

Scenic waterway designation proposed



Steelhead Falls, located above Lake Billy Chinook, is included in the proposed upper Deschutes Scenic Waterway.

by Marsha Shewczyk

Since 1970, the lower one hundred miles of the Deschutes River has been designated a scenic waterway under the Oregon Scenic Waterway Act. Central Oregonians are now interested in extending that designation to the upper Deschutes River between the gauge station at Wickiup Reservoir in Deschutes County to Lake Billy Chinook in Jefferson County.

Two hearings regarding the proposed designation have been held, one in Madras, another in Bend. The two issues discussed were: 1. Is the draft Scenic Waterway Study accurate?, and 2. Is it desirable to designate all or part of the study area as an Oregon Scenic Waterway.

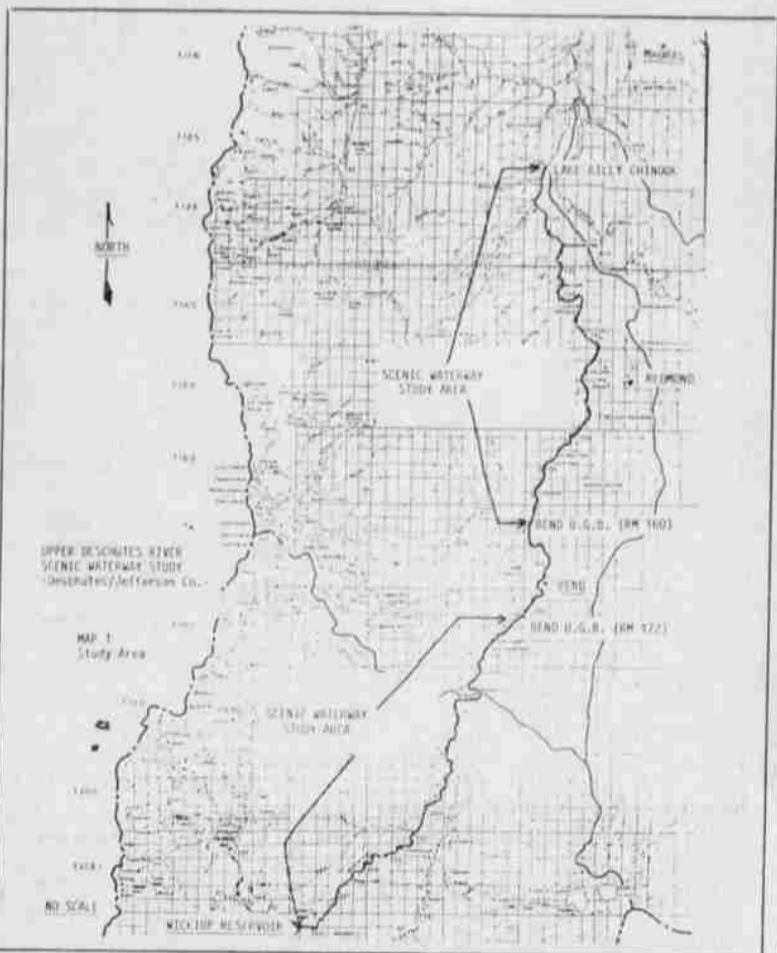
A small number of people at both meetings expressed concern over increased government regulations on the river and limitations on the development of property on the river.

But the majority of testimony-givers were in favor of the Scenic Waterway designation, wanting all 95 miles included in the system rather than only the 59 miles the Oregon Parks and Recreation Division found qualified for designation.

To qualify for Scenic River status a river or river segment, according to the Oregon Scenic Waterway Act: 1. "is relatively free-flowing and the scenes viewed from the river and related adjacent land is pleasing, whether primitive or rural-pastoral, or these conditions are restorable;" 2. must "possess natural and recreation values of outstanding quality; and, 3. be "large enough to sustain substantial recreation use and to accommodate existing uses without undue impairment of the natural values of the resource quality or the recreation experience."

Certain river segments were excluded from consideration because of low water flow, little outstanding recreational opportunity and intensive development. Even with this many central Oregonians felt a designation should be given to the entire stretch of the Upper Deschutes River.

Deschutes County and the City of Bend have already adopted ordinances to keep the river in its natural state, establishing a morato-



Ninety-five miles of upper Deschutes River was studied.

rium on hydroelectric development. A Deschutes River Task Force Committee has studied and inventoried all the resources of the upper Deschutes River based on statewide planning goals, in particular Goal 5, to "conserve open space and protect natural and scenic resources."

While this study was being conducted the Oregon State legislature passed House Bill 2237, prohibiting hydroelectric development on the upper Deschutes River. The bill also directed a study of the Deschutes County portion of the river to determine whether it should be regulated as a scenic waterway under the Scenic Waterway Act. The ten miles of river in Jefferson County was added after consultation with county officials who found no reason to exclude it.

With inclusion in the scenic waterway program the Parks and Recrea-

tion Division under the Oregon Department of Transportation would act to preserve, protect and enhance scenic, recreational, fish and wildlife and cultural values of the upper Deschutes River. The river would be added to 570 miles of Oregon rivers already part of the system.

Testimony will be accepted through October 10 regarding designation of the upper Deschutes River as a scenic waterway. Comments will be consolidated and presented to the legislature in January, 1987. The legislature will, then, decide whether all or portions of the upper Deschutes River will be designated scenic waterway. Public meetings will be held if designation occurs to acquire input regarding management of the river.

Testimony may be sent to Jack Graham, Department of Transportation building, 525 Trade St., Salem, Oregon 97310.

Planning workshop focuses on water

"There is beauty and wonder in water" but there are also many problems associated with it in planning for its use and protecting it. University of Oregon law professor Charles Wilkinson, along with other speakers at the Water Resources Planning workshop September 30 in Salem, stressed the need for administrative rules to guide decisions on water rights, water quality, watershed management and conservation.

Riparian zones have received extensive damage through grazing; water rights are outdated; the character

of streams are changing as the result of runoff from agricultural, industrial and ranching activities. These are the only few of the problems that must be realized and solutions found. Water policy must be written and enforced to protect the state's water supply.

The workshop, sponsored by the State of Oregon Water Resources Department, received input from interested citizens and experts in fields closely related to water use. Small discussion groups provided input on questions dealing with watershed and riparian areas, agri-

cultural and municipal water uses, fisheries, water conservation, instream recreation and scenic values, improving water supplies, coordination of state programs and land use plans, establishing preferences among water uses, public involvement, basin planning versus statewide water policy, and water quality.

The workshop is the first step in setting administrative rules for basin programs. These programs are adopted by the Water Resource Commission to guide decisions on water issues aimed at developing and conserving the state's water.

Power first, fish last policy unacceptable

A Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) decision to issue hydroelectric project preliminary permits without certain study requirements was overturned by the U.S. Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals on September 30. The National Wildlife Federation, joined by the Nez Perce Tribe, appealed FERC's decision to issue seven preliminary permits in the Salmon River Basin in Idaho. At the time of the appeal, over 50 other Salmon Basin permits were under consideration by FERC.

"We are extremely pleased by the court's decision," said Tim Wapato, executive director of the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission (CRITFC). "FERC's superficial 'boilerplate' approach to hydroelectric proposal reviews has hurt the Northwest's salmon and steelhead runs."

The lawsuit grew out of concerns that the large number of proposed hydroprojects in the Salmon River Basin could cause severe impacts to the spring chinook salmon and steelhead that spawn in mountainous central Idaho. These fish are an important component of the Columbia's remaining fisheries. "Efforts such as the U.S.-Canada Pacific Salmon Treaty and the Northwest Power Planning Council's Fish and Wildlife Program are jeopardized by FERC actions that have routinely placed fish and wildlife concerns on the back-burner," said

Wapato. The Ninth Circuit ruled that no evidence supported FERC's decision "not to develop a comprehensive plan, not to require permittees to study cumulative impacts, not to impose uniform study guidelines on permittees, and not to collect environmental baseline data." In short, the court ruled that the Federal Power Act requires FERC to undertake coordinated study and comprehensive planning along an entire river system prior to licensing hydroelectric projects.

"The court's ruling was a great victory," said Allen Pinkham, chair-

man of CRITFC and vice-chairman of the Nez Perce Tribal Executive Committee. "The Nez Perce Tribe has participated in Salmon River hydropower proceedings for half a decade. Together with the Idaho Department of Fish and Game, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service, we have continuously requested appropriate studies. FERC, however, is still unresponsive to the need for adequate studies. We hope that the court's ruling sends a clear message to FERC that its 'power first, fish last' policy is unacceptable."

Conservation conference set

The Warm Springs Tribe wishes to act as a conservationist in regards to its fish and wildlife, forests and land, according to Central Oregon Resources Unlimited district president and Tribal Council member Delbert Frank, Sr.

A local chapter of the Oregon Wildlife Federation has recently been approved for Warm Springs. Community members are invited to join the organization and attend a conservation conference October 11 and 12 at Kah-Nee-Ta.

The Warm Springs Conservation Association members will meet with other conservationists at that time to discuss reservation, state and national laws and programs.

The conference begins at 10 a.m. Saturday with a welcome and prayer, followed at 10:30 a.m. by a workshop on the Deschutes River. A no-host lunch will be served at 12 noon and at 1:30 p.m. a workshop on water policy and a hatchery tour will take place. Public lands habitat protection and a fish panel is also planned at this time. At 3:30 p.m. a national forests panel is scheduled. A no-host happy hour is set for 5:30 p.m. and dinner will be served at the Simnasho Longhouse, honoring retiring Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife director Jack Donaldson, at 7 p.m. Sunday's agenda includes sub-basin planning at 10 a.m. and conference adjournment at 12 noon.

Gopher treatment—Continued from page 1

use of impacted areas is minimal. Heavy domestic livestock use occurs in the McQuinn strip area.

Alternatives to baiting the gophers have been considered but have been found to be less effective considering terrain and have been estimated to be more costly. Methods examined include trapping, disruption of gopher sites and the use of a burrow builder to insert bait into the burrows.

If no-treatment were allowed, according to the environmental assessment, "present investment loss in site preparation seedling and planting costs would be an average of \$250 per acre. Loss in future income, based on fifty year loss in productivity, would be \$20,000 per acre that would otherwise be received in 80 years."

The poisoned bait treatment method has been used extensively in national forests but its use still raises some concern. Warm Springs wildlife biologist Terry Luther pointed out that cases exist where golden mantled ground squirrels have entered the pocket gopher burrow system and died after eating strychnine-laced grain. Unlike pocket gophers, which die in their burrows, the ground squirrel dies above ground where raptors and animals have access to the poisoned carcass. Studies based on this type of situation have shown that secondary animals in the food chain can become very ill or die from ingestion of animals that have died from strychnine poisoning. However, Luther contends, "If done properly and applied correctly the possibility of this happening is not great."

Contamination of water has also been a concern. Warm Springs watermaster Deepak Sehgal says the Warm Springs forestry department must follow regulations outlined in the Streamside Management Plan for the reservation in areas that will affect water quality. Once again, "If done properly there shouldn't be any problems," says Sehgal.

Stream corridors and riparian zones will not be treated, emphasizes Hanson. "We will follow the reservation Streamside Management Plan. If there is any standing or running water through the unit, that area is not treated."

Hanson also stated that the concentration of the chemical used is small enough that it is not a restricted chemical. Application will be made under the supervision of a licensed applicator so non-targeted wildlife, streams and people are not subjected to the poison.

Safety precautions that will be taken to prevent exposure to humans or wildlife or contamination of waterways comply with Oregon State laws regarding pesticide application. Steps to be taken include: Only federally registered poisoned grain will be used, in accordance with the registration label; A qualified employee, licensed for forest pesticide application will monitor all pesticide application projects; Only properly trained and licensed personnel will handle and use the pesticides. This includes contractors and their employees. At least one member of the crew must be a qualified licensed applicator.

Other safety precautions include: All individuals associated with handling or application of pesticides will be familiar with emergency procedures to be used in case of accident; All individuals associated with handling or application of pesticides will wear protective clothing required for safe handling of chemicals involved; Lunches will not be eaten in the general vicinity of poisoned grain. Hands will be washed prior to eating; All spilled grain will be buried or picked up. No poison grain will be left exposed

on the soil surface where it may be ingested by non-target species; Poisoned grain will be kept in an acceptable locked container while not in use. Container must be waterproof and rodent proof; Unused bait will be returned daily to storage container; Poisoned grain will not be carried in passenger carrying part of any vehicle with personnel; The contractor and/or his authorized representative will review with the contracting officer's representative symptoms and treatment of accidental strychnine poisoning prior to start of work.

Areas that will be treated will be monitored for effect of treatment. The forestry department hopes to keep the gopher population at a controllable level in the future with this treatment.

Yard Sale

Yard Sale: At 4309 Tommy Street, Upper Dry Creek, Ginger Smith residence. Saturday and Sunday (Oct. 11 and 12), from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. daily.

Furniture, clothes, dishes, lots of baby clothes, bike and tires.

Burn center seeks funds

Serious burns can strike anywhere, but the care for serious burns can not be handled just anywhere. The only burn center in Oregon is located at the Emanuel Hospital and Health Center, in Portland.

To operate a burn center means the hospital needs to have the necessary equipment, research and burn prevention education. It takes money to provide that type of care at Emanuel. The Oregon Burn Center is seeking donations from the people of Oregon.

Hot water burns, chemical and electrical burns, burns from fire, they are all painful, potentially lethal and require specialized medical care. That care is provided at Emanuel.

In 1985, 179 patients were cared for by the highly trained team of physicians, nurses, therapists and counselors. Included in those helped were an elderly lady overcome by smoke and flames in a house fire, a brother and sister hurt trying to escape a blaze, a young man injured when a chemical tank he was working on exploded, a toddler burned by a panful of hot oil and many more people. The point is that it can happen to anyone regardless of

age. They were unable to escape the swiftness of fire or scalding liquids.

One expense is specially designed beds that don't allow patients to be moved for treatments and x-rays. These beds cost \$6,000 each. An automatic blood pressure monitor, which is designed to cause less pain to burn patients, is needed to replace the aging machine they presently use. Also needed are crib and youth beds for young burn patients. The list goes on.

Many of the people treated at the center are from economically disadvantaged homes or suffer from medical problems that can contribute to their injuries. These people need assistance to meet the high cost of specialized medical care.

The Emanuel Burn Center was established in 1973 to care for the area's burn victim. At this time they are the only burn center from Chico, California to Tacoma, Washington to Salt Lake City, Utah.

Support a unit that serves this area send contributions to the Oregon Burn Center, Emanuel Hospital and Health Center, 2801 North Grantenbein Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97227.

QUIZ

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1. The Indians introduced the pioneers to pumpkins. They were used in main dishes, desserts and even (a) brewed into beer (b) fermented into wine (c) sewn into clothing?



2. The corn and beans dish known as succotash was devised by (a) Chinese railroad workers (b) American Indians (c) Scandinavian farmers?

Answers:

1. (a) Soups, stews, griddle cakes, fritters, breads and even beer were among the uses early pioneers found for the pumpkin. 2. (b) Originally the Indians enjoyed this dish cooked with venison.

Noon volleyball meeting Oct. 14

Those interested in playing noon-time volleyball are invited to attend a meeting October 14, 1986 at noon at the Community Center. If no team is as yet lined up for a department, a representative should attend anyway. Rules and schedules will be discussed.

MJH Culture Week activities

Madras Jr. High will be participating in Culture Week activities October 13-17. During this time students will share cultures of the students at Madras Jr. High. The event is aimed at acquainting students with their classmates and in creating unity in the school, explains Madras Jr. High counselor Steve Sammler.

- The week's activities include:
- Monday**
 - 2:30 p.m. Billy Mills will speak to students
 - 4:30 p.m. Fun run with Billy Mills in Warm Springs
 - 7:00 p.m. Reception for Billy Mills at Kah-Nee-Ta
 - Tuesday**
 - 9:00 a.m. Winterhawk will perform for students
 - Robert Ryan from St. Joseph's Hospital, adolescent care unit in Vancouver will be visiting with students all day talking to them about drugs and alcohol
 - 7:00 p.m. Winterhawk at Warm Springs Community Center
 - Wednesday**
 - 11:30 a.m. Around the World Fashion Show
 - Winterhawk will be visiting with students discussing with them drugs and alcohol use
 - Thursday**
 - 11:30 a.m. Hispanic traditional dancing
 - Friday**
 - Exchange students from Madras High School will be visiting students in their classrooms