





U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Reclamation



Jackson County Roads and Parks Services: September 1995

Emigrant Lake Resource Management Plan Oregon

U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Reclamation

Pacific Northwest Region Boise, Idaho

and

Lower Columbia Area Vancouver, Washington

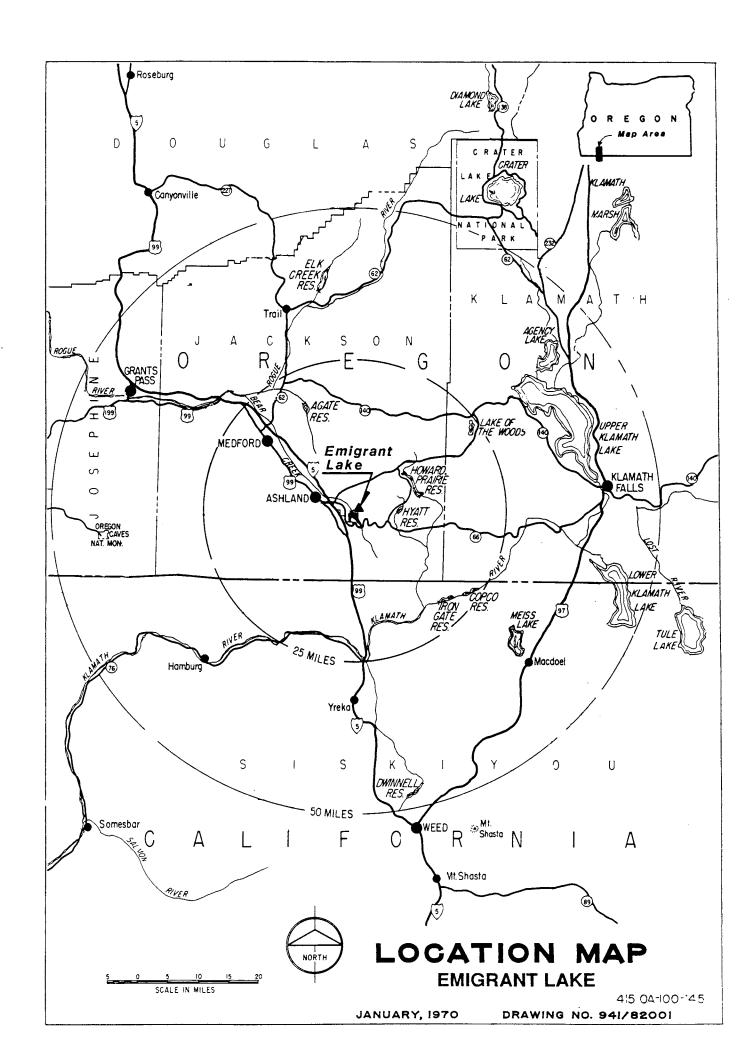
In Cooperation with:

Jackson County

Roads and Parks Services

Medford, Oregon

September 1995 Boise Idaho



Abbreviations and Acronyms

ACHP Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
AIRFA American Indian Religious Freedom Act
ARPA Archeological Resources Protection Act

BECA
Bald Eagle Conservation Area
BEMA
Bald Eagle Management Area
BEMP
Bald Eagle Management Plan
BIA
Bureau of Indian Affairs
BLM
Bureau of Land Management
CFR
Codified Federal Regulations

cfs cubic feet per second
County Jackson County

FEA Final Environmental Assessment

ESA Endangered Species Act

FONSI Finding of No Significant Impact
JCCP Jackson County Comprehensive Plan
NAGPRA Native American Graves Protection

and Repatriation Act

NEPA National Environmental Policy Act
NHPA National Historic Preservation Act
ODFW Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

OEF Oregon Eagle Foundation

ORV Off-road vehicle

OSMB Oregon State Marine Board

OSP Oregon State Police
Reclamation Bureau of Reclamation
RMP Resource Management Plan

SCORP Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation

Plan

SHPO State Historic Preservation Officer
SOSC Southern Oregon State College
TCP Traditional cultural properties
USFWS U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

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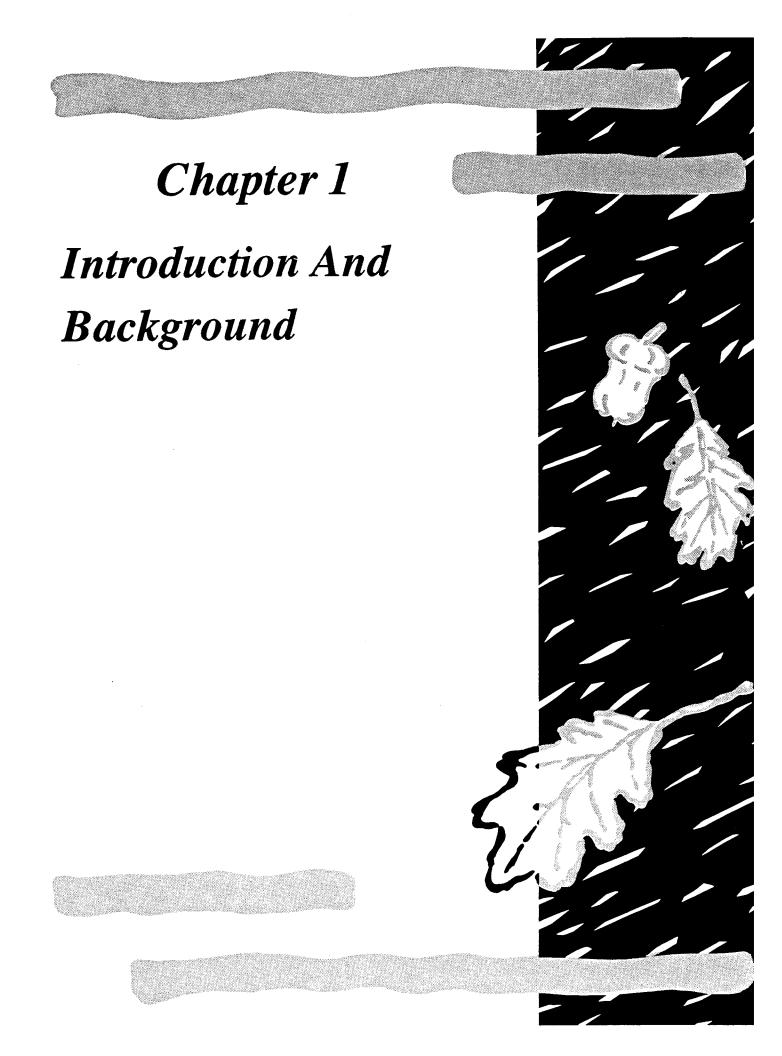
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INTRODUCTION

Emigrant Dam was constructed by private interests in 1924 and enlarged by the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) in 1958-60 for irrigation, flood control, and other beneficial purposes as part of the Talent Division of the Federal Rogue River Basin Project. In 1968, Jackson County (County) entered into a 50-year lease agreement with Reclamation. This agreement is to develop minimum basic recreation facilities and to manage the 1,467 acres of water surface and Federal lands that surround Emigrant Lake. Since that time, the County has developed 100 acres at the north end of the lake. Other areas have little or no recreation improvements.

Recent population growth, coupled with an active tourism industry in the Ashland area has resulted in increased use and conflicts among recreationists and between recreationists and nearby residents. Increasing recreational demands on a relatively small body of water and a limited land base have resulted in natural resource degradation and financial difficulties for the County in operating and maintaining recreation facilities.

Until recently, no coordinated management plan had been prepared which clearly set goals, objectives, policy, and priorities related to such uses or could guide decisionmaking and resolve conflict.

In 1991, Reclamation and the County entered into a joint planning process to provide management guidance for the Federal land and water resources at Emigrant Lake.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this resource management plan (RMP) is to serve as a long-term decisionmaking document guiding future management, use, and development of these lands. Through an extensive data gathering and public involvement process Reclamation and the County developed the following goals for the RMP based on the following issues identified by the public:

• Determine the most appropriate uses for the Reclamation/County-administered lands around Emigrant Lake, considering the use of the adjacent private lands.

- Explore ways to enhance and protect natural, recreational, and cultural resources on these lands.
- Identify long-term management programs that address public health and safety, fish and wildlife, and recreation.
- Identify opportunities for County management and operation to be financially self-sufficient.

ORGANIZATION OF THE DOCUMENT

Chapter 1 provides a background that includes the purpose, scope, and public involvement process pursued in the preparation of the Emigrant Lake RMP. Chapter 2 describes the natural, recreational, and cultural resources of the Emigrant Lake area. This resource inventory is a compilation of the full range of existing conditions that may affect resource management. Chapter 3 discusses resource opportunities, constraints, issues identified during the planning process, resources that require protection or enhancement, areas where certain uses are in conflict, and recreation demand and needs. Chapter 4 describes the plan including goals, objectives, management actions, proposed implementation schedule, lead agency, and potential funding sources.

POLICY

Reclamation, working closely with the County, will provide a broad level of stewardship to ensure and encourage resource protection, conservation, and multiple use. Management practices and principles in accordance with existing Federal laws, regulations, and policies are to be applied for the protection of fish, wildlife, other natural resources; cultural resources; public health and safety; public access; and outdoor recreational opportunities. These practices and principles will be followed to help accommodate the increased public demand to use Federal lands and water.

Reclamation and the County seek to balance public uses of the Federal lands with the protection of resource values. The Emigrant Lake RMP provides the County with future guidance for operation and management of Federal lands associated with Emigrant Lake. It outlines an action program and policy guidelines for the conservation, enhancement, use, and development of the Federal lands and associated natural and cultural resources. Goals of the RMP are to clarify

management policy and priorities, minimize conflict in land use, and facilitate coordination with other ongoing and planned activities in the area.

The RMP is intended to provide a 10-year framework for resource management. It may be necessary to review, reevaluate, and revise the plan in cooperation with involved agencies during this period to reflect changing conditions and management objectives. If modifications to the RMP are expected to significantly affect area resources or public use, opportunities for additional public involvement will be provided.

LOCATION AND GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF AFFECTED AREA

Emigrant Lake is a horseshoe-shaped impoundment located on Emigrant Creek in southeast Jackson County approximately 8 miles southeast of Ashland Oregon. The lake lies within the upper Rogue River Valley at the confluence of Emigrant, Hill, and Sampson Creeks. About 3 miles downstream from the dam, Emigrant Creek merges with other streams to form Bear Creek. Bear Creek flows into the Rogue River about 8 miles downstream from the city of Medford.

Oregon State Highway 66 provides access to the lake (see Location Map). The nearest major cities are Ashland, with a population of 17,300 and Medford, population of 52,000, located 12 miles north of Ashland. Interstate 5, the major north-south transportation route along the west coast, passes 5 miles to the west of Emigrant Lake.

Emigrant Dam is operated and maintained by the Talent Irrigation District as part of the Talent Division of the Rogue River Basin Project. The lake stores water for irrigation of about 15,000 acres of farmland that produce pears, hay, and grains. Under normal operations, the lake fills in the spring and is gradually drawn down throughout the summer. There is no authorized minimum pool and no authorized minimum streamflow release at the dam.

At a full pool elevation of 2241 feet above mean sea level, Emigrant Lake has a surface area of 806 acres. About 600 acres of land surrounding the lake were acquired by Reclamation in the late 1950's prior to enlargement of the dam. All of the Federal land is leased to Jackson County and operated as Emigrant Lake Park; however, the

developed area near the dam is called the North End Park. Adjacent lands bordering Federal property are privately owned and are generally semi-rural (scattered residences with acreage used primarily for pasture). Because of the proximity to Ashland and Medford, developed facilities, and esthetic appeal, the lake attracts large numbers of visitors in the summer. Popular activities include swimming, boating, fishing, waterskiing, camping, picnicking, and the use of a water slide in the North End Park. The lake also attracts visitors interested in hiking, canoeing, and birdwatching.

The populations of the Ashland and Medford areas are rapidly growing, and the area around Emigrant Lake is changing from a rural to a semi-rural character. Recently, many homes have been constructed in the area surrounding Emigrant Lake. This trend is expected to continue.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

In 1991 the County began developing a master plan that focused on increasing the recreational development around Emigrant Lake. Reclamation was asked to participate because of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements for planning related to Federal lands. Subsequently two public meetings were held, a user preference survey was made, and two *UPDATE* newsletters were distributed to provide information to the public and provide opportunity to comment. The planning team met with a number of citizens and agencies to discuss the planning effort. Information on these activities is included in attachment A.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Pursuant to NEPA requirements, a draft Environmental Assessment was prepared. It was distributed for public review and comment in May 1995; the public comment period closed on July 1, 1995. Comments received during the review period were incorporated into a Final Environmental Assessment/Finding of No Significant Impact (FEA/FONSI) which is being distributed to the public at the same time as this RMP. The FONSI is a NEPA decision document which must be completed before implementation of this RMP.

AGENCY COORDINATION AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Agencies

Reclamation consulted the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) as required by the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act and the Endangered Species Act (ESA). In 1993, the USFWS provided a draft list of threatened and endangered species that may occur within the study area and updated the list in February 1995. In June of 1995, the USFWS concurred with Reclamation that the Emigrant Lake RMP actions will not adversely affect ESA listed and candidate species. The USFWS also provided Reclamation with a Planning Aid Memorandum commenting on the vegetation, fish, and wildlife resource inventory and suggesting monitoring methods for special status wildlife species.

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) was contacted to provide current information on fish and wildlife resources and management concerns. The Oregon Natural Heritage Program was consulted for records of rare, threatened, and endangered plants and animals.

Reclamation has incorporated the results of these consultations in the biological evaluation for the bald eagle contained in the FEA/FONSI and this RMP.

Reclamation has consulted with the Oregon State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) on cultural resources and historic resources at Emigrant Lake. The SHPO concurs with Reclamation's findings and proposed testing plan for cultural resource sites.

Reclamation also consulted with various State and County agencies including staff that have planning, law enforcement, and other responsibilities that would be interested in changes in management of Emigrant Lake (see attachment A for some of the representatives).

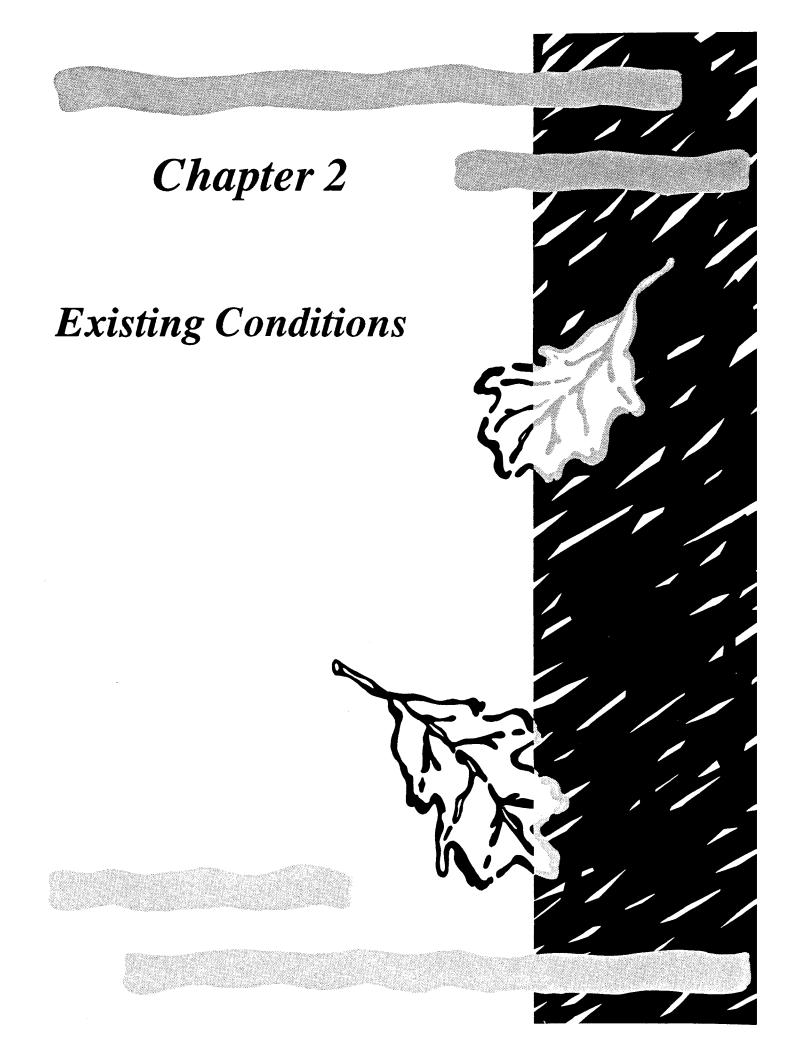
Indian Trust Assets

In October 1993, Reclamation wrote to the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) in Portland, Oregon inquiring about the presence of Indian Trust Assets in the vicinity of Emigrant Lake. An October 30, 1993 letter from the BIA indicates there are no known Indian Trust Assets within the study area.

Reclamation has also contacted the Confederated Tribes of the Siletz Indians and the Klamath Tribe to determine if cultural resources existed at Emigrant Lake and to provide an opportunity to comment.

Environmental Justice

Reclamation has determined that the RMP actions will have no significant effect on minority or low-income populations or communities.



CLIMATE AND HYDROLOGY

U.S. Weather Service records show that annual precipitation has averaged 23.10 inches in the vicinity of Emigrant Lake for a 30-year period. Rainfall is concentrated during the months of November through March with the greatest rainfall in November and December. Summer temperatures rise to average highs of 89°F in July and 85 °F in August. Winter lows fall to an average of 22 °F in December; The average high in January is 30 °F.

Winds in the area are generally from the south during the winter and from the northwest during the summer and average 10 to 15 miles per hour.

The watershed above the Emigrant Lake drains 64 square miles of the north slope of the Siskiyou Mountains west of the Cascade Divide. A substantial portion of the flow in Emigrant Creek, and the water stored in the Emigrant Lake, is diverted from other drainages in the Rogue and Klamath basins and conveyed through Green Springs Powerplant on Emigrant Creek 2 miles upstream from the lake. Flow into Emigrant Lake includes natural streamflow, releases from Green Springs Powerplant, and return flows from irrigation diversions upstream. Inflow to the lake is greatest from December through May; greatest inflow is in March. From August through October, releases from Green Springs Powerplant provide most of the flow into the lake.

EMIGRANT DAM AND LAKE

Emigrant Dam and Lake lie about 8 miles upstream (southeast) of Ashland within the upper Rogue River basin at the confluence of Emigrant, Hill, and Sampson Creeks. In 1960, Reclamation completed construction of the enlarged Emigrant Dam. The earthfill dam incorporates the original and much smaller thin-arch concrete dam privately constructed in 1924. Emigrant Lake has a total storage capacity of 40,500 acre-feet and an active capacity of 39,000 acre-feet leaving about 1,500 acre-feet of dead storage (water below the outlet works and which cannot be released). The dam has a structural height of 204 feet and a crest length of 750-feet (3,090 feet if wing dikes are included). At maximum water surface elevation (2248.4 feet), the outlet works has a capacity of 600 cubic feet per second (cfs) and the spillway has a capacity of 11,300 cfs. At normal full pool elevation

(2241 feet) the surface area of the lake is 806 acres. Table 2-1 summarizes dam and reservoir data.

| Table 2-1.—Emigrant Dam and Lake Data | | | |
|--|------------------|--|--|
| Item | Value | | |
| Dam | | | |
| Structural height | 204 feet | | |
| Crest length | 750 feet | | |
| Crest width | 35 feet | | |
| Crest elevation | 2254.0 feet | | |
| Spillway elevation | 2241.0 feet | | |
| Spillway capacity (at elevation 2248.4 feet) | 11,300 cfs | | |
| Outlet works capacity (at elevation 2248.4 feet) | 600 cfs | | |
| Reservoir | | | |
| Normal water surface elevation | 2241 feet | | |
| Total capacity | 40,500 acre-feet | | |
| Active capacity | 39,000 acre-feet | | |
| Surface area at elevation 2241.0 feet | 806 acres | | |

Emigrant Lake is operated for irrigation water supply and flood control. The demand for irrigation water begins in late April, peaks in July and August, and continues through September. There are no provisions for minimum releases from Emigrant Dam or providing minimum flows in Emigrant Creek. Release between irrigation seasons are generally for flood control. In many years, water is not released from the lake during the fall and winter (from the end of September to the end of March). During these periods, flows in Emigrant Creek immediately downstream from the dam consist of ground-water inflow and normal leakage past the dam.

The lake normally fills to the highest level in April and is slowly drawn down starting in May. Drawdown is more rapid from June through September as natural inflow decreases and irrigation demand increases.

This operation dramatically lowers the water surface level through the summer. By the end of September, the lake is drawn down an average of 66 feet, and the water surface area has shrunk from about 750 acres to 250 acres. In drought years, the drawdown is even more dramatic. In 1992, the surface area reached only 550 acres at the end of April and decreased to a mere 95 acres by the end of September. Average, minimum, and maximum end-of-month surface areas are shown in figure 1 (also see Water Surface Level Map).

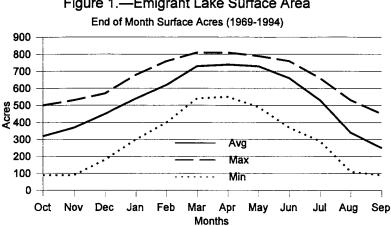


Figure 1.—Emigrant Lake Surface Area

WATER QUALITY

Water quality data for Emigrant Lake are sparse. However, turbidity has been identified as an esthetic and potential biological problem for many years. At times, the lake water and the downstream releases take on a chocolate brown color. The most detailed water quality study was an analysis of turbidity (Dittmer 1988). This study focused on the sources and factors contributing to turbidity and also addressed the effects of Emigrant Dam releases on turbidity in Bear Creek.

The Dittmer study concluded that:

- Turbidity in Emigrant Lake is highest in winter.
- Turbidity is high along the edges of the lake in summer due to erosion caused by natural waves and boat wakes. However, the middle of the lake appears unaffected.

- The source of the suspended sediments is from within or adjacent to the lake bottom since winter inflow from Emigrant Creek is consistently clearer than the lake.
- Lake turbidity is not a major contributor to turbidity in Bear Creek.

In 1992, Reclamation sampled outflows from the lake and found that water quality was generally good with the exception of turbidity. Major ions, trace elements, and dissolved oxygen all fall within acceptable limits for beneficial uses.

TOPOGRAPHY AND SOILS

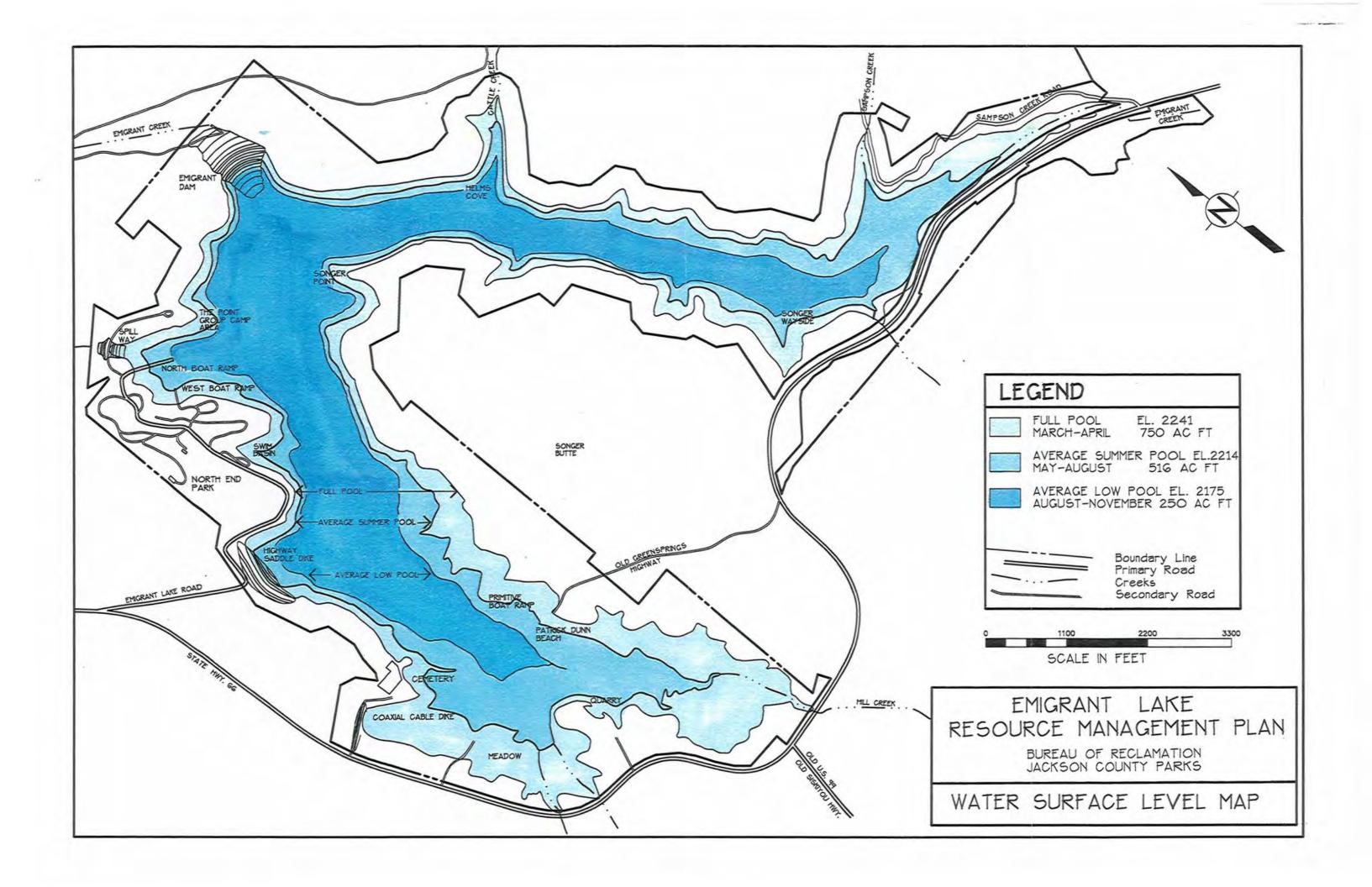
Topography around the lake consists of fairly steep slopes along the east and south sides of the Emigrant Creek arm and fairly low gradient along Hill Creek arm except for the Cemetery and Quarry areas.

Soils in the area are predominantly well-drained loams. Loamy soils are especially prevalent on the north side of the lake and in the Songer Butte area (SCS 1988). These soils tend to be shallow and low to moderately erodible; weathered bedrock is found from 12 to 27 inches below the surface. Clay and cobbly clay soils are found along the Emigrant Creek arm of the lake. These soils are moderately deep, well drained, and are low in erodibility. Soils along the gentle slopes at the upper end of the Hill Creek arm are mostly deep, moderately well-drained loams and clay-loams with moderate erodibility.

Soils in the drawdown area tend to be fine clays and silts deposited by tributary creeks and eroded from the lake shore by wave and boat wake action. The drawdown of the lake in the summer exposes extensive mudflats, especially in the Hill Creek arm. Streamflows through the drawdown areas severely erode the bottom sediments, resulting in cut banks and continually shifting channels, especially at Emigrant Creek where flows remain high throughout the summer.

Much of the shoreline at the high waterline and immediately below is quite rocky. This condition is found throughout the lake except for the upper end of the Hill Creek arm.

The uplands on the west side of the Hill Creek arm, especially near the Quarry and Cemetery have been used extensively by off-road vehicles (ORV's), and a network of trails and primitive roadways is present.



Many of these trails climb steep hillsides contributing to severe erosion in some places.

VEGETATION, FISH, AND WILDLIFE

Vegetation

Vegetation in the area of the lake has been classified as the Rogue River Valley unit of the western Oregon interior valleys (Franklin and Dyrness 1973). Vegetation in the Rogue Valley floor is adapted to the relatively hot and dry climate caused by the rain shadow of the Cascade and Siskiyou Mountains and the southern latitude relative to the rest of Oregon. Plant communities in the Rogue Valley differ from those in the Umpqua and Willamette Valleys to the north by having associations that are more common to California than to Oregon.

Eight major vegetation communities have been identified in the study area: oak woodland, grassland, shrub/grassland, chaparral, creekbed riparian, lakebed riparian, ponderosa pine, and irrigated park land (see Vegetation Map).

The current vegetation communities can be considered semi-natural because of the influence of man since the mid-1800's. Wildfire suppression, clearing, grazing, and introduction of exotic species have altered the vegetational mosaic (Franklin and Dyrness 1973).

Oak woodland is the most common vegetation community around the lake. Some oak stands are nearly impenetrable, especially in the Songer Butte area, but there are also relatively open savannah areas. Oregon white oak is the dominant overstory species in this community. Other trees found scattered among the oaks are Pacific madrone, California black oak, ponderosa pine, Douglas fir, and western juniper. On some sites, a thick understory of shrubs such as white-leaved manzanita, Pacific poison oak, narrow-leaf buckbrush, deerbrush, Oregon grape, and snowberry are present. On drier sites, the understory is composed primarily of grasses and forbs.

Grassland is the second most common plant community. Grasslands have been heavily influenced by the introduction of exotic species and livestock grazing. Grass and forb cover is relatively dense except where ORV use is present. Common native and introduced grasses include oatgrass, needlegrass, fescue, brome, bulbous bluegrass, cheatgrass, and medusahead rye. Many species of forbs also occur in

the grasslands. Much of the grasslands are infested with yellow starthistle, a noxious weed introduced from Europe.

The shrub/grassland community is similar to the grassland except for the presence of scattered shrubs, primarily rose in the relatively wet sites and Pacific poison oak and narrow-leaf buckbrush in drier areas.

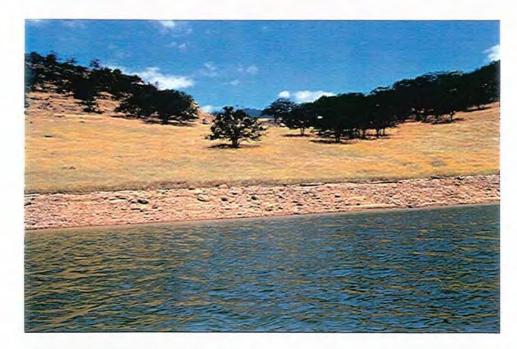
The chaparral community is dominated by shrubs that include white-leaved manzanita, narrow-leaf buckbrush, deerbrush, and Pacific poison oak. Birchleaf mountain mahogany, Pacific madrone, and Oregon white oak also are present along with a wide variety of grasses and forbs in open areas.

The creekbed riparian community is found along inflows in the upper part of the two arms of the reservoir and along the upper part of the southern shore of the Emigrant Creek arm of the lake. This community is composed of an overstory of black cottonwood, Oregon ash, "tree-form" willows, white alder, bigleaf maple, and Oregon white oak. Understory species include "shrub-form" willows, rose, snowberry, blackberry, skunkbrush sumac, and sedges. The lakebed riparian community is found within the drawdown zone at the upper end of Hill and Emigrant Creeks arms of the reservoir and in several other small pockets around the south shoreline. It is composed of shrub-form willows, small black cottonwoods, and alders.

Irrigated lawn is found in the North End Park area. Much of this area contains scattered white oaks and exotic ornamental shade trees and shrubs. Some open lawn areas are found at the softball field and above the shoreline near the swim basin and boat launch.

Plants invade a portion of the lakebed as water recedes each summer. These are mostly exotic weedy "pioneer" plants such as tumbleweed amaranth, lamb's quarter, cockleburr, Jerusalem oak, purslane, jimson weed, doveweed, spurge, and grasses such as barnyard grass and panicgrass. This vegetation is disturbed to a minor degree by ORV use of the lakebed.

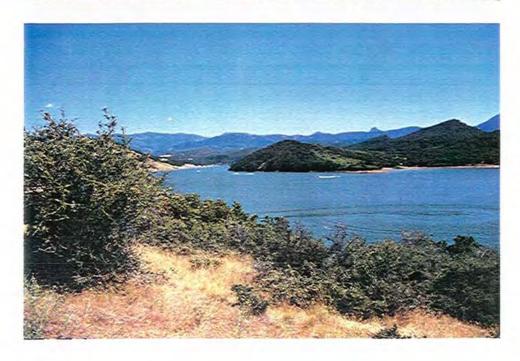
A variety of showy spring wildflowers are found in all of the upland communities. The spring color is especially prominent in the grasslands where several species of vetch and lupine provide a purple carpet. Other common wildflowers found throughout the study area include cat's ears, brodiaea, blue-eyed Mary, larkspur, desert parsley, hound's tongue, lotus, arrowleaf balsamroot, western buttercup, southern Oregon buttercup, Indian paintbrush, and phlox.



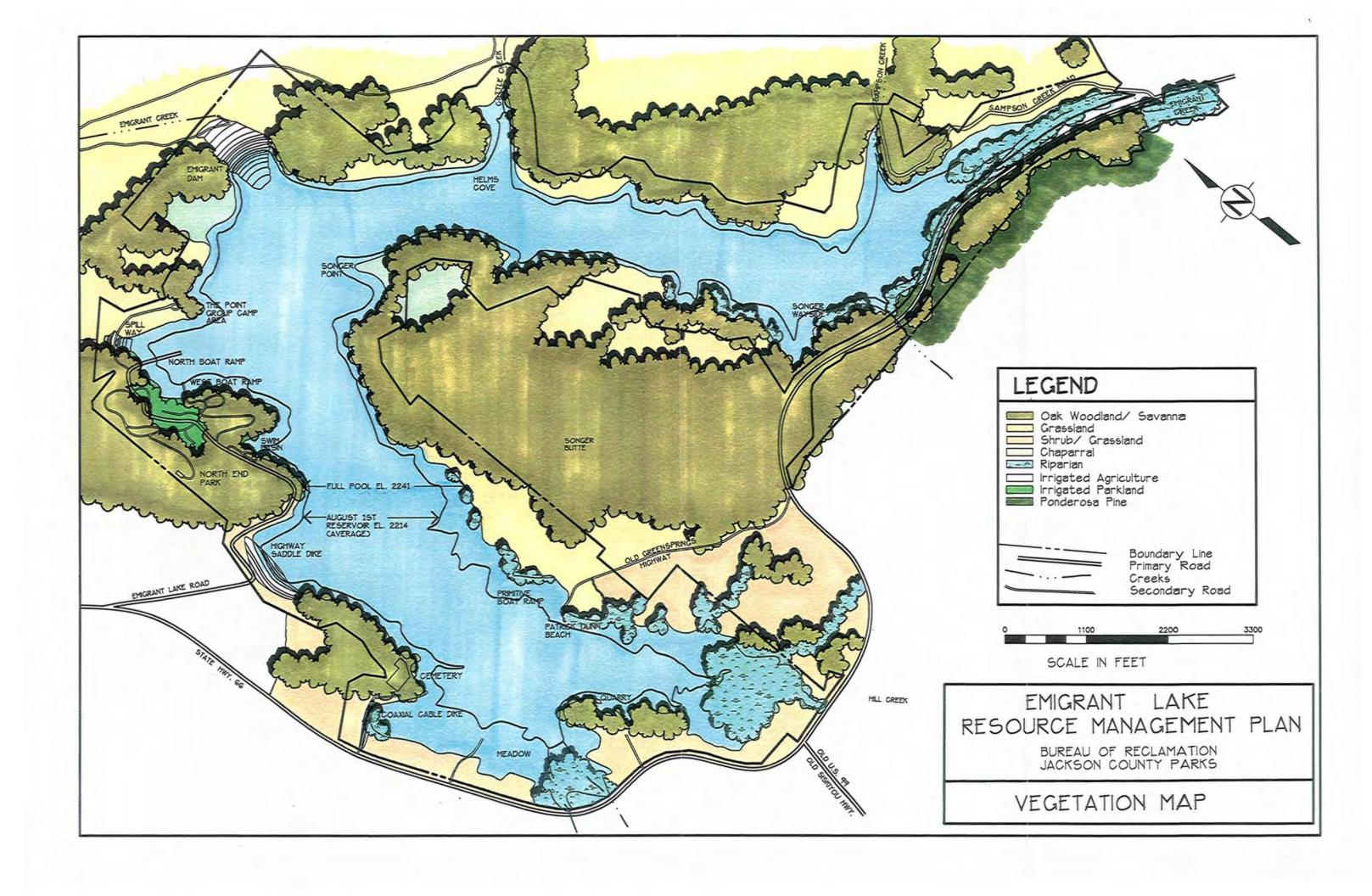
Typical oak woodland/savana and shoreline (Emigrant Creek arm)



Riparian vegetation with grassland in background (upper Emigrant Creek arm)



Chapparal in the foreground and oak woodland on Songer Butte in the center.



The USFWS has delineated wetland types within the study area as part of their National Wetland Inventory. The most common vegetated wetlands include "palustrine emergent" and "palustrine scrub shrub" which are seasonally or temporarily flooded (Cowardin et. al. 1979). These wetlands generally correspond to the creekbed and lakebed riparian areas that are dominated by shrub-form willows, sedges, and rushes. "Palustrine forested" wetlands are found in the creekbed riparian areas containing the larger cottonwood. Oregon ash, and willow trees. Most of the rest of the zone between the high waterline and the normal low water are classified as "palustrine unconsolidated shore," "palustrine unconsolidated bottom," and "lacustrine littoral unconsolidated shore." These seasonally flooded areas generally correspond to the sparsely vegetated drawdown zone supporting pioneer species. The portion of the lakebed below the normal low waterline is a deep water habitat classified as lacustrine limnetic unconsolidated bottom.

The impact of humans on the vegetation varies from site to site. The west shoreline of the Hill Creek arm receives the heaviest recreation use and is the most impacted. Numerous vehicle trails near the Quarry, Cemetery, and Highway Saddle Dike have caused loss of vegetation and erosion. Along the Emigrant Creek arm, the lack of vehicular access, steep slopes, and thick vegetation has kept this area in a relatively pristine condition.

Fish

Emigrant Lake provides a quality recreational fishery for warmwater and coldwater species. Common warmwater fish include black crappie, largemouth and smallmouth bass, bluegill, and brown bullhead. Coldwater game fish including rainbow trout, winter steelhead, and coho salmon are stocked in the lake. Although formal creel surveys have not been conducted, ODFW biologists believe the lake is not heavily fished.

ODFW policy is to manage the crappie and bass populations for natural production to provide quality crappie angling and a bass fishery (ODFW 1993). The lake is the best producer of black crappie in the Rogue River basin, and ODFW believes it can continue to produce quality crappie with appropriate regulations. Reclamation is currently cooperating with ODFW on a study of the crappie population to develop management strategies for enhancement of the crappie fishery. There appears to be a trend at the lake for an increase in smallmouth bass and a corresponding decrease in largemouth bass.

The coldwater fishery at the lake is maintained through stocking. ODFW stocks catchable-size and fingerling rainbow trout (see table 2-2). In addition to trout, ODFW stocks fingerling winter steelhead, coho, and chinook salmon when excess fish are available from hatcheries. ODFW's proposed management for coldwater species is to provide a consumptive (put and take) trout and salmon fishery through continued stocking of fingerling fish.

| Table 2-2.—Five-Year Fish Stocking History at Emigrant Lake (ODFW 1993) | | | |
|---|------------------|------------|---------|
| Year | Species | Size | Number |
| 1992 | Winter steelhead | Fingerling | 49,963 |
| 1991 | Rainbow trout | Fingerling | 200,210 |
| | Coho | Fingerling | 25,015 |
| | Winter steelhead | Fingerling | 54,222 |
| 1990 | Spring chinook | Fingerling | 200,848 |
| | Winter steelhead | Fingerling | 6,309 |
| 1989 | Rainbow trout | Catchable | 5,087 |
| 1988 | All species | All | 0 |

Nongame fish make up a relatively small component of the fish in the lake. Those known to be present include the red-sided shiner, golden shiner, black-nose dace, and coarse-scale sucker.

Factors that may limit game fish production have not been studied at the lake. However, habitat for warmwater and coldwater species is limited by reservoir operations which reduce the pool size dramatically each fall. The lake bottom was cleared prior to construction. As a result there is a general lack of woody cover when the water level recedes below the brushy riparian areas in the upper arms of the lake. This lack of cover limits the rearing habitat of warmwater fish, especially largemouth bass and black crappie, and food production for all game fish. Smallmouth bass are more common along the rocky shorelines and near the dam. Their habitat is reduced when the lake level recedes below the steep rocky slopes. Drawdown may also affect reproduction of warmwater game fish by exposing spawning areas, especially during dry years when the water level drops earlier.

Wildlife

Wildlife in the area is abundant and diverse due to the combination of open water, exposed shoreline, riparian habitat, and upland habitat. There are several species of wildlife that are found almost nowhere else in Oregon and are more typical of the interior valleys of California.

Waterfowl are abundant throughout the winter and during spring and fall migrations. Canada geese and mallard ducks breed at the lake. Waterfowl were formerly hunted, but the area was closed to hunting when the Jackson County designated the entire lake area as a county park in 1993. Double-crested cormorants and several species of grebes and gulls may be found on the open water. Killdeer, various sandpipers, and other shorebirds are common along the fringe especially when the lake has been drawn down exposing food for these birds. Large wading birds such as the great blue heron are also seen regularly.

Ospreys forage at the lake year-round. Other raptors commonly observed include red-tailed hawks, American kestrels, bald eagles, golden eagles, northern harriers, and turkey vultures. Common ravens and American crows are conspicuous throughout the study area.

Riparian habitats support a variety of songbirds including the northern oriole, western wood peewee, American goldfinch, and several species of breeding and migrating warblers. The oak woodland and chaparral communities provide breeding habitat for the blue-gray gnatcatcher and acorn woodpecker at the northern-most extension of their range. Other conspicuous birds in both upland and riparian areas include California quail, mourning dove, western kingbird, plain titmouse, American robin, yellow-rumped warbler, white-breasted nuthatch, northern flicker, scrub jay, rufous-sided towhee, and western bluebird.

The slopes rising to the east and south of the lake provide important winter range for blacktailed deer. These animals use the thick oak and chaparral vegetation for thermal cover. Narrow-leaf buckbrush and deerbrush are important forage and browsed heavily by wintering deer along the east side of the lake.

Other common mammals in the study area are black-tailed jackrabbit, Beechey ground squirrel, raccoon, coyote, opossum, gray fox, bobcat, porcupine, and a variety of rodents and bats. Beaver are found in the upper ends of the Hill Creek and Emigrant Creek arms where they feed on the cottonwood and willow and build dams forming small ponds.

Reptiles including the western fence lizard, western skink, western rattlesnake, and common kingsnake are present in the oak and chaparral uplands, especially in rocky areas. The California mountain kingsnake, another species at the northern extent of its range, has been documented near Emigrant Lake as has the northwestern pond turtle. Amphibians inhabiting the study area include the western toad and black salamander.

Wildlife habitat is degraded to some degree by heavy recreation use in those areas where use is more focused such as the North End Park and at dispersed recreation sites. Disturbance varies with species and the type of recreation activity. Activities that cause disturbance range from motorized recreation such as boating and ORV use to dog walking and hiking.

THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES

Pursuant to the ESA, Reclamation has consulted with the USFWS, the Oregon Natural Heritage Program, and ODFW to obtain a list of endangered, threatened, and special status plant and animal species that may occur in the study area. These species and their status are shown in table 2-3. A map of habitat important to threatened and endangered species at Emigrant Lake is included in chapter 3.

| Table 2-3.—Special Status Species | | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------|--|
| Common Name | Status ¹ | | |
| Plants | | ** · · | |
| Southern Oregon buttercup | Ranunculus austro-oreganus | C2, SC | |
| Howell's camassia | Camassia howelli | C2 | |
| White meconella | Meconella oregana | C2 | |
| Birds | | | |
| Bald eagle | Haliaeetus leucocephalus | FT | |
| Tricolored blackbird | Agelaius tricolor | C2, SP | |
| Little willow flycatcher | Empidonax trailli brewsteri | C2 | |
| Lewis' woodpecker | Melanerpes lewis | SC | |
| Bufflehead | Bucephale albeola | SP | |
| Western bluebird | Sialia mexicana | SV | |
| Reptiles and Amphibians | | | |
| Northwestern pond turtle | Clemmys marmorata marmorata | C2, SC | |
| Spotted frog | Rana pretiosa | C1, SC | |
| Foothills yellow-legged frog | Rana boylii | C2, SV | |
| Northern red-legged frog | Rana aurora | C2, SU | |
| Black salamander | Aneides flavipunctatus | SP | |
| California mountain kingsnake | Lampropeltis zonata | SP | |
| Common kingsnake | Lampropeltis getulus | SP | |
| Mammals | | | |
| Long-eared myotis | Myotis evotis | C2 | |
| Fringed myotis | Myotis thysanodes | C2, SV | |
| Yuma myotis | Myotis yumanensis | C2 | |
| Pacific western big-eared bat | Plecotus townsendii townsendii | C2, SC | |
| Pacific pallid bat | Antrozous pallidus pacificus | SV | |

¹FT=Federal Threatened; C1=Federal Candidate Category 1; C2=Federal Candidate Category 2; SC, SP, SV, & SU=State Sensitive-Critical, Sensitive-Peripheral, Sensitive-Vulnerable, and Status-Undetermined, respectively.

Federally-Listed Species

The bald eagle, listed as threatened in Oregon, is the only federally-listed species known to occur in the vicinity of Emigrant Lake. Bald eagles have been seen at the lake in the winter for several years. In the spring of 1993, two mature eagles were observed regularly at the lake through the summer, suggesting the potential for a nest nearby. Biologists from ODFW documented a bald eagle nest later that year on private land more than a mile west of Emigrant Lake.

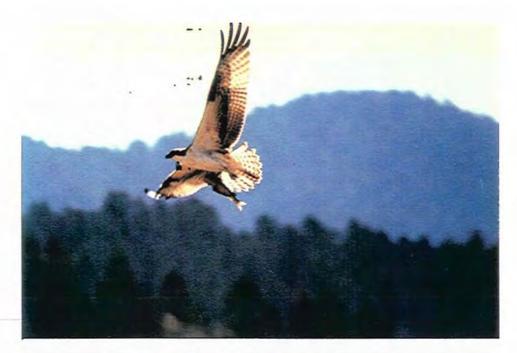
In January 1994, the Oregon Eagle Foundation (OEF), through assistance from Reclamation, began a monitoring program to document behavior and habitat use of wintering and nesting bald eagles at Emigrant Lake (OEF 1994a, 1994b). The monitoring program followed recommendations made by the USFWS in a November 8, 1993 Planning Aid Memorandum to Reclamation.

Winter bald eagle monitoring was conducted weekly from January 5 to March 10, 1994. The winter study objectives were:

- Estimate numbers and distribution of bald eagles at Emigrant Lake.
- Document location and magnitude of use, including night roosts.
- Determine foraging areas and diet.

The nesting study was conducted from March 19 to August 29, 1994. Objectives of the nesting study were to:

- Locate, map, and document habitat use.
- Determine nesting chronology and productivity.
- Determine if additional pairs of eagles are present.
- Determine foraging patterns and diet
- Document eagle/human interactions.
- Develop a Bald Eagle Management Plan designating a Bald Eagle Management Area(s) (nest stand) and a Bald Eagle Consideration Area (home range) using the above information.



Osprey with fish.



Young mule deer.



Adult bald eagle.

The 1994 winter monitoring found that a pair of adult bald eagles regularly foraged at Emigrant Lake (OEF 1994a). Two immature bald eagles were also documented intermittently. The eagles foraged most often in the Hill Creek Arm and preferred perches near the Quarry and Emigrant Dam. Oak and ponderosa pine snags and live trees were used as perches. The only night roost documented was a single adult using a live conifer in the Niel Creek drainage to the west of the lake.

The adult eagles foraged primarily on fish, but were also observed taking waterfowl, ground squirrels, and eating carrion. Prey was most often consumed in nearby snags along the shoreline.

The bald eagle nesting study began in mid-March and found that a pair of adult bald eagles appeared to be incubating eggs; observations were made at the nest and the lake (OEF 1994b). One chick was documented in the nest in May; however, subsequent checks of the nest in late June and early July established that the nest had apparently failed. The reason was not discovered, and no alternate nests were found.

During the spring and summer, the adult bald eagles spent most of their time perching and foraging in the Hill Creek arm, similar to winter behavior. The eagles foraged primarily on fish with one successful capture of a gull and occasional attempts to take ducks. The eagles also attempted to rob osprey of fish on several occasions.

One of the greatest threats to bald eagles and an important management concern at Emigrant Lake is human disturbance. Human activity varied during the winter, but generally increased from January to March. The most common forms of activity, from most frequent to least frequent, were dog walking, fishing from the shore, driving on paved roads, walking/hiking, horseback riding, and fishing from a boat. Adult bald eagle response to these activities ranged from looking briefly or intently watching the activity to flushing from the perch. Of the 10 incidents recorded where eagles were flushed from a perch, five involved moving vehicles, three involved dog-walkers, one involved multiple activities, and one involved an eagle observer in a parked vehicle.

Human activities at the lake during the nesting season were similar to those in winter with the addition of camping, boating, jet skiing, canoeing, and driving off-road. Human activity increased from March to June and began to decrease in August as the lake level dropped. A variety of motorized and non-motorized activities were documented as disturbing to eagles (caused them to flush from a perch). Eagles were tolerant of both motorized and non-motorized activities as long as those activities were at a distance from the perching birds.

The bald eagles tended to use Emigrant Lake in the early morning and late afternoon when human activity was at its lowest. Several instances were observed where eagles were absent from normally used areas when human activities were present.

The pair of bald eagles using Emigrant Lake in the summer of 1994 were last observed on June 28. When monitoring resumed on August 24, no bald eagles were seen at the lake. Extremely low water level in late summer 1994 may have discouraged eagles from using the lake. Whether or not this is a yearly occurrence is unknown. The Emigrant Lake pair is suspected of using some smaller ponds and reservoirs in the vicinity of Ashland, however this has yet to be confirmed (D. Popp, pers. comm. 1994).

Bald eagle monitoring continued in 1995 with essentially the same results as found in 1994.

Using the data collected in 1994, OEF prepared a draft Site-Specific Management Plan for nesting bald eagles at Emigrant Lake (OEF 1994b). The Bald Eagle Management Plan (BEMP) recommends and defines a Bald Eagle Conservation Area (BECA) (home range) and a Bald Eagle Management Area (BEMA) (nest stand) for the Emigrant Lake pair.

Recommendations in the final BEMP, scheduled for completion in November 1995, are not expected to change significantly from the recommendations in the draft.

Federal Candidate Species

Candidate species included in this section are Category 1 species, for which the USFWS has sufficient biological information to support a proposal to list as endangered or threatened and Category 2 species, for which existing information may warrant listing, but for which substantial biological information to support a proposal to list is lacking. Many of the Federal Candidate species are also on the Oregon list of sensitive species.

Plants

The southern Oregon buttercup, a Candidate Category 2 species, is the only special status plant known to exist in the study area. This species is endemic to the white oak woodlands of the Rogue Valley. Lang (1992) conducted a survey of the Emigrant Lake area and mapped the

occurrence of the southern Oregon buttercup and the closely related western buttercup (see Buttercup Distribution Map). Apparent hybrids of the two species were noted.

The southern Oregon buttercup is found throughout the northern portion of the lake. The plant is absent from steep rocky slopes, heavy stands of annual grasses, and manicured lawns around the Park. However, it is found within the campground where disturbance is moderate. Toward the south end of the lake on the slopes above the Hill Creek arm, the western buttercup replaces the southern Oregon buttercup. What appear to be intermediate hybrids are found along the Emigrant Creek arm and above Patrick Dunn Beach on the Hill Creek arm.

Howell's camassia and white meconella, Candidate Category 2 species, were included in the USFWS list of species that may occur in the study area. Howell's camassia is endemic to serpentine soils and not know to occur or likely to occur in the study area (Lang pers. comm.). White meconella is found in open areas that are wet in the spring (Hitchcock and Chronquist 1979) and may occur at Emigrant Lake. However, it was not found during surveys for the Oregon buttercup or on numerous other visits to Emigrant Lake (Lang pers. comm.).

Birds

The tricolored blackbird, a Candidate Category 2 species has been recorded at Emigrant Lake and is known to breed in Jackson County (Wray 1993). These birds nest in large colonies usually in emergent cattail or tule marshes. This habitat is not present in sufficient quantity in the project area to support breeding. Tricolored blackbirds most likely occur sporadically at Emigrant Lake when foraging nearby or migrating in the fall and early spring.

The little willow flycatcher is a subspecies of the willow flycatcher. Willow flycatchers inhabit willows and other riparian vegetation along watercourses and beaver meadows (Terres 1980). Willow flycatchers have been documented at Emigrant Lake and in similar habitat at Table Rock. Potentially suitable habitat is present in the riparian zones in the upper arms of the lake.

Reptiles and Amphibians

The northwestern pond turtle, a subspecies of the western pond turtle, is classified as a Federal Candidate Category 2 Species and as a Sensitive Species by the ODFW. Northwestern pond turtles are given special status because they have been eliminated or severely reduced

throughout much of their range. The USFWS published a 12-month finding in the Federal Register on a petition to list the western pond turtle including the northwestern subspecies. The USFWS found that the western pond turtle, including subspecies, does not meet the definition of either a threatened or endangered species at present.

Northwestern pond turtles are known to inhabit both permanent and intermittent aquatic habitats. They prefer areas where there is little flow and where there are basking sites and hiding cover such as logs, rocks, planks, undercut banks, and emergent vegetation (Holland 1991). Areas that are heavily shaded tend to be avoided.

Early records document the occurrence of pond turtles at Emigrant Lake. In 1991, Holland (1992) surveyed both arms of the lake and at Emigrant Creek and Highway 66 and failed to locate any pond turtles. However ODFW (1994) found pond turtles in a survey of the Emigrant Creek arm in the summer of 1994. All age classes were found suggesting the northwestern pond turtle may be reproducing in the lake or in the tributary streams. About one-half of the 10 pond turtles captured by ODFW showed some sort of injury. Causes of the injuries are unknown.

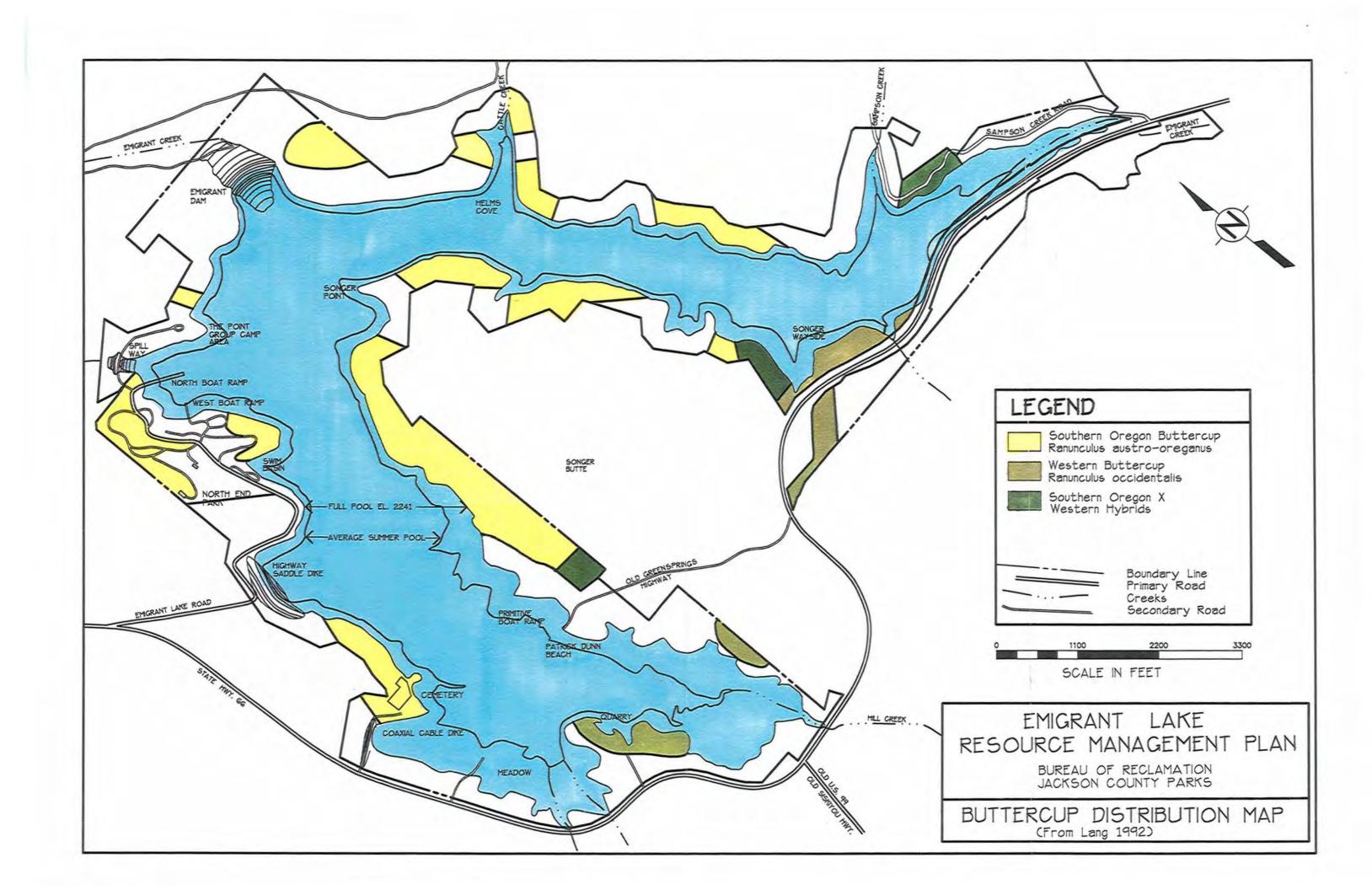
The foothills yellow-legged frog inhabits gravelly or sandy streams with open woodlands nearby (Behler and King 1979). This frog is known throughout Jackson County along rivers and streams with adjacent rock pools or rocky side channels (Wray 1993). It has been documented from Emigrant Creek within 1 mile of the lake and is likely to occur in Emigrant Creek and possibly Hill Creek within the study area but not in the lake itself.

The northern red-legged frog inhabits slow streams, lakes, and ponds with substantial emergent vegetation (Behler and King 1979). Its closest documentation is more than 20 miles north of Emigrant Lake. It is not likely to occur at Emigrant due to the lack of emergent vegetative cover (Wray pers. comm.)

The spotted frog is generally found in mountainous areas near cold streams and lakes and tends to avoid warm ponds (Behler and King 1979). It has not been documented in Jackson County and is not likely to occur in Emigrant Lake (Wray pers. comm.).

Mammals

Four Candidate Category 2 bat species are known to range into southwest Oregon. All of these bats tend to roost primarily in caves,



mine tunnels, and abandoned buildings, although the long-eared myotis may use trees. Long-eared myotis, fringed myotis, and Yuma myotis have been recorded within 8 miles of Emigrant Lake and suitable habitat is present in the vicinity (Wray pers. comm.). Roosting habitat is limited in the study area. It is not known if these species forage at Emigrant Lake.

Suitable habitat for the Pacific western (Townsend's) big-eared bat is not known to exist at Emigrant Lake or the surrounding area; this species is unlikely to occur in the area.

State-Listed Species

Lewis' woodpecker has been recorded in the study area during the spring and fall. These birds probably winter but do not reproduce in the area as no nests have been documented. Western bluebirds are year-round residents of the grasslands and open oak stands. Buffleheads regularly occur as migrants and are found in open water during the fall and winter.

The California mountain kingsnake has been found in rocky areas in chaparral or oak woodland around the lake. The common kingsnake is also present in most of the upland and riparian habitats. Both of these snakes are at the northern extent of their range in the Rogue River basin. The black salamander has been recorded from the northeast side of the lake just south of the dam and is an example of another species that barely ranges into the State of Oregon.

One record exists of a Pacific pallid bat found in an old barn near the lake. It is unlikely that this species roosts in the project area because of a lack of suitable sites; however, pallid bats may forage within the study area.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

Federal Law and regulations define historic properties to include prehistoric and historic sites, buildings, structures, districts, and objects included in, or eligible for inclusion in, the National Register of Historic Places (National Register). Traditional cultural properties (TCPs) are places of special heritage value to contemporary communities (often, but not necessarily Native American groups). Principal laws directing management actions over these cultural properties are the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA); the

Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA); the American Indian Religious Freedom Act (AIRFA); and the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA).

Section 110 and 106 of the NHPA directly address managing and protecting cultural resources on public lands. Section 110 requires a Federal agency to identify and manage properties eligible for National Register listing on public lands they administer. It states, "each Federal agency shall exercise caution to assure that any such property that might qualify for inclusion (on the National Register) is not inadvertently transferred, sold, demolished, substantially altered, or allowed to deteriorate significantly." The agency is to consult with the appropriate SHPO and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) during the course of implementing these actions. The cultural resource inventory undertaken in 1994 (described below) on Reclamation lands around Emigrant Lake constitutes the "resource identification" phase of the Section 110 process.

AIRFA requires that all Federal agencies take into account the effects of their actions on traditional American Indian religious and cultural values and practices, but implementing regulations have yet to be promulgated. NAGPRA provides for the protection of Native American graves, funerary objects, sacred objects, and items of cultural patrimony, and gives Native American groups priority in ownership and control of those remains.

Overview

Southwestern Oregon has been occupied for at least 9,000 years. The prehistoric cultural lifestyle was a hunting-fishing-gathering pattern, following the round of harvesting seasonally available resources. In the winter the main camp was along the stream bottoms; other seasons were spent hunting and gathering in the uplands as well as along the stream bottom. The main sources of food included salmon, trout, game, camas, acorns, berries, seeds, and pine nuts. Ethnographic and historic records indicate that the Rogue River drainage, which includes Emigrant Creek, was primarily used by the Shasta, Upland Takelma, and Upper Athapaskan speaking groups, who also followed the prehistoric foraging pattern.

In 1850, gold was discovered in California and miners traveled through the Emigrant Lake area en route to the goldfields. Soon after, gold was also discovered in Jacksonsville, Oregon. Within the next few years the Rogue River and Bear Creek Valleys filled with homesteads settled by emigrants and miners who turned to farming and other activities as the gold mines played out around Jacksonville. By the beginning of 1853, upper Bear Creek area and the area around Emigrant and Hill Creeks, were settled. The settling of the valleys added to the already heightened tension between the non-Indians and the Native Americans. The first burial at the Dunn Cemetery¹, located on the Hill Farm, was a casualty in 1853 of the Rogue River Indian War. Sixteen more casualties of the war were buried at the cemetery.

In 1887, the Southern Pacific Railroad completed its track which passed within a quarter mile to the west of what is now Emigrant Lake. With the railroad came increased access to the markets for farm products and increased cultivation of the fertile Bear Creek and Rogue River Valleys for orchard fruits, berries, vegetables, grain, and livestock. By the early 1900's, it became evident that more water was needed to expand agriculture in response to the market demand.

The Talent Irrigation District was organized in 1916 to serve most of the upper Bear Creek Valley. Shortly after organization, the Talent District commissioned the construction of the Emigrant Creek Dam, a thin arch dam, and a smaller auxiliary arch to complete the closure. The reservoir impounded water over an area of 240 acres. In the 1930's and 1940's additional studies were carried out that led to the authorization of the Talent Division and rehabilitation and betterment of the irrigation facilities. This included construction of a much larger dam built over the original dam, which remains embedded in the larger dam and expansion of Emigrant Reservoir. The current earthfill dam, completed in 1960, impounds a pool with a maximum surface area of 806 acres.

In 1958, the University of Oregon completed the first cultural resource survey of the lands to be inundated by the new lake. Two campsites were recorded (35JA1 and 35JA2)² near small streams. Both sites were tested, one had historic native components, and one site (35JA1) was excavated. In 1977, the University of Southern Oregon recorded a petroglyph panel (35JA92) on the eastern arm of Emigrant Lake.

¹This cemetery is now the Dunn-Hill Pioneer Cemetery but is also known as the Dunn Cemetery and the Hill Cemetery. It is the only cemetery within the Emigrant Lake area.

²Site numbers are assigned by the Oregon State Historic Preservation Officer.

In 1993, Reclamation contracted for Class I and Class III cultural resource inventories to collect information needed to make sound planning decisions for the Emigrant Lake RMP. The Class I inventory (DePuydt et al. 1993) documented previously identified cultural resources in a study area of 1,400 acres under Reclamation jurisdiction. As part of the effort to identify all types of cultural resources, representatives of the Klamath Tribe, the Northwest Cherokee Confederated Tribes, and the American Indian Cultural Center in Talent, Oregon were contacted to determine if properties of traditional cultural significance were in the area. The tribes expressed concern for the cultural resources of the Emigrant Lake area and the Klamath Tribe indicated that it wanted to be involved in future consultations. At this time no sites of traditional or sacred nature have been identified. After the Class III survey, Reclamation discovered that the Confederated Tribes of the Siletz Indians have an historic interest in this area. Reclamation has notified the Confederated Tribes of the Siletz Indians of this RMP so they may have an opportunity to comment.

The Dunn-Hill Cemetery, identified in the Class I Overview, is an historic cemetery that is still in use. When the first dam was constructed, the lower portion of the cemetery (the oldest section) was moved to higher ground. Under the criteria for evaluation, cemeteries ordinarily are not considered eligible for the National Register. Reclamation recognizes the historic value of the cemetery and will not implement actions that adversely affect the site.

A Class III survey of approximately 800 acres begun in the fall of 1993 was completed in the spring of 1994 (Morgan and Calaway 1994). This inventory was an intensive, systematic pedestrian survey from the low, fall waterline (2175 feet) to the boundary of Reclamation lands with the exception of most of the North End Park area and two small parcels that were extremely muddy. Nine previously unrecorded archeological sites (35JA316 through 35JA322, 7H, and 8H) were recorded, and one earlier reported site (35JA92) was located. The two historical sites (7H and 8H) consisted of concrete foundations of structures, both dating to early twentieth century. One of these (7H) may be the remnants of a pumphouse or well associated with the Klamath Junction community. The other historic site (8H) appeared to be the remains of an oven or fireplace on top of a concrete foundation. Neither site is associated with historically important persons or events. There were few associated artifacts with either site; consequently, the sites are not likely to contain information to address research concerns. Neither of these sites is eligible to the National Register.



Dunn-Hill Pioneer Cemetery.

Sites 35JA316, 35JA317, and 35JA321 are low density lithic scatters located entirely below the reservoir high waterline and may be secondary deposits. Two of the sites (35JA316 and 35JA321) have been severely eroded due to fluctuating water levels, and all three sites have been heavily collected for many years. These sites do not appear to contain intact significant deposits and may not be eligible for National Register listing. If the sites will be impacted by future development, further evaluation will be needed to determine if there are intact, significance deposits. Reclamation proposes to test sites 35JA316 and 35JA321 at a later date when funds are available.

One site (35JA320) is a lithic scatter located partially within the reservoir pool, and extends beyond Reclamation's boundary. The portion of the site on Reclamation land has been severely eroded by fluctuating water levels. Shovel tests produced broken beer bottle glass and one flake. The portion of the site on Reclamation land appears to contain no intact significant deposits.

Two sites (35JA318 and 35JA319) are medium density lithic scatters, with some groundstone, located on an eroded terrace slope partially within the reservoir pool. These are the only sites that have the potential of being impacted by recreation development. Site 35JA318 is the only site that could be assigned a date (late Archaic Period (1500-200 years before present)) and may have intact significant deposits. Site 35JA319 does not appear to have intact deposits. Although both sites have been heavily collected in the past, Reclamation proposes to test the two sites to determine if significant cultural deposits are present and if the sites are eligible for listing on the National Register.

Reclamation proposes to evaluate the remaining two sites (35JA92 and 35JA322) for National Register eligibility at a later date when funds are available. These petroglyph panels are partially within the reservoir pool at high waterlevel and have no apparent associated cultural deposits.

The Oregon SHPO concurs with Reclamation's determination of non-eligibility for sites ER-7H, ER-8H, 35JA317 and 35JA320, and Reclamation's proposed testing plan for other sites.

Current Integrity

The condition or integrity of sites was assessed from surface observations documented by the archeologist during the 1993 Class III inventory. Current land uses that are damaging archeological sites

include relic collection, ORV use, and erosion, due to water level fluctuation. All of the recorded prehistoric sites have been impacted by one or more of these factors.

Relic collection usually takes the form of illegal, unscientific excavation. According to unidentified visitors present during the field survey, at least four sites have been "favorite collection areas" since the 1950's. Six of the recorded prehistoric sites have been impacted by relic collection.

Vehicle damage generally affects the surface layers of a site. Vehicle trails cut into surfaces churning the soils within the trail. If there are multi-component sites, then the artifacts from different episodes of occupation become mixed, destroying the depositional integrity of the site. Three sites have been impacted by vehicle use.

One site has been impacted primarily by erosion and by past livestock grazing. Trampling has churned the deposits so that the cultural material is mixed and artifacts are destroyed. Erosion due to wave action and water fluctuation of the lake has destroyed portions of sites around the reservoir perimeter.

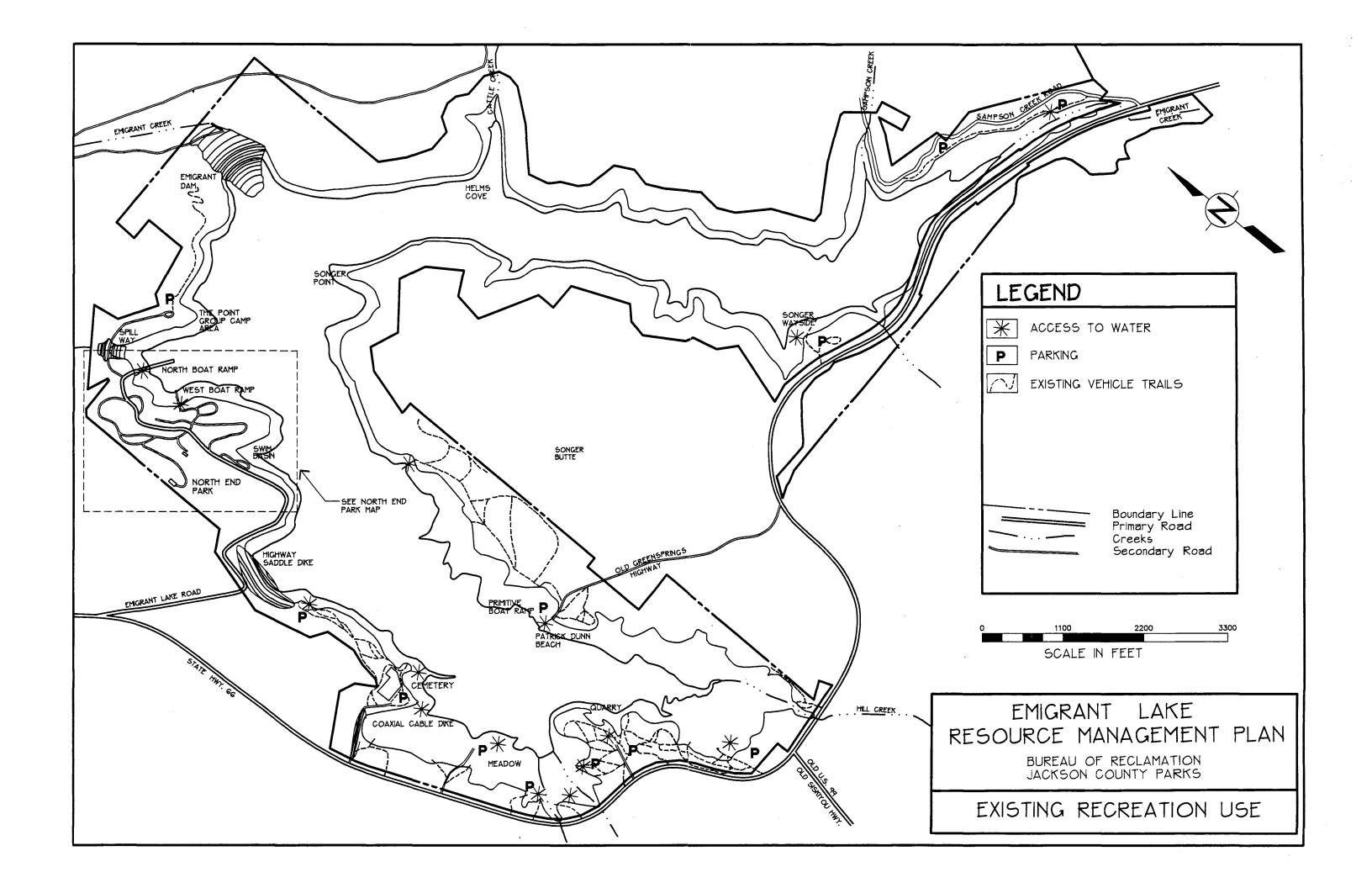
Traditional cultural properties have not been identified by the contacted tribes. However, due to the land alterations of the early settlement and the construction of the dam, any traditional properties may have lost their sacred value. Resources such as plants harvested for traditional practices may still grow in areas not disturbed by early farming.

RECREATION

Area of Influence

Emigrant Lake is within planning Region 9 of the Oregon Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP). This region includes Jackson, Klamath, Josephine and most of Douglas Counties in southwestern Oregon. Region 9 comprises the recreation Area of Influence.

Due to its appealing climate and recreational diversity, Region 9 attracts visitors from throughout Oregon and from other states. This region contains 20 lakes/reservoirs which offer water-based recreation



opportunities similar to that at Emigrant Lake. Emigrant Lake differs in that it also provides facilities for special events, group picnics, group camps, and a waterslide. Facilities and opportunities available in the region help satisfy recreation demand from within and outside regional boundaries. Facility use and natural resource capability within the region is currently at or near capacity, and there is little opportunity for expansion to meet growing demand.

Facility distribution, access, location, alternative recreation opportunities and others factors influence recreation conditions at a given site. High quality recreation features and opportunities, as well as proximity to Ashland, make Emigrant Lake an extremely popular recreation site within the region.

Emigrant Lake is the planned southern terminus of the Bear Creek Greenway Recreational Trail. This paved trail system is being developed by the County. The urban section from Ashland to Central Point is projected to be completed by the year 2000.

Emigrant Lake Park

The study area consists of about 1,400 acres—about 800 acres of water surface at full pool, 12.6 miles of lake frontage, and 600 acres of Federal land above the high waterline. The entire area is managed by the County as Emigrant Lake Park. Of the lands above the high waterline, about 100 acres are developed and referred to as the North End Park.

North End Park

Facilities

Open lawn areas, shade trees, and recreation facilities make the North End Park the focal point of the lake (see North End Park map). Improvements include a system of two-lane paved roads, hard-surface trails, parking areas, water and sewer treatment systems, a playground, two boat ramps, group picnic shelters, group and individual camp sites with shower facilities, an RV dump station, a day-use area, food concessions, volleyball and softball fields, a swim cove, and a two-flume waterslide (see table 2-4). The group picnic shelters and the concessions and restrooms at the waterslide are the only facilities accessible to persons with disabilities.

| Table 2-4.—North End Park Facilities | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------|-------------------------------|
| | Quantity | |
| Facility | Total | Accessible to the Handicapped |
| Camp units Individual Group | 42 2 | 0 0 |
| Picnic units Tables Group | 100 4 | 0 1 |
| Restrooms Flush Vault | 3 4 | 1 0 |
| Ball Field | 1 | 0 |
| Volleyball | 2 | 0 |
| Horseshoe pits | 4 | 0 |
| Waterslide and associated facilities | 1 | 0 |
| Swim Basin | 1 | 0 |
| Boat Ramps | 2 | 0 |
| Parking units—vehicles and trailers | 623 | 7 |

The County operates and maintains the North End Park, the waterslide, and surrounding undeveloped lands. Two full-time rangers and one ranger, who spends 30 percent of his time at the lake, provide year-round operation and maintenance. An additional 17 seasonal staff positions help from May through Labor Day.

North End Park Use

Emigrant Lake is a popular recreation destination for persons from throughout the region as well as the surrounding states. Day-use facilities are used primarily by visitors from the Jackson County area (specifically Ashland). Campground visitors come from throughout the Pacific Coast region; primarily California, other parts of Oregon, and Washington.

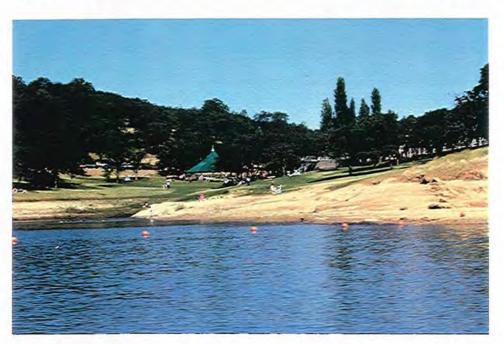


North End Park.

Boaters parked in the area between the two boat ramps.



View toward the swim basin from the picnic area.



View of the swim basin from the water.



From 1986 through 1991, average annual use of the North End Park was approximately 240,000 recreation-days (see table 2-5). Annual use has dipped recently, probably due to low water levels, poor weather, and other factors. There are no data on use outside the North End Park. Consequently, a large portion of Emigrant Lake use is uncounted.

| Table 2-5.—North End Park Annual Use | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|--|
| Year | Recreation-days | |
| 1986 | 280,412 | |
| 1987 | 219,636 | |
| 1988 | 224,527 | |
| 1989 | 254,030 | |
| 1990 | 229,247 | |
| 1991 | 218,301 | |
| 1992 | 119,194 | |
| 1993 | 122,000 | |
| 1994 | Not Available | |

The peak use period is May through Labor Day, which accounts for 76 percent of the annual use. Day use averages about 163,000 visitors annually. The waterslide attracted 79,000 users a year (annual average over a 3-year period). Total use is not increasing; however, the mix of uses is increasing. For example, water-based activities at Emigrant Lake include waterskiing, pleasure boating, boat fishing, sailing, jet skiing, canoeing, and wind surfing. Since these water activities compete for the same body of water, some user conflicts occur and there are visitor safety concerns.

The 42-unit campground, open from April through October, has an average annual use of 11,800 camper-nights or approximately 3,000 site occupations. Approximately 25 percent of the group reservations at the lake are regional as opposed to local. Weekend campground use is higher than weekday use and often exceeds the facility capacity; the seasonal occupancy rate is approximately 40-45 percent.

Visitor Use Analysis

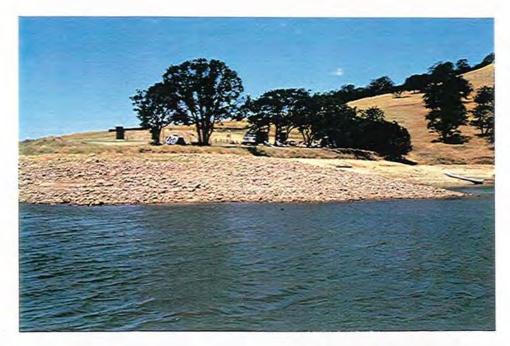
The September 1993 *UPDATE* included a mail-in response form requesting public input on visitor use patterns at Emigrant Lake. Information was requested on what activities visitors liked to do and where. The 100 responses received indicated that fishing, hiking, nature appreciation, picnicking, and swimming, in that order, were the primary activities. Respondents indicated that they engaged in fishing, hiking, picnicking, non-motorized boating, and nature appreciation in the upper arms of Emigrant and Hill Creeks. Power boating, waterskiing, and jetskiing used the large open areas of the lake.

During the summer of 1993, the Southern Oregon State College (SOSC), conducted a visitor use survey and observation project on randomly selected days and times throughout the recreation season. A total of 150 visitor surveys were conducted on 24 separate days at Emigrant Lake. The data indicate that visitors are primarily from Ashland, followed by Medford and other towns within Jackson County. Use also stems from other Oregon counties as well as California and other states. Most visitors claim "vacation time" as their primary purpose for visiting Emigrant Lake with the most listed reasons for visiting Emigrant Lake as convenient location, scenic beauty, good facilities, and the lake itself. Most visitors have come to Emigrant Lake for 4 years, visit in groups of 4 to 7, stay approximately 6 hours (if not camping) and typically visit about 10 times in the summer months each year. The survey supports the same conclusions on activities as the observation project (see next discussion). Most visitors expressed satisfaction with their visit at Emigrant Lake.

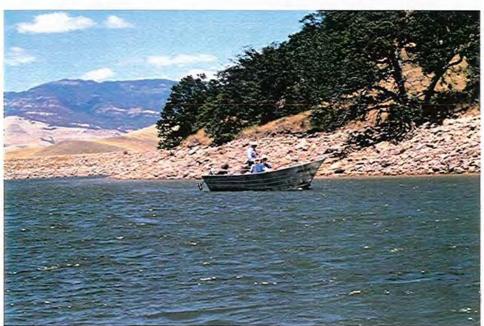
The visitor observation project (separate from the visitor survey project) included 148 visitor observations throughout the summer. The data indicate that visitors come primarily as family units of adults and children and engage in picnicking, boating, sunbathing, relaxing, and swimming. Other activities include birdwatching, walking, photography, and wildlife observation.

Special Events

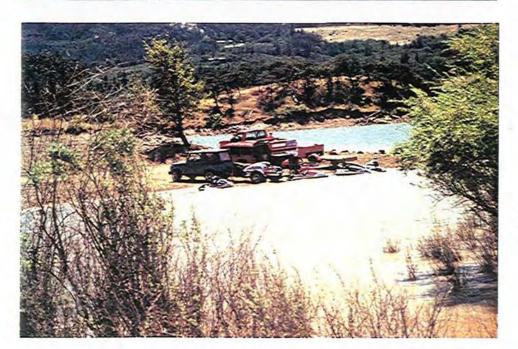
The County leases the "concert area" in the North End Park to individuals and organizations for self-promoted special events. Events of the past include an Independence Day celebration, a Blues Festival, and a Pow Wow.



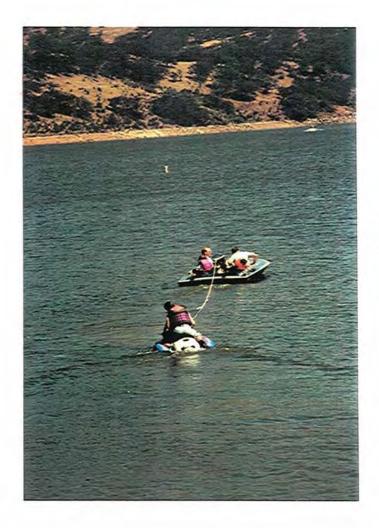
Group camping at the Point Campground.



Fishing near the dam. The top of the dam is visible to the left.



Unimproved boating access at Patrick Dunn area.



Sometimes you feel like a tow . . .



Sometimes you don't.

Fees and Reservations

The County charges a recreation fee for the use of the North End Park facilities. Although reservations are not required for use of the individual campsites, reservations are required for the group camps, the shelters, and special parties at the waterslide.

Dispersed Sites

Dispersed sites are recreation areas defined as sites with minimal facility or no facilities around the lake and outside the North End Park. The dispersed recreation sites are an important complement to the North End Park facilities. By using the many coves around the lake, visitors can gain a feeling of relative solitude just a short distance from the North End Park. Due to the diversity of natural features, the dispersed recreation areas provide opportunities for wildlife observation, nature study, hiking, boating, and fishing. This helps to distribute use, reduce user conflicts, and allow otherwise incompatible uses to take place at the same time. Dispersed-area use tends to be less concentrated, less noisy, and less intense compared to use at the North End Park.

Lack of sanitary facilities, trash receptacles, and designated parking areas in the dispersed areas has contributed to a decline in natural resource conditions. Visitors sometimes leave trash, use the nearest tree as an open-air restroom, and drive and park wherever possible and convenient. Additional management is needed to resolve these problems.

The dispersed recreation areas around the lake are important components of the overall recreation spectrum. Water-based uses, such as waterskiing, wind surfing, power boating, sailing, and boat fishing, occur throughout the lake area, but are supported and enhanced by a number of dispersed recreation sites along the shoreline. The quality of the recreation experience and the natural resources of the area could be enhanced if minimum basic facilities are provided at dispersed recreation sites.

Primary Dispersed Recreation Sites

Major features and uses of the dispersed recreation sites that are the most used are discussed below.

- Highway Saddle Dike: The Highway Saddle Dike area is easily accessed from Emigrant Lake Road. The Highway Saddle Dike provides vehicle access to a fenced parking/turn around area, pedestrian access to the shoreline, and an unimproved trail from the Saddle Dike along the shoreline to Hill Cemetery. The Highway Saddle Dike area is a small, calm inlet with a steep rocky shoreline and attractive views of the Hill Creek arm. It also provides an opportunity for viewing wildlife, water recreation, and dispersed day-use including picnicking, hiking, and bank fishing. A favorite activity at this site is walking dogs on the primitive trail between the dike and Cemetery area.
- Cemetery: The historic Dunn-Hill Cemetery is located on a picturesque knoll overlooking the lake to the west of the Highway Saddle Dike. It is accessed via Highway 66 across the Coaxial Cable Dike or by foot from the Saddle Dike area. Prior to vehicle closure in July 1993, ORV enthusiasts were allowed access to the lakebed via the Cemetery road when the water level recedes. Erosion, soil compaction, and loss of vegetation resulted from ORV use in the upland areas. Cemetery headstones and structures have been vandalized.

The Cemetery area is used for hiking, picnicking, bank fishing, and wildlife observation. There is pedestrian access from the Cemetery to the shoreline. Birdwatching and general wildlife observation opportunities are especially good just to the west of the cemetery at the toe of the Coaxial Cable Dike. The wetland area attracts shorebirds, songbirds, and other wildlife.

- Meadow: This area is located between the Coaxial Cable Dike area below the Cemetery and the north end of the Quarry. Access is gained from Highway 66 on a number of dirt roads. There is limited use at high water because of limited land space. Later in the season, as the water level recedes and land is exposed, the area is characterized by a flat, open shoreline. At that time the, area provides opportunities for bank fishing and other day-use activities. The area is a favorite of persons with ambulatory disabilities who wish to drive to the shoreline and fish. The somewhat protected, shallow waters also attract boat anglers.
- Quarry: This site is accessed from Highway 66. Vehicle shoreline access and an open parking area have been available since implementation of the interim closure of lands to ORV's. This traditional site of gatherings exhibits resource damage that

includes litter accumulation, fire damage, and soil compaction, and erosion due to ORV use. ORV use prior to the interim closure resulted in a network of trails, hill climbs, and primitive roadways. The County has placed barriers and signs to control vehicle access, but success has been variable.

The high elevation point provides a scenic overlook from which one can see across the lake, but shoreline access from the high point is not easy due to the steep slopes. The high elevation point is also a sensitive area for wildlife.

The cove formed by the quarry and surrounding area provides opportunities for sunbathing, swimming, picnicking, hiking, wildlife observation, and bank fishing.

- Old Highway 99: This area includes wetlands and other sensitive habitat and provides opportunities for wildlife observation and good fishing. It can be accessed from the Quarry parking lot and the former Siskiyou Highway (99) just off Highway 66. The latter access is dangerous because of a blind curve at the access intersection. This area is currently under an interim ORV restriction.
- Patrick Dunn Beach (End of Old Green Springs Highway):
 This gently rolling site is accessed from Highway 66 to the Old Green Springs Highway. The end of the highway now serves as an informal boat launch ramp early in the season. There appears to be adequate space for undesignated boat trailer and vehicle parking. The site serves boaters and visitors using the shoreline for day use activities and is a popular site for wind surfing and jet ski launching. Just north of this access point, the steep slope approaching Songer Butte is used for hang glider training.
- Songer Wayside: Songer Wayside is located to the east of Songer Butte in the Emigrant Creek arm and roughly opposite Sampson Creek. It is accessed from Highway 66. There are no facilities as restrooms and picnic tables have been removed due to vandalism. However, the portion of an old highway that leads into the lake is used as a primitive boat ramp. This road is in poor condition and the improvised boat ramp becomes unusable late in the season as lake level recedes. This site supports dayuse with convenient angler access but limited parking for boat trailers. Visitors use this area throughout the recreation season for bank fishing and other day use activities.

Secondary Dispersed Recreation Sites

Features and uses of the less commonly used sites for recreation are described below.

- Songer Point: Songer Point, accessible only by water, forms the point on the lake separating the Emigrant Creek and Hill Creek arms of Emigrant Lake. This site provides open views of the North End Park. Dispersed use consists of boat-in, day-use activities.
- Upper Emigrant Creek Arm: This area is accessible from the Sampson Creek road or by boat. The uppermost end attracts boat anglers seeking warmwater fish and provides opportunities for wildlife observation.
- Sampson Creek: This site is accessed via the Sampson Creek road. Use consists primarily of day-use bank fishing, sunbathing, wildlife observation, and rock climbing. Boat anglers can access this site from the water.
- Helms Cove (Cattle Creek): This gently sloping site, is accessible only by boat. It is protected from the wind and provides opportunities for boat-in day use, including picnicking, bank fishing, sunbathing, and wildlife observation.
- Emigrant Dam: The dam is located just east of the North End Park. It can be reached by boat or an unimproved trail starting at the Point or spillway. It is popular for bank fishing and rock climbing on the steep bluffs near the dam.
- The Point: This site, located south of the spillway, is actually a semi-developed site rather than a dispersed site. It is a drive-in or boat-in group camp site, with undeveloped parking, vault restrooms, and a wind protected tie-up area for boats. Parking at this site serves the group camp and visitors using the unimproved trail to the dam. Camping facilities at the Point offer a more primitive alternative to the developed camping facilities available in the North End Park.

Off-Road Vehicle Use

Prior to the current interim ORV closure, ORV use, including motorcycle riding, took place predominantly in the Hill Creek arm between the Cemetery area and the Quarry. Less use occurred at the Songer Wayside area due to steep slopes and the trees and brush that limited access. ORV's used a network of trails and primitive roadways in the uplands. Much of the use of the lakebed was centered around muddy areas near the tributaries and other low spots. Information on the numbers of ORV's is unavailable.

Since the late 1970's increased residential development and recreation use on adjacent land heightened conflicts with ORV use at the lake. A public notice to partially close lands to ORV use at Emigrant Lake was issued on January 25, 1984, reversing a 1978 decision to permit ORV use in three areas. Since 1984 the County has been unable to contain ORV use within the permitted areas. Growing public pressure, resource damage, and user conflicts prompted Reclamation and the County to reassess ORV use at the lake.

An interim ORV closure, banning ORV use on all Reclamation lands above the high waterline at Emigrant Lake, was put into effect on July 17, 1993. Some lands below the high waterline were closed earlier. These lands will remain closed to ORV use (see chapter 4).

ESTHETICS

Noise

Noise (generally defined as undesirable sound) can be annoying to visitors as well as wildlife. Unfortunately, the subjective interpretation of noise (e.g., annoyance, nuisance, and dissatisfaction) cannot be measured in a completely satisfactory way. This is primarily because of the wide variation in the individual thresholds of annoyance and the differential habituation to noise of individuals. One way of determining subjective reaction to a new noise is to compare it to the existing environment or the level to which an individual has adapted, the "ambient" noise level. In general, the more a new noise exceeds the ambient noise level, the less acceptable the new noise will be to those hearing it.

Constancy of sound is another factor. Most people adjust to a constant drone, even at elevated sound levels, and are less disturbed than by intermittent sounds with changes in pitch and loudness.

The general background sounds at Emigrant Lake have a rural quality. The background level is increased by intermittent noise from ORV use, motor boats, personal motor craft on the lake, and special events held at North End Park. Noise from other recreation activities at North End Park and the dispersed areas contribute to noise levels to a lesser degree.

Throughout the public comment process the issue of noise was brought up many times. Residents near Emigrant Lake and recreationists engaged in non-motorized activities are disturbed by the concert noises and vehicle noise during peak use periods.

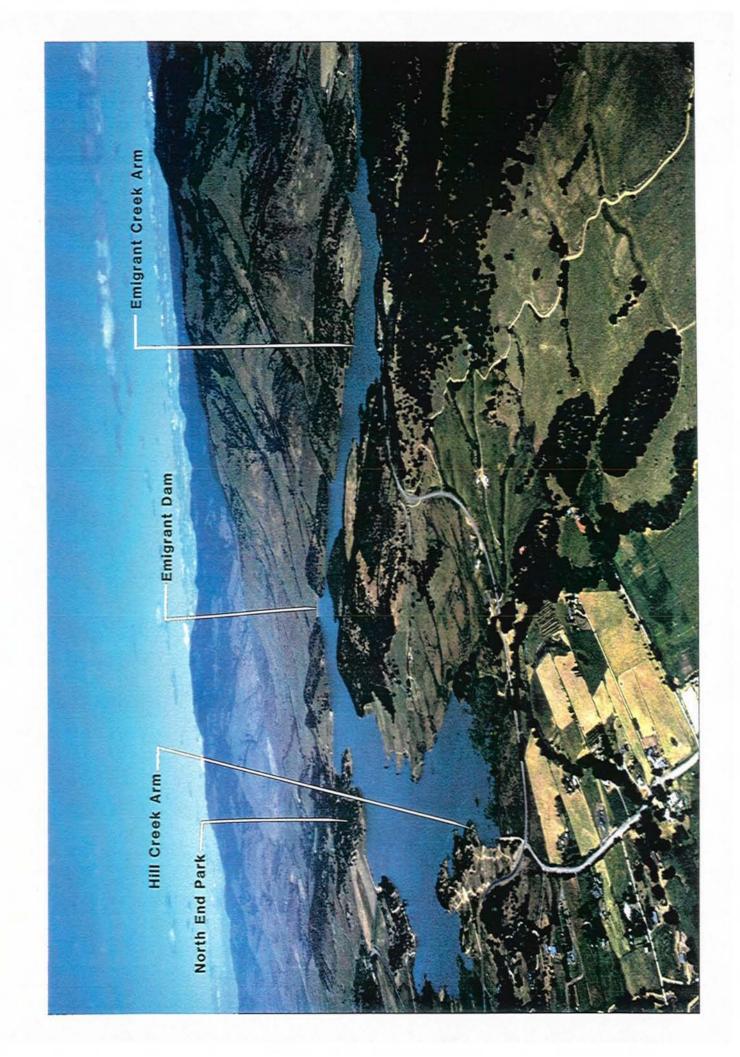
There are existing State noise limits for which violators can be cited but these limits have not been actively enforced. These state levels are based on long-term or persistent sound levels and do not address intermittent noise that can be disturbing at lower levels.

Obtrusive noise occurs generally at peak recreation use times during summer afternoons and weekends. Noise levels during these times are higher than noise levels in the mornings, on weekdays, and during off-season times. Longer hours of daylight, increased numbers of visitors, and an increased amount of motorized activities in the summer contribute to the higher noise levels. Higher numbers of visitors on the weekends tend to make weekends more noisy than weekdays.

During the off-season, generally October through April, noise levels are lower and there is little difference between weekdays and weekends.

Visual Resources

The two arms of Emigrant Lake have distinctly different visual characteristics (see photo). The eastern arm, Emigrant Creek, is very natural with a sense of remoteness. The foreground is characterized by steep grades of cobble shoreline and rock outcrops interrupted by small inlets where minor tributaries enter the lake. In some areas, rock outcrops block the view to the east and the oak-covered Songer Butte blocks the view to the west. Development of adjacent land is limited to the lower end of the arm and consists of pastures, a few ranch homes, power lines, and dirt roads. Where overland access is available, i.e.,



Songer Wayside and Sampson Creek, dispersed recreation activities leave little visual evidence of human presence. The slopes are less severe at the tributaries where sand deposits make the shoreline more appealing to boaters looking for isolated areas in which to picnic or fish.

The west arm, Hill Creek, is more developed. Wide meadows and beaches blend into the lake at the base of Songer Butte and steep knolls rise abruptly from the shoreline at the Quarry. Overall the shoreline grades are less severe than along the Emigrant Creek arm.

Atop an oak-dotted knoll is the Dunn-Hill Pioneer Cemetery which is highly visible and frequently visited. The Meadow area along Highway 66 is gently sloping with areas of thick willows. When the water recedes, wide expanses of beaches and mudflats are exposed. A deep cove, created by quarrying during construction of Emigrant Dam is tucked into the oak-covered cliffs just south of the Meadow. The southeastern side of the arm is flanked by the heavily wooded hillsides of Songer Butte which has a large meadow at the base and a wide beach along the shoreline.

The gentle slopes of the Hill Creek arm allow for a variety of access points to the shoreline from State Highway 66. ORV activities have created numerous dirt roads along the shoreline and hillsides resulting in visual scars. Overall, the combination of natural and human elements creates a mixed setting.

The most prominent visual impact as the lake is drawn down each summer for irrigation use is the "bathtub ring." By mid-summer, the ring is exposed and by fall much of the shallow mudflats in the upper reservoir arms are visible. Tributary streams eroding the bottom sediments cause the lake to turn a muddy brown in winter. This is especially noticeable during drought years when the lake is drawn down to a lower elevation.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Law enforcement services in the County are provided by the County Sheriff and the Oregon State Police (OSP). Incorporated cities in the County are required to provide at least a portion of their protection through municipal police while the rest of the County relies on the Sheriff and the OSP. The County Sheriff is authorized to enforce all Oregon statutes including those rules adopted by the Oregon State

Marine Board (OSMB) and ODFW. The OSP are authorized to enforce all state statutes, including those adopted by the OSMB and ODFW, without limitation by county or other political subdivision.

OSMB regulates the use of watercraft on waterways throughout the state. OSMB has the authority to adopt rules governing the operation of recreational watercraft including designating speed limits and prohibiting motorboats to protect fish and wildlife.

ODFW is responsible for developing and administrating fish and wildlife regulations affecting all lands within the state. ODFW monitors angling, hunting effort, and harvest and proposes regulatory changes as needed to ensure that optimum numbers of fish and wildlife are maintained.

Law enforcement on the lake is partially funded by OSMB and is conducted by the County Sheriff, State Police, and County Roads and Parks Services (formerly the Department of Public Works and Parks). All state and county laws and regulations are enforced including the rules and regulations in County Park Ordinances, Chapter 1064 since the entire study area has County Park status. The water surface is patrolled by a two-person Marine Patrol team from the last week in April until the level of boating is insignificant or through Labor Day. Responsibilities include ensuring a safe and healthful environment for public use; conducting safety inspections and placing and maintaining uniform waterway markers and navigational aids; ensuring compliance with fish, wildlife, boating traffic, environmental, and criminal regulations; and providing search and rescue services.

There are insufficient OSMB and County funds to place a marine patrol team on the lake full time. Patrol time is divided among Emigrant Lake, Howard Prairie Reservoir, and Hyatt Lake. Enforcement is present at high use periods such as weekends and 3-day holidays.

The Fish and Wildlife Division of the OSP dedicates one person to the Emigrant Lake area which encompasses Jackson County east of Interstate 5. OSP efforts at the lake consist of random license/angler checks and response to occasional hunting complaints. The patrol time is shared with Howard Prairie Reservoir and Hyatt Lake where fishery resources are greater and the number of complaints of illegal activity are higher.

Three full-time park rangers assigned to Emigrant Lake are authorized to issue citations for County Park Ordinance violations. The seasonal employees who collect fees at the Park are authorized to issue warnings for County Park Ordinance violations.

With the limited resources of County and OSP, illegal activities such as vandalism, underage drinking, illegal ORV use, and illegal drug activity continue to occur at Emigrant Lake. Many of the occurrences are at night in relatively secluded areas that are not cost effective to patrol regularly.

In early 1994, Reclamation entered into cost-share agreements with the County Sheriff and the OSP to increase law enforcement presence from April through Labor Day. This increased effort was in response to numerous complaints of illegal activities. The increased presence reduced the number of user problems around the lake during the recreation season, but problems still exist. Reclamation continued this law enforcement assistance during the 1995 recreation season.

LAND USE

Emigrant Lake and the surrounding 600 acres of Federal lands above high water are classified in the Jackson County Comprehensive Plan (JCCP) as Open Space Reserve and are currently used for recreational purposes. In 1993 the County officially designated all the lands around the lake as County Park land.

Grazing Leases

There are four grazing leases on approximately 200 acres of Reclamation land above the high waterline. The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) administers the grazing leases through their allotment program; however, none of the leases are active at this time. Several years ago, BLM and Reclamation agreed that the leases will be phased out. The allotments are described below.

- Hill Creek Allotment: BLM recommends cancellation as the lessee has failed to make use of the lease and has not paid since 1990.
- Greensprings Allotment: Lease was canceled in the spring of 1993 as lessee did not comply with lease requirements.

- Songer Butte Allotment: Lease is not active. Lessee sold in 1992, and the new buyers have been advised that Reclamation desires to eliminate the lease.
- Emigrant West Arm Allotment: Lessee died in 1989. A new lease has not been issued.

Adjacent Land Use

Lands adjacent to Federal lands at Emigrant Lake are in private ownership. The land uses are mainly agriculture (classified as Exclusive farm use in the JCCP) on the north, east, and southeast. These agriculture lands are characterized by large tracts used primarily for cattle grazing and hay production. The west and southwest lands are mainly residential (classified as farm residential and rural residential in the JCCP) and are characterized by residential and "hobby farm" development on plots ranging in size from 5 to 20 acres.

County Planning and Zoning is rezoning many of the small ownerships from exclusive farm use to residential and rural residential. The rezoning will allow additional residential development on the lands to the south and west of the reservoir.

Utilities

The County maintains a private sewage treatment facility used exclusively for the North End Park. The sewage facility is an aeration activated sludge package plant which can handle up to 50,000 gallons a day. There is an 8-inch diameter line that services the campground, three restrooms in the day use area, concessionaire building, water slide, ranger residence, park shop, and waste pumped from four vault units in the day-use area. The sewage system distributes discharge water onto a field located away from the day-use areas south of the spillway.

The other lands within the study area are not within any local sewage system. Residences and businesses around Emigrant Lake including the adjacent land owners use septic and drain field systems or maintain their own private systems.

Potable water services to the cities within Jackson County are provided through city-owned wells or treated water from local creeks. Potable water in the unincorporated areas of the County, including the nearby residences is provided by individual springs and wells. The County

maintains a 21,600-gallon-per-day water treatment plant in the North End Park. A 30-horsepower submersible pump, backed up with a 5-horsepower submersible pump provides lake water to the treatment facility. There are two 20,000-gallon potable water storage tanks which provide service to the campground, three restrooms, ranger residence, park shop, waterslide, and food concession. On peak-use days the water demand can exceed storage capacity.

The Talent Division of the Federal Rogue River Basin Project Irrigation District provides irrigation water for most farm and agricultural uses in the basin. Residential irrigation water is usually obtained from wells. The North End Park uses water from the lake for irrigation. Irrigation water is pumped from the lake and distributed through an automatic sprinkler system. There are 13 automatic sprinkler zones that service the landscaped and grass areas within the North End Park.

Electrical service to the North End Park was upgraded in 1980. Pacific Power and Light Company maintains an overhead primary service that terminates uphill behind the ranger residence. The County continues the primary service underground through the North End Park to four pad-mounted 75-kilovolt-ampere transformers.

OPERATIONAL COSTS AND INCOME

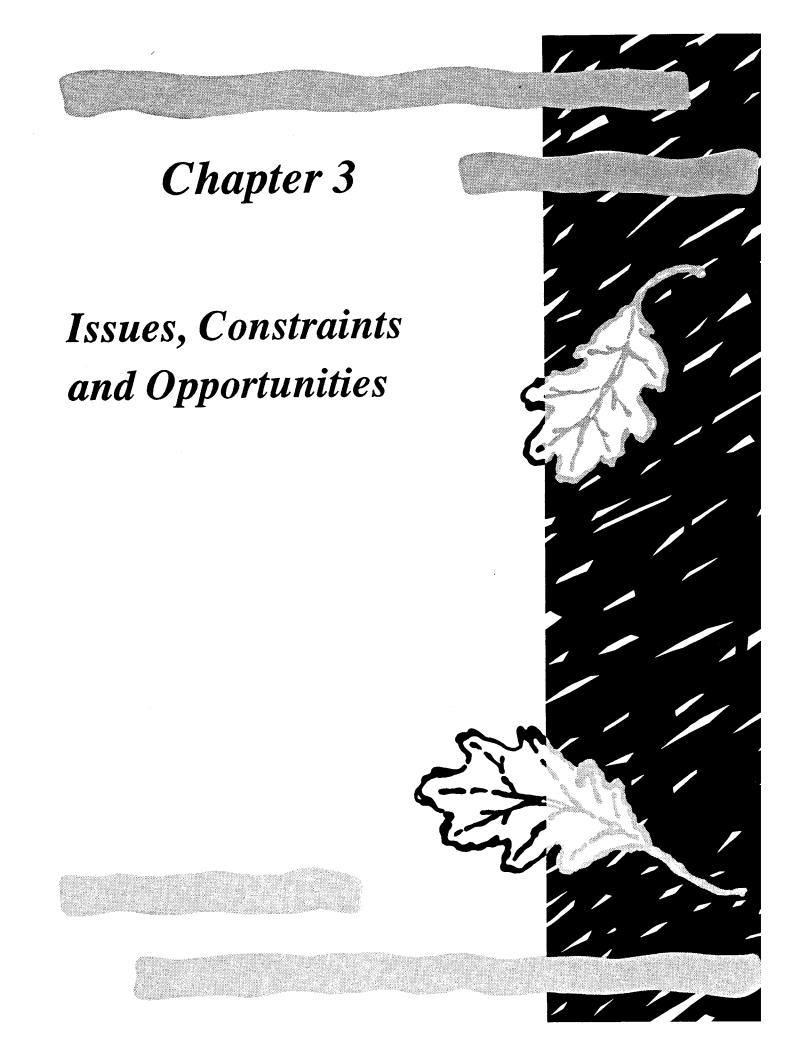
The County has a goal of a positive cash flow for the park program by the year 1998. Park revenue is generated from a variety of entrance and use fees collected during the recreation season as well as other sources. Operational costs are associated with the day-to-day operation and maintenance of facilities, year-round upgrade and maintenance of recreation and support facilities, and salaries for full-time and seasonal park staff.

The Park Manager develops estimates of operating costs based on historic costs and projected increases and requests funds for operation. However, the operation budget is based primarily on the revenue estimate. Costs and revenues are monitored throughout the year. If costs appear to be exceeding estimated revenue, staff hours are reduced and other changes are made to reduce costs. Deficits in operating costs have been made up from OSMB grants, RV tax monies, and other special programs. If revenue exceeds the cost estimate, additional maintenance and upgrades may be made.

Capital improvements have been made through the use of OSMB and ODFW grants.

Park fees are shown in table 2-6

| Table 2-6.—North End Park Fees | | | |
|---|--------|--|--|
| Item | Fee | Comment | |
| Season Pass | \$25 | Entry to all Jackson County Parks, \$1 off daily camping fee at Jackson County campgrounds | |
| Day-use Entry | \$3 | Good that day only | |
| Waterslide | \$4.00 | 10-ride ticket, transferable, all day | |
| | \$7 | Unlimited rides for 3 hours (Noon to 3:00 p.m. or 3:00 to 6:00 p.m.) | |
| | \$7 | Group special for 2-1/2 hours | |
| | \$8.75 | Birthday special (all day pass) | |
| Waterslide Reservation (per day) | \$140 | For 20 people | |
| | \$7 | Each additional person | |
| Campground (per day) | \$12 | 2 adults, \$2 discount for seniors | |
| | \$2 | Each additional person | |
| | \$1 | Each pet | |
| Shelter A (per day) | \$125 | Friday-Sunday & holidays | |
| \$62.5 | | Monday-Thursday | |
| Shelters B, C, and D (per shelter per day) | \$150 | Friday-Sunday & holidays | |
| | \$75 | Monday-Thursday | |
| Shelter F | \$40 | Friday-Sunday & holidays | |
| | \$20 | Monday-Thursday | |
| Group Camp #1 & #2 (per camp) | \$95 | First night | |
| | \$80 | Each additional night | |
| Game bags | \$5 | | |
| Volleyballs (per hour) | \$0.50 | | |
| Horseshoes (per hour) | \$0.50 | | |



CONCERNS AND ISSUES

A major concern voiced at the early public meetings was that management efforts should focus on maintenance and protection of existing facilities rather than development of new facilities. Another concern was the amount of resource damage caused by uncontrolled use of ORV's. General concerns and specific issues identified during the planning process include the following:

- Protection and conservation of natural resources.
- Limiting or eliminating ORV use.
- Reducing boating conflicts (motorized versus non-motorized) and improving safety.
- Reducing noise from concerts, jet boats, and ORV's.
- Assuring land use compatibility.
- Providing adequate park staff presence and law enforcement.
- Maintaining opportunities for passive uses.
- Maintaining shoreline vehicular access for fishing and other uses.
- Addressing commercial development.
- Making the operation of Emigrant Lake financially selfsufficient.

The majority of these concerns result from increased recreational demands on a small body of water and a limited land base.

¹Passive refers to those activities that are generally unobtrusive in the environment such as walking, fishing, photography, etc.

CONSTRAINTS

Emigrant Lake is operated for irrigation water supply and flood control under existing authorities. Under these authorities the runoff from upstream is stored or released as needed to reduce downstream flooding and to meet irrigation needs. The operation of the reservoir is not a subject of this RMP. As a result, the changing water level is a major constraint to potential fish and wildlife enhancement, recreation development, and other uses of the water surface and surrounding lands.

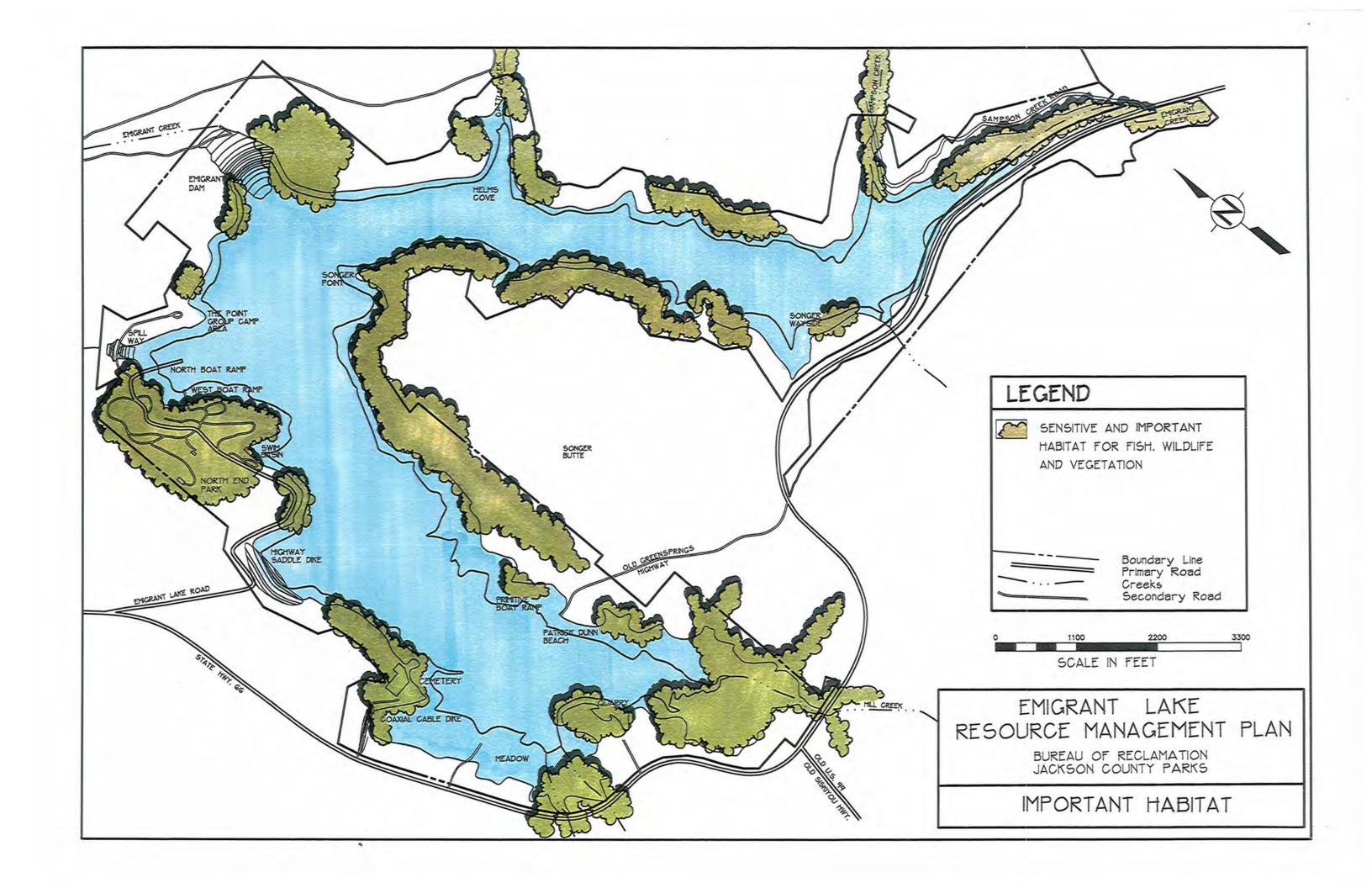
Federal laws require that Federal lands be managed for protection of cultural resources and enhancement of ESA listed species. At Emigrant Lake, protection of bald eagles from disturbance, particularly at perch sites, may limit some recreation activities. In addition there are several Federal Candidate Species, found at the lake. Actions that would adversely affect these species would not be allowed. All actions in important habitat areas (see Important Habitat Map) will need to consider potential effects to ESA and Federal Candidate Species. Historic and cultural resources identified at Emigrant Lake will require protective actions that may limit some other uses.

Monetary constraints (Federal, State, and County) are likely to limit some actions at Emigrant Lake.

OPPORTUNITIES

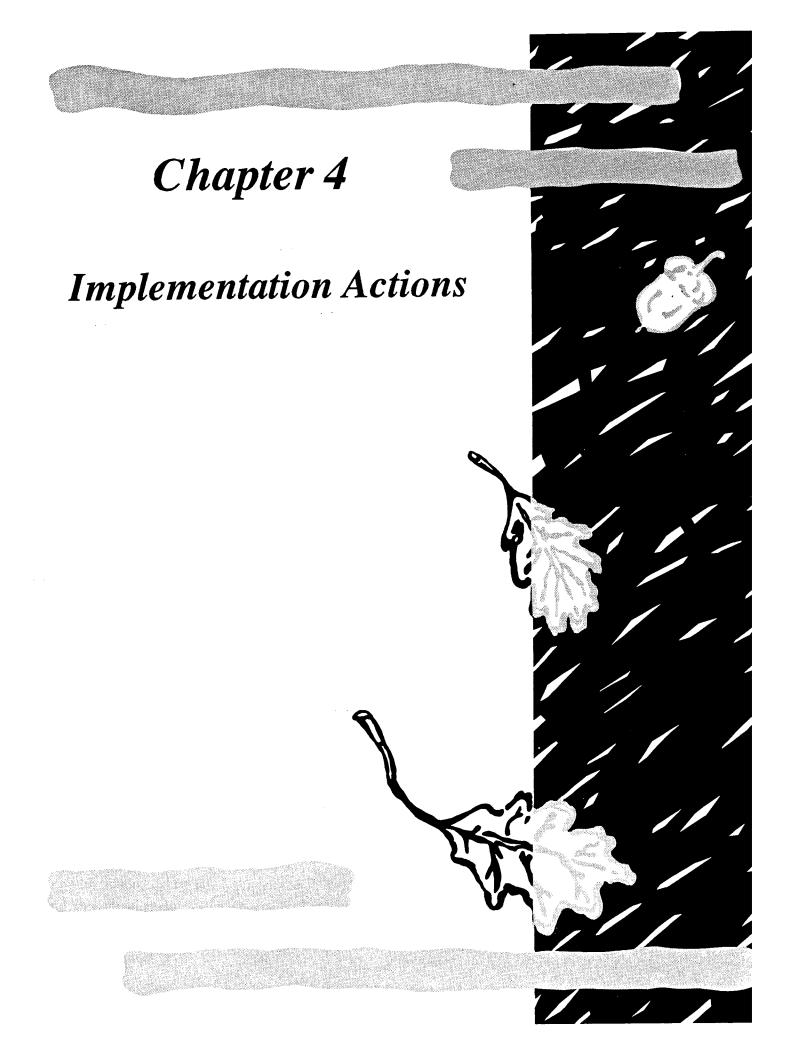
Limiting some land-use activities to specific areas will result in improvements to native vegetation and wildlife around the lake. Limiting or eliminating the use of ORV's, which cause land scarring, erosion, and loss of vegetation, and limiting or eliminating livestock grazing are potentials to improve wildlife habitat.

Educating the public on Federal land boundaries, wildlife, protected species, cultural resources, and enhancement measures, through signs, brochures, and maps could lead to a greater acceptance of some management measures.



Changes could be made in activities in the North End Park to improve safety. Physically separating boating activities, launching and take out, from the swimming areas will increase swimmer safety. There may be other opportunities to reduce user conflict by carefully scheduling activities or limiting activities to specific areas.

There appear to be opportunities for sharing the costs of the actions with other Federal, State, or local agencies that could provide the County with enhanced management of the lands.



PLAN DEVELOPMENT

This chapter describes the RMP that was developed by Reclamation and the County through the public involvement activities identified in chapter 1. Reclamation and the County will jointly implement the RMP; however, implementation of all actions is subject to the availability of funds.

Reclamation has a general responsibility to manage the lands under its jurisdiction in accordance with existing laws, policy, and guidelines. Major objectives include protecting fish, wildlife, and biodiversity; preserving the environmental and cultural values of historical places; and providing for outdoor recreation. These objectives must be met in an environmentally and economically sound manner.

Where Reclamation lands are directly managed by others for recreation (i.e., Jackson County), Reclamation exercises oversight responsibility to ensure that the management entity fulfills all aspects of the approved RMP.

Identification of public concerns and issues was a first step in developing the RMP for Emigrant Lake. From these concerns four major goals for the RMP were identified:

- Determine the most appropriate uses for all the Reclamation lands around Emigrant Lake, considering the use of the adjacent private lands.
- Explore ways to enhance and protect natural and cultural resources on these lands.
- Identify long-term management programs that address public health and safety, fish and wildlife, and recreation.
- Identify opportunities for the County management and operation to be financially self-sufficient.

The second step was to identify potential actions that could address concerns and resolve identified problems. The third step was to select those actions that were widely accepted, could be implemented without serious conflicts, and were consistent with existing policy, laws, project purposes, and plan goals. Pursuant to NEPA requirements, potential effects of these selected actions were analyzed and the results published

in a Draft Environmental Assessment in May 1995. An FEA/FONSI was completed in September 1995.

Action items developed to guide future management and development generally fit into two broad categories (1) protection and enhancement of natural and cultural resources and (2) management and development of recreation. Many of the action items are highly specific while others are very broad or are intended to develop additional specific actions. For example, there are action items to develop a fish and wildlife management plan, a vegetation management plan, an access control plan, and a multiple-use trail plan. Some specific action items that fit under the umbrella of these plans have already been identified and are listed as action items in this RMP. However, additional specific actions are expected to be identified as these plans are developed.

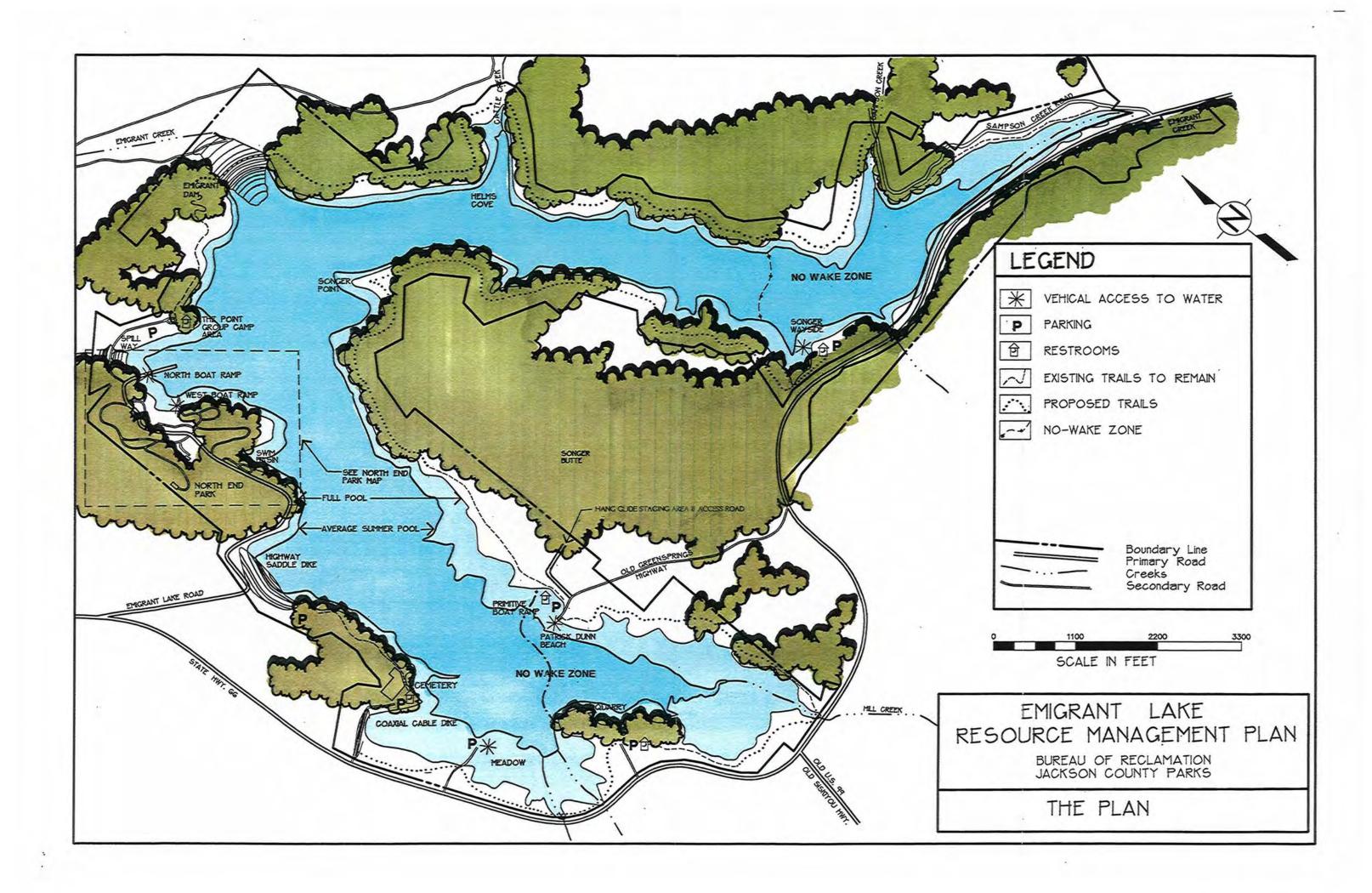
This RMP assumes that the existing rules and regulations of Jackson County for management of Emigrant Lake Park will continue to be applied except where otherwise indicated. A list of these rules and regulations is included as attachment B.

In addition, management of Reclamation lands must comply with:

- NEPA, ESA, and other environmental regulations for sitespecific actions.
- The 1968 Architectural Barriers Act (Pub. Law 90-480).
- Section 504 of the 1973 Rehabilitation Act (Pub. Law 93-112) as amended.
- The 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act (Pub. Law 101.336).

RMP action items are divided into the following categories:

- Bald Eagles
- Cultural Resources
- Fish and Wildlife
- Vegetation
- Access Control
- Public Information
- Trail System
- Recreation Site Development
- Other



The action items identified within the following sections are generally listed from the highest priority to lowest priority based on discussions with County personnel and Reclamation technical disciplines. Legal requirements, need, funding required, and fund availability were the primary factors used in establishing priorities.

BALD EAGLES

A major issue at Emigrant Lake is the protection of the bald eagles that use the lake area (see "Threatened and Endangered Species" discussion in chapter 2). Bald eagles are protected under the ESA. Although the eagles do not nest at the lake, they feed at the lake and perch in nearby trees. Reclamation is required under the ESA to avoid or minimize impacts to bald eagles and to protect their habitat. Actions intended to accomplish these goals include:

- Implement the BEMP developed by the OEF (see attachment C). This includes following the BEMP recommendations with regard to recreation development.
- Identify and protect important bald eagle habitat consistent with the BEMP.
- Continue monitoring bald eagles through nesting season and during the winter. The intensity and extent of monitoring will depend on available funds and cooperative arrangements with other entities.
- (See also "Impoundment" under "Fish and Wildlife.")

CULTURAL RESOURCES

A major requirement for management of Federal lands is the protection of cultural resources including archeological, historic, and Native American resources (see "Cultural Resources" discussion in chapter 2). Prehistoric, historic, and cultural resource sites have been identified, and several sites are not eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. However additional work is needed to determine if six sites are eligible for listing. Sites found to be eligible for listing require more intense efforts to preserve, record, or mitigate damage. The following action items are intended to help protect cultural resources:

- To the extent possible, Reclamation will avoid disturbing cultural resource sites that may be eligible for listing on the National Register. If avoidance is not possible, mitigating measures consisting of testing, extensive recording, fencing, or excavation will be implemented.
- Monitor sites for damage and develop a program for monitoring sites during drawdown.
- Seek partnerships with SOSC for periodic monitoring of drawdown areas and known sites.
- Seek funds for programmatic site management and possible test excavations on sites that may be eligible for the National Register and are being damaged by ongoing land use.
- Complete a Cultural Resources Management Plan for those sites which are found to be eligible for listing on the National Register.

FISH AND WILDLIFE

Preservation and protection of natural resources including protection and enhancement of fish and wildlife resources were identified as the number one concern in public involvement activities (see "Public Involvement" in chapter 1). Protecting fish, wildlife, and biodiversity is a major objective in the management of all Federal lands. The following actions addressed this commitment:

- Establish and enforce a no-wake zone in upper Hill Creek and Emigrant Creek arms of the lake.
- Evaluate feasibility of constructing an impoundment for wildlife habitat in upper Hill Creek. Pursue if feasible.
- Develop a Fish and Wildlife Management Plan that includes funding sources and an implementation schedule.
- Evaluate and pursue fish and wildlife enhancement measures such as goose nest boxes, fish habitat structures etc.
- Conduct inventories of special status wildlife in cooperation with ODFW, SOSC, and volunteers.

• Explore and pursue fish and wildlife cost-share opportunities and other environmental restoration partnerships with ODFW, SOSC, and other non-Federal entities.

VEGETATION (INCLUDING WILDLIFE HABITAT)

Management of vegetation for enhancement of wildlife habitat, erosion control, and esthetics is a major natural resource conservation goal. Management activities focused on this goal also affect and are affected by actions to preserve and enhance fish and wildlife, to control human access, and to provide for recreation. The following actions were identified:

- Modify grazing management to eliminate existing grazing leases, but allow for temporary short-term grazing leases for weed control, wildlife habitat enhancement, etc. The County will manage leased areas. (See "Land Use" in chapter 2)
- Cooperate with other agencies to control noxious weeds using Integrated Pest Management practices.
- Develop a Vegetation Management Plan that includes funding sources and an implementation schedule.
- Conduct inventories of special status plants in cooperation with ODFW, SOSC, and volunteers.
- Conduct surveys for the southern Oregon buttercup and white meconella prior to development or expansion of recreation facilities in potential habitat areas.
- Avoid sensitive and important vegetation communities and wildlife habitat, including riparian and wetland areas, when developing recreation improvements.

ACCESS CONTROL

A major issue at Emigrant Lake is the control of motorized vehicles which can damage vegetation, decrease wildlife habitat values, and cause soil erosion (see "Off-Road Vehicle Use" in chapter 2). Use of

motorized vehicles increases the noise level, and off-road use decreases esthetic values. In some cases there are problems with recognition of the boundary between Reclamation lands and private lands. However, vehicle access to the shoreline needs to be maintained to launch boats (boating is a major recreation activity at Emigrant Lake Park) and to provide fishing access for others. Unlimited pedestrian access can decrease natural resource values and is addressed primarily under the "Trail System" category. The following actions address issues related to motorized vehicle use:

- Prohibit ORV use on all Reclamation lands—exposed lakebed and lands above the high waterline.
- Formally change official ORV policy to reflect total closure.
- Clearly mark the Reclamation boundary. Fence if needed.
- Limit shoreline vehicle access to designated roads. (See site specific discussions).
- Identify parking boundaries at the Highway Saddle Dike, Cemetery, Meadow, Quarry, Patrick Dunn Beach, and Songer Wayside areas.
- Develop an Access Control Plan that includes funding sources and an implementation schedule.
- Include features such as water bars to minimize soil erosion on vehicle access routes.
- See also "Public Information" below.

PUBLIC INFORMATION

The County has developed rules and regulations for use of Emigrant Lake Park (see attachment B) focused on protection of natural and cultural resources and safety and health issues. Although some law enforcement is provided by OSMB and the State Police, there is heavy reliance on voluntary compliance. In many cases, violation of rules and regulations is due to a lack of knowledge, appreciation of natural and cultural resources, and recognition of possible harmful effects of individual actions. Access to information on natural and cultural resources and effects of harmful actions can increase voluntary compliance and reduce environmental damage. Much of this

information can be in the form of regulatory and informational signs. The following actions will help provide such information:

- Develop a design to be followed for all signs at Emigrant Lake.
- Install access and park information signs at recreation sites and key road intersections. Signs should include information on ORV policy and alternative use areas in Jackson County.
- Install environmental awareness and education signs at primary access points. Signs should include information on protection of cultural resources.
- Provide information maps and brochures. Brochures should specifically provide information on protection of cultural resources and the ORV closure policy.

TRAIL SYSTEM

An important part of recreation at Emigrant Lake is walking, running, and horseback riding for pleasure, viewing wildlife, and traveling from vehicle parking areas to areas not open to motorized vehicles. These activities need to be controlled to avoid damage to cultural and natural resources and to avoid adverse impacts to bald eagles. Formal development of multiple-use trails can provide esthetic and other benefits to users. The following actions address these concerns:

- Manage existing trails as a first priority and develop new trails as a second priority.
- Trails should include features such as water bars to minimize soil erosion.
- Develop a multiple-use trail plan that identifies priorities, funding sources, cooperative groups, and an implementation schedule.
- Develop loops around the lake and connect with other trail systems.
- Establish a volunteer program for trail and recreation facility development and rehabilitation,

RECREATION SITE DEVELOPMENT

The major recreation development at Emigrant Lake is the North End Park (see "Recreation" in chapter 2). Because of the concentration of visitors at this site, the potential for health, safety, and user-conflict problems is probably highest at this location. Clear regulations are needed to minimize problems.

Safety issues and conflict among users is caused by a limited water surface area and a high demand for boating activities during the prime recreation season. There are several actions that could resolve this problem. The RMP addresses this issue by limiting available parking and boat launching areas around the lake.

Development at dispersed recreation sites will remain severely limited due to public concerns for protecting natural and cultural resources, management of noise and user conflicts, and maintaining non-motorized access. Shoreline access for fishing and other uses will be maintained at primitive sites but vehicle access will be controlled (see also the "Access Control" section).

Future development of recreation facilities at Emigrant Lake Park will be regulated by the following criteria:

- Base the demand for recreation facilities on the Oregon SCORP and/or County use figures.
- Development of facilities must be publicly supported and is subject to public involvement.
- Facility development shall not exceed the carrying capacity of the land and water surface. General carrying capacity limitations will be determined by assessing safety, visitor experience, user conflicts, and natural resource conditions.
- Facility development must be compatible with existing uses, and potential impacts to adjacent private lands must be addressed.
- Facility development will meet the goals of the RMP.
- Facility development and use will complement the recreation opportunities presently available at the lake.

- Sites for new facility development must be able to sustain such use and be in compliance with all applicable Federal, State, and local regulations, laws, and policies.
- New facility development will be open to the general public; private exclusive-use development will not be allowed.
- Development and use of such facilities must not create safety hazards, limit access, or exacerbate existing safety concerns, i.e., emergency vehicle access, user conflicts, etc.
- Development of facilities will not invite use which could result in noise levels that exceed acceptable State noise standards.
- The County will demonstrate financial ability to develop, operate, and maintain facilities in accordance with Reclamation's Concessions Policy and in a manner that does not detract from the County's ability to operate and maintain existing facilities. This will include, but not be limited to, the ability to adequately monitor use and enforce applicable regulations.

Actions that should be taken at all recreation sites include the following:

- Best Management Practices will be employed at all recreation improvements to prevent erosion and surface water runoff.
- Areas disturbed by construction will be revegetated where feasible.
- Additional recreation facilities will be designed to blend into the surrounding environment and will use native plants for revegetation and landscaping.
- Facilities will meet the accessibility guidelines of the Americans with Disabilities Act and Uniform Federal Accessibility Standards.

North End Park

The following actions address most of the concerns at the North End Park:

Prohibit swimming at North End Park boat ramps. Establish a
designated swimming area nearby, install signs, and a floating rope
to keep boats out of the swimming area.

- Allow overflow trailer parking in designated area south of the spillway.
- Allow special events but consider public health and safety.
- Assure that emergency services, traffic congestion, and noise are not problems.
- Limit musical concerts to 4,500 tickets.
- Schedule no more than five special events per year.
- Special events on holidays must be compatible with other park uses.
- Prohibit sale of alcohol or implement an Alcohol Management Program.

Dispersed Sites

Development at dispersed sites will generally be limited to (1) marking and improving vehicle and boat trailer parking areas to avoid damage to the surrounding area and (2) providing accessible restrooms. Trash pick up will not be provided at these sites, and a pack in/pack out program will be promoted through public information activities. Anticipated development and changes at dispersed sites are summarized below.

- Highway Saddle Dike.
 - Designate a parking area.
 - Allow pedestrian shoreline access.
 - Pack in/pack out trash.
- Cemetery.
 - Designate a parking area.
 - Allow pedestrian shoreline access.
 - Construct an accessible restroom.
 - Pack in/pack out trash.

Meadow.

- Allow vehicle shoreline access.
- Pack in/pack out trash.

Quarry.

- Allow parking for Quarry & Hill Creek areas.
- Allow pedestrian shoreline access (Quarry & Hill Creek areas).
- Construct an accessible restroom.
- Pack in/pack out trash.
- Old Highway 99.
 - No parking allowed.
 - No facilities allowed.
 - Allow pedestrian shoreline access from Quarry.
 - Pack in/pack out trash.

Patrick Dunn Beach.

- Allow limited vehicle shoreline access.
- Designate a trailer parking area.
- Construct accessible restrooms.
- Pack in/pack out trash.
- Allow primitive boat launching (no improvements allowed).
- Permit use of the primitive access road at hang gliding area, issue permit year to year to maintain road and pick up trash.

Songer Wayside.

- Designate a parking area.
- Allow vehicle shoreline access.
- Construct accessible restrooms.
- Pack in/pack out trash.
- Allow primitive boat launching (no improvements allowed).

OTHER ITEMS

A few action items identified for the RMP do not fit in the other categories. These include:

- Remove debris and refuse from north quarry and other areas.
- Develop a monitoring program to evaluate user conflicts that occur on the lake surface. Implement further restrictions if needed.
- Reclamation will continue to cost share with the County and State to provide enforcement service as funds are available.

IMPLEMENTATION

The action items identified in the RMP will be implemented for the most part by the County as funding is available from County or other sources. The County will seek cost sharing arrangements with Federal, State, and local agencies including Reclamation, ODFW, OSMB, and USFWS. The County will also seek to involve the local community and organizations in implementing some of the actions. Local public schools, youth organizations, environmental groups, the Audubon Society, and the SOSC have been identified as entities which may provide volunteer help. Reclamation will help implement actions items as funds become available. The implementation timeframe will be adjusted according to funding availability.

Enforcement of current rules and regulations is a continuing, ongoing activity (see attachment B).

Table 4-1 identifies items to be implemented over the next 3 years, the agency responsible for implementation, funding source, and timeframe for completion.

| Table 4-1.—Near-Term Implementation | | | | | |
|---|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------|----------|----------|
| | | Potential | Timeframe | | ıe |
| Item | Implementing Agency ¹ | Funding Sources ¹ | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 |
| Meadow area—allow shoreline access | С | С | | | |
| Establish no-wake zones for 1996 season | С | C, MB | | | |
| Close all lands to ORV use and publish notice in Federal Register | C, R | C, R | | | |
| Access Control Plan | | | | | |
| Develop plan | С | C, R | | | |
| Implement plan | С | C, R | | | |
| Erect access signs | С | С | | | |
| Remove debris | С | С | | | |
| Develop maps and brochures | С | C, R | | | - |
| Fish and Wildlife Plan | <u> </u> | | | | |
| Develop | C, R | C, F, OF, R | | | |
| Implement | C, R | C, F, OF | | | |
| Upper Hill Creek impoundmen | ıt | | | | <u> </u> |
| Evaluate potential and develop plans | C, R | C, F, OF, R | | | |
| Construct, if feasible | Not known | C, F, OF, R | | | |
| Trails | | | | . | <i>'</i> |
| Develop plan for multiple- use trails | С | C, R | | | |
| Construct | С | C, R | | | |
| North End Park, establish new swimming area | С | С | | | |
| Cemetery restroom and parking | С | C, R | | | |

| Table 4-1.—Near-Term Implementation | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------|------|------|
| | Implementing | Potential | Timeframe | | ıe |
| Item | Implementing Agency ¹ | Funding Sources ¹ | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 |
| Old Highway 99 fencing | С | C, R | | | |
| Songer Wayside | | | | | |
| Restroom | С | C, R | | | |
| Parking | С | C, R | | | |
| Patrick Dunn | | | | | |
| Parking | С | C, R, MB | | | |
| Restroom | С | C, R | | | |
| Quarry | | | -1 | • | |
| Parking | С | C, R | | | |
| Restroom | С | C, R | | | |
| Vegetation Management Plan—develop | С | C, R | | | |

¹C=Jackson County, F=U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, MB=Oregon State Marine Board, OF=Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, R=Bureau of Reclamation



Attachment A—Public Involvement

In 1991 the County began developing a master plan that focused on increasing the recreational development around Emigrant Lake. Reclamation was asked to participate because of the NEPA requirements for planning related to Federal lands. The County and Reclamation initiated public involvement at that time.

Early Meetings

Two sets of public meetings to identify issues and concerns and to present proposed alternatives for the future use of the lands around the Lake were conducted by the County in late 1991. The County's alternatives focused on a range of additional recreation facilities.

Significant public opposition to additional recreation development at the lake was voiced at the meetings. In fact, many people commented that the existing facilities and natural resources should be better maintained and protected instead of developing new facilities. It was apparent from these early public meetings that a range of alternatives was needed to address these issues.

User Preference Survey

In cooperation with the SOSC, Reclamation conducted a user preference survey at the Emigrant Lake during the 1993 summer season. Analysis of the survey indicated that lake users preferred picnicking, boating, water slide use, fishing, and swimming. Users appreciate the lake most because it is convenient, has high quality facilities, and the lake is scenic. Most users indicated that they were satisfied with their visits to the lake. When asked what they thought the primary lake management issues were, the majority of the users said "nothing." Others indicated concerns that included (1) crowding of recreation facilities/area and a need for additional facilities, (2) poor water quality, and (3) vandalism of facilities or unacceptable visitor behavior.

UPDATE¹

Reclamation prepared a list of Federal, State, and local agencies; other entities; and individuals that might be interested in participating in planning activities. This list included individuals that had previously participated in County activities and others that indicated an

¹A newsletter created by Reclamation

interest. To provide information to the public and provide an opportunity to comment, two *UPDATE* newsletters were prepared and mailed to individuals and entities included on the participation interest list.

The September 1993 *UPDATE* provided information on planning activities and included a questionnaire that could be filled out and returned to Reclamation. The brochure asked recipients to fill out the form on issues and return it to Reclamation. About 100 responses were received. Tabulation of the responses indicated that the following issues, listed in priority, were of importance to those responding:

- 1. Protection and conservation of natural resources.
- 2. Limiting or restricting ORV's.
- 3. Management of boating conflicts and safety; motorized versus non-motorized.
- 4. Management of noise (concerns range from jet boats to concerts).
- 5. Assuring land use compatibility.
- 6. Adequate management capability (for law enforcement, park management, etc.).
- 7. Maintaining opportunities for passive¹ uses.
- 8. Maintaining shoreline access for fishing.
- 9. Commercial development (support and opposition).

A March 1994 *UPDATE* provided information on alternatives developed with the assistance of a citizens advisory group (see next section). The alternatives included two action alternatives and a No Action Alternative required for analysis of potential effect of the action alternatives. About 75 responses were received which led to the formulation of a third action alternative, the Preferred Alternative.

Citizen/Agency Focus Group

In December 1993, the Reclamation planning team met with a variety of citizens and agencies to discuss future management of the Federal lands around the Emigrant Lake. In addition to Federal, State, and local agencies, private interests in land and water motorized uses, land and water non-motorized uses, environmental/conservation, commercial development, adjacent landowners, and general users of Emigrant Lake were represented. The group confirmed the issues and concerns previously identified and further identified issues and actions to consider in developing alternatives management plans. Participants are listed in table 4-1.

¹Passive is used to denote unobtrusive activities such as walking, picnicking, bank fishing, non-motorized boating, photography, etc.

| Table A-1.—Focus Group Participants | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|--|
| Individual | Agency, Entity, or Interest Represented | | |
| Pam Barlow | Ashland Public Works | | |
| Gene Daly | Non-motorized uses | | |
| Bob Ferreria | Motorized uses | | |
| Steve Flynn | Dean of Students, Southern Oregon State College | | |
| Laura Gallo | Jackson County Public Works and Parks | | |
| Stella Gardner | User-at-large | | |
| Steve Gries | Ashland City Parks and Recreation | | |
| Sue James | Oregon Department of Water Resources | | |
| David Koch | Student Body President, Southern Oregon State College | | |
| Paul Korbulic | Jackson County Public Works and Parks | | |
| Brian Motsue | (consultant) | | |
| Ken Munroe | Park and Recreation Advisory Committee | | |
| Dennis Nicholas | Jackson County Public Works and Parks | | |
| Bill Robinson | Fishing access and physically challenged access | | |
| Sgt. Ron Parker | Jackson County Sheriff | | |
| Bob Staal | Conservation, adjacent landowner | | |
| Debbie Timms | Jackson County Planning | | |
| Conny Van de Pol | Conservation, user-at-large | | |
| Simon Wray | Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife | | |

Open House

On March 17, 1994, approximately 80 members of the public attended an open house in Ashland hosted by Reclamation and the County. The purpose of the open house was to answer questions and discuss, in an informal setting, the draft alternatives presented in the March 1994 *UPDATE*.

Attachment B—Existing Rules and Regulations for Emigrant Lake Park

CHAPTER 1064 Parks Generally

| 1064.01 | Definitions. | 1064.10 | Fires. |
|---------|----------------------------|---------|----------------------------|
| 1064.02 | Closure of parks; use | 1064.11 | Boating. |
| | limitations. | 1064.12 | Garbage and rubbish; |
| 1064.03 | Fee, permit and limitation | | littering. |
| | schedules. | 1064.13 | Property destruction. |
| 1064.04 | Revocation of permits; | 1064.14 | Peddlers and solicitors; |
| • | eviction. | | advertising; signs. |
| 1064.05 | Use of vehicles. | 1064.15 | Peace disturbances. |
| 1064.06 | Animals. | 1064.16 | Miscellaneous regulations. |
| 1064.07 | Wildlife; hunting. | 1064.17 | Registered owner as |
| 1064.08 | Weapons and explosives. | | violator. |
| 1064.09 | Camping. | 1064.99 | Penalty. |

CROSS REFERENCES

Parks and recreation areas generally - see ORS 275.320 et seq., 275.990

Acquisition of jurisdiction by State - see ORS 366.205 Bear Creek, Jackson County - see ORS 390.250 et seq.; P. & Z. Ch. 1228

Fairgrounds - see ORS 565.230; S.U. & P.S. Ch. 1066 Parks and Recreation Department - see ADM. Ch. 231 Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee - see ADM. Ch. 277

1064.01 DEFINITIONS.

As used in this chapter:

- (a) "County park" means:
 - (1) An area owned and designated by the County for public park purposes; or
 - (2) An area owned by some other public entity but used and operated by the County for public park purposes.
- (b) "Horse" includes mules, donkeys and other rideable animals.
- (c) "Parks and Recreation Department" means the County Parks and Recreation Department and its officers, agents and employees.
- (d) "Vehicle" means every device in, upon or by which any person or property is or may be transported upon a roadway.

 (Ord. 80-15. Passed 8-13-80.)

1064.02 CLOSURE OF PARKS; USE LIMITATIONS.

- (a) The Parks and Recreation Department is hereby authorized to close to public use any County park or portion thereof, restrict the times when the same shall be open to such use and limit or prohibit any recreational use whenever such action is necessary to protect the health or safety of the public or the safety of the park or its facilities. Causes for park closure or limitations on park use include, but are not limited to, fire hazard, dangerous weather or water conditions, sanitary protection of the watershed, park construction or repairs, conservation of fish and wildlife, excessive boat traffic, unsafe or overcrowded shoreline, ramp, parking or road conditions, the prevention of damage to the park or any of its facilities or any dangerous, unsafe or unhealthful condition.
- (b) Park closure for all day use areas shall occur at sunset unless otherwise posted.
- (c) No person shall enter any County park or area which has been closed if notice of prohibited entry has been posted. (Ord. 80-15. Passed 8-13-80.)

1064.03 FEE, PERMIT AND LIMITATION SCHEDULES.

- (a) All fees, permits and occupancy or time limitations issued by the Parks and Recreation Department authorizing the use of a County park or any of its areas or facilities shall be in accordance with schedules adopted from time to time by order of the Board of County Commissioners.
- (b) No person shall enter or use any County park or any of its facilities without first paying the required fee, if any, to the Department, unless such entry or use is otherwise authorized by a valid existing permit belonging to said person.
- (c) If the entry or use consists of or includes the parking or leaving of an unattended vehicle within a park facility requiring entry fee or permit, such permit must be displayed in the vehicle and visible through the windshield or window, and any annual vehicle permit, camping permit or vehicle day use permit not thus displayed shall not be deemed valid.

(Ord. 80-15. Passed 8-13-80; Ord. 88-9. Passed 4-20-88.)

1064.04 REVOCATION OF PERMITS; EVICTION.

- (a) The Parks and Recreation Department is hereby authorized to revoke any permit which has been issued erroneously or when the Department has reasonable cause to believe that the permit holder has violated any of the provisions of this chapter or any State law. Any person whose permit has been revoked shall immediately leave the park and may be removed therefrom.
- (b) No person who has been ordered to leave a County park shall remain therein.
- (c) The Department may refuse to admit any person into a County park who has been previously evicted from a County park.

(d) The Department may take possession of any permit which has been removed or which is fictitious, and no person shall refuse to surrender the same to the Department upon demand. (Ord. 80-15. Passed 8-13-80.)

1064.05 USE OF VEHICLES.

- (a) The definitions and provisions of ORS Chapter 803, 807, 811, 814, 815, 816, 819 and 821 of the Motor Vehicle Code shall apply to all vehicles operated or parked within any County park. Any violation of any section of such chapter shall be deemed a violation of this chapter, provided that in no event shall a maximum fine provided under this Code exceed the fine provided by statute for the offense, and, further, that any uniform bail schedule applicable to State offenses shall be applicable to a citation used for violation of this subsection.
 - (b) In addition, no person shall, within a County park:
 - (1) Drive a vehicle at a speed greater than ten miles per hour in a picnic area, campground or parking lot, or at a speed greater than twenty miles per hour in any other area, unless otherwise posted;

(2) Drive a vehicle other than on established roads for vehicular use,

parking areas and boat ramps;

(3) Park or leave unattended any vehicle or trailer in other than those areas designated by the Parks and Recreation Department for such parking, or so as to hinder or impede the drivers of other vehicles;

- (4) Except in special use areas designated by the Department for that purpose, drive a motor vehicle not licensed or equipped as provided in subsection (a) hereof;
- (5) Leave unattended any vehicle within a County park for more than twelve hours without prior written consent therefor;
- (6) Leave a vehicle for any period of time, unless visiting the park for its intended use; or
- (7) Drive an off-road motorcycle which is not equipped with an effective spark arrestor.
- (c) The Parks and Recreation Department is hereby authorized to remove, or cause to be removed, and stored, any vehicle left unattended within a County park where there is reasonable cause to believe that the vehicle has been parked or left in such a manner or area as violates this section; and, in such event, the procedural provisions of ORS 819.120, 819.180, 819.190 and 819.210 to 819.250 shall be followed with reference to the disposition of such vehicle and the rights of the owner therein.
- (d) Bicycles, skateboards, roller skates and similar contrivances shall not be used, except in areas designated for their use. (Ord. 80-15. Passed 80-13-80; Ord. 88-9. Passed 4-20-88.)

1064.06 ANIMALS.

- (a) Pets are not permitted in any County park, except in areas specifically designated.
- (b) The Parks and Recreation Department may refuse to admit any person to a County park who is in possession of a pet or other animal that appears, in the judgment of the Department, to be dangerous or likely to disturb persons in the park.

(c) In those parks or park areas designated for such purpose, the following regulations shall apply:

(1) No person shall allow any pet to run unrestrained without prior permission therefor from the Department. Pets shall be restrained by

a secure leash not over five feet long.

(2) No person shall allow any pet in his or her custody to annoy or molest any person.

(3) No person shall allow any pet in his or her custody to be tied up and

left unattended.

(4) No horse or pack animal shall be tied, secured or hobbled in such a manner as to injure any tree, shrub or park improvement. (Ord. 80-15. Passed 8-13-80.)

1064.07 WILDLIFE; HUNTING.

- (a) No person shall, in any manner, pursue, kill, injure or molest any bird or animal within any County park, except for the control of predatory animals as may be ordered by the County.
- (b) Hunting is not permitted in any County park, except in those parks or park areas especially designated for such purpose and during such times as may be established by the State Fish and Wildlife Commission. (Ord. 80-15. Passed 8-13-80.)

1064.08 WEAPONS AND EXPLOSIVES.

No person shall, within a County park:

- (a) Discharge any firearm, pellet gun, bow and arrow, slingshot or other missile-launching device, except in those areas designated by the Parks and Recreation Department for such use; or
- (b) Possess or use fireworks or other explosives without prior written permission therefor from the Department. (Ord. 80-15. Passed 8-13-80.)

1064.09 CAMPING.

- (a) No person shall camp in any County park, except in those areas designated for camping and except with a valid permit for such park. The Parks and Recreation Department may, at any time, revoke the camping permit of any person if the campsite occupied by such person is not maintained in a clean, sanitary and safe manner.
- (b) No person shall move, vandalize or destroy any valid permit displayed at a campsite.
- (c) Upon expiration of a camping permit, the permit holder and persons in his or her party must vacate the park for a minimum of twenty-four hours. All campsites must be occupied a minimum of four hours in any twenty-four hour period.
- (d) All camping permits, fees and occupancy or time limitations issued by the Department shall be in accordance with schedules adopted from time to time by order of the Board of County Commissioners.
- (e) No person shall reserve or attempt to save a campsite without prior written consent from the Department.

- (f) Quiet hours shall be observed in all camping areas between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. of the following day.
- (g) Except for authorized overnight campers, law enforcement officers or authorized County personnel, no person shall enter or remain in any park area between the daily closing time and daily opening time as established by the Department and posted at the entrance to each park.
- (h) The person registering for the campsite is responsible for adhering to all regulations of this chapter affecting the campsite and for any violation of this chapter with reference to the use or condition of the campsite occurring during or as a result of occupancy under the permit, but this shall not be construed as a defense for any other person who actually caused or participated in causing the violation.
- (i) No person under the age of eighteen shall camp overnight within a County park unless accompanied by an adult. (Ord. 80-15. Passed 8-13-80; Ord. 88-9. Passed 4-20-88.)

1064.10 FIRES.

1064.10

- (a) A person shall be responsible for damage caused by fires built by such person and for the cost of suppressing such fires.
 - (b) No person shall, within a County park:
 - (1) Build, light or maintain any fire, except in a stove, pit or fireplace designated for such purpose by the Parks and Recreation Department. Portable gas, gasoline or oil stoves or other portable cooking devices may be used if such devices are in a safe operating condition.
 - (2) Build, light or maintain any fire so as to constitute an immediate fire hazard to any pile of wood, grass, tree, underbrush or other flammable material:
 - (3) Leave a fire unattended or leave a County park before extinguishing any fire built, lighted or maintained by him or her; or
 - (4) Throw or deposit any burning substance, or other substance capable of burning or combustion, near or onto any combustible place or area, except into authorized firepits provided by the Department for such use. (Ord. 80-15. Passed 8-13-80.)

1064.11 BOATING.

(a) The definitions and provisions contained in ORS Chapter 488 relating to boats and boating shall apply to all boats within a County park. Any violation of any section of that chapter shall be deemed a violation of this chapter, provided that in no event shall the maximum fine provided under this chapter exceed the fine provided by statute for the offense incorporated herein, and, further, that any uniform bail schedule applicable to the State offense shall be applicable to a citation issued for violation of this subsection.

(Ord. 80-15. Passed 8-13-80; Ord. 88-9. Passed 4-20-88.)

(b) No person shall, within a County park:

(1) Leave a boat which is under his or her care, custody and control unattended at a public dock or designated area for more than fifteen minutes, unless otherwise posted or permitted, or at any other place for more than twelve hours, without prior written consent therefor from the Parks and Recreation Department;

(2) Launch a boat at any place other than launching facilities designated

by the Department; or

- (3) Engage in any boat race, regatta, exhibition or sales promotion of any kind, or operate a boat for hire, without written approval therefor from the Department.
- (c) Any boat which has been left unattended contrary to this section may be removed to a designated storage area by the Department at the expense of the owner, and any such boat will be disposed of in accordance with the provisions set forth by the State Marine Board. (Ord. 80-15. Passed 8-13-80.)

1064.12 GARBAGE AND RUBBISH; LITTERING.

No person shall, within a County park:

(a) Throw, dump or deposit any trash, refuse, garbage, litter or waste material, except in receptacles designated by the Parks and Recreation Department for that purpose;

(b) Bring into such a park any trash, refuse, garbage, litter, waste material or

vehicle for the purpose of leaving it therein;

- (c) Wash any clothing or other materials in the waters of any lake or stream, or throw, dump or deposit into such waters, or onto the banks thereof, any trash, refuse, garbage, litter, waste material or other polluting product of any kind. Pollution and waste, for the purpose of this section, are as defined in ORS 468.700(3) and (7).
- (d) Clean any fish, except at places designated by the Department for such purpose. (Ord. 80-15. Passed 8-13-80.)

1064.13 PROPERTY DESTRUCTION.

No person shall, within a County park:

(a) Pick, cut, mutilate or remove from any park area flowers, shrubs, foliage, trees or plant life or products of any kind without written permission therefor from the Parks and Recreation Department;

(b) Mutilate, deface, damage, move or remove any park equipment, including, but not limited to, tables, benches, buildings, signs, markers, plaques, barriers, fountains, faucets, traffic recorders or other structures or facilities

of any kind in a park area; or

(c) Dig, dredge, deface or remove any dirt, stones, rocks, artifacts or other substances, make any excavation, quarry any stones or other objects or cause or assist in doing any of such things within a park area, except upon written permission from the Department. (Ord. 80-15. Passed 8-13-80.)

1064.14 PEDDLERS AND SOLICITORS; ADVERTISING; SIGNS.

No person shall, within a County park:

(a) Operate a concession, either fixed or mobile, or engage in the business of soliciting, selling or peddling goods, wares, merchandise, liquids or edibles for human consumption, without prior written permission from the Parks and Recreation Department;

(b) Advertise in any manner, by either fixed or mobile display, without prior

written permission therefor from the Department; or

(c) Erect any sign, marker or inscription without prior written permission therefor from the Department. (Ord. 80-15. Passed 8-13-80.)

1064.15 PEACE DISTURBANCES.

No person shall, within a County park:

(a) Set up or use a public address system or any sound amplifying equipment without prior written permission therefor from the Parks and Recreation Department;

(b) Operate a radio or musical instrument in such a manner as to disturb

others and create disturbing noise; or

(c) Use abusive, threatening, boisterous, vile, obscene or indecent language or gestures, cause, attempt to cause or participate in any public disturbance or in any way create a public nuisance. (Ord. 80-15. Passed 8-13-80.)

1064.16 MISCELLANEOUS REGULATIONS.

- (a) The provisions contained in ORS Sections 471.410 and 471.430 relating to possession of alcoholic liquors and to the providing of such liquors to persons under twenty-one years of age shall apply to all persons within a County park, and any violations of said sections shall be deemed a violation of this chapter, provided that in no event shall the maximum fine imposed under this chapter exceed the fine provided by statute for violation of ORS 471.430.
- (b) Except in the case of an emergency, no person shall land or attempt to land any aircraft within a County park without prior approval from the Parks and Recreation Department.
- (c) Mining for gold within County parks is restricted to recreational activity only, and is limited to gold panning, using historical methods and tools. The use of a dredge, or any equipment other than gold pans and small shovels or trowels, for gold mining within County park areas is prohibited. Digging in the stream banks, or undermining trees, shrubs or man-made features such as buildings, fences and bridge abutments, is not allowed. No commercial mining is allowed within a County park. (Ord. 88-9. Passed 4-20-88.)

1064.17 REGISTERED OWNER AS VIOLATOR.

For purposes of charging, citing or proving any violation of Section 1064.03(b) or 1064.05(a), (b)(3), (5) or (6), the registered owner of the vehicle found without a permit or unlawfully parked is presumed to be the person who unlawfully entered the park without fee or permit, or who unlawfully parked the vehicle or left it unattended, as the case may be, but the presumption may be overcome by evidence specifically identifying the person who, in fact, committed the offense. (Ord. 88-9. Passed 4-20-88.)

1064.99 PENALTY.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: See Section 202.99 for general Code penalty if no specific penalty is provided.)

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF JACKSON COUNTY OF THE STATE OF OREGON

IN THE MATTER OF AMENDING SECTIONS 1064.05) AND 1064.99 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF JACKSON COUNTY TO PROVIDE FOR THE ADOPTION) OF A UNIFORM BAIL SCHEDULE FOR PARKS OFFENSES, DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

ORDINANCE No. 94-30

WHEREAS, Jackson County desires to adopt a bail schedule for parks offenses that conforms to the State schedule of bail amounts,

The Jackson County Board of Commissioners hereby ORDAINS:

Section 1.

Ordinance No. 86-5, entitled "The Codified Ordinances of Jackson County, 1985," as amended by Ordinance Nos. 91-21, 93-2 and 94-3, is amended by amending Sections 1064.05 and 1064.99 to provide for the adoption of a uniform bail schedule for parks offenses. Those sections to be amended shall read as follows:

1064.05 USE OF VEHICLES.

(a) The definitions and provisions of ORS Chapter 803, 807, 811, 814, 815, 816, 819 and 821 of the Motor Vehicle Code shall apply to all vehicles operated or parked within any County park. Any violation of any section of such chapter shall be deemed a violation of this chapter, provided that in no event shall a maximum fine provided under this Code exceed the fine provided by statute for the offense. The bail schedule applicable to State offenses may be adopted by the Board of Commissioners by order. Any bail schedule adopted by order of the Board of Commissioners shall apply to a citation issued under this section.

(Sections 1065.05(b), (c) and (d) to read the same)

1064.99 PENALTY

- (a) The Board of Commissioners may provide by order for a minimum bail schedule for violations of this chapter.
- (b) Violations of this chapter are subject to the penalties provided in Section 202.99.

Section 2. Emergency Declared.

This ordinance being necessary to the health, safety, and welfare of the people of Jackson County, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, and it shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

Dated this/5th day of June, 1994.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

JACKSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

RECEIVED

ATTEST:

JUN 1 6 199A

Jackson County Parks Dept.

| IN THE MATTER OF ADOPTING A UNIFORM BAIL SCHEDULE FOR PARKS OFFENSES | ORDER No. |
|--|-----------|
|--|-----------|

WHEREAS, Jackson County desires to adopt a bail schedule for parks offenses that is consistent with the bail schedules provided by the State of Oregon; and

WHEREAS, Section 1064.99(a) of the Codified Ordinances of Jackson County (JCCO) authorizes the Board of Commissioners to provide by order for a minimum bail schedule,

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED by the Board of Commissioners of Jackson County that the following bail schedule is hereby adopted for Jackson County parks offenses.

| JCCO Section Offense | Bail Amount |
|--|--|
| 1064.02 Park Closure (a) (b) (c) | None \$ 50 100 |
| 1064.03 Fees and Permits (a) (b) Day Use Camping (c) Entry Permit | None \$ 50 150 50 |
| 1064.04 Revocation of Permits (a) (b) (c) (d) | None \$150 None None |
| 1064.05 Use of Vehicles (a) (b) (1) (2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7) (c) (d) | None \$ 50 100 50 50 50 100 100 None 50 |
| 1064.06 Animals (a) (b) (c) (1) (2) (3) (4) | \$ 50 150 50 150 50 50 |

| JCCO Section Offense | Bail Amount (Cont'd) |
|---|--|
| 1064.07 Wildlife (a) (b) | \$250 250 |
| 1064.08 Weapons (a) (b) | \$250 250 |
| 1064.09 Camping (a) (b) (c) (d) (e) (f) (g) (h) (i) | \$ 75 50 50 None 50 100 100 100 |
| 1064.10 Fires (a) S (b) (1) (2) (3) (4) | et by State \$100 100 250 250 |
| 1064.11 Boating (a) (b) (1) (2) (3) (c) | None \$ 50 100 150 None |
| 1064.12 Garbage (a) (b) (c) (d) | \$300 300 300 100 |
| 1064.13 Property Destruction (a) (b) (c) | \$200 500 500 |
| 1064.14 Soliciting (a) (b) (c) | \$250 250 100 |
| 1064.15 Disturbances (a) (b) (c) | \$100 75 250 |

| JCCO Section Offense | <u>Bail Amount</u> (Cont'd) |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1064.16 Miscellaneous (a) (b) (c) | Set by State \$250 250 |
| | Dated this day of, 1994. |
| | Hank Henry, Chair |
| APPROVED AS TO FORM: | Sue Kupillas, Commissioner |
| County Counsel | Ric Holt, Commissioner |

JACKSON COUNTY ENFORCEMENT ORDINANCE CITATION/SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT

Nº.841201 COMPLAINT **JACKSON COUNTY, OREGON** STATE OF OREGON) District Court County of Jackson

| THE UND | DERSIGNED ENFO | PRCEMENT | OFFICIAL ce | rtifies and s | ays that: | • |
|------------------------|--|--|---------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| | On or about the | | _day of | | | 19 |
| Name | | | | | | |
| | Last | | First | | Middle | 9 |
| Residence | e Address | | | | Phone | |
| City | e AddressHt | St | ate | | Zip Code | |
| DOR | Ht | wt | Hair | Eyes | Race | Sex |
| Driver Lic | ense No./ID No o./BoatRegisNo ehMake | | 04-4- | State | ID Typ | ·e |
| Venucivo | o./BoatmegisNo | | State_ | Occup | ation | |
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| | ed Owner/Lessee of Owner/Lessee | | | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | | |
| Did unlav | vfully violate: Sec | tion | _ | o | f the Jackson | County Code |
| (JCC), by | vfully violate: Sec committing or pe | ermitting to | be committe | d the violati | on of: | |
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| | ncorporated area | | | | | |
| on or abo | ut the da | y of | | , 19 | _, at | M. |
| committe cited Jacl | e reasonable gro ed or permitted to kson County Ordi er certify that I ha | be commit nance/Cod | ted the above e. | e-cited offer | nse in violatior | of the above- |
| | Date | ** | | Co | mplainant/Of | ficer |
| SUBSCRI | BED AND SWOR | N TO before | re me this | day of | | , 19 |
| | | | | DIST | RICT COURT. | JUDGE |
| Appear i | n the District C | ourt at, lo | cated at the | M. Justice Build | on the ding, Medford | day of , Oregon. |
| | | SC | HEDULED I | BAIL. | | |
| | | \$_ | | | | |
| | | <u> </u> | | | | |

IMPORTANT NOTICE: This Complaint will be filed in the District Court. Failure to comply with the instructions on the reverse side of this CITATIONS/SUMMONS and COMPLAINT may result in a warrant being issued for your arrest.

(1) COURT

Attachment C—Oregon Eagle Foundation (Draft) Bald Eagle Management Plan

(Draft) SITE-SPECIFIC MANAGEMENT PLAN

for the

EMIGRANT LAKE BALD EAGLE NEST SITE

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(Draft) SITE-SPECIFIC MANAGEMENT PLAN

for the

EMIGRANT LAKE

BALD EAGLE NEST SITE

Prepared By*:

Diana Popp (503) 388-2516 OEF Project Coordinator P.O. Box 1804 Bend, OR 97709

and

Frank B. Isaacs (503) 947-2544 OEF Secretary 337 S. G Street Lakeview, OR 97630

In Cooperation With:

Steve Dunn (208) 378-5033
Wildlife Biologist
Bureau of Reclamation, PNW Region
1150 N. Curtis Rd.
Boise, ID 83706

Simon Wray (503) 826-8774
Wildlife Biologist
Oregon Dept. of Fish and Wildlife, Rogue District
1495 E. Gregory
Central Point, OR 97502

and

Dennis Nicolas (503) 776-7001 District Manager Jackson County Parks 400 Antelope Rd. White City, OR 97503

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^{*}For future discussion with Oregon Eagle Foundation, Inc. regarding this plan contact Frank Isaacs.

The "Management Recommendations and Concerns" section follows. Other sections are not reproduced here.

MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCERNS

Comments on the Emigrant Lake Park Resource Management Plan/Master Plan
In general, the management recommendations of Alternative B of the March 1994 "Update for

Emigrant Lake Park Resource Management Plan/Master Plan" would be accordant with the goal of protecting habitat for bald eagles, with the following modifications:

Natural and Cultural Resources

1) We suggest that the winter study be conducted over 2 seasons to better determine the location and magnitude of use of winter roosts and numbers of bald eagles using Emigrant Lake and adjacent lands during the winter.

Recreation

The adult bald eagles spent the majority (60.3%) of total winter season perch time (Oregon Eagle Foundation 1994) and (58.9%) of total nesting season perch time on the north end of Quarry Point, often feeding at and foraging from that location (Figures 6-10). They also perched on, copulated on, and foraged from a perch at the south end of Quarry Point. Numbers of potential prey such as ducks, swans, geese, and common mergansers were concentrated in the Hill Creek arm of Emigrant Lake.

- 2) Meadow:
 - Maintain activity at or below present levels. We recommend eliminating ORV use within 800m of high-use foraging and perching areas (i.e. the Quarry) because of potential disturbance to bald eagles (McGarigal, et al. 1991). This recommendation includes the Meadow area.
- 3) Quarry:

Maintain activity at or below present levels. Limit vehicle access to the Quarry, especially to the snags on the north and south ends. Shift pedestrian activities to other areas of the park. Place vehicle access, parking areas, and accessible restrooms away from the Quarry area. If a multiple trail system should be developed, it should be routed away from the Quarry area. A large day use fee area (Alternative C) should not be developed there as the Quarry is an important bald eagle perching and foraging area.

4) Old Highway 66 at Hill Creek:

Maintain activity at or below present levels. Do not encourage increased pedestrian and vehicle use of this area.

(Frank- the park staff installed a parking area and barricade near the Quarry Point South perch tree in early spring this year. The barricade was put up to keep people from driving out to the lake (and under the perch). The parking area is about 200 ft. from and directly faces the perch tree. Anyone using the parking area or walking out to the lake from there would probably disturb the eagles from the perch. It's hard to know if this is better or worse than the uncontrolled lake access that was there before. Any ideas?)

5) Patrick Dunn Beach

Maintain activity at or below present levels.

- 6) We encourage the establishment of a no-wake zone in the upper (southern) arms of Hill and Emigrant Creeks. Establishment of a no-wake zone would reduce disturbance to the bald eagles and waterfowl that use the Hill Creek arm extensively. The southern portion of the Emigrant Creek arm provides habitat for potential prey species such as green-winged teal, mallards, hooded mergansers, great blue herons, and wood ducks (Table 2); and bald eagles have been observed perching and foraging in that area.
- 7) Hang gliding

Not enough data has been collected to comment on the effects of hang gliding on bald eagle behavior at Emigrant Lake.

Off-road vehicles

8) ORV use

We recommend eliminating ORV use within 800m of high-use foraging and perching areas (i.e. the Quarry) because of potential disturbance to bald eagles (McGarigal, et.al. 1991).

Special events

9) Maintain activity at or below current levels.

Grazing

No comment.

Other management recommendations

- 10) Designate the area and airspace defined by the boundary shown in Figure 12 as the Emigrant Lake Bald Eagle Consideration Area (BECA). The BECA should include the next trees, perch trees, roost trees, alternate and potential nesting habitat, known and presumed foraging areas, and eagle flyways of the Emigrant Lake bald eagle pair. BECA boundaries may be refined based upon changes in nest location, foraging areas, and other bald eagle activities (e.g., use of areas outside the BECA or non-use of areas inside the BECA).
- 11) Evaluate all present and future projects proposed in the BECA for potential impacts on the nesting pairs. Initiate only those projects that the Bureau of Reclamation Wildlife Biologist, in consultation with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and ODFW Regional Nongame Wildlife Biologist, has determined have no adverse effect on bald eagles. This report should be shared with the Oregon Department of Forestry, BLM, Medite, Hillcrest Orchards, and Boise Cascade. They should be invited to be participants in the development of the final OEF plan.
- 12) Enforce seasonal restrictions in the BECA when necessary to avoid disturbing nesting or proosting eagles (Figure 2 and site-specific chronology of use). If a qualified observer has determined that a nesting attempt for the year has failed, or that a winter roost is not being used, then activities ordinarily restricted may be allowed.
- 13) Designate the stands of trees surrounding nest tree 587 and defined by the boundary shown in Figure 13 as the Emigrant Lake Bald Eagle Management Area (BEMA). Dedicate that area to the maintenance and protection of the nest tree and to providing alternate and future nest trees. Place those stands under a forest management prescription that maintains an overstory of mature and over-mature ponderosa pine (Pinus ponderosa) or Douglas Fir (Pseudotsuga menziesii), depending on the silvicultural characteristics of the site. Develop silvicultural prescriptions for the Emigrant Lake BEMA to achieve these management goals. Bureau of Reclamation, Oregon Department of Forestry, and Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife should encourage private landowners within the BEMA to cooperate with this plan.
- 14) Designate a stand of trees that meet the criteria of a BEMA as an Alternate Bald Eagle Management Area (Alternate BEMA). Dedicate that area to providing alternate and future nest trees. Place those stands under a forest management prescription that maintains an overstory of mature and over-mature ponderosa pine (Pinus ponderosa) or Douglas Fir (Pseudotsuga menziesii), depending on the silvicultural characteristics of the site. Develop silvicultural prescriptions for the Alternate BEMA to achieve these management goals.
- 15) Develop fire response plans, fire management plans, and silvicultural prescriptions for the BEMA to protect against loss due to wildfire when the BEMA cannot be otherwise isolated.
- 16) Protect all known perch trees within the BECA. Provide alternate and future perch trees within

a zone from the high water line to at least 200' upslope from the high water line at aquatic foraging areas. Develop silvicultural prescriptions to achieve these goals.

- 17) Determine water management strategies. Work with the agency responsible for water management to establish strategies consistent with Management Recommendation 18. Invite the water management agency to be a participant in the plan.
- 18) Monitor prey populations within the BECA, and maintain or improve fish and wildlife habitat to enhance foraging opportunities for eagles. For example:
 - a) provide a diverse fishery that includes game fish as well as nongame fish in substantial numbers,
 - b) install and maintain waterfowl nesting structures (e.g., islands, boxes, and platforms) as warranted by habitat conditions.
- 19) Explore the possibility of maintaining water year-round (via a low dam or impoundment) in the south end of the Hill Creek arm.
- 20) Monitor public use of Emigrant Lake and the nest stand; including hunting, camping, hiking, fishing, boating, hang-gliding, ORV use, logging, etc., and take measures to control activities that threaten or disturb eagles or their habitat.
- 21) Management of bald eagle sites can be improved by learning more about the habits (nesting, roosting, perching, and foraging locations as well as flight lines and prey utilized) of the eagles and by monitoring their response to habitat changes and human activities. Annual monitoring of nest use and productivity in cooperation with Oregon Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit at Oregon State University should continue indefinitely. If those surveys show that a major change in bald eagle use of the site has occurred (e.g., a new nest is discovered, a new pair of eagles is observed in the BECA, eagles are not observed in the BECA, etc.) then more intense monitoring, as was done for this project, should be implemented. Management activities occurring within the BECA should be documented and evaluated, and those records should become a part of this plan. In addition, all observations of eagle activity in or near the BECA should be recorded and used to improve this plan.

The BECA manager should be aware that eagles may be affected by activities that occur outside BECA boundaries. Examples of activities and potential for disturbance include helicopter logging (noise and flyway disruption), blasting (noise), chemical use in the drainage (water or air pollution), agricultural pest control (poisoning or trapping), and controlled burning and wildfire (air pollution). Eagle responses to activities such as these should be evaluated and, if necessary, immediate action taken to minimize adverse effects on eagles.

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