Deschutes Wildlife Area Management Plan our department had a few comments and concerns. In general we are concerned with the number of people utilizing the wildlife area. It is critical to maintain wild and scenic river standards for an area with high human demand. Several portions of the wildlife area have high levels of human disturbance. Campsites and trails need to be rotated and rehabilitated. The area surrounding Kloan exhibits many signs and symptoms of human overuse. The area is polluted with human waste. There are no bathrooms, posted regulations or regulated camp sites. Without regulation this area is prone to invasive weeds, erosion and compaction of soil, and further degradation of native habitat.

Much of the wildlife area is infested with weeds. This issue was addressed in the plan. We would like to further emphasize the importance of combating this issue. The weeds on the wildlife area have threatened the native flora and fauna. Without proper management the issue will only continue to exponentially grow.

We are pleased with the plan's initial attempts at more defined management of the Lower Deschutes Wildlife Area and support further enhancement and restoration of this unique landscape. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,

Jamie Hurd  
Wildlife Biologist

Scott Turo  
Fish Habitat Biologist