

EXHIBIT R
SCENIC RESOURCES
 OAR 345-021-0010(1)(r)

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R.1 INTRODUCTION

Archway Solar Energy LLC (Applicant) proposes to construct the Archway Solar Energy Facility (Facility) in Lake County, Oregon, with generating capacity of up to 400 megawatts (MW). The Facility may also contain a battery energy component with storage capacity of up to 400 MW and discharge capacity of up to 1,600 megawatt-hours. This Exhibit provides an assessment of potential impacts on the one scenic resource within 10 miles of the Facility site boundary that has been identified as significant or important in applicable federal, tribal, state, and local land use and management plans, in accordance with OAR 345-021-0010(1)(r). No significant scenic resources are located within the Facility site boundary.

R.2 SITE CONTEXT

The Facility site is located in Lake County approximately 9 miles east of Christmas Valley and 25 miles west of U.S. Highway 395. The Facility's major components, structures, and systems include the solar modules, inverters, transformers, and battery energy storage system. Related or supporting facilities consist of the collection system, 34.5-kilovolt (kV)/500-kV generator step-up (GSU) transformer and substation, 500-kV transmission line, point of interconnection (POI) line tap, control house, operations and maintenance (O&M) building, a main access road, private service roads and gates, and a temporary staging area.

The Facility site is within an agricultural zone in unincorporated Lake County. The area within the Facility site boundary is not actively farmed, consisting mainly of vacant grassland with scattered shrubs.

Adjacent land uses within approximately 1 mile of the Facility site boundary generally include the following:

- **North** – Christmas Valley Highway, a small solar facility, and vacant grassland/rangeland
- **East** – Vacant grassland/rangeland and existing 500-kV PacifiCorp Burns-Summer Lake transmission line
- **South** – Existing 500-kV PacifiCorp Burns-Summer Lake transmission line and vacant grassland/rangeland
- **West** – Agricultural crop circles and vacant grassland/rangeland

For the purpose of this analysis, designated scenic resources refer to those scenic resources formally inventoried or designated as significant, important, or valued in a local, state, tribal, or federal land management plan.

Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR) 345-021-0010(1)(r) *An analysis of significant potential impacts of the proposed facility, if any, on scenic resources identified as significant or important in local land use plans, tribal land management plans and federal land management plans for any lands located within the analysis area, providing evidence to support a finding by the Council as required by OAR 345-022-0080, including:*

R.3 METHODOLOGY

Response: An analysis of the potential effects of the proposed Facility on scenic resources has been undertaken in response to OAR requirements. The analysis methodology consists of a series of steps designed to respond to OAR requirements for evaluating impacts on scenic resources. These steps are outlined below.

R.3.1 Define Analysis Area

The scenic resources analysis area is defined as all areas within the Facility site boundary and the area within 10 miles of the Facility site boundary as outlined in OAR 345-001-0010(2) and (57)(b). The 10-mile scenic resources analysis area for Exhibit R is depicted on Figure R-1.

R.3.2 Review Applicable Plans

Applicable local, state, and federal land use and management plans that pertain to lands within the 10-mile scenic resources analysis area were reviewed to identify specific scenic resources designated as significant or important in the plans. No tribal lands were identified within the 10-mile scenic resources analysis area and no tribal land management plans are known to mention any scenic resources within the scenic resources analysis area. Therefore, no lands identified in tribal land management plans are included in this Exhibit. Applicable local, state, and federal land use and management plans reviewed for this analysis are listed in Table R-1 (located in Section R.4).

R.3.3 Conduct Visual Impact Analysis

Analysis was conducted to determine the likelihood that Facility components will potentially be seen from scenic resources identified as significant or important in the applicable local, state, and federal land use and management plans. The Applicant's visual impact analysis considers the Facility components described in Exhibit B.

R.3.3.1 Use ArcGIS to Develop Scenic Resources Map

Environmental Systems Research Institute ArcGIS software was used to develop a scenic resources map that includes the locations of significant or important scenic resources within the scenic resources analysis area identified during the review of applicable local, state, and federal land use and management plans (see Figure R-1). Review of this map will determine whether potential scenic resources identified in the applicable land use plans will potentially be visible and where further analysis is required, as described directly below.

R.3.3.2 Conduct Site Visit, Select Viewpoints, and Prepare Visual Analysis

The Applicant's visual resource specialist will conduct a field visit throughout the Facility's 10-mile scenic resources analysis area. The field visit will focus on assessing and documenting with photographs the potential views of Facility components from scenic resources identified and designated as significant or important in applicable local, state, and federal land use and management plans, as well as other potentially sensitive areas.

The field visit will focus on assessing and documenting with photographs the potential views of Facility components from scenic resources identified and designated as significant or important. The visual resource specialists will rely on field observations, review of aerial photography, and professional expertise to assess the extent to which the Facility will be visible including an evaluation of screening potential of existing development, topography, and vegetation. Attention to topographic features, elevation change, as well as the type, density, and height of vegetation will be considered when making assessments about screening. Another major factor used by the visual resource specialist to assess the level of Facility visibility from the applicable scenic resource will be the distance between the two areas.

To document the existing views from sensitive viewing areas, photographs will be taken using a high-resolution 35-millimeter (mm) single-lens reflex digital camera. The camera will be set to take photos equivalent to those taken with a 35-mm camera with a 50-mm focal length at a height of approximately 5 feet, to create an image that simulates the view of the human eye. The location of each photo viewpoint will be recorded using a global positioning system device.

R.3.3.3 Follow Standard Visual Assessment Methods

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) methodology is one of three widely used methodologies used to conduct visual analysis. The other two methodologies are the U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Visual Resource Management (VRM) and the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) Scenery Management System (SMS). The FHWA, VRM, and SMS methodologies all use similar processes to establish existing visual conditions and assess impacts on those existing conditions resulting from a proposed development. While these three methodologies are similar in their analysis approach, they differ in that they were designed for use in different contexts. For example, the VRM and SMS methodologies are more appropriate and more commonly used for evaluation of the kinds of projects likely to occur on the generally undeveloped federal lands managed by the BLM and the USFS. Given that the Facility is not on federal lands, and lacking the linkage to federal land management plans for development of federally managed lands, the VRM and SMS methodologies are inapplicable.

In contrast, the FHWA methodology has broader applicability. Its evaluation system is well suited to projects of varying scale and type. As well, it can work in a broad range of landscapes – from undeveloped to highly developed. In addition, because it produces results that are not linked to a specific agency’s land management framework, it is well suited to the evaluation of the visual impacts of projects located on private lands. Accordingly, the visual analysis conducted for the Facility will be based on the FHWA Visual Impact Assessment methodology, which is defined in *Guidelines for the Visual Impact Assessment of Highway Projects* (FHWA 2015).

The FHWA methodology consists of the following six steps:

1. Establish the project’s visual limits (viewshed).
2. Determine who has views of the project (viewers).
3. Describe and assess the landscape that exists before project construction (site context).
4. Determine and evaluate views of and from the project for before and after project construction.
5. Describe the potential visible changes to the project area and its surroundings that would result from the proposed project.
6. Assess the response of viewers looking at and from the project, before and after project construction.

The first three steps are used to establish the baseline conditions of the existing landscape and to determine how much of the Facility is visible from within the scenic resources analysis area. The existing landscape of the Facility site, or site context, is described in Section R.2. For the purpose of this analysis, the Facility’s visual limits are defined as the scenic resources analysis area described in Section R.3.1. Significant or important scenic resources within the scenic resources analysis area are identified in Section R.4 and described in Section R.5. A description of significant potential adverse impacts to the scenic resources is included in Section R.6.

The Applicant’s visual resource specialist will rely on field observations, a review of aerial photography, and professional expertise to address the last three steps described above. This approach to the analysis is consistent with OAR 345-021-0010(1)(r) in order to determine whether significant adverse visual impacts will result from the Facility.

Based on the considerations described above, the FHWA methodology will be the appropriate methodology to form the basis of the analysis contained in this Exhibit. It provides a systematic

method that is well adapted to developing a clear understanding of the potential visual effects of project types like the proposed Facility that are located on privately owned lands in an area that already has a substantial degree of development.

Using the framework of the FHWA methodology, the visual analysis will be designed to demonstrate compliance with OAR 345-022-0080(1), which requires the following:

[T]he Council must find that the design, construction and operation of the facility, taking into account mitigation, are not likely to result in significant adverse impact to scenic resources and values identified as significant or important in local land use plans, tribal land management plans and federal land management plans for any lands located within the analysis area described in the project order.

An analysis will be provided which presents the information necessary for the Council to make findings under OAR 345-022-0080(1).

R.4 APPLICABLE LOCAL, STATE, TRIBAL, AND FEDERAL PLANS

OAR 345-021-0010(1)(r)(A) *A list of the local, tribal and federal plans that address lands within the analysis area.*

Response: The applicable land use and management plans that pertain to areas within the 10-mile scenic resources analysis area are listed in Table R-1. Some portion of the Facility may be visible from these land management areas within the scenic resources analysis area.

Table R-1. Identification of Applicable Land Use and Management Plans that Pertain to Lands within 10 Miles of the Facility Site Boundary

Jurisdiction	Plan Title
Federal Land	
Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Lakeview Resource Area	<i>Lakeview Resource Management Plan and Record of Decision (2003)</i>
County	
Lake County, Oregon	<i>Lake County Comprehensive Land Use Plan (1989)</i>

R.5 SCENIC RESOURCE IDENTIFIED AS SIGNIFICANT OR IMPORTANT

OAR 345-021-0010(1)(r)(B) *Identification and description of the scenic resources identified as significant or important in the plans listed in (A), including a copy of the portion of the management plan that identifies the resource as significant or important.*

Response: The following describes the significant or important scenic and aesthetic resources identified in the plans listed in Table R-1. Following this discussion, Table R-2 in Section R.6 summarizes the one significant or important resource identified in the applicable land use management plans. Copies of the portions of the management plans that identify the resource as significant or important are included in Attachment R-1. The locally adopted comprehensive plan is intended to guide future development within the local jurisdiction. The plan is implemented through zoning regulations and other land development controls, applicable only to land uses proposed *within* the respective county. No county has the authority to extend its land use controls beyond its jurisdictional boundaries, and the plan discussed herein does not purport to do so.

R.5.1 Local Land Use Plan

This section includes analysis of the local land use plans that exist within the scenic resources analysis area, as listed in Table R-1.

R.5.1.1 Comprehensive Land Use Plan (Lake County, Oregon, 1989)

The Facility is located entirely within Lake County (see Figure R-1). Land use planning in Lake County is guided by the *Comprehensive Land Use Plan* (CLUP; Lake County, 1989). CLUP planning guideline V. *Open Space, Scenic and Historic Areas and Natural Resources*, associated with Goal 5, provides 20 plan policies. However, the CLUP does not contain goals or policies requiring the conservation or protection of specific identified scenic resources. Thus, no specific scenic resources are identified and no goals or policies are included to protect specific scenic resources.

R.5.2 Federal Land Management Plan

This section includes analysis of federal land management plans that exist within the scenic resources analysis area, as listed in Table R-1.

R.5.2.1 Lakeview Resource Management Plan and Record of Decision (U.S. Bureau of Land Management—Lakeview District, Oregon, 2003)

The *Lakeview Resource Management Plan and Record of Decision* (BLM 2003) (Lakeview RMP) documents decisions reached by the BLM for resource management of public lands within the BLM's Lakeview District, which encompasses Lake County. The Lakeview RMP specifically identifies the Christmas Valley Back Country Byway as a scenic resource (BLM 2003). At its nearest point, the Christmas Valley Back Country Byway is approximately 8.7 miles north of the Facility site boundary within the scenic resources analysis area. Specifically, the Lakeview RMP states:

All developments, land alterations, and vegetative manipulations within a 3-mile buffer (6 mile total corridor width) of all major travel routes and recreation use areas will be designed to minimize visual impacts (unseen areas within these zones will not be held to this standard).

The Applicant provides further analysis in Section R.6.

R.5.3 Summary of Scenic Resource Identified in Applicable Local and Federal Land Use and Management Plans

One significant or important scenic resource was identified in applicable local and federal land use and management plans to exist within the scenic resources analysis area. The BLM's Lakeview RMP identifies the Christmas Valley Back Country Byway (BLM 2003). Lake County does not identify significant or important scenic resources in the county (Lake County 1989).

R.6 SIGNIFICANT POTENTIAL ADVERSE IMPACTS

This section describes significant potential adverse impacts on the scenic resource identified in the applicable land use and management plans discussed in Section R.5 and listed in Table R-2. Table R-2 also indicates whether the scenic resource may potentially have views of the Facility and the subsequent degree of visual impact.

Table R-2. Scenic Resource Identified in Applicable Land Use and Management Plans that Pertain to Lands within 10 Miles of the Facility Site Boundary

Scenic Resource ^a	County	Plan Where Scenic Resource is Identified	Approximate Distance ^b and Direction from Facility Site Boundary	Is Facility Potentially Visible ^c	Degree of Impact (i.e., “Substantial” or “Not Substantial”)
Christmas Valley Back Country Byway	Lake	<i>Lakeview Resource Management Plan and Record of Decision</i> (BLM 2003)	8.7 miles northwest	Yes – unlikely and limited due to the distance between scenic resource and Facility	No significant potential adverse impacts to the scenic resource; appearance likely blended or muted with surrounding elements and nearly undetectable in the background of views toward the horizon

Notes:

^a In accordance with OAR 345-021-0010(1)(r)(B), only resources identified in local, tribal, and federal management plans as significant or important based on their scenic qualities are analyzed in this Exhibit.

^b Approximate distance provided is measured from the Facility site boundary to the nearest point of the scenic resource located within the jurisdiction that identifies the resource in its applicable local, state, or federal land use or management plan.

^c Potential visibility is determined through viewshed analysis, as outlined in Section R.2. Visibility of a specific scenic resource is only analyzed within the jurisdiction that lists that resource in its local, state, or federal land use or management plan.

OAR 345-021-0010(1)(r)(C) *A description of significant potential adverse impacts to the scenic resources identified in (B), including, but not limited to, impacts such as:*

- (i) *Loss of vegetation or alteration of the landscape as a result of construction or operation; and*

Response: No significant potential adverse impacts on scenic resources are anticipated; this will be confirmed during final analysis.

R.6.1 Overview

As described in Exhibit B, the Facility’s major components, structures, and systems include the solar modules, inverters, transformers, and battery energy storage system. Related or supporting facilities consist of the collection system, 34.5-kV/500-kV GSU transformer and substation, 500-kV transmission line, POI line tap, control house, O&M building, a main access road, private service roads and gates, and a temporary staging area.

R.6.2 Loss of Vegetation

Significant adverse impacts associated with the loss of existing vegetation are not anticipated; this will be confirmed during final analysis.

R.6.3 Alteration of Landscape

Significant adverse impacts associated with alteration of landscape are not anticipated; this will be confirmed during final analysis.

R.6.4 Visual Impacts

- (ii) *Visual impacts of facility structures or plumes.*

Response: Significant adverse impacts on the one scenic resource identified (Christmas Valley Back Country Byway) are not anticipated; this will be confirmed during final analysis.

R.6.5 Glare Impacts

Significant adverse impacts associated with glare are not anticipated; this will be confirmed during final analysis.

R.6.6 Conclusion

Significant adverse impacts to the one scenic resource identified (Christmas Valley Back Country Byway) are not anticipated; this will be confirmed during final analysis.

R.7 MITIGATION

OAR 345-021-0010(1)(r)(D) *The measures the applicant proposes to avoid, reduce or otherwise mitigate any significant adverse impacts.*

Response: No significant adverse impacts on the designated significant or important scenic resource area are anticipated from Facility design, construction, and operation. Therefore, no measures are anticipated to avoid, reduce, or otherwise mitigate Facility impacts.

R.8 MAP OF SCENIC RESOURCE

OAR 345-021-0010(1)(r)(E) *A map or maps showing the location of the scenic resources described under (B).*

Response: The scenic resources analysis area consists of the area within the Facility site boundary and the area within 10 miles of the Facility site boundary. Figure R-1 shows the significant or important scenic resource within the scenic resources analysis area as identified on applicable local, state, and federal land use management plans.

R.9 MONITORING

OAR 345-021-0010(1)(r)(F) *The applicant's proposed monitoring program, if any, for impacts to scenic resources.*

Response: Because the Facility is not expected to result in significant adverse impacts on scenic and aesthetic values within the scenic resources analysis area, the Applicant does not anticipate the need for an active monitoring program specific to impacts on scenic and aesthetic values.

R.10 SUMMARY

The Facility will comply with the applicable regulatory guidelines concerning scenic and aesthetic resources as discussed in the foregoing responses to the criteria contained in OAR 345-021-0010(1)(r)(A) through (F). Through more detailed analysis, the Applicant will satisfy the requirements of OAR 345-021-0010(1)(r) and demonstrate that the design, construction, and operation of the Facility will not result in significant adverse impacts on the scenic resource and its aesthetic value within the scenic resources analysis area.

R.11 REFERENCES

Bureau of Land Management (BLM). 2003. *Lakeview Resource Management Plan and Record of Decision*. U.S. Department of the Interior. November. Accessed June 2022.

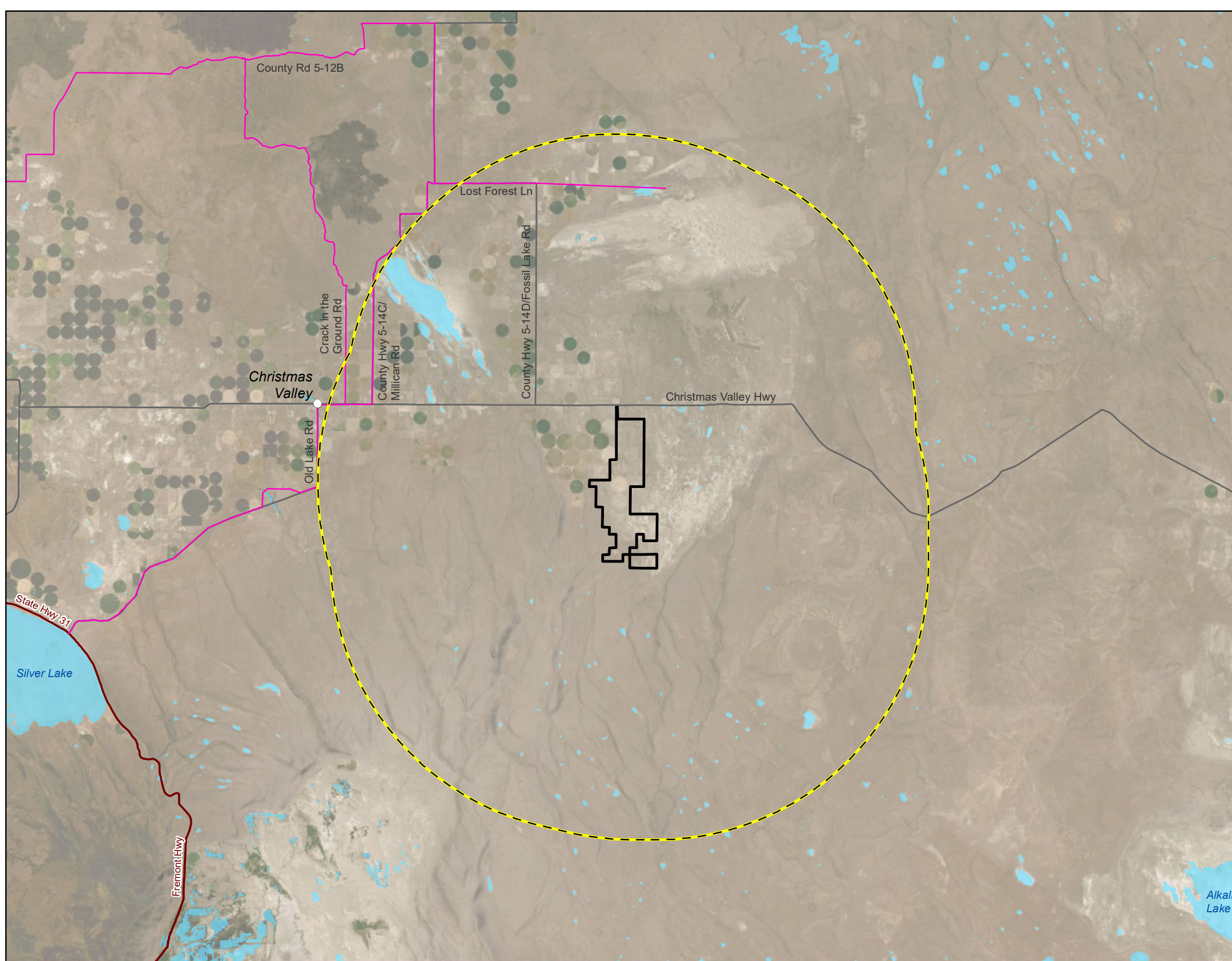
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Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). 2015. *Guidelines for the Visual Impact Assessment of Highway Projects*. January. Accessed June 2022.

https://www.environment.fhwa.dot.gov/env_topics/other_topics/VIA_Guidelines_for_Highway_Projects.aspx.

Lake County, Oregon (County). 1989. *Comprehensive Land Use Plan, Lake County, Oregon*. Adopted May 1980, Amended June 1989. Accessed June 2022.
<https://www.lakecountyor.org/government/docs/Comp%20Plan%20-%20June%201989.pdf>.

Figure



- Legend**
- Facility Site Boundary
 - Archway Site Scenic Resources Analysis Area (10 miles)
 - Highway
 - Waterbody
- Scenic Resource**
- Christmas Valley Back Country Byway (BLM Back Country Byway)

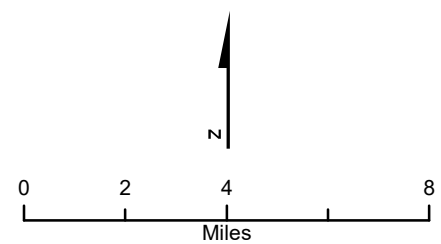


Figure R-1
Scenic Resource within 10 Miles
of the Facility Site Boundary
 Application for Site Certificate
 Archway Solar Energy Facility
 Lake County, Oregon

Attachment R-1
Land Use Management Plan Excerpts



U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management

Lakeview Resource Area
Lakeview District Office
1301 South G Street
Lakeview, Oregon 97630

November 2003



Lakeview Resource Management Plan and Record of Decision

(Main Text and Appendices)



Cover Photo by Terry Spivey

As the Nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has responsibility for most of our nationally owned public lands and natural resources. This includes fostering the wisest use of our land and water resources, protecting our fish and wildlife, preserving the environmental and cultural values of our national parks and historic places, and providing for the enjoyment of life through outdoor recreation. The Department assesses our energy and mineral resources and works to assure that their development is in the best interest of all our people. The Department also has a major responsibility for American Indian reservation communities and for people who live in Island Territories under U.S. Administration.

BLM/OR/WA/PL-03/026-1793

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ACEC management plan (USDI-BLM 1996d) and the wilderness IMP (USDI-BLM 1995b).

New rights-of-ways will be excluded from the area (Map L-8). The ACEC will be managed as land tenure Zone 1 (retention) (Map L-5).

OHV's will be limited to designated roads and trails (Map R-7). Based on a recent road inventory, it has been discovered that about 6 miles of roads not appearing on the wilderness inventory maps (USDI-BLM 1989a) must be closed to comply with the wilderness IMP (USDI-BLM 1995b). These are shown as "historically closed" on Map SMA-7. About 3.3 additional miles of roads and trails will be closed under this alternative (Table 10). If the WSA is not designated wilderness, these road restrictions will remain in effect.

The area will be managed as VRM Class I due to the WSA status (Map VRM-3). If released from wilderness study, it will be managed as VRM Class IV.

Livestock grazing will continue as it is currently managed based on existing permit stipulations. The majority of this area is in Allotment 517, which is grazed from April through October. The south end of the proposed add-on is within Allotments 400, 502, and 518. Allotment 518 is grazed in summer. This portion of Allotment 400 is excluded from grazing use. Any proposed changes in grazing, including time and intensity of use, will be evaluated for impacts on the relevant and important resources and will be permitted if the values will be maintained or enhanced. Where adverse impacts are identified, existing livestock use will be adjusted using a variety of methods, including, but not limited to, fencing, reduction in livestock numbers, and changes in grazing season of use. Proposed range improvement projects will be evaluated for impacts and permitted where relevant and important values will be maintained or enhanced.

The area will be closed to mineral leasing and disposal. Locatable mineral activity will be limited by the no reclamation requirement of the wilderness IMP (USDI-BLM 1995b). Should the area be removed from WSA status, it will become open mineral leasing and disposal. It will also be open to locatable mineral development subject to the development of a plan of operations (Maps M-8, -9, and -10).

Disturbance to nesting raptors will be avoided (January–August, depending on species).

Management Direction —Lost Forest/Sand Dunes/Fossil Lake ACEC/RNA

The existing ACEC/RNA will be retained. The boundary of the ACEC will be amended to exclude the Department of Defense withdrawal along the south boundary of the ACEC. However, if the Department of Defense should decide at some point in the future that this site is no longer needed for military purposes, the withdrawal could be revoked and the southern boundary would revert back to its prior location. In addition, the northern boundary of the ACEC and the Lost Forest RNA will be made consistent and relocated to the southern edge of BLM Road 6141 (Maps SMA-4 and -9). The Lost Forest RNA/ISA and the Sand Dunes WSA will be managed according to the wilderness IMP (USDI-BLM 1995b) until such time as Congress makes a determination regarding wilderness designation for the two areas.

The Sand Dunes WSA and Lost Forest RNA/ISA will be excluded from location of new rights-of-way. The existing electrical transmission line through the Fossil Lake will be identified as a right-of-way corridor up to 1000-foot wide for future utility lines or other rights-of-way. New rights-of-way in the remainder of the ACEC will be avoided unless there are no other options (Map L-8). The entire ACEC/RNA will be managed as land tenure Zone 1 (retention) (Map L-5).

The existing vehicle closure on Fossil Lake will be expanded to 8,988 acres (Maps R-7 and SMA-9a). The closure boundary shown on Map SMA-9a has been located using the global positioning system and leaves as much of the large, contiguous dunes in the open area as possible. The closure boundary will be fenced or signed on the ground. Vehicle use in the Lost Forest RNA/ISA will continue to be limited to designated roads and trails. Additional area west of Lost Forest and north of the Fossil Lake closure will be added to the designated roads and trails class (Maps R-7 and SMA-9a). Most of the Sand Dunes WSA will remain open to OHV use.

Road 6151 through the Lost Forest RNA/ISA will be minimally upgraded to prevent widening and braiding of the road and resulting damage to relevant and important resources. Approximately two miles of open roads would be closed (Table 10). Those roads shown as "historically closed" on Map SMA-9 will remain closed.

The Lost Forest RNA and Sand Dunes WSA will continue to be managed as VRM Class I (Map VRM-3). If Congress removes these areas from wilderness

consideration they will revert to VRM Class III. Fossil Lake and the remainder of the ACEC will continue to be managed as VRM Class III.

Primitive camping areas will be designated in the Lost Forest RNA and Sand Dunes WSA, with camping allowed only in these sites (Map SMA-9). Parking areas along the main road 6151 through the Lost Forest will be provided for day use. Camping areas within the Sand Dunes WSA will be managed on a rotational basis (for example, two of the camping/staging areas will be open and available to use and the other area will be closed for an indeterminate amount of time [2–6 years] to allow natural rehabilitation to occur). The length of the closure will be based on the following criteria: (1) success of natural revegetation, (2) obliteration of human activities by the natural movement of sand, and (3) the public's adherence to the closures. Specific travel routes from the camping/staging areas to the barren dunes which are open to OHV use will be established. Adaptive management activities which will allow the continued use of each of these camping/staging areas while protecting the natural values of the area will be adopted as necessary to ensure their long-term use and protection. The establishment of a campground on private lands within the sand dunes area will be encouraged.

The grazing closure on Fossil Lake will be expanded to 8,988 acres (Map G-3). This will require construction of a fence within a WSA. Livestock use in the rest of the ACEC will continue based on existing permit stipulations. Any proposed changes in grazing, including time and intensity of use, will be evaluated for impacts on the relevant and important values and will be permitted if the values will be maintained or enhanced. Where adverse impacts are identified, existing livestock use will be adjusted using a variety of methods, including, but not limited to, fencing, reduction in livestock numbers, and changes in grazing season of use. Proposed range improvement projects will be evaluated for impacts and permitted where relevant and important values will be maintained or enhanced.

Collecting of firewood for camping use will be prohibited.

The mineral withdrawal on the Lost Forest RNA/ISA will be retained (Map M-2 of the Draft RMP/EIS). The Sand Dunes WSA and Lost Forest RNA/ISA areas will be closed to the sale and lease of minerals. Any locatable mineral activity in the Sand Dunes WSA will be subject to the no reclamation restriction of the wilderness IMP. Should Congress remove the Sand Dunes WSA from wilderness study, locatable mineral devel-

opment will be allowed. Fossil Lake will be open to locatable mineral activity subject to seasonal restrictions and preparation of a plan of operations. It will be open to mineral leasing subject to no-surface-occupancy restrictions. Fossil Lake will be closed to mineral material disposal. Mineral activity within the remainder of the ACEC will be allowed, but subject to seasonal restrictions and locatable mineral development will require a plan of operation (Maps M-8, -9, and -10).

Disturbance to nesting raptors will be avoided (January–August, depending on species).

Management Direction —Warner Wetlands ACEC

The existing Warner Wetlands ACEC (53,087 acres) will be retained. Management of the ACEC will be according to the existing “Warner Wetlands Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) Management Plan” (USDI-BLM 1990b, 1990c, 1990d, 1990e, 1990f, 1990g, 1990h, 1990i, 1990j), except as highlighted below (Maps SMA-4 and SMA-10).

Vehicles will be restricted to designated roads and trails (Table 10, Maps R-7 and SMA-10). Roads shown as “historically closed” on Map SMA-10 will remain closed.

The area will be managed as VRM Class III (Map VRM-3).

The eastern half of the ACEC will be closed to mineral disposal, open to leasing with no-surface-occupancy restrictions, and open to mineral location subject to seasonal restrictions along with the need to prepare a plan of operations. The western half is open to mineral disposal, open to mineral leasing, and open to mineral locations subject to preparation of a plan of operation (Maps M-8, -9, and -10).

Weed management in the ACEC will be conducted according to the “Warner Basin Weed Management Area Plan” (USDI-BLM 1999g).

The ACEC will be considered a right-of-way avoidance area (Map L-8). The entire ACEC will be managed as land tenure Zone 1 (retention) (Map L-5).

Most of the core wetland area (potholes and acquired lands) will remain closed to livestock grazing. The remainder of the ACEC will be grazed in accordance with an approved allotment management plan (USDI-BLM 1990g). However, management of the 400-acre

and South Green Mountain (14 acres). Refer to Table 12 and Maps R-7, SMA-25, and -27.

Emergency Vehicle Closures. Future emergency vehicle or area closures may be implemented on a case-by-case basis if it is determined that OHV's are causing or will cause considerable adverse effects upon resources. Such emergency closures will be announced via a notice published in the Federal Register and in local newspapers. Any roads designated for closure may be signed, physically barricaded, and/or restored. Priority areas for restoration will be riparian conservation areas, damaged watersheds, and sensitive wildlife or plant habitat.

Monitoring

Monitoring OHV uses within the planning area will focus on compliance with specific designations, as well as, determining whether these uses are causing adverse effects on various resources (i.e., soils, water, air, vegetation, fish and wildlife, etc.). Methods of monitoring may include visitor contacts, permit review, visual surveillance, traffic counters, periodic patrols to check boundaries, signing, and visitor use, limits of acceptable change, and/or aerial reconnaissance. Closures will be monitored to ensure public safety and protect affected roadbeds or areas. Baseline data will be established for sites where OHV use is occurring, and sites will be rehabilitated or closed as necessary.

Visual Resources

Management Goal—*Manage public land actions and activities consistent with visual resource management (VRM) class objectives.*

Rationale

Section 102(8) of FLPMA declares that public land will be managed to protect the quality of scenic values and, where appropriate, to preserve and protect certain public land in its natural condition. NEPA, section 101(b), requires Federal agencies to “. . . assure for all Americans . . . esthetically pleasing surroundings.” Section 102 of NEPA requires agencies to “. . . utilize a systematic, interdisciplinary approach which will ensure the integrated use of . . . Environmental Design Acts in the planning and decision making . . .” process. Guidelines for the identification of VRM classes on public land are contained in “BLM Manual Handbook 8410-1, Visual Resource Inventory” (USDI-BLM1986c). See Appendix M-3 of the “Draft RMP/

EIS” for a description of VRM classifications. The establishment of VRM classes on public land is based on an evaluation of the landscape's scenic qualities, public sensitivity toward certain areas (such as certain special recreation designations and WSA's), and the location of affected land from major travel corridors (distance zoning).

Management Direction

WSA's will be managed under VRM Class I. Should a WSA not be designated by Congress, the area will return to the original inventoried VRM class unless it has been reclassified due to overlap with another SMA (such as an ACEC, RNA, or WSR).

Emphasis will be given to protecting and/or mitigating intrusions in all areas. All developments, land alterations, and vegetative manipulations within a 3-mile buffer (6 mile total corridor width) of all major travel routes and recreation use areas will be designed to minimize visual impacts (unseen areas within these zones will not be held to this standard). The travel routes included in these buffers are state and federal highways (140, 31, and 395) and designated scenic or byway routes (Christmas Valley and Lakeview-to-Steens National Back Country Byways). All projects will be designed to maximize scenic quality and minimize scenic intrusions.

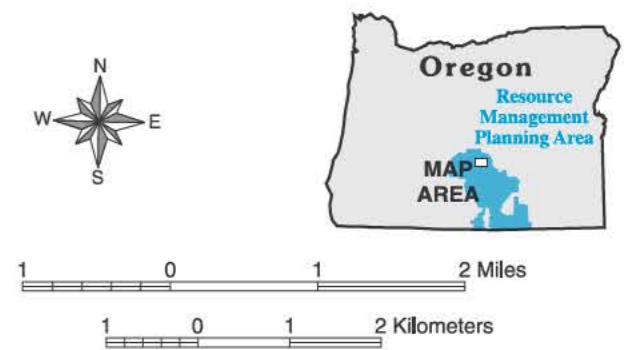
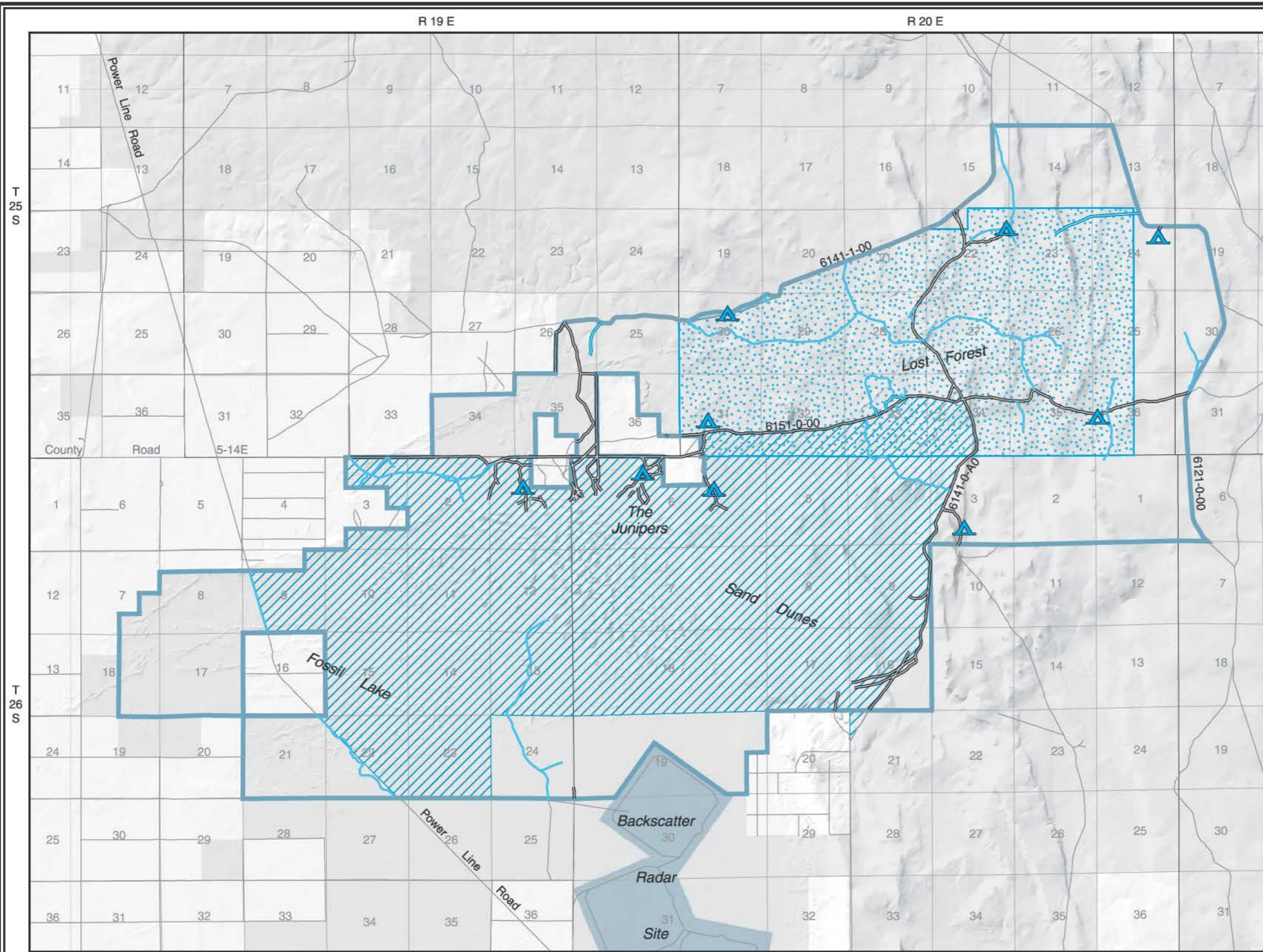
Visual resources in ACEC's will be managed as displayed in Table 8. Management of one suitable WSR (Twelvemile Creek) will be under Class II. All other public land will be managed under the VRM classifications shown in Map VRM-3.

Monitoring

Monitoring will be ongoing for all projects (including, but not limited to projects associated with any developments, land alterations, vegetation manipulation, etc.) which could potentially affect visual resources. These projects will be monitored to ensure compliance with established VRM classes. Monitoring will include the use of the visual contrast rating system, described in BLM Manual 8400 (USDI-BLM, 1984c), where appropriate, during project review.

Energy and Mineral Resources

Within legal constraints, all Federal mineral estate locatable, leasable, and salable minerals will be available for exploration, development, and production



LEGEND

- Sand Dunes Wilderness Study Area
- Lost Forest Research Natural Area (RNA)
- Change of ACEC Boundary
- Designated Primitive Camping Area
- Existing Road

Road Designations

- Historically Closed
- Closed
- Open

Administered Lands

- Bureau of Land Management
- Department of Defense
- Private or Local Government

Note: Road data sources may include one or more of the following: USGS DLG and DOQ data, GPS data, and field mapping. Any additional roads located on the ground outside the open portion of the Sand DunesWSA would be designated as closed unless needed for resource management purposes.

Note: Due to wilderness inventory errors or inaccuracies that existed in the maps available at the time the wilderness inventory was conducted, some trails or "ways" which appear on the Oregon Wilderness Final EIS maps (USDI-BLM 1989a) do not actually exist on the ground as depicted and, therefore, are not shown on this map.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Bureau of Land Management

Lakeview District
Lakeview Resource Area
Resource Management Plan

Summer 2003



No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of these data for individual or aggregate use with other data. Original data were compiled from various sources. This information may not meet National Map Accuracy Standards. This product was developed through digital means and may be updated without notification.

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Oregon State Office

Map SMA-9: Lost Forest-Sand Dunes-Fossil Lake ACEC, Sand Dunes WSA, and Lost Forest RNA

(Map SMA-7 on back)

COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN LAKE COUNTY, OREGON

Housing, Economic and Population Elements
Goal Exceptions and Buildable Land Inventories

Adopted: May 1980
Amended: July 1981
April 1982
February 1985
June 1989

SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Lake County Planning Commission
Local Planning Advisory Committees
Town of Lakeview and City of Paisley
Lake County Board of County Commissioners
Participating State and Federal Agencies
Lake County Planning Department, Janine Cannon, Director

Financed in part by Grants from the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development.

1980 Plan by Lynn D. Steiger & Associates, Inc. Consulting Planners

1989 Plan update/revision by A.R. Dick Brown Planning Consultant.

My father, when I was young, said, “Reuben, my boy, when you grow up, get land. God has quit making land, but he keeps right on making people.”

---Reub Long
From THE OREGON DESERT, by E.R
Jackman and Reub Long

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LAKE COUNTY, OREGON**

As Amended June 1989

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13. The County shall not enact any regulations which are in conflict with the State Forest Practices Act or any cooperative management agreements entered into thereunder by the State Department of Forestry with other state agencies.
14. Implementing County regulations shall require compliance with the State Forest Practices Act for uses permitted on Forest lands.

C. Recommendation:

1. That local, State and Federal agencies will work together with private individuals and industry to insure re-vegetation of those lands capable of producing commercial timber, possibly including those marginal agricultural lands no longer intensively farmed.

V. OPEN SPACE, SCENIC AND HISTORIC AREAS AND NATURAL RESOURCES

A. State Planning Goal No. 5:

To conserve open space and protect natural, cultural, historical and scenic resources.

B. Plan Policies:

1. Except in acknowledged exception areas such as Urban and Rural Residential areas, land partitioning and dwellings shall only be authorized in critical wildlife habitat areas as a Conditional Use and only approved in accordance with established standards designed and intended to provide for the maximum feasible protection of such resources.
2. That new uses within the Hart Mountain National Antelope Refuge Boundary will be limited to wildlife management, livestock grazing, and incidental recreation. No new residential, commercial or industrial uses will be allowed.
3. That the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's "Fish and Wildlife Habitat Protection Plan for Lake County" will be recognized as a guideline for Plan implementation.
4. That the following concerns will be taken into account in protecting area visual attractiveness:
 - a. Maintaining vegetative cover wherever practical.
 - b. Using vegetation or other site obscuring methods of screening unsightly uses.
 - c. Minimizing the number and size of signs.
 - d. Siting developments to be compatible with surrounding area uses and to recognize the natural characteristics of the location.
5. That potential water resources, e.g., irrigation, geothermal and hydroelectric will be protected from encroachments which may limit development of those resources.
6. That the County will support maintaining minimum stream flows for all beneficial uses.
7. That parks, golf courses, campgrounds and similar private and public open space facilities will be developed only where demand exists and where land resources are not unduly diminished or damaged.

8. That sites or structures that have local, regional, statewide or national historical or cultural significance will be protected to the extent, practical. The County's Inventory of Historic Resources shall be updated periodically as new information becomes available.
9. That quarried mineral and aggregate resources will be protected from encroaching incompatible uses that might likely limit development of those resources.
10. That appropriate buffer setbacks will be incorporated into river, stream, lake and reservoir developments.
11. That the value of riparian habitat will be recognized in considering proposals for land use changes along the banks of rivers, streams, lakes or reservoirs.
12. That watershed storage projects will be supported wherein the County determines that resulting beneficial uses outweigh potential adverse consequences.
13. That the County will determine support of habitat and nesting site preservation of endangered, threatened or vulnerable animal species only after consideration of economic and environmental consequences of both protection and non-protection.
14. That the County will consider the merits of proposals, and protect fish and wildlife habitat in Plan implementation decisions.
15. That the County will coordinate planning decisions with local, State and Federal agencies having water-quality management plans and programs.
16. Agriculture, grazing, forestry, parks and recreation uses shall be considered consistent with natural/scenic/open space values dependent on resource carrying capacities.
17. That the County will coordinate with State and Federal agencies and the general public in recreation trails planning.
18. Implementing regulations shall recognize all types of mining activities identified by **ORS 517** (except as may be limited by **ORS 215** in EFU zones), and shall be coordinated with the requirements administered by the State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries under **ORS 517.750 to 517.990** and administrative rules administered by said State agency pursuant thereto. County regulations shall also recognize the limits applicable to County regulation of mining activities on Federal Lands, patented mining claims and on Federal reserved mineral rights.
19. The County shall cooperate with the State Department of Fish & Wildlife in insuring the Non-game Wildlife Management Plan is implemented to the extent feasible within reasonable limits.
20. Implementing regulations shall include provisions for compliance with the provisions of **ORS 377** in the matter of Scenic Highway areas as administered by the State Highway Division.

C. Recommendations:

1. That a more detailed historic/archeological resource inventory be undertaken for the area.
2. That a program be pursued to provide tax incentives or other means of preserving historical sites and structures.
3. That the historic and archeological inventory information be distributed and promoted as educational material.