

CHARTER

for

Willamette/Oregon Coast Province Federal Land Managing Agencies

PURPOSE

The purpose of this Charter is to set out in general terms the agreed upon cooperative relationship between the Federal land managing agencies regarding the management of cultural resources in the Willamette/Coast Province. This agreement will establish a framework upon which the above agencies may exchange information and cooperatively plan and conduct work to provide effective cultural resource management in the designated areas. This cooperative program may be supplemented by separate written agreements. Projects established through this cooperative relationship shall complement the missions of the respective agencies and be in the best interest of the public.

AUTHORITY

This Charter, hereinafter referred to as Willamette/Oregon Coast Range Province Cultural Resources Management Charter (WCPC), is made and entered into by and between the USDA Forest Service National Forests (Willamette, Siuslaw and Mt. Hood), USDI Bureau of Land Management Districts (Salem and Eugene), USDI US Fish and Wildlife Service (Willamette and Coast Complexes) and the US Army Corp of Engineers (Portland District).

- A. The Federal Land Policy and Management Act (42 USC 1737).
- B. Section 307(b) of the Federal Land Policy Act of 1976 (FLPMA) 43rdU.S.C. 1737
- C. The Paperwork Reduction Act 44 U.S.C. 3501 requires agencies to minimize cost to the Federal Government of collecting, maintaining, using, and disseminating information.
- D. OMB Circular A-130 requires the Federal Government to plan efficient exchange of government information needs through legally authorized interagency or intergovernmental sharing of information.
- E. Pursuant to the Economy Act of 1932, as amended, (31 U.S.C. 1535).
- F. Each of the Committee members is given the authority by their respective Field Manager to reach consensus on recommendations that may affect their area/division.

INTRODUCTION.

The Willamette/Oregon Coast Provinces provide both a complex administrative challenge and a premier opportunity for cooperative planning and project implementation. Several important cultural and ecological factors must be weighed in designing a cooperative approach to this area:

1. The area of concern contains important cultural and natural resources.
2. Federal lands managed by these agencies are intermingled and/or adjacent to each other and projects and management actions occurring on lands managed by one agency may have an effect on other agencies programs
3. The Federal agencies bear the responsibility for administering programs in the area.
4. The demand and opportunities for outdoor recreational activities is growing in the area along with the potential for increasing adverse impacts to the environment and the CRM resources.
5. The Archaeological Resources Protection Act requires interagency cooperation in order to successfully prosecute violations.
6. Declining Federal human and financial resources require that administrative programs be efficient, long-term, and innovative, and maximize available resources.

GOALS. The primary goals of the cooperative relationship outlined in this Charter are:

1. To provide consistent and appropriate levels of resource protection,
2. To ensure long-term cooperation among agencies regarding the management of areas of CRM interest,
3. To maximize effectiveness of agency funds and personnel,
4. To reduce the duplication of agency efforts, and
5. To improve implementation efforts through cooperative planning, policy development, and combining resources.
6. To provide visitors with consistent, coordinated information and programs.

IT IS MUTUALLY AGREED AND UNDERSTOOD BY AND BETWEEN THE SAID PARTIES:

1. The resource management agencies whose CRM responsibilities are included in the WCPC will retain responsibility for meeting all requirements of laws and regulations pertaining to the management of the lands or CRM resources under their respective jurisdictions.
2. The parties will:
 - a. Meet at agreed upon intervals to exchange information and create an action plan for program and project implementation and coordination among agencies,
 - b. Advise other involved parties concerning the development and revision of land-use plans, guidelines, rules, and regulations affecting CRM resources within their respective jurisdiction, as well as other land-use or management matters as may be requested or appropriate,
 - c. Where mutually beneficial, cooperatively seek external financial support to implement programs,
 - d. Cooperate in the development of province overviews, historic context statements, and inventory and evaluation standards, and
 - e. Coordinate on heritage tourism and education projects.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the WCPC shall consist of:

1. A Chairperson elected every two years,
2. A Co-Chairperson elected each year,
3. The lead CRM staff member from each agency, and
4. CRM staff members from each agencies management units within the Willamette and Coast Range provinces.

MEETINGS AND RECORDS

The Chairperson, the Co-Chairperson, and lead WCPC members from each agency will meet at least quarterly (and more often if necessary) to review activities and to make needed revisions to planned activities. The full membership will meet semi-annually . All WCPC lead members are expected to be at each of the semi-annual meetings. If, for some reason they are unable to attend they will, if possible, select an alternate CRM staff member to attend. Other managers, specialists and guest speakers may be invited. Following each meeting, notes will be prepared and distributed to WCPC members and to managers within one week of the meeting. Copies will be incorporated into a WCPC records system.

RESPONSIBILITIES

The Chairperson shall:

1. Provide leadership and organization for the WCPC meetings,
2. Arrange meeting dates, location, and time and notify members, and
3. Act as the WCPC spokesperson when appropriate.

The Co-Chairperson will:

1. Act as the coordinator of planning for projects and
2. Prepare and distribute notes of meetings.

PROJECTS

WCPC projects will include, but are not limited to the items below. Additional projects may be added through agreement by a majority of the full WCPC membership.

1. Planning:

A. The development of provincial overviews.. An overview summarizes what is known about human land use experiences in the study area from the earliest prehistoric occupation to the immediate past. It provides concise statements

about

the study area's cultural resource data base, and discusses the relative importance of the area's known and projected cultural resources. Data synthesis from this study will be used to evaluate the nature and distribution of property types, determine management uses, identify threats to integrity, outline management strategies, and define opportunities for interpretation and public stewardship.

B. Share cultural resource information for the purposes of land use planning.

C. Develop historic context statements (for site types within chronological and for geographical areas) that will cite important research theories, hypotheses, empirical observations and methodologies. They provide a basis for the evaluation of sites.

ranges

basis for

2. Outreach:

A. Integrate outreach efforts, including interpretation programs for schools, public parks, and CRM trails. Examples include Oregon Archeology Celebration, Windows on the Past, Project Archeology and Adventures in the Past.

B. Create and share program brochures, maps, and other interpretive materials.

3. Training:

A. Offer WCPC members opportunities to participate in training offered by member agencies.

B. Plan and implement cooperative training for staff from the participating agencies on topics in archeology, history, and architecture.

5. Sharing resource data.

A. Share databases containing CRM information.

b. Standardize site evaluation procedures.

c. Compare site report forms and project reports.

Nothing in this Charter shall be construed as limiting or expanding the statutory or regulatory responsibilities or the budgetary capabilities of the agencies involved in performing functions beyond those granted to them by law.

Additional Federal land management agencies in western Oregon may be made members of this Charter group upon their request. In addition, any agency can withdraw from the Charter group upon 60 days notification to the Charter group Chairperson.

Any participant may propose changes to this Charter during its term. Such changes will be in the form of an amendment and will become effective upon signature by all of the participants.

The need for this Charter is expected to continue for 6 years, at the end of which period it will expire, unless canceled, extended, or renewed.

This Charter may be extended before it expires if all of the participants agree that there is a continuing need.

SIGNATURES

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this agreement as of the last written date below.

USDA FS Willamette National Forest

Date

USDI BLM Salem District

Date

USDI BLM Eugene District

Date

USDA FS Siuslaw National Forest

Date

USDA FS Mt. Hood National Forest

Date

USDI US Fish and Wildlife Service

Date

US Army Corp of Engineers Portland District

Date

