

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

**Environmental Assessment for the Swiftwater Field Office
Swiftwater Recreation Sites Programmatic Actions
EA No. OR - 104 - 03 - 02**

The Swiftwater Field Office proposes a programmatic approach to analyze catastrophic repair of damaged recreation sites, scheduled maintenance, as well as upgrades or improvements to current recreation sites and trails. Potential projects would occur on eleven campgrounds and/or day-use areas, three trails, two boat launch sites, and one Watchable Wildlife Site at various locations throughout the Resource Area. This project would occur predominantly within the Riparian Reserve Land Use Allocation and help to meet the Roseburg District's commitment to provide for a wide range of recreational opportunities to the public.

Acronyms Used:

| | | |
|---------------|---|--|
| BMP | - | Best Management Practice |
| BLM | - | Bureau of Land Management |
| EA | - | Environmental Assessment |
| HAZMAT | - | Hazardous Material |
| ID Team (IDT) | - | Interdisciplinary Team |
| NEPA | - | National Environmental Protection Act |
| NFP | - | Northwest Forest Plan |
| NSO | - | Northern Spotted Owl |
| RMP | - | Resources Management Plan |
| ROD | - | Record Of Decision (used only to refer to the NFP ROD) |
| S&G | - | Standards & Guidelines |
| S&M | - | Survey and Manage |
| T&E | - | Threatened or Endangered |

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INTRODUCTION

This Environmental Assessment (EA) has been prepared for the Swiftwater Field Office's proposed Swiftwater Recreation Sites Programmatic Actions that analyzes site-specific maintenance and upgrades in developed recreation areas. This EA is a site-specific analysis of potential environmental impacts that could occur as the result of the implementation of a proposed action or alternative. The EA assists the Agency in project planning and ensuring compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and in making a determination as to whether any "significant" impacts could result from analyzed actions. "Significance" as defined by NEPA is found in regulation 40 CFR 1508.27. An EA provides evidence for determining whether to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or a "Finding of No Significant Impact" (FONSI). The FONSI is a document that briefly presents the reasons why implementation of the proposed action will not result in "significant" environmental impacts (effects) beyond those already addressed in the Roseburg District's *Proposed Resource Management Plan / Environmental Impact Statement* (PRMP/EIS, October 1994).

The following assumptions were made in the preparation of this document:

1. Survey and Manage surveys would not be required (S&M ROD, pg. 22; see Appendix E-2).
2. Any project determined to be beyond the scope of this analysis would require separate NEPA analysis (See Appendix C).

A Decision Record would be completed after the FONSI is signed to document the decision. A notice of this decision will be placed in *The News Review*, a daily newspaper of general circulation in Roseburg, Oregon.

I. PURPOSE OF AND NEED FOR ACTION

This section provides a general overview of the proposed action. Included are: the need for the action, purpose of the action, a general description and objectives of the proposal, and conformance with existing land use plans.

A. Need for Action

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has a need to implement the *Roseburg District Record of Decision and Resources Management Plan* (RMP, June 1995). The RMP (pg. 55) responds to the need to "ensure the continued availability of Public Land for a diversity of resources dependent outdoor recreation while maintaining the commitment to manage Public Land consistent with . . . principles of ecosystem management." The RMP specifies an objective to "provide for a wide range of developed and dispersed recreation opportunities that contribute to meeting a projected recreation demand" and that "provide for visitor safety".

The commitment to provide recreation opportunities can be impacted by damage to facilities and features through acts of nature or vandalism, failure of man-made facilities, the need for periodic maintenance and upgrade, need to provide for more efficient use of the facilities, correction of conditions that are a hazard to public safety, or that need to comply with regulations such as the Americans with Disabilities Act.

B. Purpose of Action

In the past, separate NEPA analysis was done each time the repair, modification or upgrade of a recreation facility was needed. This has resulted in inefficient use of staff time resulting in delays or deferral of maintenance and upgrade to facilities. The current process does not efficiently respond to the need to ensure the continued availability of outdoor recreation opportunities in a timely manner. The Swiftwater Field Office proposes a programmatic approach to analyze catastrophic repair of damaged recreation sites, scheduled maintenance, as well as upgrades or improvements to current recreation sites and trails. This analysis would enable a quick response to situations as they arise rather than initiating NEPA analysis after a facility becomes damaged or determined to be in need of repair or replacement.

C. Description of the Proposal

The following features are part of the proposal:

- 1). **Repair or replacement of existing facilities or features damaged through natural or human causes.** These are unanticipated and at this point unknown events causing damage to facilities and features from wind, flood or water, snow, landslides, vandalism, and fire events. Possible examples include but are not limited to repair of slid out trails, and destroyed or damaged facilities, or replacement of features such as lawns and landscaping.

- 2). **Scheduled maintenance and improvement of existing facilities and features.** This would include maintenance of recreation sites, interpretive sites, and trails that are of a recurring nature. Trail maintenance includes but is not limited to the repair or upgrade of: signs, fences, benches, foot bridges, puncheons, trail tread, clearing limits, and the need to close or rehabilitate uncontrolled access points and trails created by the public. Recreation site maintenance includes but is not limited to the upkeep of all facilities including: buildings and structures, utilities including water, sewer, electrical, and other utility lines and their support structures, the seeding and fertilizing of lawns, planting of native vegetation, refurbishment and landscaping of sites, treatment of noxious weeds, felling, limbing or topping of hazard trees, burning of excess slash or other vegetative material and debris on site or removal off site.

- 3). **Additions or upgrades within existing sites.** Projects included within this category include replacement, or upgrade of facilities as well as new additional facilities or features that respond to a public need. This could include such things as installing additional: picnic tables, benches, tent pads, pavilions, barbeque grills and fire rings, sumps, trash receptacles, kiosks, campsites, watchable wildlife sites and interpretive displays. Potential upgrades could include installation of new: volleyball courts, horseshoe pits, barriers (fences, rocks, posts, railings), steps, lighting systems, drilling new wells, and new pump systems. Repair, replacement or upgrade of existing: host sites, shelters, camping sites, softball fields, restrooms and maintenance sheds, boat launches, fee and information boards, storage boxes, pump houses, shelters, trails, footbridges, puncheons, gates, fences, lines (water, power, septic, satellite, phone), asphalt-concrete-gravel walkways and roadways, and alarm and camera systems. These actions would occur within the existing recreation site. Potential upgrades are listed in Appendix C. This would include the realignment of approximately one half-mile segment of the North Umpqua Trail to relocate a segment that has slid out.

facilities include: restrooms, pavilions, benches, tables, kiosks, interpretive displays, maintenance sheds, boat launches, gates, fences, fee and information boards, storage boxes, pump houses and shelters, service systems and lines (water, power, lighting, septic, satellite, phone). **Features** include: lawns, steps, tent pads, volleyball courts, softball fields, horseshoe pits, grills and fire rings, sumps, barrier work (rock, log, post, railing), asphalt-concrete-gravel walkways and roadways, trails, bridges, puncheons, and unique natural features (waterfalls and stream banks, down logs, landscaped areas).

Approximately 365 acres are analyzed for potential activities. These sites are predominantly within the Riparian Reserve or Late-Successional Reserve Land Use Allocation. Section II (pgs. 5-7) of this EA describes Project Design Criteria that would limit potential impacts of the Proposed Action Alternative. The following table delineates the sites encompassed by this analysis.

Table 1. Swiftwater Recreation Sites and Trails

| SITE | ACRES |
|---|----------|
| 1. Swiftwater Day-Use Area and North Umpqua Trailhead | 5 |
| 2. Susan Creek Day-Use Area and Susan Creek Falls Trail | 53 |
| 3. Susan Creek Campground | 38 |
| 4. Cavitt Creek Falls Campground | 16 |
| 5. Wolf Creek Falls Trail | 15 |
| 6. Millpond Campground | 33 |
| 7. Lone Pine Group Reservation Campground | 23 |
| 8. Rock Creek Campground | 19 |
| 9. Scaredman Campground | 11 |
| 10. Tyee Campground | 6 |
| 11. Eagleview Group Reservation Campground | 15 |
| 12. Osprey Boat Ramp | 1 |
| 13. Miner Wolf Watchable Wildlife Site | 5 |
| 14. Emile Campground | 4 |
| 15. North Umpqua Trail | 120 |
| 16. Lone Rock Boat Launch | <u>1</u> |
| Total | 365 |

All of the above sites except the Emile Campground and the Lone Rock Boat Launch are within **Special Recreation Management Areas** (SRMA's). SRMA's are areas where a commitment has been made to provide specific recreation activity and experience opportunities (RMP, pg. 57 and 113). This includes a long-term commitment to manage the physical, social, and managerial settings to sustain these activity and experience opportunities. Delineation is based on administrative / management criteria including interrelated recreation uses, use patterns, intensity of use, high resource values and public concerns.

Extensive Recreation Management Areas (ERMA's) are areas where dispersed recreation occurs and where visitors have the freedom of recreational choice with minimal regulatory constraint (RMP, pg.58). Significant public recreation issues or management concerns are limited in these areas, and nominal management, consistent with the Bureau's stewardship responsibility, suffices. The Emile Campground and the Lone Rock Boat Launch are within ERMA's.

Conformance with Existing Land Use Plans

The Proposed Action and all alternatives were developed to be in conformance with the *Final - Roseburg District Proposed Resource Management Plan / Environmental Impact Statement (PRMP/EIS)* dated October 1994 and its associated *Roseburg District Record of Decision and Resources Management Plan (RMP)* dated June 2, 1995. The RMP was written to be consistent with the *Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement on Management of Habitat for Late-Successional and Old Growth Forest Related Species Within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl (FSEIS)*; 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 Northern 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 (S&G's)* dated April 13, 1994; generally referred to as the "Northwest Forest Plan" (NFP) and the *Record of Decision and Standards and Guidelines for Amendments to the Survey and Manage, Protection Buffer, and other Mitigation Measures Standards and Guidelines*. All treatment of noxious weeds would be in compliance with the *Roseburg District Noxious Weed EA*. The proposed action alternative would also be in compliance with the preferred alternative of the *North Umpqua Wild and Scenic River Environmental Assessment* (July 1992).

II. ALTERNATIVES INCLUDING THE PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE

This section describes the No Action and Proposed Action alternative. These alternatives represent a range of reasonable potential actions that would meet the Purpose and Need. This section also discusses specific design features that would be implemented under the proposed action alternative.

A. The No Action Alternative (Alternative A)

The No Action Alternative is required by NEPA and provides a baseline for the comparison of the alternatives. This alternative represents the existing condition and continuation of present management. Facilities would continue to be maintained and danger trees managed but none of the upgrades listed in Appendix C would occur. Activities would focus on maintaining existing facilities in a serviceable condition but they would not be improved or upgraded. The slid out portion of the North Umpqua Trail would not be repaired and repair or replacement of facilities damaged by nature or vandalism would be evaluated and might not occur.

B. The Proposed Action Alternative (Alternative B)

The proposed action consists of those activities that would continue to provide access and safety to the public using BLM campgrounds and reservation areas, picnic areas, trails, boat ramps and viewing or interpretive areas. Activities include response to natural disasters or vandalism necessary to restore recreation sites back to public use, routine maintenance of recreation sites and trails as well as improvement and upgrade of facilities, and hazard tree management.

Recreation sites are routinely evaluated for trees that pose a hazard to public safety. Trees that do not meet the minimum safe-tree shell thickness (see Appendix D) would be felled and left on-site as down woody debris on the forest floor, used as barrier logs to deter foot or vehicular traffic into areas where BLM wants to discourage public access, or placed in or along streams as stream structure. If tree size is too small for any of these uses it could be used as firewood for the campground. Felled trees in excess to these needs may be sold and removed from the site.

C. Project Design Criteria and Management Practices as part of the Action Alternative

This section describes mitigating measures (measures designed to avoid, minimize or rectify impacts on resources [40 CFR 1508.20]) that would be incorporated with the implementation of the action alternative. Project design criteria (PDC's) are site-specific measures, restrictions, requirements or physical structures included in the design of a project in order to reduce adverse environmental impacts. Additionally, the RMP (Appendix D, pg. 129) lists "Best Management Practices" (BMP's) and the ROD lists "Standards and Guidelines" (S&G's). BMP's are measures designed to protect water quality and soil productivity. S&G's are ". . . the rules and limits governing actions, and the principles specifying the environmental conditions or levels to be achieved and maintained" (S&G, pg. A-6).

1. **To meet the objectives of the "Aquatic Conservation Strategy (ACS)" (RMP, pg. 19):**
 - a. **Riparian Reserves (Component #1)** were established. Riparian Reserves consist of (1) lands incorporating permanently flowing (perennial) and seasonally flowing (intermittent) streams, (2) the extent of unstable and potentially unstable areas that may directly impact streams, and (3) wetlands. The RMP (pg. 24) specifies Riparian Reserve widths equal to the height of two site potential trees on each side of fish bearing streams and one site potential tree on each side of perennial or intermittent non-fish bearing streams and wetlands greater than an acre. All of the recreation sites fall within the Riparian Reserve except for portions of the North Umpqua Trail and the Lone Pine Group Reservation Campground.
 - b. **Key Watersheds (ACS Component #2)** were established "as refugia . . . for maintaining and recovering habitat for at-risk stocks of anadromous salmonids and resident fish species [RMP, pg. 20]." All of the project sites are outside of key watersheds except the Scaredman site that is located in the Canton Creek Key Watershed. An objective in Key Watersheds is to "Reduce existing system and non-system road mileage . . ." ([RMP, pg. 20). This objective would not be met as part of this action.
 - c. **Watershed Analysis (ACS Component #3)** for the Canton Creek, Rock Creek, Little River, Middle North Umpqua, Lower North Umpqua, and Upper Umpqua Watersheds were used in this analysis and are available for public review at the Roseburg District office.
 - d. **Watershed Restoration (ACS Component #4)** activities are described in the specific watershed analyses. No specific watershed restoration is included as part of this analysis, however the logs from hazard trees that need to be felled could be placed in streams within the recreation site or elsewhere as coarse woody structure.

2. To minimize soil erosion as a source of sedimentation to streams:

a. Existing access roads, parking lots and trails and foot paths would be maintained to fix drainage and erosion problems.

b. Ground disturbing activities that could potentially result in sediment to streams would be restricted to the dry season (normally May 15 to Oct. 15, however, operations would be suspended during periods of heavy precipitation outside this date). This season could be adjusted if unseasonable conditions occur (e.g. an extended dry season or wet season).

c. In-stream work (e.g., culvert or foot bridge replacement and bank stabilization) on fish-bearing streams would be accomplished during periods of low flow (between July 1 and September 15).

3. To protect air quality:

Any slash or debris piles would be burned under an approved "Burn Plan", be conducted under the requirements of the Oregon Smoke Management Plan, and done in a manner consistent with the requirements of the Clean Air Act.

4. To prevent and report accidental spills of petroleum products 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. Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasure Plans are required under the Oregon Forest Practices Act (Rule OAR 629-57-3600) and by Department of Environmental Quality (Rule OAR 340-108, inclusive). All work site trash and construction materials would be removed from the work site. All equipment planned for instream work would be inspected beforehand for leaks. Accidental spills or discovery of the dumping of any hazardous materials would be reported to the Contracting Officer's Representative or Recreation Maintenance Foreman and the procedures outlined in the "Roseburg District Hazardous Materials (HAZMAT) Emergency Response Contingency Plan" would be followed.

5. To contain and/or reduce the spread of noxious weeds:

Stipulations would be incorporated into any construction contract to prevent and/or control the spread of noxious weeds. This would include the cleaning of equipment prior to entry on BLM lands (BLM Manual 9015 - Integrated Weed Management).

6. To protect Special Status and SEIS Special Attention Plants and Animals:

a. If, during implementation of the proposed action, any Special Status (threatened or endangered, proposed threatened or endangered, candidate, State listed, Bureau sensitive or Bureau assessment) species are found, evaluation for the appropriate type of mitigation needed for each species would be done. Stipulations would be placed in the contract to halt operations if any of these Special Status plants or animals is found to allow time to determine adequate protective measures before operations could resume.

b. A seasonal restriction (April 1 - August 5) would be applied to the Tyee and Eagleview sites to mitigate disturbance effects to an occupied marbled murrelet site. Daily operating restrictions would be applied to the Osprey Boat Ramp, Minor Wolf, Tyee and Eagleview sites) to mitigate disturbance effects to suitable murrelet habitat. Seasonal restrictions (Feb. 1 - August 15) would be applied to the Osprey Boat Ramp to mitigate disturbance effects to the bald eagle (see Appendix F, Table 1 and 2).

7. To protect cultural resources:

Cultural resource clearances would be conducted for all ground-disturbing projects. Appropriate mitigation or evaluation measures would be implemented on known cultural resource sites. Stipulations would be placed in contracts to halt operations in the event of inadvertent discoveries of new cultural resource sites (e.g. historical or prehistorical ruins, graves, fossils or artifacts).

8. To protect water quality:

a. Fertilizer would only be applied in a manner that would control the location and rate of application. There would be no direct application to stream channels, open water, or wet areas. Application of fertilizer would be at least 50 feet away from these areas.

b. When ground disturbing activities occur, wet areas, poorly drained soils, and stream channels would be avoided. If these areas cannot be avoided (e.g. trail crossing a stream), boardwalks, footbridges, puncheons, or other necessary features would be installed to reduce the impact to these areas.

c. An erosion control plan will be required to be developed by the contractor if the potential for stream sedimentation from ground disturbing activities is likely. This plan would describe erosion control measures that would be undertaken to prevent sediment from entering streams (e.g., sediment fences or other measures sufficient to prevent offsite movement of soil, use of an impervious cover over stockpiled embankments if unusual adverse weather conditions occur, and sediment traps or catch basins to settle out solids from surface runoff prior to entering waterways). Such plans would be reviewed and approved by the Contracting Officer's Representative.

d. Sidecasting of material from trail widening or construction would not be permitted near wetland areas or streams.

9. To protect the aesthetic quality of the sites:

a. The natural forested character found within each recreation site would be preserved as much as possible and disturbance of existing vegetation would be minimized. Mature and old-growth trees would be preserved to the greatest extent possible and the natural topography retained. Adjustments to camping sites and trails would be made to minimize the need to cut trees. The preferred treatment of hazard trees would be to top the tree at a appropriate height based on its bole strength rather than felled.

b. Trails would have a maintained clearing limit of no more than four feet on each side of trail centerline.

c. Ground disturbing activities would be mitigated by using soil conservation measures (i.e., replacing duff layer) when possible to protect the natural seed sources. The affected area would be re-vegetated using native seed and plant species. Each site would be evaluated on a case-by-case basis to determine the native flora appropriate for planting at that particular site, taking into consideration micro-site conditions.

D. Alternatives Considered but Eliminated

There were no other alternatives considered during the formulation of this project.

III. AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

This section describes the existing environment and forms a baseline for comparison of the effects created by the alternatives under consideration. This section does not attempt to describe in detail every resource within the proposed project area that could be impacted but only those resources which could be substantially impacted. Appendix F (Analysis File) contains data and additional supporting information used by the interdisciplinary team (IDT) to describe the affected environment.

This project lies within the Oregon Western Cascades, Oregon Coast Range and Oregon Klamath Physiographic Provinces. The FSEIS describes the affected environment for these provinces on pages 3&4-19 through 22.

The Roseburg District Proposed Resource Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement (PRMP/EIS, pp. 3-3 through 3-71) provides a detailed description of BLM administered lands on the Roseburg District. A further description can also be found in the appropriate Watershed Analyses.

A. General Setting

Stand Description - The proposed project predominantly occurs within a late-successional (mature and/or old growth) forest setting.

Site Description - The proposed project occurs within six fifth-field watersheds: Canton Creek, Rock Creek, Little River, Middle North Umpqua, Lower North Umpqua, and Upper Umpqua. Most locations have existed as recreation sites with intensive impacts from human use from 15 to over 40 years. The affected area consists of eleven campgrounds and/or day-use areas, three trails, two boat launch sites, and one Watchable Wildlife Site (see Appendix B).

B. Affected Resources

These sites were surveyed for the resources listed below according to established protocols:

Botany (Special Status Species (SSP) and Noxious Weeds) - No Threatened or Endangered or other Special Status plants were observed in the project area (Appendix F). All project areas were inventoried for noxious weeds, with localized infestations of Scotch Broom and Himalayan Blackberry being the most prevalent.

Cultural Resources - Eleven cultural resource sites are currently known to exist within recreation sites. Nine of the sites have been evaluated for National Register significance; one is listed on the National Register, six have been determined eligible for listing, and two have been determined not eligible. The remaining two cultural resource sites have not been formally evaluated.

Hydrology and Soils - The proposed project is located in small areas scattered across six fifth-field watersheds. Beneficial uses of water in these watersheds consists primarily of domestic water supply, irrigation and livestock watering, resident fish and aquatic life, salmonid spawning and rearing, recreation, and aesthetic quality. Because recreation opportunities are often associated with water resources, most recreation sites are located within Riparian Reserves. Many sites are located adjacent to

streams, and some sites, located along larger rivers, are within a 100-year floodplain. Site topography is typically level to moderately sloping (0 to 30 percent slopes) except for some steeper stream banks, inner gorge slopes, and some steeper upland slopes crossed by segments of the Susan Creek Falls Trail, the Wolf Creek Falls Trail, and the North Umpqua Trail. Slopes are stable where any facility or feature construction would occur and over almost all of the trail segments. Sites vary in size from about 0.5 acres (Lone Rock Boat Ramp) to about 120 acres (North Umpqua Trail). Identified erosion and sedimentation is minor and is primarily located at several uncontrolled foot traffic paths created by the public. Examples include a path accessing the North Umpqua River at Swiftwater and Susan Creek Recreation areas and at one spot along the Susan Creek Falls trail.

Fisheries - There are twelve fish-bearing streams in the proposed project: North Umpqua River and tributaries: Susan Creek, Bob Creek, Canton Creek, Rock Creek and Shoup Creek; Little River and tributaries: Wolf Creek and Cavitt Creek; Umpqua River main stem and tributaries: Wolf Creek, and Miner Creek. Stream habitat conditions are described for many of these streams in the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, *1994 Umpqua Basin Aquatic Habitat Surveys*. There are approximately 43 unnamed tributaries with a stream order 1 through 4, which are non-fish bearing. Although not inhabited by salmon, they are important for salmon because they carry cool water, nutrients, and organic matter downstream to areas used for spawning and as nurseries. Coastal Cutthroat trout (*Oncorhynchus clarki*), Oregon Coast Steelhead trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*), Oregon Coast Coho salmon (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*), and Pacific Lamprey (*Lampetra tridentata*) are present in the watershed (Little River Watershed Analysis, pg. Aquatic 1 and 2; Upper Umpqua WA [includes Umpqua Chub (*Oregonichthys kalawatseti*)], pg. 95; Rock Creek WA, pg. 8-1; Middle North Umpqua WA, pg. 110-111; and Canton Creek WA; pg. 50). The Oregon Coast Coho has been designated under Endangered Species Act as a threatened species (Federal Register, Vol. 63, No. 153, August 10, 1998, p. 42587).

Wildlife - Federally Threatened and Endangered (T&E) species known to occur in the Roseburg District include the northern spotted owl (*Strix occidentalis caurina*), marbled murrelet (*Brachyramphus marmoratus*), bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*), Columbian white-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*), Canada lynx (*Lynx canadensis*) and Fender's blue butterfly (*Icaricia icarioides fenderi*). There are 29 known northern spotted owl (NSO) sites within the provincial home range and four owl sites within 0.25 mile (disturbance zone) of the project (North Umpqua and Wolf Creek Trails and Scaredman Recreation Site) (Wildlife Table 3, Appendix F). This project contains 345 acres within Critical Habitat Unit CHU OR-27, 29, and 58 for the NSO and 15 acres within Critical Habitat Unit CHU OR-04f and e for the murrelet. Critical Habitat is defined as a specific geographical area specified by the US Fish and Wildlife Service in Recovery Plans as containing habitat essential for the conservation of a T&E species. There is one recreation site (Miner Wolf Watchable Wildlife Area) within marbled murrelet Zone 1 (< 35 miles from the Coast) and three recreation sites (Tye Campground, Osprey Boat Ramp, and Eagleview Campground) within Zone 2 (35-50 from the Coast). Eagleview is within occupied, suitable marbled murrelet habitat. The remaining twelve recreation sites occur more than 50 miles from the Coast and therefore are not considered to contain suitable marbled murrelet habitat. There is a known bald eagle nest site within 0.50 mile of Osprey Boat Ramp. The remaining T&E species do not occur in the project area.

Survey and Manage (S&M) species, Oregon Megomphix (Lone Pine) and the Red Tree Vole (Lone Pine and Cavitt Creek), were documented from surveys for previous recreational projects at these locations.

IV. ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

This section provides the analytical basis for the comparisons of the alternatives. The reasonably foreseeable environmental consequences (impacts, effects) to the human environment that each alternative would have on selected resources are described. Impacts can be positive or negative. This section is organized by the alternatives and the effects on any key issue identified in Appendix E, as well as the selected resources. Analysis considers the direct impacts (effects caused by the action and occurring at the same place and time), indirect impacts (effects caused by the action but occurring later in time and farther removed in distance but are reasonably foreseeable) and cumulative impacts (effects of the action when added to other past, present and reasonably foreseeable future actions).

The Roseburg RMP/EIS analyzes the environmental consequences in a broader context. This EA does not attempt to reanalyze impacts that have already been analyzed in these documents but rather to identify the particular site specific impacts that could reasonably occur. Environmental effects to the “Critical Elements of the Human Environment” are analyzed in Appendix E.

When encountering a gap in information, the question implicit in the Council on Environmental Quality regulations on incomplete and unavailable information was posed: Is this information “essential to a reasoned choice among the alternatives”? (40 CFR 1502.22(a)). While additional information would often add precision to estimates or better specify a relationship, the basic data and central relationships are sufficiently well established that any new information would not likely reverse or nullify understood relationships. Although new information would be welcome, no missing information was determined as essential for the decision maker to make a reasoned choice among the alternatives. Since all sites have not had complete cultural resource reviews, clearances would be needed for all ground-disturbing projects.

Some irreversible and irretrievable commitment of resources would result from the implementation of either alternative. An irreversible commitment is a commitment that cannot be reversed whereas an irretrievable commitment is a commitment that is lost for a period of time. An irreversible commitment of petroleum fuels for recreation site maintenance or upgrade would result from either action.

A. No Action Alternative

The No Action Alternative would continue the present management. Activities would focus on maintaining existing facilities in a serviceable condition but they would not be improved or upgraded. This alternative would impede meeting the Purpose and Need of the RMP (pg. 15) or the objective of this EA (pg. 1) of meeting the projected recreation demand for a wide range of developed and dispersed recreation opportunities in a timely manner as well as providing for visitor safety.

Botanical (Special Status Species (SSP) and Noxious Weeds), Fisheries Habitat and Wildlife Habitat

- Habitat would continue to function in its current setting as recreation sites having high levels of human disturbance (noise, trampling). Effects to Threatened and Endangered species, Survey and Manage species, and Special Status Species and their habitat would continue at existing rates and levels. Noxious and non-native weeds where present would continue to persist at existing rates and levels. Untreated exposed soil from uncontrolled foot traffic would continue to be subject to invasion.

Cultural Resources - Some direct impacts associated with ground-disturbing activities would occur as a result of this alternative. However, because cultural resource compliance procedures are currently in place, the impacts would be mitigated.

Soil Productivity and Sedimentation - Portions of some recreation sites would continue to receive off trail impacts such as exposing, compacting, and eroding of soil due to concentrated casual use by the public.

Water Quality and Hydrologic Processes - There would be no direct impacts to hydrologic processes under this alternative. Indirect impacts would continue in areas where uncontrolled foot traffic is occurring. These areas would continue to erode and would remain a long-term source of sediment. Sediment delivery to streams from these areas is expected to remain minor and would not further degrade water quality below existing levels; therefore overall water quality would remain at existing levels.

Recreation - The commitment to provide recreation opportunities to the public could be challenged by acts of nature, vandalism, and facility maintenance needs that result in the inability to meet public demand. In past years, facilities have been closed to the public for periods of time, sometimes as much as a full year. Future recreation site closures would continue to occur until appropriate NEPA analysis has been completed.

B. Proposed Action Alternative

Botany (Special Status Species (SSP) and Noxious Weeds) - Direct impacts would consist of removal of vegetation to facilitate activities; however revegetation with native species would reduce these impacts.

Indirect impacts would consist of an increase in the potential for invasion of noxious weeds and invasive non-native plants into the proposed project area. Construction operations would result in soil disturbance and introduction into the area by construction equipment. Exposed soil is conducive to invasion by noxious weeds and invasive nonnative species. The potential for increase in invasion abundance, although unquantifiable, would be reduced due to Project Design Criteria (pg. 6, para. 5).

Cultural Resources - Some direct impacts associated with ground-disturbing activities would occur as a result of this alternative. However, because cultural resource compliance procedures would continue to be implemented, the impacts would be mitigated.

Soil Productivity and Sedimentation - Direct impacts would consist of soil disturbance from programmatic actions involving the maintenance, upgrade, or addition of some recreation facilities or features. Activities would occur in areas that have already been designated and developed for recreational use. Additional soil compaction or loss of soil productivity would be negligible.

Indirect impacts would consist of soil displacement and movement from some activities. None of the projects would trigger a landslide. Given the small scope of the individual projects, and the use of project design criteria and BMPs, erosion and sediment delivery to streams resulting from individual actions would be short-term and negligible to nonexistent. The maintenance and upgrade of roads and trails, as well as the closing of uncontrolled footpaths, would reduce erosion potential, correct drainage problems, and eliminate long-term sources of erosion and sedimentation caused by use over time.

Realignment of the North Umpqua Trail will require new construction to reroute approximately one half mile of trail. The new trail would extend from the existing trail upslope and around an unstable landslide area before dropping back downslope to the existing trail. The new trail would be constructed on stable ground away from the slide area. New construction would result in approximately 0.2 acres of compaction and lost soil productivity. Segments of the existing trail leading to the slide area would be closed, blocked, and/or covered with slash or revegetated with native species to discourage use. Soil productivity from the old trail segments would slowly be regained in time.

Water Quality and Hydrologic Processes - No direct or indirect impacts are expected because all programmatic activity would occur within the existing boundary of each recreation site and the amount of area included in these recreation sites make up a very small percentage (0.01 % to 0.3 %) of each fifth-field watershed. These sites have already been developed and receive heavy use by the public. Project Design Criteria would ensure that water quality and hydrologic function would not be affected by any of the proposed actions. There would be no change to the water quality of 303(d) listed streams and beneficial uses of water would not be affected. Although activities would occur within the Riparian Reserve, the scope and scale of these activities would not retard or prevent the overall attainment of Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives. Proposed actions for sites within a 100-year floodplain are in compliance with Executive Order 11988, Floodplain Management (1977), since all activities would be modifications of existing sites. Proposed actions would not alter the function of the floodplain, nor the timing, variability, or duration of floodplain inundation.

Realignment of the North Umpqua Trail may have a minor impact to hydrologic processes by capturing runoff and subsurface flow at the site of the new trail. The amount of captured runoff is expected to be very small and trail design would ensure proper drainage to the forest floor and away from streams. Water quality would not be affected.

There would be no direct or indirect impacts to T&E fish or its habitat under this alternative because all activity would occur within the existing boundaries of each recreational site. No direct impacts are expected because project design criteria would ensure that water quality and hydrologic function would not be negligibly affected by any of the proposed actions. There would be no change to the water quality and stream characteristics hence no change effect to fish habitat. Fish species and populations would remain unchanged.

Recreation - The RMP commits the BLM to provide for visitor safety, promote programs that enhance visitor's experiences, and meet the projected public demand for recreation sites. In addition to normal maintenance, this alternative provides for catastrophic replacement, facility upgrades and crisis maintenance. BLM's commitment to the public would be enhanced by being able to respond to acts of nature, vandalism, and facility maintenance needs that result in the inability to meet public demand. This alternative would implement, as needed, the projects listed in Appendix C.

Wildlife Habitat - Direct impacts: Activities on three recreation areas (North Umpqua Trail, Scaredman, and Wolf Creek Trail) would occur within 0.25 miles of four **northern spotted owl** sites. This alternative includes the use of power tools for short durations (e.g. picnic tables and sign posts) and the use of hand tools for 1-2 days (e.g. trail maintenance) at these sites. The noise disturbance produced by these activities is comparable to ambient noise levels existing at these three recreation areas and therefore would not affect owl sites. Approximately one tenth of an acre of NSO dispersal habitat would be modified within the Lone Pine site due to construction of a pavilion. Disturbance above ambient noise levels could affect the **bald eagle** at the Osprey Boat Ramp. The topping and falling of hazard trees would remove **Special Status Species** bat roosting habitat (Appendix F, Table 5) within the existing boundaries of each recreational site however suitable roosting habitat would continue to be available outside these areas. Although this activity is expected to reduce the opportunities for bat roosting within recreation sites it may increase amphibian and reptile habitat where felled trees are left on site as down woody debris.

Indirect impacts: There would be no removal or modification of NSO suitable or critical habitat (Appendix F, Table 3). The habitat would continue to function in its current capacity. This alternative would not change the ability of the stand to function as dispersal habitat for NSO. The remainder of the project area is expected to progress through mid- and late-seral stages. Eagleview is within occupied, suitable **marbled murrelet** habitat (Zone 2) but there would be no removal or modification of suitable habitat (except for danger tree removal that would be a suitable nest tree) (Appendix F, Table 2). This alternative includes the use of power tools and heavy equipment for 3-4 days (Disturbance intensity C). These activities are expected to be a source of disturbance to nesting marbled murrelets within this occupied site. Daily operating restrictions would mitigate these disturbance effects. There would be no removal or modification of marbled murrelet suitable habitat within Tyee, Osprey, and Miner Wolf. The habitat would continue to function in its current capacity. The occasional use of power tools at Osprey (Zone 2) and Miner Wolf (Zone 1) for approximately 1-2 days (disturbance intensity B or C). At Tyee (Zone 2), power tools and heavy equipment are expected to be used occasionally in 3-4 days intervals (disturbance intensity D). These activities are expected to be a source of disturbance within 0.25 mile of suitable, unsurveyed murrelet habitat. To mitigate these disturbance effects daily operating restrictions (Tyee, Eagleview, Osprey and Miner Wolf) and seasonal restrictions (Tyee and Eagleview) would be applied.

Survey and Manage: Oregon Megomphix at Lone Pine were discovered after September 30, 1999 therefore does not require management (S&M S&G, Table 1-1). The Red Tree Vole (RTV) habitat at Lone Pine and Cavitt Creek Recreation Area would be managed according to current management recommendations. Since dominant, co-dominant, and intermediate trees (those trees forming the main canopy) within the habitat area would not be removed or modified (except for occasional felling of danger trees) the RTV should be maintained in its current capacity. Disturbance created by the use of the recreation sites is expected to be comparable to existing disturbance levels. Disturbance from the use of these recreation sites is not expected to change the distribution of RTVs within the respective stands. The expansion of facilities at some recreation sites (Lone Pine, Susan Creek, and Millpond) may increase the levels of human usage. Disturbance levels on special status species are expected to be comparable to the levels already present.

C. Cumulative Impacts Analysis

The following paragraphs discuss the cumulative impacts of the action. These impacts are described for federal lands in the FSEIS beginning on page 3&4-4 and throughout the chapter based on the resource affected. The specific Watershed Analyses provides baseline information with which to assess potential future cumulative impacts. Unless otherwise noted, these effects are described in the context of the fifth-field watershed scale. There has been a continued conversion of late seral and old-growth habitat on private, industrial forest lands to early seral stages. Current management strategies on most of this private land would preclude the development of older seral conditions in the future.

Botany (noxious weeds) - Mitigation measures, such as equipment cleaning, would nullify any cumulative increase in the distribution and abundance of noxious weeds in the project area.

Cultural Resources - Cumulative impacts would be negligible due to the implementation of mitigating measures.

Soil Productivity and Sedimentation - Proposed actions would take place in areas already designated and developed for recreational use. The small area affected by each activity would not contribute to cumulative impacts at the fifth-field watershed scale.

Water Quality and Hydrologic Processes - Proposed actions would affect a very small percentage of each fifth-field watershed. There would be no cumulative impacts associated with the proposed actions due to the small scale and scope of each project.

Fisheries Habitat - Other relevant management activities likely to occur within the six fifth-field watersheds include both Federal and Private timber harvest and silvicultural treatments. These activities would comply with federal and state laws governing water quality and fisheries habitat, therefore, additional impacts are not anticipated.

Wildlife Habitat - Loss of late-seral habitat on private land is expected to continue as the land is managed on a rotation of approximately 40-60 years. In addition, dispersal habitat on private land is likely to be maintained, but at some lower level. This continued loss and decline in habitat would cause the private land to function solely for early and mid-seral species. The habitat on federal land encompassed by the recreation sites would continue to function in its current capacity. Federal lands within the fifth-field watersheds would continue to retain late-successional habitat within reserves that would continue to provide habitat for late-successional species.

V. CONTACTS, CONSULTATIONS, AND PREPARERS

A. Agencies, Organizations, and Persons Consulted

The Agency is required by law to consult with certain federal and state agencies (40 CFR 1502.25).

1. Threatened and Endangered (T&E) Species Section 7 Consultation - The Endangered Species Act of 1973 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.

a. The required ESA consultation for T&E wildlife species was accomplished with the **US Fish and Wildlife Service** (FWS) and the Biological Opinion (BO) was received on February 21, 2003 (Ref. no. 1-15-03-F-160). The BO concluded the proposed action is “not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of the spotted owl, murrelet and bald eagle, and are not likely to adversely modify spotted owl or murrelet critical habitat because the potential impacts will be sufficiently dispersed over time and space. This amount of impact will not preclude the ability of LSRs to function in the manner intended under the Plan for the conservation of the spotted owl and the murrelet.”

b. The BLM has made a determination that this project would be “no effect” for listed fish species, therefore consultation with the **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration - fisheries** (NOAA) was not required.

2. **Cultural Resources Section 106 Consultation** - Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act requires that Federal agencies take into account the effect of their activities on historic properties. This requirement is carried out through the 1997 Programmatic Agreement and the associated 1998 Oregon Protocol. The Protocol specifies the types of activities that require case-by-case consultation and review with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). Routine activities of the types considered in the proposed action generally do not require SHPO review. Consultation with SHPO would be initiated in the event that a particular project falls into the review category.

B. Public Notification

1. Notification was provided to the affected Tribal Governments (Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw; Grande Ronde; Siletz; and the Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Indians). No comments were received.

2. The **general public** was notified via the *Roseburg District Planning Update* (Summer 2002) going to approximately 150 addressees. These addressees consist of members of the public that have expressed interest in Roseburg District BLM projects. Comments were received from Francis Eatherington representing Umpqua Watersheds, Inc. (see Appendix E - Issue Identification Summary).

3. Notification will also be provided to certain **State, County and local government** offices (see Appendix G - Public Contact).

4. A 30-day public comment period will be established for review of this EA. A Notice Of Availability will be published in the News Review. This EA and its associated documents will be sent to all parties who request them. If the decision is made to implement this project, a notice will be published in the News Review.

C. List of Preparers

| | |
|---------------|---|
| Isaac Barner | Cultural Resources |
| Mike Crawford | Fisheries and Wildlife |
| Dan Dammann | Hydrology / Soils |
| Jim Luse | EA Coordinator / EA Preparer |
| Ron Murphy | Recreation / Visual Resource Management / Team Lead |
| Ron Wickline | Botany |

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 | Not Present | Not Affected | In Text | Initials | Date |
|---|--------------------------------------|-------------|--------------|---------|----------|------|
| Air Quality | Fuels Management Specialist | | ✓ | | | |
| Areas of Critical Environmental Concern | Environmental Specialist | ✓ | | | | |
| Cultural Resources | Archeologist | | | ✓ | | |
| Environmental Justice | Environmental Specialist | | ✓ | | | |
| Farm Lands (prime or unique) | Soil Scientist | ✓ | | | | |
| Flood Plains | Hydrologist | | ✓ | | | |
| Invasive, Nonnative Species | Botanist | | | ✓ | | |
| Native American Religious Concerns | Environmental Specialist | | ✓ | | | |
| Threatened or Endangered Species (fish) | Fisheries Biologist | | | ✓ | | |
| Threatened or Endangered Species (plants) | Botanist | ✓ | | | | |
| Threatened or Endangered Species (wildlife) | Wildlife Biologist | | | ✓ | | |
| Hazardous/Solid Wastes | Area Hazardous Materials Coordinator | ✓ | | | | |
| Water Quality Drinking/Ground Water | Hydrologist | | ✓ | | | |
| Wetlands/Riparian Zones | Hydrologist | | | ✓ | | |
| Wild and Scenic Rivers | Recreation Planner | | ✓ | | | |
| Wilderness | Recreation Planner | ✓ | | | | |

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Programmatic Agreement Among the Bureau of Land Management, the Advisory Council on Historical Preservation, and the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers regarding the manner in which BLM will meet its responsibilities under the National Historic Preservation Act. March 26, 1997.

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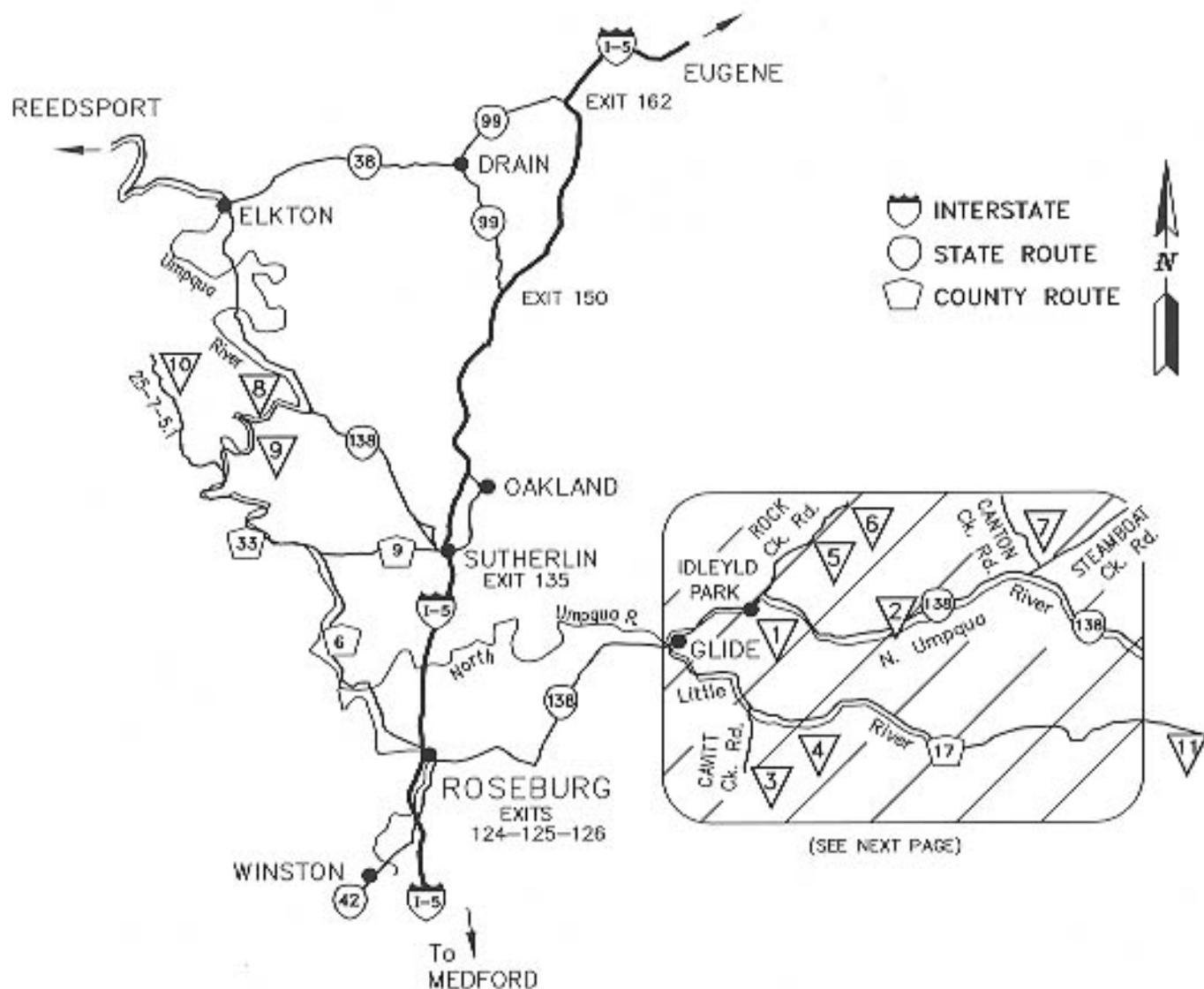
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Other references may be cited in the Analysis File (Appendix F) or other Appendices.

APPENDIX A SWIFTWATER RECREATION SITES

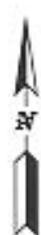
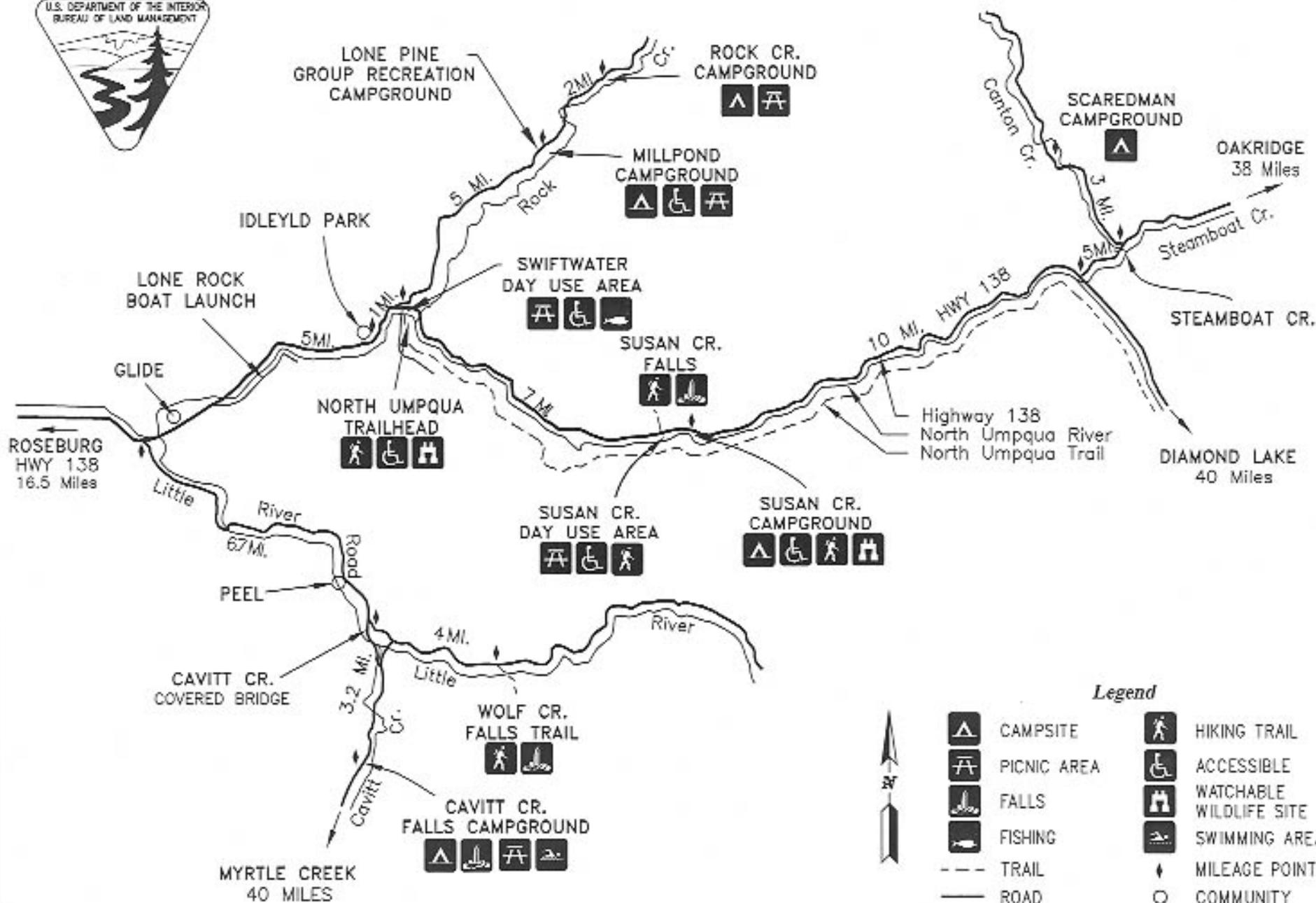


(SEE NEXT PAGE)

▽ RECREATION SITES

1. Swiftwater/North Umpqua Trail
2. Susan Cr. Recreation Site
3. Cavitt Cr. Falls Campground
4. Wolf Cr. Falls Trail
5. Millpond Campground & Lone Pine Group Campground
6. Rock Cr. Campground
7. Scaredman Campground
8. Tye Campground & Eagleview Group Campground
9. Osprey Boat Ramp
10. Miner Wolf Watchable Wildlife Site
11. Emile Campground

Map 2- North Umpqua BLM Recreation Sites



Legend

- | | | | |
|--|-------------|--|-------------------------|
| | CAMPSITE | | HIKING TRAIL |
| | PICNIC AREA | | ACCESSIBLE |
| | FALLS | | WATCHABLE WILDLIFE SITE |
| | FISHING | | SWIMMING AREA |
| | TRAIL | | MILEAGE POINT |
| | ROAD | | COMMUNITY |

APPENDIX B

INDIVIDUAL RECREATION SITE MAPS

1. Swiftwater Day-Use Area and North Umpqua Trailhead
2. Susan Creek Day-Use Area and Susan Creek Falls Trailhead
3. Susan Creek Campground
4. Cavitt Creek Falls Recreation Site
5. Wolf Creek Falls Trail
6. Millpond Recreation Site
7. Lone Pine Group Recreation Site
8. Rock Creek Recreation Site
9. Scaredman Recreation Site
10. Tye Recreation Area
11. Eagleview Group Reservation Campground
12. Osprey Boat Ramp
13. Miner Wolf Watchable Wildlife Site
14. Emile Campground
15. North Umpqua Trail
16. Lone Rock Boat Launch

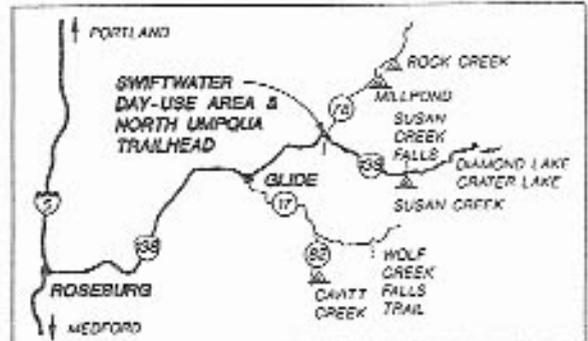
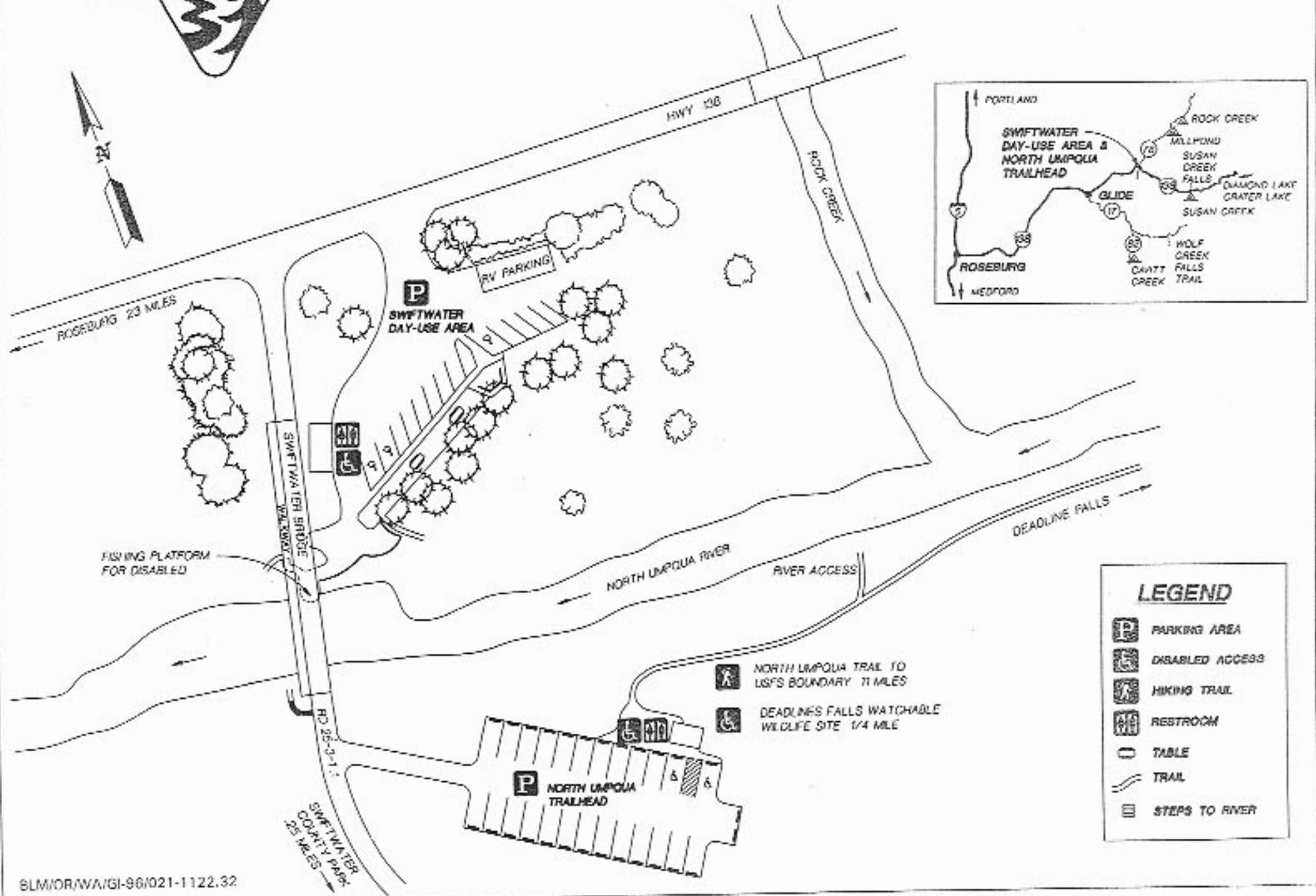
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See Appendix A, Map 2



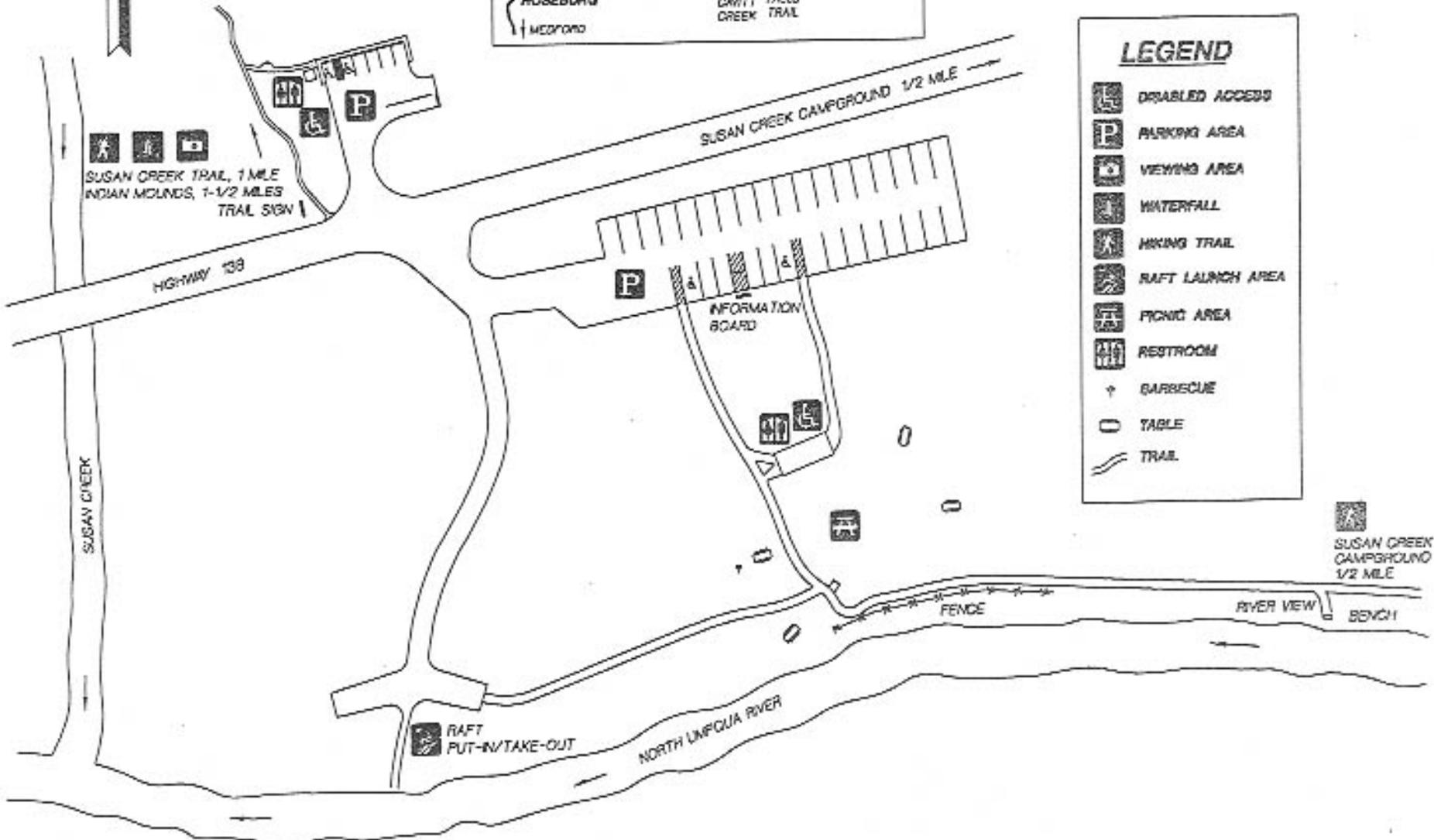
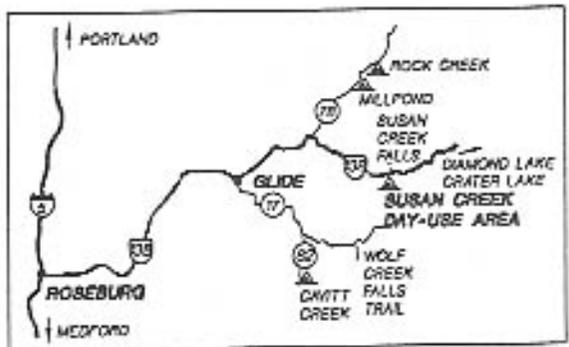
SWIFTWATER DAY-USE AREA AND NORTH UMPQUA TRAILHEAD



LEGEND

- PARKING AREA
- DISABLED ACCESS
- HIKING TRAIL
- RESTROOM
- TABLE
- TRAIL
- STEPS TO RIVER

SUSAN CREEK DAY-USE AREA/TRAILHEAD



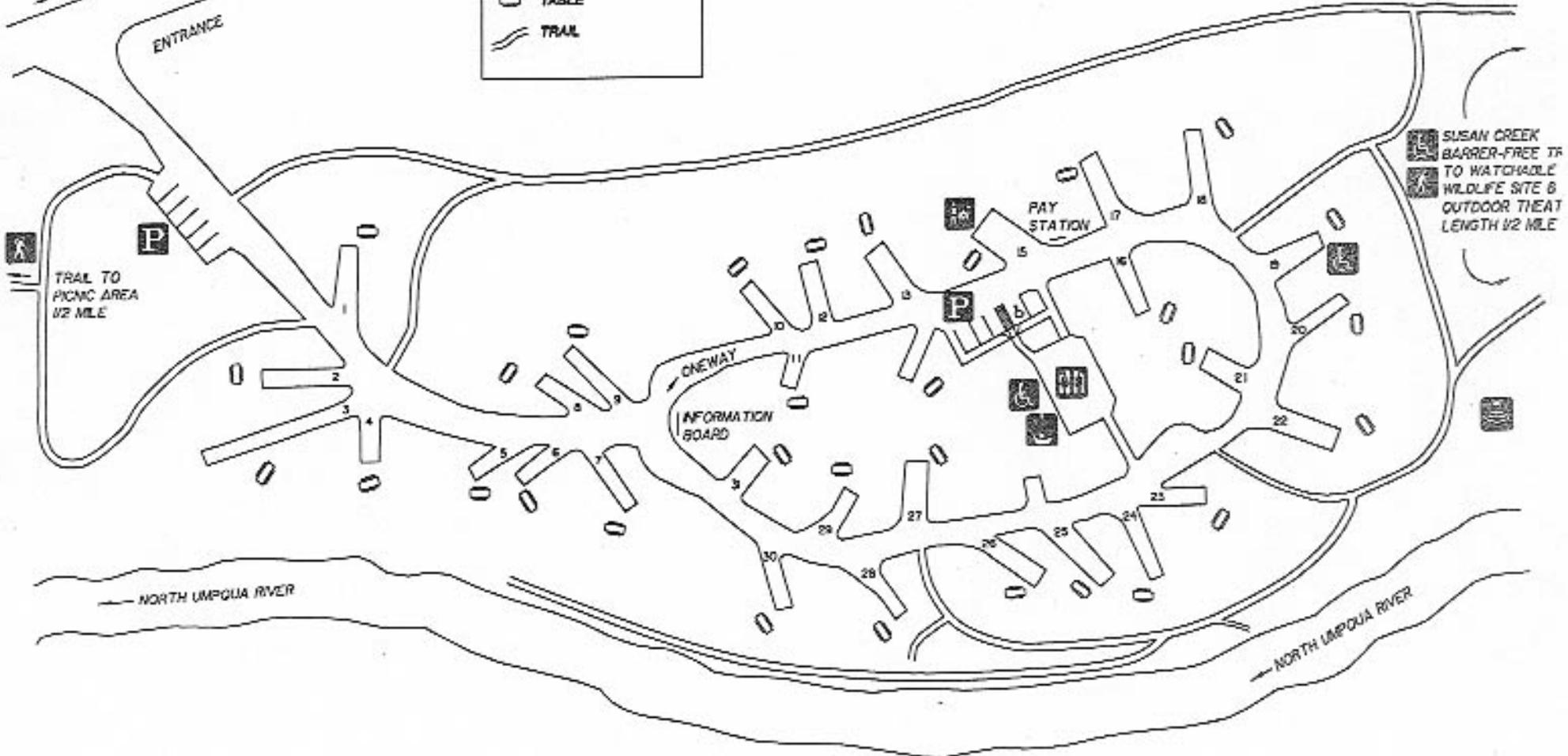
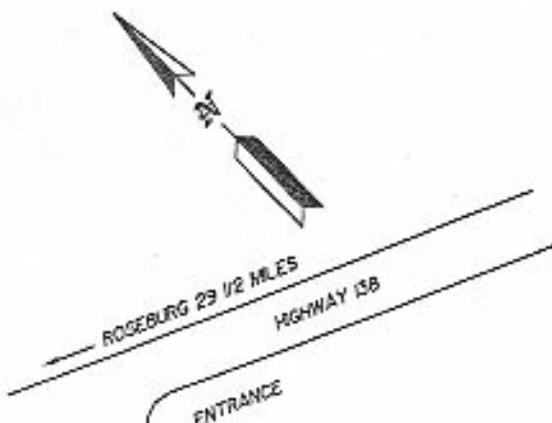
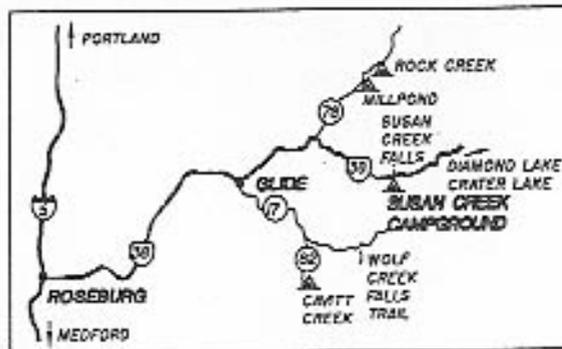
LEGEND

- DISABLED ACCESS
- PARKING AREA
- VIEWING AREA
- WATERFALL
- HIKING TRAIL
- RAFT LAUNCH AREA
- PICNIC AREA
- RESTROOM
- BARBECUE
- TABLE
- TRAIL

SUSAN CREEK CAMPGROUND

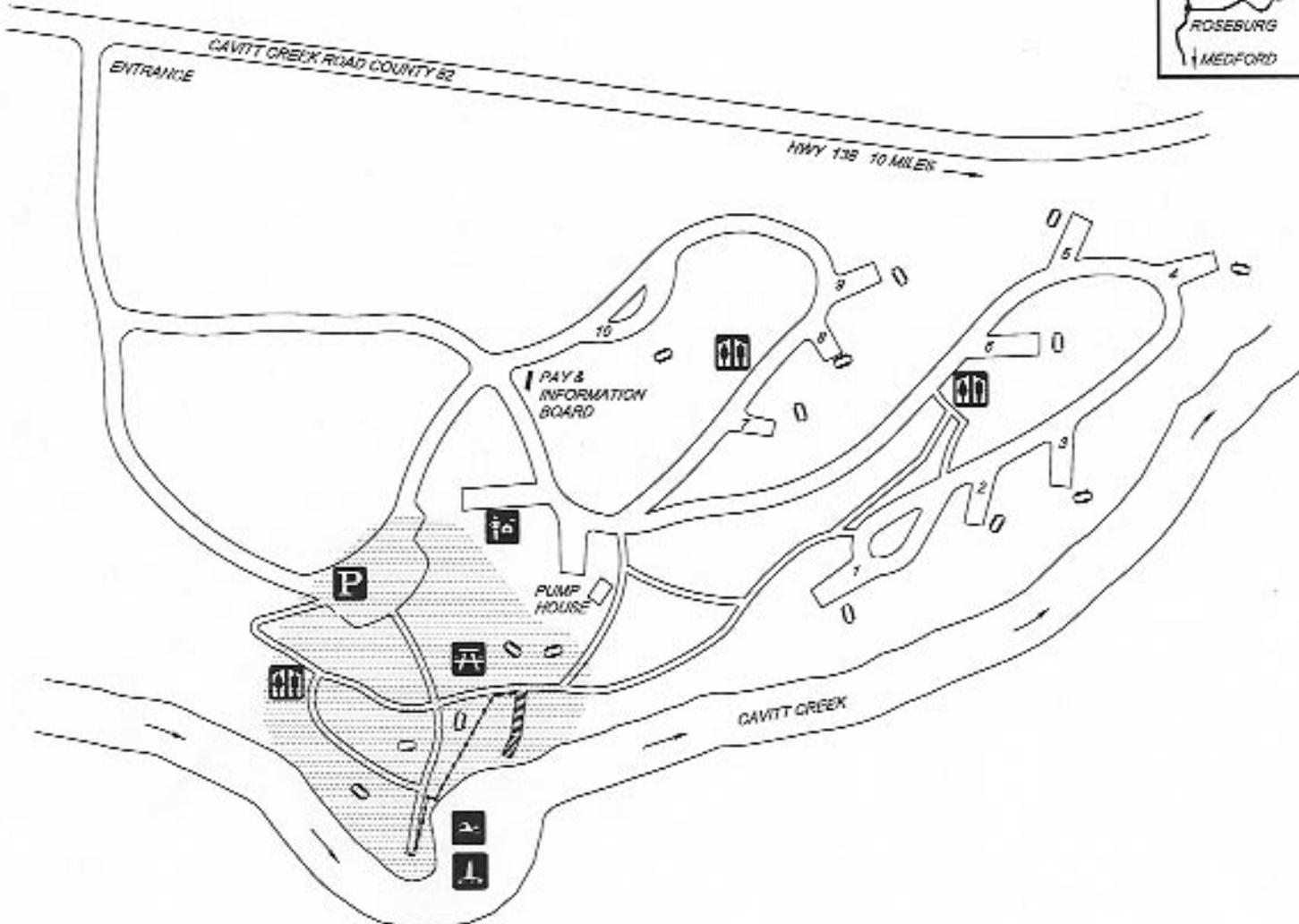
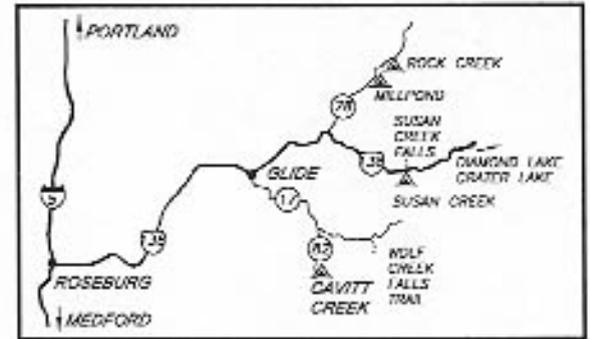
LEGEND

-  DISABLED ACCESS
-  HIKING TRAIL
-  PARKING AREA
-  HOST SITE
-  OUTDOOR THEATER
-  SHOWER
-  RESTROOM
-  TABLE
-  TRAIL





CAVITT CREEK FALLS RECREATION SITE

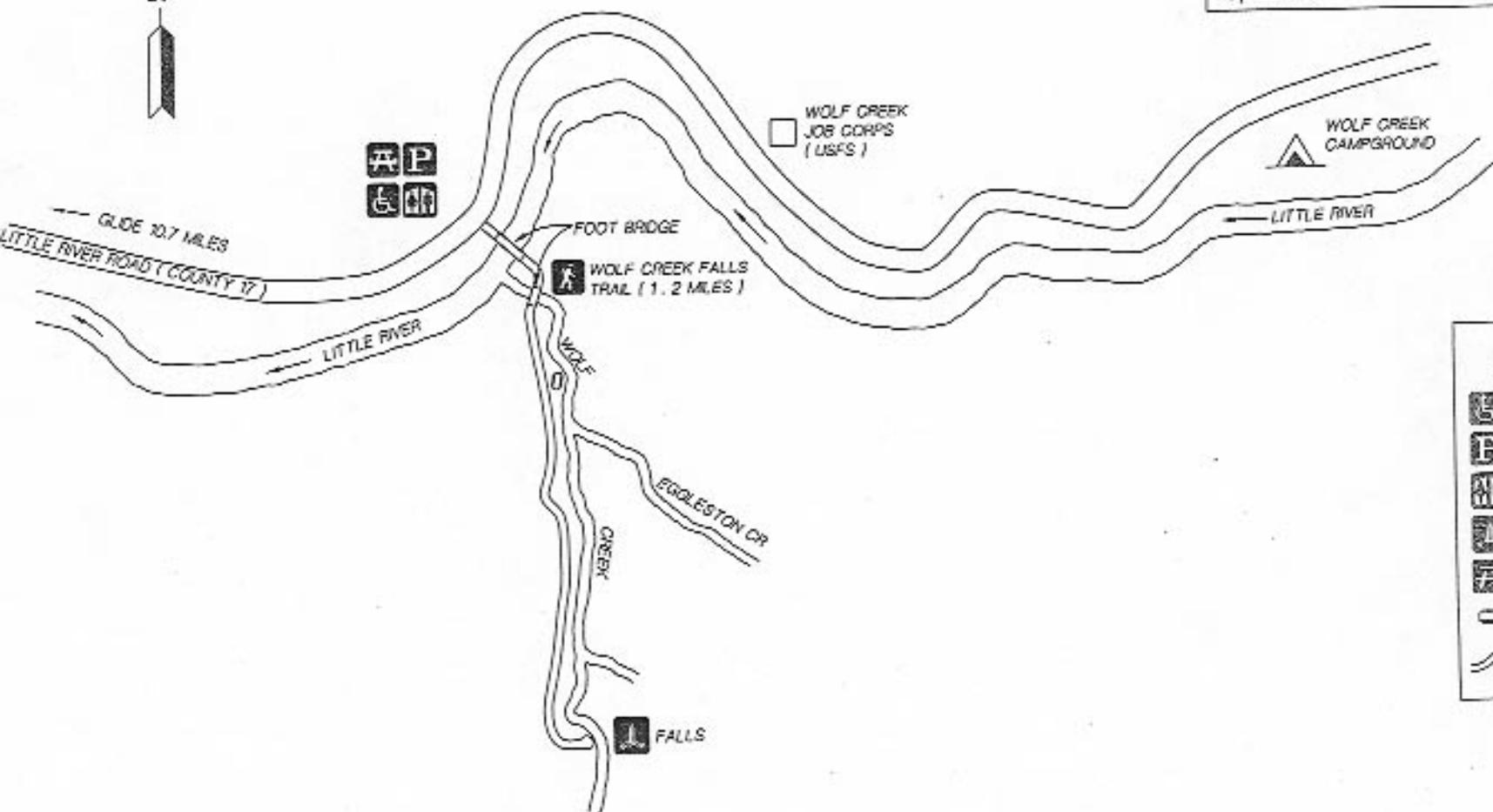
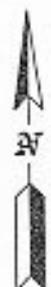
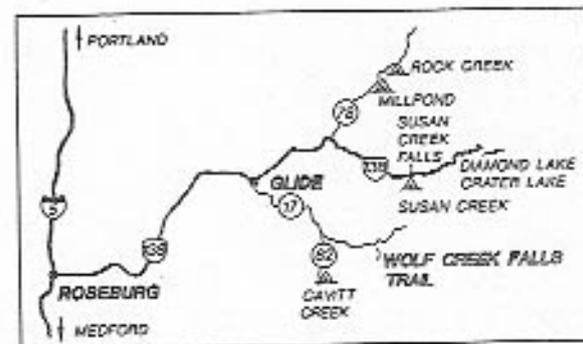


LEGEND

- SWIMMING AREA
- WATERFALL
- DISABLED ACCESS
- PARKING AREA
- HOST SITE
- PICNIC AREA
- RESTROOM
- DAY-USE AREA
- TABLE
- TRAIL
- STEPS TO RIVER



WOLF CREEK FALLS TRAIL

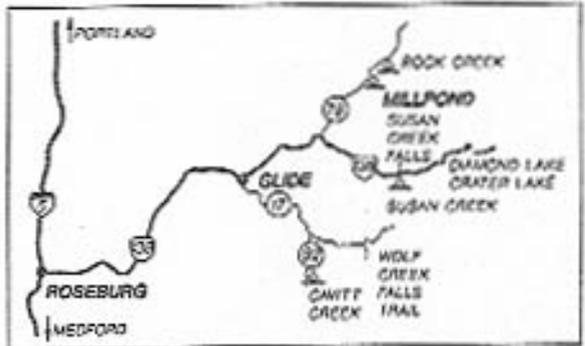
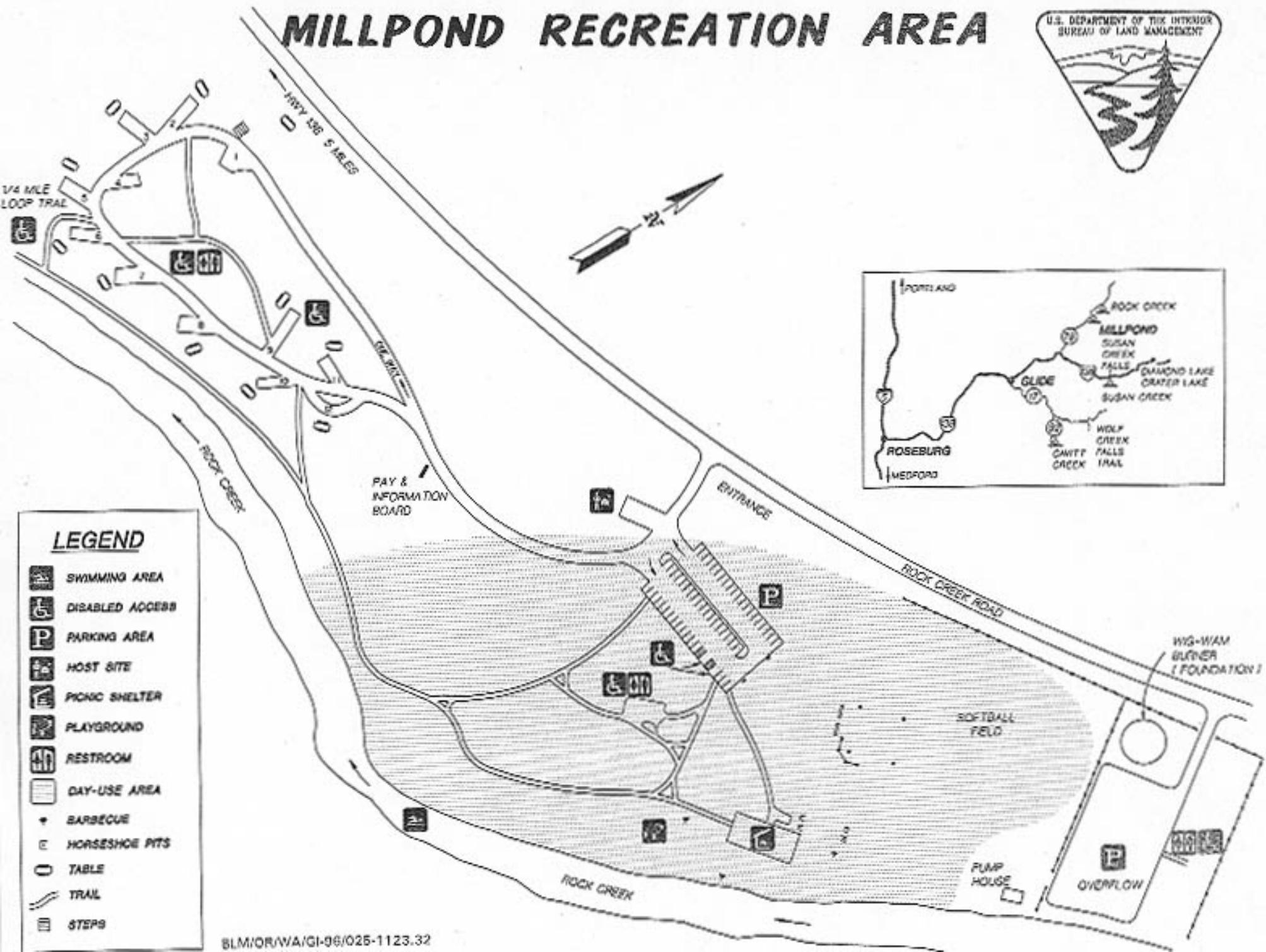


LEGEND

- DISABLED ACCESS
- PARKING AREA
- RESTROOM
- WATERFALL
- PICNIC SITE
- TABLE
- TRAIL

MILLPOND RECREATION AREA

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

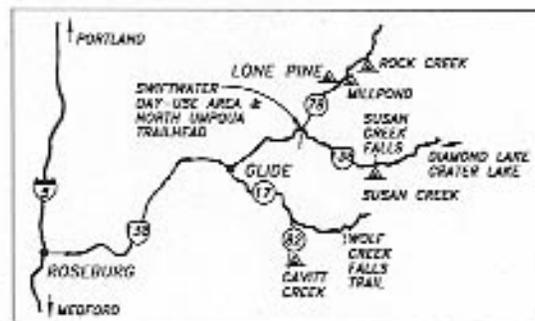
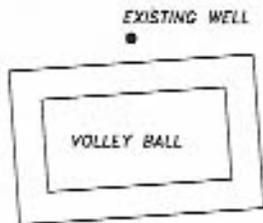
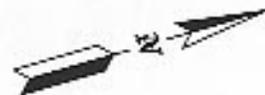


LEGEND

- SWIMMING AREA
- DISABLED ACCESS
- PARKING AREA
- HOST SITE
- PICNIC SHELTER
- PLAYGROUND
- RESTROOM
- DAY-USE AREA
- BARBECUE
- HORSESHOE PITS
- TABLE
- TRAIL
- STEPS



LONE PINE RECREATION SITE



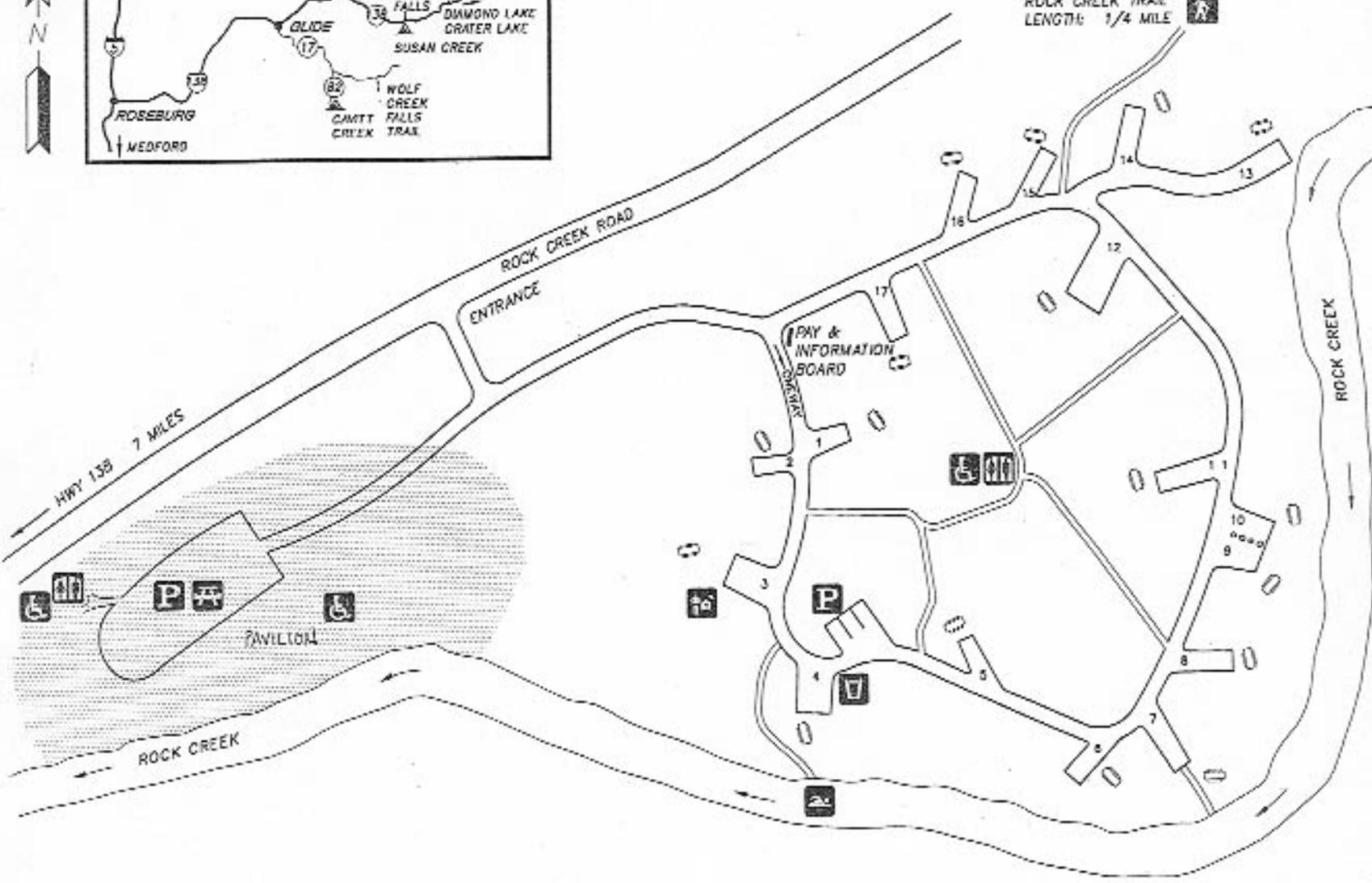
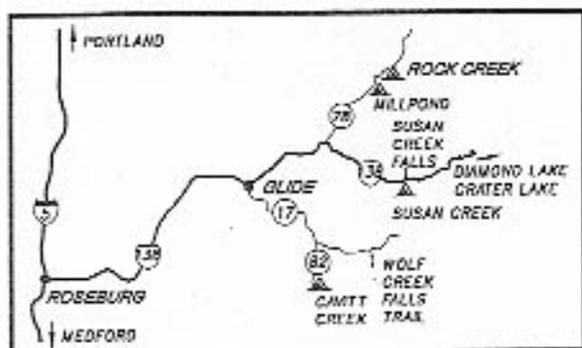
*TO BE CONSTRUCTED
IN SUMMER 2003*



LEGEND

- DISABLED ACCESS
- PARKING AREA
- RESTROOM

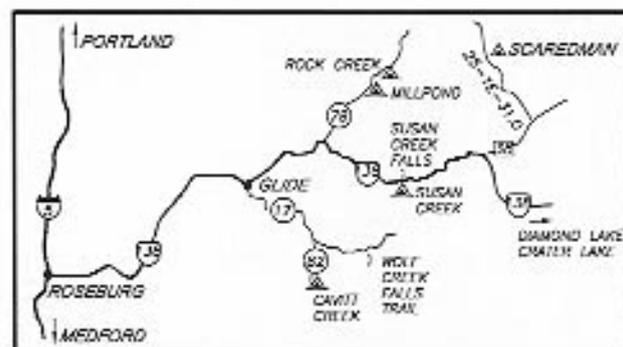
ROCK CREEK RECREATION AREA



LEGEND

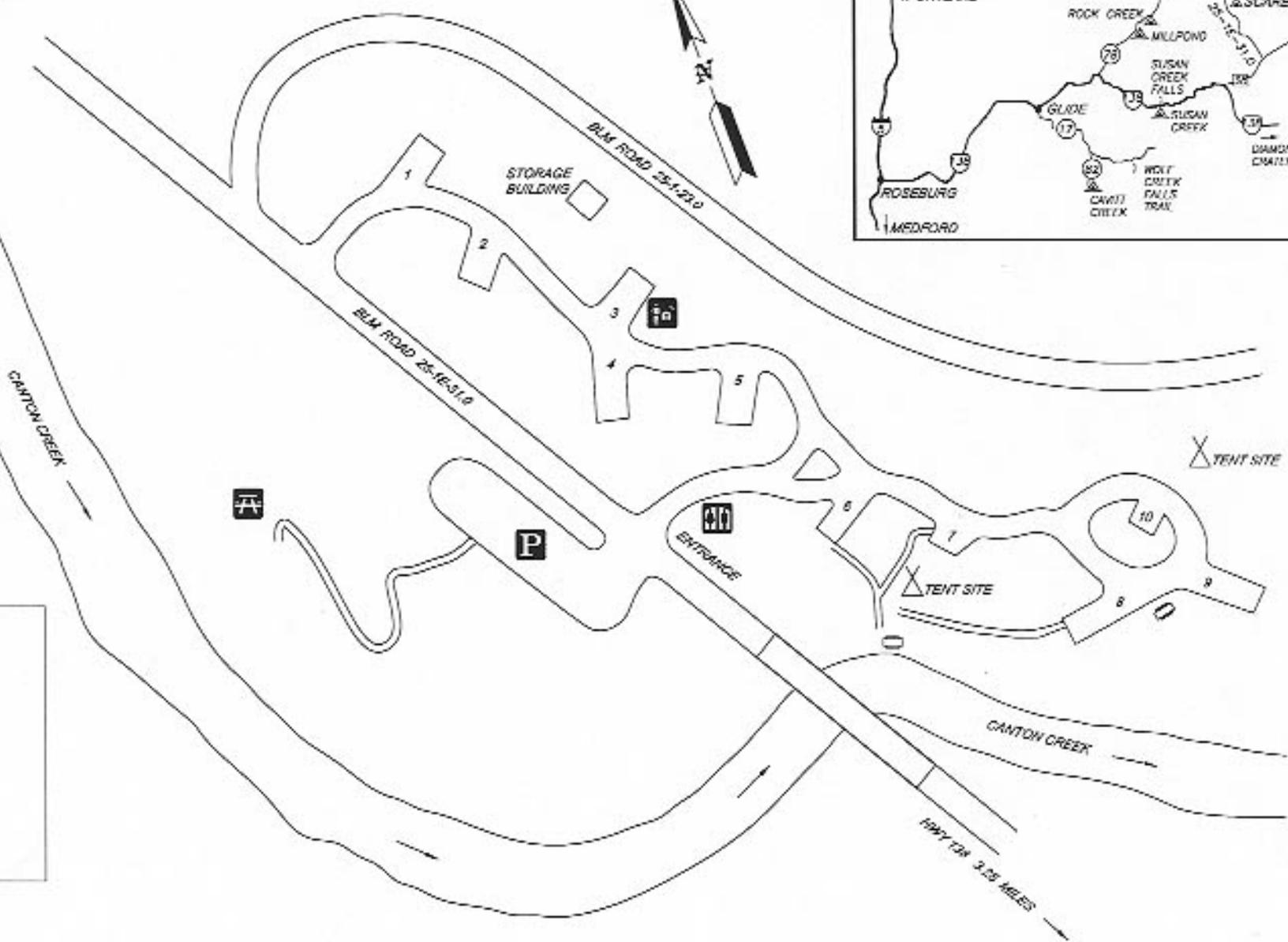
- SWIMMING AREA
- DISABLED ACCESS
- PARKING AREA
- HOST SITE
- PICNIC SHELTER
- HIKING TRAIL
- PICNIC AREA
- RESTROOM
- DAY-USE AREA
- TABLE
- TRAIL

SCAREDMAN RECREATION SITE



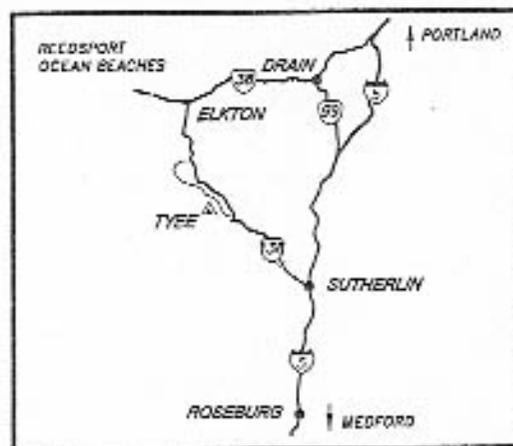
LEGEND

| | |
|--|--------------|
| | PARKING AREA |
| | RESTROOM |
| | PICNIC SITE |
| | HOST SITE |
| | TABLE |
| | TRAIL |



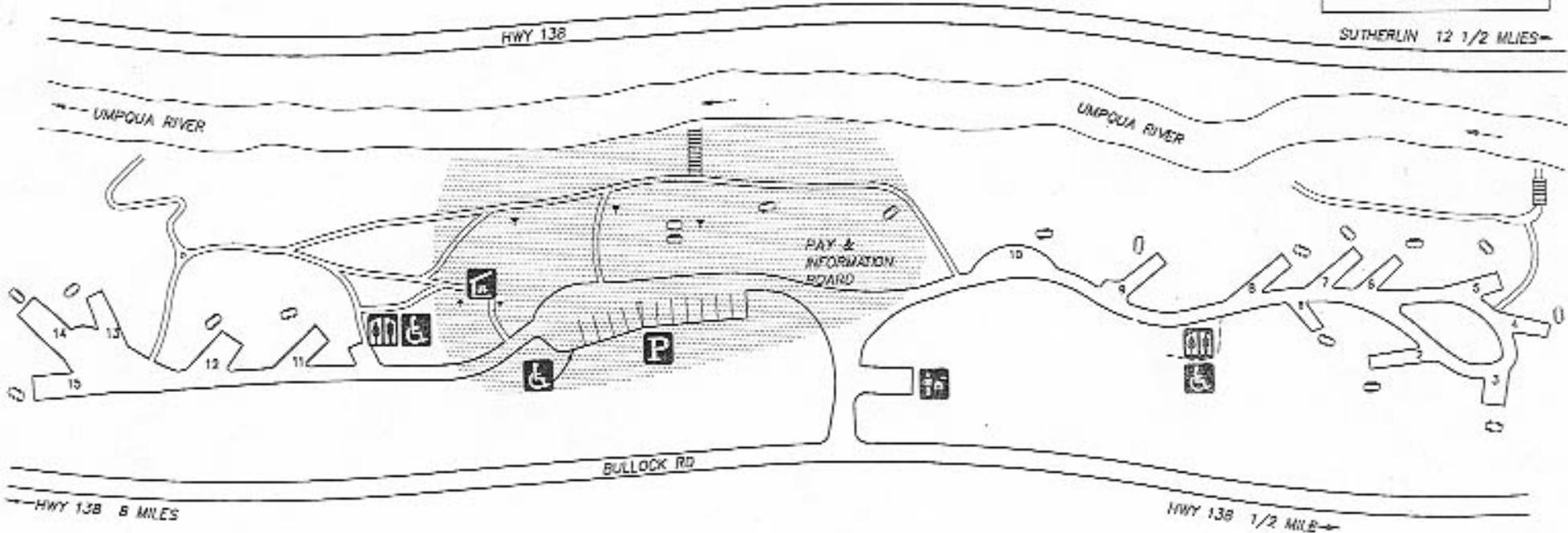


TYEE RECREATION AREA



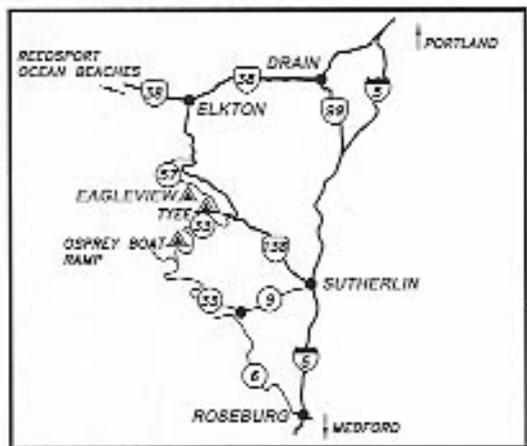
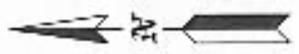
LEGEND

- DISABLED ACCESS
- PARKING AREA
- HOST SITE
- PICNIC SHELTER
- RESTROOM
- DAY-USE AREA
- BARBECUE
- TABLE
- TRAIL
- STEPS TO RIVER





EAGLEVIEW RECREATION SITE



UMPUQUA RIVER

END OF DISABLED ACCESS

ENTRANCE



PUMP HOUSE



FOOT BRIDGE

END OF DISABLED ACCESS

COUNTY ROAD 57

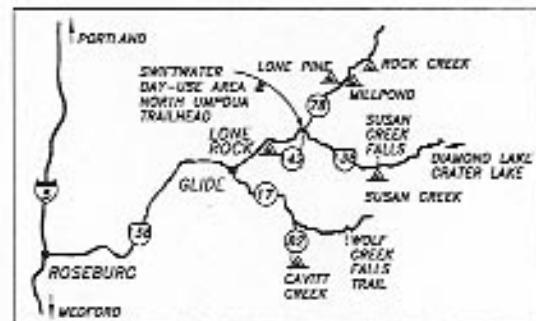
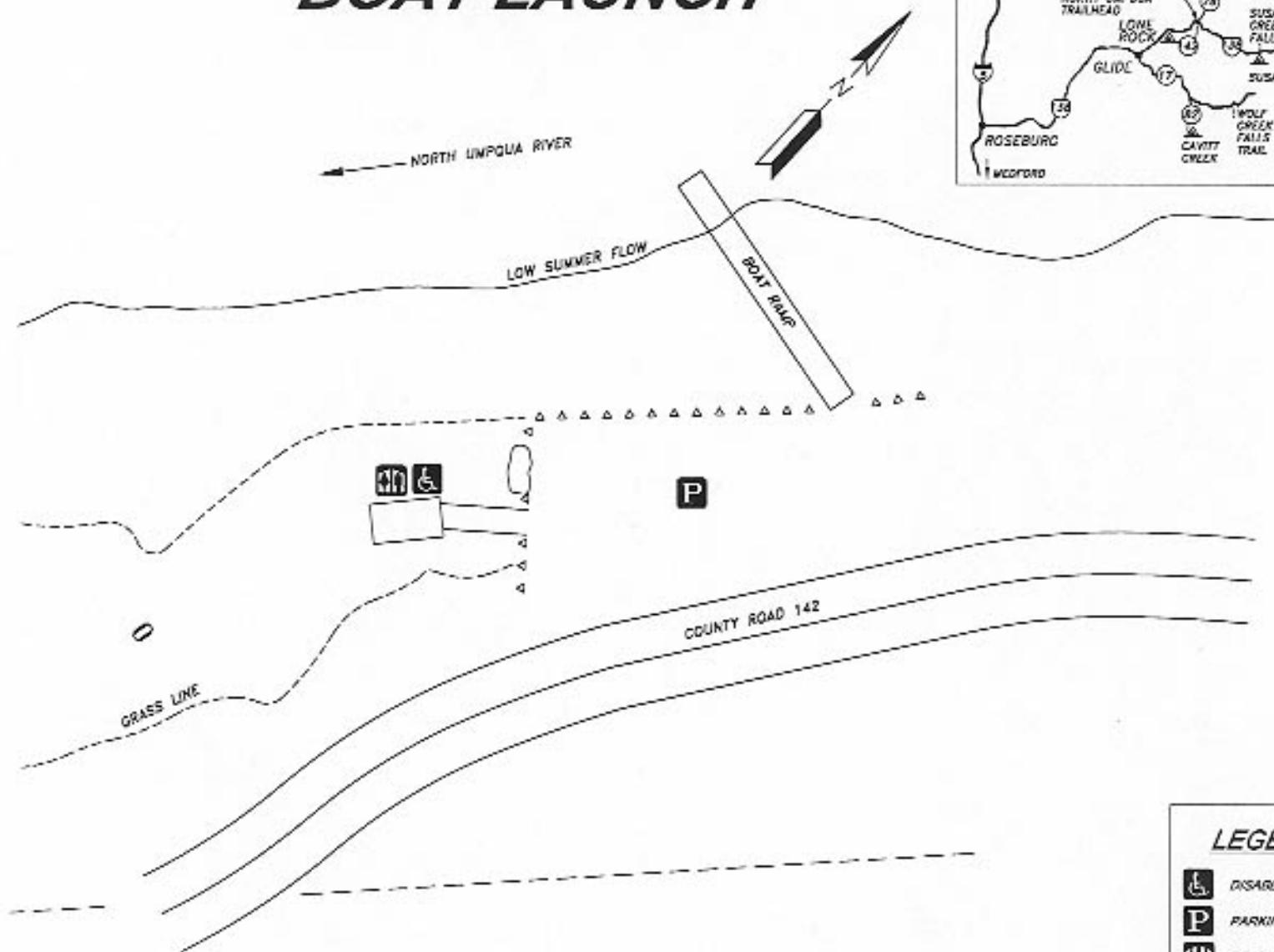


LEGEND

-  DISABLED ACCESS
-  PARKING AREA
-  HOST SITE
-  PICNIC SHELTER
-  RESTROOM
-  HIKING TRAIL
-  TRAIL
-  FENCE

MAINTENANCE BUILDING

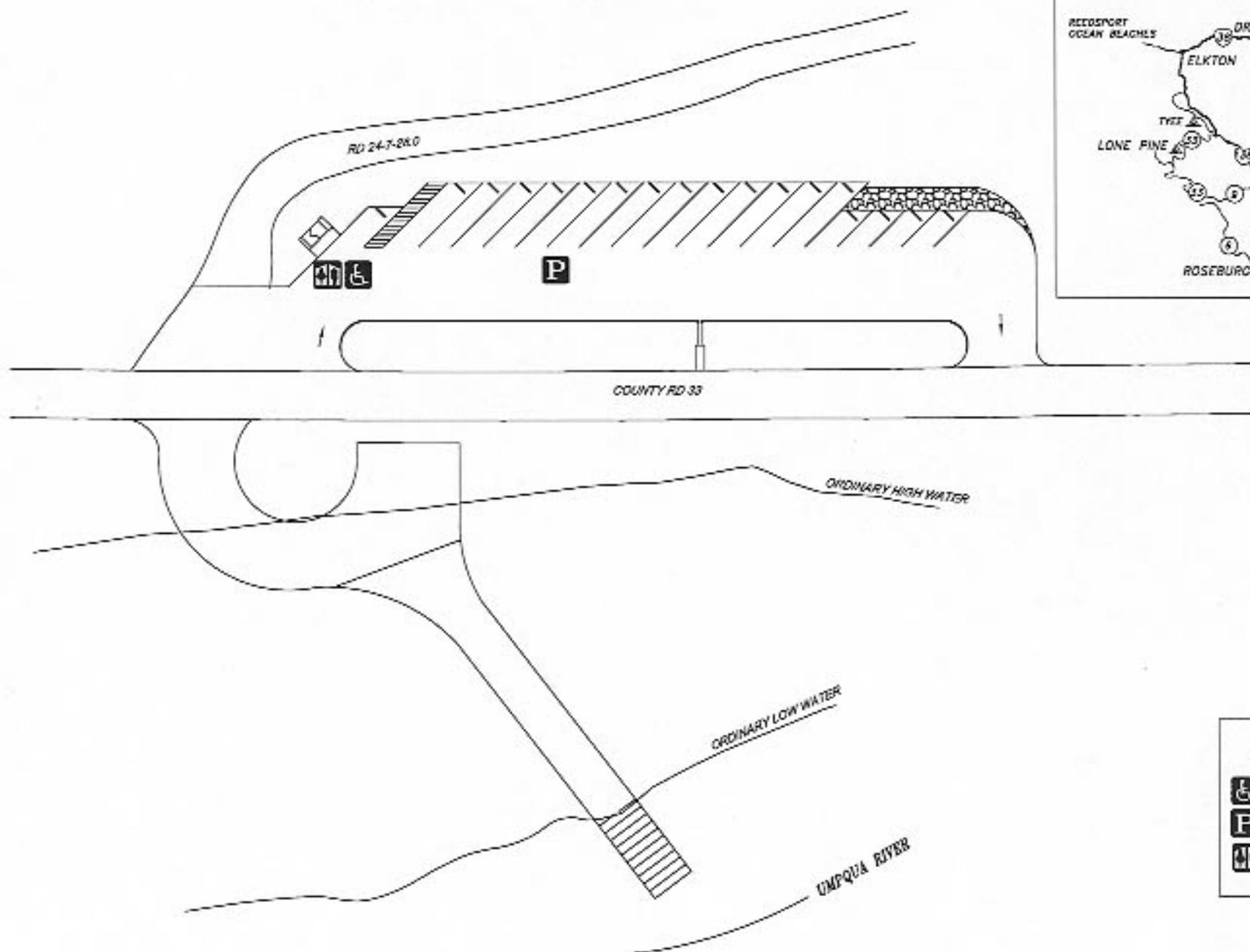
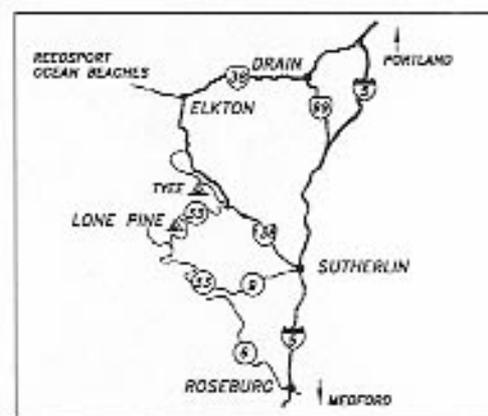
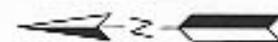
LONE ROCK BOAT LAUNCH



LEGEND

-  DISABLED ACCESS
-  PARKING AREA
-  RESTROOM
-  TABLE

OSPREY BOAT RAMP



LEGEND

-  DISABLED ACCESS
-  PARKING AREA
-  RESTROOM

APPENDIX C

POTENTIAL RECREATION SITE UPGRADES

The following long-range projects may be accomplished to meet identified needs and priorities:

Susan Creek Day Use Area

- ◆ Pavilion or gazebo
- ◆ Log picnic table (group size)
- ◆ Barbeque grill
- ◆ Horseshoe pits
- ◆ Interpretive displays
- ◆ Sprinkler system
- ◆ Water fountain

Eagleview Campground

- ◆ Host site development and improvement
- ◆ Vegetation planting to replace dying trees
- ◆ Site signing
- ◆ Large woody debris placement
- ◆ Horseshoe Pits
- ◆ Deposit box installation

Susan Creek Campground

- ◆ Interpretive and orientation displays
- ◆ Nature trail and plaques
- ◆ Host shelter
- ◆ Safety fence
- ◆ Additional tent pads
- ◆ Amphitheater
- ◆ Deposit box installation

Lone Pine Campground

- ◆ Pavilion
- ◆ Horseshoe pits
- ◆ Sprinkler system for the volleyball court
- ◆ Fence construction along Rock Creek Access Road
- ◆ Deposit box installation

Susan Creek Falls Trail

- ◆ Interpretive Displays
- ◆ Mounds trail reconstruction
- ◆ Flush Toilet upgrade

Cavitt Creek Campground

- ◆ Vegetation planting
- ◆ Deposit box installation

Swiftwater Recreation Site

- ◆ Sprinkler System
- ◆ Flush Toilets (trailhead)
- ◆ Interpretive displays
- ◆ Fisherman trails

Scaredman Campground

- ◆ Vegetation planting
- ◆ Site landscaping
- ◆ Information sign upgrades
- ◆ Barrier work
- ◆ Site numbers

North Umpqua Trail - Tioga Segment

- ◆ Landslide area trail reconstruction
- ◆ Beginning of the 79 mile North Umpqua - Trail sign

Tyee Campground

- ◆ Lawn leveling in day use area
- ◆ Campsite leveling
- ◆ Vegetation planting
- ◆ Deposit box installation

Mill Pond Recreation Site

- ◆ Pavilion replacement
- ◆ Re-design existing softball field
- ◆ Interpretive sign
- ◆ Installation of deposit box

Lone Rock Boat Launch

- ◆ Restroom replacement
- ◆ Site landscaping
- ◆ Parking lot repair

- ◆ Sprinkler system for pavilion and volleyball areas
- ◆ Interpretive displays
- ◆ Water line replacement and new pump house
- ◆ Host shelter addition
- ◆ Deposit box installation

Wolf Creek Trail

- ◆ Bridge replacement (wood bridge over Wolf Creek)
- ◆ Trail reconstruction
- ◆ Interpretive signs
- ◆ Culvert maintenance/replacement
- ◆ Parking lot paving
- ◆ Table replacement

Emile Campground

- ◆ Restroom replacement
- ◆ Vegetation planting
- ◆ Site landscaping
- ◆ Riparian area repair (bank stabilization, revegetation, removal of trash)
- ◆ Gate installation

Miner Wolf Watchable Wildlife Site

- ◆ No anticipated projects at this time

NOTE: Similar projects to those listed above could also be completed as a result of this analysis if no unidentified impacts are determined as a result of a Determination of NEPA Adequacy (DNA) review. For example, no restroom replacement is identified for the Rock Creek Campground but, if the present facility should fail or exceed its useful life, the restroom could be replaced under this analysis after a DNA review.

Projects that would be outside the scope of this analysis:

1. Anything outside the boundaries of the existing recreation sites.
2. Anything beyond 50 foot on each side of trail centerline.
NOTE: This analysis includes the repair of a segment of the North Umpqua Trail which is beyond 50 ft. of trail centerline.
3. Any upgrade that would alter the character of the existing site.
For example, adding an additional restroom or camping site requiring the removal of a group of large trees. However, if it could be placed in a natural opening without altering the natural character it would be within the scope of this analysis.
4. Catastrophic replacement of a recreation site.
For example, if the North Umpqua River were to flood and destroy the Susan Creek Campground requiring the site to be substantially rebuilt. The replacement of a destroyed pavilion or restroom, and cleanup of debris would not be considered a substantial rebuilding.

APPENDIX D

DETECTION AND CORRECTION OF HAZARD TREES ON THE ROSEBURG BLM DISTRICT RECREATION SITES

A hazard tree contains some form of structural defect, a peculiar location or combination of both giving it a possibility of failing and causing personal injury or property damage. For a hazard to exist there must be a valuable target (e.g., structures, facilities, parking areas, benches, trails or developed high use areas).

A systematic inspection of each recreation site is carried out annually. All trees within falling distance of campsites, picnic sites, roadside viewpoints, monuments, buildings, parking lots, or any place where people congregate are examined. Every tree in the recreation site is reviewed, determining whether or not it is a hazard. The degree to which a tree is hazardous hinges on four factors:

- 1) its potential for failure,
- 2) its potential for striking a target,
- 3) the potential that serious damage will result, and
- 4) the value of the target(s).

After determining whether or not a tree is a hazard each tree is given two different ratings:

- 1) **failure potential** from very low to very high and
- 2) a **damage potential** from no damage to extensive damage.

Trees that have medium to very high potential for both receive additional evaluations and each tree is bored with a 18" long 3/8" drill bit. Boring the tree determines the minimum safe-tree shell good wood thickness, at various heights. A general guideline (Detection and Correction of Hazard Trees, pg. 24) is that a tree must be about 1/3 sound wood, so a 30" tree that is hollow in the middle must have at least 10" of good sound wood or 5 inches shell thickness on either side of the tree. When the minimum safe shell thickness is insufficient for a tree's diameter, the failure potential is high. If a valuable target is within reach of the tree, then the tree is removed. Removal of a hazard can be accomplished by falling or topping the hazard tree to eliminate the possibility of it hitting the target. Tree topping takes the weight off the top and shortens distance to a target.

References used:

Long-Range Planning for Developed Sites in the Pacific Northwest, The context of Hazard tree Management. USDA Forest Service

Detection and Correction of Hazard Trees in Washington's Recreation Areas, A how to Guide for Recreation Site Managers. Lynn J Mills and Kenelm Russell

APPENDIX E

ISSUE IDENTIFICATION SUMMARY

This appendix summarizes the issues that were identified pertinent to this project. No further analysis was deemed necessary in that the mitigations specified below are considered adequate to remove the issue from needing to be analyzed in the main body of the EA.

A. Issues Identified During Project Design

The following issues were identified during project design. These issues arose from specialist input as well as public comments. A given issue can be eliminated from further analysis for one or more of the following reasons: (1) it is beyond the scope of this analysis, (2) the impacts were anticipated and analyzed in the FEIS, (3) Project Design Criteria (PDC) included in the preferred alternative would be adopted to mitigate the anticipated environmental impacts of specific activities, and (4) the issue does not meet the objectives and purpose of the project. Section II, paragraph C (pg. 5) provides a list of specific PDC incorporated into the preferred alternative to deal with these issues.

Issue #1: Re-vegetation of Openings with Native Flora

Discussion: The ID Team expressed a concern that non-native vegetation could be introduced into the forest environment whenever areas within the recreation sites are revegetated.

Mitigation: Only native flora would be used for landscaping or rehabilitating disturbed areas. Each site would be evaluated on a case-by-case basis to determine the native flora appropriate for planting at each particular site.

Issue #2: Excessive Down Woody Debris within Campgrounds

Discussion: Felled danger trees could accumulate over time resulting in levels of down woody debris (DWD) in excess of natural levels.

Mitigation: The RMP specifies that 120 linear feet per acre of DWD be maintained on the forest floor. This level would also be maintained within the recreation sites. Debris in excess of this level could be removed from site for use in stream restoration or sold commercially. Levels in excess of this amount could be retained if it would not hinder the recreational use of the site.

Survey and Management (S&M) Survey Requirements

Discussion: The need for pre-disturbance S&M surveys could delay implementation of projects. The S&M ROD (pg. 22) states “Routine maintenance of improvements and existing structures is not considered a habitat-disturbing activity.” The S&M ROD gives two examples “installation of a sign post within a campground” and “falling hazard trees”. The ROD did not list the whole myriad of examples but our interpretation is that most if not all of what is envisioned in this analysis falls under “routine maintenance [and] improvements”. Therefore BLM’s interpretation is that everything within the existing boundaries of the recreation sites would be exempt from pre-disturbance surveys. Maintenance of trails within 50 ft. of trail centerline is considered an existing structure. Any activity outside this limit would need surveys prior to habitat disturbance. The botanist looked for S&M species in conjunction with T&E and noxious weed surveys (Appendix F). None were found.

Mitigation: None required.

B. Issues from Public Comment:

Comments were received from one individual with four pages of comments. Some issues were beyond the scope of this analysis. The main focus of these Issues is summarized as follows:

1. **Old-Growth Trees** - “In past recreation enhancement projects, the Swiftwater Resource Area has cut down beautiful, large old-growth trees that were healthy enough to live for generations to come The continual loss of old-growth from recreation sites must be fully disclosed and discussed in the programmatic EA The programmatic EA should define “hazard” and require that all other options be fully considered (in writing) before cutting down mature and old-growth trees in recreational areas.”

Response: The RMP (pg. 57) directs that BLM “Manage timber within developed recreation sites for purposes of 1) removing hazard trees, 2) providing space for additional facilities and activity areas, and 3) providing desired regeneration of the forest canopy.” The BLM recognizes that the recreating public has a desire that recreation sites be maintained as much as possible in its natural forested setting and that large old-growth trees be retained. BLM has no legal discretion to ignore situations posing a hazard to public safety such as danger trees. The analysis performed by BLM to determine if a tree is hazardous is described in Appendix D. The EA (pg. 7) describes that other measures are taken and trees are only felled as a last resort. Past danger tree treatment (removal of limbs, topping or felling) has averaged approximately 30 trees per year. Approximately 70% of treated trees are felled, 20% are topped and 10% are limbed. This treatment when spread out over eleven recreation sites would average less than three trees per site per year. Approximately three quarters of these trees have been 16” and smaller. Less than one fourth of these trees have been larger than 16”. Approximately 95% of all felled or topped trees have been left in place or moved to another on-site location.

2. Recreational Vehicles - “RV’s are getting larger each year, causing larger camping places to be provided to them. One RV can take up the place of three tent campers. . . . There is a place for Recreational Vehicles, and there is a place for tent campers, but it is not in the same place. . . . Asking tent campers to enjoy nature along side a huge tin box humming with a generator is . . . unfair to the low-impact [tent] user . . . There should be BLM recreational sites that are not reconstructed to accommodate RVs.”

Response: Public use and demand at Roseburg BLM campgrounds has shown that both tent and RV campers enjoy the use of public campground facilities. Camping is provided on a first-come, first-serve basis by either type of camper. In an effort to accommodate all users, when BLM reconstructs or expands a campground facility, planning efforts are directed toward a design that will accommodate all users, both tent campers and RV campers alike. Since RV campers require longer camp spurs, BLM has elongated them where possible and enlarged turns (radius arcs) in the camp loops to accommodate trailers. This would also meet the needs of tent campers by providing extra room to park two vehicles if they need extra space for multiple vehicles, people and tents.

Tent campers are not necessarily a more low-impact user than RV campers. Tent campers often pitch tents directly on top of vegetation and ditch around their tents to redirect rain runoff. RV campers park on the pavement and are more self contained than tent campers. BLM accommodates recreationists’ use of public campgrounds without any discrimination on the mode they arrive in.

Exclusive tent camping for those seeking a more primitive outdoor experience, one without any presence of RV’s or other motorized vehicles, is provided along 79 miles of the North Umpqua Trail. This USFS and BLM trail provides primitive camping adjacent to the trail, with “Leave No Trace” ethics encouraged. Over the past 10 years of observation, there is little demand and actual use for this type of camping. Overwhelmingly, most tent campers select USFS or BLM campgrounds as their preferred site to pursue recreational camping and other activities. Nearly all campground patrons who comment on BLM comment cards are extremely happy with host performance and the accommodations BLM provides for their use.

The Interdisciplinary Team did not identify any issues as having sufficient potential affect that would warrant detailed analysis as a key issue to be addressed in Section IV, “Environmental Consequences”.

Issues Specified by Regulation

1. Critical Elements of the Human Environment

“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 resources or values (except T&E Species) were not identified as issues to be analyzed in detail because: (1) the resource or value does not exist in the analysis area, or (2) no site specific impacts were identified, or (3) the impacts were considered sufficiently mitigated through adherence to the NFP S&G’s and RMP Management Actions/Direction therefore eliminating the element as an issue of concern. Affects to T&E Species was previously addressed in this EA and the Biological Assessment which is prepared for consultation required by the Endangered Species Act (Appendix F).

| Element | Relevant Authority | Environmental Effect |
|---|---|--|
| Air Quality | The Clean Air Act (as amended) | Minimal - Temporary smoke intrusion in the vicinity of the project site due to pile burning is possible. Dust particles may be released into airshed as a result of recreation site construction /renovation. |
| Areas of Critical Environmental Concern | Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA) | None - Project area is not within or near a designated or candidate ACEC. |
| Cultural Resources | National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (as amended) | Impacts associated with ground-disturbing activities could occur, however, because cultural resource compliance procedures would continue to be implemented, the impacts would be mitigated. |
| Environmental Justice | E.O. 12898, Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations, 2/11/94. | None - The proposed project areas are not known to be used by, or disproportionately used by, Native Americans, minorities or low-income populations for specific cultural activities, or at greater rates than the general population. According to 2000 Census data approximately six percent of the population of Douglas County was classified as minority status (Oregonian, Pg. A-12; March 15, 2001). It is estimated that approximately 15% of the county is below the poverty level (Frewing-Runyon, 1999). |

| Element | Relevant Authority | Environmental Effect |
|------------------------------------|---|---|
| Farm Lands (prime or unique) | Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 | None - "No discernable effects are anticipated" (PRMP pg. 1-7) |
| Floodplains | E.O. 11988, as amended, Floodplain Management, 5/24/77 | None - Portions of project is within 100 yr. floodplain and is in compliance with the E.O. |
| Invasive and Nonnative Species | Lacey Act, as amended; Federal Noxious Weed Act of 1974 as amended; Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended; and EO 13112 on Invasive Species dated February 3, 1999. | Potential for increase in noxious weeds and invasive non-native plants into the proposed project area due to soil disturbance. Mitigating measures would reduce the potential for invasion to a negligible amount. |
| Native American Religious Concerns | American Indian Religious Freedom Act of 1978 | None - No concerns were noted as the result of public contact. |
| Threatened or Endangered Species | Endangered Species Act of 1973 (as amended) The Pacific Coast Recovery Plan for the American Peregrine Falcon, 1982 Columbian White-tailed Deer Recovery Plan, 1983 Recovery Plan for the Pacific Bald Eagle, 1986 Recovery Plan for the Marbled Murrelet, 1997 | None (Botanical) - No T&E species noted. (Animals) - "not likely to adversely affect" for the spotted owl, murrelet, or bald eagle (Roseburg District Biological Assessment). (Aquatic) - No effect on OC coho salmon, or OC steelhead. T&E species not specifically mentioned do not exist in the analysis area. |
| Wastes, Hazardous or Solid | Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976 Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 as amended. | None - Applicable HazMat policies would be in effect. |

| | | |
|----------------------------------|---|--|
| Water Quality, Drinking / Ground | Clean Water Act of 1987; Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996; EO 12088, Federal compliance with pollution control standards (October 13, 1978) EO 12589 on Superfund implementation (February 23, 1987); and EO 12372 Intergovernmental review of federal programs (July 14, 1982) | None - Project is not in a municipal watershed or near a domestic water source. |
| Wetlands/Riparian Zones | E.O. 11990, Protection of Wetlands, 5/24/77 | None - "The selected alternative [of the FEIS] complies with [E.O. 11990]..."(ROD p. 51, para.7). |
| Wild and Scenic Rivers | Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 (as amended) The North Umpqua Wild and Scenic River Plan (July 1992) | None - Portions of the project are within the North Umpqua Scenic River corridor. Actions are consistent with these documents. |
| Wilderness | Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 Wilderness Act of 1964 | None - "There are no lands in the Roseburg District which are eligible as Wilderness Study Areas." (RMP pg. 54). |

2. Other Regulations - The following items have been cited by regulation or executive order as an item warranting consideration in NEPA documents:

Healthy Lands Initiative - This project would not violate the Healthy Lands Initiative. This project would be in compliance with the RMP which has been determined to be consistent with the standards and guidelines for healthy lands (43 CFR 4180.1) at the land use plan scale and associated time lines.

National Energy Policy - Executive Order 13212 provides that all decisions made by the Bureau of Land Management will take into consideration adverse impacts on the President's National Energy Policy. This project would not have a direct or indirect adverse impact on energy development, production, supply, and/or distribution and therefore would not adversely affect the President's National Energy Policy.

NOTE:

The following appendices have not been included for the following reasons:

Appendix F (Analysis File) - This appendix consists of analysis by specialists, staff reports and the minutes of Interdisciplinary Team meetings. These reports document process and consultation with regulatory agencies as well as basic analysis or facts that form the basis of conclusions of the environmental analysis. These reports can be lengthy and highly technical and therefore not necessarily of widespread interest to the general public.

Appendix G (Public Contact and Comments) - This section is an ongoing file of letters sent by this office for issue identification and informational purposes as well as comments received from the public. This section will not be complete until some future date after the Decision Record has been signed and any administrative challenges addressed.

Both of these appendices are available for review at the Roseburg District Office during business hours (8 AM - 4:30 PM, Monday through Friday). Please contact Jim Luse (440-4930, ext. 3254) if you wish to review these documents.