

**U.S. Department of Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Roseburg District, Oregon**

Environmental Assessment for the Swiftwater Resource Area

EAGLEVIEW RECREATION AREA

EA No. OR - 106 - 94 - 17

The Swiftwater Resource area proposes a Recreation Area of approximately 8 acres of previously developed floodplain between the Umpqua River and County Road 57 (the Bullock Road), located in T24S, R7W, Section 11.

Acronyms Used:

ACEC	-	Areas of Critical Environmental Concern
ADA	-	American Disabilities Act
BLM	-	Bureau of Land Management
CWD	-	coarse woody debris
EA	-	Environmental Assessment
FONSI	-	Finding of No Significant Impact
FSEIS	-	Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement
ID Team	-	interdisciplinary team
NFP	-	Northwest Forest Plan
NSO	-	northern spotted owl
NTP	-	neotropical passerines
PDF's	-	project design features
RMP	-	Resource Management Plan
ROD	-	Record of Decision
RV	-	recreational vehicle
S&G	-	Standards and Guidelines
SEIS	-	Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement
WA	-	Watershed Analysis
WAU	-	Watershed Analysis Unit

Preparer: Jeff Wall
Roseburg District, BLM
777 NW Garden Valley Blvd.
Roseburg, OR 97470
(541-440-4931 ext. 219)

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INTRODUCTION

The Environmental Assessment is a site specific analysis of potential environmental impacts that could result with implementation of a proposed action. The EA assists the Agency in planning and in determining the degree of "significance" that impacts, resulting from proposed actions, may have. This EA had been prepared for the Swiftwater Resource Area's proposed **EAGLEVIEW RECREATION AREA**. This proposal is in conformance with the *Roseburg District Record of Decision and Resources Management Plan* (RMP), dated June 2, 1995. This proposal is also in conformance with the *Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement on Management Habitat for Late-Successional and Old Growth Forest Related Species Within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl* (FSEIS) otherwise known as the "Northwest Forest Plan" (NFP) dated Feb. 1994 and its associated *Record of Decision for Amendments to Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management Planning documents within the Range of the Northwest Spotted Owl* (ROD) and *Standards and Guidelines for Management of Habitat for Late-Successional and Old Growth Related Species Within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl* dated April 13, 1994. The ROD establishes management direction consisting of ". . . extensive standards and guidelines including land allocations, that comprise a comprehensive ecosystem management strategy" (ROD p. 1).

The project described in this EA will undergo formal public review. After the completion of public review a "Finding of No Significant Impact" (FONSI) would be signed as appropriate. A signed FONSI would find that no "significant" environmental impact (effect) would occur with the implementation of the proposed actions beyond those already addressed in the FSEIS when the project design features specified in this EA are followed. "Significance" has a strict NEPA definition and is found in regulation 40 CFR 1508.27. The FONSI documents the application of this definition of significance to the proposed action.

A Decision Record would be completed after public review to document the decision and reflect any changes as the result of public review.

I. PURPOSE OF AND NEED FOR ACTION

This section provides a general overview of the proposed action. Included are: the need for the action, a general description and background of the proposal, and the issues eliminated from detailed analysis in this EA.

A. Need for Action

The FSEIS and the RMP respond to a multiplicity of needs: ". . . the need for a healthy forest ecosystem with habitat that will support populations of native species and includes protection for riparian areas and waters . . ." (RMP, p. 15) and to "[d]esign new recreational facilities within Riparian Reserves, including trails and dispersed sites, so as to not prevent meeting Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives . . ." (RMP, p. 26) among them. In keeping with this purpose and the BLM policies in *Recreation 2000* (p.6) (for development of recreation facilities designed to balance public demand, resource protection, and fiscal responsibility), the Swiftwater Resource Area proposes to develop the Eagleview Recreation Area. This proposal would help disperse the demand for quality camping and day-use recreation areas and maintain control of river access.

B. Description of the proposal

The Swiftwater Resource Area proposes to develop the Eagleview Recreation Area (approximately 8 acres of previously developed floodplain) in Township 24 South, Range 7 West, Section 11 from the Willamette Meridian, approximately one mile downstream of the Tye Campground. This location is the site of a 40-year historical camp area, called Camp Tye and previously leased to a nonprofit organization. It is within a segment of the Umpqua River designated as the Umpqua River Special Recreation Management Area found in the Roseburg Resource Management Plan (RMP, pp. 57 & 88.) The project area is classified as [Matrix Late-successional Reserve \(LSR\)](#)/Riparian Reserve in the ROD and Standards and Guidelines (ROD, April 1994.)

The proposal would include the construction of three parking areas, pads for various Recreational Vehicles (RV) (i.e. trailers, tent campers, motorhomes, etc.) and tents. Also proposed are improvement and construction of a system of trails on site, a footbridge, pavilion, maintenance shed, vault toilets, provision for interpretive signs (nature walk and kiosk), directional signs, warning signs, wells for potable water, and picnic tables and/or benches, and other support provisions.

C. Background (including Watershed Analysis)

The Eagleview Recreation Area project occurs along the main Umpqua River in the Middle Umpqua Frontal WAU, approximately 24 miles to the northwest of Roseburg, Oregon. The WAU comprises approximately 9310 acres of federal and private land. Watershed analysis for the Middle Umpqua Frontal WAU was used in this analysis and is available for public review at the Roseburg District office.

On page 11 of the Middle Umpqua Frontal WA the following observation is made, "This campground is needed to alleviate user pressure on the Tyee Recreation Site." Tyee campground is full several times a year; the proposed project would help alleviate the overcrowding.

In 1948, the project area was converted into a camp. In recent years it was privately leased from the BLM Approximately, four acres was managed by the BLM and leased to the Campfire Girls. In 1992, when the lease was not renewed. At present, the location is used --and misused (i.e., multiple paths to the river, extensive driving in the floodplain, etc.)-- by publics trying to access the river and camping locations near the river.

On 1 January 1997, a decision was signed to acquire the 4.5 acres of private property, to the north. The analysis can be found in EA # OR-106-97-01. This parcel was acquired to expand the potential recreation area.

D. Objectives

1. Practice ecosystem management as outlined in the ROD and RMP.

-avoid damage to riparian ecosystems and meet the objectives of the "Aquatic conservation Strategy" (ROD, p. B-11; RMP, p. 19).

-"Provide habitat for a variety of organisms associated with both late successional and younger forests." (RMP, p. 33).

-maintain "ecologically valuable structural components such as down logs, snags and large trees" (RMP, p. 35).

-improve and/or maintain soil productivity (RMP, p. 35).

-"Maintain or enhance the fisheries potential of the streams . . ." (RMP, p. 40).

-protect, manage and conserve all special status and SEIS special attention species habitat (RMP, p. 41).

-construct a recreation area.

2. Meet recreation needs and enhance BLM public relations as outlined in district management plans, Oregon State Office directives, and Recreation 2000. The project provides for the rising demand in high quality, safe camping opportunities for single and various sized groups by developing additional high quality camping opportunities in this area (e.g., access to the Umpqua River, interpretive trails on site, picnic area).

E. Decisions to be Made to Meet Proposal Objectives

1. The Decision Maker (the Swiftwater Area Manager) will decide if this analysis supports the signing of a FONSI.

2. . The Decision Maker (the Swiftwater Area Manager) will weigh the impacts of public use in a riparian area in both its land and water aspects against the impacts of restoring the riparian area to an approximation of its original character.

F. Issues Considered but Eliminated from Detailed Analysis

The following concerns were identified by the ID team during project design. they were eliminated from further analysis because: (1) project design features (PDF's) were included in the Proposed Action Alternative to lessen the anticipated environmental impacts of specific activities, or (2) the concern was not considered as a key issue warranting detailed analysis, or (3) the impacts are within the limits addressed in the ROD/RMP. Section II, paragraph C (p. 5) provides a list of specific PDF's incorporated into the preferred alternative to deal with these issues. These insures are summarized in Appendix D ("Scoping Summary") and addressed the Specialist's Reports in Appendix F,

1. Botany Concerns

Threatened and Endangered Plant Species: During surveys made in 1993 and 1994, no special status plants nor evidence of special status plants was observed at the proposed project site. Special Status Plants surveyed for can be found in the Botany Report, Appendix B.

2. Fisheries

Threatened and Endangered Fish Species: The proposal is considered "may affect, likely to adversely affect" for cutthroat trout". . . **not likely to adversely affect Oregon Coast (OC) coho salmon or its critical habitat. . .**" **AThe U[mpqua R[iver] cutthroat trout Evolutionary Significant Unit is no longer listed under the ESA@and was not considered in the NMFS Letter Of Concurrence.** Oregon coast coho salmon, and steelhead. PDF's would minimize negative impacts to fisheries and not prevent long term attainment of ACS. NMFS has been consulted.

3. Hydrology

The river streambank adjacent to a wet area is also actively eroding near the slackwater area. Rip-rap would be used in various locations for bank stabilization and public safety. No work would occur in the Bankfull area of the Umpqua River

3. Private Land Concerns

The proximity of the proposed recreation area to private ownership is of concern to neighbors. Trespass can occur when large groups enter an area. Measures would be taken to ameliorate the possibility for trespass via erection of a fence and/or planting trees.

4. Soils:

- a. Currently, soil erosion on the project site is an existing problem. A second order intermittent stream running through the area has down-cut through the landscape. Recreating the channel by resloping the stream course, placing 'rip-rap' along the cutbank, and planting native vegetation would mitigate this continuing erosion.
- b. Lost soil productivity would be mitigated by eliminating the uncontrolled use of the project site and subsoiling areas where compaction is heavy. As construction proceeds, compacted areas would be identified and the appropriate means of subsoiling would be utilized, thereby improving soil productivity.

5. Wildlife

- a. The northern spotted owl (NSO) uses a variety of components in coniferous stands (snags, cull trees, etc) for nesting and foraging. This component is minimal in this 80-120 year old stand. The project site is within 0.7 to 0.8 miles from a known NSO nest site, but is not suitable for nesting or foraging. The site is suitable for dispersal habitat (habitat used by young after leaving the nest). The proposed action is considered to be no effect for the northern spotted owl at this location. (See Wildlife Biologist Report, Appendix B).

- b. Data for some species has been based upon surveys conducted for other projects, and upon chance observations in this area. Surveys for the remaining species were made and all collected data indicates these species are not present. Impacts upon the special status species that make use of northwest riparian areas are not expected be adversely affected. Neither is their habitat expected to be adversely affected. Alterations to the habitat would have an unknown effect, but is expected to be negligible. (See Wildlife Biologist Report, Appendix B).

The species are as follows:

Peregrine falcon	P. Fringe-tailed Bat
White-footed Vole	Clouded salamander
Townsend Big-eared Bat	Red-legged Frog
Foothill's yellow-legged frog	Northern Goshawk
Pileated Woodpecker	N. Saw-whet Owl
Neotropical Passerines	

Other species eliminated through specific survey are:

Northern Spotted Owl	Marbled Murrelet
Bald Eagle	Osprey

Habitat components (nesting, roosting, and foraging) for the bald eagle and osprey would remain intact.

"Critical Elements of the Human Environment" is a list of elements specified in BLM Handbook H-1790-1 that must be considered in all EA's. These are elements of the human environment subject to requirements specified in statute, regulation, or Executive Order. These elements are as follows: (See Table II).

1. Air Quality
2. Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC)
3. Prime/Unique Farm Lands
4. Floodplains
5. Threatened or Endangered Species
6. Hazardous or Solid Wastes
7. Water Quality
8. Wetlands/Riparian Zones
9. Cultural Resources
10. Wilderness
11. Native American Religious Concerns
12. Wild & Scenic Rivers
13. Environmental Justice

These resources or values (except #5) were not identified as issues to be analyzed because: (1) the resource or value does not exist in the analysis area, (2) no site specific impacts were identified, or (3) the impacts were considered to be sufficiently mitigated through adherence to the S&G's therefore eliminating the element as an issue of concern. These are also briefly discussed in appendix E ("Critical Elements of the Human Environment"). Item #8 is addressed in the Specialist's Reports (Appendix F).

G. Issues to be Analyzed

The following concerns were identified by the ID Team as having sufficient concern to warrant more detailed analysis and will be addressed in section IV, "Environmental Consequences" (p. 11) as key issues.

1. **Hydrologic Flow:** The construction of structures in the riparian area can potentially alter the movement of water across and beneath the ground surface. Although the impact to the Umpqua River itself would be minimal due to the limited scope of this project, the cumulative effects of changing this area's hydrology could be far reaching, over a longer period of time.
2. **Impacts of Vegetation Conversion:** The site became infested with noxious weeds through neglect and proximity to County Road 57. Also, the native brush and vegetation on this site is used extensively by neotropical passerines (birds native to the area south of the Tropic of Cancer and of and of the order Passeriformes, i.e. perching birds, songbirds, etc.) Building a campground on this site would facilitate the removal of noxious weeds, but could potentially remove some native vegetation used by neotropical passerines.

II. ALTERNATIVES INCLUDING THE PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE

This section describes the No Action, the Recreation Area Development Alternative (Preferred), and the Riparian Restoration Alternative, as well as any alternatives that were considered but eliminated from detailed study. As such these alternatives represent a range of reasonable potential actions. This also discusses specific design features that would be implemented under the action alternatives. All action alternatives were designed to be in conformance with the RMP.

A. No Action Alternative (Alternative 1)

No action would proceed at this location. Current management practices would remain unchanged. The area would continue to be intermittently used by the public as a camping area and further degradation of the riparian area from motor and foot traffic would occur. Currently, those who use this location set up camp where they choose. Persons utilizing this location would continue to trigger compaction (via driving and walking in sensitive areas) and bank erosion (as each person makes their own way to the Umpqua River), unabated. Noxious weeds would continue to grow and spread throughout the area.

B. Action Alternatives

The ID Team considered two action alternatives:

Alternative 2 - Development of a recreation area while minimizing, within project requirements, negative effects on the plant, wildlife, and fishery, resources (See sections II.C & IV.B of this document).

Monitoring would include: a resident camp host(s), periodic presence of BLM personnel, law enforcement by the BLM Ranger, and visitor survey.

Construction of the facility would be accomplished with a 'light touch'. The minimum sized earth moving equipment necessary would be used for building the site. Within design specifications, the maximum number of existing trees possible would be retained. Sites would be designed to disturb the least amount of existing vegetation (including trees). Native plants would be planted to mitigate for those removed. The channel, dividing the vehicular camping area from ~~the tent camping area the host site~~, would be ~~reshaped to a more natural configuration and~~ stabilized with rip-rap ~~in the vicinity of the footbridge~~. An information kiosk would be placed at each end of the facility, along with directional and warning signs, to educate and safeguard the public. (See IDT minutes, Appendix A.)

Alternative 3 - Accelerated recovery of the Riparian Reserve and floodplain to a natural appearance and function. Major restoration requiring removal of structures, reshaping altered landforms (e.g. reshaping the stream channel, etc.), aggressive measures to remove noxious weeds, revegetation with native plant species, stabilization with rip-rap, Soil productivity improvement via subsoiling compacted soils, fungal dominance conversion, etc. Protective measures would be taken (i.e. patrolling the location, barriers to vehicular access, etc) to prevent further degradation of the site.

C. Project Design Features (applies to alternative 2):

1. **To meet the components of the "Aquatic Conservation Strategy (ACS)" (S&G's, p. B-12):**

a. A **Riparian Reserve** (Component #1) is established along the Main Umpqua River. Riparian Reserves consist of permanently flowing (perennial) and seasonally flowing (intermittent) streams, the extent of unstable and potentially unstable areas, and wetlands. The ROD (C-30) and RMP (p. 24) specify **Riparian Reserve widths** equal to the height of two site potential trees on each side of fish bearing streams. Data has been analyzed from District inventory plots and site where the project would be constructed has three distinct floodplains; a 10 year floodplain at approximately 224 feet above the baseline, a 25 year floodplain at approximately 230 feet above the baseline, and a 100 year floodplain at approximately 237 feet above the baseline (Hydrologist Rpt. for Eagleview Acquisition, p. 1). The Umpqua River is fish-bearing, and maintain among it's fish populations, the federally listed cutthroat trout, Oregon coast coho salmon, and steelhead. Road building (paved) would be contained within the 100 year and the 25 year floodplains.

1. The majority of roads, RV pads, and parking areas would be paved with asphalt; the tent camping access and parking area would be surfaced with gravel. Non-permanent materials for the RV and Day Use areas (such as gravel) was eliminated due to maintenance costs and to minimize sediment delivery from roads. Gravel was selected for the tent camping area to minimize impacts to infiltration. (See IDT minutes, Appendix A, The Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan (ROD & RMP), p.74, and Appendix D.II.C.1, ROD & RMP, p.132.)

2. The first order stream dividing the project area would be reshaped (create a constant stream grade, slope the cutbanks, and add 'rip rap') and revegetate with native plants to restore its function and appearance. (See IDT minutes, Appendix A.)

32. Excavation of the streambank soil would be kept to a minimum at the site of the footbridge. The excavated material may be used at the site as fill material for the footbridge construction, access road, or hauled to the nearest waste area (as required).

43. Only native trees, plants, shrubs, and grasses are planned to be planted throughout the project area to mitigate the loss of existing vegetation via the previously mentioned operations, and to provide visual barriers between camp sites (See Botanist Report, Appendix B).

b. This project is not in a **Key Watershed** (ACS Component #2).

c. **Watershed Analysis** (ACS Component #3) has been completed for this watershed (see p 3).

d. **Watershed Restoration** (ACS Component #4): While a formal Transportation Management Plan (Conservation Recommendation 11 (CR 11)) has not been completed for the entire Upper Umpqua watershed (includes the previously designated Middle Umpqua Frontal watershed), priority roads were identified for restoration opportunities during the WA process. While not fully satisfying CR 11, efforts have been made to begin this process. Most roads and the parking areas would be paved with asphalt, while trails would be surfaced with gravel to reduce current erosion levels.

2. **To minimize the loss of soil productivity (i.e. minimizing compaction, limiting erosion, protecting the duff layer and protecting slope stability):**
 - a. **Measures to reduce erosion and sedimentation currently existing** would consist of reshaping and revegetating the first order stream dividing the project site (See II.C.1.a.2, EA # OR-106-94-17). Portions of the main river cutbank would be 'rip rapped' to stabilize bank erosion. Additional Douglas-fir or Hemlock Western Red Cedar were planted (approximately 25-40 feet wide) at the edge of the riparian buffer, on the northeast corner of the site (categorically excluded under 516 DM6 Appendix 5 .4.C(3)). A four foot fence was erected on the northern property line, to reduce vehicle traffic across the project site (CE # OR-104-98-49).
 - b. **Measures to limit erosion and sedimentation from roads** would consist of paving driving surfaces with asphalt except the tent camping parking area and those trails used by maintenance and visitor foot traffic. Gravel would provide the surfacing for the entire length of the trails and the tent camping parking area.
 - c. **Measures to limit or reduce soil compaction** would consist of directing and managing foot and vehicle traffic with minimal trail and road systems, and eliminating uncontrolled use of the project area.. Measures to improve soil productivity would consist of identifying areas of productivity loss and taking the appropriate means of subsoiling (e.g. subsoiler, backhoe, pick and shovel) to improve it. Removal of existing structures (i.e. the swimming pool, cabins, etc.) would further aid in increasing soil productivity (See Soils Rpt. p. 3).
 - d. **Measures to protect the duff layer** would consist of controlling public use of the site, limiting extensive use of heavy machinery and confining it to the road prism, eliminating exotic plant species and planting native vegetation, The coarse woody debris (CWD) reserved according to ROD guidelines would also be a source of organic material that can become incorporated into the soil structure (See para. 3a, below).
3. **To provide wildlife legacies:**
 - a. **Wildlife habitat values** would be maintained through the retention of the majority of green conifers and hardwoods (RMP Appendix E, p. 150). Only trees needed to construct camping sites or designated as hazards to public safety would be cut. Where possible, these trees would be used in the project as barriers to and dividers between recreation site users (See Botany, Fisheries Rpts., and Hazard Tree Analysis).
 - b. **Neotropical passerines (NTP)** are a large group of adaptable birds. They have transitory habitat needs; living in a northern component (Oregon in this case) part of the year and a southern component (from California to South America) the rest of the year. The habitat itself has a multi-storied canopy with moderate amounts of brushy, leafy growth. It is used for hiding, feeding, and nesting habitat. If humans are present near NTPs, they will use the habitat, but to a lesser extent. Passerine populations are expected to decline by 1 or 2 existing pairs. Some species require a variety of seed producing plants, while others require a variety of insect species. (Wildlife Biologist Report, Appendix B).
4. **To protect air quality:**

Slash burning on this project would be limited to piles of brush not hauled off site to designated dumping areas. Burning would be conducted under the requirements of the Oregon Smoke Management Plan and done in a manner consistent with the Federal Clean Air Act. The Federal Clean Air Act is designed to reduce air pollution, protect human health and preserve the Nation's air resources. The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality is responsible for implementing the Federal Clean Air Act, and the resulting Oregon Smoke Management Plan that requires the Oregon State Department of Forestry to manage the amount smoke released into the airshed as the result of slash and field burning.

5. **To protect and enhance stand diversity:**
 - a. All **Pacific Yew** would be reserved.
 - b. All tree species currently represented in the stand would continue to be represented in the stand after project completion. Large "wolf" trees (large, full crowned, limby trees) would be retained for non-vascular plant legacy attributes.
 - c. Existing native plants would be maintained and some native plants would be reintroduced to the recreation site. Noxious weed removal would be aggressively undertaken.
 - d. Snags and CWD would be reserved as described in paragraph three above.
6. **To prevent accidental spills of petroleum or other hazardous materials:**

Hazardous materials (particularly petroleum products) would be stored in durable containers and located so that any accidental spill would be contained and not drain into the riparian area. All trash and excess construction materials would be removed. Accidental spills or discovery of the dumping of any hazardous materials would be reported to the Project Administrator and the procedures outlined in the "Roseburg District Hazardous Materials (HAZMAT) Emergency Response Contingency Plan" would be followed.
7. **To prevent the spread of noxious weeds:**

Stipulations would be incorporated into the project's contracts to prevent and/or control the spread of noxious weeds.
8. **To protect Special Status Plants (SSP):**

Special Status Plants have not been identified to be present on this site. Should any SSP be discovered measures appropriate to the specific species would be adopted to safeguard the species.

III. AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

This section describes the existing environment and forms a baseline for comparison of the effects created by the alternatives under consideration. Appendix F (background Rpts.) contains Specialist's reports with supporting information for this analysis.

This project lies within the Oregon Coast range Physiographic Province. The affected environment for this province is described in the FSEIS on pages 3 & 4-21.

A. General Site Description

The watershed can be divided into four distinct landscape types with associated plant groups; higher slopes (Douglas-fir/red alder/vine maple), interior valleys (mixed conifer/interior valley/grasses); mid elevations (Douglas-fir/mixed brush/salal); and moist slopes (Douglas-fir/red alder/salmonberry). It also can be divided as 63% privately owned and 37% BLM administered. Approximately 2259 acres are found in late-successional forest land and approximately 1169 acres are general forest management. Approximately 1567 acres of federally administered lands are within Riparian Reserves. State Highway 138 and County Road 57 boarder the northeast edge of the WAU.

FEMAT (Forest Ecosystem Management: An Ecological, Economic, and Social Assessment Report of the Forest Ecosystem Management Assessment Team, July 1993) describes a **Riparian Zone** as those areas where the vegetation and climate are the direct and indirect result of the perennial and/or intermittent presence of water, associated with high water tables, and soils that display characteristic wetness. Plants in this area normally grow rooted in the water table of rivers, streams, lakes, wet meadows, etc (p. IX-30).

The Riparian Zone topography, below the Bullock Road (County Rd. #57), falls off toward the Umpqua River in two floodplains and the active channel. The soil content ranges from hard sandstone, sandbars, and sandy loam in the active channel (surveyed during the dry season) through sand and sandy loam on the lower floodplain, to silty loam and silty-clay loam on the upper floodplain. Organic matter is generally high except on the lower floodplain, where moderate to low organic matter is found. The soils of the project area are generally very deep and well drained. Two channels cross the proposed camping area. The first separates the tent designated area from the vehicle area and is severely eroding below County Road #57. The second crosses the southern portion of the vehicle camping area. (Soils & Hydrology Reports, Appendix B).

The proposed project area is approximately 8 acres, between the Umpqua River and County Road 57. The location is the site of the former Camp Tye. It has an overstory of mature Douglas-fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*) and grand fir (*Abies grandis*), western redcedar (*Thuja plicata*), Western Hemlock (*Tsuga heterophylla*); hardwoods include bigleaf maple (*Acer macrophyllum*), red alder (*Alnus rubra*), and Oregon myrtle (*Umbellularia californica*). The shrubby understory consists of Salmonberry, oceanspray, hazel, swordfern, and brackenfern. Noxious weeds are scattered throughout the project site.

The area is currently used as a parking area, camping area, and as access to the river. Several structures exist on the project site. (Recreation Report, Appendix B).

B. Affected Resources

Botanical - No threatened or endangered (T&E) species (either federal or state) were observed in the project area. A variety of noxious weeds are present on the site.

Cultural Resources - No known cultural resources exist in the project area.

Fisheries - The project is considered "[... not likely to adversely affect Oregon Coast \(OC\) coho salmon or its critical habitat. . . .](#)" [The U\[mpqua R\[iver\] cutthroat trout Evolutionary Significant Unit is no longer listed under the ESA and was not considered in the NMFS Letter Of Concurrence. a "may affect, likely to adversely affect" for the cutthroat trout.](#) Oregon coast coho salmon, [and steelhead by the Fisheries Resource Specialist.](#) Trees that provide shade and bank stability to the stream would not be removed; temperature regulation and the source for CWD would remain intact (Fisheries Rpt., p. 1).

Hydrology - The proposed project is located within the 100-year floodplain of the Umpqua River inside the Middle Umpqua Frontal watershed. The 100-year floodplain was determined using information from the Flood Profiles in the Umpqua Basin, Oregon (USGS Open File Report, 1973) and Flood Insurance Rate Map (U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development, 1978). The 100-year floodplain is found at the 232 foot elevation, and extends to the Bullock Rd. The BLM Manual 7221-Floodplain Management directs the Agency to evaluate the potential effects of any actions within the 100-year floodplain (Hydrologist Rpt., p. 1).

Irrigation water usage at the proposed recreation site would be pumped out of the river and bought from Douglas County, coming from Galesville Reservoir. It would be stored in a 1600 gallon storage tank. Potable water would be drawn from wells at the project site and stored in a 500 gallon storage tank.

Wildlife - Sixteen non-fish species are of interest at this location, including three general groups of species (Wildlife Rpt., p. 1)

IV. ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

This section forms the scientific and analytical basis for the comparisons of the alternatives. The probable consequences (impacts, effects) each alternative would have on selected resource(s) are described. This section is organized by the alternatives and the effects on resources by the key issues identified in section 1 paragraph G as well as the direct, indirect and cumulative impacts on the other resource values. The environmental consequences for these resources are more fully analyzed in Appendix F (Analysis File). This Appendix contains Specialist's Reports and the supporting information for this analysis. The EIS and FSEIS analyzes the environmental consequences in a broader context. This EA does not attempt to reanalyze all possible impacts that have already been analyzed in these umbrella documents, but rather to identify the particular site specific impacts that could reasonably occur.

Implementation of this project would not result in the irreversible or irretrievable commitment of resources. Further, it would not prevent the attainment of the ACS objectives.

A. No Action Alternative:

Direct Impacts Upon the Riparian Zone:

The occasional appearances by the BLM ranger would continue to have little controlling effect upon the use of this location. Public safety would remain a concern due to hazardous trees and riverbank washouts. Sanitation problems (including human waste) would increase due to uncontrolled use.

Soils would continue to be eroded, not only in the central, intermittent stream, but also on the floodplain, as well. Water flowing from the culvert under County Road #57 would continue to erode the bank and the channel as it moves to the Umpqua River. Vehicle use on the floodplain during wet weather would continue to compact and erode soil profiles.

Neotropical passerines would continue to use the site as they have in the recent past. It is expected that populations would remain unchanged, due to the presence of hiding, feeding, and nesting habitat. Native trees, shrubs, plant, and grasses would remain affected only by the presence of unauthorized vehicle use and competition from noxious weeds.

Unmanaged use of the site would allow continued degradation.

Cumulative Impacts Upon the Riparian Zone:

Over an indeterminate period this location could follow several possible scenarios depending upon the amount of human interaction with the area. If the human presence were removed, this area would recover naturally. If human usage continues at current levels the resource would likely degrade at a slow rate. If the human usage increases, as is indicated from river usage statistics and usage of the Tyee Campground (1 mile upstream), degradation would continue at an increasing rate.

B. Recreation Area Development Alternative (Preferred Alternative):

Direct Impacts Upon the Riparian Zone:

This alternative would construct an RV and tent camping facility for general public use. The "Campground Host" program would allow a BLM representative to be present when the site is open to the public and facilitate contact with BLM law enforcement, should it be required. When the area is designated in the CFR, use can be regulated. Hazard trees would be removed as normal maintenance, facilitating public safety. The trail system is expected to manage foot traffic throughout the site and down to the river.

Approximately ~~17~~15% of the project area would be covered by pavement or structure. Soil resources are expected to be protected by concentrating traffic patterns within designated trail system and designated parking areas. Visitors would be directed to approved parking spaces and along the trails via information boards and signs. The water course would be rehabilitated to flow in a more natural channel. It would be reshaped with fill and stabilized with rip-rap around the footbridge. Native shrubs, plants, and grasses would be planted in and around the channel to further restore it.

Neotropical passerine populations would likely be reduced by one pair of birds. This would be due to an increase in human presence and a temporary decrease in vegetation. This would be mitigated through the planting of native plants to serve as hiding cover, forage, and nesting cover.

Control of noxious weeds brought to the project location would be accomplished through cleaning equipment used for construction prior to move in and the use of "clean fill." Noxious weeds currently on site and transported on site via visitors vehicles would be controlled through normal maintenance.

Cumulative Impacts Upon the Riparian Zone

This action would not significantly add to cumulative soil impacts due to the small stretch of the Umpqua River bank that would be at risk for erosion. Evaluation of the entire ecology (public and private) would be necessary to accurately assess cumulative impacts. Of the approximate 7000 acres (360 foot width from channel center outward) of land bordering the mainstem Umpqua in the Swiftwater Resource Area, approximately 360 acres area under Federal management. This is approximately five percent of the total number of acres along the Umpqua. The project area is 8 acres or one tenth of one percent of the total acres and only two percent of Federal acres.

Flooding would likely deposit coarse woody debris and soil over time. Damage to structures is expected to occur during 100 year flood events. Recreation maintenance would repair damage to the facility caused by such flooding.

C. Riparian Restoration Alternative

Direct Impacts Upon the Riparian Zone:

This alternative would restore the riparian zone to an approximation of its natural character. Protection and patrolling of the project area would be increased until the character of the area inhibits easy access by the general public. Hazard trees would fall naturally to become a component of the forest floor, further impeding access. The existing trail to the Umpqua River would be reclaimed.

Soil resources would be directly impacted temporarily. Productivity would be improved. Native plants would be enhanced due to possible manipulation of the soil structure and composition to approximate that of riparian zones.

Revegetation projects would occur. Only native plants would be used. Noxious weed removal would be aggressively undertaken.

Cumulative Impacts Upon the Riparian Zone:

Restoration of the eight acre project area would have insignificant consequences when comparing it to the extent of riparian area along the mainstem of the Umpqua River. (See Soils, Hydrology and Botany Reports, Appendix B.)

V. PUBLIC INPUT AND PARTICIPATING PARTIES

The public is an integral part of the NEPA process. This is a summary of Public Contact/Notification Procedures, Public Comment Opportunities, other agency input, and in put from members of the Interdisciplinary Team.

A. Agencies, Organizations, and Persons Consulted

Oregon Department of Fish and
Wildlife
4192 N. Umpqua Highway
Roseburg, OR 97470
Contact: Dave Loomis (District
Biologist)

Douglas County Parks Dept.
P.O. Box 800
Winchester, OR 97495
Contact: Jeff Powers, Parks
Director

Douglas County Publics Works
Dept.
Room 219, Courthouse
Roseburg, OR 97470
Contact: Dave Leonard

Threatened and Endangered Species Section 7 Consultation - the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA) requires consultation to ensure that any action that an Agency authorizes, funds or carries out is not likely to jeopardize the existence of any listed species or destroy or adversely modify critical habitat. Formal consultation, with the **US Fish and Wildlife Service** (USF&WS), ~~was not deemed necessary by the Swiftwater Wildlife Biologist was accomplished and a Biological Assessment (BO) was completed on February 21, 2002. He concluded the project is not a "may affect" for the northern spotted owl. He concluded the project is not a "may affect" for the marbled murrelet~~ The BO concluded the project would be ". . . not likely to jeopardize the existence of the spotted owl, murrelet, and not likely to destroy or adversely modify designated critical habitat for the murrelet." The BLM - Roseburg Biological Assessment for Endangered Species consultation ~~will be~~ submitted to the **National Marine Fisheries Service** (NMFS). ~~The Biological Assessment was a "may affect, likely to adversely affect" for cutthroat trout, Oregon coast coho salmon, and steelhead. The project was considered ". . . not likely to adversely affect Oregon Coast (OC) coho salmon or its critical habitat. . . ."~~ The U[mpqua R[iver] cutthroat trout Evolutionary Significant Unit is no longer listed under the ESA and was not considered in the NMFS Letter Of Concurrence This project may have to be altered as the result of this consultation (See section IV para. A for the results of other consultations).

B. Public Notification

1. Notification was provided to affected **Tribal Governments** (Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw; Grande Ronde; Siletz; and Cow Creek Bands of Umpqua Indians). No Comments were received.
2. **Adjacent landowners**, within a **3** mile radius of the proposed Eagleview Campground project area, were notified of the proposal by mail. A copy of the letter, mailing list, and responses is included in Appendix C.
3. The project was included in the Roseburg District Planning Update (Winter 1997-1998) going to approximately 200 addressees requesting **public scoping**. Two comments were received.
4. A 30-day **public comment period** ~~will be established~~ concluded on September 30, 1998 for review of this EA. A "Notice of Availability" ~~will be~~ was published in the Roseburg News Review. This EA and its associated documents ~~will be~~ was sent to all parties who request them. If the decision is made to implement this project, a notice will be published in the Roseburg News Review. Notification will also be provided to certain State, County, and local governments (See Appendix G - Public Comment).

C. LIST OF PREPARERS

Lyle Andrews	Engineering	Isaac Barner	Archeologist
Dan Cressy	Soils Scientist	Eileen Cotnam	Realty
Dan Couch	Watershed Analysis	Dave Erickson	Recreation / VRM
Darrel Green	Project Engineer	Jim Luse	EA Coordinator
Evan Olson	NRS/Botany	Ed Rumbold	Hydrologist
Alex Tupy	Civil Engineer	Jeff Wall	NRS/EA Preparer
Elijah Waters	Fisheries	Joe Witt	Wildlife Biologist
Steve Yates	Rec. Spec. /Project Initiator		

CRITICAL ELEMENTS OF THE HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

The following elements of the human environment are subject to requirements specified in statute, regulation, or executive order. These resources or values are either not present or would not be affected by the proposed actions or alternatives, unless otherwise described in this EA. This negative declaration is documented below by individuals who assisted in the preparation of this analysis.

Element	Responsible Position	Initials	Date	Remarks
Air Quality	Fuels Management Specialist			
Areas of Critical Environmental Concern	Environmental Specialist			
Cultural Resources	Archaeologist			
Environmental Justice	Environmental Specialist			
Farm Lands (prime or unique)	Soil Scientist			
Flood Plains	Hydrologist			
Native American Religious Concerns	Environmental Specialist			
Threatened or Endangered Species (plants)	Botanist			
Threatened or Endangered Species (wildlife)	Wildlife Biologist			
Threatened or Endangered Species (fish)	Fisheries Biologist			
Hazardous/Solid Wastes	District Hazardous Materials Coordinator			
Water Quality Drinking/Ground Water	Hydrologist			
Wetlands/Riparian Zones	Hydrologist			
Wild and Scenic	Recreation Planner			
Wilderness	Recreation Planner			

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