

**Wallowa Falls Hydroelectric Project  
FERC Project No. P-308  
Updated Study Report  
(Final Technical Report)**

*Recreation Resources*



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*For Public Review*



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## Acronyms and Abbreviations

|             |   |
|-------------|---|
| ADA         | Americans with Disabilities Act                                   |
| ATV         | all-terrain vehicle   |
| CFR         | <i>Code of Federal Regulations</i>                                |
| FERC        | Federal Energy Regulatory Commission                              |
| Forest Plan | Wallowa-Whitman National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan |
| GIS         | geographic information system                                     |
| LWCF        | Land and Water Conservation Fund                                  |
| NFS         | National Forest System  |
| OPRD        | Oregon Parks and Recreation Department                            |
| OSU         | Oregon State University   |
| PM&E        | protection, mitigation, and enhancement                           |
| PPL         | Pacific Power and Light   |
| Project     | Wallowa Falls Hydroelectric Project                               |
| ROS         | Recreation Opportunity Spectrum                                   |
| RV          | recreational vehicle  |
| SCORP       | Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan                   |
| USFS        | United States Forest Service                                      |
| WRS         | Wilderness Resource Spectrum                                      |
| WWNF        | Wallowa-Whitman National Forest                                   |



## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Updated Study Report - Recreation Resources (Report) assesses the effects of the Wallowa Falls Hydroelectric Project (Project), Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Project No. P-308, on recreation resources in accordance with *Code of Federal Regulations* (CFR) Title 18, Conservation of Power and Water Resources. The purpose of this Report is to inform stakeholders of issues and findings that were identified, collected, and synthesized during the relicensing period. In addition, this Report identifies needs that may be considered during a new license term; however, discussions in this document should not be interpreted as potential protection, mitigation, and enhancement (PM&E) measures. The information contained in this Report will be reviewed, amended, and considered along with the results of other relicensing studies to develop PM&E measures that take into account all resource needs, not only recreation resources.

This Report consists of five primary components:

- Identification of goals found in resource and land management plans related to recreation issues and resources of relevance to the Project
- Recreation supply analysis
- Recreation use and demand analysis
- Recreation needs analysis
- Conclusions and recommendations

The components are summarized in the remainder of this Executive Summary.

### ES.1 Identification of Goals Found in Resource and Land Management Plans Related to Recreation Issues and Resources of Relevance to the Project

Two agencies in the Study Area have developed resource management or land use plans that address recreation in the Study Area. They are the U.S. Forest Service (USFS), which is in charge of managing the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest (WWNF), and Wallowa County, which is responsible for planning and managing lands and resources within the nonfederal unincorporated parts of Wallowa County. The current *Wallowa-Whitman National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan* (Forest Plan) was adopted in 1990 (USFS, 1990). A revised plan that includes the WWNF is currently being developed as part of the Blue Mountains Forest Plan Revision, but it has not been adopted. The Eagle Cap Wilderness is located within the WWNF and is approximately 0.25 mile south of the southernmost part of the FERC Project boundary. A stewardship plan was developed by the WWNF for the Eagle Cap Wilderness in 1995 to supplement the Forest Plan.

## ES.2 Recreation Supply Analysis

Two primary types of recreation activities occur on PacifiCorp lands, camping and trail use. Camping occurs at the Pacific Park Campground. The overall condition of the campground is fair and campers responding to a survey are generally very satisfied with the campground. The Pacific Park Campground contains a series of user-created trails that originate at the campground and wind their way up the hillside west of the campground. Some trails fade away a short distance from the campground. Others continue up the hillside to a ridge and eventually connect with the Chief Joseph Mountain Trail (Forest Trail No. 1803), and the West Fork Wallowa River Trail (Forest Trail No. 1820), which is also called the West Fork Trail. Both Pacific Park Campground campers and other people use the user-created trails to reach the ridge and to connect with the West Fork and Chief Joseph Mountain Trails which provide access into the Eagle Cap Wilderness. The forebay access road is also used by recreationists and offers an alternative option to the East Fork Wallowa River Trail (Forest Trail No. 1804) for traveling up the East Fork Wallowa River canyon. This trail is also called the East Fork Trail. The forebay access road is often used in the winter by backcountry recreationists to avoid several avalanche chutes above the East Fork Trail. Although a short, approximately 250-foot-long trail approximately 400 feet down river of the Project dam connects the forebay access road with the East Fork Trail, some recreationists pass by it so that they can use the dam spillway catwalk to rejoin the East Fork Trail.

The best known recreation facility in the Study Area is Wallowa Lake State Park. It is managed by the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) and contains 121 campsites and other facilities. The Little Alps Day Use Area is leased to OPRD by PacifiCorp and managed by OPRD. This area is underutilized by most accounts, but it is located in an important location for recreation because it is near the Wallowa Lake Trailhead, the area along the Joseph-Wallowa Lake Highway where recreationists accessing the Eagle Cap Wilderness park their vehicles, and is adjacent to Pacific Park Campground. The WWNF and Eagle Cap Wilderness are important recreation resources. The WWNF trails that provide access from the south Wallowa Lake area into the WWNF and Eagle Cap Wilderness begin on PacifiCorp land near the Wallowa Lake Trailhead and continue through PacifiCorp land before entering the WWNF.

## ES.3 Recreation Use and Demand Analysis

The recreation use and demand analysis was intended to identify current use patterns and future demands for recreation activities of relevance to the Project. Use data were obtained from PacifiCorp and OPRD and will be collected from the WWNF. Demand data were gathered primarily from OPRD's State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plans (SCORPs) as well as through conversations with local recreation providers. OPRD is in the process of preparing the 2013-2017 SCORP. As part of this effort, OPRD contracted with Oregon State University (OSU) to conduct surveys of Oregon residents regarding their 2011 outdoor recreation participation in Oregon. Data were obtained at the state, region, and county level. These data proved useful for characterizing recreational use patterns within Wallowa County. Two of the most popular activities in Wallowa County (car camping with a tent and recreational vehicle



(RV)/motorhome/trailer camping) occur at the Pacific Park Campground. The survey also found that there are demands by county residents for walking on local streets and trails, which the Project no doubt helps to satisfy. Trails in and near the Project are also important for supporting a number of other popular activities. These include horseback riding, big game hunting, wildlife and nature observation, photography, fishing, backpacking, running on trails, cross-country skiing and snowshoeing.

The annual total of recreation days by campers at Pacific Park Campground between 2010 and 2012 ranged from 544 and 764. These numbers were obtained from reservation records made between approximately June and September. At the request of the WWNF, winter use counts of the forebay access road were conducted with a laser-beam counter between January 29, 2012 and March 31, 2012. A total of approximately 150 recreationists were estimated to have used the forebay access road in the winter. The same counter was moved to the main user-created trail west of the Pacific Park Campground to obtain summer and fall, 2012 counts. Approximately 3,000 people were counted. At this location there was likely some “double counting” of people going out and back on the same user-created trail. Because of the number of trail options in this area, it is difficult to determine which trails people use to access the ridge above the Pacific Park Campground and/or the Eagle Cap Wilderness and which trails they use to return. Information at these locations is of interest to the WWNF because some of the recreationists using these routes enter the Eagle Cap Wilderness and do not register at the Wallowa Lake Trailhead. By not registering to enter the Eagle Cap Wilderness area, the number of people estimated by the WWNF who use the wilderness each year is under represented. This can have funding consequences for the WWNF (budgets for the management of wilderness areas are frequently related to use levels).

#### ES.4 Recreation Needs Analysis

PacifiCorp has three primary roles in supporting recreational needs within the Study Area (both within and outside the Project boundary): providing access between the south Wallowa Lake area and the WWNF, leasing PacifiCorp land to OPRD for the Little Alps Day Use Area and the Wallowa Lake State Park maintenance facility, and providing Pacific Park Campground as an alternative (to Wallowa Lake State Park and private campgrounds) type of camping experience within the Study Area.

Of the recreational activities identified in the SCORP that occur in Wallowa County, the two most popular (car camping with a tent and RV/motorhome/trailer camping) are supported at Pacific Park Campground. Other popular activities within Wallowa County—such as walking on local streets and trails, horseback riding, big game hunting, wildlife and nature observation, photography, fishing, backpacking, picnicking, running on trails, cross-country skiing, and snowshoeing—occur on trails that pass through the Project boundary. The *Wallowa County State Parks Master Plan* (OPRD, 2001) indicated that there will be recreational needs in the future for several activities that the Project can help meet; they include demands for additional group camping facilities, short trails or loops close to campgrounds with connections to wilderness areas, more amenities and choice for types of overnight accommodations, and additional disabled accessible sites.

## ES.5 Conclusions and Recommendations

- This section lists recommendations for improvements to recreation resources within the Project boundary. Section 5.0 describes how the recommendations address issues of concern related to recreation resources.
- Install a new entry sign at Pacific Park Campground. The existing sign near the entrance to the campground is not easy to find and/or see, and information on it can be difficult to understand. The existing sign would be replaced with a new sign designed to meet PacifiCorp standards, meet the FERC Part 8 signage requirements, and informing the public of the campsite reservation system, trail opportunities in the area, including those leading to WWNF lands and the Eagle Cap Wilderness, etc. Note that signs designed with PacifiCorp standards have been installed at other PacifiCorp projects located on National Forests and have been approved by the National Forests in which they are located.
- Improve management at Pacific Park Campground. To make the campground more accessible to recreation users, the campground reservation system will be improved, and PacifiCorp will consider opening the unreserved sites to first-come first-served availability. The improved reservation system will be coordinated with OPRD to assist area visitors in finding available camping sites. Additionally, the maintenance schedule frequency including facility cleaning and vault toilet pumping will be increased. The entrance gate to the campground will not be locked during the recreation season.
- Construct ADA compliant ramp to vault toilet. There is currently no ADA accessible restroom facility or campsite at Pacific Park Campground (or at the Little Alps Day Use Area). An ADA-accessible concrete ramp and railing would be installed and connected to the existing concrete landing at the southern vault toilet and one campsite would be upgraded to adhere to ADA standards. Within approximately 10 years, the existing two toilets would be replaced with a new double vault toilet.
- Improve campsite identification signage. To make finding campsites easier 4-foot (1.2 m) high metal posts with campsite numbers would be placed at the entry to each campsite to indicate the campsite number.
- Improve campsite definition at Pacific Park Campground. To prevent vehicles from entering sensitive areas and to better identify and differentiate campsites, boulders and/or rocks would be placed in strategic locations to provide better definition.
- Restore tent/vehicle pads at Pacific Park Campground. Restore camping pads that have eroded with new compacted gravel and wood ties where necessary.
- Clean up campground area. Logs, stumps, and rocks situated on inappropriate areas throughout the campground would be relocated or removed.

- Construct fencing between Pacific Park Campground, Little Alps Day Use Area and the slope to the west of the campground near user-created trails. The existing barbed-wire fencing between the Pacific Park Campground and Little Alps Day Use Area would be replaced with a split-rail wood fence that provides visual separation between the two facilities. In addition, a 4-foot-high (1.2 m) wood fence with woven wire inserts would be constructed at various locations along the west side of the campground to discourage people from accessing user-created trails that would be demobilized.
- Construct a new access trail to the ridge west of Pacific Park Campground. The maze of user-created trails on the slope west of Pacific Park Campground is confusing and damages vegetation along the slope. A new, formalized access trail that would follow (with some adaptation) the “main” existing user-created trail would begin just south of Pacific Park Campground and provide access to the ridge. Once on the ridge, the main trail would be connected with existing user-created trails that would be formalized to provide northern access to the proposed overlook area at the north end of the ridge (see below) and southern access to trails. The formalization of this trail would also support the NPS request to develop trails in the Project area.
- Decommission and restore user-created trails. Debris (e.g., logs, branches) would be placed at the beginning of the user-created trails on the slope west of Pacific Park Campground to block access to them. Small signs would be posted along the trails asking the public to support vegetative restoration efforts by staying off the restoration sites and using designated trails (this message would also be at the new sign and wilderness registration facility – see below).
- Install sign and wilderness registration station along the new access trail to ridge. A sign with a USFS wilderness registration facility that would meet PacifiCorp sign standards would be located at the beginning of the new access trail from Pacific Park Campground to the top of the ridge to the west. The sign would include a map that would depict the trails on the ridge and their connection to the West Fork and Chief Joseph Trails and the observation area. The sign would explain what is required for entry into the Eagle Cap Wilderness, and a box for registering USFS wilderness permits and collecting fees would be placed next to the sign; it would be designed with USFS input.
- Install overlook area interpretive sign. To take advantage of the views of the West Fork Wallowa River Gorge and Wallowa Lake from the north end of the ridge west of Pacific Park Campground, a one-panel sign meeting PacifiCorp sign standards would explain the features that can be seen from the overlook. The sign would include input from interested agencies and tribes. This measure would support the NPS request for providing scenic viewpoints in the Project area.
- Install interpretive signage at the terminus of the Joseph-Wallowa Lake Highway and Wallowa Lake Trailhead. A lack of information in the area around the powerhouse and Wallowa Lake Trailhead results in user confusion regarding the features this area (Pacific Park Campground, the Project powerhouse, the Wallowa Lake Trailhead

sign, and the Little Alps Day Use Area). To provide information, A three-panel informational kiosk meeting FERC Part-8 requirements would be installed at the end of the Joseph-Wallowa Lake Highway informing the public on topics such as the history of the Project, its components and operation, historical use of the area, and nearby available recreation opportunities. The sign content would be developed with input from interested agencies and tribes.

- Replace Wallowa Lake Trailhead sign. A new sign meeting PacifiCorp design standards would replace the existing sign and be similar in design to other signs that would be developed as part of these proposed measures. The new sign would include the appropriate USFS topical information and maps. A box for registering USFS wilderness permits and collecting fees also would be integrated into the sign. The sign content would be developed with USFS and OPRD input.
- Install forebay access road signs. The portion of the forebay access road that is also the main WWNF access trail south of the Wallowa Lake Trailhead is not well marked and somewhat confusing for some users. In addition to the improvements to the Wallowa Lake Trailhead described previously, six new metal trail and/or directional signs would be installed along the portion of the forebay access road and main WWNF access trail. Locations would be established with USFS collaboration and would likely include places such as where the forebay access road veers to the left of the main WWNF trail and heads up a steep slope. A sign at this location could demark the forebay access road and provide information on points of interest along the forebay access road.
- Improve the connection trail between forebay access road and East Fork Wallowa River Trail. An existing trail between the forebay access road and the East Fork Trail crosses the bypassed reach on a fairly new wood bridge. To the immediate east of the bridge, the trail is frequently muddy and people have created “new” trails above the mud to avoid it. To remedy this situation, flat rocks from a nearby talus slope would be placed as “stepping stones” along approximately 100 lineal feet (30.5 m) of the trail. This would encourage hikers to stay on the trail and prevent further damage of the vegetation.
- Improve pedestrian recreational access across dam spillway catwalk. The existing locked gate at the dam spillway catwalk would be modified to allow year-round pedestrian access to the East Fork Trail. The modifications would be designed to discourage equestrian use of the catwalk.

## 1.0 STUDY OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION

PacifiCorp Energy (PacifiCorp) plans to file an application to relicense the Wallowa Falls Hydroelectric Project (Project), Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Project No. P-308, located on the East Fork Wallowa River, West Fork Wallowa River, and Royal Purple Creek in Wallowa County, Oregon. The current license will expire on February 28, 2016. The Project has a generation capacity of 1,100 kilowatts and is situated on private land owned by PacifiCorp and federal land managed by the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest.

This Updated Study Report – Recreation Resources (Report) presents the findings of the recreation resources study, which was one of several studies conducted by PacifiCorp to support the relicensing of the Project in accordance with FERC’s Integrated Licensing Process. *Code of Federal Regulations* (CFR) Title 18 (Conservation of Power and Water Resources) states that a hydroelectric project license application must contain the following information related to recreation resources (Subchapter B, Part 4, Subpart F, Section 4.51 of 18 CFR):

“Report on recreational resources. The report must discuss existing and proposed recreational facilities and opportunities at the project. The report must be prepared in consultation with local, state, and regional recreation agencies and planning commissions, the National Park Service, and any other state or federal agency with managerial authority over any part of the project lands. Consultation must be documented by appending to the report a letter from each agency consulted indicating the nature, extent, and results of the consultation. The report must contain:

- i. A description of any existing recreational facilities at the project, indicating whether the facilities are available for public use;
- ii. An estimate of existing and potential recreational use of the project area, in daytime and overnight visits;
- iii. A description of any measures or facilities recommended by the agencies consulted for the purpose of creating, preserving, or enhancing recreational opportunities at the project and in its vicinity (including opportunities for the handicapped), and for the purpose of ensuring the safety of the public in its use of project lands and waters;
- iv. A statement of the existing measures or facilities to be continued or maintained and the new measures or facilities proposed by the applicant for the purpose of creating, preserving, or enhancing recreational opportunities at the project and in its vicinity, and for the purpose of ensuring the safety of the public in its use of project lands and waters, including an explanation of why the applicant has rejected any measures or facilities recommended by an agency and described under paragraph (f)(5)(iii) of this section; and
- v. The following materials and information regarding the measures and facilities identified under paragraphs (f) (5) (i) and (iv) of this section:

- A. Identification of the entities responsible for implementing, constructing, operating, or maintaining any existing or proposed measures or facilities;
  - B. A schedule showing the intervals following issuance of a license at which implementation of the measures or construction of the facilities would be commenced and completed;
  - C. An estimate of the costs of construction, operation, and maintenance of any proposed facilities, including a statement of the sources and extent of financing;
  - D. A map or drawing that conforms to the size, scale, and legibility requirements of §4.39 showing by the use of shading, cross-hatching, or other symbols the identity and location of any facilities, and indicating whether each facility is existing or proposed (the maps or drawings in this exhibit may be consolidated); and
- vi. A description of any areas within or in the vicinity of the proposed project boundary included in, or have been designated for study for inclusion in, the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, or that have been designated as wilderness area, recommended for such designation, or designated as a wilderness study area under the Wilderness Act.”

The primary objective of this Report is to address these regulations through analysis of recreation supply, use and demand, and need. Existing and future recreation needs related to the Project over the term of the new license (anticipated to be 30 to 50 years) are assessed. The results will be used to develop appropriate protection, mitigation, and enhancement (PM&E) measures and a corresponding proposed plan for recreation resources called the Recreation Resource Management Plan to be filed with FERC for approval.

## 2.0 BACKGROUND DESCRIPTION

This section provides background information useful to understanding the recreation resource analysis and does the following:

- Defines the Study Area
- Describes the nexus between Project facilities, operations, and recreation opportunities
- Summarizes planning and resource management plans and recreation goals

### 2.1 Study Area Definition

The Study Area encompasses an area approximately 1 mile around the FERC Project boundary (see Figure 1). The area includes Wallowa Lake State Park, the south Wallowa Lake area, PacifiCorp owned and managed lands, PacifiCorp lands leased to the State of Oregon for the Wallowa Lake State Park maintenance facility and the Little Alps Day Use Area, and National Forest System (NFS) lands managed by the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest (WWNF).

### 2.2 Nexus to Project

In accordance with 18 CFR §5.11(d)(4), this section describes any nexus between Project operations and effects on recreation opportunities. The Project has potential direct and indirect effects on recreation resources within and adjacent to the Project boundary and in the affected reach of the East Fork Wallowa River downstream of the dam. These effects include providing public access to natural open space areas within and surrounding the Project for a variety of recreation activities, providing access to lands within the WWNF (including the Eagle Cap Wilderness), and providing access to and use of the river, forebay, and tailrace for recreation purposes. PacifiCorp developed and operates Pacific Park Campground. This facility consists of an eight-unit campground located along the Project tailrace. User-defined trails originating from Pacific Park Campground provide access to the WWNF trail system (Figure 2). The Little Alps Day Use Area, which is a facility managed by the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) as part of Wallowa Lake State Park, is located adjacent to Pacific Park Campground. Recreationists pass back and forth between the two facilities. The Wallowa Lake Trailhead and sections of two WWNF trails (the East Fork and West Fork trails) are located on PacifiCorp land. Additionally, dispersed recreation occurs within and adjacent to the Project boundary. The portion of the East Fork Wallowa River below the Project dam is the Project bypass reach. Other than a few sections where the forebay access road and East Fork Trail pass by, the bypass reach receives little use by recreationists because of the steep terrain it passes through.

### 2.3 Resource Management and Land Use Plans and Goals Related to Recreation

Three agencies with responsibilities related to natural resource and land management are located within the Study Area: OPRD, Wallowa County, and the United States Forest

Service (USFS). All three agencies have developed management plans that include recreation resources. The following sections identify the agencies and applicable parts of the plans.

### 2.3.1 State of Oregon (Oregon Parks and Recreation Department)

The OPRD manages and operates Oregon's state parks, recreation trails, ocean shores recreation areas, scenic waterways, and the Willamette River Greenway. OPRD has developed management plans for many of its facilities, including those in Wallowa County. This section describes the master plan developed by OPRD for facilities in Wallowa County (including Wallowa Lake State Park), and the *Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan* (SCORP).

#### 2.3.1.1 Wallowa County State Parks Master Plan

The *Wallowa County State Parks Master Plan* was adopted by OPRD in 2001 (OPRD, 2001). The master plan was developed to assist and direct the planning of three OPRD units located within Wallowa County. These facilities are Minam State Recreation Area, the Wallowa Lake Highway State Scenic Corridor, and Wallowa Lake State Park. Although the master plan is 10 years old, it contains useful background information about recreation demand that was obtained from the SCORP, described in Section 2.3.1.2 below. The master plan also describes park manager perceptions of recreation needs obtained through polls. The following are the demands identified in the master plan by park managers that are of some relevance to this Project:

- There is demand for additional group camping facilities.
- There is demand for additional short trails or loops close to campgrounds with connections to wilderness areas.
- There is demand for more amenities and choice for types of overnight accommodations (within parks).
- There is demand for additional disabled accessible sites.

The master plan contains detailed discussions related to planning for the three OPRD properties. Parts of the document pertaining to Wallowa State Park are of relevance to the Project. OPRD identified future partnerships with other landowners near Wallowa Lake State Park as potentially providing opportunities for additional public recreation. Potential partnerships that were identified included "the current OPRD lease area and surrounding Pacific Power and Light land." Pacific Power and Light (PPL) now doing business as Pacific Power is a subsidiary of PacifiCorp, and the land referred to as PPL land is PacifiCorp land. The section of the master plan that is titled "Other Recreation Providers in Wallowa County" states that PPL property "provides the best opportunity to provide future horse staging, group camping, bivouac camping, maintenance shop and trailhead-related facilities within the Wallowa Lake Community." It notes that the only



protected recreational access through the property is the WWNF easement, which retains access to parking and trail connections.

The master plan describes issues related to Wallowa Lake State Park that were identified by OPRD staff, a local steering committee, and public comments. The following issues are of relevance to PacifiCorp and PacifiCorp property, including the Project:

- *Access and Circulation* – Connections to WWNF trails, especially from the campground, are important. The WWNF encourages horse use at trailheads outside of the main resort area.
- *Areas of Concern* – The master plan reports concern that PPL will intensively develop its property and may not renew leases for the Wallowa Lake State Park maintenance facility or Little Alps Day Use Area.
- *Camping* – The master plan recommends considering converting the Little Alps Day Use Area to a group camp and states that bivouac camping at the Wallowa Lake Trailhead area could conflict with horse staging.

The master plan also includes the following planning goals relevant to the Project:

- *Goal IV. Provide for Recreational Needs:* The introduction to this goal states that OPRD cannot provide much in the way of increasing recreational capacity within the main part of the state park. It could provide additional capacity within areas leased from PPL in the vicinity of the trailhead and Little Alps Day Use Area where horseback staging and camping and bivouac use could be provided “if the lease could be renewed or the land purchased.”
- *Goal V. Improve Park Access and Orientation.* Subgoal B proposes to coordinate with various entities such as PPL to complete a low-elevation path from the marina area to above the residential areas around the Boy Scout and church camps into the Little Alps Day Use Area, Wallowa Lake Trailhead, and the parking area.

### *2.3.1.2 Oregon Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan*

OPRD is also responsible for developing the state of Oregon’s SCORP. The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) that was established by Congress in 1965 to create parks and open spaces, protect wilderness, wetlands, and refuges, preserve wildlife habitat and enhance recreational opportunities requires that states that wish to participate in the LWCF and obtain funds from SCORPs. The SCORP is a state’s basic 5-year plan for outdoor recreation designed to provide the state with statewide and regional up-to-date, state-of-the-art information. The plan also is an information source and planning tool used by other recreation providers in Oregon (state, federal, local, and private) to catalog and rank their recreation needs, obtain funding through partnerships and grants, and affirm their respective roles in supporting outdoor recreation. The Oregon SCORP typically provides data related to recreation patterns, geographic differences, and trends that are very useful recreation studies related to FERC relicensing projects.

### 2.3.2 Wallowa County

The Wallowa County Comprehensive Plan (Comprehensive Plan) contains a series of goals that address concerns related to a number of topics and resources (Wallowa County, 2003). Goal 8 of the Comprehensive Plan is titled “*Recreation Needs*.” It contains several recreation-oriented findings and policies of relevance to the Project, as follows:

- Finding 10 (*Capacity*) states the following: “The Eagle Cap Wilderness and the State Park at Wallowa Lake are utilized to capacity during the summer season. Also, Wallowa Lake has additional infrastructure which is largely unused during the winter months.”
- Policy 6 (*Process*) states the following: “Local, state, and federal recreation development take into account (1) the U.S.F.S. Land use Plan, (2) the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Plan, (3) the Oregon State Park’s Master Plan, and (4) the County Land Use Plan, as applicable.”
- Policy 8 (*Capacity*) states the following: “The existing infrastructure at Wallowa Lake should be used year round.”

Appendix 8-1 (*Recreation Overview*) of Goal 8, focuses on recreation and tourism in Wallowa County. It states that Wallowa Lake is a center of tourism in the county and that the state park at Wallowa Lake is a major attraction. The appendix provides a description of the value of the Eagle Cap Wilderness to the county by stating the following:

*“The Eagle Cap Wilderness is Oregon’s largest, and wilderness camping and travel are receiving increased attention. The Wilderness offers magnificent scenery, natural history, solitude and spiritual renewal. USFS surveys show that more than 20,000 backpackers visit the Wilderness each year. They travel a mean distance of about 350 miles to get here, with some coming from 2000 miles away. Fourteen outfitter guides operate in the Wilderness. During the summer season, the Wilderness is heavily used. Some visitors express concerns about the quality of their visit and the impacts on the Wilderness due to heavy usage.”*

### 2.3.3 U.S. Forest Service

The majority of the southeastern part of the FERC Project boundary is located within the WWNF and is managed under the guidance of the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (Forest Plan), described below.

#### 2.3.3.1 Wallowa-Whitman National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan

The current Forest Plan was adopted in 1990. A revised plan is that includes the WWNF is currently being developed as part of the Blue Mountains Forest Plan Revision. The revised plan also includes the Malheur and Umatilla national forests. The plan was scheduled to be released for public review and comment in 2013, but as of the date of this Report, no date for adoption has been set.

Forest plans provide direction related to the planning and management of a variety of resources, including recreation resources. All lands contained in national forests have been assigned categories of the ROS. The ROS is a categorization of land according to a range of recreation experience opportunities. The seven spectrum categories range from primitive to urban. The categories describe a variety of recreation situations a visitor can experience, ranging from presence in an undisturbed, natural environment with little human contact to a highly modified, altered environment with a maximum of varied contacts. The categories are as follows:

- Urban
- Rural
- Roaded Modified
- Roaded Natural
- Semi primitive Motorized
- Semiprimitive Nonmotorized
- Primitive

As shown in Figure 3, the FERC Project boundary is located within, or near, several of the categories identified above. The relevant categories are characterized as follows:

- **Rural**—Area is characterized by substantially modified natural environment. Resource modification and utilization practices are to enhance specific recreation activities and maintain vegetative cover and soil. Sights and sounds of humans are readily evident, and the interaction between users is often moderate to high. A considerable number of facilities are designed for use by a large number of people. Facilities are often provided for special activities. Moderate densities are provided far away from developed sites. Facilities for intensified motorized use and parking are available.
- **Roaded Natural**—Area is characterized by predominantly natural-appearing environments with moderate evidence of the sights and sounds of humans. Such evidence usually harmonizes with the natural environment. Interaction between users may be moderate to high, with evidence of other users prevalent. Resource modification and utilization practices are evident, but harmonize with the natural environment. Conventional motorized use is allowed and incorporated into construction standards and design of facilities.
- **Semiprimitive Nonmotorized**—Area is characterized by a predominantly natural or natural-appearing environment of moderate to large size. Interaction between users is low, but there is often evidence of other users. The area is managed in such a way that minimum onsite controls and restrictions may be present, but would be subtle. Motorized recreation use is not permitted, but local roads used for other resource management activities may be present on a limited basis. Use of such roads is restricted to minimize impacts on recreational experience opportunities.

#### *2.3.3.2 Eagle Cap Wilderness Stewardship Plan*

Approximately 0.25 mile beyond the uppermost part of the FERC Project boundary is the boundary of the Eagle Cap Wilderness. A stewardship plan was developed for the Eagle Cap Wilderness in 1995 to supplement the Forest Plan (USFS, 1995). The Stewardship Plan is used in conjunction with the Forest Plan in the management of the wilderness. It includes standards and guidelines (which are reflected in the Forest Plan) for resources within the Eagle Cap Wilderness including social elements. These standards and guidelines address human issues such as carrying capacity, solitude (for visitors), occupied campsites, group size, intrusions that might disturb visitors, and user density, among others. Areas within the wilderness are grouped into one of three Wilderness Resource Spectrum (WRS) classes, each of which allows varying degrees of human activity and impact. WRS classes are somewhat similar to the ROS classes discussed previously, but were developed exclusively for wilderness areas. The three WRS spectrums are Pristine, Primitive, and Semiprimitive. No part of the Project is located within the Eagle Cap Wilderness. The uppermost part of the FERC Project boundary is between approximately 0.25 and 0.5 mile from the closest areas of Pristine, Primitive, and Semiprimitive WRS.

### 3.0 METHODS

This section describes the methods used to obtain data and draw conclusions related to the three recreation components examined in this Report. The methods were developed in consultation with stakeholders over a 2-year period. Because much of the Project is located within the WWNF, local WWNF recreation staff were involved in reviewing and approving the study plan for the Recreation Report. The following three recreation components are addressed:

- Recreation Supply Analysis
- Recreation Use and Demand Analysis
- Recreation Needs Analysis

#### 3.1 Recreation Supply Analysis

The supply analysis characterized the current supply of recreation resources in the Study Area so that existing and future relationships between the Project and recreation supply in the Study Area could be established. The analysis also examined recreation facility conditions and the parties responsible for providing recreation resources. An analysis of similar types of recreation resources provided by other entities in the Study Area proved useful for evaluating the role that the Project plays in providing recreational opportunities. It is particularly important to understand the existing recreation supply of camping facilities and trails in the supply assessment so that PacifiCorp can fine-tune, or enhance, the type of recreation facilities and opportunities that occur on its lands to help meet recreational needs in the Study Area.

Data related to recreation supply provided by the Project were obtained through site visits, PacifiCorp geographic information system (GIS) access, discussions with PacifiCorp staff, and conversations with the company that PacifiCorp contracts with to manage Pacific Park Campground (cleaning, assisting campers, making reservations, and collecting fees). Recreation supply data on nearby parts of the WWNF were obtained from the WWNF website (USFS, 2012a) and through conversations with WWNF staff. The OPRD website was consulted to obtain state park supply data, as were local OPRD staff (OPRD, 2011). The Wallowa County portion of the Oregon Travel Recreation.com website was reviewed for county recreation data (Oregon County Recreation.com, 2011 and 2012).

#### 3.2 Recreation Use and Demand Analysis

The following describes how the recreation use and demand analyzes were conducted.

##### 3.2.1 Recreation Use

Existing use data for Pacific Park Campground were obtained from two sources. The first source was from the contractor that manages Pacific Park Campground for PacifiCorp. Reservation data from 2010 through 2012 were obtained from the contractor to determine visitation patterns and numbers. The data are presented in Section 4. The second source

of use data was from PacifiCorp Form 80 reports. These reports estimate the use of recreation facilities at hydroelectric facilities and are required by FERC to be developed every 5 years. The 2003 and 2008 Form 80 reports for Pacific Park Campground estimated overnight stays at the campground.

In addition to use data, a recreation visitor survey was sent to all campers who had used the reservation system (the vast majority of users) to reserve campsites for use between May and October of 2012. The survey was intended to assess attitudes, preferences, and characteristics of the campers at Pacific Park Campground. It was sent by the contractor that manages Pacific Park Campground for PacifiCorp to the e-mail addresses of campers who used the reservation system to reserve campsites for use between May and October of 2012. The survey obtained the following types of information (see Appendix A):

- Socio-demographic characteristics (for example, age and gender)
- Visitor activities (general and primary)
- Trip characteristics (for example, group size, length of trip, and other sites visited)
- Crowding and capacity issues
- Opinion of adequacy and condition of facilities
- Location of primary residence (zip code)
- Possible effects of sound discharged from the Project generator on camp users (for Aesthetics Study)

In addition to Pacific Park Campground, recreationists use PacifiCorp lands to access the WWNF and Eagle Cap Wilderness. As part of its study request, the WWNF requested that a trail survey be conducted to obtain information that would assist in better understanding how recreationists use PacifiCorp property to access the WWNF trails. In the winter, recreationists using skis and snow shoes follow the forebay access road (also known as the Wallowa Falls maintenance road) to access the WWNF and Aneroid Basin in the Eagle Cap Wilderness while avoiding avalanche chutes above the East Fork Trail. To better understand use patterns associated with winter use of the forebay access road, a winter use survey was conducted between late January 2012 and March 2012. A laser-beam counter was placed next to the road just beyond its intersection with the East Fork Trail to count pedestrians using the road. The beam counter was calibrated for pedestrian recording and the beam height set to minimize triggering by wildlife and moving vegetation. Data were downloaded monthly and the counter reset after each reading. The monthly total of counter hits was multiplied by 75 percent to account for approximately half the users returning to the trailhead area via the forebay road and the other half returning the East Fork Trail. In addition to the forebay access road, some recreationists access the WWNF (and Eagle Cap Wilderness) via the series of user-created trails in the vicinity of Pacific Park Campground. Some of these users are campers and others are recreationists who do not camp at the campground but use the user-created trails as a

shortcut to access the West Fork Trail and Chief Joseph Mountain Trail that lead into the Eagle Cap Wilderness. The laser-beam counter used for the winter count was moved next to the most prominent user-created trail west of the Pacific Park Campground. Data were collected between May and the end of October 2012.

Use data for Wallowa Lake State Park (traffic counts) were obtained from the OPRD and potential use estimates for Little Alps Day Use Area were extrapolated with review by OPRD.

### 3.2.2 Recreation Demand

The recreation demand analysis was intended to determine how demands for recreation activities of relevance to the Project may change in the future. These data were gathered primarily from OPRD's State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plans (SCORPs) as well as through conversations with local recreation providers. OPRD is in the process of preparing the 2013-2017 SCORP. As part of this effort, OPRD contracted with Oregon State University (OSU) to conduct a statewide survey of Oregon residents regarding their 2011 outdoor recreation participation in Oregon. The survey also asked their opinions related to parks and recreation. To obtain this information, OSU conducted a statewide survey and obtained data at the state, region, and county level. The data proved useful for characterizing recreational use patterns within Wallowa County. To assist with identifying likely future changes to recreational activities of relevance to the Project, the 2003-2008 SCORP was reviewed. It provided information related to recreational activities in northeast Oregon that appear to be decreasing in popularity and others whose popularity is increasing.

### 3.3 Recreation Needs Analysis

The needs analysis synthesized, compiled, and analyzed the results of the supply, use and demand analyses to determine how current and future trends in recreation influence the use of recreation resources in the Study Area and Project recreation facilities. The findings of this analysis will be reviewed and discussed with the WWNF and OPRD prior to submittal of the FERC license application.

## 4.0 RESULTS

This section presents the results of the recreation supply, use and demand, and needs analyses. Conclusions are presented in Section 5.

### 4.1 Recreation Supply Analysis

The supply analysis that was conducted for recreation resources within the Study Area examined recreation facilities on PacifiCorp Land, recreation resources on state and federal lands and recreation resources owned by private and nonprofit entities.

#### 4.1.1 Recreation Facilities on PacifiCorp Land

Two primary types of recreational activities occur on PacifiCorp lands, camping and trail use. Camping occurs on eight campsites at Pacific Park Campground. These campsites are less formal and generally larger than campsites at Wallowa Lake State Park and nearby private campgrounds. Staff at Wallowa Lake State Park report that some campers prefer the more rustic atmosphere of Pacific Park Campground and that park staff recommend the campground to campers when the state park is full (Honeywell, 2012). Most of the campsites at Pacific Park Campground have areas to park more than one vehicle, electricity, established campfire pit (metal), water, and trash containers. Two vault toilets are located in the campground, but many campers appear to use the flush toilets that are located a short distance away at the Little Alps Day Use Area. The overall condition of the campground is fair. Campers seem to respect the confines of the established campsites and dispersed camping outside of the designated camping area is not evident.

As mentioned previously, Pacific Park Campground contains a series of user-created trails that originate at the campground and wind their way up the hillside west of the campground (see Figure 2). Some of the trails fade away a short distance from the campground. Others however, primarily at the southern end of the campground, continue up the hillside to a ridge. Once on the ridge, the number of user-created trails decreases. Some head north to a rock outcrop that provides spectacular views of Wallowa Lake to the north and the West Fork Wallowa River gorge to the west and southwest. Other user-created trails follow the ridge south to the boundary of the WWNF where they intersect with the Chief Joseph Mountain and West Fork trails. Both Pacific Park Campground campers and other people use the user-created trails to access the ridge. For some people the ridge is the final destination, whereas for others the user-created trails are simply a short-cut to the West Fork Wallowa and Chief Joseph Mountain trails.

The forebay access road is another feature on PacifiCorp property that is used by recreationists. The road offers recreationists an option to the East Fork Trail for traveling up the East Fork Wallowa River canyon. The forebay access road is often used in the winter by backcountry skiers and snowshoers seeking to avoid several avalanche chutes above the East Fork Trail. The forebay access road departs the main WWNF trail several hundred feet above the Wallowa Lake Trailhead and steeply winds its way up the east side of the East Fork Wallowa River canyon. Near the road's turnoff point from the main



WWNF trail it passes over the bypass reach on a wood bridge. From the bridge the lower penstock trestle can be observed as can a waterfall behind the trestle. Farther up the canyon at a location approximately 400 feet downstream of the Project dam (next to a metal Project gate that can be used to close the forebay access road), a side trail connects with the East Fork Trail. The side trail provides recreationists with a way to avoid having to cross through the Project laydown area near the forebay to get to a catwalk over the dam spillway. To use the dam spillway catwalk, recreationists must climb over a 36-inch-high locked gate to access the East Fork Trail.

#### 4.1.2 Recreation Facilities in the Study Area

The south end of Wallowa Lake is a relatively developed resort community that contains a wide array of recreation attractions that include an Oregon State Park, miniature golf courses, bumper cars, the Wallowa Lake Tram, horse outfitters and other attractions. There are also many single-family residences in this area. Some are used as year-round residences but more are used as vacation homes or vacation rentals. Several resorts feature rental cabins and some provide recreational vehicle (RV) and/or tent campsites. The WWNF and Eagle Cap Wilderness are major recreation resources that are accessed from the Wallowa Lake area via a WWNF trail system that begins at the Wallowa Lake Trailhead. The Wallowa Lake Trailhead and the beginning of the WWNF trail system are located on PacifiCorp property. Table 4.1-1 describes recreation facilities in the Study Area.

**Table 4.1-1 Recreation Facilities in the Study Area.**

| Facility                                      | Campsites   | Other Features  | Notes  |
|---|---|---|--|
| <b>PacifiCorp</b>                             |   |   |  |
| Pacific Park Campground                       | Approximately eight locations for camping                                 | Two pit toilets, water, electricity   | Campsite locations are somewhat flexible and current management company is experimenting with creating more space and privacy between sites. |
| <b>Oregon Parks and Recreation Department</b> |   |   |  |
| Wallowa Lake State Park                       | 210 (89 nonhookup)<br>2 yurts<br>3 group tent areas<br>1 hiker-biker area | Recreational vehicle (RV) dumping station<br>Restrooms<br>Showers<br>Water<br>Picnic areas<br>Group picnic areas<br>Boat launch<br>Marina |  |
| Little Alps Day Use Area                      | None  | Restroom (with water)<br>5 picnic tables<br>2 campfire pits   |  |
| <b>Wallowa-Whitman National Forest</b>        |   |   |  |
| Wallowa Lake Trailhead                        | NA  | Trail   | Located on PacifiCorp property next to the Joseph-Wallowa Lake Highway turnaround and managed by the WWNF.                                   |

**Table 4.1-1 Recreation Facilities in the Study Area.**

| Facility                                  | Campsites                                | Other Features                         | Notes   |
|---|--|--|---|
|   |  |  | Provides access into Eagle Cap Wilderness for hikers, commercial outfitters, equestrians and others. Includes sign and registration station. Parking for the trailhead is along west side of Joseph-Wallowa Lake Highway (east side is for horse trailers – mostly associated with outfitters). |
| East Fork Trail<br>(No. 1804)             | NA                                       | Trail                                  | Part of the trail passes through PacifiCorp property and is managed by the WWNF. Provides access up the East Fork Wallowa River to Aneroid Lake and Basin and Tenderfoot and Polaris passes. Eleven miles one-way.  |
| West Fork Trail<br>(No. 1820)             | NA                                       | Trail                                  | Part of the trail passes through PacifiCorp property and is managed by the WWNF. Provides access up the West Fork Wallowa River into the Eagle Cap Wilderness to Hawkins Pass and other trails. Twelve miles one-way.   |
| Chief Joseph Mountain Trail<br>(No. 1803) | NA                                       | Trail                                  | Part of the trail is located on PacifiCorp property and is managed by the WWNF. Provides access to Chief Joseph Mountain and Chief Joseph Basin. Seven miles one-way.   |
| <b>Private Sector Facilities</b>          |  |  |   |
| Scenic Meadows RV Park                    | 16 RV spaces with hookups, 2 tent spaces | Showers, restrooms, water, electricity |   |
| Eagle Cap Chalets and Park at the River   | 48 full hookup sites, overflow area      | Showers, restrooms, laundry facilities |   |
| <b>Nonprofit Facilities</b>               |  |  |   |
| Boy Scout Camp                            |  |  | Owned by Blue Mountain Council of the Boy Scouts of America called Wa-La-Moot-Kin-Lodge.  |
| Wallowa Lake Camp                         |  |  | Owned by Methodist Church.  |

Source: Wallowa Lake Tourism Committee, 2012.

### 4.1.3 Recreation Facilities in the Public Sector

#### 4.1.3.1 Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

The OPRD manages Wallowa Lake State Park, which is located approximately 0.75 mile north of the FERC Project boundary at the south end of Wallowa Lake. The 166-acre

park is popular. It contains 210 full hookup sites, 89 tent sites, 3 group camping areas, and 1 camping site for hikers or bikers. Campsites within the state park are fairly close together. Other facilities at Wallowa Lake State Park include picnic areas; a swimming area; and a marina that includes overnight moorage, a concessionaire building, boat rentals and a boat ramp. A trail approximately 1 mile in length connects the marina with camp presentation area. People camping at the state park who visit the Eagle Cap Wilderness or trails to it either walk along the Joseph-Wallowa Lake Highway or drive their vehicles and park along the road near the Wallowa Lake Trailhead.

In addition to the main park, OPRD manages the Little Alps Day Use Area. PacifiCorp has leased this area to OPRD for recreational use since 1954. Its previous name was the Trailhead Day Use Area because of its proximity to the Wallowa Lake Trailhead (OPRD, 2001). Little Alps is approximately 12 acres in size and is intended for day use only; camping is not permitted. It contains a restroom with cold running water (but no electricity), five picnic tables, several trash receptacles, two fire pits, several water faucets, a paved trail from the parking area along the Joseph-Wallowa Lake Highway to the restroom and several unpaved user-created trails. The east side of the day use area is adjacent to the portion of the Joseph-Wallowa Lake Highway that people entering the Eagle Cap Wilderness park their vehicles. Most of the visitation at Little Alps is by people starting or ending their hikes into the WWNF and/or Eagle Cap Wilderness. These people were often observed using the restroom (which is also used by some campers at Pacific Park Campground), picnicking, drying out tents, and assembling items for their backpacks, among other activities. A barbed wire fence (generally in disrepair) runs along the border of the day use area and Pacific Park Campground. However, much of it has been cut, removed or knocked down and people move freely between the campground and the day use area. Another property that is included in the lease by PacifiCorp to OPRD is the Wallowa Lake State Park maintenance facility. It is located east of (across the Joseph-Wallowa Lake Highway) the Little Alps day use area and north of the Wallowa Lake Trailhead.

#### *4.1.3.2 Wallowa-Whitman National Forest*

The WWNF is located in the northeast corner of Oregon and spills into western Idaho. It includes 2.3 million acres that offer a variety of year-round recreational opportunities that include activities such as hiking, camping, fishing, hunting, snow sports and many others. The primary draw of WWNF visitors to the Study Area is the nearby Eagle Cap Wilderness. The Eagle Cap Wilderness was first established as a primitive area in 1930, designated as Wilderness in 1940, and placed in the National Wilderness Preservation System under the Wilderness Act of 1964. There are approximately 535 miles of trails within the 350,461-acre wilderness. It is the most heavily used wilderness in northeast Oregon. The WWNF notes on its Eagle Cap Wilderness webpage that solitude is an important part of a wilderness adventure, but warns that some trails within the Eagle Cap receive high degrees of use which may impact solitude, especially on holidays or weekends (USFS, 2012b). Among the trails identified in the webpage that visitors may want to avoid during the peak season if they are looking for solitude, are two trails that are accessed through PacifiCorp property, the East and West Fork trails.

The ROS settings in the Study Area reflect the differences between the developed south Wallowa Lake area and the undeveloped Eagle Cap Wilderness. As seen in Figure 3, ROS settings between the south Wallowa Lake area and the Eagle Cap Wilderness transition from Rural, to Roaded Natural, to Semiprimitive. Once in a wilderness area administered by the USFS, WRS categories, rather than ROS settings, are assigned to NFS lands. The WRS system is similar to the ROS system in that each WRS category reflects differing types of settings and experiences (e.g., solitude, evidence of other recreationists, and density of recreationists) that people visiting a wilderness can expect. The WRS categories within the portion of the Eagle Cap Wilderness within the Study Area include Semiprimitive, Primitive, and Pristine.

To access the Eagle Cap Wilderness from the Wallowa Lake area, recreationists pass through PacifiCorp land on trails developed and maintained by the WWNF. Most begin their trip at the Wallowa Lake Trailhead, which is also located on PacifiCorp land. People travelling to the Aneroid Lake area take the East Fork Trail (WWNF Trail No. 1804) which crosses over and near the Project penstock at several locations. It also passes next to the Project dam and forebay area. An alternate to the East Fork Trail that some people take (particularly in the winter) is to travel on the forebay access road towards the Project dam and forebay area and then either (1) connect with the East Fork Trail at a cross-over trail below the dam that was created for this purpose, or (2) continue uphill to the Project dam and climb over the locked catwalk gate to the East Fork Trail.

Recreationists travelling on the West Fork Trail (WWNF Trail No. 1820) also start at the Wallowa Lake Trailhead. Instead of branching off to the left to access the East Fork Wallowa Trail, they continue straight to an area on a nearby ridge where the West Fork Wallowa Trail intersects with the Chief Joseph Mountain Trail (WWNF Trail No. 1803). The portion of the West Fork Trail between the trailhead and the ridge is dusty due to heavy use by horses. On top of the ridge, the West Fork Trail and the Chief Joseph Mountain Trail intersect with the series of user-created trails that begin at Pacific Park Campground. Some recreationists who use the user-created trails do so to avoid a dusty section of the West Fork Trail. They then continue into the Eagle Cap Wilderness after reaching the intersection with the West Fork or Chief Joseph Mountain trails. Other people use the user-created trails to complete a “loop” that starts at the campground and ends back at the Wallowa Lake Trailhead.

There are no developed WWNF campgrounds within the Study Area. The closest developed WWNF campground is Hurricane Creek, which is over 10 miles west of the Study Area. Camping within the 1-mile Study Area may occur in the portion of the WWNF that is within the Eagle Cap Wilderness.

#### 4.1.4 Recreation Facilities in the Private/Nonprofit Sector

In addition to recreation resources provided by the state and federal government, two private sector facilities provide camping resources within the Study Area. The Eagle Cap Chalets and Park at the River (the same facility) contains 48 full hookup sites as well as an overflow area. The Scenic Meadows RV Park contains 16 RV spaces with hookups and 2 tent spaces. Both facilities provide restrooms, water, and other amenities.

Two parcels of land near the Project are used by two nonprofit groups for infrequent recreation activities. The Boy Scouts of America own land on the west side and east sides of the West Fork of the Wallowa River. The land for the camp was donated by PPL to the Blue Mountain Council of the Boy Scouts of America (Wa-La-Moot-Kin-Lodge, 2012). The camp was known as Camp Wallowa. As a result of a series of events (fires and flooding, among others), it is no longer an active Boy Scout camp or recreation resource. The camp is still used in a limited fashion by the Boy Scouts. It is reached by a footbridge that replaced a vehicular bridge destroyed by a flood in the 1970s.

Wallowa Lake Camp is owned and operated by the Methodist Church. It contains camp-related structures including a dining hall (Bailey Lodge), with overnight accommodations for up to 15, several group cabins that sleep varying numbers of people, several sites for tent camping and RVs, a manager's house, parking lots, a shower/toilet building, and a maintenance shop, caretaker apartment, and meeting area. The property is surrounded by private lands with cabins except for the west boundary that abuts the National Forest wilderness area. Historically, the camp was much bigger. Much of the camp's land has been subdivided and sold off as needed to generate income for the camp (OPRD, 2001). OPRD states in the *Wallowa County State Parks Master Plan* (2001) that the Methodist Church asked OPRD to consider future management, development, and maintenance of some portion of the camp's facilities.

## 4.2 Recreation Use and Demand Analysis

### 4.2.1 Recreation Patterns in Wallowa County and Northeast Oregon

As described in Section 2.2.1, the *Oregon Resident Outdoor Recreation Demand Analysis* (Demand Analysis) and the *2003-2007 Oregon Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan* (2003-2007 SCORP) were reviewed to help determine existing and future recreation use and demand patterns. The Demand Analysis provided information at a county level, whereas the 2003-2007 SCORP provided data at a regional level for northeast Oregon (Region 10 which includes Wallowa, Baker, Union, and Grant counties). This information was useful for helping identify existing activities and future recreation trends of relevance to the Project.

The Demand Analysis survey asked respondents questions on 70 recreation activities. The 70 activities were grouped into eight general categories; Nonmotorized Trail Activities, Motorized Activities, Nonmotorized Snow Activities, Outdoor Leisure / Sporting Activities, Nature Study Activities, Vehicle-based Camping Activities, Fishing / Hunting / Shooting Activities, and Nonmotorized Water-based and Beach Activities. The survey identified the top 10 counties in Oregon by average percentage of the population participating in the eight general activity categories. Wallowa County placed in the top 10 in 6 of 8 eight categories. The categories are listed below (with examples of specific activities that are included in the general category) by percentage of Wallowa County residents surveyed reporting to have participated in the activity categories in 2011. The top ten ranking is also identified for each activity.

- Outdoor Leisure Sporting Activities (e.g., sightseeing, picnicking, general play, team sports, dog walking)—28.6 percent participation (ranked no. 3 statewide)
- Vehicle-Based Camping Activities (e.g., RV camping, car/motorcycle camping with a tent, yurts/cabins provided by parks)—22 percent participation (ranked no. 4 statewide)
- Nature Study Activities (e.g., bird watching, outdoor photography, other nature observation)—21.8 percent participation (ranked no. 10 statewide)
- Fishing, Hunting, Shooting Activities—21.1 percent participation (ranked no. 3 statewide)
- Motorized Activities (e.g., all-terrain vehicles, 4-wheel drive vehicles, off-road motorcycling, snowmobiling, powerboating)—20.7 percent participation (ranked no. 3 statewide)
- Nonmotorized Snow Activities (e.g., downhill skiing/snowboarding, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, and snow play)—18.4 percent participation (ranked no. 5 statewide)

Of the specific activities in Wallowa County that are included in the eight broad categories, several are of relevance to the Project. The activities and the estimated number of occasions per year that Wallowa County residents took part in these activities are identified below in Table 4.2-1.

**Table 4.2-1 Activities That Occur in the Study Area and the Estimated Number of Occasions that the Activities Occur in Wallowa County.**

| Activity                                   | Estimated Number of Occasions Activities Occur in Wallowa County | Notes  |
|--|--|--|
| <b>Outdoor Leisure Sporting Activities</b> |  |  |
| Sightseeing, driving for pleasure          | 287,990  | Project powerhouse and Pacific Park Campground are located at terminus of Joseph-Wallowa Lake Highway.                 |
| Relaxing, hanging out, escaping heat       | 223,067  | May include activities people engage in at Pacific Park Campground, Little Alps Day Use Area, Wallowa Lake State Park. |
| Picnicking                                 | 77,974   | Some use at Little Alps Day Use Area.  |
| Visiting historic sites                    | 55,097   | There may be an opportunity to inform public of the history or the Wallowa Falls Hydroelectric Project.                |
| <b>Vehicle-Based Camping Activities</b>    |  |  |
| Car camping with a tent                    | 323,563  | Popular activity at Pacific Park Campground.   |
| RV/motorhome/trailer camping               | 155,304  | Popular activity at Pacific Park Campground.   |

**Table 4.2-1 Activities That Occur in the Study Area and the Estimated Number of Occasions that the Activities Occur in Wallowa County.**

| <b>Activity</b>                                       | <b>Estimated Number of Occasions Activities Occur in Wallowa County</b> | <b>Notes</b>   |
|---|---|--|
| <b>Nature Study Activities</b>                        |   |  |
| Other nature, wildlife, forest observation            | 170,138   | Participants may use trails in the Study Area and on PacifiCorp land while participating.  |
| Outdoor photography, painting.                        | 123,345   | See above.   |
| Bird watching   | 105,187   | See above.   |
| <b>Fishing, Hunting, Shooting Activities</b>          |   |  |
| Fishing from a bank (other than fly fishing)          | 109,917   | Access to West Fork Wallowa River and Eagle Cap Wilderness can be gained though trails passing through the Project.  |
| Fly fishing   | 73,237  | See above.   |
| Big game hunting with rifle                           | 61,542  | Hunters accessing Eagle Cap Wilderness use trails passing through the Project and often park along Joseph-Wallowa Lake Highway next to Little Alps Day Use Area.           |
| Big game hunting with a bow                           | 9,380   | Hunters accessing Eagle Cap Wilderness use trails passing through the Project.   |
| <b>Motorized Activities</b>                           |   |  |
| Driving, off-road vehicles                            | NA  | Motorized activities are very popular in Wallowa County but none occur on PacifiCorp lands or in the nearby Eagle Cap Wilderness (in which motorized vehicles are banned). |
| <b>Nonmotorized Snow Activities</b>                   |   |  |
| Sledding, tubing, general snow play                   | 94,225  | Not sure how much of the activity occurs on PacifiCorp lands, likely very little.  |
| Cross-country skiing on ungroomed trails off of trail | 8,714   | There is use of the forebay access road for back-country skiers.   |
| Snowshoeing   | 6,453   | See above.   |
| Cross-country skiing on groomed trails                | Less than 1,000   | No groomed trails on Project lands.  |
| <b>Nonmotorized Trail or Related Activities</b>       |   |  |
| Walking on local street or sidewalks                  | 775,660   | Popular activity along Joseph-Wallowa Lake Highway by visitors and residents.  |
| Walking on local trails                               | 224,769   | Popular activity on area trails including developed WWNF and user-created trails that start on PacifiCorp lands.   |

**Table 4.2-1 Activities That Occur in the Study Area and the Estimated Number of Occasions that the Activities Occur in Wallowa County.**

| <b>Activity</b>                                 | <b>Estimated Number of Occasions Activities Occur in Wallowa County</b> | <b>Notes</b>  |
|---|---|---|
| Horseback riding                                | 175,750   | Popular activity (primarily commercial outfitters) that occurs on WWNF trails that start on PacifiCorp lands.                                     |
| Walking and/or hiking on nonlocal trails        | 147,816   | Popular activity in Study Area.   |
| Backpacking                                     | 107,891   | Popular activity that occurs on WWNF trails that start on PacifiCorp lands.   |
| Bicycling on roads, streets                     | 96,088  | Terminus of Joseph-Wallowa Lake Highway is located near Project.  |
| Running on trails                               | 26,919  | Not sure how much occurs near Project.  |
| Bicycling unpaved trails                        | 16,179  | Not sure how much occurs near Project, but is likely campers ride mountain bikes on user-created trails to some degree.                           |
| <b>Nonmotorized Trail or Related Activities</b> |   |   |
|   | NA  | Activities such as beach activities at lakes and reservoirs, and flat-water human-powered boating, occur at Wallowa Lake, but not at the Project. |

Most of the activities listed in Table 4.2-1 occur on PacifiCorp lands or in the Study Area. Of the activities identified, the two most popular (car camping with a tent and RV/motorhome/trailer camping) occur at the Pacific Park Campground. Although many of the people who camp at Pacific Park Campground are from other areas, there is clearly a demand among Wallowa County residents for camping. There is also a demand for walking on local streets and trails within Wallowa County, and trails in and near the Project no doubt provide places for people to walk. Trails in and near the Project are also important for supporting a number of other popular activities. These include horseback riding, big game hunting, wildlife and nature observation, photography, fishing, backpacking, running on trails, cross-country skiing and snowshoeing. Activities that could be better supported with additional planning and development include picnicking, learning about history (of the Wallowa Falls Hydroelectric Project), and support for recreationists heading into the Eagle Cap Wilderness (better trail signage, upgrade user-created trails, bivouac camping facilities for people beginning or ending trips into the Eagle Cap Wilderness).

#### *4.2.1.1 Seasonal Recreational Use Patterns on Northeast Oregon*

The 2003-2007 SCORP identified popular outdoor recreational activities in northeast Oregon and determined the seasons that the greatest number of participants reported participating in the activity. Table 4.2-2 identifies popular activities in northeast Oregon that are of relevance to the Project and lists them by percentage of households surveyed



that participated in that activity during the most popular season for the activity (which was also identified in the survey). Note that the activity categories are different than those used in the Demand Study, but are still useful for identifying types of outdoor recreational activities. As might be expected, many of the activities occur during the prime summer recreation months of July through September.

**Table 4.2-2 Popular Recreation Activities In Northeastern Oregon and Maximum Seasonal Participation Rates.**

| <b>Activity Category</b> | <b>Maximum Seasonal Participation Rate (Percent of Households that Responded to Survey)</b> | <b>Most Popular Season</b> | <b>Types of Activities</b>  |
|--------------------------|---|----------------------------|---|
| Road and Street          | 73  | April-June                 | Running or walking for exercise, walking for pleasure, etc.   |
| Fishing                  | 62  | July-September             | Fishing, clamming, or crabbing.   |
| Nature Study             | 61.5  | July-September             | Bird watching, nature or wildlife observation, tracking animal signs, or outdoor photography.   |
| Camping                  | 60.5  | July-September             | RV/trailer, ATV, horseback, boat, or bicycle camping – does not include backpacking, which is asked in another question.                  |
| Trail Activities         | 55  | July-September             | Trail and off-trail activities including hiking, backpacking, mountain biking, cross-country skiing, orienteering, or horseback riding.   |
| Hunting and Shooting     | 50.7  | October-December           | Big and small game hunting, waterfowl hunting, upland bird hunting, animal trapping, target shooting, skeet or trap shooting, or archery. |

Source: OPRD, 2003 (Appendix B: Phone Survey Analysis). The region includes Wallowa, Baker, Union and Grant counties.

#### 4.2.2 Wallowa Lake State Park

Wallowa Lake State Park is the most popular state park in northeast Oregon and the tenth most visited state park in all of Oregon (Oregon Live, 2012). OPRD conducts traffic counts at two locations in the south Wallowa Lake area to track vehicles entering (1) the state park; and (2) the portion of Joseph-Wallowa Lake Highway that leads to the Little Alps Day Use Area, the Wallowa Lake Trailhead, parking along the Joseph-Wallowa Lake Highway, the Joseph-Wallowa Lake Highway turnaround, and Pacific Park Campground (see Tables 4.2-3 and 4.2-4). The number of vehicles counted at both locations is lowest in the winter months and starts increasing significantly in May of most years, with peak counts occurring in July or August. The counter near the entrance to the main part of the state park records a greater number of vehicles than the counter near Little Alps Day Use Area in almost all months. This finding is not unexpected, given the main park's attractions, ease of accessibility to the lake, and proximity to Joseph and Enterprise (which most visitors need to pass through to reach the Wallowa Lake area).

**Table 4.2-3 2008 to 2012 Traffic Counts for Wallowa Lake State Park—Location 1.**

| Year | Jan.  | Feb.  | Mar.  | April | May    | June   | July   | Aug.   | Sept.  | Oct.  | Nov.  | Dec.  | Total   |
|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------|-------|-------|---------|
| 2012 | 5,097 | 2,587 | 7,700 | 912   | 6,555  | 26,916 | 57,279 |        |        |       |       |       | 107,316 |
| 2011 | 2,677 | 3,844 | 5,100 | 3,011 | 6,599  | 34,081 | 24,909 | 38,725 | 26,378 | 6,908 | 3,123 | 2,594 | 157,896 |
| 2010 | 3,392 | 3,941 | 5,012 | 3,006 | 3,096  | 22,359 | 71,201 | 49,578 | 22,978 | 3,711 | 2,921 | 5,208 | 196,403 |
| 2009 | 2,438 | 3,000 | 3,918 | 6,645 | 15,936 | 30,306 | 51,707 | 42,225 | 3,926  | 7,481 | 3,445 | 3,374 | 174,401 |
| 2008 | 300   | 2,010 | 2,001 | 4,211 | 11,975 | 28,256 | 55,748 | 47,131 | 25,594 | 7,482 | 3,628 | 2,425 | 190,761 |

Notes:

Wallowa Lake State Park counter was located on Marina Lane just inside the park boundary near the bridge.

The counts recorded from the counter located across the Joseph-Wallowa Lake Highway near the Little Alps Day Use Area are also highest in July and August. It is not possible to know how the people in the counted vehicles are distributed in terms of where they go after crossing the counter. Some no doubt do not get out of their vehicles, or do so for short periods of time, and then turn around and drive north out of the Little Alps Day Use Area. Others park their vehicles along the Joseph-Wallowa Lake Highway to access some of the attractions in the area such as trails that lead to nearby areas of the Eagle Cap Wilderness Area, the two nearby rivers, Little Alps Day Use Area, or Pacific Park Campground.

**Table 4.2-4 2008 to 2012 Traffic Counts Near Wallowa Lake State Park Maintenance Facility—Location 2.**

| Year | Jan.  | Feb.  | Mar.  | April | May   | June   | July   | August | Sept. | Oct.  | Nov.  | Dec.  | Total   |
|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|--------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------|
| 2012 | 3,460 | 1,690 | 1,669 | 441   | 3,288 | 5,466  | 16,854 |        |       |       |       |       | 32,868  |
| 2011 | 2,026 | 1,956 | 3,010 | 1,517 | 5,617 | 20,007 | 17,730 | 31,974 | 9,155 | 3,418 | 2,127 | 1,777 | 100,314 |
| 2010 | 1,759 | 1,978 | 3,112 | 1,628 | 2,907 | 18,806 | 35,600 | 15,549 | 8,241 | 1,010 | 2,255 | 3,973 | 96,818  |
| 2009 | 914   | 1,078 | 1,921 | 905   | 7,117 | 11,153 | 28,872 | 15,077 | 1,161 | 3,502 | 2,379 | 1,742 | 75,821  |
| 2008 | 2,000 | 1,991 | 1,990 | 3,485 | 5,786 | 9,914  | 16,576 | 15,125 | 8,622 | 3,532 | 1,893 | 2,393 | 73,307  |

Note:

Counter was located across the Joseph-Wallowa Lake Highway right after the driveway into the Wallowa Lake State Park maintenance facility.

#### 4.2.3 Wallowa-Whitman National Forest

Most of the WWNF's recreation data were lost in a fire that occurred in July 2010 that destroyed the WWNF headquarters. In its comment on the preapplication document, the comments on the scoping document, and the study request letter sent to the FERC dated June 23, 2011, the USFS provided data for use at the Wallowa Lake Trailhead (USFS, 2011). The USFS reported that, in 2005, 1,765 permits were filled out and deposited in the permit deposit box at the Wallow Lake Trailhead between January 14 and November 11. Assuming a party size of 2.7 people and a compliance rate of filling out permits of 85 percent, the estimated number of people departing the trailhead to access the Eagle Cap

Wilderness was estimated at approximately 5,500. Most were hikers, with 110 estimated to be using stock animals. Between January 1 and November 26, 2007, 1,730 permits were submitted, and approximately 5,400 people were estimated to have entered the area. In 2010 (between March 23 and December 8), 1,701 permits were turned in, and approximately 5,300 people were estimated to have entered the Eagle Cap Wilderness. The 3 years of estimates indicate very consistent use of the Eagle Cap Wilderness.

#### 4.2.4 Pacific Park Campground

The number of campsites that were reserved through a property management company hired by PacifiCorp provides an indication of use patterns at Pacific Park Campground. The use patterns for camping at the Pacific Park Campground are similar to those of other attractions in the Study Area. Use typically starts out slowly during the late spring months and rapidly increases during the peak months of July and August (see Table 4.2-5). After August or mid-September, use drops off considerably. The property management company that manages Pacific Park Campground estimates that on average, four people stay at each campsite. Given this estimate, the number of people who stay at Pacific Park Campground has ranged from 544 to 764 for over the past 3 years (Table 4.2-6). The reason that more people were estimated to have stayed at the campground during 2010 than in 2011 and 2012, is that there were several more campsites in 2010 than the later years when the number of campsites was reduced to provide more privacy at the campsites and establish greater distances between the sites.

**Table 4.2-5 Number of Campsites Reserved at Pacific Park Campground.**

| Year | 5/1<br>to<br>5/14 | 5/15<br>to<br>5/31 | 6/1<br>to<br>6/14 | 6/15<br>to<br>6/30 | 7/1<br>to<br>7/14 | 7/15<br>to<br>7/31 | 8/1<br>to<br>8/14 | 8/15<br>to<br>8/31 | 9/1<br>to<br>9/14 | 9/15<br>to<br>10/1 | Total | Estimated Number<br>of Recreation Days<br>(assume 4 people on<br>average per site)* |
|------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------|---|
| 2012 | 0                 | 5                  | 0                 | 13                 | 34                | 31                 | 24                | 30                 | 12                | 3                  | 152   | 608   |
| 2011 | 0                 | 3                  | 3                 | 9                  | 16                | 41                 | 31                | 18                 | 12                | 3                  | 136   | 544   |
| 2010 | 0                 | 4                  | 6                 | 8                  | 50                | 43                 | 30                | 32                 | 13                | 5                  | 191   | 764   |

\*Estimate supplied by property management company that manages Pacific Park Campground for PacifiCorp based on staff observations.

FERC requires the collection of data every 5 years at recreation facilities associated with hydroelectric sites. Table 4.2-6 provides estimates of recreation days at the campground between May and September in 2003 and 2008 when the annual totals were estimated to be 556 and 541, respectively. These totals are similar to those displayed in Table 4.2-5, where the annual totals were estimated to range from 544 to 764.

**Table 4.2-6 Form 80 Recreation Report Data: Overnight Stays at Pacific Park Campground.**

| Year | Recreation Season                 | Recreation Days |                      | Notes |
|------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|-------|
|      |                                   | Annual Total    | Peak Weekend Average |       |
| 2003 | May 24, 2003, to October 1, 2003  | 556             | 264                  |       |
| 2008 | May 1, 2008 to September 30, 2008 | 541             | 60                   |       |

In addition to collecting visitation data at Pacific Park Campground, a survey was sent to campers who had camped at Pacific Park Campground to obtain information about the campers and to obtain feedback from them related to their camping experience. As described in Section 3.2.1 (Methodology Recreation Use), the survey was sent to all campers who had registered online one week after they had camped at the campground (see Appendix A). The survey was completed by 19 parties, which is not a large number of responses, but is a sufficient number to provide informational, if not statistically valid, feedback. Some of the data supplied by the respondents related to Pacific Park Campground of note are listed below:

- Approximately 42 percent of the respondents used the campground for the first time, 20 percent had visited 6 to 10 times, and 10 percent had camped more than 10 times.
- The condition of the campground (on a scale of 1 to 10) was rated 10 (excellent) by 21 percent of the respondents, 9 by 21 percent, 8 by 31 percent, 7 by 16 percent, and 4 (low average) by 11 percent.
- The quality of the camping experience was rated 10 (excellent) by 44 percent of the respondents; 9 by 22 percent; 8 by 17 percent; and either 5, 6, or 7 by 5 percent.
- Visitors were generally from northeastern Oregon or areas of Washington and Idaho within approximately 100 miles of the Project.
- Suggestions and comments that were added by the respondents included the following:
  - Improvements to vault toilets (clean more often, replace with flush toilets, add showers and/or running water).
  - Like the privacy of the campground and it's quiet atmosphere.
  - Like "creeks" (tailraces) flowing.
  - More trash at campground than in the past.
  - The gate generated some positive comments (keeps people out) but difficult to use and access the campground.
- Activities that were enjoyed included day hikes into the WWNF (68 percent participating), fishing (5 percent), photography (42 percent), observing nature (63 percent) and other (37 percent).

#### 4.2.5 Forebay Access Road and Social Trail Recreational Use Estimates

As described in Section 3.0 (Methodology), a laser-beam counter on the forebay access road was used to obtain trail counts in the winter of 2012. The same counter was moved to the main user-created trail west of Pacific Park Campground to obtain summer and fall, 2012 counts. These counts were conducted at the request of the WWNF to help estimate how much use the forebay access road and the user-created trails on PacifiCorp property receive. This information was of interest to the WWNF because some

recreationists using the forebay access road and user-created trails on PacificCorp property enter the Eagle Cap Wilderness. When they use the forebay access road or user-created trails to enter the wilderness they do not register at the Wallowa Lake Trailhead. People starting their trip at the trailhead (which is the majority of people) are required to register if they enter the Eagle Cap Wilderness. By not registering to enter the Eagle Cap Wilderness area, the number of people estimated by the WWNF who use the wilderness each year is under represented. This can have funding consequences for the WWNF (budgets for the management of wilderness areas are frequently related to use levels).

Table 4.2-7 depicts the numbers of people that were counted and estimated to be using the forebay access road in the winter of 2012 and the main social trail during the summer and fall of 2012.

**Table 4.2-7 2012 Winter Recreational Use of the Forebay Access Road and User-Created Trails West of Pacific Park Campground.**

| <b>Dates</b>  | <b>1/29 to 2/6</b> | <b>2/7 to 2/13</b> | <b>2/14 to 2/20</b> | <b>2/21 to 2/29</b> | <b>March</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|---------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------|--------------|
| <b>Counts</b> | 27                 | 12                 | 21                  | 20                  | 67           | <b>147</b>   |

Note: Approximately half of the people using the forebay access road in the winter are assumed to return via the road and the other half via the East Fork Trail. Therefore, the number of people counted was multiplied by 75 percent to estimate usage,

The winter count began in late January as a result of organizational complications, so counts for most of January were not obtained. Because snow came late to the area in the winter of 2011/2012, it can be assumed that there was little use of the forebay access road prior to January. A total of 147 recreationists were estimated to have used the forebay access road between January 29, 2012, and March 31, 2012. The number of people counted in February (plus January 29) was 80 and in March was 67. Winter use in the Study Area is clearly lighter than summer use, but the forebay access road is an important resource for winter recreationists travelling to the Eagle Cap Wilderness.

Use estimates for the main social trail west of Pacific Park Campground were taken using the laser-beam counter between late May and the end of October 2012 (see Table 4.2-8). . Because of the number of trail options in this area, it is difficult to determine which trails people use to access the ridge above Pacific Park Campground or the Eagle Cap Wilderness and which trails they use to return so some “double counting” of people no doubt occurred. It is also difficult to know the destinations of the hikers that were counted. Some may have simply hiked to the ridge west of Pacific Park Campground (to enjoy views of the West Fork Wallowa River gorge or Wallowa Lake) while others may have participated in a loop hike without entering the Eagle Cap Wilderness. Responses from Pacific Park Campground users who were surveyed (see end of this section) suggest that many did enter the Eagle Cap Wilderness. It is clear that a number of people use the user-created trails during the summer and fall and that controlling use and upgrading the trails may be warranted. A registration station for people using the trails who enter the Eagle Cap Wilderness via these trails may also be appropriate.

**Table 4.2-8 2012 Summer and Fall Use of the Social Trail West of Pacific Park Campground.**

| Dates  | 5/21 to<br>6/10 | 6/11 to<br>6/25 | 6/26 to<br>7/10 | 7/11 to<br>7/27 | 7/28 to<br>8/7 | 8/8 to<br>8/30 | 8/31 to<br>9/20 | 9/20 to<br>9/30 | 10/1 to<br>10/31 | Total |
|--------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|-------|
| Counts | 495             | 332             | 425             | 335             | 384            | 530            | 306             | 136             | 144              | 3,087 |

The survey that was sent to people who had camped at Pacific Park Campground also asked questions regarding their use of trails in the Study Area. Of the 19 parties who responded, 13 (68 percent) reported using trails into the WWNF during their stay. A total of 46 percent reported hiking on the Chief Joseph Mountain Trail, 26 percent on the East Fork Trail, and 20 percent on the West Fork Trail. When asked about the condition of the trails they had used, 31 percent rated them a 10 (excellent), 25 percent either 7 or 8, and 6 percent either 6 or 3. The quality of their trail experiences were rated similarly. When asked if they were aware of human-made elements while using the trail system and how the elements affected their trip, 75 percent said the elements had no effect, 16 percent said the elements enhanced their trip, and 8 percent said the elements greatly enhanced their trip. When asked what human-made elements they noticed, the responses included the heavily used main trail, signs, people on foot and horseback, and powerhouse noise.

#### 4.3 Recreation Demand Analysis

The 2003-2007 SCORP provided an overview of projected future recreation trends (for growth through 2002) for Region 10 (northeast Oregon). It also provided estimates for activities that were expected to have the most significant growth in terms of participation of activities in northeast Oregon as well as those anticipated to have the most significant decreases in participation. Although these estimates are not current, they are useful for identifying general types of activities of relevance to the Project that have relatively recently been estimated to be in growth or decline. The activities of relevance to the Project with the greatest estimated growth rates are as follows:

- Nature/wildlife observation (+161 percent)
- RV/trailer camping (+ 96 percent)
- Fishing from a boat (+ 190 percent)
- Big game hunting with rifle (+93 percent)

Activities of relevance to the Study Area that were anticipated to decline in northeast Oregon the most were:

- Day hiking (- 48 percent)
- Horseback riding (- 66 percent)

The 2003-2007 SCORP also identified several areas to prioritize in terms of funding recreational improvements within northeast Oregon. Although the Project has no nexus to SCORP funding, the findings do provide some value in terms of identifying the types of improvements that the OPRD thinks are important within Region 10. The funding priority suggestions that would have potential relevance to the Study Area include; a)

providing recreational access to public lands, b) major rehabilitation of existing outdoor recreation facilities, and c) funding priority for winter recreation facilities.

The Demand Analysis that was described previously, was produced as part of the future 2013-2017 SCORP. This analysis also listed the priorities for future investment of outdoor recreational facilities in Region 10 (northeast Oregon). The respondents identified the facilities related to recreational activities that occur in the Study Area as priorities; a) dirt/soft surface walking trails and paths, b) public access to waterways, c) picnic areas and shelters (for small and large groups), d) nature and wildlife viewing areas, e) and off-street bicycle trails and pathways.

The Demand Analysis asked another question that is of relevance to the Project. The question asked respondents to write in the single most important thing that park and forest managers could do to help participation in outdoor recreation. The top ten statewide responses include some of relevance to facilities in the Study Area. The top-ten items were as follows:

- Provide more or better access.
- Provide safer environments.
- Provide clean restrooms.
- Restrict ATVs from parks.
- Improve advertising.
- Provide more trails.
- Provide more activities for children.
- Permit dogs to stay in yurts.
- Expand bathroom facilities.
- Increase accessibility for disabled people.

Of these comments, those related to better access, cleaner and expanded restrooms, more trails and increasing accessibility for disabled people might apply to facilities in the Study Area.

#### 4.4 Recreation Needs Analysis

##### 4.4.1 Providing for Current Recreation Needs

PacifiCorp has three primary roles in supporting recreation within the Study Area (both within and outside the Project boundary). Perhaps the most important role has been providing access between the south Wallowa Lake area and the WWNF. The Wallowa Lake Trailhead is sited within the Project boundary, as are the three developed WWNF trails described previously that pass through PacifiCorp land on their way to the WWNF. The forebay access road within the Project boundary provides the public with another option for reaching the WWNF and Eagle Cap Wilderness. A second role of PacifiCorp has been to support OPRD by leasing PacifiCorp land to OPRD for the Little Alps Day Use Area and the Wallowa Lake State Park maintenance facility. Finally, PacifiCorp operates Pacific Park Campground as an alternative type of camping experience within the Study Area.

#### 4.4.2 Future Recreation Needs of Relevance to the Project

Of the recreational activities discussed in Section 4.3 that occur in Wallowa County, the two most popular (car camping with a tent and RV/motorhome/trailer camping) are supported at Pacific Park Campground. Other popular activities within Wallowa County—such as walking on local streets and trails, horseback riding, big game hunting, wildlife and nature observation, photography, fishing, backpacking, picnicking, running on trails, cross-country skiing, and snowshoeing—occur on trails that pass through the Project boundary. The *Wallowa County State Parks Master Plan* (OPRD, 2001) indicated that there will be recreational needs in the future for several activities that the Project can help meet. They include demands for additional group camping facilities, short trails or loops close to campgrounds with connections to wilderness areas, more amenities and choice for types of overnight accommodations, and additional disabled accessible sites.

Although the developed recreational facilities located within the Project boundary are generally in good condition and camper satisfaction is generally high, there are opportunities to improve recreational features located within the Project boundary, improve the experience of recreationists using these features, and protect areas that have been damaged by recreational use. These improvements would benefit current users and help to meet future anticipated recreation needs. The proposed measures that are described in Section 5 were developed for recreational features located within the Project boundary. Many of the proposed measures were developed by a group of PacifiCorp, USFS, and OPRD staff as a result of a series of meetings and site visits. Additional proposed measures that are included in the *Wallowa Falls Hydroelectric Project FERC Project No. P-308: Final Study Progress Report – Aesthetic and Visual Resources* would be beneficial to the experience of recreation users (PacifiCorp, 2013).



## 5.0 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This section presents conclusions and recommendations related to various aspects of recreation. The section is organized by the following recreation topic and how recommended measures would affect those topics:

- Section 5.1 Effect of the Proposed Project on Recreation Supply and Access
- Section 5.2 Recreational Use Patterns in the Study Area and the Relationship of the Project
- Section 5.3 Future Recreation Demand and the Project
- Section 5.4 Effects of the Project on the Recreational Experience of Users Accessing the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest and Eagle Cap Wilderness

### 5.1 Effect of the Proposed Project on Recreation Supply and Access

Although developed recreational facilities located within the Project boundary are generally in good condition, and recreation resources within the Project boundary and within the Study Area are accessible to the general public, there are opportunities to improve recreational features located within the Project boundary, improve the experience of recreationists using these features, and protect areas that have been damaged by recreational use. The following describes recommended measures that were developed for recreational features located within the Project boundary and describes how the proposed measures would address concerns related to recreation supply and access. Many of the proposed measures were developed by a group of PacifiCorp, USFS, and OPRD staff as a result of a series of meetings and site visits.

The following proposed measures are for recreation resources located on PacifiCorp land in the vicinity of Pacific Park Campground and along the ridge between the campground and the West Fork Wallowa River.

- **Install a new entry sign at Pacific Park Campground.** The existing sign near the entrance to the campground is not easy to find and/or see, and information on it can be difficult to understand. The existing sign would be replaced with a new sign designed to meet PacifiCorp standards, meet the FERC Part 8 signage requirements, and informing the public of the campsite reservation system, trail opportunities in the area, including those leading to WWNF lands and the Eagle Cap Wilderness, etc. Note that signs designed with PacifiCorp standards have been installed at other PacifiCorp projects located on National Forests and have been approved by the National Forests in which they are located.
- **Improve management at Pacific Park Campground.** To make the campground more accessible to recreation users, the campground reservation system will be improved, and PacifiCorp will consider opening the unreserved sites to first-come first-served availability. The improved reservation system will be coordinated with

OPRD to assist area visitors in finding available camping sites. Additionally, the maintenance schedule frequency including facility cleaning and vault toilet pumping will be increased. The entrance gate to the campground will not be locked during the recreation season.

- **Construct ADA compliant ramp to vault toilet.** There is currently no ADA accessible restroom facility or campsite at Pacific Park Campground (or at the Little Alps Day Use Area). An ADA-accessible concrete ramp and railing would be installed and connected to existing concrete landing the southern vault toilet and one campsite would be upgraded to adhere to ADA standards. Within approximately 10 years, the existing two toilets would be replaced with a new double vault toilet.
- **Improve campsite identification signage.** To make finding campsites easier 4-foot (1.2 m) high metal posts with campsite numbers would be placed at the entry to each campsite to indicate the campsite number.
- **Improve campsite definition at Pacific Park Campground.** To prevent vehicles from entering sensitive areas and to better identify and differentiate campsites, boulders and/or rocks would be placed in strategic locations to provide better definition.
- **Restore tent/vehicle pads at Pacific Park Campground.** Restore camping pads that have eroded with new compacted gravel and wood ties where necessary.
- **Clean up campground area.** Logs, stumps, and rocks situated on inappropriate areas throughout the campground would be relocated or removed.
- **Construct fencing between Pacific Park Campground, Little Alps Day Use Area and the slope to the west of the campground near user-created trails.** The existing barbed-wire fencing between the Pacific Park Campground and Little Alps Day Use Area would be replaced with a split-rail wood fence that provides visual separation between the two facilities. In addition, a 4-foot-high (1.2 m) wood fence with woven wire inserts would be constructed at various locations along the west side of the campground to discourage people from accessing user-created trails that would be demobilized.
- **Construct a new access trail to the ridge west of Pacific Park Campground.** The maze of user-created trails on the slope west of Pacific Park Campground is confusing and damages vegetation along the slope. A new, formalized access trail that would follow (with some adaptation) the “main” existing user-created trail would begin just south of Pacific Park Campground and provide access to the ridge. Once on the ridge, the main trail would be connected with existing user-created trails that would be formalized to provide northern access to the proposed overlook area at the north end of the ridge (see below) and southern access to trails. The formalization of this trail would also support the NPS request to develop trails in the Project area.

- **Decommission and restore user-created trails.** Debris (e.g., logs, branches) would be placed at the beginning of the user-created trails on the slope west of Pacific Park Campground to block access to them. Small signs would be posted along the trails asking the public to support vegetative restoration efforts by staying off the restoration sites and using designated trails (this message would also be at the new sign and wilderness registration facility – see below).
- **Install sign and wilderness registration station along the new access trail to ridge.** A sign with a USFS wilderness registration facility that would meet PacifiCorp sign standards would be located at the beginning of the new access trail from Pacific Park Campground to the top of the ridge to the west. The sign would include a map that would depict the trails on the ridge and their connection to the West Fork and Chief Joseph Trails and the observation area. The sign would explain what is required for entry into the Eagle Cap Wilderness, and a box for registering USFS wilderness permits and collecting fees would be placed next to the sign; it would be designed with USFS input.
- **Install overlook area interpretive sign.** To take advantage of the views of the West Fork Wallowa River Gorge and Wallowa Lake from the north end of the ridge west of Pacific Park Campground, a one-panel sign meeting PacifiCorp sign standards would explain the features that can be seen from the overlook. The sign would include input from interested agencies and tribes. This measure would support the NPS request for providing scenic viewpoints in the Project area.

The following proposed measures are for recreation resources located in the vicinity of the project powerhouse and along the forebay access road:

- **Install interpretive signage at the terminus of the Joseph-Wallowa Lake Highway and Wallowa Lake Trailhead.** A lack of information in the area around the powerhouse and Wallowa Lake Trailhead results in user confusion regarding the features this area (Pacific Park Campground, the Project powerhouse, the Wallowa Lake Trailhead sign, and the Little Alps Day Use Area). To provide information, A three-panel informational kiosk meeting FERC Part-8 requirements would be installed at the end of the Joseph-Wallowa Lake Highway informing the public on topics such as the history of the Project, its components and operation, historical use of the area, and nearby available recreation opportunities. The sign content would be developed with input from interested agencies and tribes.
- **Replace Wallowa Lake Trailhead sign.** A new sign meeting PacifiCorp design standards would replace the existing sign and be similar in design to other signs that would be developed as part of these proposed measures. The new sign would include the appropriate USFS topical information and maps. A box for registering USFS wilderness permits and collecting fees also would be integrated into the sign. The sign content would be developed with USFS and OPRD input.
- **Install forebay access road signs.** The portion of the forebay access road that is also the main WWNF access trail south of the Wallowa Lake Trailhead is not well marked

and somewhat confusing for some users. In addition to the improvements to the Wallowa Lake Trailhead described previously, six new metal trail and/or directional signs would be installed along the portion of the forebay access road and main WWNF access trail. Locations would be established with USFS collaboration and would likely include places such as where the forebay access road veers to the left of the main WWNF trail and heads up a steep slope. A sign at this location could demark the forebay access road and provide information on points of interest along the forebay access road.

- **Improve the connection trail between forebay access road and East Fork Wallowa River Trail.** An existing trail between the forebay access road and the East Fork Trail crosses the bypassed reach on a fairly new wood bridge. To the immediate east of the bridge, the trail is frequently muddy and people have created “new” trails above the mud to avoid it. To remedy this situation, flat rocks from a nearby talus slope would be placed as “stepping stones” along approximately 100 lineal feet (30.5 m) of the trail. This would encourage hikers to stay on the trail and prevent further damage of the vegetation.
- **Improve pedestrian recreational access across dam spillway catwalk.** The existing locked gate at the dam spillway catwalk would be modified to allow year-round recreation access. This would improve pedestrian access between the East Fork Trail and project forebay and maintenance road. The modifications would be designed to discourage equestrian use of the catwalk.

## 5.2 Recreational Use Patterns in the Study Area and the Relationship of the Project

The use patterns for recreation facilities located on Project lands indicate that most use of the Project’s recreation facilities and nearby facilities occur during the summer. Pacific Park Campground helps meet summer demands for camping in the Study Area. As stated previously, Pacific Park Campground offers a different, less developed type of camping experience compared with Wallowa Lake State Park and nearby private campgrounds. Because the campground is not full during most of the summer, there is no reason to consider expanding the campground. The current users of the campground seem to be satisfied with it as discussed in Section 4.2.4.

The proposed measures for Pacific Park Campground that are described previously in this section would not add capacity in terms of numbers of campsites at the campground, but would improve the camping experience for campers, who as indicated above, are already generally satisfied with Pacific Park Campground.

The proposed measures described previously in Section 5.1 for the user-created trails that originate at Pacific Park Campground would improve the setting of the campground and improve opportunities for campers and trail users. Consolidating the user-created trails into one developed trail that would provide access to the ridge west of the campground, along with improving existing ridge top trails and providing a scenic overlook, would provide additional trail opportunities in the Wallowa Lake area. This also would be consistent with NPS suggestions for providing more trails and scenic outlooks in the

Study Area. Signage associated with the proposed improvements would also improve the experiences of trail users. The confusion regarding the trail system along the ridge and at the intersection of the West Fork and Chief Joseph Trails would be remedied with the suggested sign improvements. Signs and maps would assist people who wish to either simply hike to the ridge, complete a loop hike from Pacific Park Campground to the ridge and back to the Wallowa Lakes Trailhead, and access the WWNF.

The winter trail counts that were taken of the forebay access road indicated that approximately 150 people used the road during the winter (January through March). Although this is not a large number of people, the count clearly indicated that the forebay access road is an important winter recreation resource. The gate at the west end of the catwalk over the spillway (which people currently have to climb over) has been locked historically. To make year-round crossing of the catwalk easier, the gate would be modified to allow pedestrian passage. This action will enhance year-round recreation access in the forebay area and will be particularly beneficial to winter users.

Improvements to the forebay access road (directional signs) would make following it easier and should reduce congestion along the East Fork Wallowa River Canyon. The directional and interpretation improvements along the forebay access road and East Fork Trail described in the aesthetic and visual resource proposed measures would improve the recreational experience of people accessing the Eagle Cap Wilderness through the Project boundary.

### 5.3 Future Recreation Demand and the Project

The recreation opportunities that the proposed recreation measures would primarily improve include those that occur at Pacific Park Campground and on area trails. General types of outdoor recreational activities where there are current demands, and likely future demands, that Project facilities would be able to at least partially meet or supply include walking and/or hiking, horseback riding, big game hunting, wildlife and nature observation, photography, fishing, backpacking, trail running, cross-country skiing and snowshoeing, picnicking, and learning about history.

The Wallowa County State Parks Master Plan identified future recreation demands in the Wallowa County area. The following describes how the proposed recreation measures would help meet those demands:

- There is demand for additional group camping facilities. Group camping occurs unofficially at Pacific Park Campground and the campground would help (to a small degree) continue to meet this demand.
- There is demand for additional short trails or loops close to campgrounds with connections to wilderness areas. The proposed trail and forebay access road measures would help meet this demand.

- There is demand for more amenities and choice for types of overnight accommodations. The proposed mitigation measures related to improvements at Pacific Park Campground would help meet this demand by offering a camping experience that would be different than that found at Wallowa Lake State Park.
- There is demand for additional disabled accessible sites. The proposed ADA improvements would help meet this need.

#### 5.4 Effects of the Project on the Recreational Experience of Users Accessing the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest and Eagle Cap Wilderness

The USFS expressed concern that the experience of recreationists travelling to the WWNF and Eagle Cap Wilderness on WWNF trails could be negatively affected by the visual presence of Project components, such as the penstock, trestle, and forebay area (including the dam, spillway, and catwalk), and noise associated with the Project powerhouse. The four proposed mitigation measures described in the *Wallowa Falls Hydroelectric Project FERC Project No. P-308: Updated Study Report for Aesthetic and Visual Resources* (PacifiCorp, 2013) were developed to reduce potential impacts associated with Project components seen from the East Fork Trail by recreationists. It would not be possible to completely screen views of the Project components from the trail, but implementing the proposed measures would improve the Project's appearance when viewed from the trail. In addition, USFS and PacifiCorp staff agreed that adding interpretive signage near the East Fork Trail that explains the Project's history and what the various Project components are would help mitigate the Project's presence to recreationists who might find its presence unexpected on a trail into a wilderness area.

Noise from the Project powerhouse can be heard by recreationists using parts of some WWNF trails to access the Eagle Cap Wilderness. This was a concern to the USFS. To determine where Project powerhouse related noise might be heard, and to what degree, noise readings were taken from around the Study Area in the summer of 2013. In preparing to share the results with WWNF and OPRD staff, no applicable county, state, or USFS standards could be found that existing noise levels could be compared with to determine whether there was a noise-related impact. No standards were identified by OPRD or WWNF staff following the presentation. The Project's presence would continue to be noticed by some recreationists using parts of WWNF trails to access the Eagle Cap Wilderness.

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## Figures

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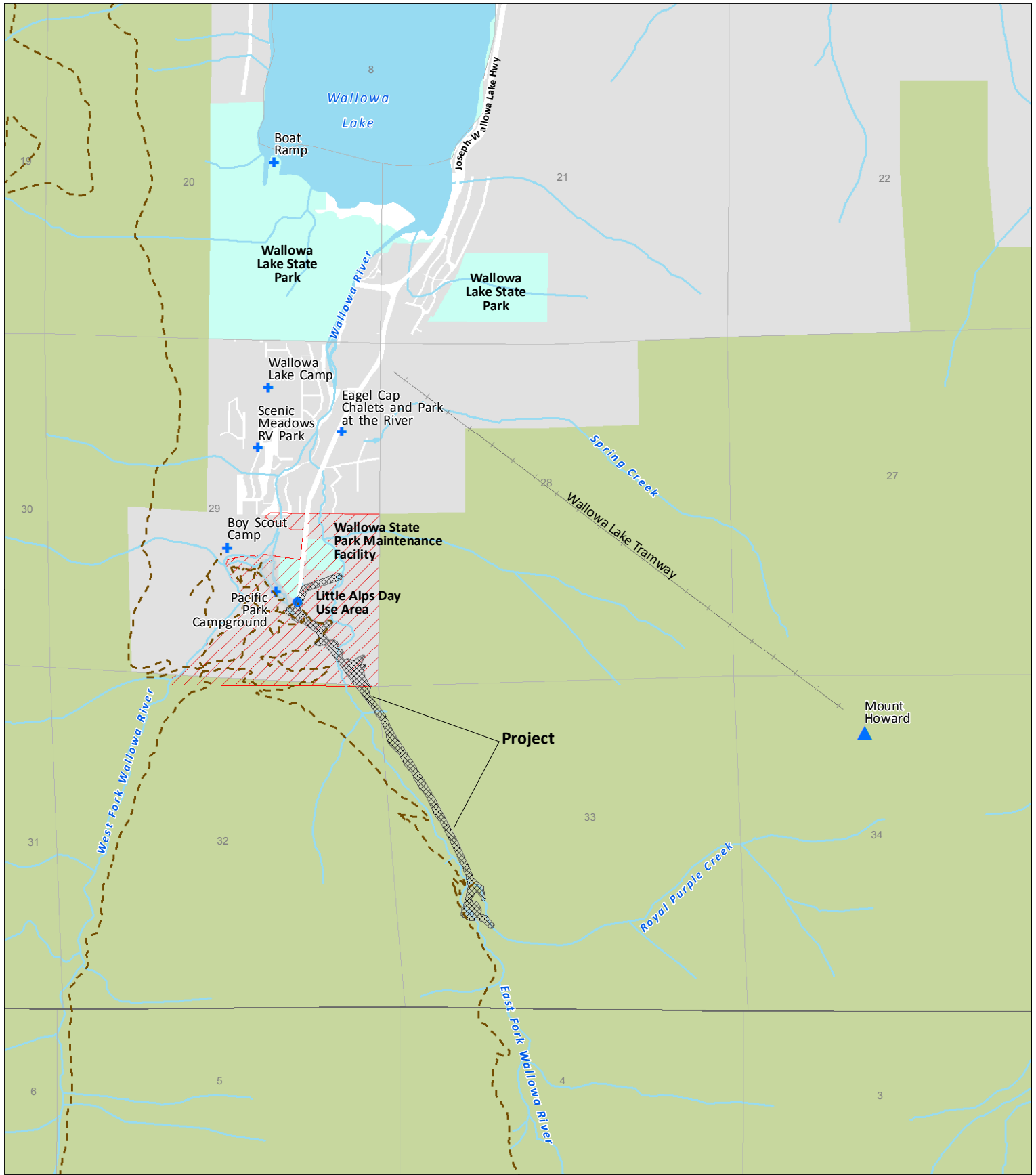


Figure R-1  
Study Area  
Overview



0 1,000 2,000  
Feet



- |  |                      |   |
|--|----------------------|---|
| Private Campground                                 | Wallowa Lake Tramway | PacifiCorp Ownership                          |
| Mount Howard                                       | Section              | PacifiCorp Land Leased to the State of Oregon |
| USFS Trailhead                                     | Township Range       | Private Ownership                             |
| Pacific Park Campground Area - PacifiCorp Operated | Road (white)         | Federal Ownership (U.S. Forest Service)       |
| Other Recreation Facility                          | USFS Trail           | State Park                                    |
| Proposed Project Boundary (FERC)                   | Water Body           |   |



Data are projected in  
UTM Zone 11, NAD83, meters.

**GIS Support Services**  
Solutions Group  
gisdept@pacifiCorp.com

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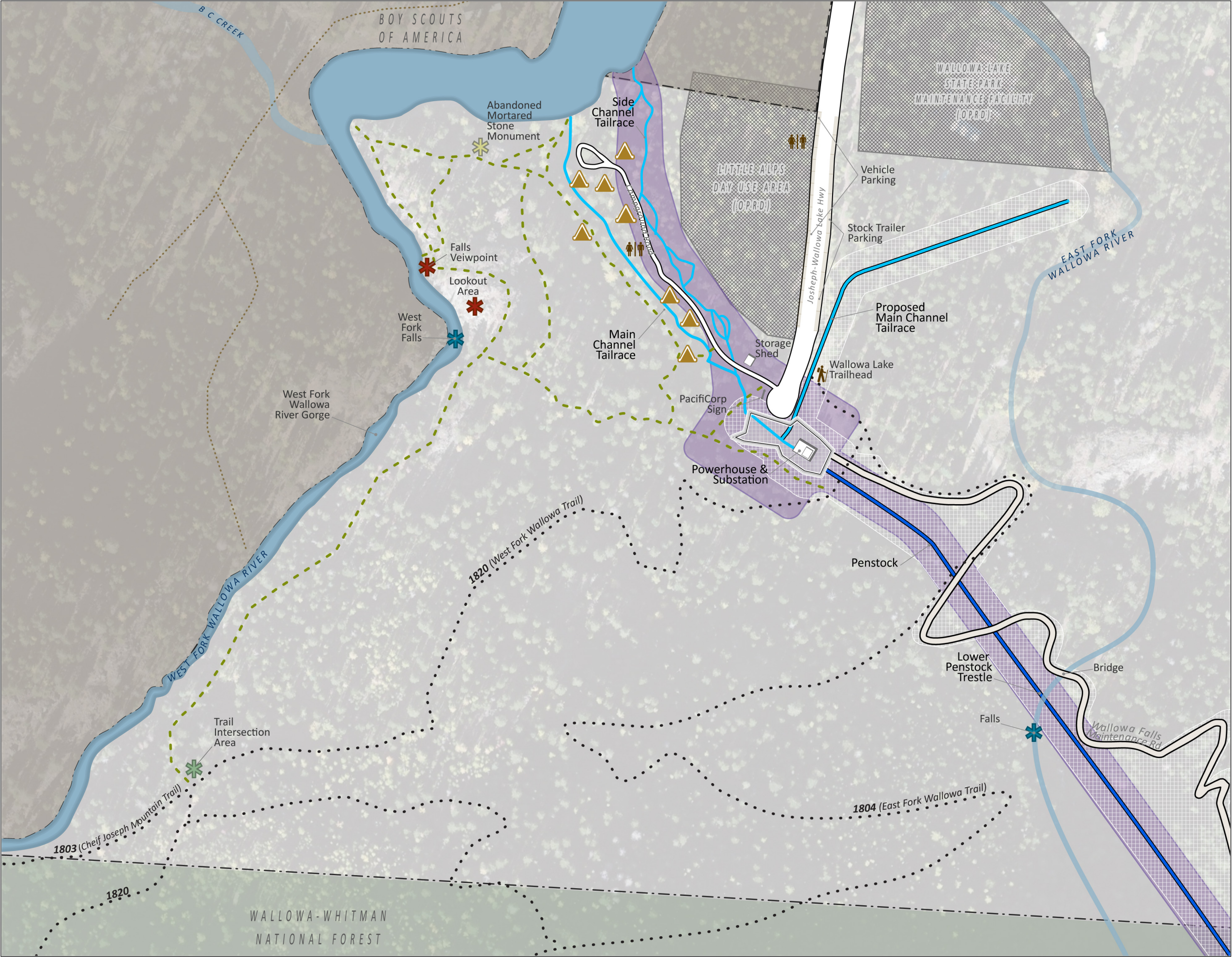
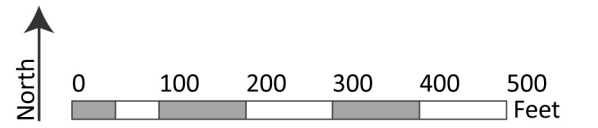


Figure R-2  
Trails and Recreation  
Facilities in the Vicinity of  
Pacific Park Campground  
*Wallowa Falls Hydroelectric Project*

- Campsite
- Restroom
- Key Feature
- West Fork Wallowa River Channel
- Water
- User Defined Trail (Approximate Location)
- Other Trail
- USFS Trail - Trail Number (Name)
- Proposed Project Boundary (FERC Approximate Location) (white)
- Existing FERC Boundary (Approximate)
- PacifiCorp Owned
- Wallowa-Whitman National Forest
- State Managed Land<sup>1</sup>
- Boy Scouts of America<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> PacifiCorp land leased to Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD)  
<sup>2</sup> Property owned by Blue Mountain Council of the Boy Scouts of America



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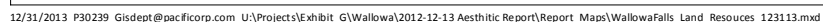
**GIS Support Services**  
**Solutions Group**  
gisdept@PacifiCorp.com

Data is projected in UTM  
Zone 11, NAD83, meters.

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**Appendix A**  
**Pacific Park Campground Camper Survey**






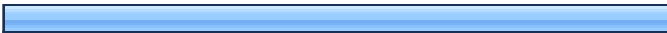

## 1. Date

|                   |  | Response<br>Percent | Response<br>Count |
|-------------------|--|---------------------|-------------------|
| Today's date      |  | 100.0%              | 19                |
| answered question |  |                     | 19                |
| skipped question  |  |                     | 0                 |

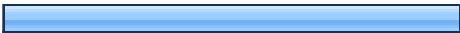




## 2. Demographic Information

|                   |  | Response<br>Percent | Response<br>Count |
|-------------------|--|---------------------|-------------------|
| State:            |   | 94.7%               | 18                |
| ZIP:              |  | 94.7%               | 18                |
| County:           |  | 94.7%               | 18                |
| answered question |  |                     | 19                |
| skipped question  |  |                     | 0                 |



### 3. Party Information

|  |  | Response Percent | Response Count |
|--|--|------------------|----------------|
| How many in your party?                        |  | 100.0%           | 19             |
| Number of males?                               |  | 100.0%           | 19             |
| Number of females?                             |  | 100.0%           | 19             |
| Ages? (please put a comma between each number) |  | 100.0%           | 19             |
| Animals? (type and number)                     |  | 94.7%            | 18             |
| answered question                              |  |                  | 19             |
| skipped question                               |  |                  | 0              |





### 4. Purpose of Your Use of Trails near the Pacific Park Campground (check all that apply)

|  |  | Response Percent | Response Count |
|--|--|------------------|----------------|
| Day hike/ride into the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest |  | 68.4%            | 13             |
| Hunting  |   | 0.0%             | 0              |
| Fishing  |   | 5.3%             | 1              |
| Photography  |   | 42.1%            | 8              |
| Observing nature                                       |   | 63.2%            | 12             |
| Other (please specify)                                 |   | 36.8%            | 7              |
| answered question                                      |  |                  | 19             |
| skipped question                                       |  |                  | 0              |


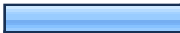


## 5. Trip Destination(s)

|   |  | Response<br>Percent | Response<br>Count |
|---|--|---------------------|-------------------|
| Main destination?                           |  | 94.1%               | 16                |
| Other sites/locations visited on this trip? |   | 64.7%               | 11                |
| answered question                           |  |                     | 17                |
| skipped question                            |  |                     | 2                 |

## 6. USFS Trails Used (please check all that apply)

|                    |   | Response<br>Percent | Response<br>Count |
|--------------------|---|---------------------|-------------------|
| West Fork Trail    |   | 20.0%               | 3                 |
| East Fork Trail    |  | 26.7%               | 4                 |
| Chief Joseph Trail |  | 46.7%               | 7                 |
| Not Sure           |  | 40.0%               | 6                 |
| answered question  |   |                     | 15                |
| skipped question   |   |                     | 4                 |

## 7. Your Familiarity with the Area

|                                      |   | Response<br>Percent | Response<br>Count |
|--------------------------------------|---|---------------------|-------------------|
| First time user of the<br>campground |  | 42.1%               | 8                 |
| 2-5 times                            |  | 26.3%               | 5                 |
| 6-10 times                           |  | 21.1%               | 4                 |
| More than 10 times                   |  | 10.5%               | 2                 |
| answered question                    |   |                     | 19                |
| skipped question                     |   |                     | 0                 |

## 8. Quality of Experience

|   | Very<br>Poor |             |             |              | Average      |             |              |              |              | Excellen  |
|---|--------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-----------|
| Condition of the trail system               | 0.0%<br>(0)  | 0.0%<br>(0) | 6.3%<br>(1) | 0.0%<br>(0)  | 6.3% (1)     | 6.3%<br>(1) | 25.0%<br>(4) | 25.0%<br>(4) | 0.0%<br>(0)  | 31.3% (5) |
| Quality of your trail experience            | 0.0%<br>(0)  | 0.0%<br>(0) | 0.0%<br>(0) | 0.0%<br>(0)  | 18.8%<br>(3) | 0.0%<br>(0) | 18.8%<br>(3) | 25.0%<br>(4) | 0.0%<br>(0)  | 37.5% (6) |
| Condition of the Pacific Park<br>Campground | 0.0%<br>(0)  | 0.0%<br>(0) | 0.0%<br>(0) | 10.5%<br>(2) | 0.0% (0)     | 0.0%<br>(0) | 15.8%<br>(3) | 31.6%<br>(6) | 21.1%<br>(4) | 21.1% (4) |
| Quality of your campground<br>experience    | 0.0%<br>(0)  | 0.0%<br>(0) | 0.0%<br>(0) | 0.0%<br>(0)  | 5.6% (1)     | 5.6%<br>(1) | 5.6%<br>(1)  | 16.7%<br>(3) | 22.2%<br>(4) | 44.4% (8) |
| answered                                    |              |             |             |              |              |             |              |              |              |           |
| skipped                                     |              |             |             |              |              |             |              |              |              |           |

**9. While using the trail system, did you notice human-made elements (for example: trail signs, trail improvements, utility lines, buildings, noise, odor, lights, etc.)? If so, what were they?**

|                   | Response Count |
|-------------------|----------------|
|                   | 10             |
| answered question | 10             |
| skipped question  | 9              |

## 10. Quality of Experience

|   | Greatly detracted | Detracted | No effect | Enhanced  | Greatly enhanced | Rating Average | Response Count |
|---|-------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------------|----------------|----------------|
| If you were aware of human-made elements while using the trail system, how did their presence affect your trip? | 0.0% (0)          | 0.0% (0)  | 75.0% (9) | 16.7% (2) | 8.3% (1)         | 3.33           | 12             |
| Please explain your answer  |                   |           |           |           |                  |                | 4              |
| answered question   |                   |           |           |           |                  |                | 12             |
| skipped question  |                   |           |           |           |                  |                | 7              |

## 11. Please Add any Additional Comments, Observations, or Suggestions Regarding the Trail System or Pacific Park Campground

|                   | Response Count |
|-------------------|----------------|
|                   | 14             |
| answered question | 14             |
| skipped question  | 5              |





| Q1. Date |            |                       |
|----------|------------|-----------------------|
| 1        | 09/12/2012 | Sep 12, 2012 7:57 PM  |
| 2        | 08/23/2012 | Aug 23, 2012 2:52 PM  |
| 3        | 08/21/2012 | Aug 21, 2012 10:33 PM |
| 4        | 08/19/2001 | Aug 19, 2012 10:40 PM |
| 5        | 08/19/2012 | Aug 19, 2012 8:25 AM  |
| 6        | 08/16/2010 | Aug 16, 2012 4:49 PM  |
| 7        | 08/16/2012 | Aug 16, 2012 4:02 PM  |
| 8        | 08/14/2012 | Aug 14, 2012 10:40 AM |
| 9        | 07/23/2012 | Jul 23, 2012 5:04 PM  |
| 10       | 07/23/2012 | Jul 23, 2012 7:43 AM  |
| 11       | 07/21/2012 | Jul 21, 2012 6:39 AM  |
| 12       | 07/19/2012 | Jul 20, 2012 8:57 PM  |
| 13       | 07/23/2012 | Jul 19, 2012 11:58 PM |
| 14       | 07/19/2012 | Jul 19, 2012 10:01 PM |
| 15       | 07/19/2012 | Jul 19, 2012 8:07 PM  |
| 16       | 07/19/2012 | Jul 19, 2012 5:02 PM  |
| 17       | 07/19/2012 | Jul 19, 2012 5:00 PM  |
| 18       | 07/19/2012 | Jul 19, 2012 4:17 PM  |
| 19       | 07/19/2012 | Jul 19, 2012 4:09 PM  |



**Q2. Demographic Information**

1

|         |        |                      |
|---------|--------|----------------------|
| State:  | OR     | Sep 12, 2012 7:57 PM |
| ZIP:    | 97370  | Sep 12, 2012 7:57 PM |
| County: | Benton | Sep 12, 2012 7:57 PM |

2

|         |         |                      |
|---------|---------|----------------------|
| State:  | OR      | Aug 23, 2012 2:52 PM |
| ZIP:    | 97846   | Aug 23, 2012 2:52 PM |
| County: | wallowa | Aug 23, 2012 2:52 PM |

3

|         |         |                       |
|---------|---------|-----------------------|
| State:  | WA      | Aug 21, 2012 10:33 PM |
| ZIP:    | 99163   | Aug 21, 2012 10:33 PM |
| County: | Whitman | Aug 21, 2012 10:33 PM |

4

|         |         |                       |
|---------|---------|-----------------------|
| State:  | OR      | Aug 19, 2012 10:40 PM |
| ZIP:    | 97603   | Aug 19, 2012 10:40 PM |
| County: | klamath | Aug 19, 2012 10:40 PM |

5

|         |             |                      |
|---------|-------------|----------------------|
| State:  | WA          | Aug 19, 2012 8:25 AM |
| ZIP:    | 99362       | Aug 19, 2012 8:25 AM |
| County: | Walla Walla | Aug 19, 2012 8:25 AM |

6

|        |    |                      |
|--------|----|----------------------|
| State: | OR | Aug 16, 2012 4:49 PM |
|--------|----|----------------------|

7

|         |             |                      |
|---------|-------------|----------------------|
| State:  | WA          | Aug 16, 2012 4:02 PM |
| ZIP:    | 99362       | Aug 16, 2012 4:02 PM |
| County: | Walla Walla | Aug 16, 2012 4:02 PM |

8

|        |    |                       |
|--------|----|-----------------------|
| State: | WA | Aug 14, 2012 10:40 AM |
|--------|----|-----------------------|

**Q2. Demographic Information**

|         |          |                       |
|---------|----------|-----------------------|
| ZIP:    | 99173    | Aug 14, 2012 10:40 AM |
| County: | stevens  | Aug 14, 2012 10:40 AM |
| 9       |          |                       |
| State:  | OR       | Jul 23, 2012 5:04 PM  |
| ZIP:    | 97304    | Jul 23, 2012 5:04 PM  |
| County: | polk     | Jul 23, 2012 5:04 PM  |
| 10      |          |                       |
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| ZIP:    | 97850    | Jul 23, 2012 7:43 AM  |
| County: | Union    | Jul 23, 2012 7:43 AM  |
| 11      |          |                       |
| State:  | OR       | Jul 21, 2012 6:39 AM  |
| ZIP:    | 97801    | Jul 21, 2012 6:39 AM  |
| County: | Umatilla | Jul 21, 2012 6:39 AM  |
| 12      |          |                       |
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| County: | Union    | Jul 20, 2012 8:57 PM  |
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| ZIP:    | 99403    | Jul 19, 2012 11:58 PM |
| County: | Aston    | Jul 19, 2012 11:58 PM |
| 14      |          |                       |
| State:  | ID       | Jul 19, 2012 10:01 PM |
| ZIP:    | 83706    | Jul 19, 2012 10:01 PM |
| County: | ada      | Jul 19, 2012 10:01 PM |
| 15      |          |                       |
| State:  | WA       | Jul 19, 2012 8:07 PM  |

**Q2. Demographic Information**

|         |            |                      |
|---------|------------|----------------------|
| ZIP:    | 99207      | Jul 19, 2012 8:07 PM |
| County: | spokane    | Jul 19, 2012 8:07 PM |
| 16      |            |                      |
| ZIP:    | 99362      | Jul 19, 2012 5:02 PM |
| County: | Washington | Jul 19, 2012 5:02 PM |
| 17      |            |                      |
| State:  | WA         | Jul 19, 2012 5:00 PM |
| ZIP:    | 99403      | Jul 19, 2012 5:00 PM |
| County: | usa        | Jul 19, 2012 5:00 PM |
| 18      |            |                      |
| State:  | OR         | Jul 19, 2012 4:17 PM |
| ZIP:    | 97333      | Jul 19, 2012 4:17 PM |
| County: | USA        | Jul 19, 2012 4:17 PM |
| 19      |            |                      |
| State:  | OR         | Jul 19, 2012 4:09 PM |
| ZIP:    | 97702      | Jul 19, 2012 4:09 PM |
| County: | deschutes  | Jul 19, 2012 4:09 PM |



**Q3. Party Information**

How many in your party?

|    |    |                       |
|----|----|-----------------------|
| 1  | 19 | Sep 12, 2012 7:57 PM  |
| 2  | 5  | Aug 23, 2012 2:52 PM  |
| 3  | 12 | Aug 21, 2012 10:33 PM |
| 4  | 2  | Aug 19, 2012 10:40 PM |
| 5  | 7  | Aug 19, 2012 8:25 AM  |
| 6  | 7  | Aug 16, 2012 4:49 PM  |
| 7  | 2  | Aug 16, 2012 4:02 PM  |
| 8  | 12 | Aug 14, 2012 10:40 AM |
| 9  | 2  | Jul 23, 2012 5:04 PM  |
| 10 | 2  | Jul 23, 2012 7:43 AM  |
| 11 | 2  | Jul 21, 2012 6:39 AM  |
| 12 | 4  | Jul 20, 2012 8:57 PM  |
| 13 | 7  | Jul 19, 2012 11:58 PM |
| 14 | 6  | Jul 19, 2012 10:01 PM |
| 15 | 4  | Jul 19, 2012 8:07 PM  |
| 16 | 2  | Jul 19, 2012 5:02 PM  |
| 17 | 8  | Jul 19, 2012 5:00 PM  |
| 18 | 2  | Jul 19, 2012 4:17 PM  |
| 19 | 2  | Jul 19, 2012 4:09 PM  |

Number of males?

|   |   |                       |
|---|---|-----------------------|
| 1 | 8 | Sep 12, 2012 7:57 PM  |
| 2 | 3 | Aug 23, 2012 2:52 PM  |
| 3 | 9 | Aug 21, 2012 10:33 PM |
| 4 | 2 | Aug 19, 2012 10:40 PM |
| 5 | 3 | Aug 19, 2012 8:25 AM  |
| 6 | 2 | Aug 16, 2012 4:49 PM  |

**Q3. Party Information**

|                    |    |                       |
|--------------------|----|-----------------------|
| 7                  | 1  | Aug 16, 2012 4:02 PM  |
| 8                  | 5  | Aug 14, 2012 10:40 AM |
| 9                  | 1  | Jul 23, 2012 5:04 PM  |
| 10                 | 2  | Jul 23, 2012 7:43 AM  |
| 11                 | 1  | Jul 21, 2012 6:39 AM  |
| 12                 | 2  | Jul 20, 2012 8:57 PM  |
| 13                 | 3  | Jul 19, 2012 11:58 PM |
| 14                 | 4  | Jul 19, 2012 10:01 PM |
| 15                 | 2  | Jul 19, 2012 8:07 PM  |
| 16                 | 1  | Jul 19, 2012 5:02 PM  |
| 17                 | 4  | Jul 19, 2012 5:00 PM  |
| 18                 | 0  | Jul 19, 2012 4:17 PM  |
| 19                 | 1  | Jul 19, 2012 4:09 PM  |
| Number of females? |    |                       |
| 1                  | 11 | Sep 12, 2012 7:57 PM  |
| 2                  | 2  | Aug 23, 2012 2:52 PM  |
| 3                  | 3  | Aug 21, 2012 10:33 PM |
| 4                  | 0  | Aug 19, 2012 10:40 PM |
| 5                  | 4  | Aug 19, 2012 8:25 AM  |
| 6                  | 5  | Aug 16, 2012 4:49 PM  |
| 7                  | 1  | Aug 16, 2012 4:02 PM  |
| 8                  | 7  | Aug 14, 2012 10:40 AM |
| 9                  | 1  | Jul 23, 2012 5:04 PM  |
| 10                 | 0  | Jul 23, 2012 7:43 AM  |
| 11                 | 1  | Jul 21, 2012 6:39 AM  |
| 12                 | 2  | Jul 20, 2012 8:57 PM  |
| 13                 | 3  | Jul 19, 2012 11:58 PM |



**Q3. Party Information**

|  |   |                       |
|--|---|-----------------------|
| 14   | 3   | Jul 19, 2012 10:01 PM |
| 15   | 2   | Jul 19, 2012 8:07 PM  |
| 16   | 1   | Jul 19, 2012 5:02 PM  |
| 17   | 4   | Jul 19, 2012 5:00 PM  |
| 18   | 2   | Jul 19, 2012 4:17 PM  |
| 19   | 1   | Jul 19, 2012 4:09 PM  |
| Ages? (please put a comma between each number) |   |                       |
| 1  | 1,1,6,12,9,80,55,57,38,28,34,37,29,30,26,49,47,62 | Sep 12, 2012 7:57 PM  |
| 2  | 3, 10, 30,54,55                                   | Aug 23, 2012 2:52 PM  |
| 3  | 43, 41, 38, 37, 36, 36, 12, 9, 7, 7, 4, 2         | Aug 21, 2012 10:33 PM |
| 4  | 63,70   | Aug 19, 2012 10:40 PM |
| 5  | 31, 34, 37, 47,51, 57, 64                         | Aug 19, 2012 8:25 AM  |
| 6  | 38,43,18,16,14,5,7                                | Aug 16, 2012 4:49 PM  |
| 7  | 58, 58  | Aug 16, 2012 4:02 PM  |
| 8  | 64,62,8,7   | Aug 14, 2012 10:40 AM |
| 9  | 64,75   | Jul 23, 2012 5:04 PM  |
| 10   | 49, 15  | Jul 23, 2012 7:43 AM  |
| 11   | 39,38   | Jul 21, 2012 6:39 AM  |
| 12   | 31, 30, 3, 3 months                               | Jul 20, 2012 8:57 PM  |
| 13   | 65,62,59,37?,33,12                                | Jul 19, 2012 11:58 PM |
| 14   | 32,32,6,6,3,1                                     | Jul 19, 2012 10:01 PM |
| 15   | 35,32,5,1   | Jul 19, 2012 8:07 PM  |
| 16   | 35, 40  | Jul 19, 2012 5:02 PM  |
| 17   | 38,44,45,46,39,38,22,21                           | Jul 19, 2012 5:00 PM  |
| 18   | 12, 51  | Jul 19, 2012 4:17 PM  |
| 19   | 68,75   | Jul 19, 2012 4:09 PM  |
| Animals? (type and number)                     |   |                       |

**Q3. Party Information**

|    |              |                       |
|----|--------------|-----------------------|
| 1  | 3 small dogs | Sep 12, 2012 7:57 PM  |
| 2  | 1 dog        | Aug 23, 2012 2:52 PM  |
| 3  | 0            | Aug 21, 2012 10:33 PM |
| 4  | 0            | Aug 19, 2012 10:40 PM |
| 5  | 0            | Aug 19, 2012 8:25 AM  |
| 6  | none         | Aug 16, 2012 4:49 PM  |
| 7  | 1 medium dog | Aug 16, 2012 4:02 PM  |
| 8  | dogs -4      | Aug 14, 2012 10:40 AM |
| 9  | 0            | Jul 23, 2012 5:04 PM  |
| 10 | Elkhound - 1 | Jul 23, 2012 7:43 AM  |
| 11 | 2, dogs      | Jul 21, 2012 6:39 AM  |
| 13 | 1dog         | Jul 19, 2012 11:58 PM |
| 14 | 1 dog        | Jul 19, 2012 10:01 PM |
| 15 | 1 dog        | Jul 19, 2012 8:07 PM  |
| 16 | 1, dog       | Jul 19, 2012 5:02 PM  |
| 17 | dog, 1       | Jul 19, 2012 5:00 PM  |
| 18 | 0            | Jul 19, 2012 4:17 PM  |
| 19 | no           | Jul 19, 2012 4:09 PM  |

**Q4. Purpose of Your Use of Trails near the Pacific Park Campground (check all that apply)**

|   |   |                       |
|---|---|-----------------------|
| 1 | just hiking around                        | Sep 12, 2012 7:57 PM  |
| 2 | blues festable                            | Aug 19, 2012 10:40 PM |
| 3 | family reunion at Wallowa Lake State Park | Aug 16, 2012 4:02 PM  |
| 4 | camping trip with son.                    | Jul 23, 2012 7:43 AM  |
| 5 | camping,boating                           | Jul 21, 2012 6:39 AM  |
| 6 | Family reunion                            | Jul 19, 2012 11:58 PM |
| 7 | relaxing getaway                          | Jul 19, 2012 5:00 PM  |



**Q5. Trip Destination(s)**

| Main destination?                           |  |                       |
|---|--|-----------------------|
| 1   | picnic area  | Sep 12, 2012 7:57 PM  |
| 2   | campground   | Aug 23, 2012 2:52 PM  |
| 3   | Wallowa Lake   | Aug 21, 2012 10:33 PM |
| 4   | mt.howard  | Aug 19, 2012 10:40 PM |
| 5   | Anaroid Lake   | Aug 19, 2012 8:25 AM  |
| 6   | Wallowa Lake area, did not use the trails this trip                          | Aug 16, 2012 4:02 PM  |
| 8   | old dam on east fork, this year  | Jul 23, 2012 5:04 PM  |
| 9   | camp   | Jul 21, 2012 6:39 AM  |
| 10  | Wallowa Lake Area  | Jul 20, 2012 8:57 PM  |
| 11  | Wallowa Lake   | Jul 19, 2012 11:58 PM |
| 12  | wallowa lake   | Jul 19, 2012 10:01 PM |
| 13  | lake wallowa   | Jul 19, 2012 8:07 PM  |
| 14  | Wallowa Lake   | Jul 19, 2012 5:02 PM  |
| 15  | wallowa lake   | Jul 19, 2012 5:00 PM  |
| 16  | Wallowa Lake area for relaxation   | Jul 19, 2012 4:17 PM  |
| 17  | wilderness   | Jul 19, 2012 4:09 PM  |
| Other sites/locations visited on this trip? |  |                       |
| 1   | lake, gift shops, amusment rides   | Sep 12, 2012 7:57 PM  |
| 3   | Joseph, OR   | Aug 21, 2012 10:33 PM |
| 4   | bronze foundry   | Aug 19, 2012 10:40 PM |
| 5   | Chief Joseph trail   | Aug 19, 2012 8:25 AM  |
| 6   | Tramway trail system, day trip to the Imnaha River and Hells Canyon overlook | Aug 16, 2012 4:02 PM  |
| 7   | Grande Ronde   | Aug 14, 2012 10:40 AM |
| 8   | none on WW trails  | Jul 23, 2012 5:04 PM  |
| 11  | Joseph, OR. Church on Sunday In Enterprise, OR                               | Jul 19, 2012 11:58 PM |
| 14  | United States  | Jul 19, 2012 5:02 PM  |

**Q5. Trip Destination(s)**

|    |   |                      |
|----|---|----------------------|
| 16 | Lochsa River, ID; Sawtooths, ID; John Day Wilderness, OR; McKenzie River Corridor, OR | Jul 19, 2012 4:17 PM |
| 17 | hat point, leweston   | Jul 19, 2012 4:09 PM |

**Q9. While using the trail system, did you notice human-made elements (for example: trail signs, trail improvements, utility lines, buildings, noise, odor, lights, etc.)? If so, what were they?**

|    |  |                       |
|----|--|-----------------------|
| 1  | The only trails we used were those accessed by the tramway. We have visited the Wallowa Lake area many times in the past, but this was our first visit to this campground. | Aug 16, 2012 4:02 PM  |
| 2  | n/a  | Aug 14, 2012 10:40 AM |
| 3  | generally heavily used trail main human element - both people on foot and people on horseback  | Jul 23, 2012 5:04 PM  |
| 4  | didnt use the main trail systems   | Jul 21, 2012 6:39 AM  |
| 5  | Signs  | Jul 19, 2012 11:58 PM |
| 6  | power house noise  | Jul 19, 2012 10:01 PM |
| 7  | no   | Jul 19, 2012 8:07 PM  |
| 8  | Yes, signs   | Jul 19, 2012 5:02 PM  |
| 9  | n/a  | Jul 19, 2012 5:00 PM  |
| 10 | We didn't really use any trails while we were there. We just relaxed around the campground.  | Jul 19, 2012 4:17 PM  |

#### Q10. Quality of Experience

|   |   |                       |
|---|---|-----------------------|
| 1 | It did not affect our trip. I did notice the noise as you first start off on the trails from the Pacific Power machinery. I love being out in nature and feeling I am in the wilderness. To feel the connection with the earth out in nature is the ultimate for my spirit. | Aug 19, 2012 8:25 AM  |
| 2 | Since we used the tramway to access the trails we hiked, our experience was greatly enhanced by the human-made element. Although we were backpackers in the past, my health now limits our ability to use the backcountry trails.   | Aug 16, 2012 4:02 PM  |
| 3 | helped us to stay on the trail n  | Aug 14, 2012 10:40 AM |
| 4 | Missed the dam - next time I'll get better maps, but more info via email might be helpful. I also forgot the gate code but was able to call (Jade?) at Enterprise and she was very helpful.   | Jul 23, 2012 5:04 PM  |





**Q11. Please Add any Additional Comments, Observations, or Suggestions Regarding the Trail System or Pacific Park Campground**

|    |  |                       |
|----|--|-----------------------|
| 1  | We mainly camp there because we have our family reunion at the lake every year, and we like the location and privacy of the camp ground  | Sep 12, 2012 7:57 PM  |
| 2  | Would love to have flush toilets and showers. Coin operated showers would work.  | Aug 23, 2012 2:52 PM  |
| 3  | The outhouses at the campground were not nearly as clean as they have been on our previous visits. I could not get the lock on the gate to work but luckily is stuck with the chain unattached. There was a lot of traffic if the gate was left open so it would have been nice if the lock worked too. There was more trash and debris at the campsites then there has been in the past. It is still my family's favorite spot, so I'm sure we'll return. It just wasn't as well kept as it has been in past years. | Aug 21, 2012 10:33 PM |
| 4  | The only reason I did not rate the condition of the Pacific Park Campground as excellent was because trees had been cut and were down in the road when we arrived, making it difficult to turn the trailer around. Also, the cover on the electric receptacle (site 4) made it difficult to connect with the power cable we use. Otherwise, the campground is wonderful and we intend to return next year!   | Aug 16, 2012 4:02 PM  |
| 5  | n/a  | Aug 14, 2012 10:40 AM |
| 6  | I go because it's a quiet spot in Wallowa area; trailheads are a welcome feature but not main attraction. Thanks. And thanks for turning off the big light - it was a problem one year.  | Jul 23, 2012 5:04 PM  |
| 7  | The campground was in good condition. it was early in the year and the campground had not been cleared of all fallen debris (trees,limbs, etc). The weather was rainy and the campground was empty (Memorial weekend). Overall, the camp was fantastic!  | Jul 23, 2012 7:43 AM  |
| 8  | contact with two biologists who were looking for fish to remove them while there was maintenance completed on the dam. They were both very nice and friendly. This was a new experience for me to see and was very interesting to see the efforts made to save fish. Don't change the size of the campground it is perfect because it limits the size of rv's and number of people. It is great to be surrounded by nature instead of people.  | Jul 21, 2012 6:39 AM  |
| 9  | The only thing we noticed was the decrease in water pressure and water flow in the creek and then biology aids doing some sort of count.   | Jul 20, 2012 8:57 PM  |
| 10 | Great camping. We love it and want go back.  | Jul 19, 2012 11:58 PM |
| 11 | The outhouse restrooms were VERY Stinky!   | Jul 19, 2012 10:01 PM |
| 12 | we are thankful for the lock on the gate going into the campground. running water for the bathrooms would be nice instead of just a pit toilet   | Jul 19, 2012 8:07 PM  |
| 13 | It was a bummer that the creek in the campground wasn't running. Otherwise we love this campground.  | Jul 19, 2012 5:02 PM  |
| 14 | creek was not running, bathrooms were nasty!   | Jul 19, 2012 5:00 PM  |